

### 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 11<sup>th</sup>, we will have our youth begin both services with a prelude!

Our SS Choirs (Preschool  $-5^{th}$  grade) will also be singing at both services on the  $11^{th}$ .

### 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     |           |
| 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 18<sup>th</sup>, 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 18<sup>th</sup>, we will also be recognizing our 2025 BIC (Bible Instruction Course) and 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduates. We will be honoring our 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduates during the 9:00 am worship service.

## ~ Happy Birthday ~

May 2<sup>nd</sup> - Lucas Behmer, Camila Bonne

May 5<sup>th</sup> - Evan Jones, Micah Stahl

May 7<sup>th</sup> - Havah Gebbia

May 8<sup>th</sup> - Mike Haugse

May 10<sup>th</sup> - Dakota Svartoien

May 11th - Storm Hickey

May 12<sup>th</sup> - Anna Bogner

May 14<sup>th</sup> - Noah Myers

May 15<sup>th</sup> - Claudia Pihl

May 16<sup>th</sup> - Hannah Braffett

May 17<sup>th</sup> - Aiden Carby, Heidi Armer, Becky Myers

May 18th - Kaitlyn Adams, Emma Wissinger

May 20<sup>th</sup> - Aileen Gatz May 22<sup>nd</sup> - Evan Stahl

May 24th - Donna Dyal, Elliot Anderson

May 25<sup>th</sup> - Heather Wallin May 26<sup>th</sup> - Lena Wilmarth

May 28<sup>th</sup> - Wyatt Brass, Susan Stukenberg, Bri Svartoien

May 30<sup>th</sup> - Mandy Poliska

June 1st - June Lewis

## ~ Happy anniversary ~

May 4<sup>th</sup> - Bob & Patsy Hoernecke

- Eric & Kendra Booker

May 19th - Mike & Gloria Ennenbach

May 23<sup>rd</sup> - Dave & Aileen Gatz

May 26<sup>th</sup> - 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' 20<sup>th</sup> 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!!





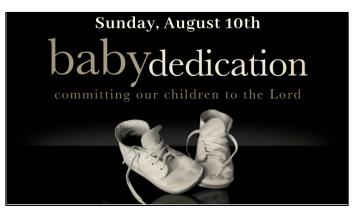
Those who would like to volunteer to help with our VBS, can register using the QR code to the left. Register by 5/4/25 and you will receive a VBS T-Shirt.



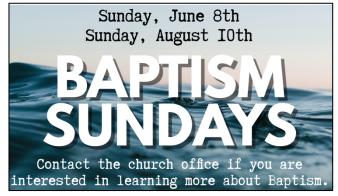












#### THE RED BRICK CHURCH

PO Box 370 Stillman Valley, IL 61084

\*\* RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED \*\*

