

It's 6:45, and the alarm just went off... for the second time. Do I get up, or not? I really don't want to, but I get up anyway.

I make my way to the coffee pot, after a detour in the bathroom. The coffee's ready, because I programmed it to start last night. I go out for the paper, and sit down to read.

I don't have time to read it all, because I ignored the first alarm. If I'm going to work, I better get ready. I decide I ought to go, so I head for the shower. Somebody else has to get the kids up.

They don't want to get up either. They had a busy weekend, and got to bed late last night. Yeh, it's a school day, but they need their sleep.

Oh well, I guess they should go. And the bus will be here in fifteen minutes. Brush your teeth, pull on some clothes, eat a Pop Tart, and out the door you go.

What's wrong with the above pictures? I imagine everything sounds pretty normal for a Monday morning, except for the "If I'm going to work", the "I decide I ought to go", and the "I guess they should go", parts.

Truth be told, the decision to go to work and to school was made a long time ago. We really don't have a choice to make when the alarm goes off...the second time. We have to get up. And the kids have to catch the bus, or we'll be late for work.

Now it's a Sunday, and the routine is similar, except for some of the details. And the fact that I really am going to decide whether to go or not. After all, I don't have to go to church. Or do I?

Tina and I were talking last week about church attendance, and she mentioned that shortly before she and Mark were married he told her, "We're not to be like those who decide on Sunday whether to go to church or not. We're deciding now to go to church on Sundays." Perhaps he had read in Hebrews 10:25 that we're not to forsake our assembling together, as is the habit of some.

So what's your habit on Sunday morning? When do you decide to assemble together with your church family? Do you wait for the alarm, or have you already decided? God Bless, Rick



## THE CHATHAM MESSENGER

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# ASIAN CHRISTIAN MISSION

Dear friends and supporters,

2018 is now behind us. We have much to be thankful to God for His spiritual and material blessings. Through you God help meet all our essential needs. We were able to feed the hungry, help the sick and house the homeless. Thank you for helping us faithfully so that we also can help others.

In this past year, by God's grace, we were able to conduct several preaching and teaching seminars for local preachers. In recent years many false teachers and false prophets have arisen in our part of the world. We had to combat these false teachers constantly. Well known false teacher, such as, Mormons, Jehovah's witnesses and others come from Korea, Burma and China spreading false doctrines among our people. We had to protect our simple trusting Christians from being misled by false teachers. It is easy to win non-Christians to Christ, but to keep them in sound doctrine is quite a task. Please pray with us that new Christians will be firmly rooted in biblical truth for their faith and practice.

We wrote to you about evangelism among Jerwang people along China-Burma border area. This work has been quite successful. But recently the authorities began to place some restrictions on our evangelistic work. Originally we planned to go there to preach and teach at the end of October. But due to government restrictions and other difficulties, we postponed the trip until January of 2019. Please pray with us that gospel will continue to be triumphant among Jerwang people. With your prayer support we will do our utmost to continue to spread the gospel among Jerwang people.

As we wrote to you before, Jerwang youth is beginning to get interested in Christianity. So to bring the Jerwang youth together we started Jerwang youth camp as you have been informed. Each year some young Jerwang are won to Christ. When these new young Christians go back to their villages, they spread the Gospel among their relatives making it easier for our evangelists to share Christ when they go to these non-Christian villages.

Slowly but surely many Jerwang will be won to Christ in the months and years to come. Please keep Jerwang evangelism in your prayer. We do not convert anybody. But through preaching Christ, God brings people to Himself. The real warfare begins when a non-Christian accepts Christ. It seems like Satan intensifies his attack against us to the degree of our commitment to spread the gospel of Christ. But the victory in Christ belongs to us, "for though we live in the world we are not carrying on a worldly warfare, for the weapons of our warfare are not worldly, but have divine power to destroy strongholds."

(Continued inside)

## STATISTICS

Worship ..... 134  
Offering ..... \$9,611.29

## SERVING THIS SUNDAY-1/13/19

Greeters ..... Duane Carrell  
Visitors' Stand ..... Bob & Dixie Williamson  
Communion Meditation ..... Chris Luzio  
Mark Huber  
Ushers ..... Jake Divjak  
Otto Huber  
Paul Hunley  
Kent Ballard  
Jeff Edmiston  
Gary Gredzieleski

### WORSHIP NURSERY

Toddlers ..... Renee & Courtney Bales  
Infants ..... Marilyn Wenneborg  
Stacey Cantrell  
Grace Hunley  
Sunday School  
Toddlers ..... Rhonda Luzio  
Infants ..... Karen Mann  
Rebecca Smith



--Connor Bales and eight students from University of Iowa in Haiti this week ministering at an orphanage.

--Lucas Williamson having gall bladder surgery.

--Family of a former co-worker of Dixie who passed away after long battle with cancer.

--All the kids as they return to school.

## The Hidden Word

"Then God said, 'Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.'"

## ASIAN CHRISTIAN MISSION

Lately some Jerwang evangelists came to Chiangmai, Thailand. They reported that due to government restrictions it is increasingly difficult to evangelize. Actually Jerwang people, especially the Jewang youth, are very interested to become Christians. But there are government spies watching those who are interested in Christianity. They watch those who attend church. They watch those who go to prayer meetings, and they watch those who sing hymns of the faith. So many are waiting for the time when they can accept the Lord without fear.

Please pray that the government restrictions will be lifted and the people will feel free to accept Christ. Even under the watchful eyes, nine people accepted the Lord in the last six months and were baptized into Him. Please pray that these new converts will be protected by God and they will continue to grow in the faith. These new converts took some personal risks to openly confess Jesus as their Lord. There are many more candidates to become Christians. Please pray with us that these will have the courage to come forth and confess Jesus as Lord.

God's spirit is moving among Jerwang people as never before, especially among the Jerwang youth. We are confident that they will have courage to openly confess Jesus as their Lord and Savior. Praise God for victory in Jesus!

Your fellow servants,  
Jesse and Ati Yangmi



Jesse with three Jerwang evangelists



### 4th & 5th Grade Students

The annual SuperStart conference will be in Bloomington on March 1st & 2nd. Our key verse will be Psalm 105:1 which reads, "Give thanks to the Lord and proclaim His greatness. Let the whole world know what He has done." This year, we are going to conquer Gargantor—the biggest obstacle that keeps us from sharing God with others.

The early bird registration fee is \$50 which is good through February 1st. A sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board. More details will be forthcoming and if you have an activity you would like to do during our free time on Saturday, let me know!



### Jr. High and High School

I enjoyed our discussions on prayer during FUSE on Sunday evening! Prayer needs to be part of our life no matter what change we are seeking. This week, we are going to study how to incorporate scripture into our prayer life. Also, come prepared to play a messy game for a cool prize!



### Jr. High Students

Our annual Believe Conference will be upon us soon! This year, it will be on March 1st & 2nd here in Springfield. I love this theme! We were all created as a masterpiece by an incredible Master and even when we don't feel like it sometimes, that doesn't change the fact that we are loved and made in His image. Our identity is not found in what we do, but who we are. And God says through Christ, we have been adopted back into His family forever.

The early bird discounted registration fee of \$59 is good through February 1st. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board so we can take advantage of this offer. The details are being worked out, but if you are in Junior High, this is a conference you don't want to miss!



MidWinter  
Retreat 2019  
MULTIPLY

### High School

If you would like a break from the busyness of life, consider grabbing a friend and attending the MidWinter Retreat at LSCA over the weekend of January 18th-20th. There will be plenty of opportunities to get to know other High School students in the area, but more importantly, there will be time for individual study and sessions of encouragement as we strive to continually serve our Lord. Please see the LSCA website for details!