



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 2025
NEWSLETTER**

CHURCH PHONE
645-2526

Dear Church Family:

The picture to the right (2005) documents that there was time not too long ago when I could hold Mary Elizabeth. Alas, she has grown up, as little girls so often do.



One aspect of our time in Stillman Valley I am most thankful for is how Marybeth (the longest serving PK in the history of the Red Brick Church!) has been loved by our church and has herself loved and served.

Now a wedding is scheduled for 5/31/2025. We are praying for a great day of celebration.

We wish we could invite our entire church family to the wedding and reception. This is very important to Jamie and me. And to Marybeth and Kendale as well. But Jamie and I are both from large families, and we understand that droves of Hamilton's will sojourn to Illinois from Ohio. Space is limited.

All of which means, we cannot invite everyone to the wedding and brunch. We will be packed as it is. But we would like to invite *everyone* to come by the Brick Center at 2:30 PM on May 31, 2025, though not earlier, to have a slice of cake, to see the beautiful bride in her dress and to offer congratulations.

Joyfully,

Rev. Dr. Chris and Mrs. Jamie Brauns

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven . . . a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance . . .
Ecclesiastes 3:1, 4



CHAIRMAN OF BOARDS/COMMITTEES

Deacon Board – Clayton Midtsem

Deaconess Board – Deb Bonne

Trustee Board – Mike Haugse

CE Committee – Cara Roberts

Mission Committee – Clayton Midtsem

Music – Lance Mennen



We email and text announcements, news articles, coming events, etc. frequently and we don't want to miss anyone! Be sure we have your correct email address and mobile phone number in our database. Also, if we don't have your birthday or anniversary of members of your family, we would love to celebrate with you! Any updated information can be sent to the church office at cccoffice1@comcast.net.



Children's Prelude and SS CHOIR

On Mother's Day, Sunday, May 11th, we will have our youth begin both services with a prelude!

Our SS Choirs (Preschool – 5th grade) will also be singing at both services on the 11th.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Through April 30, 2025

Total Approved 2025 Budget = \$609,694

Divided by 52 weeks/year = **\$11,725**

Budget Giving through April 30.....	\$199,323
Actual Giving through April 30	\$159,847
Budget Giving vs. Actual Giving	\$-39,476
Actual Expenses through 4/30/25.....	\$189,203
Actual Giving less Actual Expenses	\$-29,356

HONORING GRADUATES

On Sunday, May 18th, we will be honoring our 2025 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.

On Sunday, May 18th, we will also be recognizing our 2025 BIC (Bible Instruction Course) and 8th grade graduates. We will be honoring our 8th grade graduates during the 9:00 am worship service.

~ Happy Birthday ~

May 2 nd	- Lucas Behmer, Camila Bonne
May 5 th	- Evan Jones, Micah Stahl
May 7 th	- Havah Gebbia
May 8 th	- Mike Haugse
May 10 th	- Dakota Svartoiien
May 11 th	- Storm Hickey
May 12 th	- Anna Bogner
May 14 th	- Noah Myers
May 15 th	- Claudia Pihl
May 16 th	- Hannah Braffett
May 17 th	- Aiden Carby, Heidi Armer, Becky Myers
May 18 th	- Kaitlyn Adams, Emma Wissinger
May 20 th	- Aileen Gatz
May 22 nd	- Evan Stahl
May 24 th	- Donna Dyal, Elliot Anderson
May 25 th	- Heather Wallin
May 26 th	- Lena Wilmarth
May 28 th	- Wyatt Brass, Susan Stukenberg, Bri Svartoiien
May 30 th	- Mandy Poliska
June 1 st	- June Lewis

~ Happy Anniversary ~

May 4 th	- Bob & Patsy Hoernecke
	- Eric & Kendra Booker
May 19 th	- Mike & Gloria Ennenbach
May 23 rd	- Dave & Aileen Gatz
May 26 th	- Toby & Aly Behmer

FROM PASTOR DAVID ...

Be a doer in our life together at the Red Brick Church.

June is for long summer days and our church family to be connecting through socials. Your involvement over the summer is vital to your own soul and could be a way God draws someone in your sphere of influence to him.

You might ask, how can I join in the work God is doing at the Red Brick Church this summer? The answer has multiple parts!

- **Pray:** asking God to bless our church this summer and make us shine brightly for him (Matthew 5:16).
- **Invite:** people to taste and see that the Lord is good (Psalm 34:8). Tell them about the joy of life in a community of fully devoted followers of Jesus.
- **Be present:** for Sunday morning corporate worship being the most important (Acts 2:42) but also make plans to join us for fellowship hours on select Sundays, celebration of Pastor Chris' 20th anniversary on June 29, and the Community Connections Carnival on July 21.
- **Serve:** Vacation Bible School, fellowship hours, post-event clean-up, and Community Connections Carnival, require small armies of volunteers. Be doers of the Word (James 1:22-25).
- **Be baptized:** if you are a follower of Jesus and trust in his shed blood as the atonement for your sins, then you should be baptized (Matthew 28:19). Talk with a pastor to learn more.
- **Dedicate your young child:** Fathers, take the lead in answering the call to bring our children up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord (Ephesians 6:4b). Talk with a pastor to learn more.

Notice what James says at the end of the passage cited above, James 1:25, but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing. Let's seek the Lord's blessing this summer, together!



Our CE Committee is continuing to work on our Summer of 2025 Vacation Bible School. This year we are doing the Answers In Genesis VBS called **"Wonder Junction – Marvel at Jesus, Live for His Glory."**

Grab your bandana and dust off your boots! We are headed west to **Wonder Junction** where you will discover the wonder of who Jesus is.

You will marvel at the Creator of the universe who came to earth as a tiny baby and was laid in a feeding trough for animals, who grew up and began his ministry of healing people and demonstrating his power as God the Son, who gave his life in payment for sin, who conquered death, and who will return one day in power and glory. You will be encouraged to embrace the salvation Jesus offers and challenged to live for his glory as we wait for his return.

Please use this QR code to the right to register your child/children for our VBS. Classes fill up quickly!!



Those who would like to volunteer to help with our VBS, can register using the QR code to the left. Register by 5/4/25 and you will receive a VBS T-Shirt.

Summer Worship Schedule


Memorial Day Sunday, May 25
to
Labor Day Sunday, September 7
One Service at 9:00 am

Stillman Valley High School
BACCALAUREATE SERVICE



SATURDAY, May 17th
7:00 pm
 High School Gym

Sunday, August 10th
babydedication
 committing our children to the Lord



**HONORING OUR 8TH GRADE &
 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES**



SUNDAY, MAY 18TH DURING THE 9:00 AM WORSHIP SERVICE

JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE
PASTOR CHRIS
20th ANNIVERSARY
 at THE RED BRICK CHURCH!



Sunday, June 29th at 9:00 am
 Potluck Celebration
 following the worship service
 in the Brick Center.

FELLOWSHIP TIME
*Join us this summer for a time of fellowship
 after the 9:00 am worship service!*



June 8
July 13
July 27
August 10
August 24

We will meet in the Brick Center.

Sunday, June 8th
 Sunday, August 10th

**BAPTISM
 SUNDAYS**



Contact the church office if you are
 interested in learning more about Baptism.

THE RED BRICK CHURCH
 PO Box 370
 Stillman Valley, IL 61084

**** RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED ****

