

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 Guske	979-6204
Deaconess Board - Deb Bonne	
Trustee Board - Brad Baker	
CE Committee - Cara Roberts 2	
Mission Com Clayton Midtsem	
Music – Lance Mennen	

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.





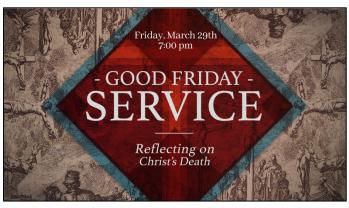
EASTER CHOIR

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.

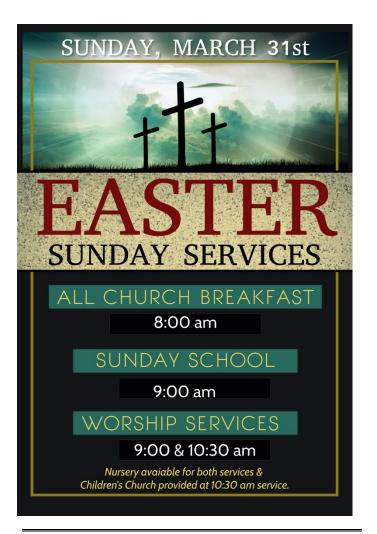


GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

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.









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.



THE RED BRICK CHURCH

PO Box 370 Stillman Valley, IL 61084

** RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED **

