



**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**  
**Associate Pastor David Bogner**

**JANUARY 2022**  
**NEWSLETTER**

**CHURCH PHONE**  
**645-2526**

**CHURCH E-MAIL ADDRESS**  
**ccoffice1@comcast.net**

*In 2022 there will be a special emphasis on heeding Paul's admonition in 2022 regarding how we are to behave in the household of God – that is the church – including an emphasis on guarding sound doctrine and not being distracted by irreverent babble and contradictions.*

\* \* \* \* \*

Paul concluded 1 Timothy with three sentences that in many ways summarize the entire letter.

*<sup>20</sup> O Timothy, guard the deposit entrusted to you. Avoid the irreverent babble and contradictions of what is falsely called "knowledge," <sup>21</sup> for by professing it some have swerved from the faith. Grace be with you. 1 Timothy 6:20-21*

In 2022, there will be a special emphasis in heeding this exhortation. We will do so in several ways.

1. **We will preach through 1 Timothy.** While I preached through that letter relatively recently in 2013, there is so much about the book that is timely for 2022 that we will return to it. Be encouraged to read 1 Timothy often. As I have previously pointed out, 1 Timothy 3:14-16 are central verses.
2. Studying 1 Timothy provides an ideal context for considering **Constitution Revisions**. We have known for many years that our constitution needed revisions. It's now time. We plan to introduce a draft of proposed revisions at the annual meeting on January 30, 2022. We will then have the year of 2022 to revise and review proposed changes. We will vote on the revisions at the annual meeting in 2023.

Constitution changes will not alter the basic ways our church functions. We will remain congregational in our polity (meaning the congregation has final say). But we do need to update several areas.

3. **Phase 2 of the "Brick by Brick" Campaign** – It is time to work with an architect to decide how we will update our church building as well as the administrative building. Once we develop a proposed plan for doing so, our leaders (Deacons and Trustees) will decide on a recommendation to phase the plan and we will seek approval from the congregation.

It might not hurt to occasionally look at our facilities with a *critical* eye so as to realize that our facilities are not communicating in a way consistent with the excellence of the gospel. (1) Our sanctuary is dated and needs major help with lighting. (2) Our platform needs adjustments for changes in worship. (3) We do not have a foyer. We must consider how to provide gathering space. (4) The Administrative Building badly needs updates throughout.

4. **The Necessity of a Plurality of Elders** – Often when churches emphasize the need for a plurality of elders, there is a concern that a small group of people are going to take over the church without accountability. While some of those concerns are legitimate, we must be careful not to throw out God's plan for the local church with the bathwater of stories of disqualified leaders. The flock of Christ needs shepherds who care for the sheep. As I stressed throughout the series on Psalm 23, pastors/elders are called to be the facilitators of Psalm 23. That is, biblical elders are the concrete means God uses to renew the flock and to lead them into green pastures and beside still waters.

## CHAIRMAN OF BOARDS/COMMITTEES

Deacon Board – Stephen Brass .....218-5076  
Deaconess Board – Deb Bonne .....979-0885  
Trustee Board – Ryan Roberts.. 937-248-3044  
CE Committee – Marlene Miller .....289-8453  
Memorial Com. – Jeff McLindsay .....440-2042  
Mission Com. – Clayton Midtsem .....262-4254  
Music – Lance Mennen .....985-2484



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](mailto:cccoffice1@comcast.net)**

The email address for Pastor Chris is:  
**[cdbrauns@gmail.com](mailto:cdbrauns@gmail.com)**

The email address for Pastor David is:  
**[davidbogner4@gmail.com](mailto: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.

**February Newsletter  
Articles are due in the  
church office by Friday,  
January 28<sup>th</sup>**

## FINANCIAL REPORT

Through December 31, 2021

Budget Giving through Dec. 31 ..... \$491,248  
Actual Giving through Dec. 31 ..... \$479,852  
Budget Giving vs. Actual Giving ..... \$-11,396  
Actual Expenses through 12/31/21 .... \$454,164  
Actual Giving less Actual Expenses ..... \$25,688

As of December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021, total capital campaign contributions received were \$1,493,049. This is 96% of total pledges made for the building program.

## Ladies Bible Studies

Our Ladies Bible Studies (both Women of the Word and Mom's and More) will be starting a Spring Bible study very soon!

Please watch your bulletins and newsletter for more information. We will also send out an email to all ladies with dates and times of the study.



- Jan. 4 - Wren Hickey, Sandra Stout
- Jan. 5 - Michael Cox
- Jan. 6 - Elizabeth Anderson
- Jan. 7 - Zeke Janoski
- Jan. 9 - Jackie Schumacher
- Jan. 12 - Spencer Halsmer, Grady McCoy
- Jan. 14 - Gary Rhodes
- Jan. 18 - Eric Long, Bristol Glendenning
- Jan. 20 - Anneliese Haak, Keaton Griffin
- Jan. 21 - Rhett Brass
- Jan. 22 - Patsy Hoernecke
- Jan. 25 - Judy Foster
- Jan. 27 - Gwen Baker, Hope Wallin
- Jan. 28 - Tina Garnhart
- Jan. 30 - Landon Haak
- Jan. 31 - Anna Forcier
- Feb. 1 - Shannon and Grace Hickey
- Feb. 5 - Renley Svartoi



- Jan. 24 - Grady and Millie McCoy
- Feb. 1 - Brad and Tessa Baker



Reports from all boards and committees are needed in the church office no later than Wednesday, January 12<sup>th</sup>. Chairmen of all boards and committees should check with each respective secretary to be sure if the chairman or secretary is to write the report this year. Again, please be sure that all reports are in the church office by the morning of the 12<sup>th</sup>.

Our annual meeting this year will be on **SUNDAY, JANUARY 30<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm** in the church sanctuary. Reports for the annual meeting will be available in the back of the church on Sunday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> for all active members and non-members. Please bring your report with you back to the meeting on the 30<sup>th</sup>. Extra copies will not be available at the meeting.

Please be sure and review each report prepared by all committees and boards prior to the annual meeting. We will not be going through each report individually, but will open up the meeting by addressing any questions and concerns from the congregation in regard to these reports. After all questions have been answered we will vote to approve the reports as a package.

As members of a congregational church, we have both a responsibility and privilege to come and have a voice and vote in deciding issues our church faces for the upcoming year.

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**ANNUAL MEETING**  
**Sunday, January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022**  
**4:00 pm**

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**REPORTS DUE FROM BOARDS:**  
**Wednesday, January 12<sup>th</sup> @**  
**9:00 am**

## FROM PASTOR DAVID



<https://express.adobe.com/page/Oo8FUHjVYpG0I/>

**YOUTH GROUP WINTER RETREAT!**  
**February 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>**  
**Expeditions Unlimited Camp**

**Registration is NOW open!!!**

Go to the link above and follow the page to the **REGISTRATION** portion and get registered today for the upcoming Youth Group Winter Retreat. Use the coupon code **RBC22** to register for \$50 instead of the base amount of \$105.

We will be studying Paul's letter to the Colossians at the camp along with some fun times playing broomball, tubing down a hill, and games in the indoor gym!

Talk with Pastor David if you have any questions.



# JANUARY 2022 THEME NIGHTS

## Wednesday, January 12<sup>th</sup>

We have "Pajama Night" tonight. Wear your warm pajamas to club tonight!

## Wednesday, January 19<sup>th</sup>

It is "Favorite Sport Night" at club tonight on the 19<sup>th</sup>. Put on your favorite jersey ... it can be football, basketball, baseball or soccer and can be a local or professional team. If you don't have a jersey, wear your favorite sport t-shirt or cap.

## Sunday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>

Today is our first AWANA Derby Car Cut-Out Clinic in the church fellowship hall from 1:00 – 3:00 pm. Bring your design and car to the clinic and one of our pit crew members will help you cut out of your car to match your design!

## Wednesday, January 26<sup>th</sup>

Tonight is of our club's favorites: "Crazy Hair Night". Do what you can with your hair to make it as crazy as possible for club on the 26<sup>th</sup>!

## Saturday, January 29<sup>th</sup>

Today is our last AWANA Derby Car Cut-Out Clinic in the church fellowship hall from 9:00 – 11:00 am. Bring your design and car to the clinic and one of our pit crew members will help you cut out of your car to match your design!



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**CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

**PO Box 370**

**Stillman Valley, IL 61084**

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

