

BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL GREAT BANQUET COMMUNITY NEWS



February 2012
B/N Great Banquet Community
P.O. Box 707
Bloomington, IL 61702-0707
www.bngreatbanquet.org



"...Come, for all is now ready."

Luke 14:17

2012

The dawn of our Community's....



On page 2, read Community Lay Director Shelly Hanover's introduction to *Awakening*, a spiritual experience for teenagers



A MESSAGE FROM OUR COMMUNITY LAY DIRECTOR...*Shelly Hanover*

In February the Bloomington-Normal Great Banquet Board voted unanimously to begin hosting Awakening weekends as part of our community's menu of ministry. Awakening is similar to Great Banquet, however, designed for high school youth (sophomores—seniors) with talks and experiences geared to this age group.

Awakening weekends will be facilitated through the Great Banquet Board. We are one community and want each of our ministry opportunities (East Bay, Prison, Awakening) treated equally with one another for community support and leadership. We will be expanding the Great Banquet Board with a few more members to share the additional work load new weekends will bring.

The Lay Directors for the first weekends will be experienced, past Lay Directors. These folks have been prayerfully selected by the board and given the task to be strategic in building teams to ensure the future success of Awakening. Our first Awakening weekends will intentionally have many "familiar faces". We want to start off with a core group that can hit the ground running and mentor future leaders. Team selection will begin late spring/early summer.

We need your presence and support. Our community will be hosting 8 weekends a year. That's a lot of ministry! And, that's a lot of agape to make, tables to set-up, snacks to eat, candles to light, meals to serve ... you get the picture. So, in addition to financial support, we need your time and physical support. When the call comes to serve or assist – please say "yes". The community support is just as important team support – you are being the body of Christ in action.

We are not taking this venture lightly. God is giving us an opportunity to make an eternal impact in young people's lives. What a humbling thought. As more details fall into place we will keep you informed, until then, please keep our entire community in your thoughts and prayers.

Awakening Dates:

Girls #1 November 16-18, 2012 East Bay Camp
Guys # 2 March 1-3, 2013 East Bay Camp

MEN'S GREAT BANQUET #98 MARCH 15-18, 2012

Leadership

Lay Director Al Behrens (*Staying Power*)
Asst. Lay Directors Ron Kennedy
Randy Harmon

Spiritual Director Phil Rodrick (*Sacramental Grace*)

Asst. Spiritual Directors Mark Terven (*Our Response to Grace*)
Lori Bultemeier (*A Life of Grace*)
Kevin Gordon (*God's Gift of Grace*)
George Wells (*Obstacles to Grace*)

Musicians Greg Reichert, Mark Koester, asst.

Frontlines

Speakers Rob Cranston (*Discovering Priorities*)
Kevin Cook (*The Body of Christ*)
Bob Bills (*The Truth Through Study*)
Jerry Adams (*Establishing Priorities*)
Brian Finch (*The Way of Relationship*)
Tim Nave (*Disciples*)
Dave Theile (*The Life of Christian Action*)
Cory Steers (*Ministry of All Believers*)
Rick Bauersfeld (*Changing Our Environment*)

Table Leaders Todd Calhoun, Dana Starkey, Marc Toulon,
Terry DeHaan, Josh Wheeler

Support

Reminder: Updated team lists are

Agape Chapel Leader Bruce Tucker
Chapel Assistants Bill Ray, Mike Fletcher, Dave Mitchell, Alan DeCrane

Board Advisor: Nick O'Neall

Dedication Service
Men's Great Banquet #98
Sunday, March 11th—6:00 p.m.
Calvary United Methodist Church
Normal, IL

Our thoughts and prayers are with the following in our community who have lost loved ones:

The family of Bob Kinkade, Jim Swearingen who lost his mother and father, Shirley Ryan who lost her sister Bev Jenkins, Carla Smith on the death of her husband Sherwood.

**WOMEN'S GREAT BANQUET #99
MARCH 29-APRIL 1, 2012**

Leadership

Lay Director Karen Reginelli (*Staying Power*)
Asst. Lay Directors CeAnn Kreun
 Doretta Irwin

Spiritual Director Becca Brunner (*Sacramental Grace*)

Asst. Spiritual Directors Amanda Richards (*Our Response to Grace*)
 Kathleen Thornton (*A Life of Grace*)
 Carol Smithson (*Obstacles to Grace*)
 Marty Thornton (*God's Gift of Grace*)

Musician Phil Reginelli

Frontlines

Speakers Connie Crill (*Discovering Priorities*)
 Marilee Alvey (*The Body of Christ*)
 Amanda Cryer (*The Truth Through Study*)
 Jane Haab (*The Way of Relationship*)
 Paula Mitchell (*Disciples*)
 Carolyn Jiles (*The Life of Christian Action*)
 Beth Fletcher (*Ministry of All Believers*)
 Jill McNiff (*Changing Our Environment*)
 Estelle Brown (*Establishing Priorities*)

Table Leaders Ashley Carlson, Cally Shane, Sybil Nash,
 Tammy Tucker, Joanne Gordon, Heather Reginelli

Support

Agape Chapel Leader Dianne Lehner
Chapel Assistants Amanda Bender, Diane Hinthorne, Kim Toulon, Carol Tompkins

Board Advisor: Shelly Hanover

**Dedication Service
 Women's Great Banquet #95
 Sunday, March 27th—6:00 p.m.
 Calvary United Methodist Church
 Normal, IL**

A guide to a weekend at "The Lake..."

Thursday

7:00 pm Registration
 8:00 pm Send Off/Sponsor's Hour

Friday

7:30 am *Meal Servers Arrive*
 8:00 am Breakfast (no agape, please)
 9:15 am Talk: Discovering Priorities
 11:15 am Talk: God's Gift of Grace
 Noon *Meal Servers Arrive*
 12:30 pm Lunch (no agape, please)
 1:45 pm Talk: Ministry of All Believers
 3:00 pm Talk: Our Response to God's Grace
 5:00 pm *Meal Servers Arrive*
 5:30 pm Dinner
 6:30 pm Talk: The Way of Relationship

Saturday

7:30 am *Meal Servers Arrive*
 8:00 am Breakfast
 8:45 am Talk: Truth Through Study
 10:15 am Talk: Sacramental Grace
 Noon *Meal Servers Arrive*
 12:30 pm Lunch
 3:00 pm Talk: The Life of Christian Action
 4:30 pm Talk: Obstacles to Grace
 5:00 pm *Meal Servers Arrive*
 5:30 pm Dinner
 7:00 pm Talk: Disciples
 7:15 pm *Arrive for Gut Bucket at Dining Hall*
 7:45 pm *Gut Bucket rehearsal at Dining Hall*
 8:30 pm Candlelight Worship
 10:00 pm Candlelight

Sunday

7:30 am *Meal Servers Arrive*
 8:00 am Breakfast
 8:50 am Talk: Changing Our Environment
 10:00 am Talk: A Life of Grace
 11:00 am Talk: Body of Christ
 11:30 am *Meal Servers Arrive*
 Noon Lunch
 1:30 pm Talk: Staying Power
 2:30 pm Talk: Establishing Priorities
 5:00 pm *Closing*

Information available at bngreatbanquet.org

FOURTH DAY MEETING
 Thursday, April 5th — 7:00 p.m.
 Resurrection Lutheran Church
 Bloomington

Logan Great Banquet #47 April 27-29, 2011

Leadership

Lay Director: Joe Kreiter (*Staying Power*)

Assistant Lay Directors:
Don Ammerman, Keith Blankenship

Spiritual Director:
Mel Devall (*Sacramental Grace*)

Assistant Spiritual Directors:
John Brown (*Our Response to Grace*)
Phil McCoy (*A Life of Grace*)
Pete Johns (*God's Gift of Grace*)
Steve Barrow (*Obstacles to Grace*)

Musicians: Glenn Dicken, Mike Casali

Frontlines

Speakers: Paul Crownhart (*The Body of Christ*)
Tim Knecht (*The Truth Through Study*)
Victor Palomino (*Discovering Priorities*)
Jim Smith (*Establishing Priorities*)
Wayne Gierman (*The Way of Relationship*)
Rick Lohnes (*Disciples*)
Jack Weller (*Life of Christian Action*)
Dave McMorris (*Ministry of All Believers*)
Scott Riddle (*Changing Our Environment*)

Table Leaders: Jeff Hinthorne, Ricardo Baez, Terry Tosh, Keith Taylor, Tom Payne, Steve Sigler, Alan Bruehl, Aaron Shane, Alan DeCrane, Dewey Drollinger, Durand Dressel, Jim Gonsalves,

Support

Agape Chapel Head:
Dean Buhrke

Chapel Assistants:
Dale Layten, Jim VanCawenberg, Jeff Able, Brad Hayes, Lucas Bauer, Dana Childress, Darwin Richmond

Board Advisor: Harry Jiles

Ways to be involved Your support makes our weekends successful.

Here are ways you can be the hands and feet of Christ!

- **72 hour prayer Vigil**

The backbone of the weekend, pray for our guests lives to be touched by the Holy Spirit! Contact Jill McNiff 309-824-2759 or jill@ccrrn.com to sign up for a time slot.

- **Set-up/Clean Up**

Starts at 4:30 on the Wednesday before the weekend. Clean up begins at 4:00 on Sunday. Contact Randy Harmon at 309-452-1533 or Nick O'Neill at 309-724-8817.

**** Both Randy & Nick are on the Spring Men's Team – additional clean-up help is needed.**

- **Meal Servers**

Community members are needed to serve our guests! Contact Lynn Fletcher at 309-838-4602

- **Agape letters**

There is nothing better than receiving a personal handwritten letter. General conference room letters are needed too!

- **Gut Bucket Band**

7:30 PM, Saturday. Bring a costume, wear a funny hat and sing a song, to provide "entertainment" Saturday night. Gut Bucket participants should arrive at 7:30 for "practice" you will "perform" around 8:00 PM.

- **Candlelight Worship**

8:30 PM, Saturday. Meet Saturday at 8:30 pm in the Dining Hall for prayer, singing, a message, communion, and fellowship. Contact Bruce Tompkins at 309-725-3363 or Gina Dew at 309-378-3407 to help with setting up chairs and luminaries or passing out and collecting the flash-light candles.

- **Closing**

5:00 PM, Sunday. Hear and see how God has changed lives in 72 hours! Stay afterwards and help with clean-up.

- **Banners**

We are in need of new banners to share on the weekends.

- **Sponsorship**

It is a true joy to share a weekend with someone else. Look for the application online or contact Rob Wall, Community Registrar, at 309-663-7630 for more information.

- **Financially**

It has always been the spirit of our community that money is never an obstacle for someone who wishes to attend. A pair of weekends at East Bay Camp costs the community about \$15,000. So if you can help financially, please send your tax deductible contribution to: B/N Great Banquet, PO Box 707, Bloomington, IL 61702-0707. Use PayPal! Info at www.bngreatbanquet.org

Or by Paypal www.bngreatbanquet.org

OPENING:

Newsletter Editor



Our community is searching for a new board member to edit our quarterly newsletter. In order to

serve on the board, team service on three weekends is required. Board meetings are typically held the first Saturday of each month at 7 A.M. Basic computer and communication skills and the ability to meet deadlines are all you need. If you feel led to serve God and your Great Banquet community, contact Lay Director Shelly Hanover at 309-826-6336!



“...Come, for all is now ready.”

Luke 14:17

How the Community can be involved in the Logan Prison Great Banquet:

Agape & letters of encouragement—All agape must be paper only. Letters, or drawings, from children are wonderful. Letters of encouragement should be addressed to “Brother in Christ”, signed “Brother in Christ” or “Sister in Christ” and envelopes can’t be sealed. Some of the men we will meet never get letters. These small acts of agape are very warmly received and really do touch hearts.

Donations for food—We take groceries into Logan, where the culinary school will prepare snacks and 2 meals for the residents. With state budget constraints, these food items are a real gift of love. We will spend approximately \$800 on groceries and any donations for them are greatly appreciated.

Candlelight & Closing— Some inmates don’t get visitors, even from family. The feeling of joy & fulfillment you get when you take a residents hand, look into his eyes and tell him that God—and you—love him is unlike any other and must be experienced to be understood! ***Entry into Logan does require clearance.*** We encourage all of our community to apply for clearance, even if you are not sure you can attend. **There is a deadline for clearance and if you apply, you are not obligated to go in, but if you apply too late, you will NOT be admitted.** If you have any reservations about entering prison, please speak to any of our community who has entered so they might help reassure you. During our weekends at Logan, we have never had a bad experience with someone entering for Candlelight or Closing.

You can call or email Harry Jiles with your information, or any questions BY MARCH 8!

Phone—309-830-2642

email – sabinahj@hughes.net

Please provide your full name, birth date, Social Security # and email address

(this is so you can be informed of your clearance status and the times for Candlelight & Closing when they are set. Email addresses aren’t given to the DOC)

Please do not assume you have clearance from previous events, even if you have a permanent badge. The list of community entering on these dates must be submitted, and approved, before the weekend. Once again, being on the list is not an obligation to attend

Matt 34 "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. 35 For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, 36 I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.' 37 "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? 38 When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? 39 When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' 40 "The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.'

Inside ...

- ◆ AWAKENING!!
- ◆ Spring teams
- ◆ Logan clearance info
- ◆ WANTED: Newsletter editor

Your Great Banquet Board of Directors

| | |
|---|----------|
| Shelly Hanover (Community Lay Dir.) | 826-6336 |
| CeAnn Kreun (Gatherings) | 830-3016 |
| Mel Devall (Ass't Com. Spirit. Director) | 453-1571 |
| Karen Reginelli (Agape Correspondence) | 830-4507 |
| <i>**vacant**</i> (Newsletter) | _____ |
| Marty Thornton (Team selection) | 662-4600 |
| Marrita Taylor (Lincoln Liaison) | 962-9783 |
| Karla Lohnes (Community Musician) | 830-7394 |
| Donna Able (Supplies) | 242-7792 |
| Gina Dew (Weekend Events) | 378-3407 |
| Bruce Tompkins (Weekend Events) | 663-8189 |
| John Plattner (Treasurer) | 828-1684 |
| Kevin Daugherty (4th Day/Reunion Grps) | 962-3529 |
| Randy Harmon (Wknd Set Up/Clean Up) | 452-1533 |
| Nick O'Neall (Wknd Set Up/Clean Up) | 724-8817 |
| Harry Jiles (Logan Liaison) | 962-3391 |
| Jill McNiff (Prayer Vigil/Special Projects/Sec'y) | 824-2759 |
| Rob Wall (Registrar) | 663-7630 |
| Lori Bultemeier (Com. Spiritual Director) | 830-3078 |
| Darren Plattner (Community Database) | 726-1574 |
| Rich Irwin (Website) | 662-5896 |

Important Calendar Dates...

2012 Dates

Men's Great Banquet #98: Mar. 15-18 — East Bay Camp
Team Dedication: Sunday, March 11 — 6:00 p.m.
Calvary United Methodist Church

Women's Great Banquet #99: Mar. 29-Apr. 1 — East Bay
Team Dedication: Sunday, Mar. 25th — 6:00 p.m.
Calvary United Methodist Church

Fourth Day Meeting: Thursday, Apr. 5th — 7:00 p.m.
Resurrection Lutheran Church

Logan Correctional Center GB #47: Apr. 27-29
Team Dedication: Sunday, Apr. 22 — 6:00 p.m.
Calvary United Methodist Church

Important Fall Dates

August — Brown's Picnic

September 13-16 — Men's Banquet # 100

September 27-30 — Women's Banquet # 101

October 12-14 — Women's Lincoln Banquet #13

November 16-18—Girl's Awakening #1