

Bloomington-Normal Great Banquet & Awakening

Community News & Events Winter/Spring 2018

Seasons of our Community

Kevin Daugherty, Community Lay Director

Coming off the holiday season, looking forward to baseball season, followed by lawn-mowing season then football season. There is a season for everything. Ecclesiastes 3 reminds us there is a time for everything. Often we refer to the seasons of the Great Banquet Community. We are ready for our spring season, kicking off with the Girls Awakening, and finishing up with the Lincoln weekend. Our fall season starts with the Men's Weekend and finishes up with the Guys Awakening. But there is so much more than the 10 weekends we do spread across the Spring and Fall!

It is easy to think of our community as functioning in two distinct seasons, but we need to remember that sponsorship and team preparation takes place year round. Not only do we need financial support across the calendar year, most importantly we need your continued prayers as our community continues to face challenges that know no season.

One area of specific concern is community revitalization. As a community of over 3,000 members should we struggle to fill the prayer vigils and meal server positions? Although everyone has a busy schedule, should our Lay Directors struggle to fill team positions? What happens between the closing talks with the fire and passion of new guests and the complacency of the 4th days? How can we rekindle the spark that we find at the lake?

Unfortunately, there are as many questions as answers, but these are the questions with which your board is grappling. Your comments and ideas are always welcome. Your participation, financial support and prayers are greatly appreciated as we bridge the gap to the next season!

And speaking of seasons, there is a time for new and retiring board members, and with this newsletter you will find a list of our new BNGBA Board Members, and I'd like to thank the retiring Board Members for their service!

Winter Gathering

First Presbyterian, Normal

Saturday, January 27

5:30 pm - Agape

6:00 pm - Potluck Supper

Bring a dish or 2 to share and table service

Drinks will be provided

7:00 pm - Bible Escape Room* Challenge

Girl's Awakening Team Dedication

Communion & Worship

* What is a Bible Escape Room Challenge??

An escape room is a physical adventure game in which players solve a series of puzzles and riddles using clues, hints and strategy to complete the objectives at hand. Players are given a set time limit to unveil the secret plot which is hidden within the rooms.



Awakening Weekends!

Girls Awakening # 17

February 9-11, 2018

Registration Deadline: Sat. January 27

Dedication: Sat. January 27 at Gathering

Lay Director	Julie Anderson
Asst. Lay Director	Amanda Cryer
Asst. Lay Director	
Musicians	Ellie Dew Bekah Bauersfeld
Board Advisor	Shelly Hanover
Talk 1 - Identity	Lauren Anderson
Talk 2 - Love	Katie Henderson
Talk 3 - Meaning of Life	Lori Nimke
Talk 4- Sin and Love	Kathleen Thornton
Talk 5 - Salvation	Amanda Richards
Talk 6 - Following Jesus	Kathy Knecht
Talk 7 - Study	Bekah Bauersfeld
Talk 8 - Prayer	Addie Ewalt
Talk 9 - Worship	Renee Gameau
Talk 10 - Friends	Lena Daugherty
Talk 11 - Loving Jesus	Cara McMorris
Talk 12 - Distractions	Chelsea Dean
Talk 13 - Environment	Angie Asper
Talk 14 - Church	Larin Harr
Talk 15 - Power	Julie Anderson
Agape Chapel Leader	Barb Bills
Agape Chapel	Jimma Parker
Agape Chapel	Ellen Reeves
Agape Chapel	Raven Perring
Agape Chapel	Michele Irwin
Table Leader	Colleen Pogue
Table Leader	Brooke Gawlick
Table Leader	Chloe McMorris
Table Leader	Brenda Foland

Boys Awakening # 18

February 23-25, 2018

Registration Deadline: Sun. February 18

Dedication: Sun. February 9
6:00 pm at Calvary UMC

Lay Director	Keith Jenkins
Asst. Lay Director	Ron Kennedy
Asst. Lay Director	Jonathan Smith
Musician	Jasil Olabode
Board Advisor	Rob Wall
Talk 1 - Identity	Gage Langellier
Talk 2 - Love	Joe Perring
Talk 3 - Meaning of Life	Al Behrens
Talk 4- Sin and Love	Kevin Gordon
Talk 5 - Salvation	Dave Jassman
Talk 6 - Following Jesus	Bob Mueninghoff
Talk 7 - Study	Travis Gyuran
Talk 8 - Prayer	
Talk 9 - Worship	Stephen Dew
Talk 10 - Friends	Luke Knecht
Talk 11 - Loving Jesus	Paul Dew
Talk 12 - Distractions	Justin Reeves
Talk 13 - Environment	Gordon Williams
Talk 14 - Church	
Talk 15 - Power	Keith Jenkins
Agape Chapel Leader	Ralph Smith
Agape Chapel	Mark Langellier
Agape Chapel	Mathew Terven
Agape Chapel	Drew Barron
Agape Chapel	Ian McAllister
Table Leader	Trevor Pering
Table Leader	Owen Estes

Sponsorship: Freshman in high school - Freshman in college.

Applications can be found on-line at: BNGreatBanquet.org

Awakening Weekend Schedule

Friday—Day 1

12:00–12:30	Arrival/Registration (please eat lunch before you arrive)
12:30 pm	Send Off/Sponsor's Hour
1:40 pm	Identity Talk
2:50 pm	Love Talk
4:15 pm	Meaning of Life Talk
5:00 pm	<i>Meal Servers arrive</i>
5:30 pm	Dinner
7:35 pm	Sin & Love Talk
8:45 pm	Poster Party
9:30 pm	Salvation Talk

Saturday—Day 2

7:30 am	<i>Meal Servers arrive</i>
8:00 am	Breakfast
8:45 am	Following Christ Talk
10:15 am	Study Talk
11:20 am	Prayer Talk
Noon	<i>Meal Servers</i>
12:30 pm	Lunch
1:35 pm	Worship Talk
3:45 pm	Friends Talk
5:00 pm	<i>Meal Servers arrive</i>
5:30 pm	Dinner
7:15 pm	Poster Party
8:30 pm	<i>Community Worship</i>
8:50 pm	Loving Jesus Talk
10:00 pm	<i>Candlelight</i>

Sunday—Day 3

7:30 am	<i>Meal Servers arrive</i>
8:00 am	Breakfast
9:05 am	Distractions Talk
10:05 am	Environment Talk
11:05 am	The Church Talk
11:30 am	<i>Meal Servers arrive</i>
12:00 pm	Lunch
12:50 pm	Power Talk
2:00 pm	Agape Letters Shared
3:00 pm	Cross Service
3:30 pm	Closing

Weekend Support

55—hour Prayer Vigil

Prayer Vigil starts at Noon on Friday! Sign-up online at Bngreatbanquet.org

Make Pillow Agape & Banners

All those little gifts can make a BIG impact!

General Conference Room Agape Letters

How amazing that people in our own community are praying and sacrificing for us to grow closer to Christ.

We need **YOU** to write a letter.

Meal Servers

Make it a party! Bring some table decorations, a little agape and have a good time! Please note: Parents/Sponsors of sleepers should not serve until Sunday.

Sign-up on line at www.bngreatbanquet.org

Weekend Snacks

It's High School kids—you know how they can eat!

Drop by some home-made goodies for the weekend.

Set-up & Clean Up

** This is a great need for Awakening, and a wonderful act of sacrificial agape!*

Set-up—4:30 pm—Thursday before the weekend

Clean-up—3:00 PM—Sunday

Awakening Financial Support

The average cost per participant is \$150. We are asking "participants" to pay a \$100 registration fee.

1. Because parents expect to pay when their youth attend an event and they value things more with a fee.
2. It seems "less cult like" for parents unfamiliar with 3-day model weekends.

We will continue our community's policy of accepting all participants regardless of ability to pay the registration fee.

Financial support may be sent to:

B/N Great Banquet

PO Box 707, Bloomington, IL 61702

Or PayPal at www.bngreatbanquet.org

Mens Great Banquet # 122

March 1-4, 2018

Dedication: Sunday, February 18 at Calvary - 6:00 pm

Registration Deadline: Friday, February 16

Lay Director	Jeff Williamson
Asst. Lay Director	Dave Theile
Asst. Lay Director	Jim McNiff
Musicians	Mike Casali Glenn Dicken
Board Advisor	Jim Gonsalves
Talk 1 - Discovering Priorities	Doug Parker
Talk 2 - God's Gift of Grace	Phil Rodrick
Talk 3 - Ministry of All Believers	Tim Higgerson
Talk 4- Our Response to Grace	Bob Hermes
Talk 5 - The Way of Relationship	Brad Barker
Talk 6 - The Truth Through Study	David Blumenshine
Talk 7 - Sacramental Grace	Randy Williams
Talk 8 - The Life of Christian Action	Jonathan Thompson
Talk 9 - Obstacles to Grace	Clinton Brown
Talk 10 - Disciples	Steve McNair
Talk 11 - Changing our Environment	Jeff Hoscheck
Talk 12 - A Life of Grace	Jim Pitzer
Talk 13 - The Body of Christ	Pete Falstad
Talk 14 - Staying Power	Scott Riddle
Talk 15 - Establishing Priorities	Jeff Williamson
Agape Chapel Leader	Alan DeCrane
Agape Chapel	Brad Ladage
Agape Chapel	Kyle Boward
Agape Chapel	Jake Aupperle
Agape Chapel	Fred Nimke
Table Leader	Ed Holtz
Table Leader	Jerry Kusmaul
Table Leader	David Fluty
Table Leader	Steve Reeves
Table Leader	Addison Phillips

Banquet Schedule

Thursday

7:00 pm Registration
7:30 Send off/Sponsor's Hour

Friday

7:30 am *Meal Servers Arrive*
8:00 Breakfast
9:15 Discovering Priorities
11:15 God's Gift of Grace
11:30 *Meal Servers Arrive*
12:30 pm Lunch
1:45 Ministry of All Believers
3:00 Our Response to God's Grace
5:00 *Meal Servers Arrive*
5:30 Dinner
6:30 The Way of Relationship

Saturday

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

Sunday

7:30 am *Meal Servers Arrive*
8:00 Breakfast
8:50 Changing Our Environment
10:00 A Life of Grace
11:00 Body of Christ
11:30 am *Meal Servers Arrive*
12:00 Lunch
1:30 Staying Power
2:30 Establishing Priorities
4:45 *Community Arrives for Closing*
5:00 Closing

For more updates visit:

www.BNGreatBanquet.org

Womens Great Banquet # 123

March 15-18, 2018

Dedication: Sunday, March 11 at First Presbyterian - 6:00 pm

Registration Deadline: Friday, March 2

Banquet Support

72 hour prayer Vigil

Support the weekend with your prayers!
Sign-up on-line through Sign-up Genius
www.bngreatbanquet.org

Meal Servers

Be Christ's hands and feet while serving our guests and team!
Sign-up on-line through Sign-up Genius
www.bngreatbanquet.org

General Conference Room Agape letters

Let our guests and team know how you have been praying for them and offering up sacrificial acts of agape on their behalf!

Set-up/Clean Up

4:30 pm Wednesday before the weekend
4:00 pm - 1 hour after Closing

Gut Bucket Band

7:30 PM, Saturday
Bring a costume (or we will provide a silly hat!)
sing a song, provide entertainment(?) for the weekend.

Candlelight Worship

8:30 PM, Saturday
Join us for community worship, as we lift up each guest and team in prayer, celebrate communion & reconnect with one another.
* Help with set-up at 7:00

Closing Worship

5:00 PM, Sunday
Hear how God has changed lives in 72 hours!

Banners

We are in need of new banners to share on the weekends. A great reunion group project!

Agape Gifts

All those cute little gifts can make a BIG impact.
Plan on 60-70 gifts per weekend.

Lay Director

Asst. Lay Director

Asst. Lay Director

Musicians

Board Advisor

Talk 1 - Discovering Priorities

Talk 2 - God's Gift of Grace

Talk 3 - Ministry of All Believers

Talk 4- Our Response to Grace

Talk 5 - The Way of Relationship

Talk 6 - The Truth Through Study

Talk 7 - Sacramental Grace

Talk 8 - The Life of Christian Action

Talk 9 - Obstacles to Grace

Talk 10 - Disciples

Talk 11 - Changing our Environment

Talk 12 - A Life of Grace

Talk 13 - The Body of Christ

Talk 14 - Staying Power

Talk 15 - Establishing Priorities

Agape Chapel Leader

Agape Chapel

Agape Chapel

Agape Chapel

Agape Chapel

Table Leader

Table Leader

Table Leader

Table Leader

Table Leader

Table Leader

Table Leader

Kim Toulon

Donna Able

Tammy Tucker

Annie Hobson

Karla Lohnes

Kaye Schroeder

Gina Dew

Terry Pitzer

Sheila Sonka

Heather Plattner

Laura Pritts

Carol Tompkins

Mary Kay Henson

Sandy Theile

Kathleen Thornton

Jennifer Miller

Lyn Landon

Karen Reginelli

Rita Schiffbauer

Kim Toulon

Katherine Daugherty

Crystal Ward

Lucy Williamson

Becca Rice

Kim Payne

Marcie Schaffer

Heather Neff

Monica Terven

Jean Schmidt

Sheila Melzer

Poonam McAllister

Nancy Annegers

Sponsorship: Applications can be found on-line at: BNGreatBanquet.org

Lincoln Great Banquet # 53

April 20-22, 2018

Dedication: Mon. April 16 at Network Bible Fellowship - 6:00 pm

Lay Director	David Kaeb	Talk 1 - Discovering Priorities	Bernie Wrezinski
Asst. Lay Director	Jim VanCauwenberge	Talk 2 - God's Gift of Grace	Keith Blankenship
Asst. Lay Director	Jim McNiff	Talk 3 - Ministry of All Believers	Mike Kreun
Musicians	Mike Cassali Glenn Dicken	Talk 4- Our Response to Grace	Kevin Gordon
Board Advisor	Rusty Bledsoe	Talk 5 - The Way of Relationship	Brad Ladage
Agape Chapel Leader	Don Ammerman	Talk 6 - The Truth Through Study	Lucas Bauer
Agape Chapel	Jason McHenry	Talk 7 - Sacramental Grace	Dan Jassman
Agape Chapel	Monica Terven	Talk 8 - The Life of Christian Action	Mark Terven
Agape Chapel	Kevin Kennedy	Talk 9 - Obstacles to Grace	Bruce Tompkins
Agape Chapel	Reece Raymond	Talk 10 - Disciples	Steve McNair
Agape Chapel	Todd Calhoun	Talk 11 - Changing our Environment	Alan DeCrane
Table Leader	Harry Jiles	Talk 12 - A Life of Grace	Wayne Giermann
Table Leader	Bill Givens	Talk 13 - The Body of Christ	Rick Tindall
Table Leader	Ricardo Baez	Talk 14 - Staying Power	David Kaeb
Table Leader	Greg Reichert	Talk 15 - Establishing Priorities	Joe Kreiter
Table Leader	Scott McAllister		
Table Leader	Keith Taylor		

When Opportunity Knocks

Rusty Bledsoe, Lincoln Liaison

Here is how we got here - - Chaplain sent me a note late November letting me know the normal Christmas snack bag for the guys has been nixed and Springfield has decided to give the residents a state issued stocking hat and socks instead...

With that said, Chaplain asked if our community could in anyway help to provide a little snack bag to the 1,000 residents? We were thinking , bag of chips, mints, and maybe a Christmas snack cake. We floated the idea of raising \$600 to our permanent volunteers and quickly heard back from several folks that they would like to contribute to providing a Christmas gift bag for the 1,000 residents at Lincoln - so I committed that we would donate the Christmas gift bag!!

Let's start by saying - God is Good!! Together our volunteers donated \$925 and the Community contributed \$250 at the direction of the board for a total of \$1,175. This allowed us to step-up our gift snack bag for the men. The total cost of the goodies came to \$1,047 - which provided a very nice snack bag as a gift.

Chaplain Frontone wanted me to share a BIG THANK YOU from her and the men of Lincoln. Our collective efforts were very much appreciated by all the residents.

Weekend Lincoln Support

Prayer Vigil

Prayer Vigil starts at Midnight on Friday!

Sign-up on line at BNgreatbanquet.org.

Sponsor's/Agape Letters

Help us provide letters for our Lincoln guests

Address to: " Dear Brother in Christ"

Sign: "Sister in Christ or Friend"

Do not seal envelopes

Agape Gifts

Paper agape works best ... bookmarks, origami, kids coloring pages and art work are always a hit!

*** no stickers, staples, tape, paper clips

Community Calendar

Spring 2018

Winter Gathering: Saturday, January 27

First Presbyterian Church (by Meijer)

6:00 pm - Potluck

7:00 pm - Bible Escape Room

Girls Awakening Dedication

Communion & Worship

Girls Awakening 17: February 9-11

Registration Deadline: January 27

Dedication: Sat. January 27

Boys Awakening 18: February 23-25

Registration Deadline: February 9

Dedication: Sun. February 18

Mens Banquet 122: March 1-4

Registration Deadline: February 16

Dedication: Sun. February 18

Womens Banquet 123: March 15-18

Registration Deadline: March 2

Dedication: Sun. March 11

Fourth Day Meeting: Thursday, March 22

6:00 pm at Calvary UMC

Lincoln CC Banquet 53: April 20-22

Dedication: Mon. April 16

** Minimum of 5 participants needed by registration deadline to host weekends.*

Community Board of Directors

Community Lay Director	Rob Wall	309-826-7630
Weekend Events	Cara McMorris	309-826-3325
Weekend Events	Monica Terven	309-533-8409
Weekend Events	Jonathan Thompson	309-261-9950
Weekend Events	Peggy Kennedy	309-531-3518
Set-up/Clean-up	Joe Landon	309-827-6960
Set-up/Clean-up	Bruce Tucker	309-825-6702
Set-up/Clean-up	Jim Gonsalves	309-660-4299
Set-up/Clean-up	Scott Dunt	309-824-1523
Set-up/Clean-up	Robin Shelton	309-242-2091
Supplies	Kaye Schroeder	309-826-9502
Supplies	Rhonda Jenkins	309-452-9534
Supplies	Poonam McAllister	815-674-1679
Lincoln Liaison	Rusty Bledsoe	309-838-0950
Logan Liaison	Michelle Giermann	309-310-5615
Team Selection & Training	Aaron Shane	309-531-8863
Newsletter	Shelly Hanover	309-826-6336
Fourth Day Meetings	Terry Pitzer	309-310-2128
Gatherings	Amanda Cryer	309-310-9042
Gatherings	Julie Anderson	309-212-7274
Musician	Phil Reginelli	309-838-6908
Agape	Gail Sigler	309-830-3620
Database	Darren Plattner	309-824-5326
Treasurer	Sheila Melzer	309-532-1466
Spiritual Director	Dan Jassman	309-287-3242
Website	Donna Able	309-242-7792
Registrar	Karen Layten	cell- 309-261-3556 crch-309-828-7554
Prayer Vigil & Meal Server Sign-Up	Liz Walsh	708-369-8783

Weekend Costs:

Approximate Weekend Expenses (per person)

Great Banquet	\$200
Awakening	\$150
Prison	\$25

Financial support may be sent to:

B/N Great Banquet

PO Box 707

Bloomington, IL 61702

Or paypal at www.bngreatbanquet.org

Add Me to the E-list!

Join the Great Banquet e-list to be notified of community events, weekend needs and more, send an e-mail to:

Shelly Hanover at shellyhanover@me.com

Bloomington-Normal Great Banquet Community
PO Box 707
Bloomington, IL 61702-0707



www.BNGreatBanquet.org

Fourth Day Meeting

**Thurs. March 29 • 6:30 pm
at Calvary UMC, Normal**

Guests and those looking to get more involved with our community are invited to share about their fourth days, create reunion groups and learn more about the community.

Data Base Clean Up

Help us save money and trees! If you would like to stop receiving the B-N Great Banquet/Awakening newsletter please email:

Darren Plattner gd7995@gmail.com

Shelly Hanover ShellyHanover@me.com

Please remember, newsletters and other information is available online at BNGreatBanquet.org

Lincoln Clearance

Clearance for Candlelight and Closing

Prior clearance is needed for those wishing to attend weekend events at Lincoln Correctional Center.

Please contact Rusty Bledsoe by February 5
309-838-0950 or rusty@ctb123.net

He will gather information from you and submit to Lincoln. Once you have clearance, you will receive an e-mail with additional instructions.

Fall 2018

September 6-9 Mens Great Banquet

September 20-23 Womens Great Banquet

November 2-4 Girls Awakening

Nov 16- 18 Boys Awakening