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

In the aftermath of Harvey, and while anticipating the arrival of Irma, Fox News had a couple of “faith” articles I found insightful. Max Lucado asked the question, “Where is God?”, and Joshua Rogers, an attorney, asked, “What did Jesus say about natural disasters?”

Max took us to Luke 21, where Jesus made it clear that there would always be earthquakes and plagues and famines on earth, and that while natural disasters may surprise us, they do not surprise God. He also noted that Jesus compared the frequency of natural calamities to the birth pangs of pregnancy—indications of an impending delivery. He said when these things take place, we should stand up and lift up our heads, because our redemption is drawing near.

I believe Max was telling us to let these things remind us that someday all will be made right. That God has allowed dysfunction in our lives, and in nature itself, to remind us that things aren’t the way God originally intended, but that they will be made right when Jesus returns.

Joshua directed us to Luke 13, where, when asked if the eighteen people who were killed when the tower in Siloam fell on them were the worst sinners in Jerusalem, Jesus said, “No, but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.”

Joshua went on to write, “When it comes to the question of ‘why’ with disasters, (Jesus) gets to the heart of the issue and focuses on the potential disaster that threatens everyone who ever lived: the day they meet God face to face.” He went on to note, “In God’s efforts to keep us from eternally perishing, he will use everything he can to get our attention—even things he might not have caused, like the devastation that comes with a natural disaster.”

He then quoted C.S. Lewis; “God whispers to us in our pleasure, speaks in our conscience, but shouts in our pain: it is his megaphone to rouse a deaf world.”

May we have the faith to hear both the promise and the warning that comes to us through disasters. And may we keep our eyes on Jesus if the waves are lapping at our feet. God Bless, Rick



THE CHATHAM MESSENGER

VOLUME 47

September 13, 2017

NUMBER 31



This Sunday!

Games, Food & Fun
at 5pm!

Mass Anthem
Concert
at 7pm!



STATISTICS

	9/3	
Worship		119
Offering		\$7,208.26
	9/10	
Worship		130
Offering		\$3,318.17

SERVING THIS SUNDAY-9/17/17

Greeters	Rick & Janet Polley
Visitors' Stand.....	Bonnie Ruebush
Communion Meditation	Mark Huber
	Chris Luzio
Ushers	Paul Hunley
	Gary Gredzieleski
	Bob Williamson
	Chad Formea
	Jack Ruebush
	Otto Huber

WORSHIP NURSERY

Toddlers.....	Nikki & Anna Hunley
Infants.....	Kelly Donaldson
	Kate Sperry
	Sunday School
Toddlers.....	Rhonda Luzio
Infants.....	Jeni Sperry



--Victims of the destruction caused by the hurricanes.

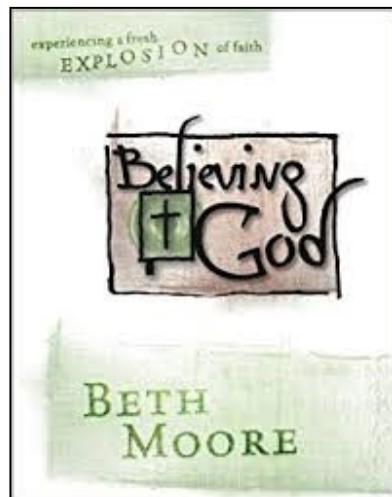
--The Sanners and the Lucas Williamsons in need of selling previous homes.

Wednesday Night Bible Study

A new season of Wednesday Night Bible Study will begin on September 20th at 6:30. We will begin this year by getting back into the book of Romans, beginning with chapter 12.

All adults are encouraged to share in this informal study led by Rick that meets around the ping-pong table at the church.

Childcare is provided.



Women's Bible Study

All ladies are invited to participate in a new Beth Moore study that will be held every other Tuesday night at 7:00, beginning September 26th. The first meeting will be held at the Huber home, 200 Aspen.

Anyone who desires a book should contact Tina, and she will order one for you.



Dear CCC Friends!

We would like to thank you for the beautiful reception you gave us. After 28 years at CCC it is so hard to leave cause you are our friends and family. But four little girls and their mamma and dad called us to Quincy.

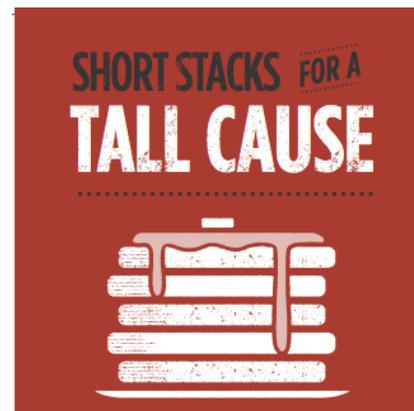
We feel so blessed by each of you. The Lord has given you as our friends and I am so thankful for FB so we can stay involved in each other's lives! The picture is beautiful and is truly our lives as we are led by the Shepherd. We will think about you and so glad to have a part of you here in Quincy. Thank you.

In His love, The Sanners



A big thank you to Kim Deiro for helping the High School group with their Ireland project and thank you all for supporting them last Sunday! Kim has roots in Ireland and when she heard of the kids desire to raise \$100 to help support a CIY Youth event in Ireland, she was eager to help.

Kim brought forth the idea to the group, spent 4 hours with us on Labor Day and finished up quite a few on her own time. The coasters turned out awesome and the kids really had a fun, creative day making them. Thanks again Kim!



If you are hungry for some pancakes on Saturday morning between the hours of 8:00am-10:00am, head over to Applebee's on the East side of Springfield. For \$5.00 you will get a short stack, bacon and a beverage. That's a pretty good deal! Otto has tickets or you can purchase them at the door.

The breakfast is to raise funds for the Christian Student Fellowship at UIS. This ministry has shared the gospel with many college students throughout the years, in addition to strengthening the faith of others. Please consider getting a short stack for a tall cause!



I hope to see our entire church out for our Youth Group Kick-Off on Sunday! We will start with some social time and games at 5pm, plan to eat around 5:30, then have time for some more games and fellowship before the concert at 7pm. The DUNK TANK that we didn't use during our finale due to weather will make an appearance and I'm NOT looking forward to that. The water is cold this time of year, so I am hoping the we have a bunch of people with sore arms and bad aims that evening. Don't worry about bringing any food as the church will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, drinks and cookies for us to enjoy. You can bring a friend though, invite as many as you want to come spend a fun evening with us and enjoy the concert.

I am hoping the real anticipation for all of us is the desire to attend Sunday Evenings regularly and go deeper into our relationship with Christ. Here are the Youth Groups for the upcoming Fall:

- ◆ Casey and Erica Blakley will be going through an interactive curriculum with the Pre K and Kindergarten students. They use a variety of songs, puppets and other activities to provide a fun learning experience for the kids.
- ◆ Rhonda Luzzio and Otto Huber will be leading the class for grades 1-5. They too provide interactive lessons and will be focusing for the first 13 weeks on the Fruit of the Spirit.
- ◆ I will be leading the Junior High class and plan to bore them to death. Just kidding, we will be doing crazy things while beginning with 6 lessons on Friendships by looking at examples from David and Jonathon followed by 6 lessons on teachings from Jesus.
- Tina Huber and Jeni Sperry will be teaching the High School class and are going to initially focus on how to handle tough issues that our High School students face in their daily life.

Thank you to all the workers who serve the youth of our church. They are such a treasure, not only to us, but also to our heavenly Father.