

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

Church Office 483-3987  
www.chathamchristian.org

*Rick Werneborg, Minister*  
cell phone 836-4971  
Rick@chathamchristian.org

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

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

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Chatham, IL  
Permit No. 9

While picking up a few things at Walmart before the anticipated blizzard last Friday, I ran into Joyce Evans who was doing the same. As we were chatting, she said she had earlier received a notification on her phone that shook her up a bit. Expecting a notice concerning the blizzard, it said, "The Judgement of God is now available."

It took her a while to realize it was a notification concerning the availability of last week's sermon. When you subscribe to our podcast, if you have notifications turned on, you will be notified when a sermon has been made available. I've already been notified that I can now get Judged by the Book.

When we were laughing about her experience after church last Sunday, she told me about another experience of judgment she had last week. While she was waiting in a drive-through she had noticed an offensive bumper sticker on the car ahead of her, and was wondering what kind of person would put such on their car. When she went to pay for her order she was told the person in the car ahead of her had already paid for it. Indeed, sometimes our initial judgments are rightfully called into question.

I too had an uncomfortable judgmental experience last week. Marilyn and I had both read about a highly acclaimed string quartet that was going to be playing on Saturday night. We had unexpectedly enjoyed a violin concert we had been given unwanted tickets to years ago, and decided we might enjoy this as well. The paper indicated that they had performed at the Vatican and before President Obama, and compared them to The Piano Guys, whom we love.

After a steak dinner, we arrived as soon as the box office was open, and snagged two tickets in the next to last row, spending far more than I am accustomed to spending. Anticipating the concert, I eagerly read through the program only to discover something that disturbed me. Their list of credits in the paper had not included the fact that they had performed with gay men's choruses on both coasts, and had opened at Pride Toronto.

I have to admit they are very talented, and their concert was enjoyable. But thinking that by my attendance and financial support I may have endorsed a life-style that is judged by God as an abomination put a cloud over an otherwise really good date night with my wife.  
God Bless, Rick



## THE CHATHAM MESSENGER

VOLUME 47

January 23, 2019

NUMBER 4

### WHITER THAN SNOW

Waking up yesterday morning, I was a little disappointed at the transparency of the precipitation that had fallen overnight. When Friday night's forecast called for anywhere from 4 to 8 inches of snow, I expected to see at least some new snow on the ground when I woke up. Instead, all I saw were the now-discolored remains of last weekend's snow storm.

I have a love-hate relationship with the snow. As a school teacher who plans ahead and rearranges classroom activities to work around weekends and holidays, I can be really annoyed when I get the call that I don't have to go to school due to the snow. And I'd much rather enjoy a nice, spring day off in May or June, instead of a gray, cold one in January.

Like most, I enjoy the shiny, clean look of the new-fallen opaque stuff... especially when it so beautifully conceals the piles of leaves in my yard that never quite made it into bags in the fall. I don't even mind shoveling the snow... at least not for the first 10 minutes. So you can see how I might have been a little disappointed at the lack of a refreshed white landscape yesterday morning. And snow can be, for us, a reminder of our God's forgiveness.

In Psalm 51, after his sin with Bathsheba was revealed, David expresses his longing to be cleansed by God, knowing that it will make him "whiter than snow." The book of Isaiah begins with a call for a rebellious people to repent so that God can turn their scarlet sins "as white as snow." Whenever we partake in the Lord's Supper, we need this reminder that repentance leads to a cleansing that is "whiter than snow." Because of Christ's perfect sacrifice, our sin-soaked garments are washed white in the blood of the Lamb, as described in Revelation 7. Each and every snowflake that falls can remind us of the shining glory of our risen Lord, whose resurrection clothes were described in the gospels as "white as snow."

With this Communion celebration, we remember the sacrifice of our Lord, whose blood washes us whiter than snow, and we look forward to living forever with Him in His glory. And, unlike the weather, this forecast will not leave us disappointed.  
Chris Luzio

## STATISTICS

Worship 109  
Offering \$5,910.80

## SERVING THIS SUNDAY-1/27/19

Greeters .....	Rick & Janet Polley
Visitors' Stand .....	Beryl & Jamella Reese
Communion Meditation .....	Chris Luzio
Ushers .....	Kirk Polley
	Jake Divjak
	Otto Huber
	Paul Hunley
	Kent Ballard
	Jeff Edmiston
	Gary Gredzieleski
<b>WORSHIP NURSERY</b>	
Toddlers .....	Janet Polley
	Kate Sperry
Infants .....	Karen & Kaelyn Mann
	Rebecca Smith
	Sunday School
Toddlers .....	Rhonda Luzio
Infants .....	Vicki Small
	Kristin Polley

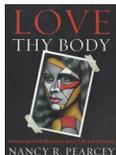
## The Hidden Word

LEVITICUS 11:45

"For I am the Lord, who brought you up from the land of Egypt, to be your God: thus you shall be holy for I am holy."



--Beryl Reese recovering from a second knee replacement surgery.



This Sunday at 6:30 we will attempt to finish chapter 4 of *Love Thy Body* by simply highlighting pages 128-154.



Our annual Sweetheart Banquet has been scheduled for Wednesday, February 13th, at 6:00. We will once again be enjoying John John's delicious food at Fulgenzi's in Chatham, and the price per couple has only been raised one cent, to an even \$40. Decorations and special treats have been arranged, but one thing is still lacking. We need someone to plan a few after dinner games or activities to make the evening more than just a meal!

Two free meals are waiting for the first couple to volunteer!



Due to scheduling conflicts we were able to only have five nights of after-church adult volleyball last year. This year we were able to schedule the court at LSCA for eight weeks, beginning February 10th!

While the extended season will still be offered primarily for adult recreation and fellowship, teens will be allowed to fill out teams to make sure there are six on a side. If time allows, even the children who come to watch their parents play will be given the opportunity to play a game.



Those were two exciting football games last Sunday! Whether you are pleased or upset with the outcome, I encourage you to come out for our annual Super Bowl Party on February 3rd. Of course, there will be those watching the game and commercials, but if you're not interested in football, come out anyway! There will be plenty of people playing a variety of board games or just visiting together as we spend an evening with our brothers and sisters in Christ.

The Lakeview Lodge at LSCA will be open at 5pm that evening and we ask all attending to bring some finger food to share along with a 2 liter bottle of soda. Carter is proudly displaying his Patriots jersey as you will see in the next column, I'm definitely rooting for the Rams!



Don't forget to sign up for some upcoming activities which need some preparation and planning! Never hesitate to reach out to me with any questions!

- Paint Night: All Jr. & Senior High girls are invited to a painting party at CCC on Friday, February 15th. The cost is \$15 and please text Jeni Sperry to reserve a spot.
- SuperStart: Our annual overnight conference for 4th & 5th grade students in Bloomington is on March 1 & 2. The cost is \$50 per student.
- Believe: This Jr. High conference in Springfield will be on March 1 & 2. We will be staying overnight at the Huber house and the cost is \$59 per student.



Receiving a blanket right before chemo treatment was going to start, brought a huge smile to the face of this patient. Thank you to all the kids who first put in the time to make the blankets and also to those who delivered them yesterday. Please continue to pray that this seed of love will take root and draw these patients closer to the Great Physician.



A few years ago, we had a great evening serving the residents of Inner City Mission in Springfield. For those of you unfamiliar with Inner City Mission, it is in downtown Springfield and houses approximately 35-40 mothers and children in need of shelter. During their stay, the residents receive education on Biblical truths and counseling from a Christ centered perspective to forge a path forward.

The Jr. High and High School students have expressed interest in returning to cook a meal and spend time with the residents. Please look at the evening of Sunday, February 17th as a potential date for this project. If this date doesn't work for a majority, we will brainstorm alternatives on Sunday. In the meantime, we can all pray for this ministry and those finding themselves in need of shelter.