

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

CHATHAM CHRISTIAN CHURCH
9897 So. Main St., P.O. Box 527
Chatham, Illinois 62629

Church Office 483-3987
www.chathamchristian.org

Rick Werneborg, Minister
cell phone 836-4971
Rick@chathamchristian.org

Mark Huber, Youth Minister
cell phone 971-3075
hubermark2@gmail.com

Sunday Worship Service
Bible School
9:15 AM
10:45 AM

Boxes serve a good purpose, and are used for good reasons. They contain, and they protect. We can even think of the boundaries God has set for us, and that we need to set for our children, as boxes. They are intended to keep us from harming ourselves, or others.

On the other hand, boxes can restrain and hold us back. Thus we are often told to think outside the box.

Sometimes, however, we just need to think about the box. Something I failed to do last Thursday.

On Thursday evenings I go to the gun range, and shoot competitively. Chuck, Jamie, my brother-in-law Frank, and I usually shoot together, and then head to the café for some food, guy time, and gun talk. Last week I really gave them something to talk about. In fact, even before I got there, they told the waitress to ask me about the box.

The stage that we were shooting required that we shoot from three areas marked on the floor called boxes. Two of them were small, and the long one in the middle had a couple of barrels in it we had to shoot around. After I shot the first time, the range officer pointed to my feet. I had failed to step into the middle box.

The stage called for 22 shots, and if all hits were in the A zone, you could earn 110 points. I had shot 12 times outside the box, and therefore received 12 ten point procedural penalties. 120 points were deducted from my score. You can do the math.

The second time I shot, I remembered the box. I would have done okay, if my pistol hadn't jammed.

When I later shot my carbine, I did great. I only missed one A, and it was on the swinging target. Then I heard the groaning and laughter. I had once again failed to step into the box.

If there's a lesson to be learned here, I guess it's that it's easy to forget to think about the box. And not only do we need to remember it, we need to remember why it's there. So next time someone tells you to think outside the box, or you are considering stepping outside the box, just make sure you think first. God Bless, Rick



THE CHATHAM MESSENGER

VOLUME 47

October 16, 2019

NUMBER 37

COLUMBUS DAY COMMUNION MEDITATION

by Kirk Polley

As you are most likely aware, the United States will celebrate Columbus Day on Monday. This federal holiday was established in 1937 by Franklin Roosevelt to commemorate Christopher Columbus landing in the Americas in 1492. But what do you know about Christopher Columbus and his voyages?

Do you know that Columbus was seeking a westward route to the Indies? He calculated the route would be approximately 2400 miles. He only missed the mark by about 10,000 miles.

Do you know that Columbus never set foot on what we now know as the United States of America? His first journey landed him on islands of the Bahamas on October 12, 1492. During that same exploration he continued on and landed on Cuba and later Hispaniola – the island of Haiti and Dominican Republic.

Do you know that Columbus made 4 explorations to the “new world”? It has been debated for centuries but there is evidence that suggests Columbus believed he had reached his original destination – the East Indies.

Do you know that the reputation of Columbus is controversial, at best? Columbus enforced slavery on the lands he claimed, was considered a tyrant ruler and was even imprisoned by Spain for his governing behavior.

Do you know that Columbus was heavily influenced by the Bible? He claimed his explorations were for the conversion of non-believers. Here are a few quotes from some of his writings:

“No one should fear to undertake any task in the name of our Saviour, if it is just and if the intention is purely for His holy service.”

“I am a most noteworthy sinner, but I have cried out to the Lord for grace and mercy, and they have covered me completely. I have found the sweetest consolation since I made it my whole purpose to enjoy His marvelous Presence.”

“My hope in the One who created us all sustains me; He is an ever present help in trouble...When I was extremely depressed, He raised me with His right hand, saying, ‘O man of little faith, get up, it is I; do not be afraid.’”

“Praise be to our eternal God, our Lord, who gives to all those who walk in His ways victory over all things which seem impossible;”

(Continued inside)

STATISTICS

Worship 90
Offering \$6,377.00

SERVING THIS SUNDAY-10/20/19

Greeters Gary & Lori Gredzieleski
Visitors' Stand Judy Marlow
Communion Meditation Paul Hunley
Mark Huber
Ushers Kent Ballard
Jake Divjak
Mike Donaldson
Otto Huber
Rich Mann
Will Bartels

WORSHIP NURSERY

Toddlers Marilyn Wenneborg
Grace Hunley
Infants Sara & Regan Bartels
Renee Bales
Sunday School
Toddlers Julie Divjak
Infants Elizabeth Wright
Rhonda Luzio

The Hidden Word

MALACHI 3:10

“Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in My house, and test Me now in this,” says the Lord of hosts, “if I will not open for you the windows of heaven, and pour out for you a blessing until it overflows.”



--Nancy Martin recovering from major surgery.
--Andy Fitzgibbon and family at the passing of his dad.
--Grandson of co-worker of Gary Gredzieleski born prematurely.

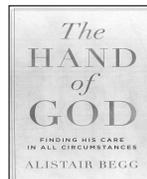
MEDITATION CONTINUED

Columbus wasn't perfect and I'm not saying he is someone we should mimic our lives after. However, his bravery, longing for discovery, and faith can be celebrated. You may even sense a connection with Columbus this morning.

Maybe your life looks more and more like an adventure to the unknown. Others may relate to Columbus's comment about the need for mercy and a sense of God's presence. Still others hunger for God's word and are eager to discover a fresh new insight and set their feet on the solid ground of a biblical truth that will transform their life.

Meeting around the Lord's table unites our hearts in this adventure of faith and the joy of discovery. We do it all in the name of Jesus and for His glory. II Thessalonians 1:12 says, "We pray this so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ."

As the bread and cup remind us of Jesus' body and blood given for our forgiveness, let's also take a moment and, in the name of Jesus, proclaim our lives as His territory.



“There is probably no greater single illustration of God's providence at work in a life than what we're discovering in this unfolding drama. Joseph had just walked into the sights of ten cruel, hateful elder brothers, but he was not at the mercy of fate or chance. He was not being driven along by a blind, impersonal force. He was under the watchful eye of his sovereign God.”

Join us Sunday at 6:30 as we continue our look at the life of Joseph.



K-5 Students

Our trip is this Sunday after Sunday School! We will load into the church van and head out towards the farm. The admission is the same as last year which is \$5.00 per person. Before we get there, we will stop for lunch, most likely at McDonalds, so please bring enough money for that also. Save room for the donuts at the Farm, you won't regret it!

We have space in the van for around 5 more if you would like to go! Parents are more than welcome to spend the afternoon with us getting lost in the corn maze, playing on the haybales and checking out the new attractions. I plan to return to the church somewhere between 3:00-3:30. Let's hope for good weather!



PAINTBALL

Jr & Sr High Students

Mark your calendars! It looks like our annual trip to Wildcat Paintball Park will be on Saturday, November 9th. Details will follow, but we will most likely be playing in the early afternoon so we can make it back for the bonfire at the Donaldson's farm that evening.

The cost will be \$30 per person which will rent all the equipment needed plus some additional paintballs. Afterwards, we will stop at Dairy Queen for a quick treat before heading home. I generally win every match, so invite some friends as I need more targets!



Jr. High Students

I'm looking forward to spending some time with you all this Saturday at 6:00pm here at the church! It looks like we will have a good group, but there is always room for more so feel free to invite a few friends if the opportunity arises.

I'll have pizza here at 6:00 to start off the evening. Then we will move on to games and other fall related activities. At some point, there will be a prize for the best costume so get creative! Please have your rides here by 9:00pm for pick up.



Thank you very much to all the K-5th grade students who made cookies and wrote a nice card for me on Sunday night! They were delicious! After eating pie, ice cream and Oreos all week at Turkey Run, they were a great way to finish off my junk food binge. Thanks again!



The men's study resumes this Thursday at 7:00pm here at the church. We will be going through Chapter 5 of the book which correlates to Galatians 3:1-14. See you there!