October 8, 2017 Volume 33, Issue 41

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

# transi ions

Last Sunday we were encouraged by Greg Anderson, from Hope Network, who shared with us during our class time and preached the sermon. The subject of both his messages was "Transition".

We are entering a season of change at Pitman Road and the elders have engaged Hope Network to help us as we set out to search for a new minister. But Greg, in his messages, reminded us that we must prepare ourselves for that change by understanding where we are as a congregation and where we believe the Lord wants us to go in the coming years.

All transitions begin with an ending, which may require losing or letting go. When change is unavoidable, we may find it very difficult to let go of what has come before. We may experience anger, anxiety, sadness or confusion. We may try to bargain or



negotiate, hoping that we can somehow push the change aside and return to the way things were. All of these emotional reactions are signs of grieving, and they are perfectly NORMAL. We must expect them and accept them before we can move ahead.

And once we start to move ahead, we enter a "Neutral Zone". The past is behind us, but the new reality has not yet arrived. In fact, we may not yet even have the future clearly in focus. During such a time (which may last months), we must avoid simply putting our car in "neutral" and going along for the ride. Instead, we must remain in gear and committed to the following devotions found in **Romans 12** –

Speak grace intentionally and often [v3]

Pray earnestly for a healthy transition [v12]

Love one another sincerely (take off our masks, be real with each other) [v9]

Be devoted to one another in familial love and prize our spiritual brothers and sisters [v10]

Fight against the evil schemes of the devil, who tries to exploit times of change and divide God's people [vv 9,17, 21]

Cling to (wrap our arms tightly around) what is good [v9]

Don't become slothful (kicking back, waiting lazily during the transition) [v11]

Keep our spiritual fervor (ask God to light the fire under us, so we are boiling over with spiritual conviction), as we continue to serve the Lord during this period of change [v11]

Be good to each other! [vv 9 & 21]

We encourage you to read and re-read Romans 12! Or you might even memorize Romans 12!

If we devote ourselves to living in this way, the Lord will see us through this transition and lead us into a future of new possibilities. The Lord sees our future. He knows what is best for us. Let us trust Him and living in harmony and at peace with one another [vv 16 & 18] as we transition!

In the coming days, additional information will be shared by our elders about how we will navigate through this transition. But if you have any specific questions, please feel free to speak with them.

Andy Mychajlowycz

### From Daniel's Den

#### Tangible Take-Aways on Transitions from Last Sunday with Greg Anderson!

- Sometimes when things get tough, that's when God does His best work.
- Prayer is the most critical component of a healthy transition.
- Intentionally speak a lot of grace to one another (Acts. 20:32)
- Keep watch for coalitions and self-appointed "messiahs."
- During times of transition, we frequently experience strong emotions 10:37-38).
- Check yourself frequently...your head and your heart.
- Use the pronoun "we" more than you use the pronoun "I."
- Pray daily for our shepherds.
- Read Romans 12 daily. (Memorize Romans 12!)
- "A beloved minister is preparing for the next chapter of his life."
- We get into trouble when we live out of our biology rather than living out of our theology.

"Time is Filled with Swift Transition..."

I Love You One and All, Dan

Thank you to the 114 people who completed the questionnaire. This was a great response.



Dan Cooper aka "Dan, Dan, the Preacherman"

Prayer is the most critical component of a healthy transition.



Mike Broyles Elder

"...expect Him to do something great..."

## Shepherd's Voice

(Acts

Fall is here! The holiday season is just around the corner. October, November and December make up my favorite three-month combo. And if I were forced to select my favorite day of these three months, I would say Christmas Eve. What is it about Christmas Eve that makes it so special to me? That answer is simple; it's the <u>anticipation</u>.

As a child, the anticipation was almost unbearable as there was such expectation for what was to come on Christmas morning. As a parent, I had such a warm joyous feeling as I anticipated seeing my children on that special morning. Even now, though my children are no longer little, I can hardly wait to share the morning with Tina, Jacob and Jessica. I know many of you share these sentiments. I hope you share these others. In a way, every Saturday night is like December 24th. Now, take it easy... I said "like December 24th." I am being honest. On Saturday night, as I think about the next morning, I have a measure of anticipation and expectation. I <u>expect</u> to see my church family and <u>anticipate</u> catching up, smiling, laughing and sharing. I wonder what I will learn and contribute in Bible class. I look forward to "Sunday Caroling" together.

Greg Anderson reminded us that we are in a season. Our *Transition Season* can be a time of expectation and anticipation... *if we let it*. Let's eagerly anticipate what our heavenly Father will do, expect Him to do something great, and unwrap His blessing with appreciation and love.

" If you being evil know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give what is good to those who ask Him." Matthew 7:11 Mike





# Saturday, October 21 2:00-4:00 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!



Wednesday, October 25 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!

There will be no regular classes! come and decorate your car, mix and mingle with church kids and visitors. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to Make a Difference and to touch someone with the love of Jesus.

Attention Women!

Our Fall 2017 Prayer groups are beginning! We will be praying together for the months of October, November and December. \*\*

Three groups that are presently meeting:

- 1. Millville / Vineland group: Yvonne Pearl's home
- 2. Sewell group: Gloria Myerson's home
- 3. Conference call by phone group: Melody Davis or Carla

If you are not already a part of these groups but would like to be, or for more information on meeting dates and times, please call the contact person.

If you would like to propose another location/date/time, it is not too late! Let us know! 

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Let us make time for prayer with our sisters as often as we can.

Brenda Busch and Diana Hutchinson

#### Unity Worship Service

Tristate Areas Churches of Christ Presents - Unity Worship Service - October 29th at 3pm. Lehigh Valley church of Christ (3400 Broadhead Rd, Bethlehem, PA 18020.)

#### Our Schedule Sundav

9:00 am Bible Classes 10:00 am Worship

Wednesday 7:00 pm Bible Classes

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

Last Week	
Bible Class	128
Worship	216
LIFE Groups	128
Wednesday	n/c
Contribution	\$10,599.00
Weekly Goal	\$9868.00

Ministers			
Dan Cooper, Evangelist	dcooper@cochrist.org		
	856-589-4197		
Derrick Busch, Minister	dbusch@cochrist.org		
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Dave Perine	davidt.perine@comcast.net		
Dwight Thompson	609-561-8561-home, 609-287-0109-cell		
	dothompson@comcast.net		
Elder on Call for September and October: John Peoples			

#### Serving Us Today

Nursery Judi Campbell
Kids For Christ Jessica Froman
Jr. Worship Brian Mansdoerfer

Greeters: Front Entrance Derrick Busch & Debby Durham

Greeters: Back Entrance Corny & Phyllis Walker
Information Center Brenda Peoples
Ushers John & Corey Peoples

Shepherd's Call Brian Holden
Song Leader Mike Broyles

Communion Andy Mychajlowycz

LIFE Group	Location	Contact
Ageless	Cooper's at Noon	856-981-9755
Brook Besor	Durham's Tuesday at 7 pm	856-589-2280
Circle of Sisters	Sbaraglia's Monday at 7pm	856-419-0544
Cornerstone	Church Bldg. rm B2 at noon	609-226-4031
Hammonton	Broyle's at 6 pm	609-561-8532
Life Challenges	Church Bldg. rm B4 at noon	267-303-4877
Men's Bible Study	Church Bldg. Monday at 7 pm	856-217-3956
Solid Gold	Lazar's Noon	856-223-1699
Teens	Church Bldg. at noon	610-476-9057
Vineland	H. Pearl's at 6pm	856-839-0051
Women in the Word	Church Bldg. rm B4 Tues. 9:45 am	856-981-9754
Young Married	Adam's @1pm	609-922-2581

### This Week's Prayer Requests

**PRAISE:** Barby Jo Crema received great news from Jefferson doctors on Monday! Her liver and lungs are stable! No treatment needed again! Her next scans won't be done until the end of November! God is so good! Thank you for all of your prayers! **PRAYERS:** 

**Elinda Hunter** came home the same day from her knee surgery. All is going well. She can walk and put weight on it already. She will be on pain meds for a day or two and then there will be a therapy regimen. Continued prayers are appreciated. GIGATTATTGIG.

**Pat Schuehler** is continuing to make daily progress. She is still hospitalized.

### Thank you Message

To our loving church family, Derek & I appreciate your kind expression of sympathy in our recent sorrow. The resolution, the beautiful flowers and cards of condolences for our brother/brother-in-law meant so much to us. Thank you for keeping us in your thoughts and prayers. Leza & Derek

#### DIRECTORY INFORMATION

If you are getting your information from our old directory, you need to stop using it and use our current on-line directory. If you are unable to use the on-line directory please see Dottie to get a printed copy. A lot of the information in the old directory is out dated or incorrect. Thank You!









