

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

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Chatham, IL
Permit No. 9

Last Sunday morning we were reminded not to wrangle about words, but last Wednesday night we did a lot of wrangling over the words "eternal punishment." I trust our wrangling was not useless, nor did it lead to the ruin of the hearers Paul warned us about.

We actually started the wrangling with the words "eternal destruction" that we found in our study of II Thessalonians. Paul spoke of those who will pay the penalty of eternal destruction away from the presence of the Lord. The obvious question is why the change of words, and does eternal destruction define the punishment, opening the door to at least the eventual annihilation of the wicked?

The traditional view is that eternal punishment is punishment that remains eternally active. And Jesus did speak of hell as a place where the worm never dies and the fire is not quenched, and in Revelation we are explicitly told the devil will be cast into lake of fire, and will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

However, while it does go on to say that those whose names are not in the book of life will also be thrown into the lake of fire, it does not say they will likewise be tormented day and night forever and ever. And John 3:16 says, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life." It says "perish", it doesn't say be tormented in hell for all eternity. And In Matthew 10:28 Jesus said, "Do not fear those who kill the body, but are unable to kill the soul; but rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell."

While some insist that to suggest that after a time of appropriate punishment for sin those in hell will be annihilated is heretical, I believe it can be supported biblically. And while we must never assume the proper interpretation of Scripture can be determined by what we think best reflects our understanding of the nature of God, being eternally cut off from the presence of God seems to be more in keeping with the God who has revealed Himself as both just and merciful. And to be eternally cut from God is indeed eternal punishment. God Bless, Rick



THE CHATHAM MESSENGER

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Old Fashioned Hymn Singing Sunday

With many of our praise team on the annual Columbus Day weekend camping trip to Turkey Run this Sunday, we will be singing all your favorite hymns during the worship service. Everyone will be given the opportunity to request a hymn, and we'll do our best to sing at least one verse of them all.

STATISTICS

Worship 113
Offering \$4,162.90

SERVING THIS SUNDAY-10/7/18

Greeters Lee & Schar Zimmerman
Visitors' Stand Bonnie Ruebush
Communion Meditation Chris Luzio
Kirk Polley
Ushers Scott Bales
Duane Carrell
Chad Formea
Otto Huber
Jake Divjak
Bob Williamson

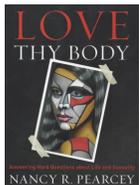
WORSHIP NURSERY

Toddlers Janet Polley
Emily Hughes
Infants Julie Divjak
Vicki Small
Lily Divjak
Sunday School
Toddlers Rhonda Luzio
Infants Bonnie Ruebush
Karen Mann



Let Us Pray For...

- Ken Barry recovering from emergency surgery to remove infection from knee.
- Darrin Burdinsky's mom with spot on her lung.
- Lynette (Gredzieleski) Crawford recovering from an accident.



We will continue our overview of topics to be covered in our adult study by taking a brief look at abortion, euthanasia, sexuality and homosexuality this Sunday at 6:30.



OCTOBER SERVERS

10/14: Kirk Polley, Chris Luzio
10/21 & 10/28: Jack Stucki, Chris Luzio

OCTOBER PROJECTIONIST

Kirk Polley

OCTOBER GREETERS

10/14 Duane Carrell
10/21 Gary & Lori Gredzieleski
10/28 Rick & Janet Polley

OCTOBER VISITORS' STAND

10/14 Bob & Dixie Williamson
10/21 Judy Marlow
10/28 Beryl & Jamella Reese

OCTOBER NURSERY

Worship - 10/14

Toddlers: Sara & Regan Bartels
Infants: Nikki & Carter Hunley
Karen Mann

Worship - 10/21

Infants: Sunday School
Dixie Williamson
Kileen Huber

Worship - 10/21

Toddlers: Marilyn Wenneborg
Anna Hunley
Infants: Erica Blakley
Jamella Reese
Courtney Bales

Worship - 10/28

Infants: Sunday School
Julie Divjak
Kristin Polley

Worship - 10/28

Toddlers: Janice McLaughlin
Reagan Formea
Infants: Dixie Williamson
Kristin Polley
Kate Sperry

Worship - 10/28

Infants: Sunday School
Rebecca Smith
Vicki Small



K-5th Grade Students

Our annual trip to Pumpkin Creek Farms will be on Sunday, October 14th after Sunday School. Outside of extra spending money for those AMAZING donuts, the cost for admission is \$5.00 per person. Also, we will be stopping for lunch along the way, probably at McDonalds, so please ensure your child has some extra money for lunch.

Tina and I have always enjoyed this afternoon with the kids. This year, the main attraction is a haystack mountain to climb and then slide down the other side. Looks fun! Also, there is a petting zoo, a crazy corn bin, a corn maze, hay rides, barrel train rides and duck races. We will be returning to the church at 3:30 that afternoon. There is a sign up on the bulletin board. Please let me know if you have any questions!



This is the last week to sign up for a FUSE t-shirt before we place the order. So far, we have 21 people signed up to purchase a shirt which is awesome. People will be seeing these shirts and asking questions. What a great opportunity to invite them to our church! As a reminder, the shirts are \$15 and the collection envelope is under the sign up



Below are a few activities we have scheduled for the month of October and early November. Be sure to jot them down in your calendar so those who want to attend don't get double booked!

- Our first is the trip to Pumpkin Creek Farms noted in the previous column. That will be a great afternoon!
- The second event for October will be for the high school group. Since this event will be around Halloween, we are planning a 1920's costume party at our house. The date to save is Friday, October 26th. Be thinking of your costume and come on over to enjoy some thematic games and food.
- The third event will be for both of the junior an senior high groups. It will be our annual battle on the paintball field and we have it scheduled for Saturday, November 10th. We will once again go to the Wildcat Paintball Park in Staunton, IL to test our skills. Details for all these events will be forthcoming soon!



Jr. High & High School

This Sunday evening, since I will be at Turkey Run, we won't be doing our normal FUSE activities. Instead, Casey and Erica will be leading you in a bunch of different games while munching on some pizza! Bring an appetite and your favorite game to share. If you don't have a game you want to bring, no worries, the game master Casey will have plenty to choose from. I will miss you guys, but enjoy your time together this Sunday.