

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

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I recently received a no-doubt broadly sent email that shared some interesting facts about the soldiers who guard the tomb of the Unknowns. Even if you've seen it, please let me share them now again.

The soldiers who guard the tomb must meet specific physical requirements, and commit two years of life to guard the tomb. They must live in a barracks under the tomb, and cannot drink any alcohol on or off duty for the rest of their lives. They cannot swear in public for the rest of their lives and cannot disgrace the uniform or the tomb in any way. After two years, the guard is given a wreath pin that is worn on their lapel signifying they served as guards of the tomb. There are only 400 presently worn. The guard must obey these rules for the rest of their lives or give up the wreath pin.

During the first six months of duty a guard cannot talk to anyone or watch TV. All off duty time is spent studying the 175 notable people laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery. A guard must memorize who they are and where they are interred. Every guard spends five hours a day getting his uniforms ready for guard duty, making sure there are no wrinkles, folds or lint on the uniform. In 2003 as Hurricane Isabelle was approaching they were given permission to suspend the assignment, but respectfully declined the offer. Soaked to the skin, marching in the pelting rain of a tropical storm, they said guarding the tomb was not just an assignment, it was the highest honor that can be afforded to a service person.

Now, contrast that with the soldiers who guarded the tomb of Christ.

"Behold, a severe earthquake had occurred, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled away the stone and sat upon it. And his appearance was like lightning, and his garment as white as snow; and the guards shook for fear of him, and became like dead men."

"Behold, some of the guard came into the city and reported to the chief priests all that had happened. And when they had assembled with the elders and counseled together, they gave a large sum of money to the soldiers, and said, 'You are to say, "His disciples came by night and stole Him away while we were asleep." And they took the money and did as they had been instructed;"

When standing guard over the reputation of the risen Christ, which guard do you most resemble? God Bless, Rick

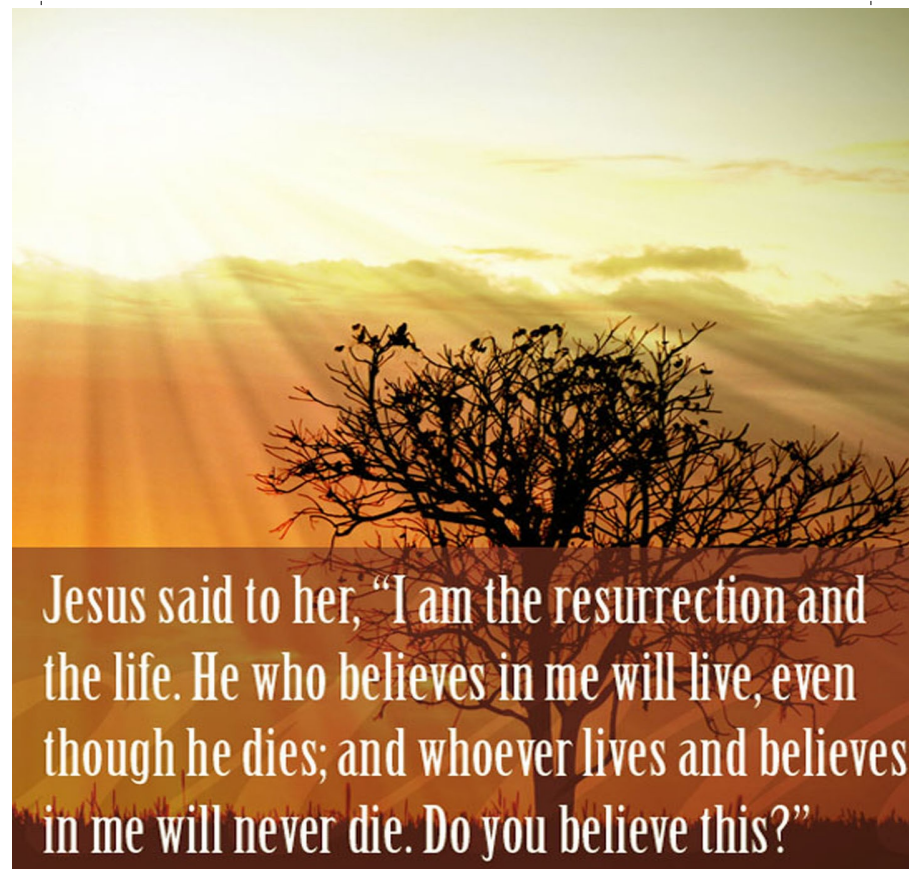


THE CHATHAM MESSENGER

VOLUME 47

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NUMBER 15



STATISTICS

Worship 97
Offering \$2,915.04

SERVING THIS SUNDAY-4/21/19

Greeters Gary & Lori Gredzieleski
Visitors' Stand Judy Marlow
Communion Meditation Paul Hunley
Rick Polley
Ushers Mike Donaldson
Kent Ballard
Jake Divjak
Jeff Edmiston
Otto Huber
Chris Luzio

WORSHIP NURSERY

Toddlers Vicki Small
Jake Divjak
Infants Marilyn Wenneborg
Elizabeth Wright
Anna Hunley



--Friend of Brad Stirmell who lost their baby after nine months.

--Rachel Jones, daughter of Pauline (Trott) Eustice, in critical condition.



Thank you to those who came and cleaned my yard on Saturday. You have no idea how much I appreciated it. Your Christian love shines.

Judy Marlow

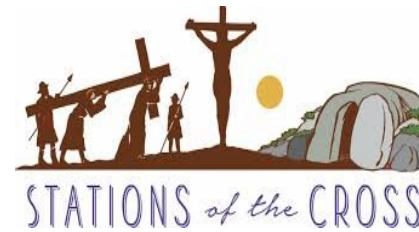


Everyone is invited to worship the risen Christ with us this Sunday morning at 9:15. There will be no Wee Worship or Junior Worship as children will be encouraged to worship with their parents, and Sunday School and evening activities will be suspended to better facilitate family celebrations. Nurseries will, however, be available for infants and toddlers.



Due to the weather, prom, and sickness, many who may have benefited from last Sunday's sermon on baptism were not present to hear it. This important message is, however, available on our website at chathamchristian.org as a podcast that can be listened to, or a manuscript that can be read. And, as with all the sermons delivered at Chatham Christian Church, printed copies are available on the sermon table.

In addition to the information presented in the message, any questions about baptism are welcomed. There is a lot of confusion about the purpose for baptism and how and when it should be administered. Those with questions are encouraged to give Rick or Mark a call.



I would encourage all of you to take time this Easter season and experience the final week of Jesus' life as we approach Resurrection Sunday together. From His time alone in the Garden to His empty tomb, the stations of the cross will provide a powerful visual for us to remember.

Everyone is welcome to visit the stations from 3:30pm to 9:30pm this Friday at Lakeside Christian Church. They are conducting a worship service that evening at 5:00pm and 6:30pm if you would like to end this time of reflection in praise and worship.



We only have two boxes of Rice Krispies left to reach our goal of donating 30 boxes to LSCA for the summer camping season. If we go over our goal, no problem at all! Thank you all for your quick response to this need.

Also, every supporting church of LSCA has been asked to provide volunteers for one morning in the kitchen while campers are present. The morning assigned to CCC is Monday, June 17th from 10:30-12:30. If you can volunteer, please let me know.



Our annual VBS program is less than two months away! I am excited about the theme this year that will enable us to reach others in the community with the gospel message. It is a great experience to work with a group for a week and watch them grow in their relationship with our Lord.

This year, our VBS will focus around an epic African adventure where kids will explore the goodness of God as we plant seeds for the sprouting of a ferocious faith in our Lord. Every evening, the kids will participate in the opening celebration, attend a Wild Bible Adventure class, eat treats at the Hungry Herd Café, play Stampede Sports, build imaginative crafts and conclude with a closing ceremony. The main teaching points are as follows:

- Monday: When life is unfair...God is good! Mack the rhinoceros shows us that God's goodness is always around us, even in bad circumstances.
- Tuesday: When life is scary...God is good! Hooper the Hoopoe (it's a bird) reinforces that no matter what, God is still in control of our wild world.
- Wednesday: When life changes...God is good! Kids are introduced to Marge the Cape buffalo who shows them that no matter what changes, one thing never changes, God is always God and God is always good!
- Thursday: When life is sad...God is good! Zion the lion will help us understand the goodness of God through the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus.

The planning process is underway! If you would like to be a part of VBS, let me know. You will be blessed and enjoy the week as much as the kids!