

CHATHAM CHRISTIAN CHURCH
9897 So. Main St., P.O. Box 527
Chatham, Illinois 62629

Church Office 217-483-3987
www.chathamchristian.org

Rick Wenneborg, Minister
cell phone 217-836-4971
Rick@chathamchristian.org

Mark Huber, Youth Minister
cell phone 217-971-3075
hubermark2@gmail.com

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

I read an interesting essay last week that began, "When the phonograph was invented, the composer John Phillip Sousa was heartbroken. In a 1906 article on 'The Menace of Mechanical Music,' he worried out loud that recording tools would reduce music from a matter of the heart and soul to a mere mechanical process." The article really caught my attention because I used to love listening to an original recording of Sousa's band playing *Stars and Stripes Forever* on my dad's Edison phonograph in the attic.

Sousa was worried that recorded music would make us less likely to make music ourselves, and asked, "Why learn to play the piano when you could simply press play?" For Sousa, half of the beauty in music comes from the personal element of its performance. He asked, "When a mother can turn on the phonograph with the same ease that she applies to the electric light will she croon her baby to slumber with sweet lullabies, or will the infant be put to sleep by machinery?"

The purpose of the essay really wasn't to discuss Sousa's concerns about the phonograph, but to call our attention to gains and losses in the use of AI. The author noted that it's being sold on the premise that it has the ability to chat with you like you a dear friend or give you mental health counseling. He notes, however, that in doing so it robs us of what is most truly intimately human: personal relationships. That friendship, therapy, and family are not merely about mouthing the right sounds or typing the right words.

I think we should indeed be careful about using AI in ways that diminish humanity, but I must admit I'm thankful that Chris used his iPhone to record a few of Bonnie's songs during the Covid lockdown. Carole had to retire from accompanying due to her health, and Scott was on vacation last week, so Bonnie was back on the piano...sorta.

God Bless, Rick



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LSCA SUMMER CAMP 2025

Age / Grade	Session	Date	Fees**
TRADITIONAL CAMPS			
2nd—4th	First Chance	July 7-8	\$105
3rd—5th	Trailblazers	June 29— July 2	\$290
5th & 6th	Camp 56	June 23-27	\$330
7th & 8th	Junior High	July 13-18	\$400
9th Grade	Niners	June 15-20	\$400
10th—Just Grad.	High School	June 8-13	\$400
10th—Just Grad.	HS Deeper	July 10-11	\$105
ADVENTURE CAMPS			
5th & 6th	Adventure Camp 56	July 6-8	\$200
6th-8th	JH Xtreme-Day Camp	June 18-20	\$125
7th & 8th	Adventure Camp 78	June 22-25	\$235
9th—Just Grad.	HS Wilderness	June 28-July 3	\$550
DISCOVERY CAMPS (8am to 515pm daily)			
2nd—4th	Discovery Camp 1	June 9-13	\$210
2nd—4th	Discovery Camp 2	June 16-20	\$210
2nd—4th	Discovery Camp 3	June 23-27	\$210
2nd—4th	Discovery Camp 4	June 30— July 3	\$170
2nd—4th	Discovery Camp 5	July 7-11	\$210
2nd—4th	Discovery Camp 6	July 14-18	\$210
2nd—4th	Discovery Camp 7	July 21-25	\$210
OTHER DAY TIME OR INTRODUCTORY CAMPS			
2-5 yrs old	Hello Camp 1*	July 9 (am)	\$25
2-5 yrs old	Hello Camp 2*	July 9 (pm)	\$25
1st & 2nd grades	Day Camp	July 3	\$55
All Ages***	All Church Camp	July 5	\$50

All Grades are based on Fall 2025

*Hello Campers are to be accompanied by one of their adults

Registration for summer camp at LSCA is now open. A church discount code available in Mark's office will give you a 50% discount for a week of camp.

register@www.lscacamp.org

STATISTICS		
	2/2	
Worship		101
Offering		\$8,199.00
	2/9	
Worship		95
Offering		\$3,510.72
	2/16	
Worship		97
Offering		\$3,148.44
	2/23	
Worship		99
Offering		\$10,989.72



Do we have any budding or hidden pianists in the congregation? Carole has had to resign from accompanying due to pain in her hands and other health issues, and Nancy is unable to be here because she is caring for her mother. Scott has agreed to dust off his congregational accompanying skills but would really appreciate any who can help meet this need.

If you are willing to give it a try, feel free to take a hymnal home and let Scott know.



Otto Huber is trying to fill a table at the banquet and would love to include you. Let him know by March 9th if you'd like to go.

COMMUNION MEDITATION

by Jonathan Sperry

As followers of Christ, we leave our past sinful lives behind. In Philipians, Paul says "not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. ... One thing I do, forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me. (3:12-14)

God desires to save us from sin. But to save us from sin, he can't just change us into a different person. God is trying, not by power and not by might, but by love, to transform us from the inside out. There are many things in our lives that are broken and that need to be surrendered to him. It's all broken, because this world is broken. We need to say, "Lord, here is my brokenness. Fix me to be what I need to be and in a way that only you can."

This transformation out of sin and into a new life is also described in 2 Corinthians. "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come. The old has gone, the new is here!" (5:17) Having died to the old life of sin and been raised to share new life in Christ, we now live in an entirely different realm. Those who die in Christ live in Christ, and cannot help but "walk in newness of life." This is a daily spiritual conduct, a new direction in life; we no longer live like we did before we were saved (1 Peter 4:3-4).

Let us praise God for His mercy and love and for all the blessings resulting from our union with Christ. Let us ask Him to help us walk in a way that is worthy of that high calling. And let us praise God for rescuing us from sin and making us new with Christ.



K-5th Grade

Every year we like to go as a group to Showtime Lanes in Virden for an afternoon of bowling and laser tag. This year will be no different except for a change in location. With bowling and laser tag available at Malibu Jack's, we are going to give them a try. In fact they have more to offer. If you get a waiver signed from your parents, I'll let you drive a go cart for the very first time!

We will be leaving after Sunday School on March 9th. You will need \$8 for the laser tag game, money for lunch from the snack bar and money for any additional games you wish to play. We will be back by 3:00 that afternoon to get ready for youth groups.



Junior High School Students

We all got pretty excited when we discussed scheduling a game/pizza/movie night here at the church. So lets do it! The date I am shooting for is Friday, March 21st. We will meet here at the church at 6pm for a quick round of games while munching on some pizza. Then, we can start the show.

I have to preview the movie "Jesus Revolution" but that is the show I would like for us to watch. Especially after talking about Acts 10 (Peter and Cornelius) last week where God makes it clear we are not to show favoritism when sharing the Gospel with others. Even hippies!



High School Students

Many of you have been involved with the James Project over the years in one way or another. Even if it was to make a quick pit stop there for a task during the Amazing Race! They have some needs this Spring and I am hoping our group can provide a little assistance.

We will be serving two of the foster families in the James Project homes by helping them with lawn care, house maintenance projects and cleaning the property. Each of these families is led by a single mother with 6 foster children in her care. Help with yard work, cleaning projects and house maintenance goes a long way for these families!

The date we are driving towards is Sunday, March 23rd. We will leave Sunday School a little early for lunch and then go get right to work. Thanks in advance for your willingness to help and we will be discussing more details as we get closer to our work day.



We will be collecting tomato sauce for LSCA this year. The bins are by the visitor's stand. Thank You!