July 15, 2018 Volume 34, Issue 28

CHURCH OF CHRIST

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# The Christian Chronicle Celebrates 75 Years

On June 2, 1943, the first issue of the *Christian Chronicle* was published. **Olin Hicks**, founder, publisher, and editor, stated in his first editorial in that issue, "The reason for publishing this paper is to stir up missionary zeal and activity among members of the church everywhere and to give all a broad vision of the opportu-



Here is a summary of some of his other points of policy outlined in that first editorial:

- The Christian Chronicle was begun with the purpose of publishing all the news of the Churches of Christ that is worthy of being published.
- The *Chronicle* will maintain a firm and vigorous editorial policy; it will not become a gossip column; it will not go into coalition with special interest groups.
- The *Chronicle* will not be used as a clearinghouse of scandals and petty rivalries.
- The *Chronicle* is not published for the purpose of making money.

Out of those initial policies and purpose comes the current mission statement: "The *Christian Chronicle* exists to inform, inspire and unite Churches of Christ with stories about our fellowship at home and around the world."

At the time of its inception, the *Chronicle* differed with other existing publications associated with the Churches of Christ in that it did not promote doctrine or publish teaching pieces. The paper strived to deliver news and networking with the primary goal to inform and promote mission work. If you are even a casual reader of the *Chronicle*, you will already have taken note of its emphasis on articles reporting on both domestic and international mission work and evangelism. You may have also noted a strong editorial content, some of which may not always "toe the line" of "traditional" church opinion, which also follows with the initial intent of Olin Hicks.

Although not specifically stated at the time Hicks began the paper, but also in keeping with his mission and purpose to inform and "give a broad vision of the… responsibilities of the church today," is the *Chronicle's* emphasis on racial reconciliation within the Churches of Christ. From the ground-breaking meeting in an Atlanta hotel of 40 black and white Church of Christ ministers in the tumultuous summer of 1968, and continuing today, the *Chronicle* has reported on, with truth and frankness, the state of racism within our fellowship. The publication holds up a sometime unflattering magnifying glass to the charged issue of relationships between "black and white" churches that holds the churches of Christ at large, and each of us individually, accountable to God's Word in Galatians 3:28, "There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus."

We congratulate the Christian Chronicle on 75 years of faithful service to God's kingdom through the written word! –Annette Perine

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** If you open up the current July issue to page 5, you will see the wonderful photo of our babies and their families taken on Mother's Day this year! You can also read more about the history of the publication.

Because your elders and ministerial staff so much appreciate this periodical, we subscribe for all new members and we send a check to **The Christian Chronicle** each year to support their work. Individuals have the opportunity to make donations during their annual financial drive. If you don't receive this excellent periodical, and would like to, please let Dottie know and we will add you to their mailing list. Also, if you'd like to receive John Clayton's bimonthly periodical, let Dottie know that and we will add you to that mailing list as well. There is no subscription cost for either of these excellent publications. **-Dan** 

# Informational Meeting on Women's Roles

Over last 3 months our Christian sisters have filled several public roles that are new for our fellowship. Your elders and ministerial staff want you to be aware that we have scheduled an informational meeting to share our vision for this changing role. If you would like to know more about this new direction, you are invited to attend.

This meeting will begin at **11:45 am on Sunday, July 29.** It should conclude no later than **12:45 pm**. Several of your elders and ministers will present our plan for the way forward. This will not be an open forum, but your leadership will present those things that you can expect to see, and expect not to see, as we share a path forward. -On behalf of the elders, *Mike Broyles* 

## Our Mission

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

# From Daniel's Den

## Thai Boys Soccer Team Rescued -As the World Watched, Waited, then Rejoiced!

All twelve members of a youth soccer team and their coach were successfully rescued from a cave in Thailand just days ago, where they had been stranded for more than two weeks. Four boys were rescued by expert divers on Sunday, July 8; another four were freed Monday, July 9; and the last four boys and their coach were brought to safety on Tuesday, July 10.

Two divers were assigned to each child to help them navigate the dangerous, narrow passageways. Some were brought to the emergency vehicles on stretchers, and all were taken to the hospital. "We are not sure if this is a miracle, a science, or what. All the thirteen Wild Boars are now out of the cave," said a post on the Thai Navy Seals Facebook page, referring to the name of the boys' soccer team. "Everyone is safe." The boys were rescued by an international team of professionals working together, headed by a Thai Navy SEAL team. Tragically, in the process of preparing for the rescue, one of the SEAL team members died.

This entire story reminded me of our own salvation. Much planning, cooperation, hope, expectation, danger, even loss of life, and finally deliverance. The rescue effort in Thailand took days to set up, and great expense was incurred before the last boys were rescued. There was nothing they could do on their own. They were doomed to die without help from above.

In the same way, much planning, cooperation, danger, and even the loss of life had to be experienced before we could be delivered from certain death. Our deliverer was not a Thai SEAL Team, but a baby born and placed in a manger 2,000 years ago. Our Savior risked it all! And, it was very expensive. He paid with His life, in order that we might be saved from certain death in a deep hole of despair.

Angels in heaven and a host of Christians are still watching and waiting for lost to be rescued. And when any lost person is rescued, there is great rejoicing! (Lk. 15:10)

Dan the Rejoicing Preacherman



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

Our deliverer was not a Thai SEAL Team, but a baby born and placed in a manger 2,000 years ago.

We're All A Mess



Derrick Busch Minister

Finding ourselves in need of encouragement can definitely be placed under the category of "the inevitable storms of life..."

## "How can we be an encouragement to others when we need encouragement ourselves?"

The body of Christ at Pitman Road was both encouraged and challenged by Matt Fortunato during our Vacation Bible School last month. I love and appreciate Matt deeply and I'm always inspired by his passion and conviction for the Word of God. Thank you brother! There were many theological and practical aspects of this awesome VBS that intrigued me. But there was one question during the panel discussion that caught my attention. "How can we be an encouragement to others when we need encouragement ourselves?" This question caught my attention for two reason: First, it drew my mind to 2 Corinthians 1:1-11, where we see God as both the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort whenever we find ourselves in the inevitable storms of life. Finding ourselves in need of encouragement can definitely be placed under the category of "the inevitable storms of life," because we live on a sin cursed earth. As you know, it doesn't take much for us to find ourselves, sometimes without warning, in a whirlwind of self-inflicted or otherwise mental discouragement and despair of the soul. Remember Psalm 43:5? We place our hope in God because He knows what we need, and when we need it; that includes encouragement! God's people are on the way! Second, I found in the answer to this question, purpose. Again, according to 2 Corinthians 1:1-11, amongst other things, this text is calling us to rely on God, not ourselves; and then from a practical steps approach, comfort others with the comfort that we ourselves received from God. Has God ever comforted you? If we're going to live-out God's calling on our lives as encouragers, while needing encouragement ourselves, we must resolve the following facts about the character and will of God in our hearts by: resting in the compassionate God of all comfort, putting our hope in God, and begin seeing discouragement and the need for encouragement as purposeful; knowing that it helps us to learn to rely on God. Finally, make the choice to encourage someone with the comfort you received from God. Be others centered!

God's grace, Derrick



# goodnews

Congratulations to Larry and Bert Kellum on their 50th wedding anniversary! The Kellums celebrated 50 years of marriage on July 13.

Emma Vander Vennen was baptized by her dad, Manny, on the evening of Friday, July 6.

When asked "Why do I want to be baptized, and what does my baptism mean to me?" she said, "To me, baptism means my sins are getting washed away by Jesus' blood, and I get to start new. It also means that I will be one of Jesus' followers, and I become

closer to God. I want to be baptized because I get closer to God, and form a relationship with him. I don't want the burden of sins on my shoulders. When I am baptized those sins will be lifted off of my shoulders and I will feel re-born." Emma was born and raised here at Pitman Road, and now we can rejoice as we count her as a sister in Christ! Congratulations Emma!

Three of our outstanding young women received awards at Camp Manatawny for Senior High 2 week (11th & 12th grade). Jade Adams received First Place Best Athlete and Second Place Best Crafts. Cassidy Davis received First Place Best Camper and Second Place Best Bible Student. Sara Pearl received First Place Best Crafts. Congratulations to all three of you on your achievements! If your child receives "end of week" awards at camp, please let Annette know at annette.perine@gmail.com.



Brianna Peoples completed the Civil Air Patrol 7 Day New Jersey Wing Basic Encampment on Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst. It is a rigorous "boot camp" style program. Congratulations Cadet Peoples on your successful completion of the program!

# Congratulations Graduates!

We continue our focus on our high school graduates this week! Congratulations to all our graduates!

Jade Marie Adams graduated from Williamstown High School. Jade played soccer throughout her four years of high school, and also for a college showcase team, Woodstown Eclipse, since she was a freshman! She was a member of the Williamstown High School JROTC and was involved in many clubs. She was active in the Pitman Road Youth Group, and a camper and volunteer at Camp Manatawny.

Jade will be attending **Rowan University** in the fall and then will apply to the **U.S. Naval Academy** in Annapolis, MD. She hopes to serve in the Navy as a **mechanical engineer**.





Morgan Lynn Pearl graduated from Salem County Vocational Technical High School. She was in enrolled in the Allied Health Program. She graduated 12th among students in her class. Morgan was involved in JROTC, HOSA, (Health Occupation Students of America), and Civil Air Patrol. In her junior year, she became a certified emergency medical technician (EMT) and volunteers at Norma Alliance Fire and Rescue. Her senior year, she completed a course to be a certified nurse assistant

(CNA). Morgan was recognized as the

Most Outstanding Student for Allied Professionals. She received the Miller Keystone Blood Center HOSA Scholarship and the Yhlen Family Nursing Excellence Scholarship. Morgan has been an active member of the Pitman Road Youth Group, a camper and staff member at Camp Manatawny, has volunteered at the Gift of Life Family House in Philadelphia, and holds a part-time job at Boscov's in Vineland!

Morgan has been accepted at **Salem County College** in their nursing program. She is currently taking two summer college classes to prepare for the fall semester. Her long term career goal is to become a **Nurse Practitioner**.

# Opportunity to Make a Difference!

As a congregation, we have been supporting the mission work of **THEA (The Haiti Education Alliance)** in different ways since it formed after the 2010 earthquake that devastated the island. **Carl Steiner** and other members of Pitman Road have travelled numerous times to Haiti to support the work. **Cynthia Mudd,** founder and president of THEA, visited us a few months ago to share an update on their mission efforts. Since that time, many expressed interest in helping with the educational program THEA provides in Haiti. They need books! The link below provides a convenient opportunity to help purchase the books they need. Please contact me if you have any questions. Thank you for any-thing you can do. In Christ, *Mandy Mansdoerfer* 

To donate, go to: <u>https://fundraiser.processdonation.org/</u> Fundraiser/donate.aspx?fid=1I50D4F2HD

Our Schedule	Last Week	
Sunday 9:00 am Bible Classes 10:00 am Worship	Bible Class	107
Wednesday	Worship	215
7:00 pm Bible Classes Office Hours	LIFE Groups	NA
Tuesday - Friday 8:30 am - 4:30 pm	Wednesday	39

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Elder on Call for July and August: Garth Hutchinson

#### Serving Us Today

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Nursery	ТВА
Kids For Christ	Summer Break
Jr. Worship	Summer Break
Greeters: Front Entrance	Brian & Cindy Holden
Greeters: Back Entrance	Mandy Mansdoerfer & Pat Monteleone
Information Center	Jackie Fenton
Ushers	Andy & Donna Mychajlowycz
Shepherd's Call	Horatio Fenton
Song Leader	Mike Broyles
Communion	TBA



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# This Week's Prayer Requests

Je'Ani Lyles continues to make great progress! Cards can be sent to: Bloomberg 10 South, 1800 Orlean St., Baltimore, MD 21287 Kareem Rutledge, Jr. continues his stay at Magee Rehabilitation Hospital. He is making great progress, but has a long road to full recovery. Continue to pray for his complete recovery. Linda Prenger is currently recovering in Jefferson Hospital and is in a lot of pain. Visitors are not appropriate at this time. Larry Kellum has been approved for an experimental drug treatment for MDS, and received a grant to cover the cost.

Brian Mansdoerfer, recovering from surgery for a torn pectoral muscle.

Roseann Savastano, meningitis caused by Lyme's disease. Diane Perales is having cataract surgery on July 19 & 26. Dwight Thompson, continues treatment for Hodgkin's lymphoma. Had chemo this past week.

Rose Williams, aunt to the Williams sisters, in hospice care. Mary Mishoe, Jayne DePrince's mom, in Lincoln Specialty Care, Room 203, on Lincoln Ave. in Vineland. Visits and/or phone calls are welcome. Her cell# is 757-653-1709.

Jayne Schofield, prayers for several serious health issues. Mike Lazar recovering from shoulder surgery.

Sandy Sheehan, recovering from endovascular aortic aneurysm repair surgery. Will retest liver enzymes in several weeks.

Lea Ann Kellum, ruptured tendon in her foot.

Stephanie DeStefano, diverticulitis.



The money for the bus trip to the Museum of the Bible is due museum of the Bible by August 5. The cost is \$70 for

adults and \$60 for children (ages 4-12). Checks should be made out to the Pitman Road Church of Christ. The date of the show is September 15. Cost includes bus, museum admission, and dinner at The Golden Corral. Please contact Brian Holden for additional information. (H) 856-881-6792 (C) 856-759-2542 e-mail: bcholden94@hotmail.com



### CAUTION! Work has officially begun on our detention/ retention

ponds. To this point, we have remained in our building with a temporary Certificate of Occupancy. The work that is being done now,

which will last about two months, should finally clear the last hurdle for us to receive our permanent CO. The process to obtain federal, state, and local permits has been long and arduous.

Please be careful around the back of our property as heavy equipment will be working off and on for the rest of this month and next month. What you see here the entry area for the heavy equipment that will be working on the ponds.

Please pray that the work goes without a glitch. -Dan