



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 Tim Michalek

Do you know what is easy and what is hard about our building program?

**OCTOBER 2018
NEWSLETTER**

**CHURCH PHONE
645-2526**

**CHURCH E-MAIL ADDRESS
cccoffice1@comcast.net**

**TIME OF SERVICES
Worship Service
at 9:00 and 10:30 am
Sunday School – 9:00 am
Preschool thru Adults**

Some aspects of our master plan process are easy. Other aspects are tougher to swallow. Many aspects of



the Master Plan are easy enough to see. It is easy to admit the obvious about our facilities:

- We have turned away children away from programs because “there is no room in the inn.”
- We’ve acknowledged putting 17 kindergarten and first graders in an area that is too small.
- We ask our junior high students to meet in a basement space that is uninviting --- embarrassing really – and inconsistent with the message of the gospel.
- We have conceded so many times that we don’t have a foyer / narthex where we can distribute information about our church and welcome people before the service and allow them to talk afterwards.
- In the age of the auto, it’s hard to drop people off. One of our lots is across a highway.
- Our fellowship area doesn’t allow us gather together as a church family. Our kitchen facilities aren’t adequate.

The list goes on. Spotting facilities needs is easy.

Here’s what is difficult: admitting that we have lived with these needs as long as we have given that heaven and hell are at stake. It’s a swallow to acknowledge our complacency.

Our mission as a church is to *glorify God and maximize our joy by making an extended family of fully-devoted followers of Christ*. That is – we are showing people how, in a broken world, they can know their Creator and spend eternity with him.

And if we do not show people Christ --- then they are lost. It’s not enough to be “people.” Indeed, all fall short (Romans 3:23).

It’s easy to see we need to do something with our facilities. *It is far more difficult to maintain the proper sense of urgency*. But now is the time. Today is the day. This is the time for our church to see what is at stake with maximizing the use of our facilities to share the message of Christ.

OCTOBER GREETERS

- Oct. 7th - Grady and Millie McCoy
Oct. 14th - Tom and Ashley Stahl
Oct. 21st - Dave and Pat Ewald
Oct. 28th - Randy and Susan Stukenberg
Nov. 4th - Roland and Lonna Nelson

OCTOBER NURSERY

Oct. 7th

Nursery Greeter: Dawn Clinton
9:00 am - Tessa Baker, Barb Hale,
Rebekah Anderson

10:30 am - Stacy Coester, Vicki Boyd,
Diane Koenig

Oct. 14th

Nursery Greeter: Tessa Baker
9:00 am - Justine Loyo, Ryan Roberts,
Chelsea Colon

10:30 am - Lee and Shannon Hickey
Nancy Gelderloos

Oct. 21st

Nursery Greeter: Marlene Miller
9:00 am - Tania VanBriesen, Donna Arnold,
Jamie Brauns

10:30 am - Carl and Elizabeth Jacobson,
Aly Behmer

Oct. 28th

Nursery Greeter: Rebekah Anderson
9:00 am - Amy Michalek, Jeanne Baker,
Susan Stukenberg

10:30 am - LucyBeth Sierra, Cherri Tremble,
Hanna Wallin

Nov 4th

Nursery Greeter: Marlene Miller
9:00 am - Sharon and Ashley Rhodes,
Deb Bonne

10:30 am - Anne Wiltfang, Betts Carby,
Nancy Gelderloos

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

SS Superintendent:

Brooke Adams ~ 815-645-8561

Our average weekly Sunday School **Attendance** for the past two years during the month of September is listed below:

September 2017: 100
September 2018: 87

Our average weekly Sunday School **Offerings** for the past two years during the month of September are listed below:

September 2017: \$23.95
September 2018 :\$9.63

WORSHIP SERVICE REPORT

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

July Average: 172
August Average: 182
Labor Day Worship Service: 180
Fall Festival Worship Service: 174
9/9, 9/16, 9/30 Worship Services: 253

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 Com. – Jeff McLindsay 440-2042
Missions Com. – Cathy Midtsem 979-3715
Missions Committee – Joe Clinton 904-3382
Music – Pastor Tim Michalek 645-2526

**November Newsletter
Articles are due in the
church office by
Friday, Oct. 26th**

FINANCIAL REPORT

Through September 30th, 2018

Total Approved 2018 Budget = \$430,907

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

Budget Giving through Sept 30 \$323,180
Actual Giving through Sept 30..... \$299,509
Budget Giving vs. Actual Giving \$(23,671)
Actual Expenses through 9/30/18 \$285,134



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.

You may also email into the office any prayer requests you might have, any announcements for the bulletins, etc. We will be sure the prayer requests are passed on to the prayer chains and all announcements get into the bulletin.

Sunday School NEWS . . .

Sunday School has had three sessions as I'm writing this update. Grades preschool through 5th will soon be beginning to practice for our Christmas program which will be December 9th. Children will sing at both the 9:00 and 10:30 worship services on that date.

Children's church is available during the 10:30 worship service for children in preschool through 1st grade. We often have 15-20 children during this time.

God Bless!

Brooke Adams, Sunday School Superintendent

YOUTH GROUP NEWS!

We had a busy September and an even busier October coming!

Our C-ya Summer Splash Day had weather just warm enough to go sliding around baby-shampoo covered tarps and to launch over 1200 water balloons at each other.

We hosted the first See You At The Pole Bonfire Planning Party and had almost 60 people in attendance. We met right in between the church and the office, ate s'mores and ice cream, sang some songs, and grouped into schools to plan for SYATP. The mosquitoes were so bad that we had to cut off a couple minutes early, but the event was a huge success. All schools were well represented on the 26 to pray for their schools, family, country, and the world.

We had a great activity at the Rhodes farm. Although it was a little chilly, the hayride and bonfire made us thankful for fall. We packed 15 care packages to send to our college students and military personnel. We prayed over each box that God would bless them personally with His grace.

We are hosting an ALL CHURCH ministry activity to clean up the Janoski's farm, OCTOBER 20, 1-3pm. Since Justin's cancer and new baby Emilia, some of their yard work has gotten postponed. Please bring gloves, and yard tools to clean up brush, trim trees, rake leaves, and trim bushes.

We are also hosting the third annual Around the Table with Seniors and Teens October 21, 12-2pm. All seniors and teens are invited to eat lunch together, play some fun games and build relationships. All Middle School, High School, and 'Over-60s' are welcome!





Secret Keeper Girl



There is a Secret Keeper Girl event in Colgate, Wisconsin on November 11. Moms, aunts, and grandmas, if you have a daughter that is between 7-14

years old, you may want to join us. For more information about the event and to purchase tickets, visit secretkeepergirl.com

We have a group discount available. Click the "join the group" button and select group name: Red Brick Mother/Daughter password: SecretKeeperBricks to purchase tickets at a discount. It is general admission seating, and there will be carpool groups forming soon. Our very own Abby Houston is one of the talented performers at this event. Don't miss this chance to bond with your little girl and support Abby! Contact Heather Wallin (815)985-2294 or Cara Roberts (217)621-2460 with any questions.

Ice Cream Social

We had a great turn out for ice cream social in the park. The kids loved building their own sundaes.



Fall Festival Booth

Fall Festival was another exciting event in September. Several Bricks helped out with a free games and lemonade booth in our empty backlot. Several people stopped by to play games, enjoy a cool drink, and hear about our church.

September passed by in the blink of an eye. Fall ministries at Red Brick are in full swing. The church is brimming with a sea of green, red and blue uniforms on Wednesday nights. Laughter resounds throughout the fellowship hall, and the sanctuary boasts of anxious children ready to recite their verses. Sunday mornings are full of energy and excitement with children eager to greet their friends. Teachers are working hard to make each week a chance to learn more about God. We are privileged to work with your family.

Sunday notes were new in September, and I have been blown away by the effort put in by children. They are working so hard, and are proud to show me their work. Children in grades 2-5 who attend the worship service can fill out Sunday notes and return them to me before leaving church to get a prize. Parents, make a point to talk about these with your child at home. Answer questions and provide personal connections to their lives.

Our #truereligion project is in full swing. Again, I have been impressed by the participation of kids in this project. Several of them have been faithfully handing these in each week. Read James with them, brainstorm ways they can be "doers of the word" and help them see the connection to the Bible. Not every project needs to be huge, but there certainly is a place for that. Small, meaningful, prayerful activities that are rooted in the Bible are immeasurably beneficial for your children and family. If there are questions regarding this, please don't hesitate to ask.

There continue to be opportunities to serve. Please contact me to see what would be a good fit for you.

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



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.



The Master Planning Committee will be meeting with the architects on Sunday, October 14th and 21st from 4:00 to 6:00 pm in the Adult SS Classroom. The committee will be going through the completed questionnaires from the various boards and committees from the church with the architects. The congregation is invited to attend either or both of the meetings. Please come and share any input, visions, or concerns you may have. These two meetings are very important ... please join us!



Women's Bible Studies

M&M (Moms and More) and WOW (Women of the Word Evening Bible Study) have started meeting. Both groups are doing a study on Colossians called "Raised Together" by Gloria Furman. Both groups meet in the Adult SS Classroom. Mom's and More Bible Study meets from 9:00 to 10:30 am on Friday mornings and is led by Amy Michalek. Women of the Word meets on Tuesday evenings from 7:00 to 8:30 pm and Jamie Brauns is leading the Tuesday evening study.



The Deaconess Board will be hosting a Hymn Sing at 6:30 pm on Sunday evening, November 4th in the church sanctuary. We will be taking requests from the congregation, so be thinking of your favorite hymns. Feel free to bring guests. Nursery will be provided. Cookies will be served following the music. Mark your calendar to join in the fun!



Our Men's Group is meeting on Thursday evenings at 6:30 pm in the Adult SS Classroom. Together the group will take a deeper dive into the Sunday morning series on James and group in prayer and spiritual leadership. The group will be meeting through Thursday, November 15th.



All boards and committees should begin to start thinking about and working on their 2019 budgets.

The Trustee Board would like to have all budgets to them NO later than December 1st.



October 3 rd	-	Lee Hickey
October 4 th	-	Bruce Carby
October 5 th	-	Zachary Clinton
October 6 th	-	Connie Rhodes, Kylie Paulson
October 7 th	-	Julie Larson
	-	Haley Jones
October 8 th	-	Daphne Long
October 10 th	-	Gary Larson, Amanda Geiseman
October 11 th	-	Darren Daniels
October 12 th	-	Candy Beck
October 13 th	-	Jaden Coester, George Myers
October 17 th	-	Atalie Gebbia
October 21 st	-	Rebekah Anderson
October 23 rd	-	Patrick Roberts, Terri Carby
October 29 th	-	Elizabeth Miller
November 3 rd	-	Sebastian Cardenas, Mireya Cowan




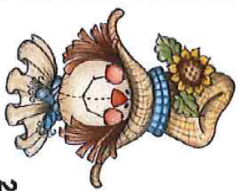


October 4 th	-	Dean and Claudia Pihl
October 15 th	-	Terrell and Terri Carby
October 19 th	-	Ben and Pat Chitwood
October 20 th	-	Dick and Shirley Johann
October 26 th	-	Chuck and Shirley Thompson
October 28 th	-	Elliot and Rebekah Anderson



OCTOBER 2018



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Services at 9:00 & 10:30 am YOUTH GROUP at the CARTY'S at Noon	Ladies Paint Party 6:00 pm	Ladies Evening Bible Study 7:00 pm	AWANA 6:00 pm Youth Bible Study 7:00 - 8:00 pm	Ladies Paint Party 6:00 pm Men's Group 6:30 pm	NO Mom's and More Bible Study	
Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Services at 9:00 & 10:30 am Master Planning Committee Meeting w/Architects 4:00 pm	Deaconess Board Meeting at 7:15 pm	Ladies Evening Bible Study 7:00 pm 	AWANA 6:00 pm Youth Bible Study 7:00 - 8:00 pm	Men's Group 6:30 pm 	NO Mom's and More Bible Study	Yard Clean-Up at Janoski's 1:00 - 3:00 pm 
Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Services at 9:00 & 10:30 am		Sr. Fellowship 9:00 am Ladies Evening Bible Study 7:00 pm	AWANA 6:00 pm Youth Bible Study 7:00 - 8:00 pm	Men's Group 6:30 pm	M & M 9:00 - 11:00 am	

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1-Nov

2-Nov

3-Nov

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OCTOBER 2018 AWANA SCHEDULE

Wednesday, October 3rd: AWANA had their first M & M Night on October 4th. This year our offerings will go to support Bruce and Mardi Brumfield, our Northern Illinois AWANA Missionaries. M & M Night is the first Wednesday of every month. Clubbers should bring their missionary banks with them to club in exchange for an individual size package of plain M & M's.

Wednesday, October 10th: It's "Hat Night" at AWANA. On the 10th, wear your favorite hat to club. Participating in theme nights will earn you AWANA dollars to use at our AWANA store!

Wednesday, October 17th: Tonight is "Wear Your Color Night" at club. Tonight the clubbers will come to club dressed in their club color. Our Cubbies will wear blue, the Sparky's will wear yellow, and the T & T clubbers will wear red.

Wednesday, October 24th: It's "Give Thanks Night" at club!! On the 24th, we are doing a CANNED SOUP DRIVE for the Bread of Life, the local food pantry here in SV. They are in need of "hearty" canned soup (the kind that is a whole meal in a can). Let's help the BOL stock their shelves with enough canned soup for the winter. Please bring ONLY hearty cans of soup for the pantry.

Wednesday, October 31st: Tonight is "Trunk or Treat Night" at club. Wear your Halloween costume (nothing scary please!) to club and we'll open several trunks of our cars in the back parking lot and hand out treats to all clubbers. **PARENTS:** We have room in the back for 10 cars. If you wish to volunteer to hand out treats to our clubbers from your trunk, please let our AWANA leader, Tessa Baker, know asap. Feel free to decorate your trunk if you would like! You will need to be in the back parking lot of the church ready to hand out candy by 6:00 pm.

CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH
PO Box 370
Stillman Valley, IL 61084

**** RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED ****

