



THE CHATHAM MESSENGER

VOLUME 46

NOVEMBER 9, 2016

NUMBER 41



**Fall Clean-up Service Project
Jr/Sr High School Students
Saturday: 1pm-6pm
Bring a rake and money for pizza!**

By the time you read this we should know who our next president will be, but I'm writing before the returns are in. What I want to say is not dependent on who wins.

The lead article on my *USA Today* app reads, "As millions vote, thousands monitor polls for problems." We generally call them "poll watchers." In the book of Daniel we find there are also some angelic "watchers" who keep an eye on the political affairs of man.

In Nebuchadnezzar's dream they declare: "This sentence is by the decree of the *angelic* watchers, and the decision is a command of the holy ones, in order that the living may know that the Most High is ruler over the realms of mankind, and bestows it on whom He wishes, and sets over it the lowliest of men."

In Romans 4, Paul confirms that "there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God." That assures us that the establishment of civil authority has been ordained by God, and I believe we are safe to say that God is ultimately in control of our political processes. I do not believe, however, that it necessarily assures us that whoever wins is His choice.

We learn in Romans 1 that "the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth", and that God's wrath is often revealed by simply allowing us to have our own way. The things Paul points to that result from God giving us over to what we want can be readily seen in our society today, so I don't believe we can blame God for the mess we are in.

Still, when writing to Timothy, Paul urged that prayers be made for "all who are in authority, in order that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity." So we pray for our president, whoever he or she might be, but we also realize that according to Philippians 3:20, "Our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ."

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

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STATISTICS

Worship

NC

SERVING THIS SUNDAY-11/13/16

Greeters Debbie Sanner
 Visitors' Stand..... Bob & Dixie Williamson
 Communion Meditation..... Chris Luzio
 Doug Marlow
 Ushers Will Bartels
 Otto Huber
 Rich Mann
 Kirk Polley
 Ken Barry
 Bill Carroll

WORSHIP NURSERY

Toddlers..... Kristin Polley
 Emily Hughes
 Infants..... Janice McLaughlin
 Grace Hunley
 Sunday School
 Toddlers..... Julie Divjak
 Infants..... Dixie Williamson



Let Us Pray For...

- Amy Mann recovering from major surgery.
- Wendy (Bales) Lacey having surgery for possible lung cancer this Friday.
- Family of Greg Thomas at his



BALL-CHATHAM FOOD PANTRY

The pantry has requested our help in supplying spaghetti sauce, rice, tuna and hamburger helper, hot cereal, canned vegetables and fruit, chili, mustard, mayo, vegetable oil, and dish soap. Donations can be placed in the marked container in



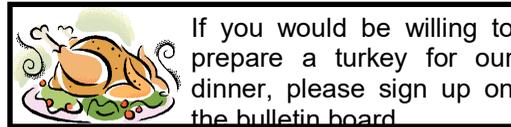
All-Church Thanksgiving

Pot-Luck Dinner

Sunday, November 20

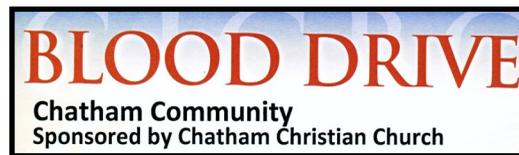
Program at 5:30

Dinner at 6:00



Life of Christ

This Sunday at 6:30 our discussions will focus on chapters 5-7 of *Life of Christ*. The class will meet in the fellowship hall so play practice can be held in the



Our annual blood drive will be held on Saturday, November 19th from 10:00am to 1:00pm in the fellowship hall. Regular donors who haven't given since 9/24/16 will be able to give again. Donors should eat before coming, and must have a photo ID. Reservations can be made online at www.bloodcenterimpact.org, or by calling the Community Blood Center at (217) 241-7550. Walk-in are welcome



As you heard Sunday morning, we are keeping the original date for Paintball which is Saturday, November 19th. Although that is the date for the blood drive, we are hoping that others in the body will donate, even if it for the first time, to make up for our absence.

Please be sure to sign up this week if you are interested in Paintball! As a reminder, we will be leaving the church for the Wildcat Paintball Park at 9am that Saturday and should return no later than 2:00pm. The cost is \$25 per participant and you will also need some lunch money as we will stop on the ride home.

If you are a seasoned professional, or have never played before, you are welcome to come join our group as we fellowship together. A family that shoots together stays together. Wait, maybe that quote was a family that prays together



The play is approaching fast! Jeni and Rhonda are so appreciative of all the hard work the kids are putting in to memorizing their songs and lines. Thanks kids! You're doing great!

Here is the schedule for the remainder of the practice sessions this year.

- 11/13: 5:15-7:30
- 11/20: After the Thanksgiving Dinner
- 11/27: 5:15-7:30
- 12/04: 5:15-7:30
- 12/10: Dress Rehearsal 10am-2pm

GOOD NEWS ACCORDING TO MARK

Two of my three most favorite holidays are right around the corner. A period of thanksgiving to reflect on the blessings our Lord has bestowed upon us followed by Christmas. Our Savior who willingly left his heavenly home, willingly died on the cross for our sins, is the greatest gift we could ever receive. It humbles me every time I ponder what God did to save me.

The Jr. High Youth Group recently explored the grace of God and it seems to be a popular topic for many of my sermons at the Villas of South Park. This gift, which we receive and do not earn, changes everything. It changes the way we look at the world, our lives, our relationships. It helps us focus on heavenly things rather than earthly ones, because this gift of grace has saved us from our own destruction.

Paul writes in Ephesians 2:8-9 "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith and this is not from yourselves, it is a gift of God, not by works, so that no one can boast." No one will be standing on a street corner in heaven bragging about what they did to achieve such a great reward! It is all about Him, all about our loving Heavenly Father and His gift to us.



Just a reminder for all who are interested in watching Otto and Olivia on the Wheel of Fortune, their show will air Tuesday, November 29th at 6:30pm on NBC. It's still about 3 weeks away, but I thought you might like to get it on your calendar.

There will be a viewing party at Lakeside that evening starting around 6:00pm. They have invited CCC to join in on the fun. Over the next few weeks, I'll give you more details as they firm up their plans. It's going to be a great time with brothers and