

It's time for New Year's resolutions, and I want to give you a little push to make some you may have already thought about.

The first one is to read the Bible through in 2019. Many have already committed to doing so, and the last remaining *Daily Message* was quickly snatched up Sunday. If you didn't get one, you can get an e-version from Amazon, or just start reading Genesis. If reading is hard for you, Jeff has it on CDs, so you can just listen. There was still one on the table as of last Sunday.

The second is to start coming to Wednesday Night Bible Study. We have finished II Thessalonians, and will be beginning the book of James on January 9th at 6:30. We keep adding tables to the ping pong table, so there is always room for more.

The third is to at least attempt to memorize one brief passage of Scripture a week. We've done it before through *The Hidden Word* cards we created years ago, and it's time to do it again. Every Sunday morning we'll look at a key passage that carries the theme of a book of the Bible, and cards will be made available for you to take home as aids in memorizing the passage. A brief phrase from each will even be highlighted for those who find memorization difficult, and for children.

The final one is that you begin coming to the adult study on Sunday nights at 6:30. As you are no doubt aware, we began a study of *Love Thy Body* in September. We have finished the first three chapters that laid the philosophical foundation for the study, and explored in detail how a secular worldview has opened the door to abortion, infanticide, and euthanasia. We will now be looking at how that same worldview has distorted sex.

Last Sunday morning we learned from Romans that God has given over the ungodly and unrighteous to impurity, perversion and depravity. Our Sunday night study will explore how the dishonoring of bodies that Paul spoke of has led to the hookup culture, the acceptance of homosexuality, and the gender confusion we find in the world today.

I don't have to tell you how important it is that we study the Bible, hide it in our heart, and explore together how to best apply it to the challenges we face. Just let me encourage you to do it.

God Bless, Rick



## THE CHATHAM MESSENGER

VOLUME 47

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NUMBER 1

### Paul's Seventh Christmas Poem

Being the owner of an Inn or Hotel,  
Meant it was my job to make sure people slept well.  
Caesar Augustus wanted a count of the people alive,  
That meant my business was about to thrive.  
Late one night I heard a knock on my door.  
This place was so full, I had room for no more.  
When I opened the door, I wasn't sure if it was day or night.  
There was a star over our city, that was shining so bright.  
They were weary and worn out from being on the road.  
From what I could tell, the donkey had carried quite a load.  
The man said they were engaged and she needed some rest.  
A room and a bed would suit them the best.  
I told them we were full, I had no room for them to stay.  
But there was something about them, I couldn't turn them away.  
Hesitantly, I said, "We do have a stable.  
You are welcome to stay there if you are able."  
So I walked them down to where they would stay.  
I told them I was sorry they would have to sleep on the hay.  
I rearranged the animals to give them some space,  
And cleaned out the manger, just in case.  
Well they needed it, so I guess I was right.  
She wrapped the baby in clothes all snug and tight.  
Little did I know, there would be more guests.  
Because along came some shepherds who had been on a quest.  
They said the angels spoke, and then they did sing.  
Telling them to go to the city to meet the newborn king.  
Not just a king, but a Savior, the shepherds would say.  
Then they were praising God as they went on their way.  
Little did I know, when she gave birth to her first son.  
That he would be the one to forgive all the wrong we had done.  
How could the man born to erase all of our sin,  
Be born in a manger, because there was no room in my inn?

## STATISTICS

Worship	12/23	119
Offering		\$7,474.59
Worship	12/30	126
Offering		\$3,490.80

## SERVING THIS SUNDAY-1/6/19

Greeters .....	Lee & Schar Zimmerman
Visitors' Stand .....	Bonnie Ruebush
Communion Meditation .....	Chris Luzio
Ushers .....	Mark Huber
	Otto Huber
	Paul Hunley
	Kent Ballard
	Jeff Edmiston
	Gary Gredzieleski
<b>WORSHIP NURSERY</b>	
Toddlers .....	Julie & Lily Divjak
Infants .....	Dixie Williamson
	Kristin Polley
	Reagan Formea
	Sunday School
Toddlers .....	Rhonda Luzio
Infants .....	Jonathan & Jeni Sperry



--Sterling Eby and family at passing of his sister.  
 --Darrin Burdinsky's mom recovering from surgery.



The Thursday night ladies' study of grace from Ephesians will begin again on January 10th at 7:00 at the Huber house. Let Tina know if you'd like her to order you a book.



## JANUARY SERVERS

1/13: Mark Huber, Chris Luzio  
 1/20 & 1/27: Kirk Polley, Chris Luzio

## JANUARY PROJECTIONIST

Chris Luzio

## JANUARY GREETERS

1/13 Duane Carrell  
 1/20 Gary & Lori Gredzieleski  
 1/27 Rick & Janet Polley

## JANUARY VISITORS' STAND

1/13 Bob & Dixie Williamson  
 1/20 Judy Marlow  
 1/27 Beryl & Jamella Reese

## JANUARY NURSERY

### Worship - 1/13

Toddlers: Renee & Courtney Bales  
 Infants: Marilyn Wenneborg  
 Stacey Cantrell  
 Grace Hunley

Infants: Sunday School  
 Karen Mann  
 Rebecca Smith

### Worship - 1/20

Toddlers: Nikki & Carter Hunley  
 Infants: Janice McLaughlin  
 Nicole Moore  
 Abbie Divjak

Infants: Sunday School  
 Julie Divjak  
 Dixie Williamson

### Worship - 1/27

Toddlers: Janet Polley  
 Kate Sperry  
 Infants: Karen & Kaelyn Mann  
 Rebecca Smith

Infants: Sunday School  
 Vicki Small  
 Kristin Polley



Don't forget to check the CCC mailbox for any Christmas cards that may have been sent to you from others in the church.

## PreK - 12th Grades YOUTH GROUPS

Youth Groups for all ages start again this Sunday evening at 6:30. The older kids will kick off the new year with a series of lessons on prayer while the younger ones will continue studying the parables of Jesus. We will be sure to mix in some fun activities as well!

Before we know it, the Spring conferences will be here! This year, both SuperStart and Believe are being held over the same weekend which is March 1st & 2nd. Needless to say, I am not happy about having to miss one of these, but I doubt they will change their schedule just for me!



All the women of the church are invited to a Sprinkle hosted by friends of Kileen on January 5th at 2:00pm here at CCC. There will be some games and if you bring a package of newborn diapers, you will be entered into a drawing for a gift card.



## Phone Number Change

Due to a variety of circumstances, the primary one being I temporarily lost my old phone, there is a new phone number for Mark Huber. It is 217-971-3075. Sorry for the inconvenience. I will try to be a more responsible human from this point forward.



We had an AMAZING time on the Amazing Race last week. In case you missed Sunday morning, 9 teams totaling 39 teen-agers participated in this year's race and then spent the night at the church. It was the largest group ever and I hope next year is even bigger!

To give you a flavor of the evening, the kids first solved a puzzle leading them to the Donaldson's house. There, they could do one of two tasks, catch and kiss a pig or grab a chicken to perform a relay race. Most decided to hold a chicken for the first time in their life which was a sight to see! Teams then fed each other baby food blindfolded, got a picture taken with a fireman, had to eat a pancake the size of a small pizza (way to go Ben Warwick who was the only one to finish the entire pancake!!), find specific light displays around Chatham, perform a workout at XLT, win 250 tickets at Chuck E Cheese and sprint to the mall for the final two tasks.

The race was followed by Broomball, a quick stop at Steak n Shake, dodgeball at LSCA until 2:00am then sardines at the church. It was a night that would have been impossible to pull off without the adult volunteers who assisted. In fact, the Youth Ministry here at CCC would not exist if it weren't for volunteers from the body. On a larger scale, our church as one small body part in the larger body of Christ would not function properly without the numerous volunteers who serve Christ in various roles. So, as we launch into a new year, just let me say how thankful I am for all of you and all that you do for the ministries within the church as we strive to glorify our Lord within and outside of these walls.