


**Villa Grove BINGO**  
**Every Friday Night VFW post 2876**

**6:30 pm- Early Bird**  
**7:00 pm- Regular Bingo**



**Jackpots:**  
 Egg in a Basket Raffle Chance **up to \$2000**  
 Blackout Jackpot Chance **up to \$1000**

Bingo Lic# B1934  
 Pull Tab Lic# P-48



# CHURCH DIRECTORY

<p><b>Camargo United Methodist Church</b>                  103 E. Main Street                  P.O. Box 122, Camargo, IL 61919                  Church—832-9388                  e-mail: umccamargo@gmail.com                  Office Hours:                  Tuesday and Thursday                  8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.                  Pastor - Lenny Summar                  Traditional Worship - 9:00 a.m.                  Contemporary Worship 10:30                  "Come just as you are to worship"                  Open Communion first Sunday                  of each month                  Prayer Group - Meets after                  Sunday Service.</p>	<p><b>First United Pentecostal Church</b>                  1 South Pine Street, Villa Grove                  Wheelchair Accessible                  Where Lives are Changed!                  Pastor Jerry L. Conner                  Church 832-7071 • Residence 832-8577                  Sunday School—10:00 a.m.                  Worship Service—10:00 a.m.                  Evening Evangelistic Service—6:30 p.m.                  Monday, 1st one of each month                  Ladies Auxiliary, 7:00 p.m.                  Monday—Friday                  Ladies Prayer Group—9:00 a.m.                  Tuesday Youth Service—7:00-8:00 p.m.                  Thursday Bible Study—7:30 p.m.                  Free Home Bible Study                  We welcome you to worship                  with us in all of our services</p>
<p><b>First Christian Church</b>                  (Non-Denominational)                  "Come Rejoice With Us"                  701 N. Sycamore St.                  Villa Grove, Illinois                  Phone(217)832-5231                  Fax (217)832-9348                  Website: www.fccvg.com                  E-mail: fccvg@frontier.com                  Minister- Mike Zylstra                  E-mail: fccvgmin@frontier.com                  Open communion observed weekly                  Morning Worship Service: 9:30 a.m.                  Sunday School (all ages) 10:45 a.m.                  Jr. &amp; Sr. High Youth Group                  1st &amp; 3rd Sundays 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Forty Martyrs Catholic Church</b>                  201 E. Van Allen St                  Tuscola, IL 61953                  Pastor: Rev. Angel Sierra                  Office Phone: 217.253.4412                  Sacrament of Confession:                  Saturdays 5:00 pm                  Or by appointment by calling the                  church office: 217.253.4412                  Week-day Mass Times:                  8:00 am Monday, Thursday &amp;                  Friday                  Weekend Masses:                  5:30 pm Saturday                  8:00 am Sunday</p>
<p><b>First Christian Church</b>                  100 E. Church St., Tuscola                  253-2394                  Sunday Worship services: 8:00 &amp; 10:30 a.m.                  Sunday school: 9:15 a.m.                  Youth Group 7th-12th @ 6:33 Sundays                  After school program                  5th-6th girls, Wednesdays                  www.fctuscola.com</p>	<p><b>Immanuel Lutheran Church</b>                  600 E Northline Rd.                  Tuscola, IL 61953                  217-253-4341                  Services: Saturday 5:30 pm                  Sunday 9:00 am</p>
<p><b>Tuscola United Methodist Church</b>                  901 N. Prairie Ave.                  253-4232                  Sunday Worship Services:                  9:00 a.m.</p>	<p><b>Sacred Heart Catholic Church</b>                  208 N. Pine Stret, Villa Grove                  Pastor -Rev. Aloy Ndeanaefo                  Office: 832-8352                  Hours: M-F 8:30am-1:30pm                  Email: villagrove.hume@gmail.com                  website: sacredheartandstmichael.com                  Mass Times: Saturday: 4pm                  Sunday 10:00am                  Sunday @ St. Michaels in Hume                  8:00am                  PSR:                  Sunday 9:00-9:45 am</p>

*If you would like your church featured in our directory, please call Jamie at (217) 369-1398.*

## Block

*From page 1*

year and that game could have gone either way. I left there happier than I was after we beat Urbana by 19 runs because we looked like the team that I've expected to have. Last night, we went extra innings against Windsor. When you have 8 games scheduled in a week, it's a "good time" to have two extra-inning games in a row. Unity was a good game but the weather conditions were horrible, but Unity had to play in the same conditions we did, so we just have to overcome things like that. Last year, we started out hitting the ball so well, but we peaked too early. This year, I feel like being knocked down a few times might allow us to peak a little later. I tell them all the time that what matters is how we're playing in

May. I don't sleep too well at night after we don't play well now, but I think that in the long run, it will help us.

*You don't shy away from playing top competition either. Is that intentional?*

It's very intentional. We start out our seasons that way. Then, when we get into conference play and play against some of these 1A teams that we're going to see in the postseason and them games seem a little easier. Usually, by now, we'd have gone to Tennessee and played a lot of big-time schools down there. We switched it up a bit this year. We're going to go to Kentucky in May. It's by design that we play tough teams early and figure out our weaknesses so that we'll be a better team in May.

*You have some youngsters that are in the lineup. I saw that Izzy hit her first homer the other day?*

She's hit two for us now.

Piper Kiser's playing middle infield for us. She has a great bat. It's a big jump from junior high to high school. In practice, she hits it as hard as anyone, but she's struggled a bit in games. It can be a little bit overwhelming. She's pitching for us and she's done well in the circle. Hayden Thomas is another freshman contributor. She's super-fast and can track down anything in the outfield, but she's struggled a bit at the plate. The last couple games, she's been starting to figure some things out.

It just seems like it's a program now. You don't have a good team every couple of years and then fall off the map and have to fight your way back up. Is that a good assessment?

That's a good assessment. Every couple of years, you get three or four and with a 1A school, if you 5 or 6 good

players you can usually compete.

*Where and when are you going to Kentucky?*

We'll be going to Owensboro, KY on May 5th and 6th. We had always went to Tennessee, but during covid, we couldn't go, but the kids still wanted to have a trip and we found this one. They have great facilities and competition, but it's a little bit closer. Last year we went to Tennessee, and this year we are going to Owensboro. I think that we'll alternate between the two, moving forward.

*You're playing schools with two or three thousand kids in them at these tournaments, right?*

I just got our schedule and we'll be playing Owensboro Catholic, Breckinridge, Colorado which I believe would be a 4A school in Illinois. I'm not sure who our final game will be against, but I'm sure they're bigger than a school of 200.

*It's got to be a real confidence booster for you ladies to be able to compete against and beat schools like that, right?*

It is. We always play better against teams we know nothing about. We get hung up on "Oh, we're playing Unity or we're playing St. Joe or we're playing Tuscola." They get it in their heads that they're bigger and better than they are. I think that sometimes they make them out to be better than they actually are. They don't know anything about Casey. They didn't know until after the game that they were ranked #1 in the state in 2A until after the game when we told them, and they played far better than they did when we played Unity. I think that it benefits us to not know anything about them and then we play them, we can explain that they have 2000 kids in their school and that's a big confidence boost.

*Are you still as confident in their potential as you were before the season began?*

I still feel good about that. We've exposed our weaknesses and we know what we have to work on. I keep telling them that we have all the pieces, and we just need to figure out how to put them together. We've messed with our lineups, I don't think we've had the exact same lineup for any two games this season. We're still figuring out who best fits where and what's the best combination we can put out. I've thrown 4 different pitchers and we're still figuring it out, but they've got a ton of potential.

*Logan (Lillard) seems to have been pitching into a lot of bad luck, right?*

Bad luck! She's recently changed her motion, which down the road is going to help her a lot, but we're still working out a lot of kinks on that.

*Good luck for the rest of the season.*

Thank you.



**THE BLOCK FAMILY** celebrates Jeana Block's 100th win as Villa Grove High School softball coach.  
 Photo by Tony Hooker.

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