

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

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I think every Christian loves to read their favorite passages from the Bible. It's good to hear again and again the accounts of Jesus' life, and be reminded of all the promises made to us by our heavenly Father. When we venture into unknown areas of the Bible, however, we sometimes find ourselves scratching our head.

Two who are reading through the Bible with me this year recently found things in Isaiah that raised questions they wanted answered. The first was concerning Isaiah's attire, or lack thereof.

In the 20th chapter we read that God told Isaiah to loosen the sackcloth from his hips, and take off his shoes. He did so, and went naked and barefoot for three years.

"Did he really go stark naked?" was the question. It's a question commentators have struggled with for years. It seems so unlike God to actually tell someone to go naked, and all kinds of attempts have been made to cover up the bare facts. But the bottom line is that God was using Isaiah to warn a disobedient people that they were going to be led away as captives; naked and barefoot with buttocks uncovered to their shame. It is shocking, but it exposes the extent to which God will go in an attempt to bring people to repentance.

The second question was related to all the details about people and places and events that are pretty much meaningless to us today. Of course, that should be expected of 2,700 year old history with which we are unfamiliar. Those who lived it knew it to be true, and Isaiah was told to write down his prophecies so they could serve in the time to come as a witness to the truthfulness of what he was saying. Even if we don't take the time to actually dig into the history, the details presented give us the assurance that the Bible is not fantasy, but an actual record of historical facts.

Don't be afraid to venture into that which is unknown to you in the Bible. You may not understand everything you read, but I guarantee you'll learn things about God that you didn't know. God Bless, Rick



THE CHATHAM MESSENGER

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ASIAN CHRISTIAN MISSION

We wrote to you about evangelism among Jerwang people. We also wrote to you about five evangelists, namely Tiching, Ting Hu Ching, Du Naq, Mu Koq Ching, and Mu Wai Hua. Now we would like to write to you about the last one, Bro. Kung Shing Rung.

Bro. Kung Shing Rung is serving in the second district of Jerwang area. He is a family man. His wife's name is Ting Hwi Lang and they have three children. Bro. Kung Shing Rung grew up as a non-Christian. He said, one day an evangelist named Simon came to his village. This evangelist talked about a creator God, who created everything—seen or unseen. This evangelist convincingly presented God as the Creator and a loving Father of all mankind. This preacher made Bro. Kung Shing Rung think that the universe could not have come into existence by itself. This evangelist made him believe that there is a powerful Creator. So when this preacher went to his area the second time he accepted Christ and was baptized into Him. When he accepted Christ, he was 27 years old. Bro. Kung Shing Rung said, since then I have a great desire to know more about this Creator. So I went to attend short term Bible schools. With faith in Christ and a little Bible knowledge I had, I wanted to spread the Good News to others. I began talking about Christ to my peers and to some grown ups. I would go to nearby villages to talk about Christ. I would cross the river, walk over the mountains to other villages to tell the about Jesus the best he could. The more I did this the more satisfaction I gained from telling others about Jesus. God used me as I proclaimed Christ and some people accepted Him. I never cease to be amazed that He would use a person like me to tell others about His love. It is a real privilege to be able to speak for Christ. I thank God for His grace which allows me to proclaim Christ.

Government divided the Jerwang area into four districts. Bro. Kung Shing Rung is one of the district leaders. This permits him to travel freely to any area. As he travels from village to village on government assignments, he preaches Jesus Christ freely everywhere he goes. This in itself is a wonderful opportunity for him and for his people under his administrative areas to hear the gospel. We praise God for such a man as Bro. Kung Shing Rung. We asked our supporters to pray for him and for other Jerwang evangelists.

Your fellow servants, Jesse and Ati Yangmi.

STATISTICS

	7/15	
Worship		129
Offering		\$3,622.44
	7/22	
Worship		109
Offering		\$5,308.54

SERVING THIS SUNDAY-7/29/18

Greeters	Rick & Janet Polley
Visitors' Stand.....	Beryl & Jamella Reese
Communion Meditation.....	Chris Luzio
	Jack Stucki
Ushers	Will Bartels
	Duane Carrell
	Chad Formea
	Otto Huber
	Chuck McLaughlin
	Scott Bales
WORSHIP NURSERY	
Toddlers.....	Kelly Donaldson
	Courtney Bales
Infants.....	Dixie Williamson
	Sara Bartels
	Regan Bartels
Sunday School	
Toddlers.....	Julie Divjak
Infants.....	Rhonda Luzio
	Bonnie Ruebush



Let Us Pray For...

--Mindy, Melissa & Kent at the passing of their mother Glenna.
 --Tina's cousin who has cancer that has spread to his brain and his daughter is getting married in two weeks.
 --Kevin Hendricks overseeing a major military exercise in Louisiana for a month and Ben going back to Auburn University.

Dinner-8

A revised edition of Dinner-8 is off to a good start. Fourteen couples have agreed to be put into groups of 8 to share two meals together. Obviously, however, we can't divide fourteen couples into groups of four couples each, so we need more!

As a reminder, our newly resurrected and revised Dinner-8 is simply a program that makes it possible to enjoy a meal, and get better acquainted with three other couples from the church. Couples will eat together in the home of a couple that volunteers to host the first pot-luck. The host will provide the main course for the meal, and will assign a side, a salad, and a dessert to the others. After the first meal the group will decide when and where to have the second meal. That's all there is to it. There is no hidden agenda and no long term commitment. It's just a chance to eat with, and get to know better a few other couples in the church.

A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board, and it will remain there until we get a satisfactory number of couples that can be divided by four. Couples that are relatively new to our fellowship are especially encouraged to sign up.



Chatham CC,

It's such a blessing to be able to call you partners in ministry. Your faithful love and generosity is so foundational to the work happening on campus. In just a month, CSF will be present on campus at UIS, sending students out to be disciples who make disciples of Jesus. As I think about all the new students that will be impacted, I can't help but think of how God is using your partnership for that to even be possible. Thank you so much for your important role in this ministry to college students. We appreciate you!!

David Lasley, Director CSF



High School Students

Tina and I miss Hawaii so it is time for a little summer Luau! All high school students are invited to a Luau on Friday, August 3rd beginning at 7:00. If you come to partake in the fun games and Hawaiian snacks, you must wear a flowered shirt. Check your Dad's closet as I bet he has an extremely ugly one you can borrow!

This is just for high school so invite as many friends as you want. Let's try to get 40 people there! There won't be a firm structure to the evening, but we will start with a couple big group games until we decide to play other board, card or video games. Of course, if it is hot and it probably will be, we can all go for an evening swim. Let's pack the house and have a huge Luau!



We received word from Mexico that the Avilla family is enjoying their new house! They are very thankful for their new surroundings including a refrigerator that works! The refrigerator is sitting securely in their large room right next to a double mattress where some of the kids are sleeping. Whenever I get updates, I'll pass them along and please keep them in your prayers.



This was the 50th anniversary for CIY! The first "summer conference" was launched in Colorado the summer of 1968. People camped in tents, it was held outside, no worship band, just a few people leading songs with overhead projectors and the gospel was preached. Fifty years later, CIY MOVE conducts over 36 summer conferences for high school students all across the United States. They are focusing on younger students as well during the Believe and SuperStart conferences which we also attend on an annual basis.

They really do excel in many areas and this year's event was no different. The contrast theme was clear, direct and impactful. Are you living in the light? Are you living in darkness? Do you have a foot in the light but the rest of your body is drifting towards the darkness? To examine this contrast, CIY had lampposts near the front and sides of the stage. When anyone turned a problem area over to the Lord, they would go up, turn on the light, and stand directly underneath it. Then, the crowd would erupt with cheers of encouragement. It is a process we all should undertake daily.

Sure we had fun together. We laughed nonstop, we went to an amusement park, we watched Kate be crowned Queen for a Day, we organized a human pyramid of over 50 people, we cried together and we prayed together. But most importantly, we learned together. Emma Warwick put together an outstanding video capturing moments of the conference. It is posted on the Chatham Christian Church Facebook page. If interested, videos of the evening speakers can be found at ciy.com/movesermons. You should check them out also!