



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

NOVEMBER 2017 NEWSLETTER

CHURCH PHONE
645-2526

CHURCH E-MAIL ADDRESS
cccoffice1@comcast.net

TIME OF SERVICES
9:00 am and 10:30 am

SUNDAY SCHOOL
9:00 am
(Preschool through Adults)

Pictures of Pastoral Development

The gift of pastors is one of the most practical ways our heavenly Father provides for our needs. What will it look like for our church to be involved in raising up a new generation of pastors?

I wrote *When the Word Leads Your Pastoral Search* because the decisions local churches make about their pastors contributes so immediately to the life and health of both churches and believers.

The importance of the pastoral office can

scarcely be overstated, Calvin wrote:

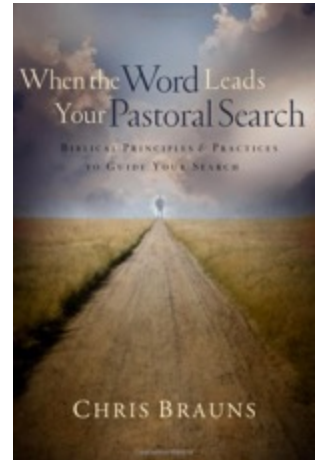
For neither the light and heat of the sun, nor food and drink, are so necessary to nourish and sustain the present life as the . . . pastoral office is necessary to preserve the church on earth. (IV.III.2, 1055).

Even as I recognized the importance of pastoral ministry, writing with Moody on pastoral searches has allowed me to observe that there is a real shortage of pastors. *We need pastors.*

Our need for pastors raises the question: “**Whose job is it to develop pastors?**” The central answer to that question is, it is the job of local churches to see new generations of pastoral leadership.

We might drill down further on that question by asking, “Concretely, what does it look like for local churches to develop pastors?” Answering that question would require a long book. But here are pictures to pursue.

- **Host an intern!** Many have extra bedrooms. Is there a possibility you would allow an intern to have a place to stay? Internships and residencies are vital parts of pastoral development.
- **Mothers talking to sons** --- even at young ages – suggesting that some day they might think about being a pastor. The decision to be a pastor isn’t usually made by children. But the idea often begins very early.
- **Budgeted dollars for interns** – Our church needs to do its part in preparing interns for ministry as we did with Ben Wiltse in 2016.
- **Fathers** talking to their families about why their pastors are important for the health of their family: “our pastors help us understand and apply the Word of God to life.”
- Our local church hosting **interns** or **pastoral residents**. Perhaps we could use some of our housing for that purpose? We need pastors!
- Young people who are motivated to be **excellent students**. I had *eleven* years of education after high school (B.A., M.B.A., MDiv, Dmin) and I was never that good at school - - but deeply studying theology and relating it to the lives of highly capable people requires years of study.
- **Pulpit supply** from developing spiritual leaders who can grow as preachers by working with our church.
- A vision for **financial help** for college or seminary education for those preparing for pastoral ministry.



NOVEMBER GREETERS

- Nov. 5th: Ken and Kathy Mrozek
Nov. 12th: Dick and Shirley Johann
Nov. 19th: Dave and Bev Bjorklund
Nov. 26th: Stanton and Cheryl Lewis

NOVEMBER NURSERY

November 5th

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

November 12th

- 9:00 am Jamie Brauns, Deb Bonne, Sharon Rhodes, Kendra Booker
10:30 am Lee and Shannon Hickey,
Aly Behmer

November 19th

- 9:00 am Elliot and Rebekah Anderson,
Tessa Baker, Joanna Easley,
Alice Daniels
10:30 am Terrell and Terri Carby, Jane Jones

November 26th

- 9:00 am Tom and Ashley Stahl, Jeanne Baker, Amy Michalek,
Nancy Gelderloos (Rocker)
10:30 am Carl and Elizabeth Jacobson,
Stacy Jones

December 3rd

- 9:00 am Ryan Roberts, Susan Stukenberg,
Justine Loyo, Mandy Poliska,
Lana Lamer (Rocker)
10:30 am Betts Carby, Tania VanBriesen,
Vicki Boyd (Rocker)

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

SS Superintendent: Brooke Adams

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

October 2016: 104
October 2017: 86

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

October 2016: \$21.35
October 2017: \$16.30

WORSHIP SERVICE REPORT

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

August Average: 174
Labor Day Worship Service: 170
Fall Festival Worship Service: 180
9/11 and 9/18 Worship Services: 290
October: 259

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

**December Newsletter
Articles are due in the
church office by
Thursday, Nov. 29th**



If the church office does not have your email address, please email it to Jana in the office at our email address of:

cccoffice1@comcast.net

The email for address for Pastor Tim is:

timothymichalek@gmail.com

The email address for Pastor Chris is:

cdbrauns@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.



The Community Thanksgiving Eve Service will be held on Wednesday, November 22nd, at the Kishwaukee Presbyterian Church at 7:00 pm. Bring a canned good offering or monetary donation for The Bread of Life Ministry. All area pastors will be participating in the service.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Through October 31, 2017, 2017

Total Approved 2017 Budget = \$411,383

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

Budget Giving through Oct 31	\$348,128
Actual Giving through Oct 31	\$365,052
Budget Giving vs. Actual Giving	\$16,924
Actual Expenses through 10/31/17	\$304,105



There will be a bulletin insert on November 26th in the bulletin for anyone wishing to order a poinsettia. **The insert will only be in the bulletin on the 26th.** If you wish to order a poinsettia, please be sure to fill out the insert on the 26th or call the church office by December 1st. Inserts can be turned into either Bernice Kruse or the church office. The last day to order a plant will be December 1st. Plants can be placed in memory or in honor of someone special again this year.

We will need a minimum order of 10 plants for us to be able to place the order. Please be sure to get your order into Bernice Kruse or the church office by the 1st!

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

"Praise the LORD! Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!" Psalm 106:1

Sunday School and Children's Church continue to be blessed with young children and families. Thanks to all who serve in our children's ministry programs. We look forward to continuing to build on God's truths with your child and your family.

Our Sunday School Christmas program for preschool through fifth grade students will be Sunday, December 10th at both the 9:00 & 10:30 am worship services. Please plan on having your child stay for both performances.

The Kindergarten through 5th graders will practice on Saturday, December 9th from 3:00 - 4:30 pm in the sanctuary. We are collecting plastic ice cream and/or large oatmeal containers to make props for our performance. Containers may be brought to the Sunday School / AWANA office by December 2nd.

Wishing you all a wonderful Thanksgiving!
Brooke Adams, Sunday School Superintendent

DECORATING THE CHURCH



The Deaconess Board will be decorating the church on Sunday, November 26th, following the second service. Anyone that would like to help is welcome ... especially some men to do some of the climbing would be wonderful. If you have any questions, contact Deb Bonne.

Baseball, Breaking News and Body Snatchers

October is just barely in the books for AWANA. In fact, it's Halloween as I write this. Tonight, four of five in our family are ready to go as Roger, Anita, Cruella Deville and one cute dalmatian (James of course!). Oddly enough, all of my kids find it fun to spook the block and be spooked. We know why it's fun. Dressing up, getting spooked about things we know really aren't true and the promise of returning home with lots of candy is just plain fun.

At AWANA we have been focusing on similar things -- that while there is awful news for us since we start out as enemies of God, He is on an unstoppable mission to restore all things -- of utmost importance, a relationship with those He created in His image if we believe in Christ for salvation. We've acknowledged that Jesus really knows us and that when we choose to follow Him, He has us securely in His hands and that no one can snatch us from them. For Cubs fans this year our chance for another World Series was snatched. But that meant we could focus on other things or teams in the post season (hey we still got NLDS champs!).

Last week while James and I were waiting for our breakfast at a local joint, the sports ticker was interrupted with a big "Breaking News: Joe Girardi out as manager for NY Yankees." The story struck a bit close to me as Joe hails from my home town and was also a great catcher for the Cubs! For all of his accomplishments though it probably wasn't a huge surprise. Such is the way of sports teams and winning or

losing. Soon my thoughts turned elsewhere. Such is NOT the way for those restored in Christ. We are forever a child of God. Jesus has us securely in his hand. No body snatcher can change that. There will never be a ticker in heaven reading "Breaking News: [Name of Believer] out as child of God!" During the month of November, I am thankful we can share that message with over a hundred kids in our community each week through the ministry of AWANA!

John 10:28-29 ~ "I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one can snatch them out of my hand."

Darren Daniels, AWANA Commander

FROM PASTOR TIM

The activity at the Rhodes went well, even though it was pouring during the entire activity. We packed 18 boxes to the brim with goodies for our college students and military personnel. We went old-school and played Pictionary and a water-bottle number guessing game.

We are working through systematic theology in our Sunday Youth Group time. We've already studied the doctrine of God and the doctrine of people. The teens are doing a great job understanding the importance of our relationship with a Holy God.

Instead of meeting only as a Youth Group this coming week Nov 5, we're inviting the 'over-60s' to join us for a time of food, fun, and stories.

This month we also are able to help Bread of Life pack thanksgiving packages on Nov 13, which is a change from our original youth group plan.

We'll have normal Youth Group on Nov 19, 12-2, but on Nov 26, the Junior High will have a special youth Group to decorate a Christmas tree downtown.

PALLET PARTIES

We had a fun time painting pallets in October. There were 22 ladies on October 12th and 10 ladies on October 16th. Everyone's project turned out great! The snacks were yummy, too. Unfortunately, the owner of Cline's Cubby (the lady who provided the stencil and boards) has moved out of state, and we will not be able to have another party. If you have any ideas of something you would like to see us do or know of someone who is willing to travel to Stillman for a craft night, let Deb Bonne know. The deaconess board would like to organize another event in 2018, so please be sure to let us know if you have any ideas!



Family Rollerskating Party

Join us on Sunday, November 19th from 5:00 to 7:00 pm at the White Pines Roller Rink (6929 W Pines Road, across from the White Pines State Park) for a great night of fun! Clubbers and their immediate family are invited to come for FREE – includes skates! We will also be having a drawing for several certificates to use at the concessions while skating! We look forward to having many of our AWANA families come and enjoy the evening!



Daylight Saving Time ends at 2:00 am this Sunday, November 5th. Please be sure to “fall back” and turn you clocks back an hour on Saturday evening before going to bed.



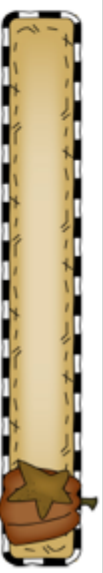
BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES



If you don't see your birthday and/or anniversary in the church newsletter, please be sure to let the church office know!! We want to include everyone!! Email or call the church office with the info (cccoffice1@comcast.net).





NOVEMBER 2017



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>COMMUNION Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Services at 9:00 & 10:30 am</p> <p>AROUND THE TABLE with Sr.'s and Teens! Noon - 2:00 pm</p>					<p>Mom's and More Bible Study 9:00 am</p>	Turn your clocks back one hour!
<p>Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Services at 9:00 & 10:30 am</p>	<p>Youth Group at Bread of Life 3:00 pm</p>	<p>Ladies Evening Bible Study 7:00 pm</p>	<p>AWANA 6:00 pm Youth Bible Study 7:00 pm</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>NO Mom's and More Bible Study Youth Group Lunch NOON</p>	
<p>Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Services at 9:00 & 10:30 am</p> <p>Youth Group - NOON</p> <p>AWANA Family Roller Skating Night 5:00 pm</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>NO Ladies Evening Bible Study Deacon Bd Meeting 6:30 pm Trustee Bd Meeting 6:30 pm</p>	<p>NO AWANA NO Youth Bible Study Community Thanksgiving Service - 7:00 pm</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>
<p>Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Services at 9:00 & 10:30 am</p> <p>Decorate the Church 11:30 am</p> <p>Jr High Tree Decoration 4:00 pm</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
	<p>20</p>	<p>Ladies Evening Bible Study 7:00 pm</p>	<p>AWANA 6:00 pm Youth Bible Study 7:00 pm</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>1-Dec</p>
<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>1-Dec</p>	<p>2-Dec</p>

HAPPY THANKSGIVING





November 3 rd	-	Sebastian Cardenas
	-	Mireya Cowan
November 5 th	-	Dave Bjorklund
November 6 th	-	Amy Michalek
	-	Nathaniel Houston
	-	Aubrey Janoski
November 8 th	-	Berniece Martindale
	-	Nina Whetsel
November 9 th	-	Connie Blake
November 11 th	-	Richard Johann
November 13 th	-	Dale Friedrich
November 15 th	-	Ron Ippen
	-	Jenna Hale
	-	Jacob Rhodes
November 16 th	-	Shannon Ross
November 17 th	-	Kinsey Lauer
	-	Marlene Miller
November 21 st	-	Victoria Horton
November 25 th	-	Jaxen Coester
November 27 th	-	Millie McCoy
November 28 th	-	Shawn Clinton
November 29 th	-	Mike Ennenbach
November 30 th	-	Nicholas Beitel



NOVEMBER 2017 AWANA SCHEDULE

Wednesday, November 1st: It is “M & M Night” (Missionary Night) at club on the 1st. We will view our second video update from the Hooks, who are with Mission Aviation Fellowship. Clubbers should bring in change or dollars in their M & M Bank and will receive a package of plain M & M’s in return. If your clubber does not have a bank, please pick one up in the AWANA office downstairs.

Wednesday, November 8th: Tonight is “Jelly Bean / Color Night” at club. AWANA leaders will be letting clubbers know on the 1st what color they should wear to club tonight. Wear the color your leader asked you to wear and receive some jelly beans and an AWANA dollar for each section you pass on the 8th! Start saving your AWANA dollars for our upcoming store!

Wednesday, November 15th: Tonight is “Career and Food Pantry Night” at club. Clubbers are asked to bring in pantry items to be donated to the Bread of Life Food Pantry and will earn an AWANA \$1. Also earn AWANA \$\$ by coming to club dressed what you would like to be. Check your emails and announcements for items the BOL Food Pantry is in need of.

Wednesday, November 22nd: No AWANA’s on the 22nd. Join us at the Community Thanksgiving Eve Service at 7:00 pm at the Kishwaukee Evangelical Presbyterian Church.

Wednesday, November 29th: Tonight is “Crazy Hair Night”! Come to club on the 29th with your hair as crazy as you can make it! Get ready for some exciting devotions from our AWANA Commander, Darren Daniels tonight!

CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH
PO Box 370
Stillman Valley, IL 61084

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**** RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED ****

