

Inside this issue.....

Worship	p. 1
Worship Continued	p. 2
Missions Update	P. 2
Rainy Gaze	p. 3
Library Update	p. 4
Student Ministry	p. 5
Upcoming Sermons	p. 6
Communication Form	p. 6
Monthly Calendar	p. 7
Event Info	p. 8

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Why do we sing?

If you really think about what we do every Sunday, it's pretty different. Singing is a very personal thing. So, why do we all gather together once a week and sing?

When you sing, you obey.

Colossians 3:16 Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts.

Look what the Psalms say about singing:

Psalms 5:11 "Let all who take refuge in you rejoice; let them ever sing for joy, and spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may exult in you."

Psalms 9:2 "I will be glad and exult in you; I will sing praise to your name, O Most High."

Psalms 51:14 "Deliver me from blood guiltiness, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your righteousness."

Psalms 59:16 "I will sing of your strength; I will sing aloud of your steadfast love in the morning. For you have been to me a fortress and a refuge in the day of my distress."

Psalms 63:7 "For you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I will sing for joy. When you sing, you build up others."

When we do what the Bible says and sing together as a church family, we are hearing confessions of faith all around! We are hearing hundreds join with us and sing, "In Christ alone, my hope is found!" We are hearing hundreds of testimonies of faith all around us!

(Continued on page 2)

Think of the impact on someone who doesn't know Christ to hear those hundreds of testimonies, those hundreds of confessions of faith as we sing together! When you sing, you walk a God-designed pathway to joy.

When you sing, you glorify God.

True obedience, deep roots in the Word, building up others, making war against Satan and sin, persevering, finding joy in God; all these things bring glory to God, which is each person's chief goal and purpose.

Chapple Family - Mexico



The Chapple family serve in Mexico, where they train and equip pastors by leading and implementing a training program

called SEAN (Seminario por Extension a las Naciones). We are very encouraged by the Chapples as we continue to support their work. Over the summer, the Chapples were in Canada on Home Ministry Assignment. They were delayed returning home to Mexico due to passport delays for their sons, but thankfully they returned home safely and without any difficulties. God was truly with them as they crossed borders and drove through 'gang-controlled' areas.

Upon returning to Puebla, they learned that violence had increased in towns around Puebla while they were gone. There have been many 'lynchings' taking place and the local people are fed up with the violence and have begun taking matters into their own

Colossians 3 and Ephesians 5 bring this out simply but powerfully, telling us to sing "to God" and "to the Lord" because He is the object of our praise. *Ephesians 5:19 says, "singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart."* It is to Him and about Him that we sing! Singing has a unique way of bringing your heart, soul, mind, and strength together to focus entirely and completely on God. In an age of distraction, singing grabs the attention of all our senses and focuses us on God.

Missions Update

hands that has unfortunately resulted in mobs killing innocent people. We ask for prayer for the Chapples and all of Central Mexico as violence continues to threaten the lives of innocent people and we pray for missionaries and pastors who travel through those areas.

The Chapples had a very fruitful trip to Thailand this fall where they were able to translate for conferences for church leadership from all over the world. They did over 70 hours of formal translation and were encouraged by hearing stories from pastors and missionaries working in very difficult areas.

The Chapples have returned to Mexico and plan to travel to Ecuador for retreats and pastors meetings in addition to their work with neighbouring churches. Please pray for the Chapples in the upcoming weeks; that they feel encouraged and rested over the holiday season and that God continues to use them for His will and His Kingdom.

Rainy Gaze - Jeremy Stuart

Enthusiastically Wired

Advent has begun, a time where we celebrate the birth of hope, life, and love in the person of Jesus who came as a humble baby. As we read through the Christmas Narrative, which I hope you'll take time to do (Luke 1-2, Matt 1-2), we encounter some interesting people. Some are startled, some are quiet, some are seeking, some are encouraged... but there's a few who are enthusiastic. There are the shepherds who go with excitement into Bethlehem to find Jesus and tell everyone about Him. Anna is in the temple and meets baby Jesus and explodes with worship. Zechariah sees an angel and can't speak, but communicates as best as he can with enthusiasm that God is giving he and his wife Elizabeth a son in their old age. Then we see the wise men who come prepared to find the new born king with gifts of worship.

Our seventh spiritual pathway - ways we connect with God - in this series is that of an "enthusiast". These people connect with God through mystery and celebration. They express themselves in worship and outward displays of passion and enthusiasm. They wear their hearts, feelings, and love of God on their sleeves... sometimes literally. Quiet reflection is fine if you are an enthusiast, but it leads somewhere - celebration, experience, and supernatural encounters. If you are an enthusiast you probably read parts of



the Bible about dancing, miracles, parties, and worship and long to be there, and long to have these as a regular part of your spiritual life. There is a sense of action here, and a focus on what God is doing.

Keep it up - we need this more and more in the church. Lead the way with reckless abandon, but beware of chasing experiences rather than chasing God. Follow the example of the wise men. They saw the star - God was speaking their language - and they did something about it. After a long journey, a brush with a wicked king and crooked religious leaders they found Jesus... and they worshiped. May you do the same this Christmas Season. Don't be content with parties, services, and gatherings - use these to journey to Jesus and enthusiastically worship Him.

Matthew 2:11 (ESV) And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.

Jeremy Stuart

CHURCH LIBRARY

"Love the Lord your God with all your mind."



New in the Library

Fiction

Cold Shot - Dani Pettrey (Chesapeake Valor 1)
Still Life - Dani Pettrey (Chesapeake Valor 2)
Blind Spot - Dani Pettrey (Chesapeake Valor 3)
In Every Heartbeat - Kim Vogel Sawyer
Buried - Irene Hannon (Men of Valor 1)
Thin Ice - Irene Hannon (Men of Valor 2)
Tangled Webs - Irene Hannon (Men of Valor 3)
The Sounds of My Voice - Jo Kadlecsek
Love's Faithful Promise - Susan Anne Mason

Christian Living

Counterfeit Gods - Tim Keller

Did you know.....

You can reserve books, CDs and DVDs ahead of time and pick them up on Sundays in our Church Library. Just visit our website under Media / Library and follow the prompts!

The Library is always looking for donations. If you have books you have read, movies you have watched or CDs you have enjoyed but no longer wish to keep please consider donating them to our church library so that others can enjoy them too!

Student Ministry JR High - Gr. 7 – 8 High School - Gr. 9 – 12

Junior High and High School students meet
Wednesday evenings 7 - 9 pm at the church

Wednesday, December 5 - SKYZONE - 7 - 9 pm

150 Gateway Park Dr, Kitchener (Drop-off/pickup there)
\$17 Everyone must have a waiver signed - sign up by Dec 2
<https://skyzonekitchener.centeredgeonline.com/waivers>

Wednesday, December 12 - Youth Alpha 7 - 9 pm

Wednesday, December 19 - Christmas Party 7 - 9 pm

Cookie Decorating, Games, Desserts, and a Gift Exchange
Please bring a gender neutral \$5 gift per student for the
gift exchange and bring a nut free dessert to share.



Highlights & Updates Follow us on Instagram at chc.youth



Student Ministries Christmas Break

December 20 - January 15
January 16 - New Year Kick-Off

Thanks to all the youth who helped with this year's Candy Carnival through stuffing bags, running booths and having fun with the kids who came. We've had a great Fall Ministry Season and are just finishing off Youth Alpha. Many students have brought friends and have been sharing their faith and Jesus. Thank you for taking such a leadership role in our church through Alpha, running games, participating in worship and helping downstairs in Lighthouse. You guys are awesome examples of Christ in you to those around you!

Lighthouse Pro Events (Grade 5 & 6)

Saturday, December 8 - Christmas Party

6:30 - 8:30 pm
Meet at the church.

Come enjoy games, fun and Christmas cheer. Bring a snack to share. Please sign up with Gina Cowan if you're interested in attending. Email confirmations can be sent to ginaacowan@gmail.com



Communication Form

We want to keep in touch and help you get / stay connected here at CHC. **Please complete, tear off, and drop this card in the offering basket or give it to one of our ushers or Pastor Jeremy at the conclusion of the service.**

Name (s) _____
Children _____
Address _____
City _____
Postal _____
Phone _____
E-mail _____

- I am updating information
- I would like a family mailbox
- I would like offering envelopes
- I would like to sign up for pre-authorized giving
- I would like to be contacted by a pastor
- I would like to be added to the church directory
- I give consent to receive electronic communication from the church (email)
- I agree to allow my name and/or photo and those of my family to be used in publications distributed within the church or on its website.

Signed _____
Date _____

Due to privacy considerations, we cannot include any family in the church directory who has not given us written authorization to do so.

Upcoming Sermons



O Come All Ye Faithful Sunday, December 2

"The Lord of the Forgotten"
Advent 1

Sunday, December 9
"The Lord of the Worshiper"

Advent 2
Sunday, December 16

"The Lord of the Young"
Advent 3

Sunday, December 23
"The Lord of the Old"

Advent 4
Monday, December 24
"The Lord of the Seeker"
Christmas Eve Service, 6 pm

Sunday, December 30
"New Year's / Testimony"
Communion

Prayer Chain

The Prayer Chain is available to receive prayer requests and/or for you to join.

Contact the church office
519-578-7275
office@countryhillchurch.ca

December Calendar of Events

Saturday, December 1

Christmas Decorating
9:30 am - 12 pm

Saturday, December 1

CHC Processing Day at OCC
4 - 6:30 pm

Monday, December 3

Men's Floor Hockey
7:30 pm

Tuesday, December 4

Prayer & Worship Gathering
7 pm

Saturday, December 8

Men's Breakfast
7:30 am

Saturday, December 8

Lighthouse Pro
6:30 - 8:30 pm

Sunday, December 9

YA Christmas Event
7 pm

Monday, December 10

Men's Floor Hockey
7:30 pm

Thursday, December 13

Forever Young
12 pm

Thursday, December 13

Men's Bible Study
7 pm

Monday, December 17

Men's Floor Hockey
7:30 pm

Monday, December 24

Christmas Eve Service
6 pm

Christmas Office Hours

The church office will be closed starting December 24 and will reopen on Thursday, January 3, 2019.



Young Adults Winter Retreat

January 18-20, 2019
More information on back page

Youth Winter Retreat

(Jr. High & High School)
March 1-3, 2019

Mishewah Family Camp

July 20-27
Registration opens in the New Year

More details for all events coming soon!

Prayer & Worship Gathering

Tuesday, December 4, 7 pm

Join us for our monthly Prayer and Worship Gathering. This evening is a night of sweet fellowship with Abba, seeking after His heart, for His will for CHC and lifting the needs of our families before the throne of God.

May we always seek Him first, with thanksgiving and pray without ceasing. Meet in room 9.

Men's Floor Hockey

Monday nights, 7:30 pm

No wooden sticks to be used, only plastic sticks. Also no black tape to be used on sticks please. Proper rubber soled shoes must be worn at all times. We'll take a break December 24 & 31

Forever Young

Thursday, December 13, 12 pm

Wear your most outlandish Christmas sweater, socks or jewelry. Chris will be cooking a wonderful meal - only \$12. We'll all be the special speakers. Whether you participate or observe and enjoy, we'll have a wonderful, rewarding time as we have fun and also contemplate the rich significance of the Christmas season. Jesus will be there and so should you!
Contact Lucille Waito
waitogogoose@icloud.com

Young Adult Winter Retreat

January 18 - 20, 2019

The Clarksburg Retreat Centre (788277 Grey Rd.13 Clarksburg) Cost \$150 on/before January 13 \$165 after (payable to Country Hills Church) Join us for teaching and experiences, games, free time, outdoor games and amazing food. Bring your friends. Pack bedding, bibles/notepads, winter clothes, and board games/cards. Arrive there at 8:30 pm Friday Night. We'll leave at noon on Sunday. Register on Facebook or email Jeremy

Young Adult Event

Sunday, December 9, 7 pm

Meet at the Shuart's

It's gonna be Christmas Tree Lit! Bring Christmas cookies and some games and wear an ugly Christmas sweater if you've got it.

Year End Donations

The church office will be closed from December 24 until January 3.

If you wish to make a 2018 year-end donation, it can be made on Sunday December 23 and on Sunday December 30, or mailed and **postmarked not later than December 31 2018 to be included in the 2018 income tax receipts.** If you are interested in receiving a year-to-date summary of givings, please contact jschuit@countryhillschurch.ca by December 18 for that information.