

CHATHAM CHRISTIAN CHURCH
9897 So. Main St., P.O. Box 527
Chatham, Illinois 62629

Church Office 217-483-3987
www.chathamchristian.org

Rick Wenneborg, Minister
cell phone 217-836-4971
Rick@chathamchristian.org

Mark Huber, Youth Minister
cell phone 217-971-3075
hubermark2@gmail.com

Sunday Worship Service 9:15 AM
Bible School 10:45 AM

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Chatham, IL
Permit No. 9

*This world is not my home,
I'm just a-passing through.
My treasures are laid up
Somewhere beyond the blue.*

We've sung the hymn, but do we live as if we really believe it? That's a question that Alistair Begg addresses in a wonderful little book entitled *Brave by Faith*, and subtitled "God-sized Confidence in a Post-Christian World." He introduces the book with the above words of the hymn, and then gets right to the point.

"The fact of the matter is that it has always been true that we are strangers in and to this world. It has just been clouded, obscured by the size and influence and legal protection of the church in most of the Western world. But this world is not actually our home. We're not supposed to be treating this life the way other people treat it, as if this is the be-all and end-all of everything, or as if as Christians we can have a comfortable, respectable, prosperous life here and look forward to even more of those things in eternity.

"Secularism pushes back again and again against what the Bible says about sexual ethics, about salvation, about education, about the role and reach of the state, or about matters of public welfare. Public opinion has turned against Christians.

"Suddenly, as a minority group within an increasingly secularized nation, we are finding out how it feels to be outsiders. And we don't like it. We're not used to it. And it's easy to become bewildered, angry, defensive, or defeated.

"So the question is, what does it look like to live as a Christian in a society that does not like what Christians believe, what we say, and how we live? How are you going to live in this new world?"

Alistair takes us to the book of Daniel to find the answer. And, as we noted on Wednesday nights, Daniel and his friends were cast into a pagan culture, given pagan identities, and educated in pagan schools, but remained faithful by depending on God, and by trusting in His providence.

We can do nothing less today.
God Bless, Rick

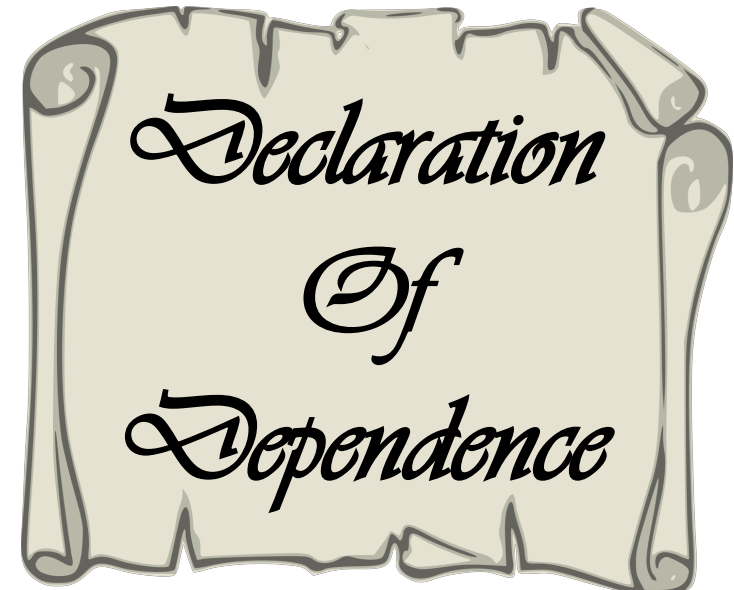


THE CHATHAM MESSENGER

VOLUME 50

June 29, 2022

NUMBER 7



As we celebrate the freedom and political independence we've enjoyed for over 200 years, we declare and re-affirm our dependence on Almighty God for the grace and forgiveness needed to continue living a life endowed with liberty and any happiness that He might deem appropriate for a sinful nation.

STATISTICS		
	5/29	
Worship		107
Offering		\$5,735.00
	6/5	
Worship		93
Offering		\$9,189.72
	6/12	
Worship		132
Offering		\$6,586.72
	6/19	
Worship		87
Offering		\$2,996.00
	6/26	
Worship		97
Offering		\$3,753.25

UNBORN CHILDREN REJOICE!

On Friday, June 24th, the U.S. Supreme Court made a decision in favor of the unborn. The fact that the decision was made on the Feast of John the Baptist, celebrated in liturgical churches, was noted as significant by the editors of *Touchstone* because in John we find the first recorded *in utero* witness to the ability of an unborn child to rejoice. For as Elizabeth declared when an expectant Mary arrived, "When the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby leaped in my womb for joy."

Would that that were the reaction we are able to focus on today. For as Lincoln noted in his 1838 Lyceum Address in Springfield: "There is no grievance that is a fit object of redress by mob law. In any case that arises...one of two positions is necessarily true; that is, the thing is right within itself, and therefore deserves the protection of all law and all good citizens; or it is wrong, and therefore proper to be prohibited by legal enactments; and in neither case, is the interposition of mob law, either necessary, justifiable, or excusable."

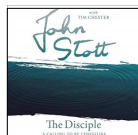
Let us rejoice with the unborn, and pray for our country. May the "mobocratic spirit" that Lincoln noted was abroad in the land before the Civil War erupted be overcome by rejoicing in our nation.

More from *Brave by Faith*

"To paraphrase the twentieth-century writer G.K. Chesterton, when people cease to believe in the God of Daniel's fathers—the God who has revealed himself in Scripture—they do not believe in nothing; no, they believe in just about anything. And the only God whom the culture will not, cannot, put up with is this God who says and shows that he is the one true God. So this is where the Christian parts company with the culture, for when the modern Western mind thinks of religions, the word that immediately springs forward is the word 'tolerance.' But, as John Stott pointed out, people do not 'always stop to define what they mean by it.'"

'It may help if we distinguish between three kinds [of tolerance]. The first may be called legal tolerance, which ensures that every minority's religious and political rights ... are adequately protected in law. This is obviously right ... Another kind is social tolerance, which encourages respect for all persons, whatever views they may hold, and seeks to understand and appreciate their position. This too is a virtue which Christians wish to cultivate ...

'But what about intellectual tolerance, which is the third kind? To cultivate a mind so broad that it can tolerate every opinion, without ever detecting anything in it to reject, is not a virtue; it is the vice of the feeble-minded. It can degenerate into an unprincipled confusion of truth with error and goodness with evil. Christians, who believe that truth and goodness have been revealed in Christ, cannot possibly come to terms with it.'"



The summer college class is continuing to meet in the library during the Sunday School hour. All recent high school grads and college age adults are invited to join Kevin and Kathy Lasley in a study of *The Disciple* by John Stott.



It was a joyful morning two Sundays ago as we witnessed the baptism of Nate Estell. Nate is the grandson of John and Pauline Eustice and son Phil and Rhonda Estell. He demonstrated his faith in Christ to us through his verbal confession and his physical act of baptism into the Lord Jesus Christ. Together, let's keep Nate in our prayers and pledge to be a positive influence on him as he matures into a man of God.



What a worthwhile way to spend a Saturday! On September 24th, a group from CCC will be going to St. Louis to package meals for kids around the world. This is a great opportunity for the entire family to participate in a service project together. Last time we did this, all the volunteers in our shift packed over 66,000 meals in a two hour timeframe. The meals consist of a dried vitamin powder, dried vegetables, soy and rice. It is packed in a tightly sealed bag, boxed and then delivered to the people in need. It was a great experience and now we get to look forward to it again! Please let me know if you are interested in going.



Jr. High and High School

The Amazing Race will be here soon! Start getting your winning team together for this prestigious event! We will begin the race here at the church on Saturday, July 9th at 11:00am. Teams will then begin to race around Springfield and the surrounding areas completing tasks along the way for the next 4-5 hours. A victor will emerge! You will not need swimsuits throughout the race, but bring one anyway because we might end up at my house for a quick swim and burgers afterwards.

The cost will be \$20 per racer. We do a lot of things throughout the year, but this is probably the best event to bring a friend and have them get to know others in our church. They will have a blast as you solve puzzles, complete an eating challenge that would make the average person cry and use agility/coordination to be declared the winners of this year's Amazing Race!



High School

CIY MOVE is coming up fast! So far, there are 12 of us registered and looking forward to this trip to Warrensburg, MO on July 18th. There is still room for a few more if anyone else is interested in going. The conference will focus on the teachings of Jesus, more specifically His use of parables to broadcast His message. It should be a great study mixed in with plenty of fun activities and worship!