

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

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After feeding the 5000, Jesus made it clear that He would not continue feeding the multitudes physical food. He had come to be the Bread of Life, not to simply feed people on bread. And contrary to what the people wanted, He wouldn't prove Himself to be Messiah by giving them bread out of heaven, as Moses had done. Besides, they had apparently forgotten how dissatisfied the Israelites were with the manna.

Manna, you may recall, was the food that miraculously appeared every morning for forty years. What it was, we don't know. Neither did the Israelites. In fact, manna means, "what is it?" Whatever it was, it was nutritious, and they were instructed to gather as much as they wanted every day. Other than on the Sabbath, of course.

The manna started appearing after only a month and a half in the wilderness, when the Israelites started grumbling about being brought into the wilderness to starve to death. They had left Egypt with their flocks and herds, and had apparently been rationing the food supplies they had brought with them, but longed for the pots of meat they had in Egypt and the freedom to eat bread to the full. God responded by promising to send them all the bread they wanted every morning, and even some quail to eat in the evening.

After a year or so at Sinai, they were led by the cloud and pillar of fire to continue on their journey to the Promised Land. In a matter of days, they started complaining about the manna, and longed for the quantity and variety of foods they had had in Egypt. God responded by covering the ground with quail three feet deep, and they gorged themselves on it. Before long the quail became as loathsome to them as the manna.

The problem they faced in the wilderness wasn't a lack of food, it was what is today called "food insecurity." They didn't trust that the God who had miraculously delivered them from bondage would care for their needs in the future. And, of course, they hadn't been taught to pray, "Give us this day our *daily* bread."

While James does make it clear that we cannot ignore the physical needs of others, we must never forget that our primary responsibility is to teach, and to practice, walking by faith, and trusting God for our daily needs. God Bless, Rick



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It has been our pleasure to support Andrew Sexton in his ministry with Casas por Cristo for several years now. During our last group discussion with Andrew, there were quite a few individuals who expressed interest in not only offering financial support, but also the desire to serve this ministry by participating in the building of a house for a family in need.

To that end, an exploratory meeting has been scheduled for Sunday, March 26th at 5:30pm here at the church for all individuals who would like to gather more information about a possible mission trip to Mexico in 2018. The Casas pro Cristo program will be reviewed along with discussions concerning potential costs and dates.

Please keep this opportunity in your prayers, and if the Lord is leading you in this direction, come learn more about Casas on the 26th!

STATISTICS

Worship 118
Offering \$2,888.00

SERVING THIS SUNDAY – 3/19/17

Greeters	Bill & June Carroll
Visitors' Stand	Judy Marlow
Communion Meditation	Chris Luzio
	Rick Polley
Ushers	Otto Huber
	Duane Carrell
	Gary Gredzieleski
	Bob Williamson
	Jack Ruebush
	Chuck McLaughlin
WORSHIP NURSERY	
Toddlers	Nikki & Grace Hunley
Infants	June Carroll
	Kate Morris
Sunday School	
Toddlers	Julie Divjak
Infants	Jeni Sperry

Let Us Pray For...

--Deanna Langheim as she discovers the extent of recently diagnosed cancer and explores treatment options.
--Belinda Hutchins recovering from extensive back surgery.
--Dan Martin suffering with extreme pain in his leg.
--Beryl Reese's second cousin in hospital with serious condition.

Life of Christ

This Sunday at 6:30 we will begin chapter 16, "Purity and Property." We may not make it all the way to property, but those coming are encouraged to read the entire chapter before we meet.



The food pantry is requesting donations of chili, canned peas, jelly, tomato sauce, dish detergent, and toothpaste.



NURSERY REMODEL & REPAIR

It's time for some remodeling and repair work to be done in the nursery. New cabinets, sink, and countertop have been ordered, but we need volunteers to tear out the old, to make drywall repairs, to install vinyl floor tile, and to install the new unit. We already have a volunteer to do the painting.

Another desired project is to repair and re-carpet the ark.

If you would be willing to take on any of these projects, please let Rick know.



VOLLEYBALL

Only two more weeks of adult volleyball have been scheduled for CCC adults at the gym at LSCA. Play begins around 8:00 on Sunday evenings, and everyone is welcome to come and enjoy the exercise

NEW FELLOWSHIP DIRECTORY

A new fellowship directory is almost ready for publication. Sample pages are posted on the hall bulletin board for noting needed or desired changes. Please look over your entry, and make sure we've got everything right.



Service Day-March 25th

We were planning a youth service day for Saturday the 25th, but instead, let's make it a CCC service day for the camp! LSCA will be having the first of three service days this spring on Saturday, March 25th to begin getting the property ready for the busy summer camping schedule. Here are the details if you would like to give some of your time to this important ministry.

- We will be meeting at the Lakeview Lodge at 8:30 for cinnamon rolls and coffee.
- Work will include landscaping, mulching, wood splitting, gutter cleaning and general clean up of the grounds.
- Lunch will be provided around noon.
- Bring a rake, gloves and the entire family!

We all serve our King in different ways. If this is something that interests you, please see me Sunday morning and we can go over the details.



High School Students

To review, the Vine conference at LCU will begin the evening of March 31st and conclude the afternoon of April 1st. This is a great opportunity to study the scriptures with 300 other High Schoolers from Central Illinois along with exploring the campus of LCU. Please let me know by this Sunday if you are committed to going. Call me with any questions and feel free to invite a friend to come spend the weekend with us!

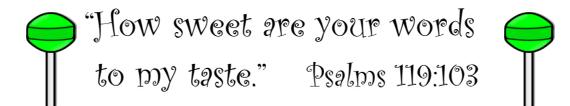
GOOD NEWS ACCORDING TO MARK

During a break at SuperStart, the girls and I ventured off to find some hidden treasures around Bloomington. It is called Geocaching. You use an app on your phone to find hidden items all around Bloomington, all around the world actually. For example, according to their website, there are 447 items currently hidden around Springfield.

It was a little brisk last Saturday, but we ventured off anyway. After the first hour and a half, we were 0 for 4 and a little disappointed. They weren't where they were supposed to be! After a nice warm lunch, we decided to try one more. Success!! Allie spotted one about 12 feet up in a tree and we quickly retrieved it. We found the hidden treasure!

The Word of God is filled with treasures, we just have to be committed to finding them. The treasure we discussed at the conferences over the past few weeks was II Corinthians 9:11 which teaches us about generosity. God has been so giving, so gracious to us. Therefore, our response is that we too should be generous individuals. The kids learned that God has given all of us time, talents and treasure as resources to be gracious.

The conferences we attend with our kids are all about becoming kingdom workers. If you take the king out of kingdom, you just have a bunch of "dumb" workers centered on earthly things instead of heavenly ones. My experiences with our youth have shown me they don't want to become a "dumb" worker, instead they desire to serve our Lord to glorify Him and fall into the ranks of a kingdom worker. What a good reminder for us all....



Let's have a double reward Sunday! Memorize Philippians 4:4 and you'll get two yummy surprises!!!!!!