



THE CHATHAM MESSENGER

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Friends and Family,

We are excited to share with you that Keith is currently overseas on his first rapid response trip with MMS Aviation! A little over a week ago Keith and two other MMS missionaries arrived in Papua New Guinea. They are serving at New Tribes Mission's Laplio Center near Goroka, Papua New Guinea. The maintenance team is focused on completing an annual inspection on a Beechcraft King Air 90 and a Cessna 206. These airplanes have served 160 missionaries since 2002 in remote areas of PNG. We look forward to sharing more with you in greater detail when Keith returns home.

Pray that the maintenance team would be able to complete as much as possible in the next few weeks. Pray that the MMS team would be an encouragement to the missionaries serving with New Tribes missions. Be in prayer for Jenny and the kids as they eagerly await Keith's return on February 17th. They will also be traveling in the next few weeks to visit with family.

Thank you so much for your continued support and prayers. We could not do the work we are doing with you.

To God be the glory, Keith and Jenny

"Honor your father and mother, that your days may be prolonged in the land which the Lord your God gives you."

(Exodus 20:12)

As the Apostle Paul made clear in Ephesians, that commandment contains a promise to children, encouraging them to obey their parents. When I read it again last week, something else became clear. God is also saying that He will allow the Israelites to live in the promised land as long as they respect the family structure He has ordained. While on the elliptical last week, I read something in *Touchstone* that confirms that additional truth.

"We agree with (Edmund) Burke that the foundation of the political order is the unalterable biological condition of human experience, particularly the mutual relationship of the two sexes and the proper, coherent structure of the family as the source of order and the living channel of tradition. These are the source, not only of fundamental moral responsibilities, but also of those profound emotional sentiments without which it is impossible to call a society 'human.' No political entity can long survive, we are persuaded, that ignores, scoffs at, or attempts to alter the human sentiments that bind husband and wife to one another, and parents and children together. The very idea of patriotism, to say nothing of the myriad political responsibilities of human beings in society, begins with the natural affections that bind a family together."

In other words, society falls apart when the family structure is diminished.

The importance of acknowledging and honoring the family structure as ordained by God is further supported by another new understanding of Scripture I came to last week.

I have long thought the thrice repeated command, "You are not to boil a kid in the milk of its mother" made little sense. Now I believe it was given to make certain that we never demean the relationship between parent and child. And to make certain we never do, God wants it recognized even in the animals He has given us to eat.

God Bless, Rick

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Sunday Worship Service
Bible School

9:15 AM
10:45 AM

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

STATISTICS

Worship 128
Offering \$4,373.49

SERVING THIS SUNDAY – 2/19 /17

Greeters Judy Marlow
Visitors' Stand..... Beryl & Jamella Reese
Communion Meditation Paul Hunley
Mark Huber
Ushers Jeff Edmiston
Bill Carroll
Chris Luzio
Scott Bales
Will Bartels
Rich Mann

WORSHIP NURSERY

Toddlers..... Marilyn Wenneborg
..... Kate Sperry
Infants..... June Carroll
..... Janice McLaughlin
Sunday School
Toddlers..... Julie Divjak
Infants..... Bonnie Ruebush

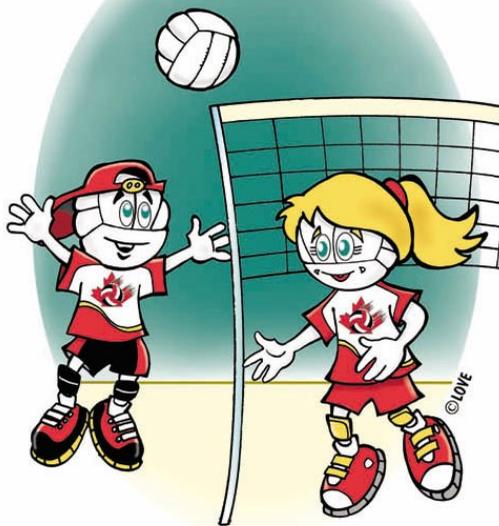


Let Us Pray For...

--Chris Luzio's mom recovering from knee replacement surgery.
--Bryne and Kellie Willey's brother-in-law's father awaiting results of prostate cancer tests.

Life of Christ

We met the man who lost his head last Sunday evening, but ran out of time before we got to the main event. We will therefore continue our discussion of chapter 13 before hopefully moving on to chapter 14 of *Life of Christ* this Sunday evening at 6:30.



The question was raised last week, and the answer is yes. We are going to play volleyball again this year! There was a scheduling problem so we didn't start as soon as usual, but we've got the gym at LSCA reserved for Sunday nights at 8:00 February 26th through the end of March.

This will again be primarily an adult activity, but we generally find a little time for the kids to play as well.



Lake Springfield Christian Assembly

Don't forget to register early for camp sessions before they fill up! This year, the theme is WONDER! Lessons and discussions will center around Ephesians 3:18 which reads, "And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high and how deep His love is." His love leaves us in awe and wonder.

A representative of LSCA will be here to answer any questions about this camping season on February 26th. In the meantime, let me know if you have any questions!



High School Students

Due to extreme weather conditions for February, we are cancelling the ski trip scheduled for Monday. It is supposed to be a warm weekend and 60 degrees on President's Day! Most of the snow they are making will be gone or a slushy mess at the minimum.

So, in talking with a few kids, we are still planning to do something together since there is no school. All the details have not been firmed up yet, but at the minimum we will spend the day exploring St. Louis and hanging out together as a group. The silver lining is that we don't have to leave at 6am!

Over the next few days, I'll put together a little agenda for Monday but also know that I am extremely flexible. If there is something you have wanted to do in the St. Louis area for awhile, text me and we'll see if it would be suitable for the group.



- 2/20 High School day trip to St. Louis
- 3/3-3/4 Junior High Believe Conference
- 3/10-3/11 SuperStart Conference for 4th & 5th Graders
- 3/31-4/1 Vine Conference at LCU for High School
- 4/2 Jr./Sr. High Game Night with Chatham Baptist YG

GOOD NEWS ACCORDING TO MARK

One day, I was talking with an individual who interacts with a lot of area churches. She said, "You know Chatham Christian is a unique church. More than any other church I am familiar with, Chatham Christian likes to do things together as a family. Your congregation seems to enjoy being around each other." She is right! I thought of all the events we do together; New Year's Eve, the Super Bowl, Adult Game Nights, Volleyball, Fellowship around the Pool, Turkey Run in the Fall, the list goes on and on... I'm looking forward to tonight where 48 of us will be eating dinner together at our Sweetheart Banquet!

The kids seem to be following in your example. Our groups have a blast together. WinterJam was fantastic! While many of us were looking forward to a particular band, Connor was looking forward to one of the speakers, Sadie Robertson of Duck Dynasty fame. Looking forward to it is putting it mildly, she was all he could talk about for weeks. Boy did the group get a nice laugh when he was in line for the bathroom and we thought she came out for her time on stage. Luckily for Connor, we were wrong and he did get to hear her speak about leaning on and trusting in the Lord. Sadie delivered a good message about having faith in the One who can deliver us from our insecurities.

As Paul writes in Ephesians 4:4-6; "There is one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all who is over all and through all in all." We are unified as one body through Christ. Let's continue to pray for and support each other as we live out our calling everyday individually and together as the body of Christ.

I'm very thankful to be part of a church where we enjoy each other's company and are part of each others lives. I am thankful for all of you and for Christ who unifies us.

Your brother in the Lord,
Mark