

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

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We began Wednesday night's Bible study with a look at a song in Isaiah that pictured God's people as a vineyard God had planted, cared for, and protected. He expected it to produce good grapes, but it only produced worthless ones, so He removed its hedge and allowed it to be trampled. The hedge was a wall of thorn bushes or trees, like the hedge rows that were planted on farms to contain and protect livestock before barbed wire was invented.

The mention of a hedge led us to a couple of other passages where hedges can be found. In Job 1:10 Satan insisted that Job only served God because He had made a hedge about him to protect him. And in Hosea 2:6 we're told that God hedged up Hosea's unfaithful wife with thorns so she would no longer sin against him. These verses have led some to believe we should pray a "hedge of protection" to keep us safe from all harm, or a "hedge of thorns" to keep those we love from being tempted by sin.

In Psalm 91 David does say that God will keep plagues from the tents of His people, protect them in battle, and that no evil will befall them. His confidence in God's protection is held up as a promise of what God will do for us if we'll just trust Him, and pray a "hedge of protection."

Is it wrong ask God to protect us from COVID, war, and evil? Of course not. Is it wrong to ask God to help someone resist temptation? Of course not. But did He promise to do so if we'd just pray a special prayer? I don't think so.

When the disciples asked Jesus to teach them to pray, He did teach them to pray "lead us not into temptation" and "deliver us from evil." But He did not give them a prayer that would guarantee they would be given whatever they asked for.

As I said in Sunday's sermon on playing God, I think we should all regularly remind ourselves that "He is God, and I am not."

God Bless, Rick



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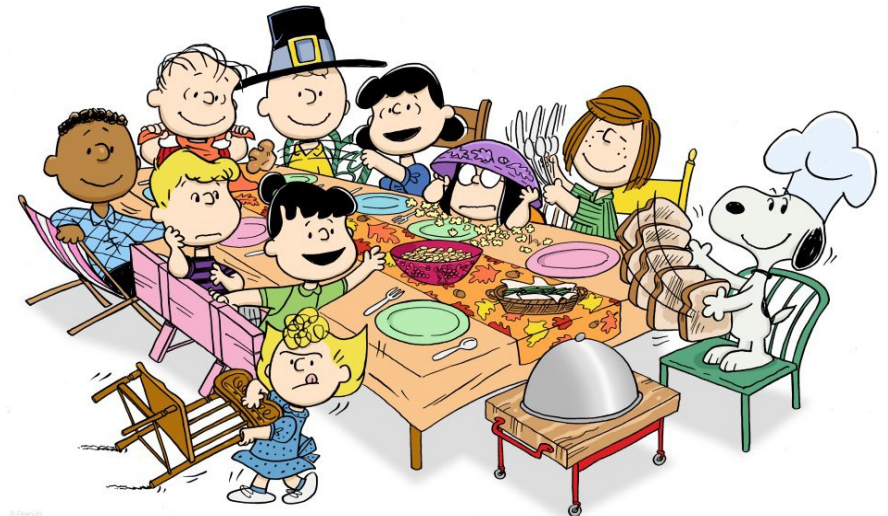
NUMBER 17

Thanksgiving Pot-luck Dinner

Sunday evening, November 21st

Program at 5:00

Dinner at 5:30



STATISTICS		
	10/24	
Worship		77
Offering		\$2,890.72
	10/31	
Worship		118
Offering		\$9,352.97
	11/7	
Worship		105
Offering		\$4,561.00



Thanksgiving Dinner

Our annual Thanksgiving Dinner will be held on Sunday evening, November 21st, at 5:00. We still call it a "pot-luck" because everyone is asked to bring a dish to share, but we are taking some of the luck out of the dinner this year. An additional sign-up of requested food items has been added to the turkey sign-up on the bulletin board to make sure we have plenty of everything that's expected at a Thanksgiving dinner.

And do note that there is something wrong with the dinner pictured above. The turkey isn't carved, and the pies aren't cut! Please make sure everything you bring is **READY TO SERVE**. And please try to have it here at least a few minutes before 5:00 so the tables can be set before the program begins.

NEW FELLOWSHIP DIRECTORIES

New fellowship directories listing names, addresses, phone numbers, and emails are now available on the sermon table and in the hall rack. If errors are noted, or additions or subtraction desired, please let Rick know and changes will be made on the next edition.



Speed Painting Presentation

A special Thanksgiving speed painting presentation by Matt Lovell will precede our Thanksgiving Dinner at 5:00.



Jim & Mary Sexton

The family of Jim and Mary Sexton are planning a celebration of life to be held at the church on Saturday, December 4th at 1:00. Those coming will be invited to share memories if they desire, and all are invited to a reception in the fellowship hall following the celebration.



Our annual blood drive will be held this Saturday between 10:00 and 2:00. There is no need to register before coming, so simply come if you wish to donate.



Jr/Sr High

It won't be long and the trees will shed the rest of their leaves. If you own a yard that produces tons of leaves, our kids would love to help you rake them up this fall. It has become a tradition every year to rake and then go somewhere for a well earned delicious hamburger, but they still have a choice to agree to do it or not. I was happy to hear a resounding yes when I mentioned this service activity again.

The date we are choosing is Saturday, December 11th and here is why. The long range forecast for that day is 39 degrees in the afternoon. Who knows if that is accurate, but if it is even close to that temperature, we can handle that. Secondly, that gives the leaves a whole month to fall so we can get the most possible. Finally, Chatham picks up yard waste bags during the week of November 15th and December 13th. This would ensure we hit the free pick up window instead of paying \$1.50 per bag or whatever the price is for your service.

If we can help you, please let me know anytime and I'll put you on the list!



Jr/Sr High

I would definitely like to do this again with everybody! I bet this year, we could get 20 kids easy, we could break up into two large teams and that would be a blast. So, let's try to find a date to plan this! Saturdays get pretty congested throughout the holiday season, but look at your schedule and this Sunday we will agree upon a date where most can attend.



High School

The game is afoot! Sherlock and Watson are hosting a dinner party with an intriguing group of guests at their flat on Baker Street. The guests range from high society bankers and aristocrats to cooks, maids and the local rat catcher. There is quite a bit of chatter around London these days as the infamous villain Lord Blackstone actually assisted Scotland Yard in the capture of the equally vicious villain Victor von Vacher.

Has Lord Blackstone turned over a new leaf and abandoned his growing group of followers? Or is this all a ruse to gain the trust of those he seeks to destroy, this group of people? This will be a party you won't want to miss!

The fun begins the moment you arrive on the parking lot this Saturday evening at 6:00pm. Upon arrival, we will be taking some pictures, and once everyone is here, we will get a nice group picture. Then, the first clues will be handed out and you will begin to mingle with the other players to discuss the clues on the cards. Pay close attention as potential motives are revealed for what will soon follow in the game.

Snacks and dinner will be provided throughout the evening. If you have any questions about your character or costume ideas, please do not hesitate to reach out. We are pretty much maxed out with the number of players, currently we have 18 committed. But, I hate to turn people away. If you have a friend who hears about our little get together and wants to come, again, don't hesitate to reach out to me. I am sure we can find a solution and include them this Saturday.

Looking forward to a fun night!