

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

If you haven't read the letter from the Christian HolyLand Foundation on the inside, please do so. We were unaware of this ministry until the letter arrived, and were excited to discover that churches that share our heritage and beliefs are actively ministering in the Holy Land. And we were especially excited about being able to help them minister to Christians during the current situation in Israel. Due to the financial health of our church, we were able to send \$2,500 to help meet this need. Thank you for your faithful stewardship, and for trusting the elders to discern how the Lord would have us spend your tithes and offerings.

Our current interest in the Holy Land was obviously stimulated by your sending us there. When we returned, I decided to postpone the planned study for Sunday night and share with you archaeological findings that helped identify the places we visited. We spent a couple of months doing so, and are now ready to begin an epic, around-the-world journey through Christian history.

Our journey will be led by Tim Challies, a Canadian pastor and blogger who is visited by more than 30,000 every day. I have turned to him several times over the years to find out what he thought about something, and have found him to be a solid biblical thinker. When I learned of his epic journey I thought it would make a great Sunday night study, and shared the idea with the class. They liked it, and I ordered the needed copies of his book. Then I discovered he had a ten-week video series that takes us to the location of the objects of Christian history he highlights in the book, and I bought it.

On Sunday January 7th, at 6:30, we'll be joining Tim on his epic journey. We'll begin by going to Jerusalem, and then to Rome. After that we'll go to twenty-five countries, always looking for objects that stimulate our thoughts about how the church and the message of Christ has gone around the world. We'll intersperse the videos with articles from his book. Do plan on joining us on a journey that will be very interesting and rewarding. God Bless, Rick

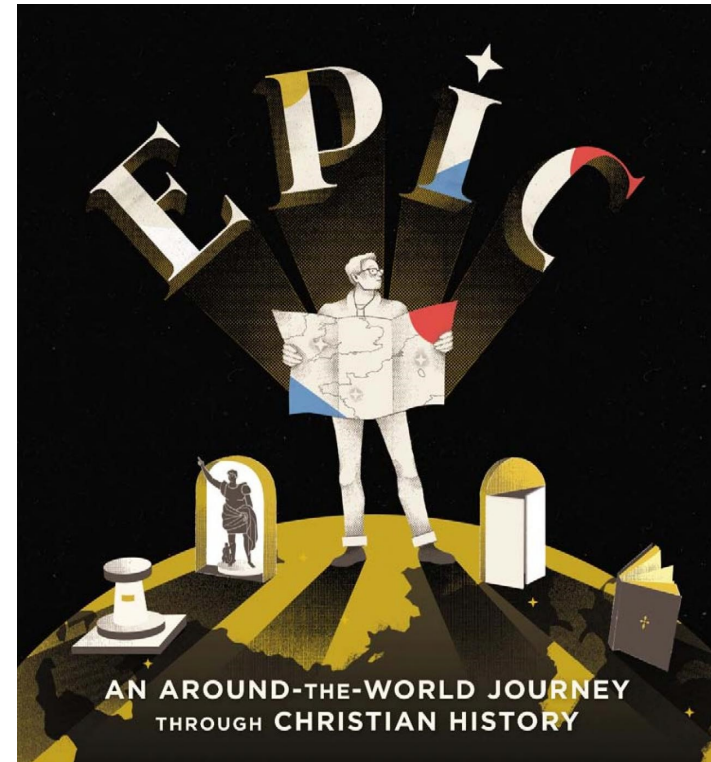


THE CHATHAM MESSENGER

VOLUME 52

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NUMBER 1



BEGINNING JANUARY 7TH 6:30

STATISTICS		
Worship	12/3	104
Offering		\$23,000.30
Worship	12/10	170
Offering		\$3,083.00
Worship	12/17	113
Offering		\$5,614.76
Worship	12/24	119
Offering		\$11,405.21

ELDERS & PROJECTION UNANIMOUSLY AFFIRMED

We are pleased to announce that Casey Blakley, Paul Hunley, Chris Luzio, and Jonathan Sperry were all unanimously affirmed to continue serving as elders of Chatham Christian Church in 2024.

The financial projection, anticipating the need for \$341,700 in 2024, and requiring an averaged offering of \$6,680 per week, was also affirmed unanimously.

We are so grateful for the way God is blessing and using us, for the spirit of harmony that exists in our congregation, and for the confidence that has been shown in our leadership.



Our Christmas mail box is overflowing! Be sure to check in the appropriate alphabetical slot to see if a greeting is awaiting you.



Dear Chatham Christian Church,
As part of the Christian Church and Church of Christ family, I want to be sure that you are aware of the work of the Christian HolyLand Foundation in Israel and Palestine. Since the early 1980s, through evangelism, discipleship, church planting, and practical aid in difficult times, we have partnered with believers who call this complicated land home. To our knowledge, CHLF is the only ongoing work in Israel born out of and supported by Restoration Movement churches.

Since the horrendous attacks on October 7th, believers around the world have been horrified and saddened by the continued death and destruction as this conflict grinds on in the land where Jesus walked. What is absent from most news reports, however, is that a remnant of indigenous Christ followers remains in the Holy Land. Even though they are only about 2% of the population, these faithful believers are deeply rooted in their communities; they trace their spiritual roots to the New Testament Church! They are sacrificially loving their neighbors, seeking peace, and testifying to the Gospel of Jesus of Nazareth.

Within hours of the Saturday morning terror attack, our team began organizing prayer, pastoral care, and practical aid for those in need. In the weeks since, we have helped Messianic Jews and Arab Christians provide shelter, food, and spiritual comfort to families across the land. The diverse body of Christ in the Holy Land is working together at an unprecedented level right now to practice the way of the Prince of Peace within hurting and angry communities.

I invite you to join our work among local believers in the Holy Land by giving a special emergency donation to assist families devastated by this war. It would be an honor to be your hands and feet during this time.



SuperStart! 4th & 5th Grade

The conferences organized by Christ in Youth are always informational and enjoyable. This year, SuperStart will be held in Bloomington on January 26th & 27th. If we register by January 8th, the cost of the conference is \$59.

The theme for SuperStart this year is 3E which stands for everyone, everything and everywhere. SuperStart incorporates active participation in games and other illustrations to share the good news concerning Jesus. By discovering their skills and talents, the goal is that all students will see that everyone can be a kingdom worker by using everything they have been given, everywhere they go.

If interested, please see me for more details and get excited about a great time at SuperStart!



Junior High School

Winter Blast is your midwinter retreat this year! It will be held over the weekend of February 2nd-4th. The cost is \$135 which, if registered by January 15th, includes a free t-shirt. Just like the high school retreat, this is a great weekend to connect with camp friends and worship together. Registration is open at lscacamp.org.



High School

The High School Midwinter Retreat has been growing in popularity over the past few years. It provides a time for students to reconnect with summertime camp friends, make new friends, worship together and strengthen their relationship with Christ. Also, the Great Klondike Race of 2024 is scheduled to occur. Whatever that is, it sound like fun!

Check in is on January 12th at 5:30pm with check out being noon on January 14th. The cost is \$135 which covers everything for the entire weekend. If interested, you can register online at lscacamp.org.



Junior High Youth Group

Do you see the shark lurking beneath the water? Just like a scuba diver descends into the depths of the ocean to examine the wonders beneath the surface, we also are going to deep dive to discover who we are and who we are becoming in Christ.

As we venture beneath the surface, we'll look at Jesus' time in the temple, His baptism, His relationship with the disciples and the Great Commission to help further clarify our identities in Him. I look forward to discussing these topics with everyone soon!