

## BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL GREAT BANQUET COMMUNITY NEWS



August 2012  
B/N Great Banquet Community  
P.O. Box 707  
Bloomington, IL 61702-0707  
[www.bngreatbanquet.org](http://www.bngreatbanquet.org)



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

*Luke 14:17*

### Join us for an *unforgettable* Brown's Picnic on August 25

Join us for a celebration on August 25 at the home of Norman and Carolyn Brown (just east of the intersection of Towanda Avenue and Shelbourne Drive in Normal, Illinois) as we mark the milestone of **100 weekends**. Past Lay Directors are encouraged to bring leadership vests, aprons or hats. Please bring any weekend team photos you may have from East Bay, Logan, or Lincoln — we would love to have photos from every weekend! Fellowship begins at 5:00 p.m., dinner begins at 6:15 p.m., and a special event to celebrate our 100th weekend begins at 7:30 p.m. Bring a dish or two to pass and your own table service. Drinks will be provided. You don't want to miss it!

# 100th Weekend

**The men's upcoming fall weekend will be Bloomington-Normal's 100th weekend!**

Look inside for 100 Reasons to Love Great Banquet

Welcome Spring Guests  
Banquets 98 & 99

Dave Bollivar  
Brian Boyer  
Darren Brant  
James Burns  
Josh Giroux  
Rob Jorgensen  
Eric Juricka  
Bob Lovell  
Daniel Megli  
Roger Payne  
Leif Roll  
Joann Barnes  
Johanna Barnes  
Julie Baughman  
Joanne Carnahan  
Amber Christensen  
Fonda Dean  
Cindy DeHaan  
Mary Lou Farnsworth  
Brianna Gatto  
Megan Giroux  
Terri Helregel  
Katie Henderson  
Doris Idle  
Bonnie Leisner  
Jamie McCloud  
Shelia Meiner  
Becky Mentzer  
Sharon Mink  
Patricia Ostaszewski  
Carol Palomino  
Randy Payne  
Laura Pritts  
Brooke Reatherford  
Chris Shaffer  
Tena Shane  
Sandi Sieg  
Rachel Sluder  
Paige Swartz  
Deb Thoms  
Sam Travers  
Laura Walker  
Lisa Wetzel  
Tori Wilson

**MEN'S GREAT BANQUET #100**  
**SEPTEMBER 13-16, 2012**

**Leadership**

**Lay Director** Paul Crownheart (*Staying Power*)  
**Asst. Lay Directors** Mike Beal  
Rich Irwin

**Spiritual Director** Dan Jassman (*Sacramental Grace*)

**Asst. Spiritual Directors** Don Crittenden (*God's Gift of Grace*)  
Ken Summers (*Response to Grace*)  
Jack Moody (*Obstacles to Grace*)  
Joe Culpepper (*A Life of Grace*)

**Musicians** Mike Casali

**Frontlines**

**Speakers** Ricardo Baez (*Discovering Priorities*)  
Steve Bowman (*Ministry of All Believers*)  
Bruce Tompkins (*The Way of Relationship*)  
Jim Gonsalves (*Truth Through Study*)  
Todd Calhoun (*Life of Christian Action*)  
Don Ammerman (*Disciples*)  
Mark Overfelt (*Changing Our Environment*)  
Marlon Huls (*Body of Christ*)  
Dave Lowe (*Establishing Priorities*)

**Table Leaders** Lucas Bauer, David Kaeb, Don Ray,  
Doug Schwalm, Steven Sigler, Greg Webb

**Reminder: Updated team lists are**

**Support**

**Agape Chapel Leader** Jeff Able  
**Chapel Assistants** Greg Grey, PJ Learn,  
Rod Smithson, Terry Tosh  
**Board Advisor:** Randy Harmon

**NOTE-NEW LOCATION:**  
**Dedication Service**  
**Men's Great Banquet #100**  
**Sunday, September 9th—6:00 p.m.**  
**First Presbyterian Church**  
**College Ave at Hershey Rd, Normal**



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

*Luke 14:17*

**WOMEN'S GREAT BANQUET #101  
SEPTEMBER 27-30, 2012**

**Leadership**

**Lay Director** Heather Plattner (*Staying Power*)  
**Asst. Lay Directors** Susan Hoss  
 Carolyn Jiles

**Spiritual Director** Amanda Richards (*Sacramental Grace*)

**Asst. Spiritual Directors** TBA (*God's Gift of Grace*)  
 Kelly Becker (*Our Response to Grace*)  
 Grant Armstrong (*Obstacles to Grace*)  
 Anet Satvedi (*A Life of Grace*)

**Musician** Denise & Jeff Pitzer

**Frontlines**

**Speakers** Erin Steers (*Discovering Priorities*)  
 Janae Bledsoe (*Ministry of All Believers*)  
 TBA (*The Way of Relationship*)  
 Sherry Morgan (*Truth Through Study*)  
 Cheryl Chrisman (*Life of Christian Action*)  
 Susan Jiles (*Disciples*)  
 Barb Bills (*Changing Our Environment*)  
 Kathy Neil (*Body of Christ*)  
 Crystal Ward (*Establishing Priorities*)

**Table Leaders** Terri Helregel, Cory Telo, Sharon Mink  
 Teri Bissell, Tarry Plattner

**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*

**Available at [bngreatbanquet.org](http://bngreatbanquet.org)**

**Support**

**Agape Chapel Leader** Karna Croft  
 Debby Paullin  
**Chapel Assistants** Sheila Meiner  
 Rebecca Pentecost  
**Board Advisor** Karla Lohnes

**NOTE-NEW LOCATION:  
Dedication Service  
Women's Great Banquet #101  
Sunday, September 23rd—6:00 p.m.  
First Presbyterian Church  
College Ave & Hershey Rd, Normal**

**FOURTH DAY MEETING**

Thursday, October 4th — 7:00 p.m.  
 Resurrection Lutheran Church  
 Bloomington

# Lincoln C.C. Great Banquet #13 October 12-14, 2012

## Leadership

**Lay Director** Karen Layten (*Staying Power*)

### **Assistant Lay Directors**

Jennifer Wilson  
Kim Williamson

### **Spiritual Director**

Mel Devall (*Sacramental Grace*)

### **Assistant Spiritual Directors**

Scott Riddle (*God's Gift of Grace*)  
Sheila Wells (*Our Response to Grace*)  
Kevin Gordon (*Obstacles to Grace*)  
TBA (*A Life of Grace*)

### **Musicians**

Diane & Dave Sigler

## Frontlines

### **Speakers**

Jean Johnson (*Discovering Priorities*)  
Lisa Gordon (*Ministry of All Believers*)  
Sybil Nash (*The Way of Relationship*)  
Gail Sigler (*Truth Through Study*)  
Peg Gentes (*Life of Christian Action*)  
Jan Runner (*Disciples*)  
Jane Frieden (*Changing Our Environment*)  
Donna Bowman (*Body of Christ*)  
Bobbi Overfelt (*Establishing Priorities*)

### **Table Leaders**

Sharon Heger, Cara McMorris,  
Judy Summers, Kathy Knecht,  
Julia Baier, Poonam McAllister,  
Terri Drollinger, Ellen Reeves

## Support

### **Agape Chapel Leader**

Peggy Kennedy

### **Chapel Assistants**

Linda Walker, Bert Cochran,  
Monica Terven, Vicki Stogsdill

### **Board Advisor**

Donna Able

**NOTE-NEW LOCATION:  
Dedication Service  
Sunday, October 7—6:00 p.m.  
First Presbyterian Church  
College Ave at Hershey Rd, Normal**

Allergies, intolerance and stuff like that...

It was brought to the attention of the board that many people are gluten intolerant. We will be making an effort to provide gluten free communion for those who need it. When providing those yummy snacks for the weekend, please also consider those guests/team members who may be intolerant.

## **\*Singers\*Musicians\***

- \*Do you like to sing?
- \*Do you play guitar or keyboard?
- \*Do you have a desire to serve your Lord using your music gifts?

Contact Karla Lohnes at [karlallohnes@yahoo.com](mailto:karlallohnes@yahoo.com) or 309-838-7394. She would love to discuss the possibilities with you AND share information concerning access to a new program call "Song Select"

## **Ways to be involved 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](mailto: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 309-452-1533 or Nick O'Neall 309-724-8817.

### • **Meal Servers**

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

### • **Agape letters and Banners**

There is nothing better than receiving a personal handwritten letter. General conference room letters along with banners are needed to share on the weekends, 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 309-725-3363 or Gina Dew 309-378-3407 to help.

### • **Closing**

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

### • **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. 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](http://www.bngreatbanquet.org)



*“...Come, for all is now ready.”*

*Luke 14:17*

**A word from Assistant Community Spiritual Director  
Dan Jassman**

“This is what the Lord says—he who made a way through the sea, a path through the mighty waters, who drew out chariots and horses, the army and reinforcements together, and they lay there, never to rise again, extinguished, snuffed out like a wick: ‘Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland’ (Isaiah 43:16-19, NIV).

This passage fascinates me. God says, ‘Look what I did’ only to turn around and say ‘forget it.’ Is God being fickle or playing tricks with our minds? Or perhaps is God simply telling us to remember the past, but not get stuck there?

When my family was called to start a new church here in Bloomington called Network I had some misgivings. I did not doubt God, but whether or not God would use someone like me for this undertaking. Some days I was excited, other days frustrated and discouraged. Had I misunderstood the call?

I remember one day God brought to mind an incident from our past. The transmission on the van went out on the way home from a mission trip at 9 p.m. on a Friday night. My first thought was, ‘We are stuck until at least Monday.’ As it turns out within 30-60 minutes we had a mechanic who went to work right away, a place to stay the night (for free!), chauffer service around town the next day, and the mechanic brought our van back to us Saturday night around midnight so we could get back on the road, only charging us \$1000 and having worked through the night Friday and all day Saturday. We have told of how God provided numerous times.

Then it hit me. I don’t want my faith to be limited to the past, only fed by it. The same could be said of the Emmaus/Great Banquet community. We are coming up on our 100<sup>th</sup> weekend. God has worked in some marvelous and awesome ways and we enjoy looking back and telling the stories, but are we continuing to trust God with the present and future? Changes lay ahead. Such is life. But when they come we are always confronted with whether or not we will cling to what has been or trust God to take us some place new.

Remember, but not to recreate; remember to feed your faith and build your trust in a God who continues to do “a new thing.”

## Lincoln Correctional Center Banquet # 13

*The Women's Lincoln Correctional Center Banquet will be held October 12-14*

- ◆ Now is the time to get clearance so you will be able to attend the apostolic hour and candlelight on Saturday evening and/or the closing on Sunday evening.
- ◆ Clearance Information—Due by August 18th
- ◆ Your presence at candlelight and closing is so meaningful to the ladies at Lincoln
  - ◆ Everyone who attends from the Community is blessed two-fold!
  - ◆ To gain clearance and support the weekend contact Karen Layten  
309-261-3556, [karen@crossroadschapel.com](mailto:karen@crossroadschapel.com)

# 100 Reasons to Love Great Banquet in no particular order...

15 Talks  
Music—the 16th Talk!  
East Bay Camp  
No phones, watches, TV for 72 hours  
Wanda  
Candlelight  
Pizza, Pizza, Pizza  
The Kingdom gets bigger!  
Everyone needs a dying moment or two...or three  
New friends-people you would have never met  
Unity among many different denominations  
Extending the invitation to meet Jesus wherever a guest  
may be on their journey  
Christian Community  
Watching others come to a deeper understanding of Christ  
Serving together  
Gut bucket  
Chapel after Candlelight  
Guests speaking at Closing  
A glimpse of heaven at Candlelight  
New best friends  
Earplugs for agape  
Looking forward to pillow agape  
Karen Layten's Potato Soup at Gatherings  
Snack Table  
Book Table  
Crinkle of camp mattresses  
Feeling the power of prayer  
Returning home renewed and confident about our place in  
God's Kingdom  
Sharing time with folks who are genuine  
Experiencing true escape from the world  
Randy Harmon's chocolate covered strawberries  
The opportunity to find my own faith  
The opportunity to learn from other Christians  
The opportunity to laugh and cry at the same time  
Using more Kleenex in one weekend than in a year  
Opening my eyes for the first time to really know that God  
loves someone like me!  
Being with people who love Jesus as much as I do!  
Brown's Picnic  
Ralph Smith's homemade salsa  
Feeling and seeing the Holy Spirit at work!  
CeAnn Kruen's chocolate chip cookies  
The walk from Pilchard to Candlelight  
The Holy Spirit!  
Outpouring of love from the community  
Amazing Agape!  
Fellowship with other Christians  
Great Food  
Agape Chapel tours  
Waking up early to get a warm shower  
The creativity and entertainment of the Poster Party  
Spiritual Growth  
Teaching and singing De Colores  
Poster Parties  
Interpretive Dance  
East Bay in the Spring...and in the Fall!  
The diversity of Great Banquet  
The acceptance of Great Banquet  
The persistence of the community  
Watching others read their letters  
New guy guests showing up for Women's Candlelight  
Children's message at Dedication  
72 Hour Prayer Vigil  
Serving a meal  
Lisa Anderson's cinnamon rolls  
Our Prison Ministry  
Serving on a team  
Serving on a team in prison  
Being served  
Attending a prison closing  
Being dedicated as a team  
Flashlight games  
Attending a prison Candlelight  
Focusing on Jesus  
Bunk Bumping  
Network of true Christian brothers and sisters  
Great overview of True Christianity  
A time to be 'still' and hear God's voice  
A non-threatening way to know Jesus as Savior  
A chance to make Jesus known to others  
Propane torches  
72 hours of eating interrupted by 15 talks  
Praying for your guests at Sponsor's Hour  
Spending time with God in a new and real way  
Praying together as a table in the Agape Chapel  
Quiet Understanding singing "Touch of the Master's Hand"  
The view of the lake  
Beginning in silence  
Not cooking or doing dishes for three days  
Tangible presence of the Holy Spirit  
Gutbucket Costumes!  
Leftover pizza on Sunday morning! (Have you seen leftover  
pizza??)  
Hearing testimonies through talks  
The lake in the morning  
New perspectives  
Bonding with team members at Team Meetings  
Eyes, ears, and hearts newly opened to Jesus  
The awakening of the Holy Spirit in guests' lives  
Sponsoring new guests into our community  
The anticipated Board Advisor's report at Apostolic Hour  
Praying for the team/guests by name at Apostolic hour  
AND #101—JESUS!

## JOURNEY TO THE HOLY LAND IS SCHEDULED FOR 2013

The B-N Great Banquet Community and Calvary United Methodist Church have teamed up to plan a journey to the Holy Land next year. The 10-day trip to Israel will depart Wednesday, October 30, 2013 and return Friday, November 8. A 5-day post tour extension to Jordan is also available.

The trip is open to all persons (and their families/friends) who have participated in the Great Banquet or Walk to Emmaus programs, as well as members/friends of Calvary.

A travel informational meeting for anyone interested in the trip will be held at Calvary UMC at 6:30 p.m. on **Thursday, August 23, 2012**, Room 111. Representatives from Collette Vacations and Suzi Davis Travel will present a PowerPoint presentation with details of the trip; a Q & A session will follow.

Printed brochures are available in the literature rack at Calvary UMC.

Further information is available by contacting Terry Pitzer ([TerryPitzer@mac.com](mailto:TerryPitzer@mac.com) or 309 725 3363) or Larry Phillips ([LJPhillips@Frontier.com](mailto:LJPhillips@Frontier.com) or 309 662 4757).

### Are you interested in serving on a GB Team?

- \* Do you primarily use your cell phone?
- \* Did you do away with your land line?
- \* Do you wonder why you never get called to be on a team?
- \* Please take a moment to update your cell number by emailing Darren Plattner at [gd7995@gmail.com](mailto:gd7995@gmail.com)
- \* Have you moved? Address changes are also welcome!

We will NOT post your number on the web site.

Any questions?

Contact Marty Thornton, Team Selection, 662-4600



### Opportunities to Serve When You Don't Have Time to Serve!

Have you been looking for ways to serve the Great Banquet Community, but don't have the time to be on a team? Well, we have an opportunity for you! We are looking for community members who can help get supplies ready prior to the weekend and put them back in the closet at the close of the weekend. A step-by-step outline will be supplied so don't worry about not knowing what to do. Grab a friend and sign up now to help with our next Banquet weekend!! To sign up, contact Donna Able at [donnable323@gmail.net](mailto:donnable323@gmail.net) or call (309) 242-7792. Ever wonder where all that *stuff* came from on your Great Banquet weekend? We also have many opportunities to donate for the upcoming weekends and almost everything is an item or two you can slip on your grocery list. The load will be light if we all contribute!

Contact Donna Able for a list of items @ (309) 242-7792 or [donnable323@gmail.net](mailto:donnable323@gmail.net)



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**P.O. BOX 707**  
**BLOOMINGTON, IL 61702-0707**

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
BLOOMINGTON, IL  
61701  
PERMIT #415

### Inside ...

- ◆ 100 Reasons...
- ◆ Fall teams...
- ◆ Brown's Picnic...

### Your Great Banquet Board of Directors

Shelly Hanover (Community Lay Director)	826-6336
Amanda Richards (Comm Spiritual Director)	262-9004
Dan Jassman (Asst Comm Spiritual Director)	807-0046
Mel Devall (Asst Comm Spiritual Director)	453-1571
Bruce Tompkins (Weekend Events)	663-8189
CeAnn Kreun (Gatherings)	830-3016
Donna Able (Supplies)	242-7792
Gina Dew (Weekend Events)	378-3407
Harry Jiles (Logan Liaison)	962-3391
Jill McNiff (Prayer Vigil/Secretary)	824-2759
John Plattner (Treasurer)	828-1684
Karen Layten (Lincoln Liaison)	261-3556
Karen Reginelli (Agape)	830-4507
Karla Lohnes (Community Musician)	830-7394
Kevin Daugherty (4th Day/Reunion Groups)	962-3529
Marrita Taylor (Special Projects)	962-9783
Marty Thornton (Team selection)	662-4600
Phyl Reichert (Newsletter)	532-3697
Nick O'Neill (Wknd Set Up/Clean Up)	724-8817
Randy Harmon (Wknd Set Up/Clean Up)	452-1533
Rob Wall (Registrar)	663-7630
Darren Plattner (Community Database)	726-1574
Rich Irwin (Website)	662-5896

### Important Calendar Dates...

#### *This Fall...*

**Annual Picnic:** Sat. Aug 25-5:00 p.m., Brown's Farm, Towanda at Shelbourne, Normal, IL

**Men's Great Banquet #100:** Sep 13-16-East Bay Camp  
Team Dedication: Sunday, Sep 9-6:00 p.m.  
First Presbyterian, College & Hershey Rd

**Women's Great Banquet #101:** Sep 27-30-East Bay  
Team Dedication: Sunday, Sep 23-6:00 p.m.  
First Presbyterian, College & Hershey Rd

**Fourth Day Meeting:** Thursday, Oct 4-7:00 p.m.  
Resurrection Lutheran Church

**Lincoln Correctional Center GB #13:** Oct 12-14  
Team Dedication: Sunday, Oct 7-6:00 p.m.  
First Presbyterian, College & Hershey Rd

**BN Girl's Awakening #1:** Nov 16-18  
Team Dedication: Sunday, Nov 11-6:00 p.m.  
First Presbyterian, College & Hershey Rd

#### *Early 2013...*

Mar 1-3- Boys Awakening #2

Mar 21-24-Men's GB #102, East Bay Camp

Apr 4-7-Women's GB #103, East Bay Camp