

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

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One of the best things about reading the Bible in various translations and paraphrases is that you see things you may have missed reading it the same way every time. I was struck by this again last week.

As I was reading the account of Stephen preaching to the Jewish leaders, the way the New King James Version said they responded to his message caught my attention. After noting that Stephen was full of faith and power, had done great wonders and signs among the people, and that the Council had seen his face as the face of an angel, he accused them of resisting the Holy Spirit and persecuting the prophets as had their fathers. He then stated that they had become the betrayers and murderers of the Just One that had been foretold. His rebuke was obviously very harsh, and when they heard these things, they were cut to the heart.

That phrase, "cut to the heart," sounded familiar to me. I had just read the same phrase a couple of days earlier.

On the Day of Pentecost, after witnessing the miraculous activity of the Holy Spirit, Peter boldly stated that those present had crucified Jesus, the one God had made both Lord and Christ. When they heard it, they too had been cut to the heart. My NASV used different phrases to say the same thing, so I had missed the similarity. What struck me, however, was not the similarity, but the difference in their response.

When Peter's hearers were cut to the heart they responded by crying, "Brethren, what must we do?", and 3,000 of them were baptized. When Stephen's hearers were cut to the heart they gnashed their teeth, and stoned him to death. The difference wasn't the rebuke. It wasn't even the emotional response to the rebuke. It was what they did after coming under conviction.

This got me thinking how we are not responsible for the way people respond to the reproofs and rebukes that come from God's word. Even if we present the truth with grace and the right motive, as I'm sure both Peter and Stephen did, they may or may not receive it positively.

Perhaps even more important, however, is to make certain that we respond to rebukes from God's word positively.

God Bless, Rick



THE CHATHAM MESSENGER

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Thanksgiving Pot-Luck Dinner Sunday, November 18th

Service of Thanksgiving with Keith Woockman at 5:00 and dinner served at 5:30. Turkeys have been promised, so please bring sides, salads and desserts that are ready to serve by 4:45.

STATISTICS

Worship 143
 Offering \$3,244.50

SERVING THIS SUNDAY-11/18/18

Greeters Will & Sara Bartels
 Visitors' Stand Gary & Iori Greadzieleski
 Communion Meditation Chris Luzio
 Jack Stucki
 Ushers Jeff Edmiston
 Rich Mann
 Jim Trimberger
 Kent Ballard
 Kirk Polley
 Gary Gredzieleski

WORSHIP NURSERY

Toddlers..... Nikki & Anna Hunley
 Infants..... Dixie Williamson
 Stacey Cantrell
 Emily Hughes
 Sunday School
 Toddlers..... Julie Divjak
 Infants..... Karen Mann
 Kristin Polley

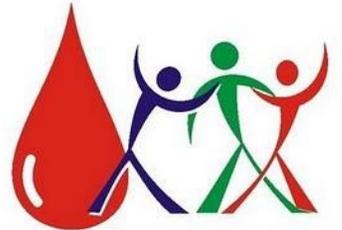
SERVING NEXT SUNDAY-11/25/18

Greeters Brad Stirmell
 Visitors' Stand Judy Marlow
 Communion Meditation Chris Luzio
 Jack Stucki
 Ushers Jeff Edmiston
 Rich Mann
 Jim Trimberger
 Kent Ballard
 Kirk Polley
 Gary Gredzieleski

WORSHIP NURSERY

Toddlers..... Kelly Donaldson
 Abbie Divjak
 Infants..... Jeni & Kate Sperry
 Nicole Moore
 Sunday School
 Toddlers..... Julie Divjak
 Infants..... Rhonda Luzio
 Vicki Small

NO PAPER NEXT WEEK



**GIVE BLOOD
 SAVE LIFE**

Our annual community blood drive will be this Saturday, November 17th in the church fellowship hall. Those desiring to give are welcome to come anytime between 10:00 and 1:00.



--Lee Zimmerman and Beryl Reese at the Bridge for extensive treatment and rehabilitation.
 --Brett Sanner who accepted a new ministry in California and needs to sell home in Quincy.
 --Those who have lost loved ones and homes in California fires.



Jr High and High School

I am always amazed at the number of Jr. High and High School kids who are willing to give up a Saturday afternoon to serve some of our congregation. What a testament to their character and the importance they place of serving others as our Lord served us. You have taught your children well!

As a reminder, we are meeting at 1:00pm this Saturday here at CCC. We have three good sized yards to rake before heading to Steak and Shake for a group dinner. Our goal is to be done with everything by 6:00pm. Sure this is a lot of work, but we also have tons of fun just hanging out and playing in HUGE piles of leaves. Feel free to invite a friend, they will have a good time too!



The Christmas play is about 4 weeks away! If you are in the play this year and will be at the Thanksgiving dinner this week, Rhonda would like to do a quick 20-30 minute practice after you eat to go over a few songs. If you are in the play and will not be here for dinner, there is no need to make a special trip to the church for this abbreviated practice. Double practices will resume on November 25th.



Jr High and High School

We won't be meeting for FUSE this week due to the Thanksgiving dinner here at the church. So, instead of previewing our next lesson, I would like to share with you all something that happened right after our lesson last Sunday evening.

During FUSE, we talked about opening our eyes to the needs around us which serves as a foundation to serve others. We discussed about how we should take our eyes off ourselves and simply look around, needs will present themselves and God can use us to minister to them. Our model is Jesus. Don't just see a need, act upon it!

I was at the gym the following morning and saw one of the guys in the next class sitting in his truck in the parking lot. Normally I don't do this, but I pulled my truck over to say "hello." After some small talk, he looked at me and said, "Do you think we could talk sometime? I am in a really, really bad place right now. If we could get together to talk, sooner would be better than later." We ended up meeting on Tuesday. Experiences in both our lives were shared and our relationship with Christ was pulled into the majority of the discussions.

I was just so amazed that after a lesson laser focused on the first step of serving others, noticing the needs around us, God put an individual right in front of me who needed to talk. If I wouldn't have driven over there, I wouldn't have uncovered the need. The timing of God is always perfect, always to His glory. I encourage all of you to express a heart of love towards others, not to put the focus on you, but to be the hands and feet of Jesus in a dying world. I am looking forward to going through the rest of this series with you all in a couple weeks!