

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

When Jesus prayed that we'd all be one, He was praying for the church, not for a nation. And when He said a kingdom divided against itself could not stand, He wasn't talking about a nation, but the kingdom of Satan. When Matthew Henry, however, said "United we stand, divided we fall", he was expressing concern for our nation, and many share that fear today.

We obviously do live in a nation that is politically divided, but is that a bad thing? I'm not so sure.

Before the flood, God saw that all flesh had corrupted their way upon the earth, and He would have blotted out mankind if He hadn't found one righteous man. After sparing Noah and his family, He told them to fill the earth. But his descendants didn't want to be scattered over the face of the earth, so they built a city that would bring glory to themselves. God could see where that was going, so He divided them into nations, speaking different languages.

It seems that when everyone in a fallen world is united as one, they always head away from God. Apparently nations were created to keep sinful men divided, and to contain the spread of rebellion against God within smaller units.

Being divided into nations also makes it possible for God to work through one nation to bless or discipline another, and this He has done throughout history. He even divided Israel into two countries in the hopes that one would influence the other. But when they both failed to obey Him, He used other countries to discipline and to eventually destroy them both.

The founders of our country were good students of history. They recognized the need for checks and balances, and even recognized that political parties were a necessary evil if we were to survive. In spite of the rhetoric and lying, parties serve a good purpose because they give us the opportunity to choose a platform that is more in keeping with our God-given values.

With that in mind, I encourage you to vote for a platform instead of a person. If you feel the stated goals and objectives of a particular party are more in line with God's will, please vote for the lesser of two evils.

God Bless, Rick



THE CHATHAM MESSENGER

VOLUME 53

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November 24th Program at 5:00 Dinner at 5:30

| STATISTICS | | |
|------------|-------|-------------|
| | 10/6 | |
| Worship | | 104 |
| Offering | | \$5,174.45 |
| | 10/13 | |
| Worship | | 111 |
| Offering | | \$11,199.72 |
| | 10/20 | |
| Worship | | 113 |
| Offering | | \$2,940.72 |
| | 10/27 | |
| Worship | | 105 |
| Offering | | \$14,673.65 |



Last year we were able to take a truck load of food to the Chatham Community Food Pantry after our Thanksgiving Dinner, and we're hoping to do the same this year.

Food items can be brought to the church and placed along the front wall in the auditorium every Sunday until the dinner on November 24th. We'll deliver them to the pantry in time for needy residents to pick up food items for their Thanksgiving.



A sign-up sheet will be on the bulletin board to assure that we'll have turkey and all the trimmings, as well as a variety of desserts. Please bring your items ready to serve before 5:00 on the 24th.

Chiang Mai Christian Church Flooded!



The church that Jesse Yangmi founded, and that serves as a central hub for many of the activities of Asian Christian Mission, was recently flooded following a typhoon. Despite heroic efforts to save church furnishings, damage was extensive. Many church members lost household items and suffered personal loss as well, but they are doing all they can to put the church back in shape. The estimated cost to repair and replace what was lost is \$15,000. When we learned of the damage, the elders met, and due to your faithful stewardship, we were able to send the entire amount.



Casas Por Cristo first began building homes in Juarez, Mexico in 1993. Since then, they have expanded their reach to include Acuna, Mexico, Guatemala, the Dominican Republic, Nicaragua and Honduras. To date, Casas has provided over 6,500 families with their material need of a home, while also ministering to their spiritual need by showing the love of Christ.

We saw this impact firsthand in 2018 when a group from CCC built a house for the family of Estevan Ramirez Avilla. The new housing they received from CCC allowed them to stay dry during rain storms, gave them more room to care for extended family and provided them a new front door with a lock for security. I'll never forget their tears of joy and thankfulness.

If you would like to participate in a Casas build, we are in the beginning stages of organizing one for next summer. Right now, we have the option of choosing the week of June 16th or the week of June 23rd. The church will purchase all the material needed to build the house and rent a couple vans for transportation. Participants would need to cover:

- Airfare roundtrip from St. Louis to San Antonio.
- Meal Plan: \$132 which consists of 12 meals during the build.
- Lodging: \$64 for lodging during the build.
- \$15 for travel insurance.

Please be in prayer concerning your potential involvement with this trip. It truly is a great experience. If you would like to commit, please see me and I will begin to document which of the two weeks works best for the majority of people. God willing, we will be providing a house for a needy family in Mexico next year!



High School

Fourteen have signed up to attend the annual Walgrave Astoria Costume Ball and Dinner on Saturday, November 9th! The who's who of the town will be there and are getting their costumes ready for this exclusive event. Excitement is buzzing in the air as Nicole Wilton, Jamie Bond and Zangelina Holie are rumored to be on the guest list this year.

Dinner will be served at 6:00pm sharp, then let the games begin. Somewhere and at sometime throughout the evening, a crime will be committed by one of the guests in attendance. It will be your job to figure it out! The party will wrap up around 9:00pm after the investigation sheets are read and the mystery is solved.



Christmas Musical

Christmas will be here soon! Please note the following dates concerning the musical as we progress towards and move into December.

- Double Practices from 5:15-7:30 on 11/3, 11/10, 11/17 & 12/1. Please bring a snack.
- A quick run-through of songs will occur after the Thanksgiving pot luck on 11/24 for those in attendance.
- Dress rehearsal is Saturday, December 7th from 9am-noon. A cast party and lunch will be held that day from 11:30am-noon.
- December 8th is show-time! Arrive at 8:45 for costumes and any make-up needed.