



## 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

**FEBRUARY 2026  
NEWSLETTER**

CHURCH PHONE  
645-2526

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## **NEXT STEP!**

At our Annual Meeting (1/25/26), the congregation decided to continue forward with the project that considers replacing our existing building. We reached this conclusion through a strong consensus of a congregational vote as well as through surveys. The deacons met on Tuesday evening (1/27/26) and formally decided that we should finalize drawings for congregational approval to be followed by a capital campaign.

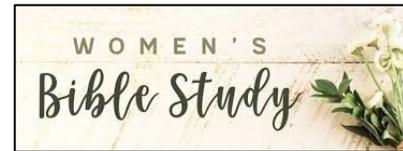
With the survey, the congregation expressed itself wisely and graciously. Many expressed enthusiasm. But the flock also counted the cost and there were excellent questions about whether or not we should take such an all or nothing approach. Taken altogether the clear congregational indication is that we should further develop drawings to be considered by the congregation.

The next step will be to refine the design of the building based on information we are receiving about cost estimates as well as input from our congregation about the design and use of space. In parallel, we will conduct a pre-campaign assessment (PCA) with Bill Walter and Church Growth Services this spring beginning with a vision Sunday on March 22.

Once a more final design is completed, we will present it to the congregation for approval. If there continues to be a strong consensus and we receive a green light from the PCA, we will conduct a capital campaign in the late summer to evaluate if the necessary financial commitments are present. We could then call for bids in the November time frame.

## CHAIRMAN OF BOARDS/COMMITTEES

All Boards and Committees will be meeting in February to elect new officers and chairmen. Chairmen of all committees will be printed in the March 2026 Newsletter.



### Women of the Word

Our Tuesday evening study meets from 6:30 to 8:00 pm in the Brick Center. Please contact Marcia Bogner if you have any questions about the Tuesday evening study.

### Mom's & More Thursday Morning Study

Our Thursday Mom's and More Study meets in the Brick Center from 9:00 to 10:30 am on Thursday mornings. Laura Mennen is leading the Thursday morning study. Childcare provided.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

Through January 31, 2026

**Total Approved 2026 Budget = \$629,031**

Divided by 52 weeks/year = **\$12,097 week**

Budget Giving through Jan. 31 .....\$48,387  
Actual Giving through Jan. 31 .....\$27,652  
Budget Giving vs. Actual Giving ..... \$(20,735)  
Actual Expenses through 1/31/26 .....\$54,982  
Actual Giving less Actual Expenses .. \$(27,330)

*Youth Group*  
**Loving Our Widows Valentines**

♥ **PREPARATION:**  
This Friday, February 6th  
6:00 to 7:30 pm  
Brick Center

♥ **DELIVERY & VISITS:**  
Saturday, February 7th  
10:00 am to Noon  
Meet at the Brick Center



**2025 Giving Statements** have been emailed out to those with active email addresses in our database and mailed out to those without an email address.

If you haven't received a copy of your 2025 giving statement or if you would like a hard copy of the statement, please let Terri Carby or Jana know, and we will put one in the mail to you immediately.

## FEBRUARY 2026 AWANA SCHEDULE

### Wednesday, February 4<sup>th</sup>

M & M Night; bring your missionary banks to club.

### Wednesday, February 11<sup>th</sup>

"Cozy Hats and Hoodie" night at club.

### Wednesday, February 18<sup>th</sup>

What's your favorite color? Wear it to club on the 18<sup>th</sup>!

### Wednesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>

Support your favorite sport tonight! Wear your sports team jersey, hoodies, t-shirt, etc.

**FAMILY GAME NIGHT!**

**Awana Clubs**

Friday, February 27th  
6:00 to 7:30 pm in the Brick Center

**GAMES & DINNER**

Please RSVP by 2/20.

All AWANA Families, Leaders and Helpers, LIT's are invited to join us at our AWANA Family Game Night on Friday, February 27<sup>th</sup>!

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- Feb 1<sup>st</sup> - Shannon & Grace Hickey  
Adeline Schimetz
- Feb 5<sup>th</sup> - Renley Svartoi
- Feb 6<sup>th</sup> - Nick Colon, James Larsen
- Feb 7<sup>th</sup> - Dan Holsinger
- Feb 12<sup>th</sup> - Bill Hochstetter
- Feb 14<sup>th</sup> - Lisa McCoy
- Feb 15<sup>th</sup> - Terrell Carby, Don Wallin
- Feb 19<sup>th</sup> - Brooke Adams
- Feb 21<sup>st</sup> - Jaime Braffett, Mindy Kreml
- Feb 22<sup>nd</sup> - Lena Janoski
- Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> - Arabella Cox
- Feb 25<sup>th</sup> - Toby Behmer
- Feb 26<sup>th</sup> - Carol Brauer, Ophelia Mayberry  
Cara Roberts, Cain Wilmarth
- Feb 27<sup>th</sup> - Sue Carpenter
- Feb 28<sup>th</sup> - Elliette Colon, Malakai Coogan
- Feb 29<sup>th</sup> - Deb Myers
- March 1<sup>st</sup> - Jamie Brauns
- March 2<sup>nd</sup> - Brent Bonne
- March 3<sup>rd</sup> - Kent Cronberg
- March 4<sup>th</sup> - Randy Stukenberg, Jana Cox  
Grace VanBriesen

## FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- Feb 1<sup>st</sup> - Brad and Tessa Baker



**June 22 – 26**

**9 to 11:30 am**

Our Christian Education Committee is actively working on our Summer of 2026 Vacation Bible School. This year we are doing the Answers In Genesis VBS called “Emerald Crossing – An Irish Adventure Through Psalm 23.”

In *Emerald Crossing*, kids will walk through **the life of David** as they journey through Psalm 23. Along the way, they’ll meet the Good Shepherd who cares for them and will discover that, like David:

- They can be children of God and have the Lord as their Shepherd.
- They need the Lord to lead them on the right path through his Word.
- They can turn to the Lord for comfort when they are anxious or afraid.
- They can have an attitude of gratitude in every situation.
- They need to look for God’s goodness and mercy, their traveling companions through life.

Be thinking of where in VBS you would like to help this summer!!



*RBC Senior Fellowship*  
**Tuesday, February 24th at 9:00 am**

We will meet on Tuesday, February 24th at 9:00 am at the Sunrise Restaurant in Byron for breakfast and fellowship!

**Hope to see you there!**

*Ladies: Please join us!*  
**8:00 to 9:00 pm | Brick Center**

**WOMEN IN PRAYER**

**February 10, 24**  
**March 3, 10, 17, 24**  
**April 7, 14, 28**

**MEN'S MORTAR GROUP**

**MEN'S MINISTRY**

**FEBRUARY 26**

**6:30 - 8:00 pm | Brick Center**

**2026 EASTER CHOIR**

Please join our Easter Choir this year!  
 We will be practicing on Monday evenings from 7:00 to 8:00 pm in the sanctuary.

*Our Practice dates are:*  
 February 23rd  
 March 2nd, 9th, 16th  
 March 23rd, 30th

*We will sing at:*  
 Good Friday Service  
 Easter Morning Worship Services

RED BRICK CHURCH  
 PO Box 370  
 Stillman Valley, IL 61084

**\*\* RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED \*\***

*faith*  
*hope*  
 BUT THE GREATEST OF THESE IS LOVE  
*love*