

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

“MANHOOD IS NOT NATURAL”

While thinking about Father’s Day, my thoughts went back to an article from *Touchstone*. I’ve got a feeling that I may have shared the article with some of you already, but even if I have, I think an excerpt bears repeating.

“Womanhood is a natural phenomenon. A female’s biological make-up usually ensures that she will grow into a healthy woman. Leave her to herself, and she is much more likely than her male peers to move into mature adulthood. It’s why the phrases ‘Woman up,’ ‘Be a woman,’ or ‘Make a woman out of her’ don’t exist.

As her body matures, internally and externally, it sends her and those around her an unmistakable message about what she *is* and what she’s *becoming*. It moves her inexorably in that direction with a force as great as it is mysterious. Few girls miss these cues.

The opposite is true of manhood. Manhood is not natural. It must be socially constructed.

As George Gilder explains pointedly in *Men and Marriage*, ‘Unlike a woman, a man has no civilized role or agenda inscribed in his body.’ The boy has no onboard GPS directing him toward his future. His manhood does not exist within himself, as womanhood does in a girl. It is out there, beyond himself. He must go find it. He must rouse himself and gather his courage. He must go.

His movement into manhood can only come into being if he has a pilot, a director, to guide him toward that destiny. Doing this is the significant, intentional work of older men around him, starting with his father.”

In a day of societal engendered gender confusion, it’s obvious that fathers, and Christian men in general, have a lot of work to do. So let’s man up, and meet the challenge.

God Bless, Rick



THE CHATHAM MESSENGER

VOLUME 49

June 16, 2021

NUMBER 9



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

Church Office 217-483-3987
www.chathamchristian.org

Rick Wenneborg, Minister
cell phone 217-836-4971
Rick@chathamchristian.org

Mark Huber, Youth Minister
cell phone 217-971-3075
hubermark2@gmail.com

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

STATISTICS		
	5/30	
Worship		90
Offering		\$4,375.00
	6/6	
Worship		92
Offering		\$9,186.00
	6/13	
Worship		93
Offering		\$4,316.00

SERVING IN JULY

The following men are being asked to serve communion during the month of July: Scott Bales, Duane Carrell, Jake Divjak, Gary Gredzieleski, Kirk Polley, and Brad Stirmell. If unable to serve on a particular Sunday, men are asked to please find someone to serve in their place.

Serving at the table during July will be Chris Luzio on 7/4 & 7/11, and Rick Polley on 7/18 & 7/25, along with Casey Blakely.

We are so excited to be able to once again actually serve communion during the worship service. It gives communion a proper place of prominence in our service, and more time for personal reflection.

Thank you to all who help make this happen



"Being back in church is like fireworks... it's better in person!" Mario Mohler



THOUGHTS FOR COMMUNION

shared by Jonathan Sperry
written by Peter Heck

There is an easy answer to all the questions about the depravity in our culture, and the Gospel of John gives it: "This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed." (John 3:19-20) It's not a difficult concept for one whose mind is guided by the Holy Spirit.

When a person encounters the presence of Jesus—either reading Scripture, hearing a gospel presentation, or engaging a Christian in the public square—it is accompanied by a profound awareness of their own depravity and need for a Savior. Christ's light shines brightly into our own darkness and exposes us. We are left bare, recognizing that even our best deeds are like filthy rags in comparison to the glory of God.

At that moment, we are all presented with a choice: (1) fall on our face in repentance, accepting the grace we don't deserve, and receiving a new heart focused on obedience to Christ's will over our own; or (2) run as far away from God as possible, because the nearer we come to Him and His brilliance, the more we become aware of our corrupt and evil ways. That is precisely why those who choose to live worldly lives, those who reject the truth, react so contemptuously toward Christians.

We believers should be witnesses to, and conveyers of a light that reveals the dark, self-serving human nature that worldly man remains willfully enslaved to. It is illogical to believe that such souls will ever be content until that light is extinguished and their deeds can again be shrouded in darkness.

But while the hiding of that light pleases the ungodly and allows us to find favor in eyes of the world, it also betrays our divine charge. Despite any earthly consequence that may come our way, we believers are to remain steadfast in our witness of righteousness in Christ alone. We hate what sin does to people, know there is but one cure, and dedicate our lives to pointing others toward it.

May we remember that far from a burden, testifying to His truth and bearing any earthly cost associated with doing so has always been, and will always remain a Christian's highest honor.



By the time this newsletter reaches your home, both the Jr/Sr High and the K-5 group will have gathered for a little fun in the sun around the pool. Now, it is time to venture off to some other water activities for our wet and wild Wednesdays in June.

The K-5 group elected to go to Knights Action Park for their next get-together on Wednesday, June 23rd. Let's meet there at 11:00am to begin our time together. You can pack a lunch, or of course buy a lunch there. Many of you have season passes, but for those that don't, Wednesday is BOGO day with a County Market receipt. That is a good deal considering the waterpark prices these days.

The Jr/Sr High group will be voting on their next activity for Wednesday, June 30th. I'm looking forward to seeing what they come up with!



VBS is about a month away! All but a few volunteer slots are filled, thank you to all who are helping out this year. Everything will fall into place as we get closer to July 12th, now all we need are kids! So far, we have 15 kids registered, about half from our church and half from the community.

The registrations will pick up as we get closer to the event and as we share our dates with as many friends as possible. No matter if there are 15 or 150, God will be glorified and exalted in our kids' hearts and that is what excites me the most. Thank you for your prayers around VBS.



Jr/Sr High School

The Amazing Race will be held on Saturday, June 26th starting at 11:00am here at the church. You won't be here long as you will successfully decipher the first clue and head out of the parking lot to your first destination. It is almost impossible to predict how long the race will take to complete. Tasks that I thought would be tough turned out to be easy in the past and vice versa. Most likely, I would plan on a late afternoon finish with a possible swim to conclude our time together.

Please make sure your team is signed up on the sheet by this Sunday. We are racing with teams of 3, but in an absolute emergency, we can allow a team of 4. Each contestant will need \$15 for the race to cover expenses throughout the afternoon. I would bring a backpack with swimwear, sunscreen and a towel to use either during or after the race, who knows....Other than that, show up for a fun afternoon of puzzle solving, task completions and of course, the dreaded eating challenge all to determine the winning team for this year's Summertime Edition of the Amazing Race!



There will be 14 of us attending this summer conference July 19-24th. If possible, please have the full registration of \$329 paid with a check made out to the church by the end of June. They opened up more spots for more kids which equals more fun!