CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

Ministering to Syrian Refugees

So, what in the world are we doing about "the refugee problem?"

The Syrian refugees have filled the news in recent months. What is our Christian response? Are we going to turn our backs, or are we going to treat them like Jesus would? (In case you were wondering, Jesus did not, and would not turn His back!)

You will be delighted to know that the mission effort we help to support in Marseille, France is reaching out to both the Christian and Muslim Syrian refugees that are fleeing to France. In fact, Christians from Northern Syria who have fled are currently worshipping with our brothers and sisters in Marseille. One of the families is still grieving their little girl that was killed in a bomb blast a year ago. When the refugees were asked how the church could help, their response might surprise you. They said they had everything they needed materially. What did that need or want? "They deeply longed for a church family, prayer, and brothers to weep with." One dad said, "instead of helping us, please help the next person who will need it more."



Why not check out the full report from **Philippe Dauner** on the insert page, "Dauner News," in this week's bulletin? We have so much to be thankful for during this season of Thanksgiving. Among other fascinating details, Philippe says, "Mission to the Muslim world starts right here in Marseille." On the flip side of the attached report, in the photo section you will also see **Lucas and Garth Hutchinson**, as well as **Craig and Katie Young.** -Dan

Today is the last day to sign the Thanksgiving Cards!

Please take a moment to sign the Thanksgiving Cards in the foyer with a note of encouragement and love to some of our former members, missionaries, and continuing supporters of our congregation. Don't know the some



the card recipients? That's okay! A simple "Happy Thanksgiving" and your name will be a welcome encouragement. Pack the Pulpit SUNDAY Locay During our worship service today, our children will be "packing the pulpit" with groceries donated to fill Thanksgiving Baskets for those in need of assistance

with their holiday meal. Immediately following worship, our teens will take over the front of the auditorium to sort groceries and pack the baskets!

Our Vision

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

From Daniel's Den

Thanksgiving 2015

This week I give thanks for one of the greatest gifts ever given to me. The elders of this church gave me seven consecutive weeks to rest, renew and rejuvenate. I reconnected with God, with family and with my innermost parts. And you, my church family, supported me during that sabbatical. Never can I thank you enough. Never!

During those seven weeks, I read more books and articles than I have read in a decade. One of the most enriching books was by New York City minster Peter Scazzero. The title of the impactful book is *Emotionally Healthy Spirituality*. Page after page of the book hit me with "aha moments." (See p. 122)

I know that Romans 8:28 teaches that "God uses all things for good." But, I also have come to understand it is okay to be mad at God, because His timing and my timing frequently do not agree. There are times that I don't feel like singing "Victory in Jesus," or "You Are My All in All." I now know that my faith sometimes admits the following:

- 1. I am bewildered.
- 2. I don't know what God is doing right now.
- 3. I am hurt.
- 4. I am angry.
- 5. Yes, this is a mystery.
- 6. I am very sad right now.
- 7. O God, why have you forsaken me?

God is there when we are in the valley. He is there even when we walk through the valley of the shadow of death.

"Be still and know..." - Dan the Preacherman

Dan Cooper aka "Dan, Dan, the Preacherman"

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Fifth Sunday Fellowship Blessing Tom and Melva Toy

Next Sunday will be Tom and Melva's last Sunday with us for the immediate future. They are imitating Paul Stanford and leaving their home to move into their RV. For the immediate future, their plan is to make their way first to Florida, then on to Texas to spend time with their three sons and their families. Following that, they plan to spend time visiting on the west coast.

Never the ones to want to draw attention to themselves, they agreed to allow us to mention that November 29th will be their last Sunday on two conditions:

1) No formal speeches or farewells.

2) No gifts.

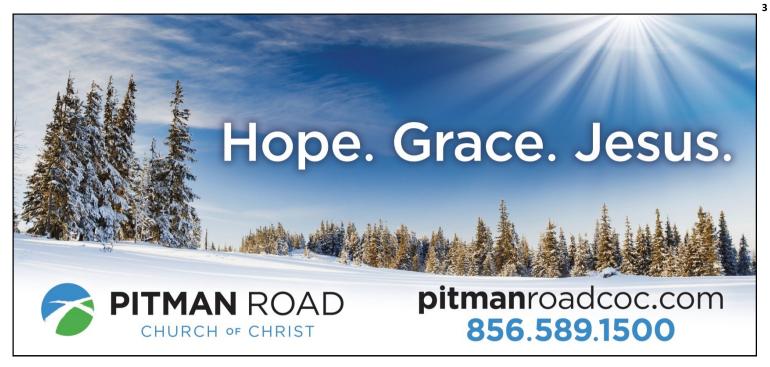
We are honoring their request. Next Sunday just happens to be a "Fifth Sunday" so we will have a fellowship meal and Tom and Melva will attend in order that we may all spend a little extra time with them. We are asking everyone to bring soup and sandwiches for this period of fellowship immediately after our morning worship.

The plan is for Tom and Melva to go through line first, take their seat, then we will be able to casually stop and visit, wishing them God's speed in their journeys. This is not a formal good bye, but it is a "see you later."

Thanks go to Tony and Stephanie DeStefano along with the Solid Gold LIFE Group for coordinating this meal on short notice.





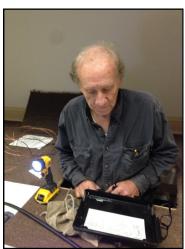


We are trying new ways to make ourselves known in the community! Our new billboard advertisement is now posted on N. Delsea Dr. as you are leaving Clayton and entering Glassboro. We have this billboard from Nov. 16th to Feb. 15th. In April, May and June, we have leased one of the billboards here at the intersection of Lambs Road and E. Holly Ave./Pitman Rd.

At Long Last...

At long last, we have a baptistery with a heater and a filtering system that works. Special thanks to **Carl Steiner** and **Van Brill Pools**. Thanks, also, to **Carlos** and to **Brian Mansdoerfer** who helped move this project along. From now on when we sing "all things are already," we will not be singing a lie! All things really will be ready.

We have been in this building almost five years, and until now, to get hot water into the baptistery has been a major production. Keeping the water filtered and clean has been another major obstacle. Both of



those obstacles have now been eliminated. This project is paid for by donations to our Capital Fund (formerly called "Expansion Fund"). Thanks for all those who have contributed. -**Dan**

At left: Carl Steiner works on the electrical connection to the new baptistery heater and filtering system. Serving the Indigent in Camden December 26

Adam and Helena Cerquoni are asking for help to serve "Dinner at Joe's Place" on Broadway and Ferry in Camden, December 26, the day after Christmas. We need about 10-12 people to be there around 2:00 PM to set up, to serve from 4:00-6:00 PM, and to clean up between 5:30-6:30 PM. We also need



help in preparing the meal itself. The Paracletes LIFE Group will be baking, cooking, and freezing food for this meal from Noon-2:00 PM on Sunday, December 6th and 13th. Additionally, we need volunteers to make a large green salad on December 26th, and need a case of frozen string beans to cook; we also really need people to help bake or donate desserts. We welcome any donations towards the cost of feeding 75 of our needy Camden brothers and sisters. Menu is: chicken cutlets, mac and cheese, cornbread, string beans, salad, desserts, coffee, ice tea. Please contact Adam or Helena at helenasophia53@gmail.com/856-275-1581/609-254-7212 if you can help.

Holiday Schedule Updates



This Wednesday, November 25, we will not be meeting. There is no meal and no classes.

The church office will be closed Thanksgiving on Thursday and Friday, November 22th & 27th.

Sunday, December 20th,

we have a special schedule!

9:00 AM: Bible classes will not meet.



- 9:30 AM: Coffee, tea, juice and Munchkins in the Family Life Center.
- 10:00 AM: Worship
- 11:00 AM: Encore performance of "HIStory."
- 11:45 AM: Refreshments in the FLC

Christmas Eve Service: Thursday, December 24th at 7:00 PM. More details to follow.

ORPHAN'S SUNDAY TOTALS

Thanks to your generosity we collected

\$2,577 for Orphan's Lifeline International

and

\$1530

for RUN: Reaching Unreached Nations. Thank you church!

Pitman Road Church of Christ American Red Cross Blood Drive Friday, December 11th, 2:30 - 7:30 PM

> Appointments are preferred but not required.

Sign up sheet will be available at the Information Center soon! or contact Hope Hooley

This holiday, give something that means something.

d and you could help save





An Ecumenical Community Thanksgiving Service will be held on Tuesday, November 24th at 7:00 PM at Our Lady Queen of Peace Roman Catholic Church on 161 Pitman Ave. in Pitman.

Calling all Ministers, Elders and Deacons!

Our final MED Meeting of 2015 is **Sunday, December 6th at Noon.**

Once again, Harriet and Judi have agreed to put together a tasty meal of meatloaf for our lunch.

We will begin immediately after morning worship, about noon, in the Family Life Center, and conclude by 2:00.

Come and pray together, plan and share together, and learn some exciting changes proposed for 2016.

Please RSVP by Thursday, December 3rd.



Feed the Hungry in Trenton Saturday, December 12th 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Sign up at the Information Center or

send an email to **Larry Kellum, Jr.** Transportation to Trenton is provided from the church building in the van, departure is 10:00 AM. The group will return to the building at approximately 2:00 PM.

If you are willing to contribute to the \$500 cost of the meals, please write "Trenton Meal" on the memo line of your check and drop it in the collection plate.



Congratulations!



Congratulations to Mallory Perine and Brandon Keeks! Brandon proposed to Mallory this past Tuesday while they were visiting Southern California. She said yes of course!

Brandon and Mallory met at Messiah College in the fall of 2010. Their first meeting was inter-

esting...ask Mallory about it! Eventually, friendship became more and the two became a couple in the fall of 2012. Last January, Brandon, who is from Staten Island, NY, moved to South Jersey to be closer to Mallory. Several months later he became a member of our congregation. Together, Mallory and Brandon are a part of the Refuge ministry.

Of course **Annette**, **Dave**, **Steven and Stephanie** are thrilled, since they all considered Brandon part of the family anyway! Brandon's parents, **Don and Mary Keeks** and their family are equally happy!

We look forward to seeing this wonderful young couple grow in their relationship with one another, and to witness them working together in God's Kingdom!



With Sincere Thanks

Thank you Church Family,

My family and I are so appreciative and thankful for the thoughts, prayers and lovely flowers that our church family sent during a very trying and solemn occasion. We would like to especially recognize and thank Horatio Fenton and Dan Cooper for the beautifully worded resolution that was received and read during the services for my mom. The time was much like walking in the rain with your thoughts and prayers as an umbrella for us. Please accept our gratitude and thanks for everything.

Dave Lindsey and the Lindsey Family

Response to the Invitation

Angel Bobe is requesting our prayers on his behalf as he returns to Puerto Rico after traveling to the U.S. for treatment for Guillian-Barre Syndrome. Angel's recovery is not complete, so he will continue to recover at home. He will be returning to live with and care for his aging and ailing mother. His plate is full! Please pray for safe travels, recovery, and for Angel's mom's health.

This Week's Prayer Requests

<u>Praises:</u> Diana and Garth Hutchinson returned safely from France. The Perine Family's big praise is on the left! Pravers Period:

Prayers Requested:

Alana Peterson, surgery on November 30th.

Gwen Phillip, chemo treatments.

Larry Point, Parkinson's Disease

David & Joshua Davis, Harriet's grandson's, admitted to the hospital with possible pneumonia.

Gladys Isaziga, Carlos' mom, the cancer did not spread, may have to follow up with radiation, but hopefully no chemo.

Charles Busch, moved out of ICU, slowly improving.

William Bartley, prayers for post -concussion syndrome.

Debbie Contravo requests prayers for her health, finances, and family.

April Sykes sustained a concussion after a bad fall and is not able to work at this time.

Yvette Kenner, severe back pain.

Lynne Sbaraglia, recovering from an auto accident. Prayers for the Tim Davis family and for Tim's parents as

they settle into living in NJ.

Trudy Michael, stage 4 uterine cancer.

Nancy Calabro, numerous health concerns. Military:

Andrew Holden at West Point.

Doug Peterson III, deployed with Air Force

Expecting:

Tim and Paige Holmes, January

Tyler and Katherine Steffy, January

Engaged:

Sean Fenton & Rebekah Lucien, April 16, 2016

Mallory Perine & Brandon Keeks

Traveling:

Paul Stanford

Attention Secret Sisters

I am looking for a volunteer to host the Secret Sister "Revealing" Party this year. The date choices are February 5th or 12th, 2016. Please contact me at the church office 856-589-1500 or text me at 856-723-7749. **Thank you, Dottie**

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
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Our Elders

Mike Broyles	mbroyles777@gmail.com
Horatio Fenton	HoratioFenton@comcast.net
	Greg.Linda.Krinks@gmail.com
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 . Build	ding Maintenance; Jr. Worship	
Chuck Olley	Teens	
Aaron Pearl	Youth	
John Peoples	New Member Involvement	
Steve Pierre-Jacques		
Audio Visual; Info	ormation Technology; Website	
Jay Schneider	Serving Our Seniors	
Carl Steiner	World Evangelism	
Manny Vander Vennen		
Cł	nurch Directory, Kids for Christ	

Elder on Call:

November/December: Larry Point

Sunday Schedule

9:00 AM Bible Classes 10:00 AM Worship

Wednesday Night Schedule

5:30-6:30 PM Meal 7:00-7:45 PM Bible Classes 7:45 PM Fellowship

Last Week

Bible Class	125
Worship	213
LIFE Groups	86
Wednesday	89
Contribution	\$9,164.00
Fiscal YTD Goal	\$211,200.00
Contribution YTD	\$203,375.00
Under Budget	(\$7,825.00)

Serving Us Today

Nursery	Judi Car
Kids For Christ	Manny \
Jr. Worship	Brian Mc
Hall Monitor: Bible Class	Voluntee
Hall Monitor: Worship	Voluntee
Greeters: Front Entrance	Larry & L
Greeters: Back Entrance	Brian & C
Ushers	John Pe
Information Center	Ashleigh
Shepherd's Call	Mike Laz
Song Leader	Garth Hu
Communion	Jonatha

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L.I.F.E. Group Locations Today

Group

Location

Contact 856-589-2280 Brook Besor Thanksgiving Circle of Sisters Prenger's, Tuesday at 7PM 856-689-7932 Convenience Group Church Building at Noon 856-589-1500 Hammonton Group 609-567-9607 DeStefano's at 6PM Church Bldg. Monday at 7PM 856-217-3956 Men's Bible Study Paracletes Leaf raking at Britton's 484-886-5349 856-589-4197 Silver Linings Coopers at Noon Solid Gold Britton's at 6PM 609-682-4502 Teens 856-589-1500 Church Building at Noon Vineland H. Pearl's at 6PM 856-839-0015 Church Bldg., Tues.at 9:45AM 856-589-1500 Women in the Word Young Adults Isaziga's at Noon 850-814-6632

Wednesday Night Meal

Cook: No Meal - Thanksgiving

Menu:







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