

Bloomington-Normal Great Banquet & Awakening

Community News & Events Fall 2019

Changes

by Rob Wall, Community Lay Director

Have you ever had a broken mirror? I don't mean cracked glass. I'm talking about the image reflecting back at you isn't what you think it should be. Are there wrinkles that never used to be there? Are you wearing glasses but recall when you didn't need them? Is your hair a bit "seasoned"?

For me, every so often I recall when the person looking back at me had hair. You see I'm "follicle-challenged." In other words, I'm bald. So my appearance has changed over the years. Change isn't necessarily good or bad. Sometimes it's simply different and just requires the right perspective. For me, I can appreciate never buying hair care products again, having less aerodynamic drag when running, and occasionally being mistaken for Bruce Willis. (Ok, that last thing NEVER happens.)

Our community has gone through many changes since its beginning in the 80s. Some were minor like speakers moving from using posters and overhead transparencies to PowerPoint. Others were major like changing from Walk to Emmaus and Chrysalis to Great Banquet and Awakening.

We are going through more change. In 2020 we plan to implement a smaller board of directors made up of a Community Lay Director, Community Spiritual Director, treasurer, prison liaisons, Awakening liaison, Past Community

Lay Director and representatives from several areas of responsibility. The areas include communications, team preparation, and weekend preparation and execution.

The intent is to form a leaner board more like the original design that existed for years, one which is fairly small, more effective and efficient, and quicker at decision-making than the current board made up of approximately 20 members. Plus, use additional community volunteers to serve on sub-committees.

Additionally, regarding communications we have plans to deploy a redesigned web site and new email system, one that will allow people to opt in and out of communications. The goal of both of these tools is to provide better and more timely information to our large number of community members.

Even though the face looking back in the mirror at you may change over years, you can be assured that our community will not change its purpose which is "to know Jesus as savior and Lord and to make him known." More importantly, in an everchanging world we can trust our unchanging Lord. As the author in Hebrews 13:8 wrote, we must never forget "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."



Summer Gathering: Brown's Picnic

Saturday, August 17

Carolyn and Norman Brown's Home

1544 E. Shelbourne Dr., Normal, IL 61761 (Corner of Shelbourne & Towanda)

5:30 pm - Agape Making

6:00 pm - Potluck Supper

Bring a dish or 2 to share and table service

Drinks will be provided

7:30 pm - Worship

Community Hymn Sing and Communion

Volunteers needed at 10:00 am to help set up tables, chairs, etc.

Friends and family welcome to join us! Open to all!

Men's Great Banquet # 128

Weekend Dates: September 12-15

Team Dedication: Sun. September 8 at Calvary UMC • 6:00 pm

Lay Director	Tom Payne
Asst. Lay Director	Aaron Shane
Asst. Lay Director	Kerry Parker
Musician	Jeff Shelton
Board Advisor	Keith Jenkins
Talk 1 - Discovering Priorities	Luke Aupperle
Talk 2 - God's Gift of Grace	Rick Lohnes
Talk 3 - Ministry of All Believers	Steve Myers
Talk 4- Our Response to Grace	Steve Terry
Talk 5 - The Way of Relationship	Jim Fowler
Talk 6 - The Truth Through Study	Rod Smithson
Talk 7 - Sacramental Grace	Michael Pitzer
Talk 8 - The Life of Christian Action	Joe Landon
Talk 9 - Obstacles to Grace	Scott Riddle
Talk 10 - Disciples	Jeff Hoschek
Talk 11 - Changing our Environment	Alan Bruehl
Talk 12 - A Life of Grace	Wayne Giermann
Talk 13 - The Body of Christ	Kevin Cook
Talk 14 - Staying Power	Tom Payne
Talk 15 - Establishing Priorities	Jonathan Thompson
Agape Chapel Leader	Kevin Daughtery
Agape Chapel	Chase Simpson
Agape Chapel	Brandon Luttrell
Agape Chapel	Matt Beal
Agape Chapel	Paul Morris
Table Leader	Nick Murukas
Table Leader	Kyle Boward
Table Leader	Bob Sammer
Table Leader	Harry Jiles
Table Leader	Keith Taylor

Visit www.BNGreatBanquet.org

Prayer Vigil Sign Up
Meal Server Sign Up
Updated guest and team lists
Guest Applications
Sponsorship Information

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

Women's Great Banquet # 129

Weekend Dates: September 20-23

Team Dedication: Sun. September 16 at Calvary UMC • 6:00 pm

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

Agape Chapel

Table Leader

Table Leader

Table Leader

Table Leader

Table Leader

Lindsay Aupperle

Chelsea Dean

Carol Tompkins

Jeff Pitzer

Denise Pitzer

Jill Grey

Liz Walsh

Chelsea Dean

Katherine Daugherty

Becky Hoschek

Nancy Behrens

Debbie Brown

Cally Shane

Lori Bultemeier

Jill Grey

Clinton Brown

Wendy Brent

Ellen Wylie

Jennifer Bauersfeld

Angie O'Neall

Lindsay Aupperle

Libby Burns

Carol Smithson

Vicki McCain

Abby Aupperle

Missy Kuhlman

Aja Simpson

Polly Masemore

Nancy Warne

Kaitlin Schroeder

Sandy Fowler

Brittany Zook

Amanda Jassman

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

Women's Prison Ministry Update

by Michelle Giermann

Greetings, Great Banquet Community, in the name of our Lord and Savior!

As you may or may not know, we were unable to serve at the women at Logan Correctional Center last fall – we were informed a week before our scheduled weekend that the number of hours we would be able to be in the prison were going to be cut. Given the already shortened weekend, we felt making additional cuts and changes on such short notice would not allow us to effectively minister to the women. This year, the hours we are allowed in the prison have not changed; however, we have now had a year to pray, listen and plan for continuing to minister in the prison.

Given this, the Bloomington-Normal Great Banquet board has agreed to host an event at Logan Correctional Center this October. The event will be called **CHAT: Christ Heard and Told** – clearly based on the mission statement of Great Banquet: *To know Christ and make Him known*. The focal points of the weekend will be: what sin is, grace and discipleship, with the intention of providing the women with tools to take Christ into their community.

While this weekend is NOT a Great Banquet weekend, **we continue to rely on the Great Banquet community.**

How can you help?

Write sponsor letters

addressed to Sister in Christ

signed a brother/sister in Christ),

Make paper agape (no tape, staples, paper clips),

Sign up for the prayer vigil.

Attend team dedication on Tuesday, October 1,
at 6:00 PM at Network Bible Church.

In the past, there has been an off-site candlelight service; this year, the candlelight opportunity will be a part of the dedication service. We take a picture of this candlelight to show the ladies that people are praying for them, and it is a very powerful witness. Please plan on attending the dedication to pray over the team as we embark on a new adventure and to pray for the women and staff at Logan Correctional Center.

Logan CHAT #1

Weekend Dates: October 4 & 5

Team Dedication:

Tuesday, October 1 at 6:00 pm

Network Bible Fellowship

	Lay Director	Monica Terven
Talk 7: Where Do You Go From Here		
	Asst. Lay Director	Doretta Irwin
	Asst. Lay Director	Gail Sigler
	Musicians	TBA
	Board Advisor	Michelle Giermann
	Tech Support	Terri Drollinger
Talk 1: Where Are You?		Debby Paullin
Assistant Spiritual Director		Wayne Giermann
Talk 2: God's Answer to Sin		
Talk 3: Friendship with Jesus		Nancy Harvey
Talk 4: Wisdom in Study		Peggy Kennedy
	Spiritual Director	Dan Jassman
Talk 5: Growing in God's Grace		
Talk 6: Faith In Action		Karla Lohnes
Agape Chapel Leader		Hellena Beal
Agape Chapel		Janice Bettish
Agape Chapel		Maegan Beckert
Agape Chapel		Lucy Williamson
Agape Chapel		Diane Richmond
Agape Chapel		Angie Tiller
Table Leader		Tori Langellier
Table Leader		Carol Tompkins
Table Leader		Debbie Cooley
Table Leader		Temeria Olabode
Table Leader		Blythe Bauer
Table Leader		Susan Jiles
Table Leader		Christina Junior
Table Leader		Lana Goodling
Table Leader		Jennifer Miller
Table Leader		Jennifer Wilson
Table Leader		Marilea White
Table Leader		Jean Johnson
Table Leader		Kim Williamson
Table Leader		Nancy Annegers
Table Leader		Peggy Parker
Table Leader		Pam Buggar
Table Leader		Neta Bean

Logan CHAT Support

Prayer Vigil

Sign-up on line at BNGreatBanquet.org.

Sponsor's/Agape Letters

Help us provide letters for our Logan guests

Address to: "Dear Sister 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

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

Fourth Day Meeting

Thurs. October 3 • 6:30 pm

at Calvary UMC, Normal

Recent 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.

Awakening Weekends

Watch the website BNGreatBanquet.org for more information, team lists and sleepers!

Girl's Awakening # 23

November 2-4

Lay Director: Poonam McAllister

Boy's Awakening # 24

November 16-18

Lay Director: Dave McMorris

Registraion now open!

Sleeper applications being accepted now! Freshman in High School - Freshman in College

Find applications at BNGreatBanquet.org

Financial Update

by Sheila Melzer, Treasurer

Overall, finances are in good shape so far this year. Income is a bit down, and expenses are up compared to where we were last year at this time.

We ended 2018 with a net gain and were able to continue our tradition of being a tithing community. This year we were able to provide gifts to the following organizations:

Home Sweet Home,
Midwest Food Bank
Safe Harbor
Baby Fold
Youth for Christ
Mom & Me Camp

We currently have \$13,500 in the bank which will put us in a good position to help fund the Fall weekends. But, we continue to need your financial support.

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

For more information or if have questions contact:

Sheila Melzer at sheilamelzer49@gmail.com

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



www.BNGreatBanquet.org

Community Calendar

Fall 2019

Brown's Picnic: Saturday, August 17

Mens Banquet 128: September 12-15

Womens Banquet 129: September 26-29

Logan CHAT #1: October 4 & 5

Girls Awakening 23: November 1-3

Boys Awakening 24: November 15-17

Spring 2020

Girls Awakening #25: February 7-9

Boys Awakening #26: February 21-23

Men's Great Banquet #130: March 5-8

Women's Great Banquet #131: March 19-22

Logan Men's Great Banquet #54: April TBD

Fall 2020

Mens Banquet 132: September 17-20

Womens Banquet 133: October 1-4

Logan CHAT #2: October TBA

Girls Awakening 27: October 30 - November 1

Boys Awakening 28: November 13-15

Spring 2021

Girls Awakening #29: February 5-7

Boys Awakening #30: February 19-21

Men's Great Banquet #134: March 4-7

Women's Great Banquet #135: March 18-21

Lincoln Men's Great Banquet #54: April TBD