



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

**NOVEMBER 2022
NEWSLETTER**

CHURCH PHONE
645-2526

“Trust the LORD with all your heart . . .” Proverbs 3:5a

Proverbs 3:5-6 are favorite verses of many Christians:

⁵ Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. ⁶ In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

These verses deserve to be among our favorites! They give both direction (trust God) and a promise (God will guide us in life).

Who would not want to lean into these verses?

But we need meditate on these verses. It’s worth asking: “What exactly does it look like to wholeheartedly trust the Lord?” The context answers the question.

⁷ Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord, and turn away from evil. ⁸ It will be healing to your flesh and refreshment to your bones. ⁹ Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce; ¹⁰ then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine. Proverbs 3:7-10

We see at least six characteristics true of those who trust the Lord with all their hearts.

1. To lean not on our own understanding is only possible if we hear God’s Word. Those who trust the Lord with all their hearts *value the reading and preaching of the Word*. Their church attendance and engagement in worship demonstrates this.
2. Those who trust the Lord with all their heart *are humble*. “Be not wise in your own eyes” the verse reads.
3. Those who trust the Lord with all their heart “*Turn away from evil.*” Do our Netflix and Amazon Prime accounts show that we turn away from evil?
4. “*It will be healing to your flesh and refreshment to your bones.*” Those who trust the Lord with all their heart are *refreshed* by the Spirit. Are we energized by the Spirit? How is your energy level?
5. Those who trust the Lord with all their heart give generously to God’s work. “*Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce.*” Do our giving statements demonstrate a commitment to the Lord’s work?
6. Those who trust the Lord with all their heart have *bursting barns*. Is God blessing you?

So here is the question we face this Thanksgiving season. Are we people who trust the Lord with all our hearts and lean not on our own understanding?

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Our community Thanksgiving service is on Wednesday, November 23 at 7:00 pm at Kishwaukee Evangelical Presbyterian Church. For those who have not yet met Pastor Nick Garner at Kish, this service will offer the opportunity to meet the Garners.

CHAIRMAN OF BOARDS/COMMITTEES

Deacon Board – Clayton Midtsem..... 262-4254
Deaconess Board – Susan Stukenberg ... 997-7095
Trustee Board – Mike Haugse..... 815-262-1844
CE Committee – Cara Roberts..... 217-621-2460
Memorial Com. – Jeff McLindsay 440-2042
Mission Com. – Clayton Midtsem..... 262-4254
Music – Lance Mennen 985-2484

FINANCIAL REPORT

Through October 31, 2022

Total Approved 2021 Budget = \$491,248
Divided by 52 weeks/year = **\$9,447**

Budget Giving through Oct. 31 \$419,235
Actual Giving through Oct. 31 \$455,636
Budget Giving vs. Actual Giving \$36,401
Actual Expenses through 10/31/22..... \$391,544
Actual Giving less Actual Expenses \$64,092



All boards and committees should begin to work on and finish up their 2023 budgets if they haven't already. The Trustee Board would like to have all budgets to them NO later than December 1st.



Please note that in order to be counted for 2022 tax purposes, all church contributions need to be **RECEIVED** by the church office no later than DECEMBER 31st. Any contributions received after that date, *regardless of check date or postmark*, will be counted as a 2023 contribution.

If anyone needs an update on what they have given, or has any questions at all, please contact either:

Terri Carby, Church Treasurer
630-651-9962 | niucpa@hotmail.com
Jana Cox, Church Administrative Assistant
815-645-2526 | cccoffice1@comcast.net



The Deaconess Board will be decorating the church and Brick Center on Sunday, November 20th at 11:30 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 Susan Stukenberg.



The Community Thanksgiving Eve Service will be held on Wednesday, November 23rd at the Kishwaukee Presbyterian Church at 7:00 pm. All area churches will be participating in the service.

AWANA and SUNDAY SCHOOL

MOVIE NIGHT

FRIDAY | NOVEMBER 18 | 6:30 PM
IN THE BRICK CENTER

A graphic for VeggieTales Movie Night featuring Larry the Cucumber wearing 3D glasses and Bob the Tomato, with a movie screen in the background showing a sunset and a lighthouse.

Snacks and folding chairs provided.
Feel free to bring a blanket to sit on if you would like!

Baby Card Shower

For Christopher and Meredith Brawns who are expecting a baby girl in December.

Decorated card box will be in back of church on November 6th and 13th.

2022 Cardinal Christmas

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4TH FROM 4:00 TO 7:00 PM

CAROLERS AT THE BRICK CENTER

CIDER DONUTS AND COFFEE

LIVE NATIVITY SCENE OUTSIDE BRICK CENTER

HORSE DRAWN WAGON AND CARRIAGE RIDES

MANY OTHER EVENT GOING ON THAT EVENING!

Mark Your Calendars!

Red Brick Church Family Christmas Gift Exchange

Sunday, December 18th | 10:00 am

RED BRICK CHURCH GIFT EXCHANGE form was emailed out last week! If you didn't receive one, please let the church office know. Please fill out a form for everyone in your family!

November Birthdays!

- Nov. 1st - Charlie Christiansen
- Nov. 4th - Elsa Kottke
- Nov. 6th - Amy Michalek, Nathaniel Houston, Kelly Hawkins, Aubrey Janoski
- Nov. 8th - Berniece Martindale, Nina Wetzel
- Nov. 9th - Connie Blake
- Nov. 13th - Dale Friedrich
- Nov. 14th - Veda Geiseman, Karli Kottke
- Nov. 15th - Jacob Rhodes, Ron Ippen,
- Nov. 16th - Stella Christiansen
- Nov. 17th - Marlene Miller
- Nov. 18th - Michelle Christiansen
- Nov. 20th - Abigail Bogner
- Nov. 21st - Dorris Dye, Carol Schaefer
- Nov. 23rd - Bekah Dray
- Nov. 26th - Silas Hawkins
- Nov. 27th - Millie McCoy, Greg Granath
- Nov. 29th - Mike Ennenbach
- Nov. 30th - Nicholas Beitel
- Dec. 2nd - Dave Ewald
- Dec. 5th - Zach Poliska, John Anderson



Wednesday, November 9th

Wear red, white and blue tonight to club in honor of Veterans Day.

Wednesday, November 16th

It's our annual Give Thanks Night. We will be collecting *Hearty Soup (only)* for the Bread of Life Pantry here in Stillman Valley.

Friday, November 18th

AWANA and SS Family Veggie Tales Movie Night in th Brick Center.

Wednesday, November 23rd

No Club on the 23rd – Happy Thanksgiving!

Wednesday, November 30th

Dress Like a Bible Character Night.

Jr. High Youth Christmas Tree Decorating

Sunday, November 27th
Noon to 2:00 pm

Meet at Brick Center at Noon for lunch. After lunch we will head downtown to decorate a tree for the Community Cardinal Christmas.

From Pastor David

5 places hiding in plain sight to find great resources to help us grow to be more like Jesus.

Bricks, we have been challenged to grow and think deeply through our last couple sermon series. You might be asking, "What are some tools and resources available to help me?" I'm glad you asked!

ESV Study Bible: with 20,000 study notes, dozens of articles, and hundreds of maps and illustrations, the *ESV Study Bible* is "packed with useful information," Pastor Mark Dever.

Concise Theology: J.I. Packer gave us a tremendous gift in producing *Concise Theology*. Every Brick should have a copy in their home to grow in the knowledge of God through 94 brief articles on Christian doctrine clearly rooted in Scripture.

New City Catechism App: All 52 questions we review together as a church family during the year are paired with additional reflections in the app: Scripture reading, historic and contemporary devotionals, and prayer.

RightNow Media: Every Brick can register for free access through our RightNow Media subscription as a church. There is something for everyone in the family.

Podcasts:

The Red Brick Church: we post the sermon each Sunday

The World and Everything in It: daily news, analysis, and commentary from a Christian perspective

Compelled – Christian Stories: testimonies and interviews of fellow Christians

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Upcoming schedule for The Red Brick Youth

Wednesday Night Bible Study from 7 to 8 in the sanctuary

Fall Yard Clean-Up: Saturday, November 12, 1 to 4 p.m. Meet at church and help a few people with fall yardwork; bring gloves and any tools you might find helpful.

Sunday Youth Group: November 20, noon to 2 p.m. in the Brick Center.

Junior High Christmas Tree Decorating: Sunday, November 27, noon to 2 p.m. in the Brick Center with lunch provided.

CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH

PO Box 370

Stillman Valley, IL 61084

**** RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED ****

