

BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL GREAT BANQUET & AWAKENING COMMUNITY NEWS



May 2013
B/N Great Banquet & Awakening Community
P.O. Box 707
Bloomington, IL 61702-0707
www.bngreatbanquet.org



Urgent Deadline—Friday, May 31, 2013, 5 p.m. ***Lincoln Correctional Center #48***

Men's Great Banquet #48 will be taking place at Lincoln Correctional Center, Lincoln, IL, July 12-14, 2013!

Clearance is required for the Community to support the team at Candlelight and Closing. If you are 18 years of age or older, please request your clearance by **5 PM on Friday, May 31, 2013**, by providing your full legal name, full date of birth, and social security number to Harry Jiles by calling him at **309-830-2642**. DO NOT email this information!

You will not be able to attend the Candlelight/Closing at Lincoln without clearance. Obtaining clearance does not require you to attend both Candlelight and Closing; however, your support of our guests and team at either or both of these events is greatly appreciated.

Team Dedication will be at First Presbyterian Church, in Normal, Sunday, July 7, 2013 at 6 PM.

Ways you can help:

- 1) Write a Letter of Encouragement to: "Dear Brother in Christ" – bring to the Dedication on July 7. Do not sign your name, rather sign "Your Brother/Sister in Christ" and place the letter in a plain envelope, No names on the outside – only an "S" with a circle around it in the upper right corner, DO NOT SEAL IT!!!
- 2) Create Agape - only paper agape is allowed - no stickers, staples or sealed envelopes (need 150)
- 3) Our community is accepting cash donations for grocery items that will be used to give the Lincoln residents some food they do not normally get. This is a greatly appreciated act of agape.

Return your Sponsor Letters or Agape by Sunday July 7 to a Team Member OR bring to the Team Dedication on Sunday, July 7, 2013 at 6PM.

Finally, PLEASE-PLEASE sign up for the 72 hour prayer vigil.

Here's the scoop on Correctional Center Great Banquets

The State of Illinois has completed its prison realignments between Lincoln and Logan Correctional Centers in Lincoln, Illinois. The realignment swapped the populations between the two facilities with women now occupying Logan Correctional Center and the men at Lincoln Correctional Center. Normally, our men's Banquet would have been held in April but was postponed because of the switch. However, as soon as the switch was complete, the residents began asking the facility's chaplain for a Great Banquet weekend as soon as possible. Through pray and perseverance, God has allowed a men's Great Banquet to be scheduled!

July 12-14 will be Men's Correctional Center Great Banquet #48 at Lincoln Correctional Center, Lincoln, Illinois. Lay Director Rusty Bledsoe has assembled his team and they are preparing for this wonderful opportunity our 4TH Day Community has been given.

Clearance is required for the Community to support the team at Candlelight and Closing. (See page 1) Your support of our guests and team at either Candlelight or Closing is greatly appreciated. Please check our website for times and attendance rules closer to the July 12th date.

Our Women's Correctional Center Great Banquet #13 is tentatively scheduled for Friday October 4 to Sunday October 6, 2013. Lay Director Karen Layten would appreciate your prayers for making this a firm date to bring Christ to the women of Logan Correctional Center.

We always look forward to - and are grateful for - the support of our 4TH Day Community in our street and prison ministries. Please keep these teams and all of our ministries in your prayers for His blessing — and here's hoping we see you at Men's Correctional Center.

Lincoln Correctional Center Men's #48 July 12-14, 2013

Lay Director Rusty Bledsoe (*Staying Power*)

Assistant Lay Directors

Don Ammerman
Wayne Gierman

Spiritual Director

Joe Culpepper (*Sacramental Grace*)

Assistant Spiritual Directors

John Brown (*God's Gift of Grace*)
Rick Tindell (*Our Response to Grace*)
Greg Summers (*Obstacles to Grace*)
Marty Thornton (*A Life of Grace*)

Musicians

Mike Casali and Glenn Dicken

Speakers

Alan Bruehl (*Discovering Priorities*)
Durand Dressel (*Ministry of All Believers*)
David Kaeb (*The Way of Relationship*)
Dave McMorris (*Truth Through Study*)
Dewey Drollinger (*Life of Christian Action*)
Marc Toulon (*Disciples*)
Pete Johns (*Changing Our Environment*)
Keith Blankenship (*Body of Christ*)
Steve Sigler (*Establishing Priorities*)

Table Leaders Roberto Pagan, Jim Smith, Keith Taylor, Bob Mueninghoff, Joe Kreiter, Tim Gains, Terry Tosh, Jim McNiff, Paul Crownhart, Jeff Hinthorne, Tim Knecht, Bernie Wrezinski, TBD

Agape Chapel Leader

Jim Gonsalves

Chapel Assistants

Dean Buhrke, Kevin Bromley,
Todd Calhoun, Jason Bozarth,
Dale Layten, Gordon Williams,
Aaron Shane, Larry Feather

Board Advisor

Harry Jiles



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

Luke 14:17

SAVE THE DATE
Saturday, August 24th
Annual Gathering/Potluck
Brown's Farm
1544 E. Shelbourne Dr., Normal

Bring your families and friends for a night of food, fun and fellowship. Gatherings are open to all!

Join us: 5:30 for agape making
 6:00-6:30 for social time
 6:30-Potluck dinner with worship to follow

Table service, and drinks will be provided. Hope to see you there!

A word from Pastor Dan Jassman

I don't know how many of you remember some of the historical accounts through the books of judges. There were people like Deborah, Gideon, Samson, and others who rose up to lead the people of Israel in times of need. I have been journaling on some of these accounts and it has been interesting what the Lord has laid on my heart. I would just like to share one thought, as you know we clergy always like to keep it short :).

God has given Israel the land, but after which there were times of peace and war. In one incident the Amorites wanted some of the land back and Israel had a choice to make. Do we fight to keep what God has given to us or do we give some of it back because it will be easier that way? As I read of this account I wondered, "How often does God give us something to possess, say for instance grace, forgiveness, peace, new life etc., and then we just hand it back to the enemy?" Perhaps when you went through your original weekend, or a weekend serving on a team, and there were some things that you handed to God and discovered His peace and joy as you knew it was covered by grace. Yet, afterwards you surrendered that "spiritual possession" back to the enemy even though it was yours to keep.

Don't let the enemy have what is yours. Know who you are in Christ and claim your identity as a son and daughter of the King of Kings and Lord of Lords and may He lead you to victory.

Blessings, Pastor Dan

**Community Great Banquet Overview
 And Training**
August 3, 2013
Calvary United Methodist
9 a.m. to Noon

The Community Great Banquet Overview and Training for persons both **on an upcoming team** AND those who have been or **would like to be on teams** in the future will be held Saturday Morning, August 3.

The Overview session will give insights into the focus of each day of the 3 day weekend.

Following the Overview, the group will divide into three sessions that will focus on:

1. Agape Chapel participation and responsibilities
2. Speaker and Table Leader tips, responsibilities and preparation
3. Leadership Training to review weekend responsibilities and preparation for Lay Directors, Assistants, Musicians, Spiritual Directors, Board Advisors



Welcome Boys Awakening #2

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Andrew Porter | Austin Carter |
| Ben Neff | Braxton Smith |
| Chris Tompkins | Collin Rink |
| Corey Gyuran | David Wylie |
| Jake Staats | Josh Neff |
| Keanan Schroeder | Michael Sopek |
| Robby Tompkins | Steve Dew |
| Thomas Myers | Zach Toulon |
| Vinny Henkelman | |

Our website always has the most up to date information!
 Check it out at www.bngreatbanquet.org or www.bngreatbanquet.org/awakening/

A Message From Our Fall Lay Directors....The Thrill of Sponsorship

Recently we had the pleasure of visiting Ireland. For two weeks we drove around the country staying in a variety of places including a castle, seeing many historic sites, and thoroughly enjoying the food, drink, and people. Easter was on the final weekend of our trip and since we wanted to attend service, we randomly found a Methodist church about 20 km. away from where we were staying.

So, on Easter morning we took the short drive to Skerries United Methodist Church to find it was a small but beautiful church of about 40 people of various nationalities and races. The pastor, who surprisingly was originally from Ma-comb but had lived in Ireland 12 years, did a sermon weaving Paul Harvey's "The Rest of The Story" into the story of Jesus' resurrection. "The Rest of the Story" radio program consisted of stories presented as little-known or forgotten facts on a variety of subjects with some key element of the story held back until the end. The broadcasts always concluded with a variation on the tag line "And now you know the rest of the story."

That was an interesting take, but even more interesting was the pastor's primary scripture she used was Luke 24's Walk to Emmaus. It was a great message and an Easter sermon we'll never forget.

Then, after the pastor finished, she said someone wanted to give a short testimony. A woman from Zimbabwe stepped up to the podium and proceeded to talk about how she just went through a Walk to Emmaus weekend. She was bubbling with joy as she expressed how spiritually enriching the three days were. She highlighted talks about grace and love and all the things we know occur in the 72 hours. She said if she could talk for an hour or two about the experience, she would!

How thrilling it was to hear what a three-day weekend can do for a person! And, we have the same opportunity with our Great Banquet weekends. Do you know anyone who wishes to strengthen their spiritual life? Do you know anyone who wants to have a better understanding of prayer, the sacraments, study, and Christian action? Do you know anyone who strives to live a life in the grace of Christ Jesus that bears fruit for God? Do you know anyone who seeks to know Jesus as Lord and Savior and to make Him known? If you know of someone who can answer "yes" to any one of these questions, then invite them to be a guest at the upcoming Great Banquet given by God! Invite them to feast in His goodness and love! Invite them to experience for themselves what this woman from Zimbabwe and you yourself experienced – thanks to someone who cared enough to sponsor you!

Rob and Beth Wall

Please be in prayer for all four of our upcoming Lay Directors as they prepare teams and lead the weekends: Rusty Bledsoe, Rob Wall, Beth Wall and Karen Layten.

From the Men of Great Banquet #102...

(Background: Palm Sunday, March 24, 2013, saw a snow storm hit the Bloomington/Normal area that delivered 8 inches of the white stuff—and it saw the closing of Men's Great Banquet #102. Following is a note from the team regarding the support they received that day and at closing.)

To the saints of the Bloomington/Normal Great Banquet Community,

We'd like to express our admiration to the dedication you exhibited by supporting our team and guests of Great Banquet #102 throughout the weekend, but especially during the Sunday afternoon winter storm. We pray that each of you were able to complete your Godly mission and make it home safely. This, in our opinion, was a very powerful expression of Agape. Thank you for boldly stepping out in faith and following the lead of the Holy Spirit.

DeColores,

The Men of Great Banquet #102

Who can attend Community Events?

Recently we have had some questions about who can attend what...**Weekend events** beginning with **Registration and Sponsors Hour** through **Candlelight and Closing** are closed. Only folks who have attended a 4th Day weekend (Banquet, Walk, Awakening, Chrysalis, TEC, etc) are welcome. Parents, spouses and children who have not attended a weekend should not be at these events. Additionally, due to the serious nature of the weekend, infants and young children (of guests, team or supporters) should not be in attendance at East Bay.

Other Events, including **Gatherings and Dedications** are open to all. We try to make our dedications as kid/family friendly as possible with the children's message and short time frame. Our Gatherings are a great time for kids and others to be included!

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL GREAT BANQUET COMMUNITY
P.O. BOX 707
BLOOMINGTON, IL 61702-0707

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Inside ...

- ◆ Lincoln Men's #48 Roster
- ◆ Community Team Training
- ◆ Summer Gathering
- ◆ Much, much more!

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
Ce Ann Kreun (Gatherings)	830-3016
Dave McMorris (Wknd Set Up/Clean Up)	826-3324
Dave Theil (Weekend Events)	662-4768
Donna Able (Supplies)	242-7792
Gina Dew (Weekend Events)	378-3407
Harry Jiles (Prison Liaison)	962-3391
John Plattner (Treasurer)	828-1684
Karen Layten (Prison Liaison)	261-3556
Karen Reginelli (Agape)	830-4507
Karla Lohnes (Community Musician)	838-7394
Kevin Daugherty (Asst Community Lay Director)	962-3529
Kim Toulon (Gatherings)	862-3714
Lindsay Aupperle (Prayer Vigils)	310-4014
Marrita Taylor (4th Day)	962-9783
Marty Thornton (Team Selection)	662-4600
Phyl Reichert (Newsletter/Co-Registrar)	532-3697
Nick O'Neill (Wknd Set Up/Clean Up)	724-8817
Randy Harmon (Wknd Set Up/Clean Up)	825-2648
Rob Wall (Co-Registrar)	663-7630
Darren Plattner (Community Database)	726-1574
Rich Irwin (Website)	662-5896

Important Calendar Dates...

Friday, May 31, 2013 by 5 pm

Clearance deadline for Men's #48 @ Lincoln CC

Sunday, July 7, 2013 @ 6 pm

Men's #48 LCC Dedication--First Presbyterian, Normal

Friday-Sunday, July 12-14, 2013

Men's #48, Lincoln Correctional Center--Lincoln, IL

Saturday, August 3, 2013, 9—noon

Community Team Training—Calvary United Methodist

Saturday, August 24, 2013 @ 5:30 pm

Community Picnic—Brown's Farm

Sunday, Sept 8, 2013 @ 6 pm

Men's #104/Women's #105 Combined Team Dedication
Calvary United Methodist Church

Thursday, Sept 12-Sunday, Sept 15, 2013

B/N Men's Great Banquet #104—East Bay Camp

Thursday, Sept 26-Sunday, Sept 29, 2013

B/N Women's Great Banquet #105—East Bay Camp

Friday, Oct 4-Sunday, Oct 6, 2013 (Tentative)

Women's CC #13—Logan CC

Friday, Nov 22-Sunday, Nov 24, 2013

B/N Girl's Awakening #3—East Bay Camp