

CHATHAM CHRISTIAN CHURCH
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Sunday Worship Service 9:15 AM
Bible School 10:45 AM

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Chatham, IL
Permit No. 9

I asked Mark to start getting a sermon ready at the beginning of the summer. I didn't know when I'd be taking off, but wanted him to be ready on short notice. A couple of times I suggested a particular date might be the one, but something always came up, or the weather was too bad to ride, and I didn't go anywhere.

In addition to that, projects at home and at the church kept us busy, and a vacation just slipped through our fingers. And now summer is over, and Mark hasn't had a chance to preach. So this Sunday, whether I'm here or not, Mark will be in the pulpit. Plan on hearing a great sermon.

And it is a good time for me to take a break from the pulpit. We finished I Peter last Sunday with a review of his focus on the past, future, and present aspects of grace, and we're ready to move into his second letter.

I read through II Peter again last week, and I'm really looking forward to it. It's amazing all that is packed into Peter's letters, even if, as we discovered last Sunday, he didn't actually pen them. Now don't panic, I'm not going theologically liberal on you. Peter told us Silvanus, or Silas, actually wrote the letters for him. And, as we also noted, that accounts for the good grammar and literary form of letters from a Galilean fisherman.

Anyway, as I started to say, I didn't realize until our recent study just how all-encompassing Peter's letters are. If all we had were the two letters from Peter, we'd have a good understanding of what Jesus accomplished for us on the cross, and how it should impact our lives. I'd never considered telling someone who is just beginning their study of Scriptures to begin with Peter's letters, but I may very well point them in that direction now.

Again, I don't know if I'll be here this Sunday or not. We're heading to St. Louis on Tuesday to celebrate our 46th anniversary, and I'm hoping to hop on the Harley sometime during the week, or go fishing, or stain the house. Whatever I/we end up doing, I'll be ready to venture into Peter's second letter with you on September 10th.

God Bless, Rick

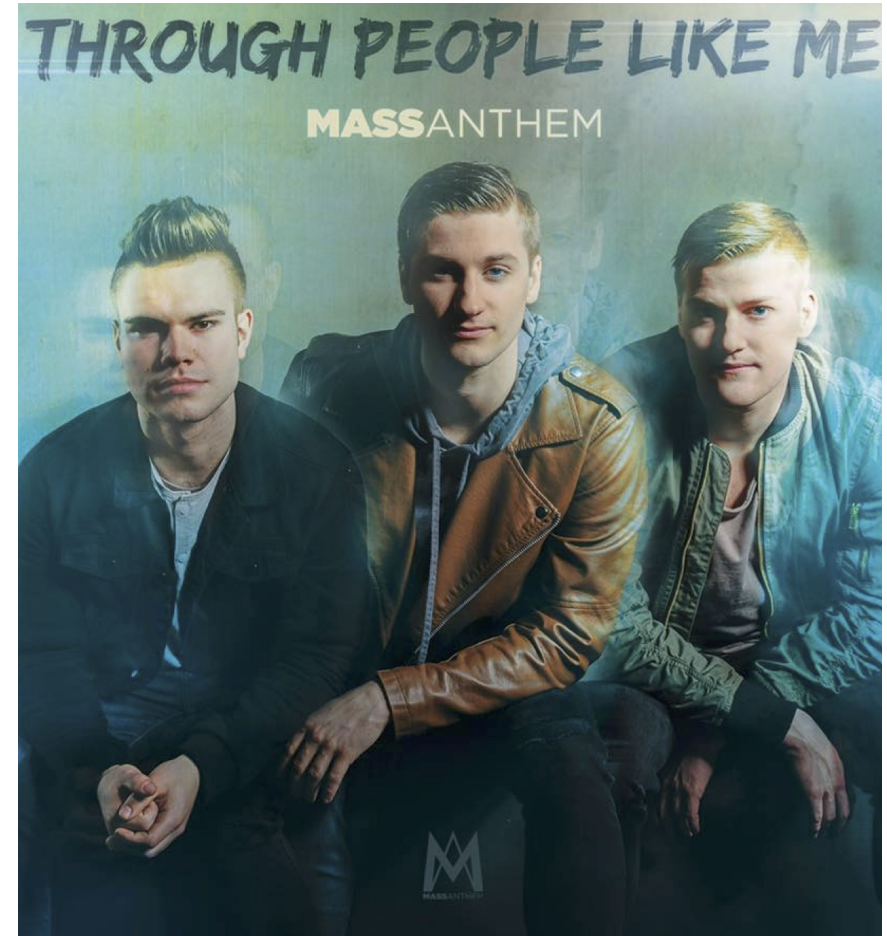


THE CHATHAM MESSENGER

VOLUME 47

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NUMBER 30



SUNDAY SEPT 17 | 7PM
FREE COMMUNITY CONCERT
CHATHAM CHRISTIAN CHURCH

STATISTICS

Worship 132
Offering \$4,668.00

SERVING THIS SUNDAY–9/3/17

Greeters Gary & Lori Gredzieleski
Visitors' Stand Rick & Janet Polley
Communion Meditation Kirk Polley
Chris Luzio
Ushers Paul Hunley
Gary Gredzieleski
Bob Williamson
Chad Formea
Jack Ruebush
Otto Huber

WORSHIP NURSERY

Toddlers Renee & Madison Bales
Infants Shannon Higgins
Courtney Bales
Sunday School
Toddlers Rhonda Luzio
Infants Janet Polley

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY–9/10/17

Greeters Judy Marlow
Visitors' Stand Beryl & Jamella Reese
Communion Meditation Kirk Polley
Chris Luzio
Ushers Paul Hunley
Gary Gredzieleski
Bob Williamson
Chad Formea
Jack Ruebush
Otto Huber

WORSHIP NURSERY

Toddlers Rhonda Luzio
Emily Hughes
Infants Dixie Williamson
Jake Divjak
Sunday School
Toddlers Rhonda Luzio
Infants Bonnie Ruebush

NO PAPER NEXT WEEK



SEPTEMBER SERVERS

9/17 & 9/24: Mark Huber, Chris Luzio

SEPTEMBER PROJECTIONIST

Chris Luzio

SEPTEMBER GREETERS

9/17 Rick & Janet Polley
9/24 Beryl & Jamella Reese

SEPTEMBER VISITORS' STAND

9/17 Bonnie Ruebush
9/24 Bob & Dixie Williamson

SEPTEMBER NURSERY

Worship - 9/17

Toddlers: Nikki & Anna Hunley
Infants: Kelly Donaldson
Kate Sperry

Sunday School

Infants: Jeni Sperry

Worship - 9/24

Toddlers: Erica Blakley
Grace Hunley
Infants: Julie & Abbie Divjak

Sunday School

Infants: Dixie Williamson



The hurricane and resultant flooding in Houston and other communities in the path of recent destruction are, of course, cause for prayer and compassionate help. The question has been raised about a congregational response, but until the elders prayerfully evaluate the situation and consider appropriate responses, we encourage everyone to simply respond individually as the Lord leads them.

We haven't heard from anyone who has family or friends directly impacted by the storm, but are pleased to report that Craig and Barb Moore are fine.

Please pray for all who are in need of comfort and help, and do as you are led to do.



Please allow me to clarify why the High School kids committed to raising \$100 for Ireland at this year's MOVE conference. The CIY organization has been working with a group in Ireland for years to help spread the gospel to the youth of that country. Overall, church attendance is on the decline and combined with a teen suicide rate that surpasses our own, there is a definite need for the love of Christ to be shared.

At each MOVE conference, groups committed to raising \$100 specifically to begin the planning process of taking a MOVE conference to the nation of Ireland. I'm proud of our kids to join in this effort. For High Schoolers who are participating, we are still planning to meet at the church on Labor Day at 10:00am for our project. Please bring money for a lunch and we will be done sometime early in the afternoon.



As you know, we all continually support Jesse's ministry in Thailand through our giving and prayers. During our offering time at Junior Worship, we pass around a big fat Piggybank specifically for Lisu Bibles.

Over time, their giving really adds up! When we combined it with our VBS offerings, we ended up with \$304.15 to contribute to the Lisu Bible Fund. Thank you kids for giving !



On the front page, Chad Sowards is the one in the middle and Tyler is to his left. These two young men grew up here in Chatham while their father was a pastor at the First Church of the Nazarene in Springfield. Tyler was in Olivia's class at Glenwood while Chad was two years behind, but they were all in Show Choir together and became good friends. Tyler and Chad were always game for good clean fun, like jumping the Huber fence around midnight in the summer for an uninvited swim amongst many other High School shenanigans.

Their dedication to Christ was evident in their High School years. I am so happy there are staying true to their faith. As musicians, they are FANTASTIC! I encourage everyone to go to their website and listen to a few of their songs. Their lyrics are put to a tempo that is upbeat and fun, yet at the same time worshipful and point others to the graces of our Lord. They currently reside in Nashville and are gaining interest by some large record labels for their next project.

My thought behind having Mass Anthem for our kick-off is not only to provide a fun platform for our kids, but also to provide a venue to invite others. Flyers will be available this Sunday to pass out to neighbors. We are listed as having a free community concert on the website for both WBGL and WICI. At least two weeks prior, we plan to post the flyer on the Chatham Community Facebook page and we have an electronic copy if you would like to do the same. Let's use this as an opportunity to share our church with others and the Christ centered programing we put together for all ages.