



Keeping Our Focus on *Just Jesus*

How are you doing with your focus this quarter- Meeting Jesus? We are two thirds of the way through! If you are doing well, keep up the good work! Not so much? Every day is a new day, and another opportunity to renew your focus!

If you need a refresher, here are our goals for this quarter, and our goals as a church for the entire year.

*Just
Jesus*

Meeting Jesus

January • February • March

Our goals for this quarter:

- Practice **daily time** with God this quarter.

God does some of his best work in our lives when we are quiet. Here are four key elements you should include in your daily time with God: stopping, centering, silence, and scripture. Ideally, practice daily time with God 1-3 times daily for 5-15 minutes

- **Rest** 1 day out of every of 7 days this quarter.

God has given us a wonderful gift in the Sabbath rest. It is about resting from work so you can enjoy what God has blessed you with through your work. It is the pause that refreshes. Ideally, you should rest one day out of each week, whichever day works best for you, and do something you enjoy. **Rest may not "look" the same for everyone. For some it be a long nap. For others, it might be mountain climbing. Rest in this case is something positive that you enjoy that helps refresh and renew your mind and soul.**

Our goals for this year:

- As a church, help **17 new people** meet Jesus and be baptized in 2017.
- Read the **New Testament** in 2017.

Pick up a 2017 N.T. Reading Plan guide or go to the YouVersion Bible app and search for the OWNit365 New Testament (NT)+ plan.

- Increase **attendance** by 17 people on Sunday mornings in 2017.

TONIGHT at 5:30pm, REFUGE invites all to experience a devotional led by guest speaker Chris Lahr from Timoteo. Timoteo is a non-profit organization in Philadelphia that partners with churches and local organizations to mentor youth and strengthen communities through sports. And as always, there will be fellowship, coffee, snacks, and praise. **We hope to see you there!**



Our Mission

Meet others where they are and together be transformed into the image of Christ.

From Daniel's Den

"LYING, EVERYBODY'S DOIN' IT ... HONEST!"

That was the cover story in TIME Magazine on Oct. 5, 1992. People are dishonest. They lie. They fib! In case you hadn't noticed, fake news is rampant! The TIME article from twenty five years ago observed how prevalent dishonesty and lying had become in American public life. And, it if anything, it seems to have gotten worse! The article went on to suggest that it's gotten to the point where we don't even expect people to be honest. Politicians are likely the first to be called out for dishonesty. The Time article stated, "Thomas Jefferson and Franklin Roosevelt both promised to shrink the government's powers when campaigning, and both men expanded those powers as president." More recently, our presidents were caught red handed lying. ("Read my lips, no new taxes..." "You will be able to keep your current health care plan...") But lying politicians are nothing new.

But it is not just politicians that lie! Students lie and cheat. Teachers are rightfully troubled by numerous studies showing that virtually every student cheats. Parents routinely tell "white lies" to their children. The IRS knows that American's are prone to lie about their income and/or expenses, so the IRS audits tax returns. Businesses routinely do audits, and among other concerns, audits are done to insure that employees are telling the truth! As we re-think the Sermon on the Mount (Matt. 5:33-37) Jesus says, *"All you need to say is simply 'Yes' or 'No'; anything beyond this comes from the evil one."* Liars face a certain judgment! John said, *"But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the detestable, as for murderers, the sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars, their portion will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death."* (Rev. 21:8) Bam! Liars face a certain judgment. What should our response be? *"Speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ."* (Eph. 4:15)

Join me in Re-thinking Truth Telling, **Dan**



Dan Cooper
aka
"Dan, Dan,
the Preacherman"

Liars face a
certain
judgment.
What should
our response
be?



Carlos Isaziga
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Carlos' Corner

Two Dumb Excuses for Not Being in a LIFE Group

I know joining a LIFE group is a big jump. There are a lot of excuses not to do it. I've made some of the same excuses and I'm a minister! Here's my list of excuses.

Excuse #1: There are weird people.

You're thinking something like this, aren't you? If I join a LIFE group, there will be weird people in there. They will probably have cats and want to talk about the book of Revelation the whole time. They are either going to make their own bread and homeschool their kids, collect action figures, or have a carpet recycling website. I don't know if I can handle that level of weirdness. Let me go ahead and confirm your fears. Chances are, there WILL be a strange person in your group. But if it's any consolation, you might be the person everyone else is afraid of.

Excuse #2: I'm too busy.

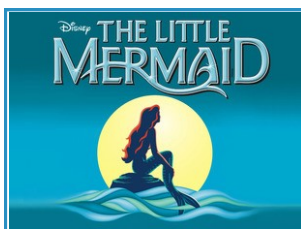
On any given week, you work about 50 hours, drive about 10 hours, go to the grocery store, mow the grass, watch Sports Center, grill burgers, drive the kids to soccer practice, and call your mom. Every time you check one thing off the list, another thing is there to take its place. The pace is brutal, and you need all the hours you can. So the thought of taking a night each week to go hang out with people and talk about the Bible isn't really all that appealing. "This season of my life is just busy," you tell yourself. But deep down you know this season of your life isn't any busier than the last season of your life and is just as busy as the next season of your life. They are all busy seasons.

You don't need a lecture to prioritize what's truly important, so I'll spare you. But I do want to give you permission. Permission to let something go undone. Permission to tell your kids they can't do that activity because mom needs a night. Permission to eat out instead of making that healthy dinner.

Those are two of the reasons I've given myself for not jumping into a LIFE group. So, what are yours?

Grace & truth, **Carlos**

P.S. If you're ready to jump in, we'll make it as easy as possible. Go to our website and check out some of the groups meeting right now. Each of them has space for new people. All you have to do is contact the leader.



See **Brianna Peoples** in the Williamstown High School production of **The Little Mermaid**. She is playing the part of "Winword the Seahorse." Williamstown High School is known for it's theater program in the area and the fine performances the students give. This is a great opportunity to support one of our own, and enjoy some great entertainment! Performances are on March 10th, 11th, 17th, & 18th at 7pm, with a matinee on March 11th at 2pm. Tickets "at the door" are \$7 to \$9 for students, and \$12 to \$17 for adults, depending on seating section. There is a \$2 discount per ticket for advance sales. Please see Brenda or Brianna for more information.



Be a part of a movement
of prayer among
the women of our church!

Prayer Groups and Prayer Partners are
forming NOW for a 3-month journey:
March, April, May 2017

Please join us for an informational meeting (no obligation)
TODAY at 11:30am in the Chapel.

We want to pray with and for YOU, dear sister!!!

"I also pray that you will understand the incredible greatness
of God's power for us who believe him."

-Ephesians 1: 19

Questions? Please contact:

Brenda Busch: 646-258-5031 or bhall727@optonline.net

Diana Hutchinson: 856-381-9095 or drh13013@gmail.com

Baby Shower for
Kristy Romeo and Will Mendez

NEXT Sunday, March 12th,
after the worship service

Please call Kathy Ashton at 609-233-4330
if you would like to bring food for the luncheon.

Kristy is registered at Babies R Us and Target
#arrivingapril20ish #nowedontknowthegender #noitsnottwins

"Basket" Baby Shower

We would like to celebrate the birth of **Sarah and Kareem Lazarus'** baby girl with a "Basket Shower." **Jazmyne Lazarus** was born on December 6. If you would like to honor this lovely couple and their infant daughter with a gift, there will be a decorated box marked "Baby Lazarus" in the Secret Sisters Room. Please drop off your gift by March 19. If you have any questions please contact Jackie Fenton, Karelle Pierre-Jacques, or Sherri Herndon.

Gift suggestions: gift cards (Babies R Us, Target, Buy Buy Baby, Walmart), clothing size 6 months and up, diapers, baby wipes

Bridal Shower for Mary Bernadette McElroy

(fiancee of Jonathan Hooley)

Sunday, March 26th after the worship service

Please contact Hope Hooley at 856-383-5407 if
you would like to bring food for the luncheon.

Mary Bernadette and Jonathan are registered at
Bed, Bath, and Beyond.



**BEFORE YOU GO TO BED NEXT
SATURDAY NIGHT -
REMEMBER TO SET YOUR CLOCKS
FORWARD ONE HOUR!**

What Happens When We Die?

What does the Bible say about what happens when a person dies? As we pause between the books of 2 Thessalonians and 1 Timothy, we will investigate these interesting questions, and hope to gain a better understanding of (what the bible says) happens to a person when they die. This class will be led by Andy Mychajlowycz. All well-behaved men are welcomed to attend. Coffee and snacks will be provided.

Church Directory

Our church office gets a number of requests each week from our members for contact information for other members. We want to remind you that we have an online church directory for our members. **For security purposes, you have to be listed in the church directory to have access to the church directory.** If you are not listed in the online church directory, and you want to be, contact Manny Vander Vennen, who is the deacon over this ministry.

How do you access the online directory? There are two ways:

1. On your cell phone, go to the App Store and search for "Instant Church Directory" and download it. Follow the on screen prompts to create an account. **You must enter the email address you have listed in the directory in order to gain access.**
2. For access on your computer, go to www.instantchurchdirectory.com. Click on "Church Member Sign In" on the top right corner, and then on the next page, click on "Create a login now" and follow the on screen prompts. **You must enter the email address you have listed in the directory in order to gain access.**

Help a Child Go to Camp Manatawny!

We have already had requests for sponsorships for five children to go to Camp Manatawny this summer. We do expect more. Each year, we provide sponsorships for at least a dozen children. And each year, because of the generosity of members and friends of the church, those funds are covered, and we don't have to take money from the church budget. **If you would like to help to send children to camp this summer, please let Dottie know. Or note "Camp Manatawny" on the memo line of your check and drop it into the collection plate.** The base price to send one child to camp for one week is \$325. If you cannot contribute the full cost, that's ok! Any amount is appreciated!

Our Schedule

Sunday

9:00 am Bible Classes
10:00 am Worship

Wednesday

5:30 pm Meal
7:00 pm Bible Classes

Office Hours

Tuesday - Friday
8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Last Week

Bible Class	121
Worship	227
LIFE Groups	104
Wednesday	43
Contribution	\$11,132
Fiscal YTD Goal	\$364,420.00
Contribution YTD	\$322,709.00
Budget Deficit	(\$41,711.00)

Ministers

Dan Cooper, Evangelist dcooper@cochrist.org
..... 856-589-4197

Carlos Isaziga, Minister cisaziga@cochrist.org

Glynn Durham, Visitation Minister poppydurham@gmail.com

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..... grth.hutchinson@gmail.com

Mike Lazar teacher.engineer@comcast.net

John Peoples 609-617-7451

Dave Perine davidt.perine@comcast.net

Dwight Thompson 609-561-8561-home, 609-287-0109-cell
..... dothompson@comcast.net

Elder on Call for March and April: Horatio Fenton

Serving Us Today

Nursery	TBA
Kids For Christ	Manny Vander Vennen
Jr. Worship	Brian Mansdoerfer
Greeters: Front Entrance	Lee & Mary Collier
Greeters: Back Entrance	Steve & Jayne DePrince
Information Center	Mary Collier & Brenda Peoples
Ushers	John Peoples & Corey Peoples
Shepherd's Call	Brian Holden
Song Leader	Matt Downing
Communion	Ron Dargan

LIFE Group	Location	Contact
Ageless	Mychajlowycz's at noon	908-294-4056
Beginning Anew	Church Bldg. at noon	856-589-1500
Brook Besor	TBA: Call for info	856-589-2280
Circle of Sisters	Sbaraglia's Monday at 7pm	856-419-0544
E.H.S.	Church Bldg. rm B4 at noon	856-589-1500
Family of Teens	Church Bldg. FLC at noon	856-589-1500
Hammonton	REFUGE 5:30 pm at church bldg.	856-589-1500
Men's Bible Study	Church Bldg., Monday at 7pm	856-217-3956
Paracletes	Greenfields Ass't Lvg. at 2 pm	856-449-9656
Solid Gold	Rowe's at 6pm	856-881-2158
Teens	Church Bldg. FLC at noon	856-589-1500
Vineland	H. Pearl's at 6pm	856-839-0051
Women in the Word	Church Bldg. Tuesday at 9:45 am	856-589-1500
Young Adults	REFUGE 5:30 pm at church bldg.	609-226-4031
Young Married	REFUGE 5:30 pm at church bldg.	856-899-9466

Wednesday Night Meal: Chicken Salad & Egg Salad Sandwiches and homemade Chicken Soup

Cooks: Harriet, Judi, JoAnn

This Week's Prayer Requests

Praise: **ANOTHER BABY IS ON THE WAY!** Incase you haven't heard yet.... **Brenda and Derrick Busch are expecting a baby in August!!!**

Response to the Invitation:

Two weeks ago, **Jonathan Hooley** responded, asking for forgiveness from the church family. He subsequently asked for prayers for himself and Mary Bernadette as he is dealing with depression and unemployment. He also asks for prayers for his personal walk with Christ, which he says hasn't been what it should be. He acknowledges God's goodness and grace!

Prayers Requested:

John Grillo Doing well overall after amputation surgery, but at times, especially when he is moved, or the wound dressing is changed, he suffers uncontrollable pain. The infection has cleared, but the wound will remain open and infection control will continue for several more days.

Glynn Durham is still dealing with weakness and fatigue. Chemo treatments are on hold for now.

Mandy Mansdoerfer is at home recovering from bilateral mastectomy surgery. The lymph node were clear!

Justin, foster son of Dawn Smith's sister in law, is hospitalized with sepsis which has traveled to his kidneys.

Mary Collier is recovering from back surgery and pneumonia at PowerBack Rehabilitation, 113 South Route 73, Voorhees. She would love calls and visits. 215-888-0646

Barbara Robinson is dealing with very high blood pressure. She will be having a procedure to burn the nerves in her lower back this Thursday, March 9th.

Mildred Vlammo, friend of Barbara Robinson, stroke which affected her right side.

Jaqueline White, friend of Barbara Robinson, surgery.

Wilma Gillespie, Elinda Hunters mother, admitted to hospital for possible gall bladder surgery.

Amanda (Prenger) and Michael Stout are expecting their second child on July 22!

Becky and Matt Fortunato are expecting their fourth child, and first boy, in August!

Ashley (Monica) and Chris Corey are expecting their second child on Sept. 20!

New Baby!



Congratulations to **Ben and Rachel (Cooper) Stutzman** on the birth of their first child, **Josiah Cooper Stutzman**, on February 24th. Josiah weighed in at 8 lbs. 3oz. and was 20 1/4" long. And as you can see...he has an amazing head of hair! Congratulations also to **Dan and**

Katherine on the birth of their **first** grandson! They already have five granddaughters...and are waiting on the arrival of grandson number 2 in August!



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