April 9, 2017 Volume 33, Issue 15

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

NEXT Sunday is Easter Sunday.

This is traditionally the day when church attendance here at Pitman Road, and across the nation, peaks. It's a great opportunity to invite people that you know who don't have a church home to attend Bible class and worship here with you.

Last Sunday, there were invitations to hand out on each seat in the auditorium. Did you give yours away yet? If you did, there are more available at the Welcome Center. If you didn't... there's still time!





AND... A New Sermon Series Begins Next Week

Have you ever felt like giving up, or have you said to yourself, "When is this going to end?" So many of us have felt and said the very same thing. We want to let you know that you are not alone. But, there are better days ahead. As a matter of fact, your better days can start now!

In this sermon series we will explore the amazing New Testament book, Hebrews. We will focus on Jesus, our Savior, the who died once for all. How do we rest in Jesus? How do we grow spiritually and move forward in our faith? And how does our Heavenly Father love, encourage, and sometimes discipline us as we go on our faith walk. Join us beginning next week as we answer these questions!

FAREWELL is not forever; it's only for a little while until we meet again.

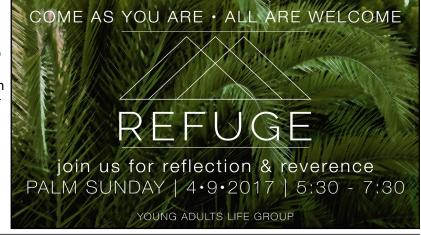
TODAY! Farewell Reception for Linda Prenger immediately after the worship service, in the Family Life Center. Come and go as you please. Cake & Punch will be served. Let's give Linda a warm send-off as she moves to WV to be with her family and enjoy her retirement!

TONIGHT! Join us for Refuge!

Tonight's special focus will be on the week leading up to Jesus' death, burial, and triumphant resurrection! Take some time with us to slow down and reflect with reverence on Jesus, our Savior. There will be time for meditative prayer, and we will lift our voices in praise to the One who gave it all, even His life, for us.

As always, there will be time to hang out together and enjoy some coffee, tea, and snacks.

We hope to see you tonight at 5:30!



Our Mission

From Daniel's Den

The "Most Haunting and Disconcerting Section" of the Sermon on the Mount!



Re-thinking the "Sermon on the Mount." The wise person builds on the rock, and the foolish person builds on what is temporary! Jesus calls the foundations rock and sand! The foolish build on the temporal, on what can be seen and measured. The wise build on the spiritual, what is unseen and eternal! Since we are flesh and blood people, we have an intuitive attraction to build on what can be seen and measured. Then, Jesus comes along and challenges us to "rethink." He says, don't build your life on the here and now, but build on the there and then. To be effective, salt and light need to be different from things that they are a part of! It can be hard, but being at a place of mourning can be a time of blessing! Persecution can be a blessing! Doing your prayers, fasting and good deeds in secret is the way that most honors God. Rethink.

Who are these "wolves in sheep's clothing?" (Matt. 7:15-23) Who are these obviously religious, "right wing," "evangelical," "fundamental,"

"ultra conservative" people who prophesy, drive out demons, and perform miracles in Christ's name; but who are ultimately rejected by Jesus? Who are these religious people that Jesus called "evildoers." Jesus said that they looked righteous, went to church every Sunday, dropped their checks in the collection plate and made their e-giving pledges, but He really never knew them.

Why did Jesus not know the apparently religious elite of His day? Why not? Their fruit! When all was said and done, more was said than done! They were rejected by Jesus because of their rotten fruit! What "fruit," you ask? Obedience from the heart! "Not everyone who says to me Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven." (Matt. 7:21)

This passage is what Randy Harris calls the "most haunting and disconcerting section of the Sermon on the Mount!" (p. 126)

- Committed to Obedience from the Heart, **Dan**



Dan Cooper aka "Dan, Dan, the Preacherman"

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Welcome Center!

It Was an Eggstravaganza!





Last Sunday 1300 Easter Eggs stuffed with goodies (by the Pearl family) were scattered around the church building for our annual Egg Hunt. After some lunch and activities in the Family Life Center, the children moved outside to enjoy the beautiful spring weather and to collect lots of goodies. There were 68 children who participated, and about seventy five percent were visitors! Many flyers and invitations to our Easter Sunday service, Community Yard Sale, Health Fair, and VBS were given to our guests.

We want to give a hearty THANKS to **Aaron and Jenn Pearl and their daughters** for doing all the coordination, preparation, lunch, and set up for this event. And we also thank everyone who invited our guests.

Women's Friendship Friday DATE CHANGE!

Friendship Friday HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED TO FRIDAY, MAY 5,

AT 7:00 PM. By popular request, we will have our own version of "Painting with a Twist" in our own building with a special guest teacher. Everyone will leave with their own painting - YES, you really can paint!! Come at 7:00 pm for



snacks and fellowship. We will start painting at 7:30 pm sharp and end with a short devotional by 9:00 pm. Please SIGN UP if you plan to attend - we must have your name in order to purchase supplies. A donation of \$5.00 to cover expenses is requested when you sign up. Plan to come and enjoy yourself, and bring a friend! Sign up starting this Sunday at the Welcome Center.

-Janet Betts & Donna Mychajlowycz, Women's Embrace Ministry

IN THE NAME OF THE KING, Junior/Senior High Retreat on April 21-22, for teens in grades 7-12.

Speakers are Eric Williamson and Scott Rutherford.



Early registration is \$30, and includes program, activities, a light dinner and snacks on Friday night, one night in a summer cabin, breakfast and lunch on Saturday. (Late registration after April 14th is \$40.)

Visit www.manatawny.org for information/registration.

New Baby



We didn't have much information last week, so we wanted to make the appropriate fuss over the latest little addition to our Pitman Road family. **Matteo Mendez** was born on March 30, arriving three weeks earlier than expected. He weighed in at a healthy 7 lbs., 13 oz. Congratulations again to **Will and Kristy**, and grandparents **John and Kathy**!

New Birth!



Last Sunday, we rejoiced with Mark Frock as he was baptized into Christ! Mark was originally invited here by former member Tim McBride. He visited with us on Sundays and Wednesdays, more recently becoming a regular attendee. He's also attended Monday Night Men's Bible Study and Tuesday Morning Men's Prayer Time. Mark has two wonderful children, Shane and Audrey, who fit right in with the children here at Pitman Road. We welcome you all into our church family!

Mark shared a thoughtful prayer with us at the conclusion of the Love Circle after his baptism, and we'd like to share it again here:

Dear God,

You teach us through the scriptures to love and to share our faith. You command us to go out into the world and be soldiers for you and to be ambassadors of your Word.

We ask that you bless us, Lord.

We ask that you give us the courage and fortitude to do your bidding.

We ask that you keep us strong, Lord, so that we may be instruments of YOUR will.

We ask that you fill our hearts, and our church, with the overwhelming love of the Holy Spirit.

All glory to you, Lord.

We ask these things in Jesus name. Amen.

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	155
Worship	259
LIFE Groups	92
Wednesday	60
Contribution	\$13,498
Fiscal YTD Goal	\$416,480.00
Contribution YTD	\$380,210.00
Budget Deficit	(\$36,270.00)

Ministers
Dan Cooper, Evangelistdcooper@cochrist.org
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Mike Lazar teacher.engineer@comcast.net
John Peoples 609-617-7451
Dave Perine davidt.perine@comcast.net
Dwight Thompson
dothompson@comcast.net

Elder on Call for April: Horatio Fenton

Serving Us Today

Nursery Hope DeStefano
Kids For Christ Manny Vander Vennen

Jr. Worship Brian Mansdoerfer

Greeters: Front Entrance Justin & Rebecca Guy

Greeters: Back Entrance Linda Prenger & Joe Marshall

Information Center Diana Hutchinson

Ushers Jonathan Hooley & Kareem Lazarus

Shepherd's Call Dwight Thompson
Song Leader Mike Broyles
Communion Brian Holden

LIFE Group	Location	Contact
Ageless	Refuge at 5:30	
Beginning Anew	Church Bldg. at noon	856-589-1500
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 at 5:30	
Men's Bible Study	Church Bldg., Monday at 7pm	856-217-3956
Paracletes	TBA: Call for info.	856-449-9656
Solid Gold	Refuge at 5:30	
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 at 5:30	609-226-4031
Young Married	Call or text for time & location	856-899-9466

Wednesday Night Meal: Hoagies

Cooks: Linda Kutznetzoff

This Week's Prayer Requests

<u>Praise:</u> It was wonderful to see Mandy Mansdoerfer, Larry Kellum, Pat and Ted Schuehler, and Greg and Linda Krinks here last Sunday! AND we had a wonderful turn out for our egg hunt!

Sunday Morning Responses:

Carolyn Dargan thanked the congregation for the prayers during the illness and passing of her brother Elijah Harris, Jr.

Andreana Barefield requested prayer for her upcoming trip to India, as well as for the recent, tragic loses of two close friends.

Larry Kellum, Sr. thanked the congregation for their prayers and support since his hospitalization and treatment for MDS. He wants everyone to know that he is doing well.

Prayers Requested:

Glynn and Debbie Durham met with Glynn's oncologist this past Wednesday. The decision was made to discontinue chemo.

Doryann Seitz will be having a total hysterectomy this Tuesday, April 11; please pray for a successful surgery.

Barbara Robinson will be having another procedure on April 24th to hopefully relieve nerve pain in her back/neck.

Mary Mishoe, Jayne De Prince's mother, had a serious fall on Thursday. She should be okay, but was hospitalized

Jim Hightower is recovering at home from a heart catheterization and insertion of stents.

Horatio Fenton, recovering from radioactive iodine treatment. **Larry Kellum, Sr.,** treatment for Myelodysplastic syndromes (MDS). He is at home. Visits are welcome, please call first.

Mandy Mansdoerfer, continues recovery at home.

Mary Collier continues her recovery from spinal fusion surgery at home. Please pray that she can serve God as she recovers.

Sympathy

We extend our sympathy to **Anita O'Hara** on the passing of her eldest son, Garry. You may send cards to Anita at the address in the church directory.

We also extend our sympathy to **Debbie Cammorata** and her family on the passing of her nephew, Albert Calascione, Jr., age 27.

Thank You for Your Generosity!



To all of our wonderful members who helped with and supported the blanket drive for the homeless:

Together we were able to provide a bit of warmth for 186 individuals over a wide area. We donated 76 blankets to the Feed the Hungry program in Trenton. Fifty blankets were distributed at a site in Bridgeton. And the last 60 blankets were distributed in Camden. Your generous donations of time and money may have saved a few lives this winter.

May God multiply back to you for what you have given to so many. Thank you, thank you, thank you!!!

Your Sister in Christ, Barbara Robinson



