

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

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U.S. Postage
PAID
Chatham, IL
Permit No. 9

It's a *Strange New World* indeed, and we're going to try to understand how it became so strange on Sunday nights, beginning September 18th at 5:30.

I'm not sure how I discovered the writings of Carl Trueman, but you never know where you'll find a literary gem. I found another one on the ski slopes of Colorado in July.

Marilyn and Linda were exploring the gift shops and Wendell and I were sitting in the shade watching kids ride bikes down the ski trails. An elderly lady in sunglasses was sitting near us, and since I couldn't make eye contact, I thought I'd just say something. I asked if she was waiting for her grandchildren, and that opened the gate to a delightful conversation.

Before long her grandchildren and their parents joined us, and it didn't take long for us feel like old friends. When they started to leave she handed me a note and said she too was a Christian, and that she had written a book of poetry that was available on Amazon. I'm really not into poetry, but before she was out of sight I had ordered a copy. I wasn't sure why, until I got it and started reading.

The book is MY JOURNEY THROUGH IT ALL *Hopeful Perseverance*. It's a collection of poems and thoughts that Ann Roberts wrote throughout the course of her life, focusing on how her faith kept her on course.

When I started reading it, I couldn't put it down. It touched me deeply, and before long I started thinking of others who might benefit from poems such as *Change in Life* that begins:

This life we had was beautiful.
Then one day something came.
That changed our lives forever.
Dementia was its name.

I gave Lucy a copy, and she said she "miraculously" went right to that poem. She now uses it in her daily devotions. I can't promise it will be miraculous for you, but I do have a couple of copies if you want one. God Bless, Rick



THE CHATHAM MESSENGER

VOLUME 50

August 31, 2022

NUMBER 9



Games, Food & Fellowship
Sunday, September 11th at CCC
4:00pm—7:00pm

STATISTICS		
	8/7	
Worship		101
Offering		\$9,755.98
	8/14	
Worship		109
Offering		\$10,234.00
	8/21	
Worship		99
Offering		\$6,318.59
	8/28	
Worship		100
Offering		\$2,295.61

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

Our Wednesday night Bible study for adults will begin on September 14th at 6:30. We will begin the year by picking up our study of Daniel at chapter 7.

NEW FELLOWSHIP DIRECTORIES

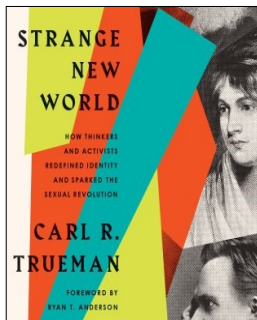
New directories of names, addresses, and phone numbers of those who are currently fellowshiping with us are now available in the hall rack.



VBS SUNDAY IN JAMAICA

Due to Covid restrictions, churches in Jamaica haven't been able to host VBS for a couple of years, so Theo initiated a VBS Sunday in both churches he pastors. The focus was obviously on the kids, but it was enthusiastically embraced by everyone. The girls and boys competed for a cake, and as can be seen in the picture, the girls won.

Theo reported that things are going very well in the Claremont and the Grierfield congregations, but sadly shared how he felt it necessary to resign from the Ocho Rios church due to continuing conflicts with a former pastor.



Our Sunday evening study for adults will begin on September 18th at 5:30, looking at *Strange New World* by Carl Trueman. In this condensed version of *The Rise and Triumph of the Modern Self*, Trueman examines the historical, philosophical, and technological factors driving identity politics today. He also offers a much-needed biblical perspective of personhood, and shows readers how to engage in a culture that's often hostile to Christian beliefs.

MY JOURNEY THROUGH IT ALL

The opening lines of a couple of poems by Ann Roberts.

When all the world seems dark and gray
There comes a silver lining.
And hope begins to beam anew
And soon the sun is shining.
Just when we feel there's nothing left
And all good seems to end.
We move along and find new hope
Lies just around the bend.

I see so many people now
Through every passing day.
But no one seems to stop or smile
While rushing on their way.
With eyes that cast a distant glance
As though they're in a daze,
And steps that seem to lead somewhere
Revolve within a maze.
These people seem to have no heart,
Their schedules don't have time.
And only one thing drives them on —
The ladders that they climb.



As you saw last week during Promotion Sunday, our volunteers to help with the youth are outstanding. They dedicate their time because they love kids and they love Jesus. That is an excellent combination.

We also have a set of great teachers ready to go for our Sunday evening classes beginning on September 18th. Below is a list of who will be serving and subject matter for this fall.

- **PreK & K:** Jonathan Sperry will be leading the kids in crafts, games and story time around the Biblical topic of the day.
- **Grades 1-5:** Otto Huber and Rhonda Luzio have been helping the kids with an Old Testament timeline as they discuss important passages of Scripture. This year, they are ready to begin the New Testament.
- **Jr. High:** A new season brings new opportunities. First up for this age group is a series on evangelism. Mark and Tina will be leading the discussions.
- **High School:** Casey and Erica are back again! To begin the year, they are highlighting some miracles of Jesus mixed in with plenty of games and group interactions.



Christmas musical practice begins on September 18th. All students K-8th grade are welcome to participate. Please bring a snack for the 15 minute break before youth groups begin. Don't hesitate to reach out to Rhonda with any questions!



The Fall kick off is right around the corner. Since we ventured out to Skyzone for our most recent finale, we thought we would have an good ole cook-out and game time here at the church to launch the fall season. So, let's plan on meeting around 4:00pm on September 11th to begin our time together.

I will have games and activities set up for all ages to enjoy before dinnertime which will consist of hamburgers, hot dogs, sides and deserts. If anyone would like to man the grill that evening, please let me know.

Then, after a little more game time, we will head into the auditorium for our group event. All I can say is you will need to be on a team of 3 to 4 people. Having a nice diversity of thought and ages represented could be advantageous, but it is not necessary. A winner will emerge to claim bragging rights for years to follow.

Everyone is welcome! I hope many of you plan to attend as we look forward to a good evening together.



What a great group we have going to St. Louis for this event! Let's plan on leaving CCC at 10am to give us plenty of time to stop along the way if needed and arrive before our shift starts at 12:45. After we work for a couple hours, if we want to go out somewhere, I am fine with that. I really enjoyed Dave and Busters last time!