



Congregational Christian Church The **Red Brick Church** in Stillman Valley

(Evangelical, Independent)

207 W. Roosevelt Road, PO Box 370

Stillman Valley, Illinois 61084-0370

Pastor Chris Brauns

**MAY 2018
NEWSLETTER**

CHURCH PHONE
645-2526

CHURCH E-MAIL ADDRESS
cccoffice1@comcast.net

TIME OF SERVICES

Early Morning Worship
Service – 9:00 am

Late Morning Worship
Service – 10:30 am

BRICK *by* BRICK

YOU ALSO, LIKE LIVING "BRICKS", ARE BEING BUILT INTO
A SPIRITUAL HOUSE .
I PETER 2:5A

Wide and Deep

We are praying for wide participation in the Brick by Brick campaign.
When I was growing up, we sang a song in Sunday School called "Deep and Wide." The lyrics weren't real complicated.

Deep and wide

Deep and wide

There's a fountain flowing deep and wide

Some children's songs explained themselves. I knew, for example, why Zacchaeus climbed the Sycamore tree. Being a wee little man, he needed to get above the crowd if he wanted to see Jesus.

But, as a child, I never really understood the biblical message of "Deep and Wide," though I suspected that it was good that there was a fountain somewhere.

Still, I didn't mind singing "Deep and Wide" in Sunday School because, and this is the thing, we used motions. We spread our arms vertically --- to show deep – and horizontally --- to show wide.

The beautiful part of the motions for wide was that it was basically a free pass in Sunday School to smack the kid sitting next to you. Along with singing "I'm in the Lord's Army," belting the guy next to you while singing, that was about as raucous as Sunday School got in the late 60's and early 70's.

Nearly 50 years later, I realize how blessed I was to be able to sing "Deep and Wide." Even as we got a little out of hand, we had a place to learn to worship Christ and to enjoy community.

In our Brick by Brick Campaign, we are again singing, "Deep and Wide." Or, as I prefer, "Wide and Deep." This time I know the reason for the song. We are praying that everyone (think "wide") in our church will make some level of commitment. Of course, we are asking for deep gifts of a magnitude that will allow us to achieve our giving target. But we are also praying that *everyone* in our church family will make a gift consistent with the circumstances of their lives.

I don't know if we will actually sing, "Deep and Wide." Our musicians may not approve it. But I am hopeful that we are going to do the motions. The way we are going to fling our arms wide open is to ask everyone to submit their Brick By Brick Campaign by Sunday, June 2.

MAY CROSSWALK MINISTRY

- May 5th - Grady McCoy, Carl Jacobson
May 12th - Steve Arnold, Grady McCoy
May 19th - Toby Behmer, Rob Wissinger
May 26th - Lee Hickey, Don Wallin

MAY GREETERS

- May 5th: Len and Barb Kinner
May 12th: Bruce and Betty Carby
May 19th: Grady and Millie McCoy
May 26th: Dan and Lori Houston

MAY NURSERY

- May 5th
9:00 am Deb Bonne, Tania VanBriesen
Kennedy Halsmer
10:30 am Lee & Shannon Hickey,
Vicki Boyd
- May 12th
9:00 am Justine Loyo, Mandy Poliska,
Susan Stukenberg
10:30 am Donna Arnold, Becky Bailey,
Kari Janoski
- May 19th
9:00 am Sharon & Ashley Rhodes,
Amy Michalek
10:30 am Rebekah Anderson, Hanna Wallin,
LucyBeth Sierra
- May 26th
9:00 am Cherri Tremble, Jeanne Baker,
Aly Behmer

Parents of children under the age of 5 years old are invited and encouraged to use our nursery during the 9:00 & 10:30 am worship services. If you would like to be a part of the nursery rotation, please talk to Kari Janoski.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS . . .

SS Superintendent:

Brooke Adams
815-645-8561

Our average weekly Sunday School **Attendance** (Preschool – High School) for the past two years during the month of April is listed below:

April 2018: 81
April 2019: 60

Our average weekly Sunday School **Offerings** (Preschool – High School) for the past two years during the month of April are listed below:

April 2018: \$11.65
April 2019: \$2.75

WORSHIP SERVICE REPORT

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

February 3rd, 10th, 17th Average: 213
February 24th: 116
March Average: 215
April Average: 227

CHAIRMAN OF BOARDS/COMMITTEES

Deacon Board – Tom Stahl 520-3050
Deaconess Board – Deb Bonne 979-0885
Trustee Board – Brad Baker 670-0039
CE Committee – Marlene Miller 289-8453
Memorial Com. – Jeff McLindsay 440-2042
Missions Com. – Cathy Midtsem 979-3715
Music – Pastor Tim Michalek 645-2526

***June Newsletter Articles
are due in the
church office by
Tuesday, May 28, 2019***



Children's Prelude

On Mother's Day, Sunday, May 12th, we will have our children/youth begin both services with a prelude! Any one up through high school age who would want to play an instrumental song as part of our prelude should let Jamie Brauns or the church office know!



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.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Through April 30, 2019

Total Approved 2019 Budget = \$451,676

Divided by 52 weeks/year = **\$8,686/week**

Budget Giving through April 30	\$147,663
Actual Giving through April 30	\$139,314
Budget Giving vs. Actual Giving	\$-8,349
Actual Expenses through 4/30/19	\$135,973



MEMORIAL DAY
SERVICE TIME

On Memorial Day **Sunday, May 26th**, there will be only a 9:00 am worship service.

CHURCH BUSINESS MEETING

There will be a brief church business meeting at 10:15 am on Sunday, May 26th, following the 9:00 am worship service. The congregation will be briefed on an interim leader for our praise and worship team to help us out after Pastor Tim has left. Please plan on being at the meeting.

HONORING GRADUATES

On Sunday, May 19th, we will be honoring our 2019 SVHS and BHS graduates as well as those from our church family who are also home schooled graduates. We will be honoring all graduates during the 9:00 am worship service. If you have a graduate in your family or know of a graduate from our church family, please contact the church office 645-2526.

On Sunday, May 19th, along with our high school graduates, we will also be honoring our 2019 BIC (Bible Instruction Course) and 8th grade graduates. We will be honoring our graduates during the 9:00 am worship service.

2019 Summer Schedule

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

Memorial Day Sunday, May 26th

9:00 am Worship Service only
Children's Church (Preschool – 1st grade)

The Month of June, July & August

9:00 am Worship Service only
Children's Church (Preschool – 1st grade)

Labor Day Sunday, September 1st

9:00 am Service only
Children's Church (Preschool – 1st grade)

Please be sure to note these on your home calendar for 2019!

VBS CRAFT SUPPLIES

Our 2019 VBS is looking for a few craft supplies. We need empty/clean Lays Stax containers with lids. Please leave them in the Adult SS Classroom. Talk to Kendra Booker if you have any questions.

BRICK by BRICK

YOU ALSO, LIKE LIVING "BRICKS", ARE BEING BUILT INTO
A SPIRITUAL HOUSE.
1 PETER 2:5A

UPCOMING CAMPAIGN EVENTS!

Small Group Presentations

We have invited everyone to sign up for an opportunity to meet with our leaders and hear an overview of the campaign. If you have not yet heard a presentation and received your Capital Campaign Packet, please attend a presentation on Sunday – May 5th, Tuesday – May 7th, or Wednesday – May 8th.

Challenge Sunday – May 12th

If you think it's all about money and filling out pledge cards, you will be pleasantly surprised. The "challenge" of Challenge Sunday will be this: Be still. Listen expectantly. Ask boldly. Obey humbly. We will not talk about equal giving but, rather, equal sacrifice.

Tax-Wise Giving Seminar – Sat., May 18th

This seminar is aimed toward those who might be thinking about giving "Gifts of Assets" such as personal property, land, stocks, or other non-cash gifts. We will give you tips on how to make these donations and how to maximize your tax benefits while doing so.

Prayer Sunday – Saturday, June 1st

Prayer must be the foundation of going forward for Christ. We will pray from 6:00 am to 6:00 pm on the 1st in 15 minute increments. Please see Tom Stahl to sign up.

Commitment Sunday — Sunday, June 2nd

On this day we will turn in our sealed Commitment Cards. This will be a time of commitment, sacrifice, and faith. We will have the opportunity to invest in something larger than ourselves — something that will outlast our lives on this earth.

Celebration Sunday — Sunday, June 9th

We all have 10,000 reasons to praise the Lord for His goodness. On Celebration Sunday, we will announce the total amount committed in faith toward our project. Our goal is 1.3 million dollars. We believe that reach can reach this amount with God's help.

Pastor Tim . . . **YOUTH GROUP UPDATE**

Our last youth events for 2018-19!

May 5th from 4:00 to 6:30 pm

Capture the Flag @ the Rhodes' Farm
(2231 N Meridian Rd, Chana, IL 61015)

Dinner will be served and we are inviting the 5th graders to join us at this event!

June 2nd at 5:00 pm

Youth Group Wrap-Up and Planning Party
(WUPP) @ The Red Brick Church

All families with teens should make plans to attend this meeting, which welcomes both *parents* and *teens*. Our parents help plan the 2019-20 schedule and sign up to volunteer for specific events. You can see our schedule [from last year](#) which will be similar to the packet you receive on June 2.



**The Michalek Family is
moving to Thailand!**

FAREWELL PARTY

Sunday, June 9th, 2019

4:00 pm

**Time of Celebration with
Dinner to follow**

(more information coming soon!)

SAVE THE DATE!!

July 8 – 12
9:00 to 11:30 am

Register online at:
www.theredbrickchurch.org

Imagine traveling through time and meeting the most important man ever—a man who was not just a man, but also God. One who turned the world upside-down. One who existed outside of time. We'll do just that as we embark on *Time Lab*. We'll use words beginning with "C" to help us remember that Jesus, our forever faithful, loving, caring, promise-keeping Lord, has been with us always. Join us for games, snacks, crafts, worship, and learning in a week full of fun.

Discovering Jesus from Eternity
Past to Eternity Future

We are trying to get workers organized. Workers are needed in all areas, from teaching to snacks to crafts to nursery. Thanks, we couldn't do it without you! If you have any questions about VBS, please contact Tom and Ashley Stahl at 815-440-1286 or 815-520-3050 or the church office.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS ...

Thank you to our parents, families, volunteers and teachers for faithfully supporting our Sunday School program. Our last day of Sunday School is May 19th. We will continue to have Children's Church through the summer during the 9:00 am worship service. Children's Church is available for children 3 years of age (potty-trained) through those that have completed 1st grade.

Our preschool and elementary Sunday School students will be singing on May 12th, Mother's Day, during both the 9:00 and 10:30 worship services. Please have your child/children in the fellowship hall by 8:50 am on the 12th, so that we have time to get lined up. Graduation Sunday is May 19th, when our college, senior high, and BIC (8th grade) graduates will be honored. Senior High and BIC (Junior High) classes will not meet in the administrative building on May 19th, but rather join the 9:00 am worship service.

Sunday School will resume again on September 8th (the weekend after Labor Day).

God Bless!

Brooke Adams, Sunday School Superintendent



May 2 nd	-	Lucas Behmer, Camila Bonne
May 4 th	-	Tyler Herlihy
May 5 th	-	Evan Jones, Micah Stahl
May 7 th	-	Havah Gebbia
May 8 th	-	Mike Haugse
May 9 th	-	Stanton Lewis
May 10 th	-	Cheryl Lewis
May 12 th	-	Storm Hickey
May 14 th	-	Noah Myers
May 15 th	-	Claudia Pihl
May 16 th	-	Eunice Aden
May 17 th	-	Aiden Carby
May 18 th	-	Kaitlyn Adams, Carl Jacobson
	-	Emma Wissinger
May 19 th	-	Hope Hickey
May 20 th	-	Moses Michalek, Aileen Gatz
May 21 st	-	Becky Bailey
May 22 nd	-	Evan Stahl
May 24 th	-	Donna Dyal, Elliot Anderson
May 25 th	-	Heather Wallin
May 26 th	-	Kane VanBriesen
May 27 th	-	Wyatt Brass, Elisa Loyo
May 28 th	-	Susan Stukenberg
May 30 th	-	Mandy Poliska
June 1 st	-	June Lewis
June 4 th	-	Jeff Cialkowski



May 1 st	-	Gary and Julie Larson
May 4 th	-	Bob and Patsy Hoernecke
	-	Eric and Kendra Booker
May 10 th	-	Roland and Lonna Nelson
May 19 th	-	Mike and Gloria Ennenbach
May 23 rd	-	Dave and Aileen Gatz
June 1 st	-	Don and Heather Wallin

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

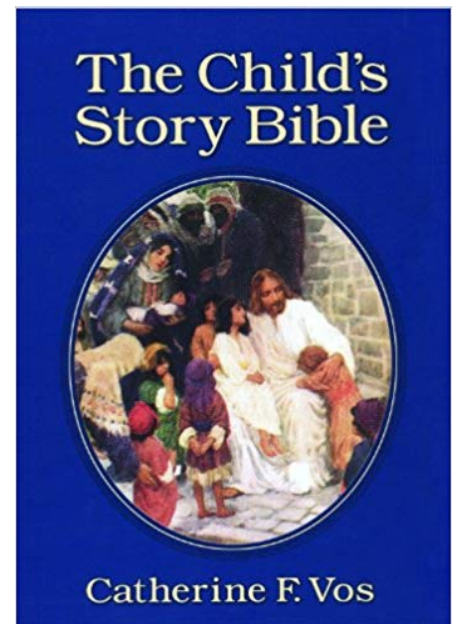
On Easter Sunday, we had beautiful weather for our annual egg hunt. It was so much fun for all the kids. They gathered eggs and exchanged them for a delicious bag of goodies. A big thank you to the Behmer and Wissinger families for coordinating and running this event.



Children's Bible spotlight of the month:

Many of us struggle to make time to read the Bible and pray with our children. Aim for 3-4 days a week, spending 10 minutes each time reading and discussing a story from the Bible. Here is what one kid has to say about The Child's Story Bible by Catherine F. Vos. "I really like reading this Bible with my family. It has amazing facts, and you can really imagine what was happening by how the events are described." You can order your own copy [here](#). This book is on Pastor Chris's list of Accessible Books Every Brick Family Should Consider Owning.

Sunday School is beginning to wrap up for the summer, and AWANA is over, but that does not mean that children's ministry is over. We are busy preparing for Vacation Bible school. If you have never volunteered at VBS, talk to Tom and Ashley Stahl (815)440-1286 or Cara Roberts (217)621-2460. We would love to fill you in on the fun things we do, and help you find an area to join. If you already know where you would like to volunteer, or to see the different ways to help, you can sign up [here](#). You can also register your preschool age (4+ and potty trained) children [here](#) and your elementary age (finished kindergarten-6th grade) children [here](#). Invite your friends!



We are also looking for volunteers to teach Children's Church over the summer. Please talk to Kendra Booker (217)741-1076 or Cara Roberts (217)621-2460 if you are interested in teaching. The lesson is provided for you, and we can even arrange helpers to assist you if you need them.

April bingo sheets are due May 5. They were pretty challenging, weren't they? Expect a bigger prize than normal for all of your hard work. May bingo sheets will come home May 5.

If you did not receive your bank for the Brick by Brick campaign, see Cara this Sunday in the preschool classroom. Start working to fill your bank with coins and or dollars. Bring your bank to church on June 2nd for our Commitment Sunday.

Please continue to pray through the end of the school year for the children on your heart magnets. If you would like to know more about the child so as to be able to pray more specifically, or to send them a card, talk to Cara Roberts.

If you have any questions about any part of children's ministry, please contact Cara Roberts. (217)621-2460 or cararoberts32@gmail.com



A sign-up sheet for camp scholarships has been placed on the back bulletin board. Please sign up for what camp you will be attending along with the week. A camp scholarship of \$100 will be given to your parents a week prior to camp.

Ladies Breakfast

All ladies are invited to attend a breakfast at the church on Saturday May 18th at 9:00 am, honoring Amy Michalek for her service in women's ministries. Please RSVP on the sign-up sheet on the back bulletin board by Sunday, May 12th. Please bring a card of encouragement for Amy.

Parents Night Out

Girl Scout Troop 157 is working on their Babysitting Badge and needs your help. They are hosting a *Parents Night Out event on Saturday, May 18th from 6:00 to 9:00 pm at church.* We are looking for kids between the ages of 3 and 8. We will provide a snack and plenty of entertainment. Contact Stacy Jones to RSVP for this event at 815-520-9642. Our troop consists of nine 7th grade girls including Haley Jones and Harleigh Wallin.

CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH
PO Box 370
Stillman Valley, IL 61084

** RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED **

