

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

When I read this in Salvo I knew I had to share it. With the abortion pill being readily available in Illinois, this aspect of using it needs to be widely known. I also share it because I am very thankful we support two local pro-life ministries, First Step Women's Center and Beerlahai Roi.  
God Bless, Rick

"Abortion-pill usage has risen dramatically in the wake of Dobbs, and this has resulted in a new trend in post-abortion regret. In the past, decades might pass before a post-abortive mother would seek healing. With the abortion pill, it's different. 'When the baby is expelled, it's just hitting women in a different way,' said 40 Days for Life leader Mark Cavaliere. 'With surgical abortions, they could point their fingers at that bad place and the abortionist that did this to them...But the abortion pill essentially makes a woman her own abortionist and her own home the abortion facility.' Aborting mothers are unprepared for the trauma of seeing their baby. 'Do I flush the toilet? Do I keep the baby? How do I keep the baby? Where do I take it? Can I bury my baby? They don't know. They're just in complete shock.'

The sanitized, clinical, 'between a woman and her doctor; rhetoric is utterly stripped away, and abortion can be seen more clearly for what it is. Certainly it's unspeakably painful, but pro-life ministries are seeing beneficial consequences. Rather than spiral into a year's-long descent into psychological scarring and emotional trauma (trajectories that often include years of promiscuity and repeat abortions), many women are seeking help right away. And pro-life ministries are doing what they have always done—meeting them with tangible resources and gospel-centered love and support. 'The most immediate result,' writes Steve Karlen of 40 Days for Life, 'is that the women who come forward sooner can encounter God's mercy without spending years or decades in the desert suffering needlessly.'"



## THE CHATHAM MESSENGER

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# Vacation Bible School

Register Online At

**ChathamChristian.org**

**K-5th Grade—June 8-11—6:15-8:30**

STATISTICS		
	5/3	
Worship		95
Offering		\$7,935.00
	5/10	
Worship		126
Offering		\$7,117.28
	5/17	
Worship		114
Offering		\$5,406.10
	5/24	
Worship		119
Offering		\$12,777.00
	5/31	
Worship		103
Offering		\$3,855.00



After two years of enduring hardship, the community at Haut Dehenne Church is facing another devastating blow. The heavy rains have completely destroyed the wooden bridge that people used to cross to reach the church and the school. This follows the destruction of the pavilion by a powerful wind just two years ago leaving the church without a place to worship and the bridge now impassable. The situation is incredibly difficult for the congregation, as they are left without both a safe passage and a place of worship. The faithful now struggle together for services, and students face a daunting challenge to attend school. It's a trying time, as the church seeks to rebuild and find ways to support its congregation in these tough circumstances.

After reading of this in the newsletter of Haitian Christian Ministries, we called Mark Zimmerman who serves on their board, and he affirmed the pressing need. We therefore sent \$5,000 to cover the cost of materials for building a new bridge.

## MORE THAN A DOUBTER

In the end of last week's sermon, we got a quick overview of each of the twelve disciples. In the middle of that list, we find Thomas, a name that immediately brings to mind the word "doubt." But it should also remind us of the word "desire." If you look beyond Thomas' doubt, you'll see he was characterized by an intense desire to be with Christ, something that should mark every true believer.

John 10:39-40 tells us Jesus and His disciples left Jerusalem because of threats on Jesus' life. While they were staying near the Jordan River, Jesus received word that His dear friend Lazarus was sick. He delayed going to Lazarus because He didn't want merely to heal him, but to raise him from the dead.

Lazarus lived in Bethany—just a short walk from Jerusalem. So when Jesus decided to go there, His disciples were deeply concerned, thinking it would surely be a risky mission. Despite the danger, Thomas said, "Let us also go, that we may die with Him." That's a pessimistic attitude, but it shows his courage and desire to be with Christ, whether in life or death. An optimist would expect the best, making it easier to go. Thomas expected the worst, but was willing to go anyway.

I believe Thomas couldn't bear the thought of living without Christ. He would rather die with Him than live without Him. That's also evident in John 14, where Jesus told the disciples He was going away to prepare a place for them. Thomas responded by saying in effect, "Lord, we don't know where you're going or how to get there. Please don't go somewhere we can't go!" He didn't understand what Jesus was going to do. All he knew was he didn't want to be separated from His Lord.

Can you identify with Thomas? Is Christ such an integral part of your daily decisions and activities that life without Him is unthinkable? The follower of Christ will have an intense desire to be in Christ's presence. Let's thank the Lord for His presence and power in our lives as we commune with him now.

(From a book by John MacArthur with minimal editing by Jonathan Sperry.)



### Summertime Courtside

We all enjoyed our Courtside time in April and May. So, I thought we would schedule a few throughout the summer to get together for games and pizza. That's a winning combination!

The first one will be on Sunday, June 28th starting at 5:30. While we eat, I will go over any remaining details concerning our upcoming CIY trip and we'll get centered on the Biblical teaching to be presented that week. Once the CIY discussions are over and the food is gone, it is game on! Come with a fun idea of a game to try in the gym and we'll give it a shot! As always, feel free to invite anyone you are hanging out with this summer. The more the merrier!



### CIY/MOVE

We have a great group going to Wheaton College this year for CIY! These gatherings are so powerful. Lives are changed, God is praised for His absolute greatness and fun times are had by all.

Since we are leaving on July 13 which is about a month away, I would like to collect all the final payments by the middle of June. If you paid your deposit, the remaining balance is \$249.00. Details will continue to be discussed in class and at our Summertime Courtside.



### Vacation Bible School

VBS is upon us! I hope the kids enjoy our format this year. The program is a great way to show kids that in all aspects of daily life, especially when they are in a team/sports environment, they can be a strong witness for Jesus.

Some of the Bible verses and stories we will cover are as follows:

**Monday:** Jesus calms the storm found in Mark 4:35-41. The theme of the day is to focus on what truly matters.

**Tuesday:** Jesus heals a man with leprosy in Mark 1: 40-45. The theme of the day is to respect others.

**Wednesday:** Jesus washes His disciple's feet in John 13: 3-15. The theme of the day is humility.

**Thursday:** Jesus endures through the crucifixion found in Matthew 27: 33-51. The theme of the day is endurance in challenging situations.

Please be in prayer that through our VBS seeds will be planted and God will be glorified. I'm looking forward to a great week!



We will continue to have the gym open for pickleball on Thursday evenings beginning at 6pm. With a busy summer before us, I didn't know if players wanted to keep it going but most do! We are having too much fun! Feel free to come out and join us anytime.