



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

AUGUST 2022
NEWSLETTER

9:00 am Worship
Service

815-645-2526

PASSING PLATES

We're passing plates for communion services beginning August 7. Sealed communion elements will still be available for those who have health concerns, but for most of our church family we will be passing the plates.

During the pandemic we minimized the passing of plates including both the communion trays and the offering plates. But we have now arrived at the "new normal." Rest assured. If you prefer to use sealed elements, our plan is for those to be available.

What stands behind this message is our church's belief in the importance of community in worship. Men coming before the church to distribute communion trays – the passing of the offering plates by ushers – the plates going back and forth across the aisles – these dynamics have importance not only for the distribution of the elements but also for being together as church family – for a place to worship – for seeing one another.

HOW DO PEOPLE CHANGE?

An Extended Exposition of 2 Corinthians 3 and the Doctrine of Sanctification

One of the most practical questions of the Christian life is the question of how we should pursue true change. This question is a question about the area of theology called sanctification. Sanctification is that area of doctrine that considers how Christians increasingly become more like our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

All Christians know the difficulty of this question. On the one hand, we can easily identify areas of the Christian life where we repeatedly fall short (sin). We get mad. We eat too much. We are impatient. We are selfish. We make good gifts more central than the God who gives these gifts to us (idolatry).

Yet even as we recognize those areas of sin, and determine to do better, we find ourselves spinning our wheels.

Why don't we make more progress? The question is puzzling for Christians because we know that children of God are born again by the power of the Holy Spirit and the Spirit is at work in the life of the believer. And so, we ask ourselves, "If the power that spoke all things into existence is at work in my life, why do I keep eating too many pop tarts?"

Having concluded our series in 1 Timothy, I (Pastor Chris Brauns) will begin a new series that considers how Christians change. This series will be an extended reflection on 2 Corinthians 3 and the doctrine of sanctification.

For those of us who are frustrated by a lack of progress in the Christian life – for ourselves and for the people we love – this is a series you don't want to miss.

CHAIRMAN OF BOARDS/COMMITTEES

Deacon Board – Clayton Midtsem.....262-4254
Deaconess Board – Susan Stukenberg .997-7095
Trustee Board – Ryan Roberts.. 937-248-3044
CE Committee – Cara Roberts.. 217-621-2460
Memorial Com. – Jeff McLindsay440-2042
Mission Com. – Clayton Midtsem.....262-4254
Music – Lance Mennen985-2484

FINANCIAL REPORT

Through July 31, 2022

Total Approved 2022 Budget = \$495,460

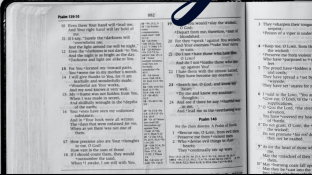
Divided by 52 weeks/year = **\$9,528**

Budget Giving through July 31 \$295,370
Actual Giving through July 31 \$322,0074
Budget Giving vs. Actual Giving \$26,704
Actual Expenses through 7/31/22 \$264,975
Actual Giving less Actual Expenses.....\$57,099

YOUTH Bible Study

6:30 to 8:00 pm
Wednesday Evenings
in the Brick Center

STARTS AUGUST 17th!



COMMUNION service

Sunday, August 7th

Trays with elements will be passed and Individual pre-packaged cups will be available.



Summer Worship Schedule

Memorial Day Sunday, May 29
to
Sunday, September 25

One Service at 9:00 am

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

SS Superintendent:

Brooke Adams ~ 815-645-8561

We are getting ready to begin our 2022 – 2023 Sunday School! With a busy September, we have decided to begin our Sunday School on Sunday, October 2nd.

Sunday School Registration will be open soon. We will post in the bulletin and also send an email home to all families when it is ready. Please take a moment to register your children; it helps us out greatly when we are planning for Sunday School material for each grade level.

If you have questions, please contact Brooke Adams at 815-985-3178.

YOUTH GROUP TUBE FLOAT

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13
1:00 TO 4:00 PM
ON THE
KISHWAUKEE RIVER

PLEASE BRING:

- * Sunscreen
- * Sunglasses
- * Water Shoes
- * Favorite inner tube

(Basic inner tubes provided for those who need one.)

MEET AT BAUMANN PARK, CHERRY VALLEY AT 1:00 PM
(SNACKS AND BOTTLED WATER PROVIDED)



RED BRICK CHURCH JR & SR HIGH YOUTH GROUP

SUMMER

YOUTH GROUP EVENT

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10 | 6:30 TO 8:00 PM
THE BOGNER HOME





- August 1st - Lane Behmer
- August 2nd - Matt Geiseman
- August 4th - Bruce Bonne, Hanna Roberts,
- August 5th - Analiese Cox
- August 6th - Grady Poliska
- August 9th - Fiona Long
- August 10th - Deb Bonne
- August 12th - Anne Wiltfang
- August 14th - Caleb Anderson
- August 15th - Michelle McCandless
- August 18th - Janet Warner
- August 19th - Bonnie Moran
- August 20th - Donna Arnold, Alex Booker
- August 21st - Dan Houston
- August 23rd - Tom Whetsel, Sam Keast
- August 25th - Lily Behmer
- August 27th - Cindy Coombes
- August 28th - Erica Granath, Clairra Myers
- August 30th - Lonna Nelson, Sam Ralev
- August 31st - Marilyn Holsinger
- Sept 1st - Emilia Janoski
- Sept 2nd - Paul Baker, Estelle Jones
- Sept 4th - Kathleen Peterson

Happy Anniversary!

- August 12th - Chris and Jamie Brauns
- August 18th - Dave and Pat Ewald
- Jim and Janet Warner
- August 21st - Bruce and Deb Bonne
- August 22nd - Ron and Nota Ippen
- August 25th - Jamie and Brooke Adams
- August 26th - Trevor and Bri Svartoién



LIT & LISTENERS AWANA MEETINGS

August 24th & August 31st at 6:00 pm

Anyone who would like to help at AWANA should attend one of the two (identical) leader meetings. Both meetings begin at 6:00 pm in the Brick Center.

Our AWANA Club is always in need of additional listeners throughout the year. Please let Tessa know if you can not attend either of the meetings.



Registration for our AWANA club opens on Monday, August 8th. The registration form will be on our website, the Red Brick Church AWANA facebook page, and an email link will also be mailed to AWANA families.

Our AWANA Kick-Off is Wednesday, September 7th from 6:00 to 7:00 pm at the Brick Center with an Ice Cream Social. Stop by and purchase your AWANA handbooks and uniforms and to play some fun fair games!



Both groups will be doing the “**God Of Covenant: A Study of Genesis 12 – 50**” Bible study by Jen Wilkin. Over 10 weeks, you will discover how God orchestrates everything for His glory and the good of His people, and see how the God of creation and covenant is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

FROM PASTOR DAVID

The Bricks delivered our neighbors, friends, and families a wonderful Community Connections Carnival in mid-July. We enjoyed beautiful nights made by our Loving Heavenly Father. Close to 500 dinners were served in two nights. Little fingers, sticky from churros, manipulated water guns, swung putters, and held the top of potato sacks as they raced with big smiles on their faces. Dads and moms laughed and played with their children as they connected with God's people at The Red Brick Church.



Perhaps the greatest impact for eternity will be from children hearing a Bible story while eating ice cream. Pray the seeds sown in the 23 *The Jesus Storybook Bibles* given to families will fall on good soil, bearing much fruit to the glory of God. Ask God to move a child getting ready for bed to ask her dad, "Will you read me a story from the Jesus book?" Maybe God will prompt a mom, weary from chasing an energetic boy all day, to see the book on the shelf and read it to him as he winds down.

* * * * *

Upcoming schedule for The Red Brick Youth

Wednesday, August 10, 6:30-8:00 p.m. Last Summer Wednesday Night at the Bogner Home

Saturday, August 13, 1:00-4:00 p.m. Kishwaukee River Float

Wednesday, August 17, 7:00-8:00 p.m. Wednesday Night Bible Study of Matthew Begins

Sunday, August 21, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Parent Planning Meeting for 2022-2023

CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH

PO Box 370

Stillman Valley, IL 61084

**** RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED ****

