

BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL GREAT BANQUET COMMUNITY NEWS

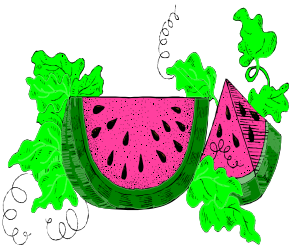


August 2008
B/N Great Banquet Community
P.O. Box 3043
Bloomington, IL 61701



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

Luke 14:17



BROWN FAMILY PICNIC
Saturday, August 23rd—5 pm
Join us for Our Largest Gathering of the Year

Make plans now to join us for our largest gathering of the year. The Brown Family farm is located at the corner of Towanda Ave and Shelbourne Ave in Normal. (One intersection south of Calvary United Methodist Church). Bring your favorite potluck dish and table service and get ready for a fun evening reconnecting with your Emmaus/Great Banquet Friends.

AGAPE MAKING 5 pm * * * DINNER 6:15 pm * * * WORSHIP 7:30 PM

PICNIC EVENTS ...

Did you travel the furthest? Do you have the youngest baby? Are you our Community's oldest pilgrim? You might win a prize!

Enjoy music from our wonderfully talented Community Musicians.

Spend time in worship focusing on the blessings God has bestowed upon us!



**MESSAGE
FROM
OUR
COMMUNITY
SPIRITUAL
DIRECTOR ...**

The picture of the great Banquet in Luke 14:15-24 is one that presents an opportunity for people from a variety of backgrounds to attend a feast provided for by a very gracious host. The responses are varied and reflect those you might find among invited guests even today. The Bloomington/Normal Great Banquet Community is comprised of those servants of the Master who deliver the invitations - who go into the community and even the surrounding towns to invite guests to come. It is the servants of the Master who are given the task and responsibility to make sure the banquet room is full when the Master arrives. It seems that the servants were challenged to go and meet and invite people they didn't even know. That would mean they would have

to introduce themselves, explain some things about their Master, and share openly about the experience they would encounter at the feast. They would need to gain the trust of their invited guests and they would have to be attentive to their needs to guarantee their experience was positive and meaningful. That's what we call responsible sponsorship. The Master required it. And interestingly, inviting guests was not an option; it was the Master's command. All of the servants were to be engaged in the invitation process. They may have teamed up. They may have worked in groups. But in the end they knew the Master was counting on them to make sure the banquet room was full when he arrived!

The Master has requested another Great Banquet to be held this Fall. The invitations must go out now in order to assure there are no empty seats at the table. As a member of our Great Banquet community will you accept the responsibility to get the word out and help fill the table with guests? Perhaps you could team up with someone and sponsor a guest. Or maybe your reunion group would like to sponsor someone. The Master is counting on you!

The teams will soon be in preparation and prayer making sure the feast and program meet the Master's standards and flow with unity and harmony. The banquet staff will assure that everything is in its proper order and place. The Master expects a maximum effort by all. He is worthy of nothing less than our very best!

The Master has put his trust in us - so in His name don't just send out an invitation, make sure the seats are filled!

De Colores,
Mark Wallace

**WELCOME TO GREAT BANQUET GUESTS THAT ATTENDED
GREAT BANQUETS THIS PAST SPRING ...**

Julie Anderson
Steve Archer
Janet Canfield
Eric Carlson
Ardelle Deckert
Roane Deckert
Christie Deffner
Nancie Eagan
Mark Gadberry
Rex Goodman
Jeff Haab
Doug Hart
Sharon Heger
Ralph Huckstadt

Ruth Huckstadt
Melissa Ives
Kimberly Jackson
Nathan Jackson
Tim Jones
Jen Keagle
Damon Kelly
Jaime Kelly
Lorri Lanz
Samantha Loy
Michelle Ludwig
Stephen Ludwig
Teresa Mau
Jill McNiff

Jim McNiff
Nelda Parker
Laura Porter
Judy Reierson
Richard Roggy
Jason Roush
Gary Satchwell
Wendy Satchwell
Juanita Smith
Amber Walters
Ashley Zeller
Terrie Zimmerman

Want to keep up with last minute team and guest information? Check out the website. Current team and guest lists will be posted.

Stay Informed ...
B/N Great Banquet Website:
bngreatbanquet.org

WE NEED YOUR OLD TEAM ROSTERS ...

After 20 years and over 130 street and prison weekends, our history needs to be documented. If you have an old team roster, please make a copy of it and either bring that copy to the August 23rd Brown's Picnic or mail it to Rich Irwin, 13 Buckhurst Circle, Bloomington, IL 61704. With your help, we can get our community's history securely documented. Keep checking for updates on our website. Thank you in advance for your help!

DID YOU ORDER A NEW GREAT BANQUET NAME BUTTON?

They will be available at the Brown Picnic or by contacting Iris Sonkin at 661-4630 or via email at: iris.ijsonkin@verizon.net

Our thoughts and prayers ... are with the following in our community who have lost loved ones ... the families of Margaret Render, George Riddle, Dirk Schmid, Marilyn Woodruff, Margaret Fagot and Karen Ashley (upon the death of her mother) and Jeff McCain (upon the death of his father.)

**MEN'S GREAT BANQUET #84
SEPTEMBER 18-21, 2008**

Leadership

Lay Director Ralph Smith (*Staying Power*)
Assistant Lay Directors Paul Dew & Scott Riddle

Spiritual Director Rev. Mark Wallace (*Sacramental Grace*)

Asst. Spiritual Directors Rev. Dan Jassman (*Our Response to Grace*)
Rev. Mel Devall (*A Life of Grace*)
Rev. Paul DeJong (*God's Gift of Grace*)
George Wells (*Obstacles to Grace*)

Musician Barry Fletcher

Frontlines

Speakers Jake Aupperle (*The Body of Christ*)
Doug Hertel (*The Truth Through Study*)
Randy Crill (*Establishing Priorities*)
Gordon Williams (*The Way of Relationships*)
Joe Vadala (*Disciples*)
Stephen Sigler (*The Life of Christian Action*)
Keith Jenkins (*Ministry of All Believers*)
Don Stogsdill (*Changing Our Environment*)

Table Leaders Mark Baier, Doug Hart, Jim McNiff,
Max Moore

Support

Agape Chapel Head Rob Wall, Leader (*Discovering Priorities*)
Chapel Assistants Scott Arnold, Brett Foland, Durand Dressel,
Cory Steers

Board Advisor: John Plattner

Reminder: Updated team lists are

**Anointing/Dedication Service
Men's Great Banquet #84
Sunday, September 14th—6 pm
Calvary United Methodist Church
Normal, IL**

**WOMEN'S GREAT BANQUET #85
OCTOBER 2-5, 2008**

Leadership

Lay Director Shelly Hanover (*Staying Power*)
Assistant Lay Directors Estelle Brown & Phyl Reichert

Spiritual Director Lori Bultemeier (*Sacramental Grace*)

Asst. Spiritual Directors Barb Anthony (*Our Response to Grace*)
Barb Dahl (*A Life of Grace*)
Terry Pitzer (*God's Gift of Grace*)
Jim Pitzer (*Obstacles to Grace*)

Musician Karla Lohnes

Frontlines

Speakers Crystal Ward (*Discovering Priorities*)
Carlene Stambaugh (*The Body of Christ*)
Jennifer Miller (*The Truth Through Study*)
Judy Vadala (*Establishing Priorities*)
Susan Bruehl (*The Way of Relationships*)
Connie Crill (*Disciples*)
Beth Wall (*The Life of Christian Action*)
Cheryl Chrisman (*Ministry of All Believers*)
Phyllis Bend (*Changing Our Environment*)

Table Leaders Sherry Morgan, Jill McNiff, Katie Leahy,
Jamie Kelly, Kim Smith, Jaime Goodman

Support

Agape Chapel Head Vicki Butler
Chapel Assistants Laura Porter, Amber Walters,
Doretta Irwin, Jen Keagle

Board Advisor: Carol Smithson

**LINCOLN CORRECTIONAL CENTER
GREAT BANQUET #9
October 17-19, 2008**

Plans are being made for the Great Banquet that will be held at Lincoln Correctional Center in October. Please keep Lay Director Cindy Hertel and her team in your prayers during the team formation and preparation process.

If you would like to attend the candlelight and closing services on Saturday and Sunday of the weekend, please contact Debby Paullin at 309-376-6911 or steveabc@mtco.com with your name, telephone number and mailing address by August 17th. If leaving a phone message, please be sure to say that it is for the Lincoln clearance list. There will also be an opportunity to sign up at the Brown Picnic on August 23rd. **You must sign-up in order to attend the weekend events. You will not be admitted without clearance.** Remember how special you felt when you saw the sea of people at the candlelight and closing on your weekend? Please make this time extra special for these women. Sign up to-

Dedication Service for
Lincoln Correctional Center
Great Banquet #9
Sunday, October 12th—6 pm
Calvary United
Methodist Church
Normal, IL

... available at bngreatbanquet.org ...

**Anointing/Dedication Service
Women's Great Banquet #85
Sunday, September 28th—6 pm
Calvary United Methodist Church
Normal, IL**

FOURTH DAY MEETING
Thurs. Oct. 9th—7 pm
Resurrection Lutheran Church
Bloomington

**IMPORTANT NOTE TO
ALL SPONSORS ...**

Please remember that sponsorship does not end after the closing service. It is your responsibility to bring your guest to the Fourth Day Meeting on Thursday, October 9th at 7 pm at Resurrection Lutheran Church in Bloomington.

At this important meeting, guests will have the opportunity to connect with those they met on the weekend, receive valuable information and have an opportunity to form a reunion group.

WEEKEND SCHEDULE

Thursday

7-7:30 pm Registration
7:30 pm Send Off/Sponsor Hour

Friday

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

Saturday

7:30 am Breakfast
8:15 am Truth Through Study
10:00 am Sacramental Grace
12:30 pm Lunch
3:00 pm Life of Christian Action
4:30 pm Obstacles to Grace
5:45 pm Dinner
7:15 pm Disciples
8:30 pm Candlelight Worship
10:00 pm Candlelight

Sunday

8:00 am Breakfast
8:50 am Changing Our Environment
10:00 am Life of Grace
11:00 am Body of Christ
12:00 pm Lunch
1:30 pm Staying Power
2:30 pm Establishing Priorities
5:00 pm Closing Service

Not on the Team but Want to Serve? Be Part of the Support Team

72 hour prayer Vigil The backbone of the weekend! Contact Iris Sonkin at 309-661-4630 to participant in this meaningful experience.

Set-up/Clean Up Volunteers are always needed to help in this area. Set up is typically on the Wednesday before a weekend. Clean-up is after the closing service on Sunday. Contact Alan Bruehl at 309-662-1930 or Scott Riddle at 309-962-2447.

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

Candlelight Worship 8:30 PM, Saturday night. Contact Jim Pitzer 309-725-3363 to help with setting up chairs & luminaries or passing out & collecting the flashlight candles.

Closing 5:00 PM, Sunday afternoon. Hear and see how God has changed lives in 72 hours!

Banners In the Great Banquet community, banners are a big deal! We are expected to send our banners on to other communities after every set of weekends; in return new banners will be sent us. This is a great project for reunion groups!

Weekend Snack Table Remember all those wonderful snacks on your weekend? Homemade snacks are especially welcome.

Agape Gifts All those little gifts can make a big difference.

Sponsorship It is a true joy to share a weekend with someone else. Contact Carol Smithson, Community Registrar at 309-663-4870 for information.

Meal Servers Contact Lynn Fletcher at 309-378-4602.

BLOOMINGTON/NORMAL GREAT BANQUETS IN 2009

Men's Great Banquet #86
March 5-8, 2009

Women's Great Banquet #87
March 19-22, 2009

Men's Great Banquet #88
September 10-13, 2009

Women's Great Banquet #89
September 24-27, 2009



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

Luke 14:17

Save the Date ...

LAMPSTAND MINISTRIES NATIONAL GREAT BANQUET & AWAKENING CONFERENCE

**SEPTEMBER 17-19, 2009
DECATUR, IL**

Details ... www.lampstand.net

Your Great Banquet Board of Directors

| | |
|---|----------|
| Barb Bills (Gatherings/Secretary) | 663-6601 |
| Alan Bruehl (Weekend Set Up/Clean Up) | 662-1930 |
| Estelle Brown (Agape Correspondence) | — |
| Gudrun Dunt (Newsletter) | 530-6121 |
| Bob Garrelts (Logan Prison) | 828-9001 |
| Shelly Hanover (Community Lay Dir.) | 724-8800 |
| Chuck Hepner (Community Musician) | 365-2106 |
| Cindy Hertel (Weekend Agape) | 452-4080 |
| Rich Irwin (Community Data) | 662-5896 |
| Jim Pitzer (Weekend Events) | 725-3363 |
| John Plattner (Treasurer) | 828-1684 |
| Phil Reginelli (4th Day/Reunion Groups) | 663-3008 |
| Scott Riddle (Weekend Set Up/Clean Up) | 962-2447 |
| Ralph Smith (Team Selection) | 829-2004 |
| Iris Sonkin (Prayer Vigil/Special Projects) | 661-4630 |
| Carol Smithson (Registrar) | 663-4870 |
| Mark Wallace (Com. Spiritual Director) | 829-0194 |

Important Dates for Your Calendar ...

Men's Great Banquet #84—Sept. 18-21 —East Bay Camp
Team Dedication: Sunday, September 14th—6 pm
Calvary United Methodist Church

Women's Great Banquet #85—Oct. 2-5 —East Bay Camp
Team Dedication: Sunday, September 28th—6 pm
Calvary United Methodist Church

Fourth Day Meeting—Thursday, October 9th—7 pm
Resurrection Lutheran Church

Lincoln Correctional Center GB #9—Oct. 17-19
Team Dedication: Sunday, October 12th—6 pm
Calvary United Methodist Church



“...Come, for all is now ready.”

Luke 14:17

BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL GREAT BANQUET COMMUNITY
P.O. BOX 3043
BLOOMINGTON, IL 61702-3043

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

Inside ...
Brown Picnic ...
Our largest Gathering
of the Year

Fall Weekend Information