September 20, 2015 Volume 31, Issue 38



CHURCH OF CHRIST

500 Pitman Road Sewell, NJ 08080 856-589-1500 www.pitmanroadcoc.com



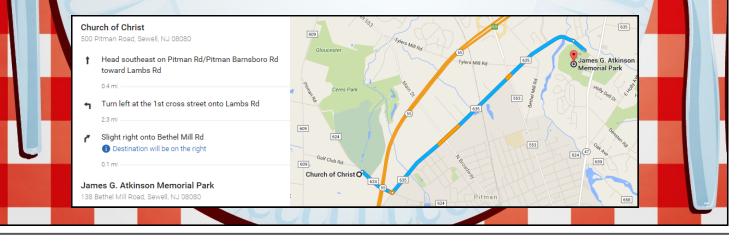
Welcome Guests! We are so glad you are here!

You are invited to be our honored guests at our Annual Church Picnic!

Immediately following our worship service

At James G.Atkinson Park (Formerly Bethel Mill Park)

Cook-out, Walking Trails, Playground, Ball Fields, <u>Restrooms</u>!



Our Vision

A place where God's love is experienced, known, and shared by all.

A Few Moments with Merle



Merle (Glynn) Durham Visitation Minister

...time to bond, to begin to build relationships with one another.

A Great Start to LIFE Groups!

Last Sunday was an exciting day for our Pitman Road church. Among other things, it was the beginning of our new LIFE Group season. Eleven groups met on Sunday. Two more are scheduled to meet during the week. Some groups met at the building and some met in homes.

At this writing on Wednesday morning, I do not know what the total count was for Sunday, but I do know that 204 adults and teens had signed up to be in one of the thirteen groups. (Just a reminder here, all groups should have someone designated to text or email Annette with the number attending your group meeting that day. It is very important that we track our attendance for LIFE Groups. Your cooperation and help with this is appreciated.)

I know of a few people who are attending LIFE Groups for the first time. I am excited for them. It is okay if they sign up for one LIFE Group, attend it once or twice, and then decide they want to "try out" another group. Everyone needs to find a group that is best for them.

I think it is also important that some time is given in the first few meetings to get to know one another in the group. This will give time to bond, to begin to build relationships with one another. What I am saying is this: don't just focus on the Bible lesson during these first meeting times. There will be time for that as the group begins to gel and come together. In the sermon driven study guide this may be in the "Getting to Know You" section or in the ice breaker questions.

God is going to richly bless us as we care for one another in our LIFE Groups. Thank you for participating in one of our groups. There is room for everyone. It is a place to BELONG. And that is important to each of us.

-Merle (Glynn)

An Update from Dan

Sabbatical years are the biblically based provision for restoration. When the farmer's field is depleted, it is given a sabbatical – after six years of planting and harvesting it is left alone for a year so that the nutrients can build up in it. When people in ministry are depleted, they are also given a sabbatical – time apart for the recovery of spiritual and creative energies. For the first time in my 40 years of full-time ministry I felt the need for just such a time of restoration. I felt the need for "desert" time – for silence, for solitude, for rest, for renewal, and for prayer.

One of the things I fear most as your minister is that out of fatigue I end up going through the motions, substituting professionalism for Spirit. The demands of pastoral life are strenuous, and rest time is hard to come by. There are not many hours in a day when I am not faced with the struggle of someone's faith. I want to be ready for those encounters. For me, that is what it means to be a minister of the gospel: to be in touch with the Lord's Word and presence, and to be ready to speak and act out of that Word.

To maintain intensity and intimacy, staying at the center where God's Word makes things alive, I felt the need for renewal. The demands are so much greater today than they were in my earlier years. In the 31 years among you (a total of 42 years of ministry in South Jersey) I have developed a unique network of people both within and outside our congregation with whom I am in significant relationship. I would not have it any other way; but, I must also do something to maintain compassion and creativity.

Parallel with this felt need for "desert" time, I feel the need for "harvest" time. These years of ministry with you have been full and rich. I came here when I was 33, young and green. Together, taught by the Spirit and by each other, we have learned much. During this sabbatical, I am preparing for continued ministry in the coming years of my life. There is still so much to do! We have a beautiful facility, competent leadership, and I am determined to be exactly what God wants me to be as we prepare to impact our community in an even more dramatic way. In the harvest time, I want my presence to be fresh and vibrant, as this church helps all people to experience, know and share God's love.

Faith, Hope and Love,

Dan

Writers note: Many ideas for my thoughts above were gleaned from writings on sabbatical by Eugene H. Peterson.

Please Join Us For These Upcoming Events

Please invite your family, friends, and neighbors to join us for an evening of praise and fellowship!

Members are asked to bring a dessert and beverage.

Flyers are available at the Information Center.

For more information, contact Harry Ake.

Pitman Road Church of Christ Autumn Sing-Along

Saturday, September 26th 7:00-9:00 pm

> Buffet Dinner, Dessert Table, and Refreshments served 5:30-7:00 pm

Please Join Us For **TRUNCOR TREATO** Wednesday, October 28th 6:15—7:00 PM Rain or Shine!

A safe, traffic free environment for your children to Trick or Treat! Please accompany your children through the parking lot while they Trick or Treat.

The Pitman Road Church of Christ 500 Pitman Road Sewell, NJ 08080 856-589-1500 www.coChrist.org (Across the street from the Pitman Golf Course.)

Refreshments for all will be provided inside our building.

Following Trunk or Treat: Fun activities in our Family Life Center!



Please Join Us For The Fun Fall Festival

Saturday, October 17th 3:00—5:00 PM

Rain or Shine! Games and activities for children ages 2—12! Cost: Free!

This is a family event, so please plan to accompany your children through the activities and enjoy the afternoon together!

The Pitman Road Church of Christ 500 Pitman Road Sewell, NJ 08080

856-589-1500 www.coChrist.org (Across the street from the Pitman Golf Course.)



Please Join Us For These Upcoming Events



For those who are grieving the loss of a loved one. Saturday, November 1, 2014 9:00 - 11:00 AM Presented by Glynn and Debby Durham Coffee and Donuts served at 8:30 AM There is no cost to attend this seminar. Registration is preferred, but not required. Please register by calling the church office at 856-589-1500.

About the seminar:

The first Christmas following the death of a parent, child, sibling, or spouse can be very difficult. How does one plan for the holidays? How much should remain the same? Should one begin new traditions?

"Hope for the Holidays" is a seminar designed to help those who are dealing with grief and loss to prepare for the approaching holidays.

Please visit the Information Center in the foyer for flyers with more information.

Please join us Wednesday, September 23th at 7:00 PM at the Pitman Road Church of Christ for a prayer service in observance of See You At The Pole

Everyone will meet in the auditorium.

See You at the Pole[™] is a global movement of prayer which is student-initiated, student-organized, and student-led. It revolves around students praying together on the fourth Wednesday in September, usually before school and usually at the school's flag pole. It involves student in elementary schools, middle/junior high schools, high schools, and colleges/universities across the globe. Adults often pray in support of the students on campus by gathering nearby, at their places of work or worship, or at city halls.

At Pitman Road, we observe **See You at the Pole** each year with a special prayer service in the evening. Please join us as we pray for our schools, students, and teachers once again this year.

REFUGE is a monthly event hosted by the Young Adult LIFE Group.

It is open to **all** Pitman Road members and visitors of all ages!

Come out and experience fellowship and praise!

Coffeehouse Fellowship. Praise and Worship Experience

r)efuge

Sunday. October 4th . 5:30-7:30 pm

The money for the **Sight and Sound** bus trip to see *The Miracle of Christmas* is due by Sunday, September 19th. The date of the show is Saturday, November 14th. The cost is \$97 for adults, \$79 for teens (13-17) and \$56 for children (3-12). The cost includes bus, show and dinner at Shady Maple restaurant. **If you signed up for the show but are no longer interested please contact Brian Holden as soon as possible because there are people on the standby list.**

Brian Holden: email: bcholden94@hotmail.com Cell: (856) 759-2542 Home: (856) 881-6792

Family Promise Volunteers Needed

Our next *Family Promise* host week is October 4th-11th. Volunteers are needed to fill all slots, (cooks, hosts, drivers, set-up, take down, etc.). Please sign up in the foyer.

Please contact Mary Collier if you need more information or have any questions.

> Pitman Road Church of Christ Monday Night Men's Bible Study 7:00 -8:00 PM in the Family Life Center Coffee, fruit and snacks will be served. The study of 2 Corinthians continues.

Come and Experience the Living Word



Bible

Study

Secret Sisters Fall Get-Together

Friday, September 25th at 7:00 pm in the Family Life Center

The event is for women in the Secret Sisters ministry.

There will be food, fellowship and fun! AND there will be an afghan presentation!

PLEASE RSVP to Dottie by Wednesday, September 23rd.

This Week's Prayer Requests

<u>Praise</u>: Josh Ogin's infant daughter, and Bonnie Arsenault's granddaughter, **Anya**, was released from the hospital. All tests were negative and she is recovering! **<u>Prayers Requested</u>**:

Albert Booker, Cordelia Holmes' brother, off ventilator and breathing on his own, but very weak.

Jake Maurer, Debbie Maurer's son and the Britton's grandson, who is autistic, is in need prayers as he struggles to handle high school.

Libby Mansdoerfer, tested positive for Celiac disease. **Charles Busch**, tracheotomy

Anita O'Hara will be having gallbladder surgery on September 28th.

Alana Peterson, chemo treatment on Tuesday.

Dreama Musso, in hospice care.

Melody Schools, multiple health concerns.

Nancy Calabro, numerous serious health concerns. Military:

Andrew Holden at West Point.

Expecting:

Brianne (Gelsinger) and Tom Lodado, October Erin and Tommy McGrath, October. It's a boy! Tim and Paige Holmes, January

Engaged:

Sean Fenton & Rebekah Lucien, April 16, 2016

Please Show Your Support

Derek and Leza Davis run a non-profit community youth center. If you would like to support the Davises in their effort, here is an opportunity to do so.



CRUISIN' WITH A CAUSE

West Atco Youth in Action Inc. invites you to attend our **1st Annual FUNdraiser**

The Ben Franklin Yacht Pier 24 (Next to Dave & Busters) 401 North Columbus Blvd., Philadelphia, PA 19123 Saturday, October 17th, 2015 Boarding Time: 12:30pm/Sailing Time: 1:00pm-4:00pm

> Tickets: Early Bird \$60/pp prior to 9/18/15 \$70.00/pp after 9/18/15

For tickets or information please call 856-753-3790. Thank you for your support!

For more information see the flyer insert or pick one up at the Information Center.

Our Ministers

Evangelist

Dan Cooper.....dcooper@coChrist.org Minister

Carlos Isazigacisaziga@coChrist.org Visitation Minister

Glynn Durhamgdurham1@coChrist.org

Office Staff

Our Elders

Mike Broyles	mbroyles777@gmail.com
Horatio Fenton	HoratioFenton@comcast.net
Mike Lazar	teacher.engineer@comcast.net
Dave Perine	davidt.perine@comcast.net

Our Deacons

Bud Britton	Grounds Maintenance		
Derrick Busch	Young Adults		
Tim Davis	Teens		
Tony DeStefano	Body Life & Fellowship		
Matt Downing	Worship		
Glynn Durham	LIFE Groups		
Darren Fields	Greeters Ministry		
Brian Holden	Special Activities; Body Life		
Garth Hutchinson	Local Evangelism		
Larry Kellum, Jr.	Caring & Sharing		
Brian Mansdoerfer .Buildi	ng Maintenance; Jr. Worship		
Chuck Olley	Teens		
Aaron Pearl	Youth		
John Peoples	New Member Involvement		
Steve Pierre-Jacques			
Audio Visual; Infor	mation Technology; Website		
Jay Schneider	Serving Our Seniors		
Carl Steiner	World Evangelism		
Manny Vander Vennen			
Chu	urch Directory, Kids for Christ		

Sunday Schedule

9:00 AM Bible Classes 10:00 AM Worship

Wednesday Night Schedule

7:00-7:45 PM Bible Classes 7:45 PM Fellowship

Last Week

Bible Class	134
Worship	231
LIFE Groups	133
Wednesday	68
Contribution	\$8,952.00
Fiscal YTD Goal	\$116,160.00
Contribution YTD	\$111,731.00
Under Budget	(\$4,429.00)

Serving Us Today

Nursery	Desna Yanzuk
Kids For Christ	Manny Vander Vennen
Jr. Worship	Brian Mansdoerfer
Hall Monitor: Bible Class	Judi Campbell
Hall Monitor: Worship	Volunteer Needed
Greeters: Front Entrance	Justin Guy & Rebecca Rodriquez
Greeters: Back Entrance	Dimitri & April Sykes
Ushers	Dave Perine & Glynn Durham
Information Desk	Debby Durham
Shepherd's Call	Larry Point
Song Leader	Matt Downing
Communion	Mike Buchanan

L.I.F.E. Group Locations Today

Location

Group

Cloop	Localion	connact
Brook Besor	Durhams, Thursday at 7PM	856-589-2280
Circle of Sisters	Prenger's, Tuesday at 7PM	856-689-7932
Convenience Group	Church Picnic at Noon	
Hammonton Group	Church Picnic at Noon	
Men's Bible Study	Church Bldg. Monday at 7PM	856-589-1500
Paracletes	Church Picnic at Noon	
Silver Linings	Church Picnic at Noon	
Solid Gold	Church Picnic at Noon	
Teens	Church Picnic at Noon	
The Flock	Church Picnic at Noon	
Vineland	Church Picnic at Noon	
Women in the Word	Begins Oct. 6	
Young Adults	Church Picnic at Noon	







Contact

Elder on Call: September/October: Dwight Thompson

@pitmanroadcoc www.facebook.com/ pitmanroadchurchofchrist @pitmanroadchurch