

BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL GREAT BANQUET COMMUNITY NEWS



July 2010
B/N Great Banquet Community
P.O. Box 707
Bloomington, IL 61702-0707
www.bngreatbanquet.org



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

Luke 14:17

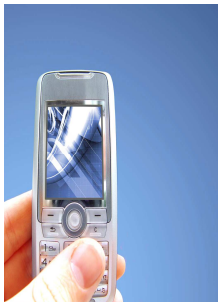
HOMEMADE Ice Cream Social/Community Training

Tuesday, July 27-6:30 p.m.

Calvary United Methodist Church

1700 N. Towanda Ave, Normal (corner Towanda & Raab)

Come for delicious homemade ice cream! Stay to learn more about what a Great Banquet weekend is like...how does it all "fit together?" Jim Pitzer will guide you through just how those amazing three days unfold!



Did you drop your landline phone in favor of your cell phone?

You may be wondering why you haven't been called to serve on a team. Our community database is outdated because several have canceled their landline phone in favor of a mobile or smart phone. If you have changes to your contact information, please let our Community Data Steward know. Call Rich Irwin at 662-5896 or click on the "Contact Us" button at our website listed above. Thanks!

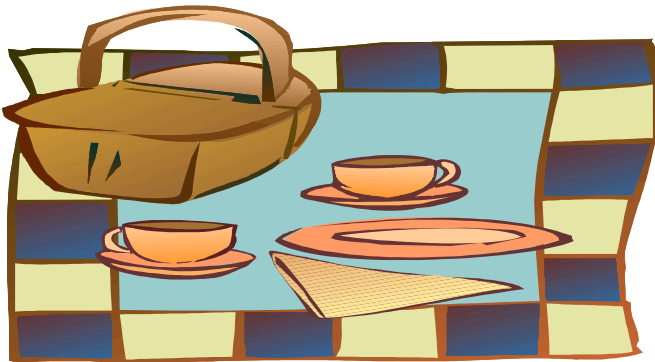
Inside: Guests at spring banquets....

A Heart for prison ministry...

Our summer tradition, the Great Banquet Picnic at the Brown's

ANNUAL BROWN PICNIC: *Our Family Reunion...*

*A message from Community Spiritual
Director Lori Bultemeier*



I'm really looking forward to the Great Banquet picnic at the Brown farm. For me, it's like a family reunion complete with running kids, running jello, and running jokes. I'm looking for a big turnout this year. If you haven't been connected to (Emmaus or) Great Banquet for a while, this is a great time to get in touch with your "family" again.

Speaking of family, one of my goals as your CSD is to get our children more involved in Great Banquet. I plan to do a children's sermon at each of the team dedication services. I want our children to begin to see what their parents are doing to serve the Lord through Great Banquet.

Please bring your family to hear the message, to come forward with you for dedication and to see the Body of Christ in action. And I hope to see all of you at the picnic- it's going to be a great REUNION!

In His service, Lori

Thanks again to Norman and Carolyn Brown for graciously opening their home to us Saturday August 28th. It's at the intersection of Towanda and Shelbourne in Normal. Fellowship begins at 5:30, dinner is served at 6:00 and worship begins at 7:30. Bring a dish or two to pass and your own table service. Drinks will be provided!

Our thoughts and prayers ... are with the following in our community who have lost loved ones—Paul Popejoy, on the loss of his father...Steve Bowman, whose sister passed away, Mavis Maier, who lost a brother, and Marrita Taylor on the passing of her father.

MEN'S GREAT BANQUET #92 SEPTEMBER 9-12, 2010

Leadership

Lay Director Phil Reginelli (*Staying Power*)
Assistant Lay Directors Paul Brown
Rick Lehner

Spiritual Director Bret Heinrich (*Sacramental Grace*)

Asst. Spiritual Directors Chip Hardwick (*Our Response to Grace*)
Kevin Summers (*A Life of Grace*)
Steve Ward (*God's Gift of Grace*)
Mel Devall (*Obstacles to Grace*)

Musicians Mike Casali
Jeff Schweizer

Frontlines

Speakers Pete Falstad (*The Body of Christ*)
Bill Ray (*The Truth Through Study*)
Alan Bruehl (*Establishing Priorities*)
Marty Thornton (*The Way of Relationship*)
Luke Aupperle (*Disciples*)
Dan Cochran (*The Life of Christian Action*)
Randy Crill (*Ministry of All Believers*)
Greg Ekdale (*Changing Our Environment*)

Table Leaders Bob Bills, Dave Bratcher, Steve Gruenberg,
Mike Kreun, Mark Pagel

Support

Reminder: Updated team lists are

Agape Chapel Leader Bruce Tompkins
Chapel Assistants Jason Cryer, Jim Gonsalves, Randy Harmon,
Bernie Wrezinski

Board Advisor Rich Irwin

Anointing/Dedication Service
Men's Great Banquet #92
Sunday, September 5th-6:00 p.m.
Calvary United Methodist Church
Normal, IL

**WOMEN'S GREAT BANQUET #93
SEPTEMBER 23-26, 2010**

Leadership

Lay Director Libby Burns (*Staying Power*)
Assistant Lay Directors Katherine Daugherty
Claire Ford

Spiritual Director Lori Bultemeier (*Sacramental Grace*)

Asst. Spiritual Directors Gary Ford (*Our Response to Grace*)
Becca Bruner (*God's Gift of Grace*)
Barb Anthony (*Obstacles to Grace*)
Michael Pitzer (*A Life of Grace*)

Musicians Jeff Pitzer
Denise Pitzer (*Establishing Priorities*)

Frontlines

Speakers Jennifer Bauersfeld (*Discovering Priorities*)
Linda Adams (*The Body of Christ*)
Estelle Brown (*The Truth Through Study*)
Judy Kelly (*The Way of Relationship*)
Carol Smithson (*Disciples*)
Kathie Chapman (*The Life of Christian Action*)
Cara McMorris (*Ministry of All Believers*)
Nancy Behrens (*Changing Our Environment*)

Table Leaders Heather Damery, Carrie Chapman,
Kathryn Yeager

Support

Agape Chapel Leader Karen Reginelli

... available at bngreatbanquet.org ...

Chapel Assistants Debbie McIntosh, Deena McDonald
Board Advisor Gina Dew

**Anointing/Dedication Service
Women's Great Banquet #93
Sunday, September 19-6:00 p.m.
Calvary United Methodist Church
Normal, IL**

FOURTH DAY MEETING
Thursday, Sep. 30 — 7:00 p.m.
Resurrection Lutheran Church
4114 E. Oakland Ave., Bloomington, IL

**National Great Banquet Gathering
September 16-18, 2010
Lampstand Presbyterian Church
Decatur IL**



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

Luke 14:17

To celebrate 20 years of Great Banquet Ministry, the 1st National Gathering is being held September 16-18 in Decatur. The purpose of this gathering is to connect our Banquet Communities and stimulate a synergy and "cross pollination" of ideas while blending our strengths together. We want to encourage and strengthen leadership in our communities as well as celebrate our growth together as a family. This special Thursday – Saturday event will include, worship, keynote speakers, workshops and plenty of fellowship time.

The celebration theme "Keys to the Kingdom" will address the Keys to Kingdom living and how they manifest themselves through the Great Banquets and Awakenings. Kingdom Keys include unity in variety, worship, obedience, prayer, healing, action, grace, and power.

In addition, workshops led by various community leaders will include, prison ministry, team selection, and building leadership, work of the Holy Spirit, Spiritual Warfare, Intercessory Prayer, Building the 4th Day Community, and more!

This unique gathering event is open to all who have attended a Great Banquet. We are hoping for a good attendance from our Bloomington/Normal community. Go to www.lampstand.net for more information and to register.

Lincoln Great Banquet #11 October 15-17, 2010

Leadership

Lay Director: Linda Walker (*Staying Power*)

Assistant Lay Directors:
Jane Frieden and Crystal Ward

Spiritual Director:
Dan Jassmen (*Sacramental Grace*)

Assistant Spiritual Directors:
Shirley Ryan
Jan Proeber
Al Feltner

Musician: Linda Heidloff

Frontlines

Speakers: Sharon Doyle (*The Body of Christ*)
Bobbie Overfelt (*The Truth Through Study*)
Jennifer Wilson (*Discovering Priorities*)
Kathy Knecht (*Establishing Priorities*)
Karla Lohnes (*The Way of Relationship*)
Karen Layten (*Disciples*)
Diane Richmond (*Life of Christian Action*)
Bev Drillinger (*Ministry of All Believers*)
Evelyn Young (*Changing Our Environment*)

Table Leaders: Sherry Bulyca, Sue Miller, Vickie Stogsdill,
Sharon Dalton, Tonya Scott, Brooke Foland

Support

Agape Chapel Leader:
Jan Runner

Chapel Assistants:
Marliea White, Cindy Butler, Donna Abel

Board Advisor: Marrita Taylor

For those who have been cleared to attend activities at Lincoln C.C. in October.....

Please...Please...PLEASE! Make every effort to attend the Candlelight and/or Closing! Due to Illinois Dept. of Corrections rules, we needed names of individuals for clearance purposes very early this year. That means it's too late to submit info for a background check and we have a finite group of people eligible to attend! IF YOU OBTAINED LINCOLN CLEARANCE, PLEASE PLAN ON ATTENDING! The team members are counting on your support and, more importantly, the inmates need to see Jesus' spirit through you! If you have questions about Lincoln C.C. clearance info, please contact Board Advisor Marrita Taylor at (309) 962-9783.

Ways to Be Involved!

72 hour prayer Vigil: The backbone of the weekend! Contact Jill McNiff at 309-824-2759 to participate in this meaningful experience.

Conference Room Agape letters: Writing a letter to be read and posted in the conference room is a great way to show the guests and team on weekend know that you care for them.

Meal Servers: 6-8 volunteers are needed at each meal. Make this special by adding simple decorations to the tables or, bringing extra agape. Contact Lynn Fletcher at (309) 378-4602.

Personal Agape Letters: Let someone know just how much you care! There is nothing better than receiving a personal handwritten letter.

Luggage Carrier: Volunteers are especially appreciated on the women's weekends to help carry in luggage, bedding etc. Arrive at East Bay about 6:45p.m. Thursday evening.

Candlelight Worship: Saturday evening, 8:30 p.m. Contact Randy Harmon, (309) 452-1533 to help with setting up chairs, luminaries or passing out & collecting the flashlight candles.

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

Banners: In the Great Banquet community, banners are a big deal! Our community is in need of new banners. This is a great projects for reunion groups or churches.

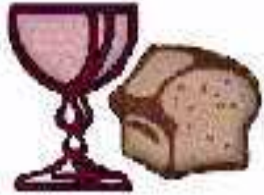
Weekend Snack Table: Remember all those wonderful snacks on your weekend? Homemade snacks are especially welcome.

Pillow Agape & Table Agape:
All those little gifts can make a big difference.

Sponsorship: It is a true joy to share a weekend with someone else.

Participate in the Gutbucket Band: Wear a funny hat, sing a silly song, make someone smile!

A REMINDER....that our mailing address **has changed!** Please address all your postal correspondence to BN Great Banquet, PO Box 707, Bloomington, IL 61702-0707



“...Come, for all is now ready.”

Luke 14:17

***WELCOME! To our Guests from Prison Ministry will change an inmate's life...and yours!
the Spring Great Banquets...***

Hellena Beal
Matt Beal
Becca Bruner
Scott Carnahan
Becky Cobert
Amanda Cryer
Jason Cryer
Sherri Dalton
Corene DeHaan
April Dowell
Jennifer Drat
Dewey Drollinger
George Drollinger
Terri Drollinger
Jean Follick
Carol Froelich
John Gentes
Jon Gehrt
Shelly Gehrt
Jim Gonsalves
Tina Gonsalves
Derek Gordon
Joanne Gordon
Rhonda Kennell
Mark Koester
Julie Laguerre
Shannon Lush
Nick Merth
Jackie Mustread
Heather Neff
Lynn Neff
Cassie Owens
Laura Pemberton
Margaret Perry
Jen Pozzuto
Kathy Rygh
Zach Schaeffer
Bev Shelton
Jennifer Tarr
Stan Tarr
Dan Terven
Mark Terven
Monica Terven
Carena Thompson
Shalanda Turner
Cheryl West
Melissa Wilson
Bernie Wrezinski
Karen Wyant
Kathryn Yeager

I know that this has been said by many others before me, but when I experienced my initial Emmaus weekend six years ago the last place I thought I would share what I experienced would be in prison. But just a few short weeks after my Walk in 2004, I was a part of the community that year at the Logan Correctional Center. That planted the seed for me, seeing how these men were impacted by receiving agape in the flesh.

From that evening, I continued to be a part of the community at both Logan and Lincoln, thinking that was all that God wanted me to do. But two years ago I received a call from God (well, actually it was Marty Thornton's voice that God was using) asking if I wanted to serve on the team for the first Great Banquet our community would hold at Logan. The seed was starting to blossom and I was able to experience for the first time how a group of inmates and the team could grow together over 3 days. Last year I was blessed to be called to serve again and this year I was called to be a speaker on GB # 45. But it was after last year's weekend that the Lord guided me to obtain my permanent clearance, which has allowed me to not only experience the 3rd Saturday reunions but has allowed me to grow spiritually with others within our community and form some good friendships with which I am truly blessed.

While I'm still very new at serving on teams at Logan (compared to some in our community who have been involved for 10, 20 or more years), serving God on these weekends has meant so much to me. Behind the walls are men who have been incarcerated for mistakes that they have made in life, much like many of us have in our lives. The Lord placed them in prison in many cases to save them from themselves or from continuing to hurt others. But when we go either for a Great Banquet weekend or for the 3rd Saturday reunion group, there is no talk of what these men did that got them to Logan. These are men who are wanting to know Jesus, some for the first time and many wanting to be reacquainted. They are learning how valuable it is for God to be in their lives when they go outside the walls and back out into the rest of the world. Personally going to Logan has continually reminded me that even though we all make mistakes in our lives and we have all sinned God still forgives us. And those that I have crossed paths with in my personal Walk, whether inside the walls or outside, have shown me so much of God's love that I sometimes still forget is there.

My daughter gave me a passage in an agape letter this year that really sums up a lot of what prison ministry means to me. 1 John 4:19-21 says, "We love because he first loved us. If anyone says, 'I love God,' yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen. And he has given us this command: Whoever loves God must also love his brother." (NIV) I have been blessed to serve Him in prison ministry and will gladly serve as long as God and His only son Jesus want me to.

— Keith Blankenship, Logan C.C. Great Banquet #45

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

Guest Section

Guest Name: _____

Name on Name Tag: _____

Street Address: _____

Guest Instructions:

Fill in this Guest Section completely.

Print clearly.

Use a separate sheet if more space is needed.

If you have questions, ask your sponsor.

Review, sign, and date the Guest Section.

Give the application to your sponsor.

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP Code: _____ Weekend Dates: _____

Home Phone: (_____) _____ Cell Phone: (_____) _____

Gender: Male Female Age: _____ Spouse's Name (If Applicable): _____

Email: _____ May We Send a Confirmation Via Email? Yes No

Church Information

Church's Name: _____ Church's City: _____

Sponsor Information

Sponsor's Name: _____ Sponsor's Phone: (_____) _____

Did your sponsor explain the Great Banquet? Yes No Did your sponsor explain the post-weekend meeting? Yes No

Additional Questions (To Help Us Meet Your Needs on the Weekend and Make Room Assignments)

Why do you want to attend the weekend and what do you expect from it? _____

In what religious and/or community organizations are you active in?

Do you have any health issues (e.g., allergies, diabetes, or CPAP machine)? Yes No If Yes, explain below.

Do you have any special diet restrictions/needs (e.g., food allergies)? Yes No If Yes, explain below.

Do you take any prescription medications (e.g., blood pressure medication)? Yes No If Yes, explain below.

Do you smoke? (Note: This is needed for room assignments only.) Yes No

Note: If necessary, please attach a separate sheet to explain any additional needs you may have.

Emergency Contact Information (In Case of Emergency on the Weekend)

Contact's Name: _____ Contact's Phone: (_____) _____

Guest's Signature: _____ Date: _____

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

Sponsor Section

Guest Name: _____

Guest's Spouse's Name (If Applicable): _____

If married, did you discuss the Great Banquet with the guest's spouse? Yes No

- Sponsor Instructions:**
- Ensure the Guest Section is completely filled out.
 - Fill in this Sponsor Section completely.
 - Print clearly.
 - Use a separate sheet if more space is needed.
 - Mail the two-page application and payment to the address at the bottom of this page.

Will your Guest's spouse be attending a Great Banquet? Yes No Spouse's Weekend Dates: _____

Sponsor's Name: _____ Home Phone: (_____) _____

Street Address: _____ Cell Phone: (_____) _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP Code: _____

Email: _____ May We Send a Confirmation Via Email? Yes No

Sponsor's Original 4th Day Weekend Type (e.g., Great Banquet, Walk to Emmaus, or Cursillo): _____

Weekend Dates: _____ Weekend Number: _____ Weekend Location: _____

Additional Sponsor Questions (To Help Us Meet Your Guest's Needs on the Weekend and Make Room Assignments)

Why do you think your Guest should attend this upcoming Great Banquet? _____

Does your Guest have any health, diet, medication, sleeping, or other special needs? Yes No If Yes, explain:

Note: If necessary, please attach a separate sheet to explain any additional needs your guest may have.

- Did you explain the Great Banquet and answers all Guest questions? Yes No
- Did you explain the post-weekend meeting? Yes No
- Are you praying for your Guest? Yes No
- Are you taking care of getting agape letters for your Guest? Yes No
- Are you bringing your Guest to East Bay Camp? Yes No
- Are you attending the Sponsor's Hour? Yes No
- Are you attending Candlelight? Yes No
- Are you attending the Closing Ceremony? Yes No
- Are you caring for your Guest's home needs during the weekend? Yes No
- Will you help your Guest get established in a Reunion Group? Yes No

Completing & Mailing the Application

After verifying the Guest Section and Sponsor Sections are complete, mail this two-page application and a \$25 check (or more if desired) written to "B/N Great Banquet" to the following address:

**Attention: Registrar
B/N Great Banquet Community
P.O. Box 707
Bloomington, IL 61702-0707**

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

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61701
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Inside ...

- ◆ Spring Guests!!!
- ◆ Brown Picnic 2010
- ◆ What Prison Ministry Means to Me
- ◆ Fall Team Rosters

Your Great Banquet Board of Directors

Shelly Hanover (Community Lay Dir.)	724-8800
CeAnn Kreun (Gatherings/Secretary)	662-4197
Alan Bruehl (Weekend Set Up/Clean Up)	662-1930
Estelle Brown (Agape Correspondence)	—
Willis Kern (Newsletter)	828-4447
Marty Thornton (Logan Liason)	662-4600
Marrita Taylor (Lincoln Liason)	962-9783
Karla Lohnes (Community Musician)	830-7394
Rich Irwin (Community Data)	662-5896
Gina Dew (Weekend Events)	378-3407
Bruce Tompkins (Weekend Events)	663-8189
John Plattner (Treasurer)	828-1684
Kevin Daugherty (4th Day/Reunion Grps)	962-3529
Randy Harmon (Wknd Set Up/Clean Up)	452-1533
Nick O'Neall (Wknd Set Up/Clean Up)	724-8817
Ralph Smith (Team Selection)	829-2004
Jill McNiff (Prayer Vigil/Special Projects)	824-2759
Rob Wall (Registrar)	663-7630
Lori Bultemeier (Com. Spiritual Director)	830-3078
Mel Devall (Ass't Com. Spirit. Director)	453-1571

Important Calendar Dates...

2010 Dates

Ice Cream Social/Community Training: July 27 —
6:30 p.m. Calvary United Methodist Church

Annual Picnic: Sat. Aug 28 — 5:30 p.m., Brown Farm,
Towanda at Shelbourne, Normal, IL

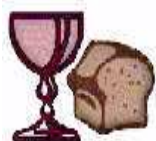
Men's Great Banquet #92: Sep. 9-12 — East Bay Camp
Team Dedication: Sunday, Sept. 5 — 6:00 p.m.
Calvary United Methodist Church

National Gathering: Sep. 16-18 — Lampstand
Presbyterian Church, Decatur, IL

Women's Great Banquet #93: Sept. 23-26 — East Bay
Camp Team Dedication: Sunday, Sep. 19 — 6:00 p.m.
Calvary United Methodist Church

Fourth Day Meeting: Thursday, Sep. 30th — 7:00 p.m.
Resurrection Lutheran Church

Lincoln Correctional Center GB #11: Oct. 15-17
Team Dedication: Sunday, Oct. 10 — 6:00 p.m.
Calvary United Methodist Church



“...Come, for all is now ready.”

Luke 14:17