



PITMAN ROAD

CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Dan...What Did You Learn on Your Sabbatical?

Several have asked me... "So, how was your sabbatical?" Or, "Did you enjoy your sabbatical? Or, "What did you learn on your sabbatical?" I learned more than I can write in one article, but below are five reflections.

Below are five lessons that I learned...

1. **God is God, and He's smarter than I am...and He said rest is important!** If God the Father "rested" on the 7th day (and He did!) and if Jesus Christ routinely "rested" and got off by himself, "alone," (and He did!); I am crazy if I don't do the same! God rested (Gen. 2:2 & 3) and He commanded His chosen people to rest (Ex. 20:11; 23:11, 12). And Jesus, in the course of his ministry frequently rested, (Mt. 14:23, Mk. 6:46, 47). How dare I think that I am stronger than God; and that I can go without rest! How arrogant of me. Rest is not an option, it is a command!
2. **God is God, my cell phone is not!** God is the one who is to order my life, make demands and issue commands! But, in the months leading up to my sabbatical, my smart phone had become my god. First thing in the morning, I was checking my phone. Throughout the day, my smart phone bombarded me with e-mails, text and Facebook messages, and phone calls, each expecting a response. Then, last thing at night, there was one more check for messages. God is God, my cell phone is not. God demands my continual attention, not my cell phone!
3. **God is God, I am not!** He is in control. He is responsible for His world, and His church. He is directing. He is in charge. I am His servant, His partner, but He is the one actually on duty 24 x 7.
4. **God is still working on me, to make me what I oughta be.** I am a mess. I have done a lot right, but I have done a whole lot wrong. I am still pretty selfish. I am still prone to think of myself and my wants first. "The more we become aware of our wretched sinfulness and despair of our ability to ever speak and act consistently with our professed beliefs, or conquer our self centered motivations - the more willing we will be to prostrate ourselves before the throne of God, begging for mercy and place **all** of our trust on His grace. Scripture assures us that no one who trusts in Him will be ever disappointed." —John Smith
5. **God shows up when I slow down and get quiet!** There is no way for God to work when I'm running my life. God is not a bully and He will not push His way into my life--unwelcomed and uninvited. God does some of His best work in the margins. The "interruptions," as I perceive them, are frequently the very times that God is most desperately trying to do His work.
So, in the story of the Good Samaritan (Lk. 10:25-37), when the priest and the Levite (two men supposedly set aside for service to God and ministry to others) see a man in need, they "passed by on the other side." Many commentators speculate that they didn't stop to help either because they didn't want to become "unclean" or because they were on their way to perform their religious duty. But, the Samaritan slowed down, took time, got dirty. The Good Samaritan "had compassion... bandaged" ...and offered first aid. Jesus offered that Samaritan as an example of what it means to be a godly neighbor. Sabbatical taught me that I must slow down, and wait for God.

Sabbatical Concluded, and Re-entering the Real World...Determined to Remember Lessons, Dan

Our Vision

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

From Daniel's Den

Last Sunday morning I shared the following words of gratitude with our church family. I stand before you today to say thank you. From the bottom of my heart I thank this church for the seven week sabbatical that officially ended yesterday. Eight weeks ago today the elders called Katherine and me to this stage and prayed over us. They prayed for a period of rest and renewal. And, it has been just that. It has been a huge blessing.

Have you ever had a car battery go dead? Maybe you left the lights on, or the door open, or a radio playing... but somehow you discovered that your car battery was dead. You needed a jump start! You need a charge. That's where I was three months ago. The elders said, "Dan you've given this church over 30 years and now it's time for you to recharge." I am humbled! I am appreciative! I am grateful and have been blessed by this alone time.

God rested (Gen. 2:1-3) and commanded His people to rest (Ex. 20:8-11). Jesus rested, and repeatedly found time to get away (Mk. 1:35; 7:24; Mt. 14:13). Both the Father and the Son were divine and omnipotent. But, they both deliberately set aside time for rest. Who was I to think that I that I could keep on going without a time set aside for rest and renewal? If God the Father, and God the Son needed to rest, who did I think I was? Shame on me! I'm still learning. **Be still and know that I am God (Ps. 46:10). Rest in the Lord and wait patiently for Him (Ps. 37:7).**

My prayer and desire is that I will be able to share some of what I gained in the last seven weeks with you in the coming weeks. Thank you Church! Thank you God! I am so ready to jump in again with both feet. (Katherine is not with me today because she and Becky and three granddaughters had already planned an Orlando Trip. She will be here next Sunday, God willing.)

Thank you to our elders! Thank you to Glynn, Carlos, and Derrick for filling the pulpit! Thank you church, for allowing us time and space to recharge. Love you all deeply.

Dan the Renewed Preacher



Dan Cooper
aka
"Dan, Dan,
the Preacherman"

Be still and know that I am God (Ps. 6:10). Rest in the Lord and wait patiently for Him (Ps. 37:7).



Merle (Glynn) Durham
Visitation Minister

A Few Moments with Merle

It has been almost ten years, but I remember it like it was yesterday. It had been six months since my wife Susan of 35 years had died, and for eight weeks I had been attending a Grief Support Group.

The leaders of the Support Group planned a **Hope for the Holidays** for us. It was a Saturday event with a presenter designed to help us prepare for the holidays, especially for Christmas, without our loved one. To be honest, I had not even thought about Susan not being with me and my two children over the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. I guess I had just been focusing on trying to survive the daily grind of grieving. As the leaders of the grief Seminar began to talk, I wept. I cried during both sessions that morning. I just couldn't help myself.

Looking back on it, the **Hope for the Holidays** program did help me. It brought me face to face with the reality of my loss relating to Susan not being with us during the holidays, and gave me concrete strategies of meaningful things I could do to remember her during these special days. It helped me to evaluate traditions we have had over the years. It instilled hope rather than despair. That day reaffirmed that I was not going crazy because of my tears, but that there was healing in them.

Our version of **Hope for the Holidays** is coming to Pitman Road on **Saturday, Nov. 7**. Donuts, coffee and light refreshments will start the morning at 9:30. The first session will begin at 10:00. My wife Debby, who lost her husband Gary suddenly in 2005, and I will be presenters for the Seminar which will conclude at noon. I hope you will join us. Invite any of your family members or friends who have lost a loved one in the last year or so to join us, as well.

There is no cost to attend this Seminar. Registration is preferred, but not required. Call 856-589-1500.

--Merle (Glynn)

Our version of *Hope for the Holidays* is coming to Pitman Road on **Saturday, Nov. 7.**

You're Invited

to a musical production of



NEXT SUNDAY!

October 25th at 4:00 pm

Performance will be followed
by a finger food reception.

Please invite your family, friends, neighbors,
and coworkers!

Printed invitations are available at
the Information Center.

Coffeehouse Fellowship . Praise and Worship Experience
Sunday . November 1st . 5:30-7:30 pm



You've heard about it... now come and join the Young Adult LIFE
group and experience for yourself an evening of relaxed
fellowship and praise!

All are welcome!

Coffee and light refreshments will be served.

Hope for the Holidays

*For those who are grieving
the loss of a loved one.*

Saturday, November 7, 2015

10:00 am - Noon

Presented by Glynn and Debby Durham

Coffee and Donuts served at 9:30 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.

Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study

Women in the Word LIFE Group

Tuesdays at 9:45 AM
in Room B-4

All women are welcome.
Childcare available.

women's
BIBLE
STUDY

Pitman Road Church of Christ
Monday Night Men's Bible Study
7:00 -8:00 PM
in the Family Life Center
Coffee and snacks will be served.

Bible
Study

Come and Experience the Living Word



YOUNG'S UPDATE FROM FRANCE

Our largest monthly mission checks go to support Craig and Katie Young and Max and Prisca Dauner who minister in Southern France. We just received their most recent, colorful and encouraging note. Please take the time to pause and read their report, which is posted on the bulletin board just outside the restrooms in the Foyer. Their church is hosting refugees, both Christians and Muslims, fleeing from Syria. Plus, in this issue they provide a simply outstanding overview of their work in God's kingdom, both in Marseille and beyond. Take a few minutes to read their full report.

Dan

Please Join Us For

TRUNK OR TREAT!

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.

Refreshments for all will be provided inside our building.

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

Please invite family, friends,
neighbors, and coworkers!

Invitation flyers are available at the
Information Center.

Important Information!

There will be a Wednesday Night Meal at 5:15 for our members and their guests. At 5:45, children should get into costume.

Adults, this is for you too! Please dress in costume, bring candy, decorate your trunks, and be ready to go by 6:00 PM!

Contact Aaron and Jenn Pearl
for more information.

Young Adult Halloween Party

Saturday 10.31.2015
at the Isaziga's

- Wear a costume, we will have a costume contest!
- There will be food and games!
- Time will be announced soon!

New Sight and Sound Trip!

There is a bus trip planned to see **Samson** at the **Sight & Sound Theater** in Lancaster County, Pa. on **Saturday, May 7, 2016**. The cost is \$98



for adults, \$79 for teens (13-17) and \$56 for children (3-12). There is a sign up sheet at the Information Center. The cost includes bus, show, and dinner at Shady Maple restaurant. There will be time for shopping at the Rockvale Square outlets. All money is due by February 7th. All checks should be made out to Pitman Road Church of Christ. For additional information please contact Brian Holden at 856-881-6792 or bcholden94@hotmail.com

Refreshments Needed

Musical Refreshments/Volunteered Needed

If you would like to help serve refreshments at the Children's Musical on October 25th, please see **Judi Campbell**.

Response

Carolyn Dargan is requesting our prayers. She responded to the invitation on Sunday morning asking that we pray for her father and her brother, **Elijah, Sr.** and **Elijah, Jr.**. Continue to remember these two precious men in Carolyn's life as both are dealing with life threatening illnesses.



It's that time of year again to bless a less fortunate child! Next Sunday I will have the cardboard shoe boxes as well as other materials you'll need to begin packing your boxes. Let's get packing!!

Tina Broyles

If you would rather donate money towards items to be put inside a box or help with the \$7.00 shipping fee that would also be very helpful to this cause.

FAMILY PROMISE Thank You This Week's Prayer Requests

I would again like to thank everyone who helped during our Family Promise Host Weeks for 2015. Without your help, Pitman Rd. Church of Christ would not be able to operate as a Host Congregation for this very important ministry. During this past year, we served as hosts on four separate weeks, hosting a total of ten families. Without Family Promise, these families would either have been separated to live in shelters or they would have been homeless. Neither of these are good options.

However, I'd also like to be really honest here: we are stretched thin. Each Host Week requires about 68 volunteer positions. We typically get less than 45 volunteers to fill those 68 positions. This means that several volunteers are volunteering multiple times for every host week. Where can we use your help the most? We typically do not get enough volunteers to cover drivers (5:30AM or 5:30PM), overnight hosts, room setup at the beginning of host week (this occurs on Sunday after church) and room breakdown at the end of host week (this occurs on Sunday at 7:00AM).

Our vision at Pitman Road Church is for God's love to be experienced, known, and shared by all. Thank you for joining in during Family Promise Host Week to help share God's love with those in need.

Our Next Host Week is January 17 - January 24. Please see John Ashton or Mary Collier for details. John Ashton

Praise: Brianne and Tom Ladato's baby girl has arrived! See information below.

Prayers Requested:

Katherine Cooper, Shingles

Carolyn Dargan requesting prayers for **Elijah Sr. and Elijah Jr.** for multiple and serious health concerns.

Alana Peterson, finished her 5th treatment this past Monday and her last one will be November 2. Alana's body is not tolerating chemo very well, please be extra prayerful for her.

Millie Moore will be having surgery on October 19th to remove the plates that supported her wrist.

Adam Cerquoni having hernia surgery n October 19th.

Gladys Isaziga, Carlos' mom, has been diagnosed with breast cancer. She will have a lumpectomy, followed by radiation and chemo. Her cancer has been caught very early.

Prayers for the **Tim Davis family and for Tim's parents** as they move to NJ.

Trudy Michael, a woman who is supported by our food pantry, has been diagnosed with stage 4 uterine cancer.

Charles Busch, as of this writing is back in the ICU at Temple Hospital.

Nancy Calabro, numerous health concerns.

Laura Ann Lindsey, Dave Lindsey's 92 year old mother, in hospice care. Prayers that she will take her rest in the arms of Jesus.

Anita O'Hara, recovering well from gallbladder surgery.

Military:

Andrew Holden at West Point.

Doug Peterson III, deployed with Air Force

Expecting:

Erin and Tommy McGrath, October. It's a boy!

Tim and Paige Holmes, January

Tyler and Katherine Steffy, January

Engaged:

Sean Fenton & Rebekah Lucien, April 16, 2016

Thank you for your support!

A HUGE thank you to all of those who came and supported the Wednesday night meal to benefit Family Promise! Over \$500 was donated to a wonderful organization to help people in need! Thank you so much for your generosity! It is an honor to be surrounded by such giving people! To god be the glory!

Thanks again!
Tim and Melody Davis

Ladato Baby has arrived!



Brianne and her husband Tom Lodato's new baby girl arrived safe and sound. Praise God for this new life.

Name: Emmarie Faith Lodato
Born: Friday October 9th
Time: 4:31am
Weight: 7lbs 10ozs
Length: 20-1/2"

Congratulations to the Gelsingers, and DePrince's on the arrival of their new granddaughter.

Our Ministers

Evangelist

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

Minister

Carlos Isazigacisaziga@coChrist.org

Visitation Minister

Glynn Durhamgdurham1@coChrist.org

Office Staff

Dottie Grillo..... dgrillo@coChrist.org

Annette Perine annette.perine@gmail.com

Our Elders

Mike Broyles..... mbroyles777@gmail.com

Horatio Fenton HoratioFenton@comcast.net

Greg Krinks.....856-881-2039, hm
.....Greg.Linda.Krinks@gmail.com

Mike Lazar.....teacher.engineer@comcast.net

Dave Perine davidt.perine@comcast.net

Larry Point..... 856-769-0836
..... lawrencepoint@helmerlegal.com

Dwight Thompson..... 609-561-8561, hm
..... 609-287-0109, cell
..... DOThompson@comcast.net

Our Deacons

Bud Britton..... Grounds Maintenance

Derrick Busch Young Adults

Tim DavisTeens

Tony DeStefanoBody Life & Fellowship

Matt Downing Worship

Glynn Durham LIFE Groups

Darren Fields.....Greeters Ministry

Brian Holden Special Activities; Body Life

Garth HutchinsonLocal Evangelism

Larry Kellum, Jr. Caring &Sharing

Brian Mansdoerfer .Building Maintenance; Jr. Worship

Chuck OlleyTeens

Aaron PearlYouth

John Peoples.....New Member Involvement

Steve Pierre-Jacques

..... Audio Visual; Information Technology; Website

Jay Schneider Serving Our Seniors

Carl Steiner World Evangelism

Manny Vander Vennen

..... Church 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	118
Worship	235
LIFE Groups	113
Wednesday	96
Contribution	\$9,562.00
Fiscal YTD Goal	\$158,400.00
Contribution YTD	\$151,963.00
Under Budget	(\$6,437.00)

Serving Us Today

Nursery	Melody Davis
Kids For Christ	Manny Vander Vennen
Jr. Worship	Brian Mansdoerfer
Hall Monitor: Bible Class	LaVerne Daniel
Hall Monitor: Worship	Volunteer Needed
Greeters: Front Entrance	Denise Rulli & Mandy Mansdoerfer
Greeters: Back Entrance	Darren & Dee Fields
Ushers	Leonard Collier & Jonathan Hooley
Information Center	Mary Collier
Shepherd's Call	Dwight Thompson
Song Leader	Garth Hutchinson
Communion	John Peoples

L.I.F.E. Group Locations Today

Group	Location	Contact
Brook Besor	Durhams, Thursday at 7PM	856-589-2280
Circle of Sisters	Prenger's, Tuesday at 7PM	856-689-7932
Convenience Group	Church Building at Noon	856-589-1500
Hammonton Group	Thompson's at 6PM	609-561-8561
Men's Bible Study	Church Bldg. Monday at 7PM	856-217-3956
Paracletes	Contact Manny for Service Location	856-241-7757
Silver Linings	Krinks' at Noon	856-881-2039
Solid Gold	Lazar's at 6PM	856-223-1699
Teens	Not Meeting	856-589-1500
The Flock	Buchanan's at 5PM	856-229-1558
Vineland	H. Pearl's at 6PM	856-839-0015
Women in the Word	Church Bldg., Tues.at 9:45AM	856-589-1500
Young Adults	Isaziga's at Noon	850-814-6632

Elder on Call:

September/October: Dwight Thompson



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