



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

**MARCH 2024
NEWSLETTER**

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For the moment, all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. Hebrews 12:11

If you asked Jamie right now to describe our time at the Mayo Clinic with one word, “pleasant” would not be one of her first choices. Indeed, “pleasant” would not be one of the first 10

words.

Don’t get me wrong. There are pleasant people who work at the Mayo Clinic. Sometimes, the surroundings are pleasant, though seldom at two in the morning. But if I asked Jamie right now to pick between “pleasant” and “painful” you know what she would say.

Not surprisingly, when we read Hebrews 12 aloud together today the verse that jumped out to Jamie was Hebrews 12:11, *“for the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant.”*

No discipline — being shaped by God’s providence — is pleasant at the time. But thankfully, the point of the verse is that “pain” is not the goal of Christian suffering. Rather, it is a means to being shaped by the trials we endure. So even though this trial does not seem pleasant, not at all, we’re counting on God using it to yield a fruit of righteousness.

However, there is a caution that is in order. Jamie and I also noticed that the dynamic of profiting from discipline is not automatic. The verse qualifies, *“to those who have been trained by it.”* There are people who go through painful trials and learn nothing. Rather, they are defined by anger and bitterness.

Jamie and I pray we will be the sort of people who are trained by trials so that “we yield a peaceful fruit of righteousness.”

Jamie will be weak for some time as she recovers. I’m looking forward to seeing the Bricks soon.

CHAIRMAN OF BOARDS/COMMITTEES

Deacon Board – Phil Guske979-6204
Deaconess Board – Deb Bonne979-0885
Trustee Board – Brad Baker.....670-0039
CE Committee – Cara Roberts.. 217-621-2460
Mission Com. – Clayton Midtsem262-4254
Music – Lance Mennen985-2484

FINANCIAL REPORT

Through February 29th, 2024

Total Approved 2024 Budget = \$582,041

Divided by 52 weeks/year = **\$11,193**

Budget Giving through Feb. 29 \$89,544
Actual Giving through Feb. 29 \$112,829
Budget Giving vs. Actual Giving \$23,285
Actual Expenses through 2/29/24 \$104,921
Actual Giving less Actual Expenses \$7,908

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

March 1st - Jamie Brauns
March 2nd - Brent Bonne
March 3rd - Kent Cronberg
March 4th - Jana Cox, Grace VanBriesen,
Randy Stukenberg, Rob Wissinger
March 5th - Tessa Baker, Arlett Bonne
March 6th - Sam Miller, Paisley Poliska
March 7th - Jeff McLindsay, Chelsea Colon
March 8th - Allie Peterson
March 11th - Pastor Chris, Isaiah Braffett,
Jeremiah Braffett
March 12th - Jamie Adams
March 17th - Emily Houston
March 19th - Trinity Scholl, Tim Parcel
March 22nd - Adrien Booker
March 23rd - Robin Davis
March 25th - Hadley Colon, Carter McCandless,
Livi Dray
March 26th - Homer Bailey
March 29th - Jeremiah Bogner, Jewel Holsinger
April 1st - Avis Hall

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

March 14th - Jack and Trinity Scholl
March 15th - Steve and Donna Arnold
March 21st - Gary and Connie Rhodes



AWANA THEME NIGHTS

Saturday, March 9th

T & T Camp from 2:00 – 4:00 pm at the Brick Center.

Wednesday, March 13th

Dress Like An Insect night at club.

Saturday, March 16th

Sparks Camp from 10:00 to 11:00 am at the Brick Center.

Wednesday, March 20th

It's Hawaiian Night at club on the 20th!

Wednesday, March 27th

AWANA Club is on Spring Break this week.



EASTER CHOIR

We are having a Good Friday / Easter Sunday Choir this year. The Good Friday Service will be held at our church. If you are interested in being a part of the choir, join us at our practices from 7:00 to 8:00 pm. Practices are on 3/11, 3/18 and 3/25.



Easter Choir

Rehearsal are Monday Evenings at
7:00 pm in the Sanctuary!

Rehearsal Dates are: March 11, March 18 and March 25
Good Friday: Rehearse at 6:00 pm; Service at 7:00 pm
Easter Morning: Rehearse at 8:00 am; Services at 9 & 10:30 am

Please join us!

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

The Good Friday Service will be held this year at our church on Friday, March 29th at 7:00 pm. Along with Pastor Chris and Pastor David, Pastor Nick Garner from the Kishwaukee Evangelical Presbyterian Church and Pastor Barry Norris from the Valley Evangelical Covenant Church will be participating in the service.



Friday, March 29th
7:00 pm

- GOOD FRIDAY -
SERVICE

Reflecting on
Christ's Death



SPRING FORWARD, MARCH 10TH

DAYLIGHT
Saving

DON'T FORGET TO SET
YOUR CLOCKS **FORWARD**



SUNDAY, MARCH 31st

EASTER
SUNDAY SERVICES

ALL CHURCH BREAKFAST
8:00 am

SUNDAY SCHOOL
9:00 am

WORSHIP SERVICES
9:00 & 10:30 am

*Nursery available for both services &
Children's Church provided at 10:30 am service.*



MARK YOUR
CALENDARS!

June 17 - 21

**THE GREAT
Jungle
JOURNEY**

An Epic Cruise from Genesis to Revelation

Vacation Bible School 2024

At our VBS this summer, your kids will set off on an epic adventure from Genesis to Revelation. Amid sloths, butterflies, river dolphins, and dart frogs, we will sail along on a fun jungle cruise, stopping at seven ports of call. These ports are the 7 C's of History: Creation, Corruption, Catastrophe, Confusion, Christ, Cross, and Consummation. Kids will discover how these events shape our world, and they will learn to reconnect the Bible to their everyday life. Prepare to swing into fun as we head out on *The Great Jungle Journey!*

FROM PASTOR DAVID . . .

For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. 1 Corinthians 15:3-5

Four churches collaborated with one another to host Winter Camp even during the winter that hasn't been much of a winter. Evangelical Free Church of Mt. Morris, Christ Church in Sterling, Rock Valley Bible Church in Rockford, and The Red Brick Church sent 58 students and 19 adults to Expeditions Unlimited in Baraboo, Wisconsin on February 16. We stayed until early on Sunday afternoon enjoying traditional winter camp outdoor activities of broomball, tubing, and hiking around Devil's Lake.

"Man's Mess, God's Plan" was the theme. We looked at the lives of Elijah, Joseph son of Jacob, Abel, and John Mark to see how the gospel transformed each of the men. Lively small group discussions followed each of four chapel sessions. Our young people are hungry for the truth of God's Word and learning how to apply it to their lives.

We've seen this too in the many Bricks as 2024 is now in full swing. Several Mortar Groups continue to meet. The new Men's Mortar Group has met twice with strong attendance and great discussions about heroic character, the gospel, and family devotions. Speaking of which, our meetings with Coleman Reed, Central Illinois FCA Area Representative have been rescheduled for Thursday, March 14 at 6:30 p.m. in the Brick Center and Friday, March 15 at 9 a.m. in the Adult Sunday School Room. His presentations will be the same each session.



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PO Box 370
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** RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED **

