

**CHATHAM CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
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Chatham, Illinois 62629

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**Sunday Worship Service**  
**Bible School**  
**9:15 AM**  
**10:45 AM**

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She really wanted to get ahold of us. She left a message on the church phone, and on Mark's and my cell phone. The call came from North Carolina, and when Mark couldn't understand what she was saying, he deleted it, thinking it was a telemarketer. I was at home, and at first thought the same thing. But I listened long enough to hear her mention Chatham Christian Church and my name, so I listened again carefully.

She gave her name, and said she had been listening to the podcasts from our church, and was pretty impressed. She went on to say she was an Israeli Christian, a Reformed Jewish lady believing in God like Abram, and got Jesus fourteen beautiful years ago. She said she now has a relationship with God through Jesus, believes in Him and loves Him.

She said if I could call her she would appreciate it, and of course I did. She was thrilled to hear from me, and had some very complimentary things to say about my sermons. I would tell you what she said but Marilyn won't let me repeat them, thinking they will give me a big head.

We had a delightful time talking together, and I discovered her name was Edna, the same as my mom's, so our connection deepened. She told me a bit more about her history and her family. Sadly she said her parents died without knowing Jesus, and her daughter doesn't like to talk about Him much. She, on the other hand loves to talk about Him, and wondered if would be alright if she told others about our podcasts. She said she listens to one every day during her personal study time, and was even then downloading three of them.

The fact that someone in North Carolina had found our website and was listening to sermons from CCC blew me away. I may be preaching most of the sermons, but turning them into podcasts that are heard through the internet is something that is done by a team of techies headed by Chris Luzio. Their efforts in getting the word out is apparently bearing fruit, and I am so grateful for our shared ministry.

It probably comes as no surprise, but I had to ask Chris how to even get podcasts on a smart phone. In case you don't know either, all you have to do is go to the App Store and download any podcast app, and then type in Chatham Christian Church.

I had to laugh when I found it and under *Best of the Podcast* was listed "But I say...Adultery" and "Balaam and His Donkey." I laughed even harder when under *You Might Also Like* it suggested Joel Osteen's podcast.

God Bless, Rick

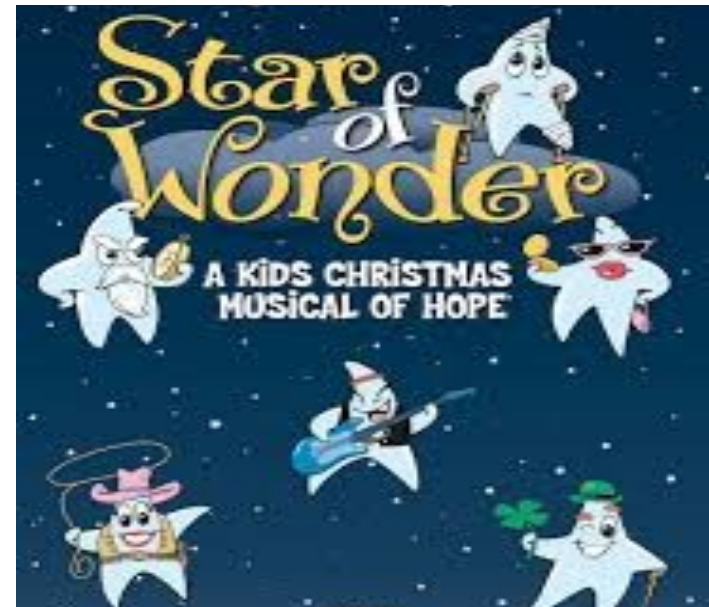


## THE CHATHAM MESSENGER

VOLUME 47

December 5, 2018

NUMBER 41



## Children's Christmas Musical

This Sunday, December 9th, 9:15

Reception to follow during Sunday School time

## STATISTICS

Worship ..... 126  
Offering ..... \$8,107.78

## SERVING THIS SUNDAY-12/9/18

Greeters ..... Bonnie Ruebush  
Visitors' Stand ..... Rich & Karen Mann  
Communion Meditation ..... Paul Hunley  
Scott Bales  
Ushers ..... Will Bartels  
Rick Polley  
Chris Luzio  
Brad Stirmell  
Scott Bales  
Duane Carell

NO NURSERY THIS SUNDAY



--Darrin Burdinsky's mom and others in Taylorville who had their homes damaged or destroyed in the tornado.

--Jim Sexton in rehab at Lewis Memorial.  
--Co-worker of Renee Bales at the unexpected death of her daughter.



The CCC mailbox for Christmas greetings is on the table in the hallway. Please feel free to use it to exchange Christmas cards with each other.

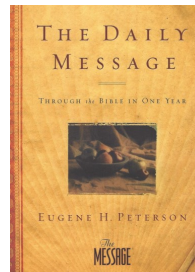
## Christmas Eve

Anyone who would be willing to present a special musical number or reading at our Christmas Eve service is asked to let Rick know ASAP.

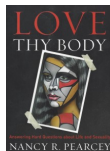


The CCC Ladies' Christmas Ornament Exchange will be held at Mario's next Tuesday, December 11th at 6:00. Dinner will be your choice off the menu. Those coming are asked to bring a wrapped Christmas ornament for the exchange.

There is a sign up on the bulletin board to aid in planning, but feel free to come even if you are unable to sign up.



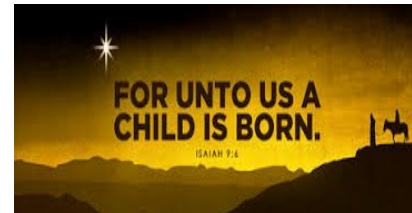
Those who committed to reading through *The Message* paraphrase of the Bible in 2019, and asked us to order one for them, can pick up their copy this Sunday morning from the hall table. We have also made copies of the schedule of the daily readings for any who want to use their own larger print copy of *The Message*, or simply wish to read through the Bible in any translation with us this year.



The adult study of *Love Thy Body* will continue this Sunday evening while all youth groups will be meeting at 6:30.



Our youth groups worked hard last Sunday and have now made 14 blankets for the chemotherapy patients at Springfield Clinic. We have just a few more to finish, then we will be delivering them next week along with an encouraging note from our group. Thank you to all who donated in the past for this service project. The Junior and Senior High students are always willing to serve, whether it is an idea I put forth or one they come up with on their own. Due to Mother Nature, we were unable to rake leaves this fall, so our first service project next spring will be raking leaves as soon as possible. After that, if you have an idea for a good spring project, please let me know and I am sure the kids will be willing to help!



### Jr. High and High School

During FUSE this week, we are going to have a timely lesson on Christmas! At this time of year we focus our energy on the Christmas story as we talk about the birth of Jesus, but that is not the beginning. This week, we are going to look at the WHOLE STORY beginning way back in Genesis along with a game to tie it all together!



### Jr. High and High School

If you are new to either one of these groups this year, this is a party you don't want to miss! We will be having our White Elephant Gift Exchange during FUSE time on Sunday, December 16th. I'll explain all the rules that night, which are easy to follow, so all you need to do is find the perfect gag gift laying around to wrap up and unload on somebody at our party!