

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

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Until last week's reading in Galatians, I would have answered the question, "Where was Saul called to be the Apostle Paul?" with, "On the road to Damascus." I would have been wrong!

The Message paraphrases Paul's statement in Galatians 1:15 as, "when I was still in my mother's womb he chose me and called me", and I think it's right. My go to verse about being called while still in the womb has always been Jeremiah 1:5, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you." It would appear that the same can be said about Paul.

I bring this up because those still in the womb are not even considered to be persons by the Supreme Court or many legislators today. In the *Roe v Wade* decision Justice Blackmun actually said, "The word 'person,' as used in the Fourteenth Amendment, does not include the unborn. If the suggestion of personhood is established,...the fetus' right to life would then be guaranteed."

I'm sure we were all encouraged by the thousands who filled to overflowing the state capitol last week to protest the pro-abortion bills that go under the euphemism of "reproductive health." I wish I could be optimistic about their changing the minds of those who are intent on making our state into the most "progressive" in the nation with regards to abortion, but I'm not.

The Declaration of Independence held that all men were created equal and endowed by their Creator with the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. The Fifth Amendment made it clear that no person could be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law. Still, it wasn't until the Thirteenth Amendment that slaves were given the rights of persons.

It's my prayer the either the court will change it's mind and declare that babies in the womb are indeed persons with the right to life, or the Constitution will be amended to make it clear. But whether that happens or not, we know that those in the womb are fully persons whom God has called into being, just as were the prophet Jeremiah and the Apostle Paul.

God Bless, Rick



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The current issue of *Touchstone* has a very interesting article about the sacramental nature of singing, giving evidence to the fact that when God's people sing praises together there is a spiritual connection between them and God that goes beyond the simple act of singing. It also notes that "When we share the songs of a previous generation, we invoke their witness. Old songs are a manifestation of a cultural memory, the heirloom of a common heritage; through them our forefathers speak to us, and through them we testify to our yet-unborn descendants."

With that in mind, we will once again be singing only hymns during our praise and worship time on the 5th Sunday. Plan therefore on celebrating your faith through beloved hymns of faith this Sunday morning.

STATISTICS

Worship 119
Offering \$8,062.00

SERVING THIS SUNDAY-3/31/19

Greeters Rhonda Luzio
Visitors' Stand Rick & Janet Polley
Communion Meditation Chris Luzio
Mark Huber
Ushers Will Bartels
Rick Polley
Bob Williamson
Duane Carrell
Chuck McLaughlin
Chad Formea

WORSHIP NURSERY

Toddlers Janice McLaughlin
Cooper Formea
Infants Renee & Madison Bales
Stacey Cantrell
Sunday School
Toddlers Rhonda Luzio
Infants Dixie Williamson
Erica Blakley

The Hidden Word

II KINGS 17:13

"Yet the Lord warned Israel and Judah, through all His prophets and every seer, saying, 'Turn from your evil ways and keep My commandments. My statutes according to all the Law which I commanded your fathers, and which I sent to you through My servants the prophets'."

p Prayers
lease

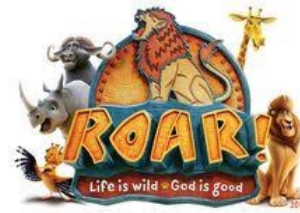
--The family of Ferol Hettick at his passing.



Please RSVP at info@uiscsf.org or call 248-3979 to make reservations for the CSF banquet.



The last teen and adult volleyball games of the season will be held this Sunday evening at 8:00 in the LSCA gym.



Vacation Bible School

Since the school year has been extended through Thursday, May 30th, we felt it would be wise to move VBS to the week of June 10th. So, we will have our four nights of VBS beginning on Monday, June 10th and concluding on Thursday, June 13th. Each evening will begin at 6:15 with the parent pick up scheduled for 8:30.

Thank you to those who have already notified me of your willingness to help. VBS is such a group effort, with many members of the body participating to share God's love story to kids of all ages. There are some specific roles yet to be filled, so if you too would like to assist, please let me know and we will find a comfortable role for you in the program.



K-5th Grade Students

I am really looking forward to our afternoon of bowling and pizza this Sunday! So far, we have nine kids signed up to take part in our fun afternoon at Showtime Lanes in Virden. If you missed the sign up sheet, don't worry, we have plenty of space and you are more than welcome. Also, parents are definitely invited to attend to just hang out or bowl, we would love to have you join us.

The cost for two games of bowling or one game of bowling and laser tag is \$10 per person. For those wanting pizza and soda, the cost usually comes to around \$5 per person. We will be returning to the church at 3:15 for pick up.



Jr. High Beauty Pageant

What a great evening at church for the girls! Madison, Emily, Kaelyn, Lily and Anna all participated in the pageant this week on Monday. After two and a half hours of hair, make up, pedicures and manicures, the girls found their pageant dress to walk the runway.

The first part of the pageant involved some questions to each contestant from the elegant panel below. A huge thank you to Kate, Alexis, Emma, Grace and Abbie who made this night possible for the younger girls. Then, it was on to the talent portion of the evening.

Emily and Kaelyn highlighted their skills involving basketball and horses, two areas of interest in their life. Anna busted out some humor with some awesome jokes. Lily demonstrated her artistic side by making rubber band bracelets and Madison sang a beautiful tune highlighting her wonderful voice.

By the end of the night, the girls all focused on the fact that they are daughters of the King. That is what makes them truly beautiful !

