



Making More and Better Followers of Jesus Christ

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Nonprofit Organization
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New Berlin, IL 62670
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Core Values:

1. God's Word
2. Lordship of Jesus Christ
3. Great Commission
4. Ministry of the Holy Spirit
5. Christian Worship
6. Christian Unity
7. Christian Fellowship

Website-www.berlinchristianchurch.org
Facebook-Berlin Christian Church

Victories from 2018

1. 11 baptisms and 4 membership transfers
2. We gave 14% of our tithes/offerings to missions.
3. Hired our new full-time Associate Minister, Michael Hinnen
4. Added a Sunday evening Youth Group for junior high and high school students
5. BCC men attended the *Iron Sharpens Iron Conference* in Springfield, IL.
6. BCC women attended the *Joy in the Journey Conference* at Lincoln Christian University.
7. 65 children attended our *Deep Sea Discovery* VBS, at which we collected \$2000 for a Project H.O.P.E. house in Nicaragua.
8. 29 youth and 12 adults attended the Nationwide Youth Roundup in Sedalia, Colorado.
9. 15 of our youth attended summer camp at Lake Springfield Christian Assembly.
10. Collected body wash for 100 families and provided gifts for 25 children for the Angel Tree Collection
11. 2 adults and 1 youth attended the *Deeper Life Conference* at Ozark Christian College.
12. Sent 7 adults and 8 students to the International Conference on Missions and the Student International Conference on Missions, both held in Cincinnati, OH
13. Held a 24-hour prayer event on Good Friday
14. Collected 555 cans of soup for the Loami Area Food Pantry
15. Our God Squad youth filled 100 "Blessing Bags" for the homeless.
16. 10 youth and 3 adults attended the Winter Jam concert held in Peoria, IL.
17. Collected \$855.59 for the Living Alternatives Pregnancy Resource Center in Jacksonville, IL through their Baby Bottle Fundraiser initiative
18. Collected \$559 for Christmas gifts for the residents of Lewis Memorial Christian Village
19. Collected \$431.80 for the Loami Area Food Pantry Back-to-School Backpack Project
20. Held an all-church picnic at Lake Springfield Christian Assembly
21. Published our own 2018 BCC Pictorial Directory
22. Assembled a Christmas Choir which performed during Advent
23. Our God Squad youth filled Christmas goodie bags for the cafeteria, custodial and transportation staff of CUSD #16.
24. Filled and sent 138 *Operation Christmas Child* shoe boxes to various locations around the world
25. Provided and served a meal at a Springfield Warming Shelter
26. Sent 2 groups to work with the Hospital Sisters Mission Outreach Center, one in July and the other in November
27. 150 youth registered for our Wednesday night God Squad program.
28. Hosted a men's *Learning to Lead* training with 2 other churches
29. 21 men completed a 14-day *Love Dare* with their wives.
30. BCC continues to charter American Heritage Girls Troop IL1824 - a total of 9 years now.



Annual Report 2018

Making More and Better Followers of Jesus Christ



Praises to Our Great God!

15 Additions to the Church Family in 2018

In 2018, we had a total of 15 additions to the church family—11 baptisms and 4 membership transfers!

Baptisms

- Zach Clements—May 19, 2018
- Abby McCann—May 27, 2018
- Ellie McCann—May 27, 2018
- Carter Clair—July 8, 2018
- Brady Steele—July 26, 2018 at NYR
- Gerica Gillis—August 12, 2018 in the Nichols Park Pond in Jacksonville
- Weston Brosi—August 26, 2018 at LSCA
- Payton Hopper—September 16, 2018
- Kevin Joseph Howell—September 30, 2018
- Savana Howell—September 30, 2018
- Junior Curtis—December 23, 2018



Carter Clair was baptized by his dad, Brad Clair



Junior Curtis was immersed by Warren Brosi

Membership Transfers

- J.C. Rice—April 1, 2018
- Hal Sitterle—August 19, 2018
- Diana Sitterle—August 19, 2018
- Vonnie Anderson—December 9, 2018



Welcome to the family!
Please be in prayer for all of our newest members.

Sunday Worship Hours:

- J.A.M. Sessions (Birth—Adult): 9:00 a.m.
- Worship: 10:00 a.m.



- Minister:** Warren Brosi
- Associate Minister:** Michael Hinnen
- Administrative Ministry Assistant:** Jennifer Brewer
- Elders:** Dan Knappmeyer, Joe McCann, Jeff Mueller, & Mike Patterson
- Deacons:** John Babbs, Rick Carr, Brad Clair, Scott Keck, & Kristopher Maxson

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God Opens Floodgates Once More
Warren Brosi, Minister

10 Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this, says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it. Malachi 3:10 (NIV)

In the fall of 2017, following the completion of our mortgage for the new facility, our leaders decided to gift \$12,000.00 over the course of the following 12 months. The plan was to gift \$1,000.00 each month to bless our neighbors and the nations. These gifts showed our gratitude to God that He provided Berlin Christian Church to pay off the mortgage in less than nine years.

Those gifts went as far away as Thailand and Jamaica and stayed close to home blessing people in Loami and New Berlin. We supported Nate and Hope Van Ravenswaay with Campus Outreach in Chiang Mai, Thailand. In addition, we blessed our missionary friends, Errol and Carmen Bolt, and the ministry "Taking Christ to Jamaica. Many of those gifts stayed in our own community to provide groceries, medical needs, and utility bills.

In the fall of 2018, we fulfilled our commitment to gift the \$12,000.00. Within days of sending the final gift, Berlin Christian Church received a gift for \$70,000.00 and the words, "Maybe this can help with something big." Please join us in thanking God for His faithful generosity. Just weeks before receiving this gift, our leaders began talking about the future expansion of our ministry.

In addition to thanking God for his generosity, join our leaders in this season of prayer to seek God's wisdom and vision on the best way to use His gifts to make more and better followers of Jesus. Currently, we have invested this gift with the Solomon Foundation, a Christian organization that helps churches provide an avenue of greater ministry and extended impact.

In response to this gift, our leaders have agreed to gift another \$12,000.00 over the course of 2019. The first gift was sent in early January to Mathetes to assist with our mission trip in Digos City, Philippines with Rodger and Dixie Shewmaker.

Average Attendance

<u>Sunday Worship</u>	<u>J.A.M.</u>	<u>God Squad</u>	<u>Youth Group</u>
2014 - 137	2014 - 64	2014 - 79	2018 - 27
2015 - 149	2015 - 70	2015 - 83	
2016 - 148	2016 - 76	2016 - 83	
2017 - 147	2017 - 73	2017 - 71	
2018 - 141	2018 - 73	2018 - 71	

Church Finances

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Building Fund</u>
1/1/18	\$11,576.57	\$30,746.11
Deposited	\$255,097.60	\$75,161.86
Withdrawn	\$248,479.62	\$73,600.00
12/31/18	\$18,194.55	\$32,307.97

Given to Missions = \$36,859.94

That's 14% of our tithes and offerings!



"Every time I think about how God has brought us to BCC and the people here, gratitude fills my heart. Jonelle and I have been overwhelmed with love from so many of you." —Michael Hinnen, Associate Minister

Known, Valued, Loved
Michael Hinnen, Associate Minister

We had been at BCC for less than two weeks, and yet I was feeling overwhelmed. I had graduated in May with five years of college under my belt, but still felt unprepared. Questions were constantly circling in my mind: how do I help these students love Jesus? How do I help them to realize what their identity is? How do I help create a culture which cultivates students into Christlikeness? On top of those questions, we had just finished our traveling for two straight days, from BCC to Colorado on our annual NYR trip. We were only three days into the trip with seven days left, and I already felt like I was running on adrenaline alone. "Jesus, please help me," I prayed to myself.

Thankfully, NYR offers plenty of classes to attend, even as an adult leader. As I was skimming the list sitting in my tent, I saw they were offering a youth ministry class. Even though I wanted to spend time with the students in their classes, I decided to attend the youth ministry class. Boy, am I glad I did! The class was taught by Chad Monahan, an experienced student director for 20+ years (currently at a church in Indianapolis). Sitting in that log cabin my mind was blown, and more importantly, my philosophy for ministry was shaped.

My philosophy for ministry, which was directly taken from Chad (with his permission of course), is three words: known, valued, and loved. In everything, we want our students to feel known, valued, and loved, by God, our leaders, and other students. If we can make this our priority, I truly believe we will create a culture which cultivates students into Christlikeness. I think Luke 15 is where we can find such a philosophy for ministry.

Luke 15 contains three different parables, each with similar content, but each emphasizing different points. At the beginning of the chapter there are 100 sheep, and one is lost. But the shepherd does not forget about the sheep, even though he has 99 others; the sheep is not forgotten. Instead, the sheep is known, and the shepherd risks everything to go find it. The sheep is known to the shepherd, just as every person is known by God. **KNOWN.**

The second of the parables is about a woman who loses one of her ten silver coins. She carefully searches her entire house until she finds it, and when she does, she throws a party. Why? Because the coin was valuable to her! In the same way, everybody is valuable to Jesus. We know because, as Gene Appel says, "The value of something is determined by what someone is willing to pay for it." Jesus was willing to pay the ultimate price by giving His life for everyone's sins. **VALUED.**

Finally, Luke 15 comes to a climax in the final parable, often called the Prodigal Son. There is a father with two sons, and the younger of them wishes his father was dead. He takes his inheritance, goes off to sin-city, and "squandered his wealth in wild living" (Luke 15:13). The son finally reaches his breaking point when he is desiring to eat pig's slop. He decides to return home. But what will he come back home to find, a father who refuses to let him? No, he finds a father running towards him with his arms open wide. Despite his failures, his father let him come home and even threw a party for him. And despite all our failures, God will welcome us back home if we turn to him. Why? Because He loves us deeply. **LOVED.**

Known, valued, and loved. This is what we are all about here at BCC. Thank you for your partnership thus far in making this philosophy a reality, but we still have work to do. Please partner with us as we help our students, and adults, feel known, valued, and loved by Jesus.

Current Church Leadership

- Jeff Mueller—Elder and Chairman—Term Ends 2020
- Joe McCann—Elder and Vice Chairman—Term Ends 2019
- Dan Knappmeyer—Elder and Treasurer—Term Ends 2019
- Kris Maxson—Deacon and Clerk—Term Ends 2020
- Mike Patterson—Elder—Term Ends 2019
- John Babbs—Deacon—Term Ends 2020
- Rick Carr—Deacon—Term Ends 2019
- Brad Clair—Deacon—Term Ends 2020
- Scott Keck—Deacon—Term Ends 2021
- Joe Sutherland—Building & Grounds Supervisor

"Here is a trustworthy saying: Whoever aspires to be an overseer desires a noble task." 1 Timothy 3:1 (NIV)