



Congregational Christian Church
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 Tim Michalek

JULY 2017
NEWSLETTER

CHURCH PHONE
645-2526

CHURCH E-MAIL ADDRESS
cccoffice1@comcast.net

TIME OF SERVICES
Worship Service – 9:00 am

Philippians For the Summer

If you've been able to join us for the summer series on Philippians, you will have heard our working theme for the book that answers this question:

How can our church live worthy of the Gospel?

**In one mind and in one Spirit,
partner side-by-side for the faith of the Gospel.**

We pull this phrase largely from Philippians 1:27, where Paul gives his first exhortation in the whole book: "Live as a citizen worthy of the gospel."

Coming up to fourth of July weekend, we will all have fun with our family and friends celebrating our patriotism with thanksgiving for our country and our freedom. I hope we are all able to remember that our primary citizenship is in heaven with God, our primary loyalties are with Jesus in glory, and our primary zeal is not for the USA or other organizations, but for Jesus and His gospel.

Sermon #5, coming July 2, will explore the pinnacle of the book, the poem about the incarnation of Christ. What is really exciting about this big word, 'incarnation' is how intensely practical it becomes when we see it in context. I hope you're able to join us for worship! I'll quote the famous, "You need the church and the church needs you!" If you simply can't make it, I encourage you to catch up with the sermons at least online

I have truly been enjoying preaching, leading the worship services and spending time with so many of you. Please don't hesitate to reach out!



Summer Mission Trip: We are heading to Immanuel Bible Church in Sheboygan, WI from July 26th – 30th, to assist a reviving church in updating their facilities. We will leave at approximately 5:30 pm on the 26th and return around 3:00 pm on the 30th.

If going, please attend an informational meeting on Sunday, July 9th or 23rd at 10:10 am. Please let Pastor Tim know which days you are planning to come by filling out the form on the church website.

JULY GREETERS

If you are interested in being on our "Greeter Team", please contact Bev Bjorklund at 815-234-5665.

- July 2nd: Connie Blake and Kids
July 9th: Bernice Kruse, Eunice Aden
July 16th: Ken and Kathy Mrozek
July 23rd: Dick and Shirl Johann
July 30th: Dave and Bev Bjorklund
August 6th: Len and Barb Kinner

JULY NURSERY

- July 2nd: Joanna Easley, Kendra Booker, Barb Hale
July 9th: Aly Behmer, Jaime Wrasse, Sharon Rhodes
July 16th: Jeanne Baker Donna Arnold, Deb Bonne, Mandy Poliska
July 23rd: Stacy Jones, Bettina Wiltse, Lee and Shannon Hickey
July 30th: Tom and Ashley Stahl, Kathy Mrozek, Betts Carby
Aug. 6th: Tessa Baker, Alice Daniels, Tania VanBriesen, Ryan Roberts

NURSERY NEWS

Parents with children under the age of 5 years are invited and encouraged to use our nursery during either of the worship services. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer to help in the nursery, please contact our nursery coordinators, Tessa Baker (815-645-7040) or Stacy Coester (815-762-2865).

***August Newsletter
Articles are due in the
church office by
Tuesday, July 25th***

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

SS Superintendent:

Brooke Adams ~ 815-645-8561

In Philippians 2:1-3, Paul states, "So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ² complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves." I'm so thankful for our teachers in Sunday School and Children's Church who humbly and faithfully serve and consider our children SIGNIFICANT.

Sunday School has concluded and will resume on September 10th. Children's Church is available for children preschool through 1st grade during the summer months and during second service in the fall. We are in need of a couple of more helpers for Sunday School this fall. Prayerfully consider how you can humbly serve and encourage others in our church family. Please contact Brooke Adams if you're interested in serving in Sunday School. If you are interested in teaching on a less regular basis for Children's Church, contact Becky Bailey.

~ Brooke Adams

WORSHIP SERVICE REPORT

Our average attendance at Worship Services for the past three months is listed below:

April Average: 278

May 5/7, 5/14, 5/21 Average: 281

5/28 (One Service) Attendance: 134

June Average: 163

CHAIRMAN OF BOARDS/COMMITTEES

Deacon Board – Terrell Carby 630-661-9962
Deaconess Board – Deb Bonne 979-0885
Trustee Board – Jeff McLindsay 440-2042
CE Committee – Janice Amundson 645-7010
Memorial Committee – Jeff McLindsay 440-2042
Missions Committee – Cathy Midtsem 979-3715
Music – Pastor Tim Michalek 645-2526

FINANCIAL REPORT

Through June 30th, 2017

Total Approved 2017 Budget = \$411,383

Divided by 52 weeks/year = \$7,912/week

Budget Giving through June 30 \$205,691
Actual Giving through June 30 \$217,276
Budget Giving vs. Actual Giving \$11,584
Actual Expenses through 6/30/17 \$177,955



If the church office does not have your email address, please be sure to email your address to the office at the following email address:

cccoffice1@comcast.net

The email address for Pastor Chris is:

cdbrauns@gmail.com

The email address for Pastor Tim is:

timothymichalek@gmail.com

We will be emailing out announcements, news articles, coming events, etc., so don't miss out!! Be sure we have your email address.

You may also email into the office any prayer requests you might have, any announcements for the bulletins, etc. We will be sure the prayer requests are passed on to the prayer chains and all announcements get into the bulletin.

Wedding Card Shower



The church would like to send best wishes to Christopher Brauns and his bride Meredith as they begin their life together. They will be married on August 12th. In honor of the occasion, we will be having a card shower. There will be a decorated bird cage in the back of the sanctuary on July 23rd and 30th for the cards.

Please join in wishing them well as they pledge their lives to one another.

Thinking Ahead ...

Last spring the deaconess board hosted a pallet paint party and we had such a good time that we are going to do it again this fall. There will be two dates and you can sign up for either one, just make sure if you are coming with a friend that you both choose the same night.

The two dates are **Thursday, October 12 OR Monday, October 16**. Both will start at 6 pm. This time there will also be fall and Christmas designs to choose from. The cost is \$35 which includes all supplies. The pallet size is 14" X 18". You choose your colors the night of the party. The web site already has our dates and you can register anytime. If for some reason you are unable to attend, the stencil and pallet can be taken home to complete.

To register go to www.clinescubby.com and choose your design. Payment is due on-line at the time of registration. Painting is done using a stencil, so artistic ability is not required. Last time everyone's pallet turned out great! We decided on two evenings, so you can invite a friend if you would like.

Baptism

A baptism service will be held on Sunday, August 20th following the 9:00 am worship service. Contact the office to schedule a meeting with Pastor Tim if you are interested in being baptized.

Pastor Chris is on sabbatical until August 16th. We ask that you refrain from contacting Pastor Chris during this time. If you need pastoral assistance for any reason or if there is an emergency, please feel free to contact Pastor Tim (231-342-7046) or Deacon Chairman Terrell Carby (630-661-9962) or Jana at the church office (815-645-2526).

2017 Summer Schedule

Our Deacon Board has revised our Summer Worship Schedule. Please note the service times and changes as follows:

The Months of July and August

9:00 am Service only

Children's Church (Preschool – 1st grade)

Labor Day Sunday, September 3rd

9:00 am Service only

Children's Church (Preschool – 1st grade)

Beginning Sunday, September 10th

9:00 am Worship Service

9:00 am Sunday School for all ages

10:30 am Worship Service

10:30 am Children's Church (PS – 1st grade)

Please be sure to note these on your home calendar for 2017!

being encouraged yet fighting guilt, I finally cycled back to the thought that God knows our frame, we're but frail as dust, though declared righteous we're not made righteous yet. Our thoughts and ways are not His. This is why we're encouraged to set our minds on things above, or not be conformed to the pattern of the world. He knows we need continual reminders because we're prone to wander. In fact, it's not possible to live in a state of 24-hour eschatological wonderment (truth be known I even forgot about our girls some of those days they were in London!). Instead, in the meantime we work on tuning our hearts to sing His praises and fixing our eyes on the work He has for us and the things that ARE attainable.

One of those things, which is SOON approaching, are the sights of over 100 kids returning to AWANA in September. It's July now and just after VBS, we will literally blink our eyes after setting our calendar of fun themes and events, and celebrating kick-off night September 6th! Are you a bit weary waiting for Christ's return -- do you long for a glimpse of things promised in the now? Then start praying again now -- we've got opportunities SOON in VBS and only moments later in Sunday School and AWANA to joyfully greet hundreds of beautiful kids with the good news of Christ!



SOON and VERY SOON

I'm always encouraged any Sunday Pastor Chris decides to point us to the number of times "SOON" is mentioned in the book of Revelation but especially in chapter 22. However, it can also be convicting when I realize I don't long for the return of Christ, as I probably should. The picture to the right captures the REAL joy and anticipation I had awaiting the return of our girls at the International Concourse gates of O'Hare Airport. Blessed with a 10-day trip to London recently by their aunts and uncles, I eagerly wanted to see them again and hear all about the details of their trip. While perching up and down on my tip toes, for literally an hour each time the automatic doors opened, I kept trying to catch a glimpse of the girls down the long corridor so I would be ready to snap a picture once the door opened again and they were much closer. Once again, it hit me just like on those Sundays, that I don't carry this attitude of anticipation close enough to me regarding Christ's return. However, much like on those Sundays

SOON...

AWANA Co-Commanders
Deb and Darren



Red Brick Church VBS

July 10 - 14 from 9:00 to 11:30



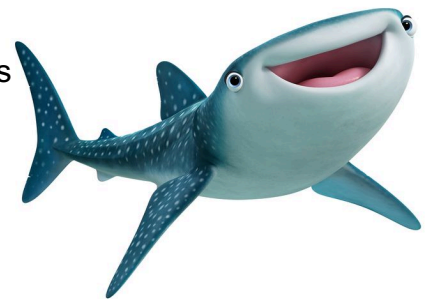
Our 2017 VBS “Ocean Commotion – Diving into Noah’s Flood” is fast approaching!! Thank to those who have registered their children and have also registered as helpers and leaders. At this time, we could still use additional helpers – even if just for a day or two! Your help is needed and appreciated! If you haven’t yet registered, go to our church website (theredbrickchurch.org) to register!

A couple other areas that you could help out with our VBS is with donating to either our Snack Time or Craft Time. Below are items that we are in need of.

For the craft items, please go to our [Amazon shopping list](#) and purchase items that you would like. Ship to your home or the church! This list stays updated on Amazon as items are purchased. If you would prefer, you can give monetary donations directly to the church office which will be used to purchase supplies.

For snack items, there is a sign-up list on the back bulletin board through Sunday, July 2nd. Here is a list of items needed. If you would like to sign-up to bring an item, please call or email the church office prior to July 2nd to ensure duplicates are not purchased.

- 12 bags Rold Gold Pretzel Twists
- (14) 2-liter bottles of Lemon Lime Soda
- (7) 30 oz boxes Pepperidge Goldfish Cheese Crackers
- (4) 30 oz boxes Pepperidge Rainbow Goldfish Crackers
- (6) 6 oz packages Pepperidge Pretzel Goldfish Crackers
- (5) 6 oz bags Kraft Mini-Marshmallows
- (6) 12 oz bags Nestle Tollhouse Semi-Sweet Chocolate Chips
- (20) 20 oz Kool-Aid Ice Blue Raspberry Lemonade
- (6) 16 oz Better Crocker Rainbow Chip Frostings
- (1) 2 oz pack of Diamond Daily mini cups with lids
- 250 Count 9 oz clear plastic cups (Sam’s Club)


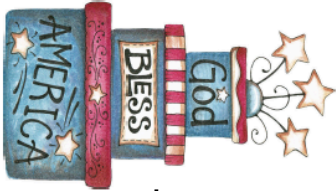


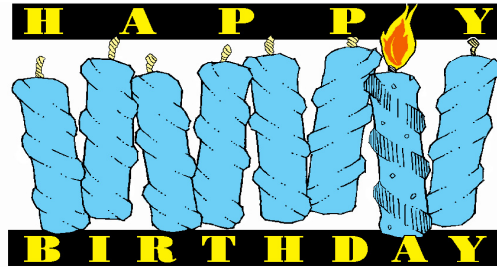
Prepare for a boatload of excitement at OCEAN COMMOTION as we dive deep into the account of Noah and the Flood from the book of Genesis!

Our VBS is open to all 4 year olds (potty trained only) through those who have completed 6th grade this year.

For more information, contact the church office at 815-645-2526.

JULY 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 Worship Service at 9:00 am COMMUNION				Youth Bible Study 4:00 - 5:00 pm		1
Worship Service at 9:00 am Mission Trip Meeting 10:10 am				Youth Bible Study 4:00 - 5:00 pm		8
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL ~ 9:00 to 11:30 am						
Worship Service at 9:00 am		DEACON BOARD MEETING 6:30 pm TRUSTEE BOARD MEETING 6:30 pm		Youth Bible Study 4:00 - 5:00 pm		15
Worship Service at 9:00 am Mission Trip Meeting 10:10 am HYMN SING 6:30 pm		Sr. Fellowship Outing	Leave for Mission Trip 5:30 pm	NO YOUTH BIBLE STUDY		22
Worship Service at 9:00 am Return from Mission Trip 3:00 pm			RED BRICK MISSION TRIP			
30	31					



- July 2nd - Adalee Brass, Mason Meline
- July 5th - Reece Gatz
- Ashley Rhodes
- July 6th - Faith VanBriesen
- Lori Miuccio
- July 9th - Andria Brass
- July 12th - Chuck Thompson, Eden Anderson
- July 13th - Liam Stahl
- July 15th - David Gatz, Hanna Wallin
- Trevor Gerig, Ken Mrozek
- July 16th - Jeff Coester
- July 20th - Shirley Johann
- July 21st - Macklin Raber
- July 22nd - Elijah Hanson, Jaime Wrasse
- July 23rd - Tyler Mrozek
- July 27th - Cherri Tremble
- July 29th - Karissa Dobson, Jackson Halsmer,
- Preston Mrozek, JoAnn Southwick
- July 30th - Ron Lewis
- Mary Jane McNames
- July 31st - Ben Wiltse
- August 1st - Lane Behmer
- August 2nd - Matt Geiseman
- August 3rd - Michael Arnold
- August 4th - John Cox, Bruce Bonne, Hanna Roberts
- August 6th - Grady Poliska

Celebrating

An Anniversary This Month

- July 2nd - John and Sandy Cox
- July 5th - Ryan and Cara Roberts
- July 18th - Keith and Anne Wiltfang
- July 31st - Chad and Deb Smits



The RBC Youth Summer Bible Study is meeting on Thursday afternoons from 4:00 – 5:00 pm in the meeting room at the Administration Building until August 10th. **Please note: The Study will NOT meet on Thursday, July 27th.** The group is doing an Inductive Study on the Book of Philippians. All Jr and Sr High students are welcome to attend!



A Hymn Sing, hosted by the Deaconess Board, will be held on Sunday, July 23rd at 6:30 pm in the church sanctuary.

We will be taking requests from the congregation, so be thinking of your favorite hymns. Feel free to bring guests. Nursery will be provided. Cookies will be served following the music. Mark your calendar to join in the fun!

CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH
PO Box 370
Stillman Valley, IL 61084

**** RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED ****

