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II Chronicles 7:14 has long been a Scripture to reflect upon as we think about the challenges being faced in our nation. "(If) My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray, and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

While reading it a couple of weeks ago in my daily Bible reading, I noted something I had overlooked that has bearing on what is considered by some, even in the military, to be the biggest existential threat, i.e. a threat to our very existence, facing us today: climate change.

Of course, at the same time, I was also reading *Unsettled? What climate science tells us, what it doesn't, and why it matters* by Steven Koonin, a recognized authority on the subject. His book details the shortcomings, biases, and agendas that give us the perception that climate change is a challenge that we must aggressively face, and something that's under our control.

Before offering some things we can do to ameliorate some of the effects of climate change, he does note that many accept wisdom handed down from on high relative to our behavior and its effect on climate disasters. He wasn't affirming the validity of such, but as believers we certainly must.

In Genesis 8:22, after using a flood to destroy the world that was, God said He wouldn't do it again, and promised that seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, and day and night would not cease. And II Chronicles 7:13 precedes 7:14. "If I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or if I command the locust to devour the land, or if I send pestilence among My people..."

Without ignoring our charge to care for the environment, may we exclaim as did the disciples after Jesus calmed the storm, "What kind of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey Him?"

God Bless, Rick

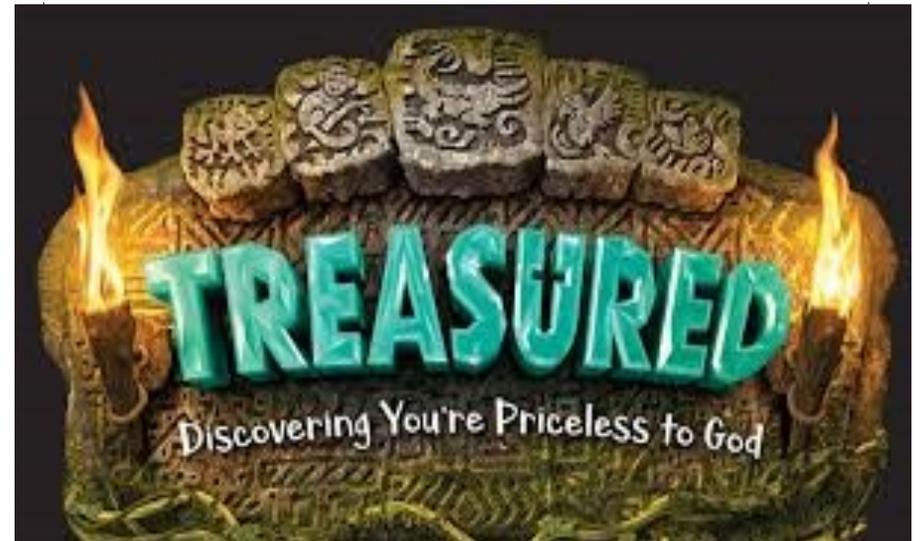


THE CHATHAM MESSENGER

VOLUME 49

June 30, 2021

NUMBER 10



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

REGISTER ONLINE AT
CHATHAMCHRISTIAN.ORG

JULY 12-15

6:15-8:30

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		
	6/20	
Worship		104
Offering		\$8,577.44
	6/27	
Worship		102
Offering		\$2,742.37



COMMUNION SERVERS NEEDED

We have resumed passing communion during the worship service and are in need of more volunteers to help us do so. If you would like to be scheduled for a month of serving, or would be willing to assist in the scheduling, or in the overseeing of serving during the service, please let Dave know.



NURSERY WORKERS NEEDED

We are in need of additional volunteers to care for infants and toddlers during the worship service and Sunday School. If you would be willing to help, please let Rhonda Luzio know ASAP so you can be added to the new schedule. If you have a preference, or wish to limit frequency, please let Ronda know that as well.



A CPR class will be offered on Saturday, July 31st for nursery workers and others who wish to be trained. The class will begin at 9:00, and the church will cover any costs involved. Please let Rhonda know by July 25th if you would like to participate in the class.



CUT FLOWER CULTURE

In 1951 William Herberg wrote a treatise that included the following:

"The attempt made in recent decades by secularist thinkers to disengage the moral principles of western civilization from their scripturally based religious context, in the assurance that they could live a life of their own as 'humanistic' ethics, has resulted in our 'cut flower culture.' Cut flowers retain their original beauty and fragrance, but only so long as they retain the vitality that they have drawn from their now-severed roots; after that is exhausted, they wither and die. So with freedom, brotherhood, justice, and personal dignity—the values that form the moral foundation of our civilization. Without the life-giving power of the faith out of which they have sprung, they possess neither meaning nor vitality. Morality ungrounded in God is indeed a house built upon sand, unable to stand up against the vagaries of impulse and the brutal pressures of power and self-interest."



VBS is right around the corner! Please encourage your child to invite a friend and get registered as soon as possible. This will help us with our planning process for food and material.

Each day, kids will rotate through a series of activities to reinforce the Bible point of the day. They will attend a Bible lesson, visit the Imagination Station, play fun games and enjoy thematic treats. We will begin each day with an opening rally of upbeat songs and end together with a closing celebration.

Our VBS will focus on a daily Bible point to remember. The songs, games, hands on activities and even the snacks will reinforce the key verse and learning for the day. We don't want to overload them, just teach them that Jesus loves them! The structure lends itself so both kids from our church and others who don't know about Jesus can learn about Him in creative ways. Please keep our upcoming VBS in your prayers and invite others to join us in our treasure finding adventure!



If it ever stops raining and warms up a bit over our nice, long 4th of July weekend, feel free to bring your family over anytime to the Huber Pool for a swim. Just give me a call or a text if you want to enjoy some refreshing water and I'll make sure it's ready to go!



For those going to the CIY MOVE Conference this year, I wanted to give you an idea of some of the main events to plan for during that week. We will be leaving at approximately 8:30am on Monday, July 19th from the church. Our first stop will be the Galleria in St. Louis where we will explore the mall, eat lunch and return to our favorite stores from years past. LUSH is always a favorite for those unique bath bombs!

We will then travel to Central Missouri State University in Warrensburg, MO to attend the conference all week. There is a free afternoon on Thursday and we will be going back to the Worlds of Fun amusement/water park. I will be purchasing the tickets in one lot to make sure we all get in the water park since reservations are required. The price I am seeing online is \$35 per ticket.

In addition to sunscreen and a towel for the water park day, make sure you bring a pillow and bedding for a single bed or a sleeping bag, your Bible or phone app is fine, a little notebook to journal your thoughts, athletic wear if you will be participating in any of the tournaments, some money for the conference store or other incidentals and all of your bathroom essentials for the week. And don't forget snacks! Snacks are good!

We will be returning on Saturday, July 24th by early afternoon. I am looking forward to praising God all week with our students and having some great discussions during our breakout time. We will be examining a variety of Scripture emphasizing the truth that God's love and grace is available to everyone at any time. No matter where we are in our life, God is waiting with open arms for us to come home. I can't wait to see Him touch hearts at MOVE this year!