

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 guess it shouldn't surprise us that good news is quickly followed by bad news. Shortly after an angel declared, "I bring you good news of a great joy which shall be for all the people," and the magi came from the east asking, "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews," Herod was moved with jealousy and lied in an attempt to remove the King he thought to be a threat to his throne.

I'm sorry to have to report that in similar fashion, the good news we received from Haiti has been followed by what appears on the surface to be bad news. I wouldn't even share it with you during this time of year, but everyone who is supporting a student at Haitian Christian Ministries has probably received a letter that makes serious charges against the current leadership of the mission.

Shortly after we started supporting the mission, the founder, Manno Laguerre, unexpectedly passed away. For a time the leadership passed to his widow, Prisca. When the board noticed a lack of transparency and accountability in the finances of the mission, Prisca was asked to make some changes. She refused to do so, and was eventually asked to step down from leadership.

When Mark and I met with the chairman of the board and the two lead pastors a couple of months ago, we were thrilled to hear of the progress the mission was making. Not only are more children being served, but new churches are being planted in Northern Haiti. We were impressed by the straightforward answers to the questions we asked by the chairman and Pastor Paul, who is now heading up the mission in Haiti. We are confident that the mission is in good hands.

The letter that many of you received from Prisca is apparently the result of hurt and bitterness, and after conferring with Mark Zimmerman, who is on the board, we can assure you that the accusations are a misrepresentation of the facts. We are very thankful for the opportunity to be supporting a very effective ministry in Haiti, and appreciate your confidence in the elders who oversee the generous mission giving of our congregation.

God Bless, Rick



THE CHATHAM MESSENGER

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47th Annual Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service



Our annual Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service will be held at 7:00 this Sunday evening. In addition to celebrating Christ's presence in our lives through communion, we will be celebrating His birth through the singing of carols and a variety of musical specials.



Church sponsored nativity at entrance to Light up the Park

STATISTICS

Worship 127
Offering \$4,704.39

SERVING THIS SUNDAY-12/24/17

Greeters	Duane Carrell
Visitors' Stand	Chris & Rhonda Luzio
Communion Meditation	Paul Hunley
	Mark Huber
Ushers	Gary Gredzieleski
	Bob Williamson
	Rick Polley
	Jeff Edmiston
	Chris Luzio
	Kent Ballard
WORSHIP NURSERY	
Toddlers	Karen Mann
	Reagan Formea
Infants	Janet Polley
	Emily Hughes
	Sunday School
Toddlers	Julie Divjak
Infants	Bonnie Ruebush
	Erica Blakley

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY-12/31/17

Greeters	Judy Marlow
Visitors' Stand	Rick & Janet Polley
Communion Meditation	Paul Hunley
	Mark Huber
Ushers	Gary Gredzieleski
	Bob Williamson
	Rick Polley
	Jeff Edmiston
	Chris Luzio
	Kent Ballard
WORSHIP NURSERY	
Toddlers	Shannon Higgins
	Jake Divjak
Infants	Rhonda Luzio
	Madison Bales
	Sunday School
Toddlers	Julie Divjak
Infants	Kristin Polley
	Jeni Sperry

NO PAPER NEXT WEEK

MERRY CHRISTMAS



JANUARY SERVERS

1/7 & 1/14: Rick Polley, Chris Luzio
1/21: Paul Hunley, Chris Luzio
1/28: Jonathan Sperry, Chris Luzio
Ushers: Chad Formea, Will Bartels
Chuck McLaughlin, Brad Stirmell
Kirk Polley, Duane Carrell

JANUARY PROJECTIONIST

Chris Luzio

JANUARY GREETERS

1/7 Lee & Schar Zimmerman
1/14 Will & Sara Bartels
1/21 Chuck & Janice McLaughlin
1/28 Rhonda Luzio

JANUARY VISITORS' STAND

1/7 Gary & Lori Gredzieleski
1/14 Chris & Rhonda Luzio
1/21 Rich & Karen Mann
1/28 Judy Marlow

JANUARY NURSERY

Worship - 1/7

Toddlers: Sara & Regan Bartels
Infants: Kristin Polley
Janice McLaughlin
Jake Divjak

Sunday School

Toddlers: Julie Divjak
Infants: Bonnie Ruebush
Kileen Huber



Dear Church Family,

I want to thank your for the thoughtful gift that was given to me as I resigned from directing the musical. I have greatly enjoyed working with the children to produce nine shows. Your encouragement and support all those years was greatly appreciated. With much love & gratitude,
Jeni Sperry

AFFIRMATION OF ELDERS & FINANCIAL PROJECTION

We are pleased to announce that the elders and the financial projection for 2018 were overwhelmingly affirmed last Sunday.



Everyone is invited to ring in the new year with your church family at the Lakeview Lodge this New Year's Eve. As we did last year, the church will be providing Italian Beef for dinner. To compliment the sandwiches, please bring a side dish or desert along with a 2 liter bottle of soda to share with everyone as we munch the night away. We plan to begin at 6:30 and then of course conclude shortly after midnight.



Adult Volunteers

Thank you Jonathon, Casey, Paul, Chad, Connor and Chris for agreeing to help out with the Amazing Race for the Jr./Sr. High groups. If anyone else is willing to help out, I could use a few more adult volunteers to make sure everything runs smoothly. See me on Sunday if you can help!



High School Students

A MidWinter Retreat for area High School Students will hosted by LSCA on January 12th through the 14th. The weekend is designed to encourage you in your faith and provide a platform to reconnect with camp friends. You can register and get more information at the LSCA website.

New Year's Eve Eve!!!

The behind the scenes planning for our annual Jr./Sr. High tradition is about complete! For those who have never experienced this overnight event, it will be a fun filled night on Friday, December 29th packed with tons of activities.

This year, the New Year's Eve Eve will kick off here at CCC at 4:00pm. So you have an idea of what to bring, below is a tentative schedule for the night/morning. It is subject to change, but some specifics are below.

- **THE AMAZING RACE!!!** We will break into our teams and start the race at 4:00pm. Everyone needs to bring \$15 for this part of the evening to spend around the surrounding area depending on the clues you decipher. Bring a big appetite this year as the eating challenge is a classic!
- Broom-ball at the Nelson Center from 9:15-10:15. Bring a hat, a pair of gloves and \$10 as we slip and slide our way around the ice rink.
- It's a tradition to invade Steak and Shake at some point in the evening, so after broom-ball seems like the best time. Make sure you have a little extra money for whatever you feel like ordering. In the interest of others, no chili please.
- We should get to LSCA around midnight to play a couple rounds of dodgeball and have an energizing nerf gun war to keep us moving and alert.
- Finally, around 2am, we'll head back to the church for the rest of the evening. We usually play a couple games and watch a movie until the sun comes up and we head home.

The event concludes at 7am on Saturday. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board and so far it looks like we will have over 20 kids! Please add your name on Sunday if you have decided to attend so I can finalize the final details!