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Chatham, IL  
Permit No. 9

I began reading the Chronicles of Narnia nearly forty years ago, and I hate to admit it, but I haven't finished them...yet. I bought the set when the kids were little, and still remember them sitting on my lap as we made it through *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*. I knew they were classics, written by C. S. Lewis for children, but reading them was like trying to watch something on BBC. You know it's good, but you have to struggle a bit to make sure you're getting it all. We gave up after barely making it into the second book, and the boxed set languished on a shelf until a month or so ago.

It was a feature article entitled "The Breath of the Lion" in *Touchstone* that drew me back to Narnia. The author was responding to the charge that Lewis didn't include the Holy Spirit in his stories. God was there as the Emperor-over-the-Sea, and Jesus is presented as the great Lion Aslan, but where is the Holy Spirit?

The author begins by noting that while the Holy Spirit's presence and enormous power is evident throughout the Bible, he speaks only five times and remains in the background. He then makes it very clear that the Holy Spirit is alive and well in Narnia.

"He strengthens, he gives courage, he brings new life, he protects, and he motivates toward right performance. In his breath, he imparts the essence of himself to his followers, placing within them the only power that can enable them to become more like him." While drawing his article to a close he notes, "Thus, a fantasy story shows us the truth. Narnia reveals to us the kind of God we have—not only who is transcendent and powerful, but one who is also intimate and personal."

Reading such led me back to the wardrobe, and then to a railway station, a picture in the bedroom, and an unlocked door. I'm not sure how I'm going to get to Narnia next, but I'm planning to get there while sitting poolside in Florida.

I'll see you in two weeks when Marilyn and I return from a trip to Tennessee, Florida...and Narnia.

God Bless, Rick



## THE CHATHAM MESSENGER

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# Eight Weeks of Volleyball!

The LSCA gym was available for eight weeks after the Super Bowl, and we reserved them all! Beginning February 9th, and every Sunday night through March 29th, all adults are invited to head to the gym after the Sunday evening program at the church, around 8:00, for a time of recreational fellowship. As has been our pattern, if we don't have enough adults to fill the courts, teens will be invited to join in the play. We will also try to have a brief game that includes any children who come to watch their parents play.

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

## STATISTICS

Worship 106  
Offering \$3,837.00

### SERVING THIS SUNDAY-2/2/20

Greeters .....Beryl & Jamella Reese  
Visitors' Stand .....Bonnie Ruebush  
Communion Meditation ..... Mark Huber  
Jonathan Sperry  
Ushers .....Gary Gredzieleski  
Rick Polley  
Bob Williamson  
Kent Ballard  
Will Bartels  
Jake Divjak

**WORSHIP NURSERY**

Toddlers .....Adora Burdinsky  
Courtney Bales  
Infants .....Dixie Williamson  
Kileen Huber  
Anna Hunley  
Sunday School

Toddlers .....Rhonda Luzio  
Infants .....Jonathan Sperry  
Kristin Polley

### SERVING NEXT SUNDAY-2/9/20

Greeters ..... Rhonda Luzio  
Visitors' Stand ..... Bob & Dixie Williamson  
Communion Meditation ..... Mark Huber  
Jonathan Sperry  
Ushers .....Gary Gredzieleski  
Rick Polley  
Bob Williamson  
Kent Ballard  
Will Bartels  
Jake Divjak

**WORSHIP NURSERY**

Toddlers .....Marilyn Wenneborg  
Grace Hunley  
Infants .....Julie & Lily Divjak  
Kelly Donaldson  
Sunday School

Toddlers .....Rhonda Luzio  
Infants .....Vicki Small  
Rebecca Smith

### NO PAPER NEXT TWO WEEKS



#### FEBRUARY SERVERS

2/16 & 2/23: Kirk Polley, Jonathan Sperry

#### FEBRUARY PROJECTIONIST

Chad Formea

#### FEBRUARY GREETERS

2/16 Will & Sara Bartels  
2/23 Brad Stirmell

#### FEBRUARY VISITORS' STAND

2/16 Gary & Lori Gredzieleski  
2/23 Rich & Karen Mann

#### FEBRUARY NURSERY

##### Worship - 2/16

Toddlers: Vicki Small  
Kate Sperry  
Infants: Nikki Hunley  
Stacey Cantrell  
Emma Warwick

##### Sunday School

Infants: Julie Divjak  
Karen Mann

##### Worship - 2/23

Toddlers: Kristin Polley  
Cooper Formea  
Infants: Shannon Higgins  
Rebecca Smith  
Jake Divjak

##### Sunday School

Infants: Kelly Donaldson  
Elizabeth Wright

## The Hidden Word

I TIMOTHY 6:10

"For the love of money is a root of all sorts of evil, and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith, and pierced themselves with many a pang."



We don't want any broken hearts on Valentine's Day, so we're giving everyone a heads-up that we will not be hosting a Sweetheart Banquet this year. Be sure to plan something special on your own.



#### High School Students

I have always been encouraged by our students' desire to serve others. To that end, recent discussions around service led us to investigate spending some time with the residents of the Villas of Hollybrook. Since Jim and Mary are there, we thought we would try to arrange a game day to spend some time with them and others.

So here is the plan. On Sunday, February 9th, we are going to meet at the Villas of Hollybrook at 3:30pm. There we will spend about an hour and a half with the residents until their dinner time. For our dinner, we are going to go to the Hendricks house for pizza, pool and ping pong. Your normal youth group time will be spent at the Hendricks until volleyball starts that evening. Sounds like a great time to me!



Don't forget about our Super Bowl party this Sunday evening at 5:00pm. We will be gathering at the Lakeview Lodge on the LSCA campground. For those who don't know where that is, pull into the church camp and take your first left. You will see the lodge down the small hill as you make the turn. There will be a Facebook post later this week so we can try to get a good distribution of snacks versus desserts. As you heard Sunday, I am fired up about Beryl's chili! Hope to see you all there!



#### Jr. & Sr. High Youth Groups

Adventure stories are all around us! The recent Star Wars movie has made 500 million so far at the box office in the United States alone. A journey to the "Upside Down" was an adventure nobody wanted to take in Stranger Things. Whatever the setting, we all love a great adventure story. Maybe that's because deep down, we know we are designed to live an adventure story of our own, and through Christ, we can properly live out that story.

There is no greater adventure than going on a journey to know God more deeply. For our study time in February, we will be exploring how spending time alone in prayer, as Jesus did, will help us connect with God during our personal adventure with Him. Also, we will look at relationships, evangelism and service in the context of our lives being this wonderful partnership with God. My prayer is that through this study, our hearts, minds and actions will be molded into the image of Christ as we walk through life with our Heavenly Father.



Lake Springfield Christian Assembly  
Camp and Retreat Center

Looking for a way to be involved with LSCA? Join the Red Carpet Crew this summer! Volunteers for the Crew will work on registration days which are very busy, usually on Sundays from 2-4pm. As kids are registering for camp, you might be serving slushies, greeting families in the dorms, or directing people where to park, etc. There will be training session before the camping season begins. Please let me know if you are interested!