



A Message from Pastor Mark...

Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass, and taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and said a blessing. Then he broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children. (Mat 14:19-21)

As I reflect on this time of year, I find myself thinking about the holidays of Thanksgiving and Christmas. For many, this is a most difficult time of year because on the one hand, we are supposed to be thankful; yet on the other hand, they worry that they will not have enough, either to feed their family for Thanksgiving, or to provide for their family for Christmas. On the one hand, we want to rejoice in the miracle of the birth of God's Son, while on the other hand, we think it will take a miracle for us to provide for those we love.

In Matthew, we read of Jesus miraculously providing food for over 5,000 people when all he had in the beginning was 5 little loaves of bread and a couple of fish. It was clearly too little for the need, but he didn't complain. Instead, he lifted what he had up to the Father and gave thanks for it.

Most likely, he said the traditional *motzi*, (the Hebrew blessing over bread):

Barukh atah ADONAI, Eloheynu melekh ha'olam, hamotzi lechem min ha'aretz. Amen.

Blessed are you, O LORD our God, king of the universe, who brings forth bread from the earth. Amen.

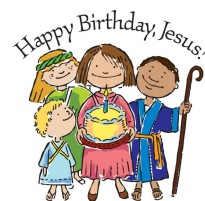
Consider that Jesus did not focus on the bread that he did not have. Rather, he gave thanks for the little that he did have. In his thanksgiving and adoration for the One who sovereignty provides for everyone, the little bread

Continued on page 2, column 2...



Christmas Decorating

We invite you to join us this Sunday evening as we decorate the church for Christmas. Cider and cookies will be provided for your enjoyment as well, so you will have opportunities to take breaks and visit. Anita Cassity has made this happen (mostly alone) the past several years, but she is in Alabama visiting family. So this year we are making it a team effort. You are welcome to come at any time and leave when you need to. We will start at 5:00pm bringing things down from storage. If we work together, we can get the job done quickly, and get into the Christmas spirit in the process. Contact Pastor Tony if you have questions.



Children's Christmas Program "Where's the Line?"

Sunday—December 11—6pm
 Dress Rehearsal—Saturday—December 10
 10am-1pm

ANNUAL REPORT NEWS

Please turn in your annual reports by
**Sunday
 December 11, 2011**



Christmas Service Schedule

Christmas Eve Service - Saturday, December 24—7pm
 Christmas Day (25th) Service - Combined Worship—10am

Please see the attached coupon for ordering your poinsettia this year. We regret that we have had to raise the price. It is due to the economy and Danville Area Community College Horticultural Department no longer has them available.

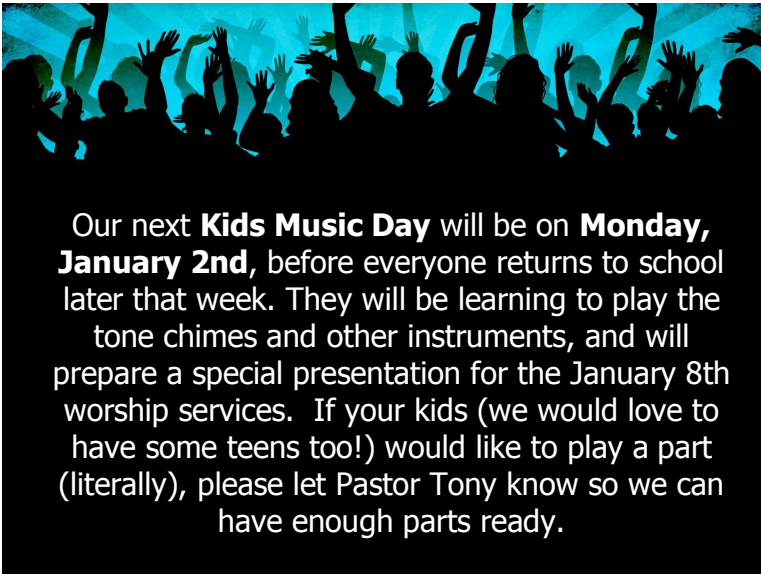
Sunday—December 18—6pm

Greg Strange is a Christian comedian and musician who specializes in making parodies of well-known secular



songs, changing the words into fun, hilarious lyrics. God has used Greg's music and humor to share the message of Jesus in a light-hearted but meaningful

way for the past 20 years. He will be at Ridgeview on Sunday morning, Dec. 18th, and then present a full program that evening at 6:00pm. This is a free event and we encourage you to invite friends and neighbors who would enjoy an evening of laughter and fellowship. Greg is currently on a tour that is taking him across the U.S., from Massachusetts to California. We are delighted that he is making a special trip to Danville to bless us with his ministry of encouragement. Watch for fliers in the bulletin to use to invite others!



Our next **Kids Music Day** will be on **Monday, January 2nd**, before everyone returns to school later that week. They will be learning to play the tone chimes and other instruments, and will prepare a special presentation for the January 8th worship services. If your kids (we would love to have some teens too!) would like to play a part (literally), please let Pastor Tony know so we can have enough parts ready.

Nursing Home Outreach

December Schedule

Monday—December 19

Bowman Estates—2pm

Monday—December 26

Danville Care—2pm

Pastor Mark's message continued from page 1...

he did have actually multiplied. What a beautiful picture of how we can respond during this season. When we don't have enough in life, we should resist complaining. We should stop focusing on what we lack and just give thanks. We need to take all the things we wish we had more of, lift them up to God and say the *motzi*.

When we give thanks to God, we too often receive the gift of doing more with less. It is like a miracle of multiplication. The blessings of our lives begin to multiply, our hunger will turn to fullness, and "not enough" can become "more than enough."

During this season, I pray that rather than be soured by what we don't have, we will be thankful for the One who provides miraculously.

Pastor Mark

SKWIM 2012 January 13-16

Important Dates

- December 4 – forms & \$50 deposit due to Pastor Ben
- January 1 – payments due in full to Pastor Ben

WHAT IS SKWIM?

SKWIM is a ski retreat designed to create a shared experience between students and adults. Our hope is that your group will have a great time, experience God in a unique way through worship and teaching, and grow closer to one another through the activities and group time together. Middle school, high school and college students are welcome to attend! SKWIM happens thanks to the support of the American Baptist Churches of the Great Rivers Region, all churches and denominations are welcome to participate.

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

Conference Cost = \$130 (covers rooming, food, programming)

Skiing and Snowboarding

Day 1 – \$55 if you need to rent equipment

\$35 if you own your own

Day 2 – Indoor Water Park = \$20

Meals covered in programming cost

- Saturday – breakfast, dinner

- Sunday – breakfast, lunch, pizza (late)

- Monday – breakfast * students will need to bring \$\$ for meals while traveling

If you plan on attending this trip, please download, and fill out the forms available online at our youth website, RidgeViewDanvilleYouth.com/Events/SKWIM to Pastor Ben with your \$50 deposit.



Thank You!

Pastor Mark and Church, Thank you all so much for your prayers and support for Terry's recent heart surgery.

We could feel God's hands and healing thru your prayers. We are blessed to have found a loving and supportive church family.

Terry and Jeannie Borgwald

The Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering
RMMO *connects generations*



We will have the Offering for the Retired Ministers and Missionaries for the entire month of December.

Since 1935 American Baptists have contributed to special offerings received in their churches for retired ABC ministers and missionaries or their widowed spouses. The Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering (RMMO) was established in 1977. Through this annual offering, American Baptist congregations say thank you in a tangible way to the denomination's retired ministers and missionaries or their widowed spouses.

The offering provides them with:

Emergency and other financial assistance, based on financial need; and "Thank You" checks, based on 15 or more years of ABC service.



Ridgeview Women We Are Gathering Household Items To Accompany the Deacon's Christmas Baskets.

Deadline is Saturday – December 10th - Noon
Please sign up in the Narthex.

Select an item or items and sign the square behind the post-it. Then take the post-it or post-its with you as a reminder of your items. There will be a pot-luck on Saturday, December 10th at Noon. Bring an unwrapped re-gift (something nice that you think someone else would like) and we will have a quick and easy gift exchange.



We will be preparing each basket for the Deacons to give on Saturday, December 17th. We hope to fill 20 baskets this year. There will be singing, games, fellowship and of course Good Food! **Thank you for caring about others and serving them in love.** Hope to See You There!

Operation Christmas Child Report.

We want to thank you all that brought shoeboxes this year. We had a total of 36 boxes wrapped and shipped to varying places around the world.

This year the Primetimers and the youth worked on getting the shoeboxes prepared to be shipped.



We would like to thank those that took the time out of their Saturday to come and help us sort, wrap and organize the boxes. Thank you: Kenneth Albin, Caitlin Downey, Theo Ellis, Gloria Brown, Toni Chase, Jonathan Starkey, Elsie Williams and Bob Young. A special thank you to Morris Starkey for delivering the boxes to Danville Alliance Church.

Thank you from: Primetimers and Pastor Ben

Ridgeview Baptist Church
3838 N Vermilion St
Danville, IL 61832
217-442-2210

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT #518
DANVILLE, IL 61832



November 23, 2011

Request for Our New English Standard Version Pew Bibles

The English Standard Version (ESV), which is an excellent translation, is loyal to the words of the original Hebrew and Greek. In the past, people have wanted to purchase a Bible for the church in memory of someone who has died or in honor of someone living. These Bibles are then marked with the appropriate information inside the front cover and placed in a pew as a way to remember our loved ones. If you would like to remember someone in this way, please fill out the information below, enclose it with \$10 for the Bible, and place it in an envelope in the morning offering, or turn it in to the Church office as soon as possible. If you would like to receive one of the NIV Bibles please check the box below and we will see that you receive one. Thank you.

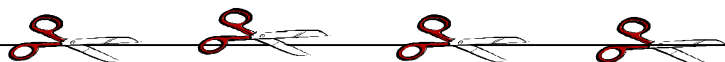
Bible Provided By

In Memory Of

Or

In Honor Of

I/We would like a copy of the current pew Bible.



Please cut and send to the church or place in the offering. Thank you.

RECURRING ACTIVITIES AND SERVICES

Sunday Worship Services: 8:40, 11:00am & 6pm

Power Hour—10am

EVERY MONDAY

Martha Emmert Quilting Circle—9am

Men's Fellowship and Bible Study—6pm

High School Guys & Girls Small Group—7pm

EVERY WEDNESDAY—SEE DECEMBER CALENDAR

"Net-Works" Men's Breakfast—6:30am

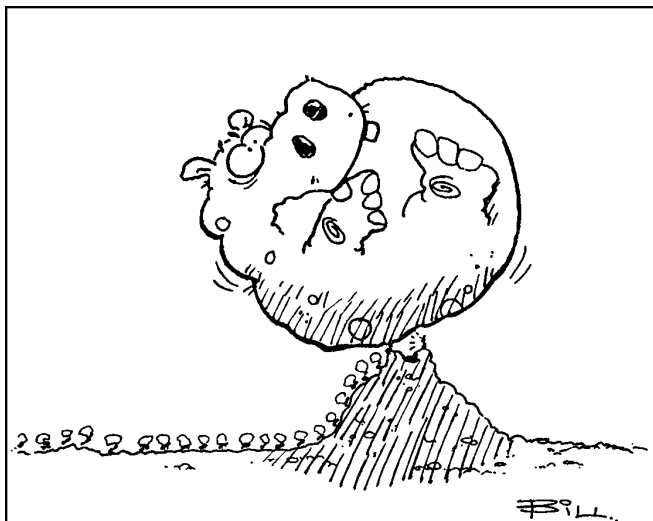
BurdenBearers—6:15pm

Wednesday Fellowship Ministry Meal—6pm

"Impact" Jr High—6:30pm

Financial Peace Class—6:30pm

Revive & Rejoice—KWAM—Choir—7pm



"Mahoney!! Don't you remember what God told Moses?! Just gather enough for today!!"