



Congregational Christian Church
The Red Brick Church in Stillman Valley
(Evangelical, Independent)

207 W. Roosevelt Road, PO Box 370
Stillman Valley, Illinois 61084-0370
Rev. Dr. Chris Brauns

**AUGUST 2018
NEWSLETTER**

CHURCH PHONE
645-2526

CHURCH E-MAIL
ADDRESS
cccoffice1@comcast.net

TIME OF SERVICES
9:00 & 10:30 am

And So It Begins

We hang up new calendars in January, but the church year blasts off in August.

The ice cream cone that is July is almost gone. We're down to the last bite of the summer. By this time next week parents will be stacking school supplies into carts at the office supply store.

Not coincidentally, the first day of school lights the fuse for our church year. August-September is one of the most strategic times for any local church. That time periods offers an ideal time to reach out to new families and challenge those who are already part of our church to be here.

Remember, the script is oh so simple. "We'd be so honored if you would be our guests at church. You could sit next to us and come over for burgers."

Going into Fall, we have a number of key events coming up at the Red Brick Church.

- The **Master Plan Committee** is now working with our architect to envision the use of our site. We will also survey and seek input from the congregation about how to best move forward for the future.
- On August 5, following the 9:00 AM service we will have a **special church business** meeting to make recommendations to our church family about church rentals. We will also consider how to best give leadership to our children's CE areas of Sunday School, Nursery, AWANA, VBS, and Children's Church.
- On August 12, we will enjoy a **baptism and child dedication service** and brunch after our morning service. This will be a really fun Sunday.
- **AWANA** and **Sunday School** will start in September.
- I'm looking forward to a series on the book of **James**. Start reading it now!

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As for our children's programs, remember that it is not enough to get a pack of children onto the church property for a quality program.

I continue to reflect on how our Vacation Bible School program hit the ball out of the stadium. For a church with our size facilities to average over 100 children per day is quite an achievement. We should all be very thankful for the gift so many of our workers gave to the Lord's work with VBS.

But we also need to ask: "Are we doing our best to coordinate VBS with our fall programs and to make sure that we are moving from children visiting to families being assimilated into the life of our church?" This is one of the areas where we need improvement. We need to *coordinate* the efforts of our programs to invite guests to AWANA into the life of our church.

Indeed, one of our goals for the coming year will be to increasingly invite visitors to AWANA and VBS to visit our Sunday morning services.

* * * * *

I have prayed for a number of you on my knees today. I am thankful I am your pastor.

AUGUST GREETERS

If you are interested in being on our "Greeter Team", please contact Deb Bonne at 815-979-0885.

- August 5th: Carl and Elizabeth Jacobson
August 12th: Greg and Cherri Tremble
August 19th: Vicki Farbo, Tania VanBriesen
August 26th: Nick and Chelsea Colon
Sept. 2nd: Len and Barb Kinner

AUGUST NURSERY

August 5th

9:00 am Jeanne Baker, Chelsea Colon,
Ryan Roberts

August 12th

9:00 am Sharon Rhodes, Betts Carby,
Tania VanBriesen

August 19th

9:00 am Tessa Baker, Rebekah Anderson,
Susan Stukenberg

10:30 am Donna Arnold, Stacy Jones,
Diane Koenig

August 26th

9:00 am Lee and Shannon Hickey,
Barb Hale

10:30 am Carl and Elizabeth Jacobson,
Anne Wiltfang

September 2nd

9:00 am Tessa Baker, Alice Daniels,
Deb Bonne

NURSERY NEWS

Parents with children under 5 years of age are invited and encouraged to use our nursery during either of the worship services. Our nursery is just off the hallway on the west side of the building.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

SS Superintendent:

Brooke Adams ~ 815-645-8561

It's time to sign up for Sunday School! On-line registration is available through our website (theredbrickchurch.org). Every child (preschool through high school) needs an enrollment form filled out! The first day of Sunday School is Sept. 9th at 9:00 a.m. If you have any questions feel free to call me at me 815-645-8561. See you then and enjoy the rest of your summer ;~)

God Bless, Brooke Adams, SS Superintendent

WORSHIP SERVICE REPORT

Our average attendance at Worship Services for the past three months is listed below:

May 5/6, 5/13, 5/20 Average: 255
5/27 (One Service) Attendance: 125
June Average: 176
July Average: 172

CHAIRMAN OF BOARDS/COMMITTEES

Deacon Board – Tom Stahl	520-3050
Deaconess Board – Jeanne Baker	391-4634
Trustee Board – Jeff McLindsay	440-2042
CE Committee – Marlene Miller	289-8453
Memorial Committee – Jeff McLindsay	440-2042
Missions Committee – Cathy Midtsem	979-3715
Missions Committee – Joe Clinton	904-3382
Music – Pastor Tim Michalek	645-2526

***September Newsletter
Articles are due in the
church office by
Wednesday,
August 29th***

FINANCIAL REPORT

Through July 31, 2018

Total Approved 2018 Budget = \$430,907

Divided by 52 weeks/year = **\$8,287/week**

Budget Giving through July 31 \$248,610

Actual Giving through July 31 \$237,696

Budget Giving vs. Actual Giving \$-10,914

Actual Expenses through 7/31/18 \$221,970



If the church office does not have your email address, please email it to Jana in the office at our email address of:

cccoffice1@comcast.net

The email address for Pastor Chris is:

cdbrauns@gmail.com

The email address for Pastor Tim is:

timothymichalek@gmail.com

We will be emailing out announcements, news articles, coming events, etc., so don't miss out!! Be sure we have your email address.

Baptism

A baptism service will be held on Sunday, August 12th following the 9:00 am worship service. Contact the office to schedule a meeting with Pastor Chris or Pastor Tim if you are interested in being baptized. Following the baptism there will be a Brunch /Potluck Lunch in the fellowship hall. Table service and beverages will be provided. Please bring a dish to pass; anything from a bread, sweetbreads, fruit or casserole. Please be sure to sign up on the back bulletin board if your family is planning on attending the brunch. We want to be sure to plan accordingly for food and paper products.



We are planning to have a Baby/Child Dedication service on Sunday, August 12th. If you have a child you would like to have dedicated, please contact the church office.

2018 Summer Schedule

Our Deacon Board has revised our Summer Worship Schedule. Please note the service times and changes as follows:

August 5th and August 12th

9:00 am Service only

Children's Church (Preschool – 1st grade)

August 19th and 26th

9:00 am Worship Service

10:30 am Worship Service

Children's Church (PS – 1st grade) during both worship services.

Labor Day Sunday, September 2nd and Fall Festival Sunday, September 23rd

9:00 am Service only

Children's Church (Preschool – 1st grade)

Beginning Sunday, September 9th

9:00 am Worship Service

9:00 am Sunday School for all ages

10:30 am Worship Service

10:30 am Children's Church (PS – 1st grade)

Please be sure to note these on your home calendar for 2018

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

On Sunday, Aug 29 @ 5:00 pm, we will have our annual **Youth Kick-Off Dinner** in the church fellowship hall. Every family with teenagers should try to come. This event gives families an overview of the exciting and packed schedule for the 2018 - 19 year. Opportunities for fun, service, and learning. All parents/guardians and teens are invited to join.



Congratulations
to Eric and Emily Long on their wedding Friday, August 3rd!



The Red Brick Church's first exclusive Red Brick Mission Aviation Fellowship Fly-In went outstandingly well at Code 1 Aviation's location at the Rockford airport! Though the weather was threatening for a possible cancellation, in God's providence and goodness, we were able to fly below the radar so that the event came off without a hitch, with wisdom and hard work from a collective team of diligent volunteers that day.

Over 60 kids and adults were able to experience flight in the classic Kodiak 100 featured in most of John Hook's updates to our AWANA club on our missions emphasis nights. More importantly, beyond the undeniable fun we had, our emphasis was completely about MISSIONS! We had the privilege of having several key MAF personnel assisting John and Nancy Hook to help share how MAF is taking hope and the message of the gospel of Jesus to isolated people groups around the world.

At the end of our day we celebrated with a short time of worship. Pastor Chris spoke about the importance of the MAF ministry and encouraged both young and old to seek where God may lead their lives in the mission field. Abby Houston led us in song, praising God for the day he provided. Afterward, we had one last time to interact with the Hooks and their team.

We are especially thankful to all of the following people:

Planning Team - Sharon Rhodes, Nathan Jones, Lee Hickey, Matt Geiseman and Terrell Carby -- for their part in the logistics of this event.

Nathan Jones and Family - For hosting this at Code 1 Aviation and going above and beyond to help put this event on by supplying an amazing location, providing rides in their aircraft, fuel at cost, and providing a large tent for sign-in, crafts and information tables. They did everything with such a servant's heart. A big thanks also to Sue at Code 1 Aviation for her work in helping coordinate with Alexis at MAF on all of their logistical needs!

Missions Board - Financially approving this as a mission's event which helped provide the fuel and a number of resources used by MAF.

Volunteers – For the large team of willing volunteers that gave of their time to run crafts, sign people in and complete waivers, help with games, keep track of flight times, provide general security and importantly, help safely usher people to their planes – thanks for helping make this happen!

Jana Cox - For all the ways she helped prepare us for the event -- from phone calls to local businesses and promotional materials. MAF was thoroughly impressed and ultimately asked, "Can Jana also do our materials?!" What a testament to how she helps us in so many ways!

~ MAF Planning Committee








2018 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Thank you to everyone who helped this year to make our 2018 VBS a real success! We had over 100 kids attend our VBS, all having a wonderful time! A special thank you to our directors Tom and Ashley Stahl and for the help of so many - teachers, game leaders, craft workers, kitchen help, nursery workers, LIT's, sound booth workers, opening exercise leaders, story time leaders, puppeteers, and our prayer warriors!



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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					Eric and Emily Long Wedding	
			1	2	3	4
Worship Service at 9:00 am COMMUNION Church Business Meeting 10:15 am						
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Worship Service at 9:00 am BAPTISM and CHILD DEDICAITON SERVICE Potluck / Brunch Lunch			First Day of School 			
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Worship Service at 9:00 and 10:30 am Bread of Life Presentation		Trustee Board Meeting 6:30 pm Deacon Board Meeting 6:30 pm	AWANA LEADER MEETING 7 pm			
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Worship Service at 9:00 and 10:30 am Youth Group Parent Kick- Off Dinner and Meeting 5:00 pm						
26	27	28	29	30	31	



AWANA Planning Meeting Tuesday, August 22 at 7:00 pm

All leaders, helpers and those interested in possibly becoming involved and wanting to learn more about our AWANA program, are encouraged to attend our AWANA Planning Meeting on Tuesday, August 22nd at 7:00 pm. We will be meeting in the Adult SS Classroom at the church. If you have any questions about our AWANA program, please talk to Marlene Miller or any member of our Christian Education Committee.



- August 1st - Lane Behmer
- August 2nd - Cherry Lewis, Matt Geiseman
- August 3rd - Michael Arnold
- August 4th - Bruce Bonne, Hanna Roberts, Dawson Meline
- August 6th - Grady Poliska
- August 7th - Amelia Dunseth
- August 9th - Fiona Long
- August 10th - Deb Bonne
- August 11th - Sophie Michalek
- August 12th - Anne Wiltfang, Eva Loyo
- August 14th - Caleb Anderson
- August 15th - Michelle McCandless
- August 18th - Janet Warner
- August 19th - Bonnie Moran
- August 20th - Donna Arnold, Alex Booker
- August 21st - Dan Houston
- August 23rd - Tom Whetsel, Samuel Keast
- August 27th - Tim Michalek
- August 28th - Bev Bjorklund, Brianne Bjorklund, Erica Dobson
- Claira Myers
- August 30th - Lonna Nelson
- Sept. 2nd - Sandy Cox, Paul Baker,
- Brenden Wrasse, Estelle Jones
- Sept. 3rd - Tom Hufford



- August 12th - Chris and Jamie Brauns
- August 18th - Jim and Janet Warner
- Dave and Pat Ewald
- August 21st - Bruce and Deb Bonne
- August 22nd - Ron and Nota Ippen
- August 25th - Jamie and Brooke Adams
- August 31st - Jeff and Stacy Coester



We will be having a church business meeting on Sunday, August 5th at 10:15 am. The purpose of the meeting will be to give a Master Plan update and anticipate upcoming decisions. All members and active non-members are encouraged to attend the meeting.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS ...



Online registration for Sunday School is up and available on our church's website (www.theredbrickchurch.org). Registration will make check-in much smoother come fall. You will be asked to check-in and put a name tag on your child for ages pre-k through 5th grade in Sunday School.

Sunday School is available for children ages 3 (and potty trained) through adult. Children's Church is available for children preschool through 1st grade during the summer months and during second service in the fall. Contact Brooke at 815-985-3178 if you have any questions!



AWANA KICK-OFF and FUN FAIR!

Mark your calendars for Wednesday, September 12th! We will be having our AWANA Kick-Off and Fun Fair from 6:00 to 7:15 pm. There are a few things new this year to the Kick-Off. **We are asking everyone to meet in the sanctuary from 6:00 – 6:15 pm for an informational meeting.**

After the meeting, parents and their clubbers can continue on with their registration, purchasing of AWANA merchandise, enjoy a free hot dog dinner in our fellowship hall (kitchen closes at 7:00 pm), and lots of new fun fair games out on the church lawn! Parents need to stay with their clubbers this evening.

Our AWANA Program will run this year from 6:00 pm to 7:15 pm. Parents are asked to pick up their clubbers in the sanctuary no later than 7:15 pm beginning on Wednesday, September 19th. Please watch your bulletin and September newsletter for more AWANA updates and information!

CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH
PO Box 370
Stillman Valley, IL 61084

**** RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED ****

