



PITMAN ROAD

CHURCH OF CHRIST

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www.pitmanroadcoc.com

Merry Christmas!

We're glad you're here.

A child is born in an obscure village. He is brought up in another obscure village. He works in a carpenter shop until he is thirty, and then for three brief years is an itinerant preacher, proclaiming a message and living a life. He never writes a book. He never holds an office.

He never raises an army. He never has a family of his own. He never owns a home. He never goes to college.

He never travels two hundred miles from the place where he was born. He gathers a little group of friends about him and teaches them his way of life. While still a young man, the tide of popular feeling turns against him. One denies him; another betrays him. He is

turned over to his enemies. He goes through the mockery of a trial; he is nailed to a cross between two thieves, and when dead is laid in a borrowed grave by the kindness of a friend.

Those are the facts of his human life. He rises from the dead. Today we look back across nineteen hundred years and ask, What kind of trail has he left across the centuries? When we try to sum up his influence, all the armies that ever marched, all the parliaments that ever sat, all the kings that ever reigned are absolutely

picayune in their influence on mankind compared with that of this **one solitary life...**

-Dr. James Allen Francis

Our Mission

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

From Daniel's Den

Be The Gift (Part 2)

'Tis the season that we're all thinking about giving gifts. Gifts for spouses, children, co-workers, and strangers. The biggest and best gift arrived in a manger in Bethlehem 2000 years ago! Due to that gift, we're all thinking about gift giving now.

Here's a novel idea, what if each of us simply decided that rather than giving gifts, we would individually "be the gift" that is given? ***Be the Gift*** is the title of the latest book by a favorite writer of mine, Ann Voskamp. Maybe, even more important than giving gifts, Jesus wants us to "be the gift" given. How can you and I "be the gift?" Remember...

- ☼ It is better to give than to receive because it's only when we give that we receive what we really need. (p.90)
- ☼ Someone is not going to show up like you need them to, someone is going to complain that you're not fair and you can't do that, and somebody is going to make it clear that you've got it really wrong. There are "Job's buddies" in every crowd. (p. 93)
- ☼ Heart-shattered lives ready for love don't for a moment escape God's notice...The sacrifice that is pleasing to God is a broken spirit. Ps. 51:17 (p. 102)
- ☼ You've never stood in the majesty of an oak that didn't come from a busted seed. (p. 106)
- ☼ "If today were your last, would you do what you're doing? Or would you love more, give more, forgive more? Then do so! Forgive and give as if it were your last opportunity. Love like there's no tomorrow, and if tomorrow comes, love again." Max Lucado (p. 108)
- ☼ Christ goes to the cross, and we are invited to follow to the same cross. (p. 111)

I am not in the habit of advertising books in this column, but this is a book I highly recommend. It touched my soul deeply!

You and I can "Be the Gift," **Dan**



Dan Cooper
aka
**"Dan, Dan,
the Preacherman"**

What if each
of us decided
that rather
than giving
gifts,
we would
individually
"be the gift?"

A Little About Us.....

The Pitman Road Church of Christ is a diverse body of believers from communities across southern New Jersey and into Pennsylvania and Delaware. Although we come from different geographic locations, cultural, and economic backgrounds, we share one important thing: relationship with Jesus. We enjoy a strong, loving fellowship; you will find that many of our members have close personal relationships with one another that extend beyond the walls of our building. We strive to not only serve one another, but to be the hands and feet of Jesus in our communities.

We sum up our core values simply: we value **HEARTS**:



Humility, for we are all broken and in need of God's grace.

Encouraging personal growth in knowledge and service.

Attracting individuals from diverse backgrounds.

Reaching outside the walls of our building.

Teaching God's Word in meaningful and relevant ways.

Strengthening relationships in marriages, families and friendships.

If you would like to know more about us, or speak with one of our ministers or shepherds, please contact our church office at 856-589-1500. We would love to hear from you!



All children will stay with their families during our special worship service this morning. Nursery will be available for our youngest children who are under the age of three years.
Thank you!



Coming Up at Pitman Road



Please come back and join us on Sunday, January 14, at 5:30-7:30 pm for REFUGE.

This is our monthly time of fellowship, refreshments, and live praise music. This month we will center our thoughts on ***Resolutions, goals, intentions—what's the difference? And where can we find God in our New Year's plans?*** All ages are welcome! Come as you are!



This Friday, all young adults are welcome for a relaxing get together with the Cornerstone group during the most wonderful time of the year. Momma Perine will be providing a taco salad dinner, so bring your appetite and some drinks and desserts to go along with our meal! We will

start eating at around 6:30pm. Feel free to bring friends along! We will have some games planned, ping pong, and foosball.

CHRISTMAS OUTFIT CONTEST: This can be your most hilarious ugly sweater, a onesie, a suit made of Christmas lights, or something better! There will be a prize for the winner! We can't wait to see you there! Please **RSVP** to mallorykeeks@gmail.com

Join us on Sunday, February 4, for our annual "Souper" Super Bowl Sunday Pre-Game Party!

Right after our 10 am worship service, come and share a soup, chili, and sandwich lunch with us. This is one of our most beloved and longstanding traditions!

Later, there will be Super Bowl parties in various homes. More information on locations coming soon!



Do you have a craft hobby that you enjoy, ...but can't seem to find time for amid daily chores and distractions at home? Then "Bring Your Own Craft Day" is for you!

Every other month we meet in our Family Life Center for an afternoon of uninterrupted crafting. **Our next Bring Your Own Craft Day is Saturday, January 27, noon to 5pm.** Snacks are served. Everyone is welcome! Need more information? Call Dottie in our church office at 856-589-1500.



Bible Studies and Prayer Time



We have two weekly Bible studies that meet at our building. Whether you know a lot or very little about the Bible, these studies are for you!

Monday Night Men's Bible Study meets here weekly at 7:00-8:15 pm. Coffee and light snacks are served. All men are invited! The

next meeting of Monday Night Men's Bible Study is on January 8.

Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study meets here weekly at 9:45-11:30 am. Child care is provided. All women are invited! The next meeting of Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study is on January 9.

We also meet together regularly for prayer:

Men's Prayer Time meets at our building three times each week (for approximately 1 hour): Tuesdays at 10:00 am, Fridays at 6:45 am, and Saturdays at 8:00 am.

Women's Prayer Groups form several times each year. Groups meet in various locations or by phone. Our next groups will be forming soon! Please let us know if you'd like to be contacted when our next groups/partners are forming. Call our church office at 856-589-1500 to leave your contact information.

Serving Family Promise



Several years ago, our members were seeking a regular mission opportunity here in our own community. Two of our members specifically brought **Family Promise of Gloucester County** to the attention of our shepherds. In January of 2014, we began hosting **Family Promise** for 4 weeks each year.

The mission of **Family Promise of Gloucester County** is "to provide homeless families an opportunity to achieve stability by providing shelter, food, case management, and hospitality while simultaneously utilizing resources within local congregations and the community."

Family Promise consists of congregations of all faiths, working together to provide homeless families a chance to regain their independence and maintain their dignity.

Our **Family Promise** coordinator here at Pitman Road is **John Ashton**. Most Sundays you will find John at the "Family Promise table" in our lobby, recruiting volunteers for upcoming **Family Promise Host Weeks**, of which our next is coming soon... **January 21-28**. Approximately 50 volunteer positions are needed to staff one host week. If you are interested in filling one or more of those open positions, please see John today in the lobby!

Our Schedule

Sunday

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	143
Worship	234
LIFE Groups	99
Wednesday	32
Contribution	\$9,308.00
Weekly Goal	\$9868.00

This Week's Prayer Requests

Russell Foreman, Jessica's husband, had a heart attack last Wednesday. Doctors cleared a 100% blockage and planned to clear another, hopefully complete by now.

Dean Gardner, a friend of La'Verne Daniels, a dialysis patient, having to make an unexpected move to upstate New York.

Jason Hall, Sandy and Frank Sheehan's grandson, recovering from surgery to remove his gall bladder and appendix.

Dwight Thompson, lymphoma; chemotherapy.

JoAnn Ruhland, broken bones in her leg and foot.

Mike Lazar still dealing with lack of arm use due to a pinched nerve in the area of his neck.

Isaac Isaziga will have spinal fusion surgery to correct and stop scoliosis on January 18. The surgery will take about 4 hours and he will be in the hospital for 5 days. Carlos is requesting our prayers.

Ray Holmes, prostate cancer; will have radiation, date TBD.

Cindy Holden is recovering from wrist surgery.

Jacob Thies, another round of chemotherapy begins tomorrow.

Ministers

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Elder on Call for December: Dave Perine

Serving Us Today

Nursery	Robin Steward
Kids For Christ	Children sit with family today.
Jr. Worship	Children sit with family today.
Greeters: Front Entrance	Andy & Donna Mychajlowycz
Greeters: Back Entrance	Patricia Monteleone
Information Center	Gwen Phillip & Mary Collier
Ushers	Lee Collier & Harold Pearl
Shepherd's Call	Mike Broyles
Song Leader	Garth Hutchinson
Communion	Tim Davis

LIFE Group	Location	Contact
Ageless	Winter Break/Resumes Jan. 7	
Brook Besor	Winter Break/Resumes Jan. 9	
Circle of Sisters	Winter Break/Resumes Jan. 8	
Cornerstone	Winter Break/Resumes Jan. 7	
Hammonton	Winter Break/Resumes Jan. 7	
Life Challenges	Winter Break/Resumes Jan. 7	
Men's Bible Study	Winter Break/Resumes Jan. 8	
Solid Gold	Winter Break/Resumes Jan. 7	
Teens	Winter Break/Resumes Jan. 7	
Vineland	Winter Break/Resumes Jan. 7	
Women in the Word	Winter Break/Resumes Jan. 9	
Young Married	Winter Break/Resumes Jan. 8	

Find Us on Social Media:

 @pitmanroadcoc  www.facebook.com/pitmanroadchurchofchrist  @pitmanroadchurch

While you are visiting with us, someone may mention **LIFE Groups**. LIFE Groups are an important part of our church.

LIFE stands for **Love, Involvement, Fellowship and Evangelism**.



LIFE Groups have been designed for our members to connect with each other in a small group setting. LIFE Groups typically meet from September through May.

Groups usually form to meet

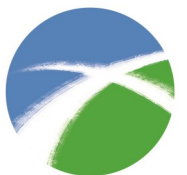
specific needs within the church family; there are groups for families, adults only, men only, women only, young adults, and teens. Groups may also form for geographical convenience. Groups typically meet on Sunday afternoon and evening, but there are groups that meet during the week. Groups meet at the church building or in various homes.

We love to have guests at our LIFE Groups! Most of our groups are on a break for the holidays and begin meeting again the week of Sunday, January 7. We invite you to visit a group of your choice. If you are interested to know more about our current LIFE Groups, visit the Welcome Center for a booklet listing our current groups with information on meeting times, geographical locations, and other specifics.

Want to know more about who we are and what is happening at Pitman Road? Go to our website at

www.pitmanroadcoc.com. There, you can read our mission, vision, core values and beliefs; check out our ministries; and also find out more about our new Bible education program for adults. For all of the latest news and events, the homepage links to our weekly bulletin.

There is also an event calendar which is updated regularly.



Also, follow us on social media!