



## 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

### NOVEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER

CHURCH PHONE  
645-2526

CHURCH E-MAIL ADDRESS  
cccoffice1@comcast.net

TIME OF SERVICES  
9:00 am and 10:30 am

SUNDAY SCHOOL  
9:00 am  
(Preschool through Adults)

### *Faithful attendance is to joy as pumpkin is to pie (Psalm 133).*

Snow in October is just wrong. Still – cold weather is here and that means we need to envision the holiday season and our goals for church.

At the Red Brick Church, we picture parties: the joyful celebration of Christ: faces smiling and voices singing.



So, what is the key to achieving the vision of celebration? Much of our holiday success depends on you faithfully attending – and inviting and encouraging others to do so as well.

Think of our joyful celebration as a delicious holiday meal. If our joyful celebration is pictured as a feast, then we are *all* essential ingredients. Each time you miss church – our celebration is a little blander than it would have been if you were here.

Don't forget to buy turkey before Thanksgiving dinner. Thanksgiving dinner just won't be the same if you are serving mac and cheese. And don't forget to faithfully attend church. Your participation in our church is more vital to our joy than turkey is to Thanksgiving dinner. And invite some other "turkey" to come as well.

Your importance in mind, I pray that our church will make attending the community Thanksgiving service at Kishwaukee church a priority (7:00 PM on November 27<sup>th</sup>). I (Pastor Chris) will be speaking.

Last year's Christmas celebration was such a success, we plan to, again, celebrate the birth of Christ with **Four Gifts**. Plan to give:

1. **Your Voice** - Bring your voice and enjoy the joy of singing together: Children's program (12/8), a combined service on 12/23, and a candlelight Christmas Eve service at 4:00 PM (12/24).
2. **Prayer** - Write out a prayer for our church. What might you do to make prayer happen for our church and community?
3. **Gifts for one another** - On December 22, we will exchange gifts with one another.
4. **Gifts for Jesus** - On December 22, we are encouraging our church family to make an additional financial gift, above and beyond normal giving, as we plan for the future of our church.

Children: practice your Christmas songs. Leaders: attend meetings. Everyone: be here on Sundays. Thanksgiving isn't the same without mashed potatoes and gravy – and church isn't the same without you. Faithful attendance is to joyful celebration as pumpkin is to pie.

# NOVEMBER CROSSWALK MINISTRY

- Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> - Steve Arnold, Carl Jacobson  
Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> - Carl Jacobson, Grady McCoy  
Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> - Toby Behmer, Rob Wissinger  
Nov. 24<sup>th</sup> - Lee Hickey, Don Wallin

If you would like to be a part of Crosswalk Ministry Team, please talk with Grady McCoy.

# NOVEMBER GREETERS

- Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> - LaVon Willey, Donna Jacquet  
Nov 10<sup>th</sup> - Greg and Erica Granath  
Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> - Dave and Pat Ewald  
Nov. 24<sup>th</sup> - Clyde and Nancy Gelderloos  
Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> - Bruce and Deb Bonne

# NOVEMBER NURSERY

## Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup>

Nursery Greeter: Marlene Miller  
9:00 am - Susan Stukenberg, Jeanne Baker  
Kari Janoski

10:30 am - Shannon and Lee Hickey,  
Nancy Gelderloos

## Nov. 10<sup>th</sup>

Nursery Greeter: Erica Dobson  
9:00 am - Chelsea Colon, Diane Koenig,  
Arlett Bonne

10:30 am - Anne Wiltfang, Cherri Tremble,  
Donna Arnold

## Nov. 17<sup>th</sup>

Nursery Greeter: Kari Janoski  
9:00 am - Sharon and Ashley Rhodes,  
Jamie Brauns

10:30 am - Becky Bailey, Vicki Boyd,  
Hanna Wallin

## Nov. 24<sup>th</sup>

Nursery Greeter: Tessa Baker  
9:00 am - Susan Stukenberg, Barb Hale,  
Jeanne Baker

10:30 am - Kari and Aubrey Janoski,  
Nancy Gelderloos

# **SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS**

## **SS Superintendent:**

**Brooke Adams ~ 815-645-8561**

Our average weekly **Attendance** for the month of October is listed below for Nursery through High School Sunday School.

October 2019: 54

**Sunday School** is available for all ages. Preschool through 5<sup>th</sup> grade meet in the lower level of the church. Jr and Sr High meet in the administration building and both adult classes meet in the classroom next to the nursery.

# **WORSHIP SERVICE REPORT**

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

August: 161

Labor Day Worship Service: 153

Fall Festival Worship Service: 175

9/8, 9/15, 9/22 Worship Services: 197

October: 202

## **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 – Lance Mennen	985-2484

**December Newsletter  
Articles are due in the  
church office by  
Thursday, Nov. 28<sup>th</sup>**





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**

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



The Community Thanksgiving Eve Service will be held on Wednesday, November 27<sup>th</sup>, at the Kishwaukee Presbyterian Church at 7:00 pm. Bring a canned good offering or monetary donation for The Bread of Life Ministry. All area pastors will be participating in the service.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

Through October 31, 2019

**Total Approved 2019 Budget = \$451,676**

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

Budget Giving through Oct. 31 .....	\$373,498
Actual Giving through Oct. 31 .....	\$336,958
Budget Giving vs. Actual Giving .....	-\$36,540
Actual Expenses through 10/31/19 .....	\$331,413

## TEEN BIBLE STUDY

Our Jr and Sr High Bible Study meets on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 – 7:45 pm in the Administration Building. The study will NOT meet on Wednesday, November 27<sup>th</sup>.



There will be a bulletin insert on November 24<sup>th</sup> in the bulletin for anyone wishing to order a poinsettia. ***The insert will only be in the bulletin on the 24<sup>th</sup>.*** If you wish to order a poinsettia, please be sure to fill out the insert on the 24<sup>th</sup> or call the church office by December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Inserts can be turned into either Deb Bonne or the church office. The last day to order a plant will be December 2<sup>nd</sup>. Plants can be placed in memory or in honor of someone special again this year.

**We will need a minimum order of 10 plants** for us to be able to place the order. Please be sure to get your order into Deb Bonne or the church office by the 2<sup>nd</sup>!

## YOUTH GROUP EVENTS

**Sunday, November 3rd at Noon**

Jr and Sr High Youth Group

**Sunday, November 17<sup>th</sup> at Noon**

Jr and Sr High Youth Group

**Wednesday, November 27<sup>th</sup>**

NO Jr and Sr High Bible Study

**Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup> from 4 – 6 pm**

Jr High Christmas Party

**Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup> from 6 – 8 pm**

Sr High Christmas Party

**Friday, December 20<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm**

All Church Christmas Caroling to Widows

## YOUTH NEWS

Our seniors and teens met for our annual "Around the Table with Seniors and Teens" on Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup>. We had a great group out to eat together (thank you Karen Guske for the delicious lunch) and play some board games. Please see pictures of this event and also the youth packing up the college and military care packages throughout the newsletter!

# HOLIDAY PLANTER CLASS

*All Ladies Invited! Bring a Friend!*



Looking ahead to the Christmas holidays, the deaconess board will be hosting a holiday planter class. It will be on Thursday, December 5 at 7 p.m. The cost of the class will be \$25 if you bring your own container or \$30 if you would like a container with the arrangement. (Container should be no larger than 7 X 12). Planter can be used inside or outside.

A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board at the back of the sanctuary. Please indicate if you are bringing your own container or would like to purchase one. **Deadline to register is November 29 and payment is due in advance.** Make checks payable to Stems and Stuff and give to Deb Bonne or leave in her mail box or administration office. Any questions see Deb Bonne or give her a call or text at 815-979-0885.



# Family Rollerskating Party

Join us on Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 to 7:00 pm at the White Pines Roller Rink (6929 W Pines Road, across from the White Pines State Park) for a great night of fun! Clubbers and their immediate family are invited to come for FREE – includes skates! Extra charge for inline skates. Concessions available at a cost. No outside drinks or food allowed in the rink.

We look forward to having many of our AWANA families come and enjoy the evening!

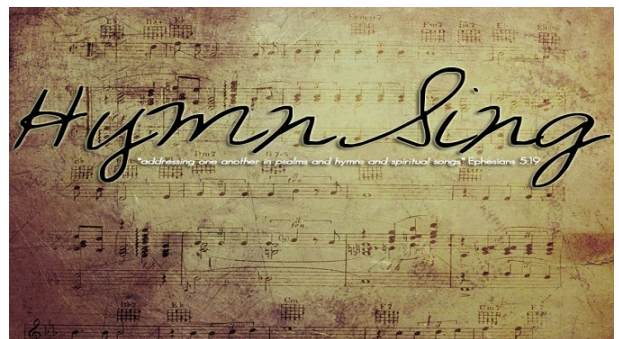


**Daylight Saving Time** ends at 2:00 am this Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Please be sure to “fall back” and turn you clocks back an hour on Saturday evening before going to bed.

## Capital Campaign Envelopes

Envelopes can be found in the back of the church. If you are doing your campaign contributions online through Breeze, please be sure that you select “*Capital Campaign Fund 01*” under the Funds drop down box menu.

We want to be sure your contribution gets to the fund you wish it to go to.



**Valley Covenant Church** will host a **Hymn Sing**, “Through the Day with Jesus” on Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 pm.

A soup supper and dessert auction will follow after the Hymn Sing.



# 2020 BUDGET

All boards and committees should begin to work on and finish up their 2019 budgets if they haven't already.

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

---



Please note that in order to be counted for 2019 tax purposes, all church contributions need to be **RECEIVED** by the church office no later than **DECEMBER 31<sup>st</sup>**. Any contributions received after that date, *regardless of check date or postmark*, will be counted as a 2020 contribution.

Please contact Terri Carby, church treasurer (630-651-9962, niucpa@hotmail.com), or Jana Cox, church administrative assistant (815-645-2526, cccoffice1@comcast.net) if you have any questions.

---



The Deaconess Board will be decorating the church on Saturday, November 30<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am. Anyone that would like to help is welcome ... especially some men to do some of the climbing would be wonderful. If you have any questions, contact Deb Bonne.

---



Both of our Ladies Bible study groups, M & M (Moms and More) and WOW (Women of the Word Evening Bible Study), will be winding up their study called "**No Other Gods**" by Kelly Minter this month.

Our Tuesday evening group will conclude on Tuesday, November 5<sup>th</sup>. Our Friday morning study meets in November on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and the last session being held on the 15<sup>th</sup>.

Both groups will meet again after the first of the year for a spring study. Be watching your bulletins and newsletters for more information. Thank you to Jamie Brauns and Jeanne Baker for leading the groups and a big thanks to Jackie Schumacher, Lilly Kennedy, Teresa McLindsay and Nancy Gelderloos for their willingness to help out in our nursery during the Friday morning study!

---



We are very excited to be doing our "4 Gifts" Christmas celebration again this year! We had over 150 people of all ages participate last year ... let's top that number this year!! How can we do that? Be sure to fill out the "**Red Brick Gift Exchange 2019**" form in breeze. Links to this form will be included in the newsletter and will also be sent to everyone through an email. Get your family signed up and then work on getting your friends and their families signed up as well! Let's work to get 100% participation this year! Contact the church office if you have any questions.

# SUNDAY SCHOOL



Sunday School is well underway. It's been a joy to interact with Sunday School students of all ages this fall. We have a beautiful, inquisitive, happy, energetic and delightful group of students. I'm thankful to serve and help lead this group of children.

Our weekly Sunday School lessons build on one another, and consistent attendance is vital for your student. Preschool through 5<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms are currently preparing for the Children's Choir performance on December 8<sup>th</sup>. Please look for CDs to be sent home for KG-5<sup>th</sup> families. A practice will be held on December 7<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00 pm for KG-5<sup>th</sup> grade students. (However, there is no Saturday practice for preschool students).

I want to remind families of resources available to them for instruction and leading at home:

- (1) **The Jesus Storybook Bible by Sally Lloyd-Jones**. These are distributed to our preschool families. Every story is gospel-focused. The book is appropriate for older ages (not just preschoolers). If you would like a copy of this resource for your family, please let me or Cara Roberts know.
- (2) **RightNow Media**. If you don't have a login, please visit the link at the bottom our church's homepage to sign up. My children recently watched some of the children's videos on a long car ride, and they were fantastic! I occasionally listen to an adult Bible study when I have tedious laundry folding to complete. There are some nice parenting sessions available as well.
- (3) **Family Resource Library**. This is available on a bookshelf at the back of the sanctuary. These are great gift ideas as we head into the holiday season. The Radical Book for Kids: Exploring the Roots and Shoots of Faith by Champ Thornton would make a great devotional or read aloud. Please take a look at the back of the church!

Thank you for the opportunity to serve in children's ministry. This is an exciting time for our church family. Please pray for growth spiritually and unity as a church family.

Brooke Adams  
Sunday School Superintendent







November 3<sup>rd</sup>  
November 5<sup>th</sup>  
November 6<sup>th</sup>

November 8<sup>th</sup>  
November 9<sup>th</sup>  
November 11<sup>th</sup>  
November 13<sup>th</sup>  
November 15<sup>th</sup>  
November 16<sup>th</sup>  
November 17<sup>th</sup>  
November 20<sup>th</sup>  
November 21<sup>st</sup>  
November 25<sup>th</sup>  
November 27<sup>th</sup>  
November 29<sup>th</sup>  
November 30<sup>th</sup>  
December 2<sup>nd</sup>  
December 5<sup>th</sup>

- Sebastian Cardenas
- Jessa Coester
- Amy Michalek, Nathaniel Houston, Aubrey Janoski
- Hannah Vossen
- Berniece Martindale, Nina Whetsel
- Connie Blake
- Richard Johann
- Dale Friedrich
- Ron Ippen, Jenna Hale, Jacob Rhodes
- Shannon Ross, Stella Christiansen
- Marlene Miller
- Abigail Bogner
- Victoria Horton, Dorris Dye
- Jaxen Coester
- Millie McCoy
- Mike Ennenbach
- Nicholas Beitel
- David Ewald
- Zach Poliska, John Anderson





## NOVEMBER 2019 AWANA SCHEDULE

**Wednesday, November 6<sup>th</sup>**: AWANA will have their second M & M Night on November 6<sup>th</sup>. This year our offerings will go to support Tim and Amy Michalek, as they continue to study the Thai language in preparation for teaching next fall. The Michalek's will be providing us with a video for all of our M & M Nights. 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, November 13<sup>th</sup>**: Tonight is "Veterans Day Night" at club. For this night, we are asking clubbers to come to club dressed in red, white or blue! Remember ... clubbers participating in Theme Nights earn extra AWANA dollars to use in our Christmas AWANA Store next month!

**Wednesday, November 20<sup>th</sup>**: Tonight is "Dress Like a Mess Night"! Come to club on the 20<sup>th</sup> dressed like a mess. Go through your closet and pick out a crazy outfit, mismatch your outfit and just have fun dressing like a mess.

**Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup>**: Join us tonight from 5:00 to 7:00 pm at the White Pines Roller Rink (6929 W Pines Road, across from the White Pines State Park) for a great night of fun! More information inside the newsletter.

**Wednesday, November 27<sup>th</sup>**: No AWANA's on the 27<sup>th</sup>. Join us at the Community Thanksgiving Eve Service at 7:00 pm at the Kishwaukee Evangelical Presbyterian Church. Please feel free to bring a gift for the Bread of Life Food Pantry to the service.

---

CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
PO Box 370  
Stillman Valley, IL 61084

**\*\* RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED \*\***

