



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 | Associate Pastor David Bogner

MAY 2021
NEWSLETTER

CHURCH PHONE
645-2526

CHURCH E-MAIL ADDRESS
cccoffice1@comcast.net

BRICKS BOUGHT!

(But we need some paint and lighting also)

The Brick center is paid for! But our building program will continue with phase 2 as we consider how to refresh our sanctuary and gathering space.

We are overjoyed that the Brick Center is completed with zero long-term debt! The new bricks are bought! This will save the Lord's work thousands of dollars in interest expense.

The Brick Center has already been buzzing with ministry activity. The youth group has leveraged the entire space to meet as a large group, but smaller groups of teens have also met in the classrooms. Mortar Groups are actively meeting in the space. And we recently hosted a missionary presentation with (Ilir and Megan Stamboulli).



We were able to pay off the Brick Center prior to the completion of the Brick by Brick Campaign because we internally approved the building fund borrowing \$80,000 from our general fund. At our church business meeting on 4/25/2021 we acknowledged that our sanctuary needs "attention." Within the context of that meeting, we talked about areas where we need improvement. These included paint, carpet, lighting, accessibility, configuration of the platform, seating, and gathering space.

The need for renovations of our existing building in mind, it is vital that we continue with Brick by Brick giving. Doubtless, we will need the remaining pledges and more as we anticipate the next stage of the building program.

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Please review our general giving update in this newsletter and notice that our giving is behind our year-to-date budget target.

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On a personal note, the Brauns family is excited to celebrate Mary Beth's graduation in May, provided she passes her classes. Looking back at over 16 years in our church, I am thankful for how our church family has loved our children. And I am thankful for how our children have served at church. It has been a great joy to see.

The Brauns family will host Mary Beth's open house at the Brick Center on 5/15/2021 from 2 - 5 PM. Our entire church family is invited!

CHAIRMAN OF BOARDS/COMMITTEES

Deacon Board – Stephen Brass218-5076
Deaconess Board – Deb Bonne979-0885
Trustee Board – Ryan Roberts.. 937-248-3044
CE Committee – Marlene Miller289-8453
Memorial Com. – Jeff McLindsay440-2042
Mission Com. – Clayton Midtsem262-4254
Music – Lance Mennen985-2484

FINANCIAL REPORT

Through April 30, 2021

Total Approved 2020 Budget = \$453,848

Divided by 52 weeks/year = **\$8,728**

Budget Giving through April 30 \$160,600
Actual Giving through April 30 \$126,202
Budget Giving vs. Actual Giving \$-34,398
Actual Expenses through 4/30/21 \$148,915
Actual Giving less Actual Expenses \$-22,713

As of April 30, 2021, total capital campaign contributions received were \$1,296,806. This is 84% of total pledges made for the building program.

**June Newsletter Articles
are due in the
church office by
Friday, May 28, 2021**

HONORING GRADUATES

On Sunday, May 16th, we will be honoring our 2021 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 16^h, along with our high school graduates, we will also be honoring our 2021 BIC (Bible Instruction Course) and 8th grade graduates. We will be honoring our graduates during the 9:00 am worship service.



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 David is:

davidbogner4@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.



Children's Prelude

On Mother's Day, Sunday, May 9th, 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!



The Ladies Spring Planter Class had a great time at Hidden Timber's Garden on April 29th!

~ Happy Birthday ~

- May 2nd - Lucas Behmer, Camila Bonne
- May 4th - Tyler Herlihy
- May 5th - Evan Jones, Micah Stahl
- May 7th - Havah Gebbia
- May 8th - Mike Haugse
- May 9th - Adley Glendenning
- May 10th - Dakota Svartoi
- May 11th - Storm Hickey
- May 12th - Anna Bogner
- May 14th - Noah Myers
- May 15th - Claudia Pihl, Christine Hintzsche
- May 16th - Eunice Aden, Warren Rosko
- May 17th - Aiden Carby
- May 18th - Kaitlyn Adams, Carl Jacobson
Emma Wissinger
- May 19th - Hope Hickey
- May 20th - Moses Michalek, Aileen Gatz
- May 21st - Becky Bailey
- May 22nd - Evan Stahl
- May 24th - Donna Dyal, Elliot Anderson
Mike Homman
- May 25th - Heather Wallin
- May 28th - Wyatt Brass, Susan Stukenberg,
Bri Svartoi
- May 30th - Mandy Poliska
- June 1st - June Lewis

~ Happy Anniversary ~

- May 4th - Bob & Patsy Hoernecke
- Eric & Kendra Booker
- May 19th - Mike & Gloria Ennenbach
- May 23rd - Dave & Aileen Gatz
- June 1st - Don and Heather Wallin

FROM PASTOR DAVID ...

Are you growing in godly wisdom? James 1:17 says, "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given to him." Our youth learned this truth and many more as we spent time carefully studying and discussing the book of James. We also saw bison and enjoyed a beautiful spring Sunday afternoon outdoors for our final youth group gathering of the school year.

We will honor our graduates on Sunday, May 16 during both services. The day before, Saturday, May 15 at 6 p.m., Stillman Valley High School graduates will lead an outdoors (weather permitting) Baccalaureate Service. The service is at Kishwaukee Community Presbyterian Church and Pastor Chris Brauns is the keynote speaker. Everyone is invited!



Summer Worship Schedule

Memorial Day Sunday, May 30th
Two Services at 9:00 and 10:30 am

Month of June
Two Services at 9:00 and 10:30 am

July 4th to September 5th
One Service at 9:00 am

SUMMER CHURCH CAMP

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.

We are having a Community Connections Carnival!

Picture warm July evenings with the smells of tailgating and sounds of families playing games across the church campus. Our goal is to generate a buzz of activity that causes people to stop and ask, "What is happening here?" Answer, "We are building the Kingdom of God in our community by sharing Jesus and life together. Would you like to be a part?"

When: Monday, July 19 and Wednesday, July 21, 6 to 8 p.m. each evening

Where: The Red Brick Church, both indoors and outdoors (weather permitting)

Finale: Sunday, July 25, 9 a.m. worship service followed by fellowship hour with continental-style breakfast in the Brick Center

How can you help make our first Community Connections Carnival a success? **Pray**, would you join us for prayer meetings in the month of June? **Invite** neighbors, friends, and family to join us for this pandemic friendly alternative to our traditional VBS program. **Come**, enthusiastically and joyfully be part of this outreach.

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD!" Psalm 122:1

CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH

PO Box 370

Stillman Valley, IL 61084

** RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED **

