



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 2023
NEWSLETTER

CHURCH PHONE
645-2526

CHURCH E-MAIL ADDRESS
cccoffice1@comcast.net

If you feel awful – and you do what you feel like doing – you will almost always feel worse. Live in submission to the Word, not your feelings.

Our church family knows that each year I review a one-page letter I give to graduating seniors. The question I address is this, “What do I pray you do not forget as you go forward?”

The reminder I am seeking to give focuses first on the Word of God. But I also want to bring the Word to bear in the context of the particular challenges of our day. I am seeking to especially respond to areas that are contested.

This year I am adding a slight revision to point #4 in the list of eight reminders. I added a sentence to emphasize that we should not live under the authority of our feelings.

4. Sharpen your wisdom saw with the Word. Wisdom is “skill for right living.” It is the “saw” we use to cut our way through life. We need a sharp saw to make quality decisions. We begin our quest for wisdom with the fear of the Lord and continue sharpening our wisdom saws by memorizing and reading the Word and by hearing it preached. Be Word-centered! Rinse in Scripture. It is more precious than gold and sweeter than honey. And it is God’s Word, not our feelings, that should be authoritative. If you feel awful – and you do what you feel like doing – you will almost always feel worse. Rather, live in submission to the Word, not your feelings.

This encouragement may seem obvious. After all, if we all ate what we feel like eating, our health would be terrible. If we worked when we feel like working, we wouldn’t get much done. But it is necessary to make this point because one of the false gospels of our day – maybe the most significant false gospel is that of **expressive individualism**. Expressive individualism teaches that the way to the good life is for each person to determine what is best for his or her life.

Expressive individualism is part of the “trans” movement. Young people are told their feelings and perceptions are more authoritative than their own biology.

Expressive individualism also tells young people that their understanding of life is a more reliable indicator than the input of their parents. This false narrative is tearing apart the fabric of the family and destroying lives.

Rather than the lie of expressive individualism, we want our young people to hear verses like these:

There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death. Proverbs 14:12

Listen to your father who gave you life, and do not despise your mother when she is old. Buy truth, and do not sell it; buy wisdom, instruction, and understanding. Proverbs 23:22-23

CHAIRMAN OF BOARDS/COMMITTEES

Deacon Board – Clayton Midtsem.....262-4254
Deaconess Board – Deb Bonne979-0885
Trustee Board – Brad Baker.....670-0039
CE Committee – Cara Roberts.. 217-621-2460
Memorial Com. – Jeff McLindsay440-2042
Mission Com. – Clayton Midtsem.....262-4254
Music – Lance Mennen985-2484



Children's Prelude

On Mother's Day, Sunday, May 14th, 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!

**Summer Worship
Schedule**

**Memorial Day Sunday, May 28
to
Labor Day Sunday, September 3**

One Service at 9:00 am

FINANCIAL REPORT

Through April 30, 2023

Total Approved 2023 Budget = \$559,800

Divided by 52 weeks/year = **\$10,765**

Budget Giving through April 30 \$193,777
Actual Giving through April 30 \$193,764
Budget Giving vs. Actual Giving \$(13)
Actual Expenses through 4/30/23 \$191,618
Actual Giving less Actual Expenses \$2,146

8TH GRADE / BIC GRADUATES

On Sunday, May 21st, we will be recognizing our 2023 BIC (Bible Instruction Course) and 8th grade graduates. We will be honoring our graduates during the 9:00 am worship service.

HONORING GRADUATES

On Sunday, May 21st, we will be honoring our 2023 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.

~ Happy Birthday ~

- May 2nd - Lucas Behmer, Camila Bonne
- May 5th - Evan Jones, Micah Stahl
- May 7th - Havah Gebbia
- May 8th - Mike Hauge
- May 9th - Adley Glendenning
- May 10th - Dakota Svartoi
- May 11th - Storm Hickey
- May 12th - Anna Bogner
- May 14th - Noah Myers
- May 15th - Claudia Pihl
- May 16th - Warren Rosko, Hannah Braffett
- May 17th - Aiden Carby
- May 18th - Kaitlyn Adams, Emma Wissinger
- May 19th - Hope VanSteenburg
- May 20th - Aileen Gatz
- May 21st - Becky Bailey
- May 22nd - Evan Stahl
- May 24th - Donna Dyal, Elliot Anderson
- 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
- May 26th - Toby & Aly Behmer
- June 1st - Don and Heather Wallin



RED BRICK CHURCH

Join us for our weekly

YOUTH BIBLE STUDY

Meeting in the BRICK CENTER!

Wednesday Evenings
7:00 to 8:00 pm

IMPORTANT DATES:
May 17th: NO Bible Study
May 24th: LAST Wednesday Night Study



STARTING JUNE 11th!

FELLOWSHIP TIME

* FOLLOWING THE 9:00 AM SERVICE *
IN THE BRICK CENTER

Hosts for the fellowship time are needed.
More information in your May 2023 Newsletter!!

Starting on Sunday, June 11th, we are excited to have a fellowship time twice a month in the Brick Center immediately after the 9:00 am service. Simple breakfast foods (donuts, etc.), coffee, juice and water will be served. We are looking for hosts for the following dates. If you would be interested in hosting a Sunday, please contact Pastor David or Jana in the church office.

June 11th and 25th
July 16th and 30th
August 13th and 27th

SS CHOIR SINGS

Preschool – 5th grade will be singing at the beginning of both worship services on Sunday, May 14th. Please have your child to the Pre-K Room (lower level of church) by 8:45 am on May 14th.

FROM PASTOR DAVID ...

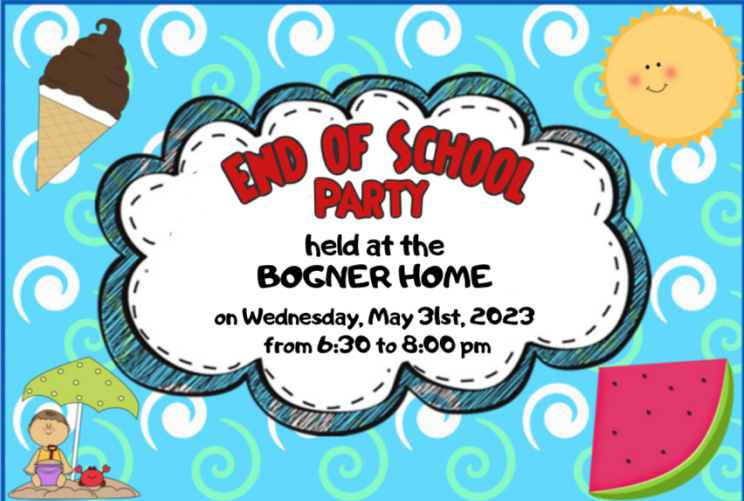
God says in his Word, “Buy truth and do not sell it; buy wisdom, instruction, and understanding.” Proverbs 23:23

Truth can be hard to find, especially if we look in the wrong places. Scripture provides us with the only fully reliable source of truth. To navigate life in a fallen world, we must discern truth from lies, fact from theory, and correctness from error. The lens of Scripture helps us to this end.

I was first introduced to World News Group more than 20 years ago. You might call me a slow learner. At the time I thought I had enough news sources I could trust. Coupled with a growing love and knowledge of the Bible, why should I bring another voice into my head and thinking?

Fast forward to today. World News Group has continued to develop from its founding in 1986 as a biweekly print magazine. They have added to the magazine, radio, video, and a website as means to deliver content. Their growing podcast library contains a trove of excellent reporting and commentary that faithfully executes World’s mission to provide “biblically objective journalism that informs, educates, and inspires.”

Try their daily podcast, *The World and Everything in It*. You won’t be disappointed. In fact, for the cost of your time and attention, you will be buying truth.



END OF SCHOOL PARTY

held at the
BOGNER HOME

on Wednesday, May 31st, 2023
from 6:30 to 8:00 pm

SUMMER CHURCH CAMP

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 mailed to your parents a week prior to camp.



AnswersVBS

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2023 VBS
AMAZON WISH LIST

Check out the QR Code in your bulletin
for items on our 2023 VBS Wish List!

Thank You!



AnswersVBS

Mystery Island

Tracking Down the One True God

2023 VBS ~ SAVE THE DATE!
JUNE 12 - 16 | 9:00 TO 11:30 AM
REGISTER ON-LINE TODAY!

CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH
PO Box 370
Stillman Valley, IL 61084

** RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED **

Happy Mother's Day

"She is clothed with strength and
dignity; she can laugh at the days
to come. She speaks with wisdom,
and faithful instruction is on her
tongue." PROVERBS 31:25-26

