



Congregational Christian Church The **Red Brick Church** in Stillman Valley

(Evangelical, Independent)

207 W. Roosevelt Road, PO Box 370
Stillman Valley, Illinois 61084-0370

www.theredbrickchurch.org

Rev. Dr. Chris Brauns

Associate Pastor Tim Michalek

OCTOBER 2017
NEWSLETTER

CHURCH PHONE
645-2526

CHURCH E-MAIL ADDRESS
cccoffice1@comcast.net

TIME OF SERVICES
Worship Service – 9:00 am
Worship Service – 10:30 am
Sunday School – 9:00 am
Preschool thru Adults

Two Images and a Meeting

There will be a special church family-business meeting on October 15th at 5:00 pm. The two images below do much to explain why we need this meeting.

First, God continues to bless our church with people. The picture to the right is from Fall Festival weekend church-time. In



this age group alone, we had 25 children.

Caring for these children and their parents is a beautiful call. On October 15th, we will again consider how we envision being a gospel-centered church-home to children like these but also parents, grandparents, singles, and all other image bearers.

So many lambs require space! And as the below image (with *approximate* dates!) demonstrates, our congregation has been working on the space challenge for well over 100 years. The first two lots, where the main building is situated, were purchased in 1892. As our needs have changed, we've continued to acquire adjacent properties, especially over the last 15 years.

Thankfully, *all* of the additional properties we have purchased are paid for, including the parsonage on Pine Street where the Michalek's live, not seen in the image to the right.

We are now at a point where it is critical that we plan the use of our site for the years to come. Having purchased and paid for adjacent properties, how will we agree, as a congregation, to use them?



The demographics of our community have changed a great deal over the 159 years since our church was founded. Thankfully, God is showing us that our place here in Stillman Valley, continues to be a location where people are reached with the good news of Jesus. **The first image of children drives the discussion of the second image, our church campus.**

OCTOBER USHERS

See a member of our Deacon Board for ushering Information.

OCTOBER GREETERS

- Oct. 8th - Roland and Lonna Nelson
Oct. 15th - Terrell and Terri Carby
Oct. 22nd - Connie Blake
Oct. 29th - Bernice Kruse, Eunice Aden
Nov. 5th - Ken and Kathy Mrozek

OCTOBER NURSERY

Oct. 8th

- 9:00 am - Justine Loyo, Barb Hale,
Chelsea Colon, Mandy Poliska
Lana Lamer (Rocker)
10:30 am - Lee and Shannon Hickey
Donna Arnold

Oct. 15th

- 9:00 am - Kendra Booker, Sharon Rhodes,
Jamie Brauns, Deb Bonne
Nancy Gelderloos (Rocker)
10:30 am - Carl & Elizabeth Jacobson
Stacy Coester (Rocker)

Oct. 22nd

- 9:00 am - Brad and Tessa Baker,
Tom and Ashley Stahl,
Jeanne Baker
10:30 am - Elliot and Rebekah Anderson,
Jane Jones

Oct. 29th

- 9:00 am - Susan Stukenberg, Joanna Easley,
Amy Michalek, Ryan Roberts,
Janice Amundson (Rocker)
10:30 am - Stacy Jones, Alice Daniels,
Betts Carby

Nov 5th

- 9:00 am - Justine Loyo, Barb Hale,
Chelsea Colon, Mandy Poliska
Lana Lamer (Rocker)
10:30 am - Tania VanBriesen, Donna Arnold
Vicki Boyd (Rocker)

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

SS Superintendent:

Brooke Adams ~ 815-645-8561

Our average weekly Sunday School **Attendance** for the past two years during the month of September is listed below:

September 2016: 101
September 2017: 100

Our average weekly Sunday School **Offerings** for the past two years during the month of September are listed below:

September 2016: \$20.63
September 2017: \$23.95

WORSHIP SERVICE REPORT

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

July Average: 135
August Average: 174
Labor Day Worship Service: 170
Fall Festival Worship Service: 180
9/11 and 9/18 Worship Services: 290

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

**November Newsletter
Articles are due in the
church office by
Friday, Oct. 27th**

FINANCIAL REPORT

Through September 30th, 2017

Total Approved 2017 Budget = \$411,383

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

Budget Giving through Sept 30 \$308,568

Actual Giving through Sept 30..... \$318,340

Budget Giving vs. Actual Giving \$9,772

Actual Expenses through 9/30/17 \$272,315



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.

PALLET PAINT PARTY



We have 22 ladies registered for the pallet paint party on October 12th and 10 registered for the party on October 16th. Please bring a snack to share. If you did not register to make a sign, feel free to join us for fellowship. Both parties start at 6:00 pm and it takes approximately 2.5 to 3 hours to complete the project.

Any questions see Deb Bonne.

Sunday School NEWS . . .

Sunday School has had three sessions as I'm writing this update. Grades preschool through 5th will soon be beginning to practice for our Christmas program which will be December 10th. Children will sing at both the 9:00 and 10:30 worship services on that date.

Children's church is available during the 10:30 worship service for children in preschool through 1st grade. We often have 15-20 children during this time.

Ecclesiastes 3 states that there is a time for everything. *"¹For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: ²a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted..."* This is a busy season of life for many of us. I'm thinking especially of those with young children and teens. Please join me in praying for our parents and caregivers this week, that we might find joy in our work (or "toil" in Ecclesiastes 3:13). I am thankful that God has "made everything beautiful in its time." (3:11).

God Bless!

Brooke Adams, Sunday School Superintendent



There will be a special and highly important church family business meeting on Sunday, October 15th at 5:00 pm. The meeting will update our congregation regarding the Master Plan Process for our church site, membership matters, and other material we cannot cover on Sunday mornings. Anyone interested in our church is invited to attend.

YOUTH GROUP NEWS!

Our Youth Group had so much fun at our Splash Sports activity on September 9. We had 27 people enjoy playing games with water shooters, Ping-Pong balls, beach balls, water-rings, inflatable soccer goals, and a baby-shampoo covered slip-n-slide kickball field with inflatable pools as the bases (not all at the same time of course). Some of the teens said it was the best activity we ever had, and wanted to do it every month. They all did wake up feeling a bit sore since diving onto the ground for two hours.

Our activity schedule is in full swing. Youth group meets TWICE a month this year on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month. Both meet right after church for lunch, then the High School goes to the Church Parsonage for their fun time and lesson. The Junior High stay at the church, hear a lesson and the play games together. We've increased the number of sponsors who help with each activity this year to allow the teens to rub shoulders with more believers who can mentor them and pray for them.

Our next activity is on the 14, where we will have fun at the Rhodes home, but also will pack boxes to send to our college and military family around the world. We're accepting donations from the church, which need to be at the church office front or back porch by noon on Oct 14.

Another exciting event coming up is on Nov 5, where the Senior Saints and teens will gather around the table for a meal and fun. This year we are planning to spend more time hearing stories from each other.

Donations for Care Packages for Away College Students & Military: Please bring individually packaged snacks or homemade goods for our college students and military by NOON on Saturday, October 14th. They can be left on the front or back porch of the Administration Building. The teens will be boxing them up to ship that afternoon. Favorite requests are: Granola bars, fruit snacks, trail mix, homemade items (without nuts), chex mix, chocolate, and cheez-it crackers. Handwritten notes or verses of encouragement are also welcome!

If you have a college student or child in the military, please be sure the church office has their current address.

See our current activity list and volunteer schedule here. <http://tr.im/1e3t2>

WOMEN BIBLE STUDIES

The following studies are available for women in the church and community. Please feel free to join a study when you are able to. All studies meet in the Adult SS Classroom.

Women of the Word meets on Tuesday evenings from 7:00 – 8:30 pm.

Mom's and More meets on Friday mornings from 9:00 – 10:30 am with childcare provided.

SEE YOU AT THE POLE Wednesday, September 27th, 2017



MISSIONARY NEWS:

Jeremy and Bonnie Ruth Farmer: Please pray for our missionaries to Cambodia and their visa situation. For years missionaries have been able to purchase a 1 year "Regular Visa." A new Cambodian law now requires a work permit and will not grant them a visa, which expires in February 2018. The Ministry of Religion is working on a solution, but it's unlikely to come in time. Please pray for wisdom for them as they research options and for favor in the eyes of the authorities.

AWANAFEST

Well ... it's October! Hard to believe, but not so if you've been around towns and restaurants with Octoberfest theme menu specials and other Octoberfest events advertised. I think the same could be said if you spend time within AWANA circles (no pun intended). We know it's October in AWANA because many churches have all had their kick-off nights, AWANA ministry conferences, etc. That is certainly true here at The Red Brick Church. Though it was a smaller start to our year, we had a great response to our kick-off night. As of now 15 new families have signed up for AWANA. The number of kids enrolled is approaching 115 kids representing almost 70 families (compared to 72 families prior year).

I had the privilege of bringing with me 4 LITs to the AWANA ministry conference at Maywood. What a great day that was to be reminded that each of us is named and known by God and that in the context of children ministry, like AWANA, it is often multiple strategically placed adults that God uses to speak into our lives. One of THE coolest starts to our year though came from one of our oldest and youngest AWANA members -- ironically (or maybe not) they are related too! On Bring A Friend and Parent Night, Abigail Bogner invited two different friends and reminded them the day of, that she wanted them to be there. That evening the parents not only brought Abigail's friends but also came to our parent meet and greet next door. As a result of this great evening both families are enrolled and coming to AWANA and their younger siblings are also attending!

That week was also parade weekend. We were scrambling to organize a parade float LIT work day. Instead, Joe Clinton (Abigail's grandpa) said, "Hey, don't worry I got this. Spend your time elsewhere, I'll have the sign printed." And boy was it a great sign! (see pic below). All of these things point to signs of a great year ahead for AWANA. So join us again praying weekly for the ministry, that we'll speak gospel life into these kids and that our leaders will not grow weary in the good they are doing.

Darren Daniels
AWANA Commander





October 3 rd	-	Lee Hickey
October 4 th	-	Don Miuccio, Bruce Carby
October 5 th	-	Zachary Clinton
October 6 th	-	Connie Rhodes
October 7 th	-	Julie Larson, Camryn Lauer
	-	Haley Jones
October 8 th	-	Daphne Long
October 10 th	-	Gary Larson, Amanda Geiseman
October 11 th	-	Darren Daniels
October 12 th	-	Candy Beck
October 13 th	-	Jaden Coester
October 17 th	-	Atalie Gebbia
October 21 st	-	Rebekah Anderson, Isaac Kriebs
October 22 nd	-	Brittany Bjorklund
October 23 rd	-	Patrick Roberts, Terri Carby
October 29 th	-	Elizabeth Miller, Marc Romine
October 31 st	-	Jean Simons
November 3 rd	-	Sebastian Cardenas, Mireya Cowan
November 5 th	-	Dave Bjorklund

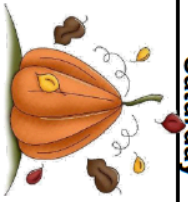



October 4 th	-	Dean and Claudia Pihl
October 5 th	-	Marc and Sheri Romine
October 15 th	-	Terrell and Terri Carby
October 17 th	-	Marv and Nadine Dahms
October 19 th	-	Ben and Pat Chitwood
October 20 th	-	Dick and Shirley Johann
October 26 th	-	Chuck and Shirley Thompson



OCTOBER 2017



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Services at 9:00 & 10:30 am			AWANA 6:00 pm Youth Bible Study 7:00 - 8:00 pm		NO Mom's and More Bible Study	 YOUTH GROUP at The Rhodes Home 4:00 pm
Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Services at 9:00 & 10:30 am	Deaconess Board Meeting at 7:15 pm	 Ladies Evening Bible Study 7:00 pm	AWANA 6:00 pm Youth Bible Study 7:00 - 8:00 pm	Ladies Pallet Paint Party 6:00 pm	M & M 9:00 - 10:30 am	
Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Services at 9:00 & 10:30 am	Ladies Pallet Paint Party 6:00 pm	Ladies Evening Bible Study 7:00 pm Deacon Bd Meeting 6:30 pm Trustee Bd Meeting 6:30 pm	AWANA 6:00 pm Youth Bible Study 7:00 - 8:00 pm		NO Mom's and More Bible Study	
Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Services at 9:00 & 10:30 am		Sr. Fellowship 9:00 am Missions Meeting 6:30 pm Ladies Evening Bible Study 7:00 pm	AWANA 6:00 pm Youth Bible Study 7:00 - 8:00 pm		M & M 9:00 - 11:00 am	
		Ladies Evening Bible Study 7:00 pm	AWANA 6:00 pm Youth Bible Study 7:00 - 8:00 pm		M & M 9:00 - 11:00 am	



OCTOBER 2017 AWANA SCHEDULE

Wednesday, October 4th: Tonight is "M & M Night" at club. This year we will be sponsoring John and Nancy Hook who are with Mission Aviation Fellowship. Each month, the Hook's will send a special video to our AWANA Clubbers sharing what they are doing with MAF. Clubbers should bring their missionary bank or baggie with dollars and change to club in exchange for an individual size package of M & M's.

Wednesday, October 11th: It's "Super Hero Night" at AWANA. Come to club dressed as your favorite Super Hero! Participating in theme nights will earn you AWANA dollars to use at our AWANA store!

Wednesday, October 18th: Tonight is "High 5! Night" at club. Get ready to work hard completing sections in your handbook tonight! After your complete 5 sections in your handbook, you will get an extra AWANA \$1 per section.

Wednesday, October 25th: It's "Dress Like A Mess Night" at club!! Go into your closet or dresser and just create your own fashion disaster by mismatching your clothes tonight for club. The messier the better! Tonight is also our first Praise and Worship Night at club. Parents are welcome to come around 7 pm tonight and enjoy Praise and Worship with the clubbers.

Reminder: Our AWANA Club has implemented a new Check-In and Check-Out procedure on Wednesday evenings. Please be sure your child checks-in with a leader and also checks-out when club is over. We appreciate all parents cooperating with us to ensure the safety of your children!

CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH
PO Box 370
Stillman Valley, IL 61084

**** RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED ****

