



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

207 W. Roosevelt Road, PO Box 370
 Stillman Valley, Illinois 61084-0370
www.theredbrickchurch.org

Rev. Dr. Chris Brauns / Associate Pastor Timothy Michalek

**SEPTEMBER 2018
 NEWSLETTER**

**CHURCH PHONE
 645-2526**



In our James study, we will be challenged to take specific actions that demonstrate the reality of our faith.

I can't wait to begin (9/9/18) preaching verse by verse through James. One of the first words that comes to mind for the book of James is "beautiful." We are called to follow a beautiful Savior and, to the extent we do follow Christ, we will live beautiful lives.

Where beauty is concerned, consider this central verse in James:

Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world. James 1:27

James encouraged his readers that the Christian life should be characterized by unselfish acts that benefit those who most need help.

Notice that, along with his exhortation to show love, James adds that we should keep ourselves unstained from the world.

Between now and Christmas we will meditate in an extended way on what this should like in our church. We can be assured that, if we follow the teaching of James, our lives and church will be all the more beautiful.

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Cara Roberts, our **Director of Children's Ministries**, is just beginning her new position. Her first priorities include reviewing where our greatest needs are and how we can move forward strategically. She will also help encourage our children to participate in the **True Christianity** project with our time in James.

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Men's Group this Fall. At 6:30 PM on Thursday evenings, beginning September 13, I (Pastor Chris) will lead a men's study that will take a deeper dive into the book of James and be challenged as men.



Cara and Ryan Roberts, Patrick and Hanna

SEPTEMBER GREETERS

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

- Sept. 2nd: Len and Barb Kinner
Sept. 9th: LaVon Willey, Donna Jacquet
Sept. 16th: Tim and Shari Halsmer
Sept. 23rd: Bruce and Betty Carby
Sept 30th: Dan and Lori Houston
Oct. 7th: Grady and Millie McCoy

SEPTEMBER NURSERY

September 2nd (Labor Day)

9:00 am LucyBeth Sierra, Alice Daniels,
Deb Bonne

September 9th

9:00 am Justine Loyo, Amy Michalek,
Tessa Baker
10:30 am Stacy Jones, Aly Behmer,
Dawn Clinton

September 16th

9:00 am Jeanne Baker, Tania VanBriesen,
Ryan Roberts
10:30 am Terrell and Terri Carby,
Cherri Tremble

September 23rd (Fall Festival)

9:00 am Chelsea Colon, Donna Arnold,
Susan Stukenberg

September 30th

9:00 am Jamie Brauns, Sharon Rhodes,
Deb Bonne
10:30 am Betts Carby, Anne Wiltfang,
Nancy Gelderloos

October 7th

9:00 am Tessa Baker, Barb Hale,
Rebekah Anderson
10:30 am Alice Daniels, Hanna Wallin,
Diane Koenig

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

SS Superintendent:
Brooke Adams ~ 645-8561

Welcome back to Sunday school!!

In September, we will have Sunday School and Children's Church on the 9th, 16th and 30th. On September 23rd, there will be no Sunday School because of the Stillman Valley Fall Festival. We will have only one worship service on the 23rd at 9:00 am along with Children's Church. In October, we will be back to our regular schedule which is Sunday School at 9:00 am and Children's Church at 10:30 am.

This year there is an enrollment form for Sunday School on www.theredbrickchurch.org. Please sign your up child/children before Sunday school starts. These forms are very helpful for our teachers. Looking forward to another great year!

God Bless you,
Brooke Adams, SS Superintendent

Sunday School Begins September 9th!!

WORSHIP SERVICE REPORT

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

June Average: 176
July Average: 172
August: 182

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



STILLMAN VALLEY FALL FESTIVAL

September 21st – 23rd

On Fall Festival Sunday, September 23rd, there will only be one worship service at 9:00 am. Please note: Only one service and Children's Church at 9:00 am on the 23rd. There will NOT be a 10:30 am service. Sunday School will also not meet on the 23rd.

Our AWANA Club will be having a float in the parade with the parade beginning at **1:00 pm**. Clubbers will receive information about the float at the AWANA Club meetings in September. See AWANA Commander Tessa Baker for more information.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Through August 31, 2018

Total Approved 2018 Budget = \$430,907

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

Budget Giving through Aug 31	\$281,758
Actual Giving through Aug 31	\$264,392
Budget Giving vs. Actual Giving	-\$17,366
Actual Expenses through 8/31/18	\$257,205

September 2018 Worship Schedule

Labor Day Sunday, September 2nd

9:00 am Service only

Children's Church (Preschool – 1st grade)

Fall Festival Sunday, September 23rd

9:00 am Service only

Children's Church (Preschool – 1st grade)

**Please be sure to note both of these
Sunday's on your home calendar!**



Women's Bible Studies in September!

M&M (Moms and More) and WOW (Women of the Word Evening Bible Study) will start up in September!

Both groups will be doing a study on Colossians called "**Raised Together**" by Gloria Furman. All ladies are invited to come and learn who Christ is, who you are in Him, and how to grow and mature in your faith.

Mom's and More Bible Study meets on Friday mornings beginning September 7th in the Adult SS Classroom from 9:00 to 10:30 am led by Amy Michalek. All ladies are welcome to join the group and childcare will be provided. If you have any questions about our Mom's and More Bible Study, please contact Amy at 586-651-8680.

Women of the Word meets on Tuesday evenings from 7:00 – 8:30 pm in the Adult SS Classroom, beginning on Tuesday, September 4th. All ladies are welcome to join this study as well. Jamie Brauns will be leading the Tuesday evening study and if you have any questions, contact Jamie at 815-262-8837.

Workbooks for both studies can be purchased at either study.

BAPTISM and NEW MEMBERS SUNDAY

On August 12th, Erica Dobson, Chad & Crystal Carty, and Gabe & Justine Loyo became members of our church family. The following members were baptized on the 12th: Aiden Carby, Jaden Coester, Erica Dobson, Jacob Rhodes, and Daniel Miller.

Teen Update ...

Our kick-off packed in almost 50 parents and teens for a taco bar, 2017-18 year review, and parent volunteer signup. We've got an incredibly full year with awesome opportunities for all our teens. Here's the list of most of our activities for the 2018-19 year!

September

- 8 – Sat – Cya-Summer Splash Day
- 9 – Youth Group
- 16 – SYATP Party – S'mores, songs and Prayer to plan SYATP
- 19 – Wednesday Bible Study Begins (every week follows SVHS calendar)
- 26 – Wed before school – See You At The Pole
- 29 – Sat 4-7pm – Rhodes Cookout & College/military packages

October

- 7 – Sun – Youth Group
- 20 – Sat – Yard Clean-up Activity
- 21 – Sun – Around the Table with Seniors & Teens

November

- 1 – Thu – Rend Collective Concert HS Activity in Wheaton
- 4 – Sun – Youth Group
- ? 5 – Bread of Life
- 18 – Sun – Youth Group
- 21 – NO Bible Study
- 25 – Sun – JH Christmas Tree Decorating

December

- 2 – Sun 4-6pm – JH Christmas Parties
- 2 – Sun 6-8pm – SH Christmas Parties
- 16 – Sun – Youth Group
- 21 – Fri pm – Christmas Caroling to Widows

January

- 18-21 – Winter Retreat
- 26 – Rescue Mission Food Service

February

- 3 – Sun – Youth Group
- 8 – Fri pm – Bake'n'Make
- 9 – Sat 2-4pm – Loving our Widows Visits
- 17 – Sun – Youth Group

March

- 3 – Sun – Youth Group
- 17 – Sun – Youth Group
- ? 22 – Parent's Night Out: Serving Young Families Activity

April

- 7 – Sun – Youth Group
- 10 – LAST Bible Study
- ? 13 – Sat pm – Bowling Night in Byron

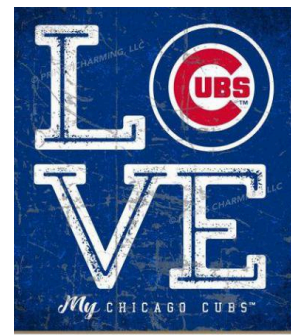
22 – Sun – Mission Trip Fundraiser

May

- ? 4 – Sat – Activity @ Rhodes
- 18 – Sat – SVHS Baccalaureate
- 19 – Sun – Graduation Sunday

Ladies Craft Nights

The Deaconess Board is hosting two craft nights in early October. Karen Hilliard has offered to help us paint decorative signs. Dates for the paint parties will be Thursday, October 4th and Monday, October 8th from 5:30 – 9:00 pm. It is OK to arrive at 6:00 pm, because we are not able to all start at once. The cost is \$38 to \$45, depending on the sign you choose. Karen will furnish all materials needed to complete your project. You will be able to complete your sign in one evening and no painting experience is required. Just bring a munchie to share with others. Guests are welcome! To reserve your spot, call Karen at 815-980-3867. The different signs can be found on Facebook under Karen Hilliard or the Red Brick Church and also on our church website. There are Christmas, fall, snowmen, sports and welcome signs to choose from. Information and pictures of the signs are also posted on the back bulletin board. Any questions, contact Deb Bonne or Karen Hilliard.



If the church office does not have your email address, please be sure to email your address to the office at the following email address:

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.



Summer is winding down, and for some, that may be sad, but for others, this is a time of excitement. And while fall and everything football, apple and pumpkin spice is exciting, there is cause for greater excitement here at Red Brick: our children and youth ministry kick off!

Youth groups, Sunday School, and AWANA are all gearing up for a new season of learning and fun. I am so excited to see how God is going to work in our church. There are several ways you can connect and contribute. We have serving opportunities that range from weekly to monthly to occasionally. Be praying about how God would use you to further spread the Good News to our children and community. Contact me to see what areas of need would be a good fit for you.

Children in grades 2nd – 5th who attend the worship service can fill out sermon notes and return them to me before leaving church to get a prize. I will be talking to the students during their Sunday School this week to further explain and answer any questions they may have.

Cara Roberts, Director of Children's Ministry
(217)621-2460 or cararoberts32@gmail.com



Families with children, grandchildren, and those who love children: Do you want to get to know others better? Try coming to our upcoming ice cream social. It will be at Blackhawk Meadow Park in Byron (off Mill Road) on **Saturday, Sept. 15th at 5:30 pm.** Ice cream, bowls, spoons, and water will be provided. Please bring a topping to share. Sign up on the bulletin board at the back of the church. Contact Cara Roberts with any questions at 217-621-2460.



We are hosting a booth in our green space behind the church the Saturday of Fall Festival (Sept. 22nd) from Noon – 4:00 pm. Stop by for free lemonade and free carnival games. Bring friends that you've been wanting to invite to church. We will have a table of information describing the ministries our church offers. To volunteer, contact Cara at 217-621-2460.



There is a Secret Keeper Girl event in Colgate, Wisconsin on November 11th. Moms, aunts, and grandmas ... if you have a daughter that is between 7 and 14 years old, you may want to join us. Our own Abby Houston is one of the worship leaders for the Secret Keeper Girl World Tour events, so this is also a great time to see and encourage Abby!

For more information about the event and to purchase tickets, visit secretkeepergirl.com. We have a group discount available. Use the group name: Red Brick Mother/Daughter password: SecretKeeperBricks to purchase tickets at a discount (\$21.50 per ticket). It is general admission seating. We will be forming carpool groups as we get closer to the date.

Contact Heather Wallin (815-985-2294) or Cara Roberts (217-621-2460) with any questions.



September 1 st	-	Teagan Meline
September 2 nd	-	Sandy Cox, Brenden Wrasse, Paul Baker, Estelle Jones
September 3 rd	-	Tom Hufford
September 5 th	-	Kyle Mast, Conner Wrasse, Elizabeth Jacobson
September 6 th	-	Owen Dunseth
September 9 th	-	Tim Halsmer, Bob Hoernecke
September 10 th	-	Jeanne Baker
September 11 th	-	Shelley Herlihy, Gloria Ennenbach
September 14 th	-	Ashley Stahl
September 15 th	-	Tania VanBriesen
September 19 th	-	MyKenzie Beitel
September 25 th	-	Shawn Ross
October 3 rd	-	Lee Hickey
October 4 th	-	Don Miuccio, Bruce Carby,
October 5 th	-	Zachary Clinton



September 7 th	-	Shawn and Shannon Ross
September 14 th	-	Homer and Becky Bailey
	-	Nick and Chelsea Colon
September 17 th	-	Dave and Bev Bjorklund
September 18 th	-	Stan and Cheryl Lewis
September 20 th	-	Brent and Arlett Bonne
September 28 th	-	Ray and Kay Swanson



FREE Guitar Class available weekly on Tuesday afternoons from 3:00 – 3:30 pm in the church administration building. Guitar loans available. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Tim.



AWANA Kick-Off Night

Wednesday, September 12, 2018 @ 6:00 – 7:15 pm
The Red Brick Church, Stillman Valley



What you can do at Kick-off Night:

- ♦ Register your kids for AWANA! Preschool – 6th grade.
- ♦ Purchase AWANA handbooks, uniforms, etc.
- ♦ Enjoy a hot dog dinner provided for your family.
- ♦ Meet the AWANA leaders!
- ♦ Play new fun fair games with prizes!
- ♦ HAVE LOTS OF FUN!!

Questions? Contact:

AWANA Commander, Tessa Baker
815-315-3696 / tessabaker333@gmail.com

SEPTEMBER 2018 AWANA DATES

Wednesday, September 12th at 6:00 pm

AWANA Kick-Off and Family Fun Fair Night. See details above. Parents are asked to stay with their children this evening. Call the church office at 815-645-2526 or Commander Tessa with any questions.

Wednesday, Sept. 19th at 6:00 pm

This is "Western Night" at club. Come to club dressed in your best western wear as a cowboy, cowgirl or animal.

Sunday, Sept. 23rd at 1:00 pm

AWANA participates in Fall Festival Parade. Clubbers who participate in the parade will receive \$5 AWANA dollars. Meet at the AWANA Float in the high school parking lot at 12:45 pm. After the parade, please pick your clubber up in the high school back parking lot. Cubbies who are 3 years old wishing to participate in the parade will need a parent/guardian to stay with the cubbie the entire parade route.

Wednesday, Sept. 26th at 6:00 pm

We have scheduled "Bring a Friend / Parent Night" for the 26th! Parent(s) will meet over at the Administration Building with our commander to learn more about what goes on at our AWANA Club and meet other parents.

Wednesday, October 3rd at 6:00 pm

This will be our first M & M (Missionary Night). This year our club will support our AWANA Missionaries, Bruce and Marti Brumfield. Clubbers are asked to bring in monies on M & M Night in either their M & M Bank or a baggie. In exchange for the monies, clubbers will receive an individual package of M & M's.

AWANA REMINDER: Children in AWANA must have on tennis shoes for game time!! Please be sure your child is wearing tennis shoes or brings a pair of tennis shoes with him or her to AWANA's for game time.



We are excited to start Sunday School on September 9th. Children's programs will meet during first service from 9-10:00 am. Parents, you will need to check in your Pre-K through 5th grade students at the check-in tables in the basement beginning at 8:50 am. Worship and teaching will begin promptly at 9:00 am. If you haven't registered your child for SS, you can still do so on our church website.

Preschool Sunday School is led by Cara Roberts and Andria Brass. They meet in the preschool room in the church basement. KG/1st grade is led by Carole Schaefer and Brooke Adams. 2nd/3rd grade is led by Rick and Donna Dyal, Janice Amundson and Hope Hickey. 4th/5th grade is led by Carol Brauer. Grades kindergarten through 5th grade will meet in the church basement and will begin with praise and worship together before splitting into their classes. Praise and worship for our KG – 5th graders will be led by Heather Wallin, Hope Hickey and Tina Garnhart.

Jr. High Sunday School goes through a Bible Instruction Course (BIC), and they meet in the basement of the Administrative building (next to the church). Dan and Lori Houston will be leading this class. Sr. High Sunday School meets on the main floor of the administrative building. This class is led by Chad and Crystal Carty. The 9:00 am adult class, led by Eric Walker, will do a study on 2nd Thessalonians and the 10:30 am adult class, led by Clayton Midtsem, will be diving deeper into famous bible stories. Childcare is available through 1st grade during the 10:30 am class.

Sunday school will be in session during the 9:00 am worship service on Sundays between Labor Day and Memorial Day. When there is a one service Sunday (Fall Festival, September 23rd), there will be not Sunday School. Children's Church serves children PS through 1st grade during the 10:30 am worship service and when there is only one service.

If anyone is interested in volunteering as a helper in our preschool department or KG/1st grade classroom, please contact Brooke Adams (815-985-3178) or Cara Roberts (217-621-2460). Please pray for our teachers as they prepare this week. Pray for our children to be open to receiving the Word.

CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH
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Stillman Valley, IL 61084

**** RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED ****

