

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

We had hoped our new gym might be ready in time for Thanksgiving, but we decided no one would want to eat in a cold, dark, unfinished gymnasium. So we ate a delicious meal in a wonderfully crowded, and beautifully decorated, fellowship hall.

A big thank you all who had a hand in making for a great thanksgiving dinner. And as has been the case for a number of years, special thanks must go to Rhonda Bales. She and Dave, along with Lori and Gary, Dixie and Bob, Carole and Jack, and many others have always made sure we have plenty to eat, and a great time at our annual dinner.

This year another couple has literally stepped up to the plate. Elizabeth and Zach Wright have not only volunteered to join the team, they are going to take the lead in preparing our for big events so Rhonda can semi-retire. I do hope, however, that Elizabeth won't get too busy to make more of those pretzel rolls.

Now, back to the gym. As Amos said, I'm not a prophet or the son of a prophet, so I'm not going to prognosticate as to the completion date of our new gym. We did set a target date of Thanksgiving just to keep the ball rolling, but we've made some changes along the way that have slowed things down a bit.

The biggest change to our plans is to put a balcony on top of the storage areas. After realizing that balls would end up there on a regular basis, and a ladder would be needed to retrieve them, thought was given to a stairway. That led to thoughts of a balcony, and then the need for a railing, and a purpose for the balcony.

A balcony in a gym would, of course, be a great place for a set of bleachers from which to watch kids of all ages play basketball, volleyball and pickleball. And it would be a really neat place for teens to just hang out, and for classes.

As I said, I'm not a prophet. There is still a lot of work to do and equipment to install, but I am hopeful that the next time we play volleyball together it will be in our new gym.

God Bless, Rick



## THE CHATHAM MESSENGER

VOLUME 54

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NUMBER 12

*Christmas Special*

**The Mystery of the Manger**  
**It's the Gospel Truth!**  
A Children's Christmas Musical

DECEMBER  
14TH  
9:15

*Christmas Eve*  
**CANDLELIGHT & COMMUNION**

DECEMBER  
24TH  
7:00

STATISTICS		
	11/2	
Worship		113
Offering		\$4,492.00
	11/9	
Worship		93
Offering		\$12,143.48
	11/16	
Worship		116
Offering		\$5,052.85
	11/23	
Worship		109
Offering		\$4,892.48
	11/30	
Worship		70
Offering		\$3,640.24

## AFFIRMATION OF ELDERS & FINANCIAL PROJECTION

The elders will introduce themselves for the sake of our newer members and present the financial projection for 2026 during the worship service on December 7th. Everyone will then be given the opportunity to affirm them and the projection of \$390,210, requiring an average weekly offering of \$7,500, on the 21st.



Congratulations to Abigail and Aaron VanTerry on the birth a beautiful daughter. Adelaide Lisette was born on November 1st, weighing 6lb 7oz.



The mailbox in the hallway is ready for congregational Christmas greetings.



## Ladies Ornament Exchange

All ladies are invited to a Christmas Ornament Exchange to be held at Marios on Thursday, December 11th at 6:00. They are encouraged to bring a wrapped ornament for the exchange, and will be ordering off the menu.

Sign-up is on the bulletin board.



## Christmas Caroling

Everyone is invited to meet at the church at 5:30, December 21st, to go Christmas caroling. We will be singing at Regency Care and at the homes of several church members.



Our annual Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service will be held at 7:00 on December 24th, and will include specials from groups and individuals as well as a presentation from the children's musical. We will end the evening by sharing in the Lord's Supper, the lighting of candles, and singing Silent Night together.

Those who are willing to bring a special are encouraged to let Rick know as soon as possible so the program can be put together.



## Junior High/High School

Our traditional Christmas get together will be on Sunday, December 14th starting at 5:30pm. As we did last year, we will be meeting in the fellowship hall at church so we can spread out and have plenty of room. We will be done by 7:30pm which is perfect timing to catch a ride home with your parents if needed.

As a reminder, for the White Elephant Gift Exchange, don't feel the need to go out and buy anything! Instead, look around your house for that random item that has been sitting around for years unused. Wrap it up and bring it! Some junk is more valuable than other junk, so as the evening progresses, you might have the chance to steal a gift or two as they are revealed.

We will fill up the evening with other games, activities and opportunities to win a gift card or two. For food, I plan to have some pizza and drinks available so come hungry! It should be a great time and I look forward to seeing everyone there!



## Kindergarten –5th grade

Last year over Christmas Break, we took a little trip over to Sky Zone for a couple hours of fun. You all had a blast jumping on the trampolines, playing dodge ball, slamming basketballs and more.

If you would like to do it again, let's put Friday, January 2nd down in our calendars for a return trip to Sky Zone. We can work out the details over the next few weeks, but we will probably meet for lunch then go JUMP, JUMP, JUMP!



## Junior High/High School

The Amazing Race will be here soon. Get your winning team together for this prestigious event! We will start here at the church on Tuesday, December 30th at 3:00pm. This will kick off about 17 hours of nonstop activity as we race around Springfield, play broomball at the Nelson Center, grab a late night snack somewhere and then head back to the church for an overnighter until 7am the following morning.

We do a lot of things throughout the year, but this is probably the best event to bring a friend and have them get to know others in our youth group. They will have a blast with you as you solve complex puzzles, complete either a gross or a mass quantity eating challenge and use athletic skills to hopefully be declared the winners of this year's Amazing Race!



## LSCA

If you'd like to support the camp this Christmas, consider putting on your ugliest Christmas sweater and participating in a run/walk around the camp property on Saturday, December 20th. The registration fee includes a long sleeve t-shirt and an all you can eat pancake breakfast following the race. Non-racers can enjoy the all you can eat pancake breakfast for \$15. Details can be found on the LSCA webpage.