



# PITMAN ROAD CHURCH OF CHRIST

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## Our Vision

To be a place where God's love is experienced, known, and shared by all.

## Our Mission

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

# *Pitman Road* POST

Make  
a difference

Move  
into family

Meet  
Jesus

HAPPY EASTER † HE IS RISEN

# THERE'S AN A.P.P. FOR THAT!

[A PEACHER'S PERSPECTIVE]

## THE PLAYFUL BIBLE TEACHER



**Joey Peacher**  
Preaching Minister

**As they talked and discussed these things, Jesus himself suddenly came and began walking with them. But God kept them from recognizing him. – Luke 24:15-16**

This month, we celebrate the most important event in Christianity: Easter, the resurrection of Jesus. Without the resurrection, what else is there to our faith? Without the resurrection, Jesus is nothing more than a dead criminal. A couple of the most interesting encounters after Jesus's resurrection happen in Luke 24. During this chapter, Jesus appears to his followers, first to Cleopas and his friend on the road to Emmaus, and second, to "the eleven and those who with them gathered together." These are people who had been with Jesus for at least three years. They had seen his miracles, heard his teachings, witnessed his compassion for the outcasts, and felt the sting when Judas betrayed him. Jesus had been crucified, and they were scared and confused.

When Jesus first appeared to the guys on the Emmaus Road, they did not recognize him. Why didn't they recognize him? They were "kept from recognizing him," and Jesus played along. Why didn't Jesus just say, "Hey it's me. I'm back"? Later, Jesus even "acted" as if he was going to continue walking without them. Jesus seems very playful here. He seems to have fun with his friends, like men do. He messes with them a little. This incident is not out of the ordinary for Jesus. He sent his fishermen friends to catch fish with coins in their mouth. He surprised them on the beach one day. Jesus had fun watching the sudden realization in their eyes, much like many of us enjoy the eyes of a child learning something new. Jesus is playful the way God is playful with his creation. Just look at the platypus! Yet, there is more here than fun and games.

While Jesus is walking with them, he "took them through the writings of Moses and all the prophets, explaining from all the Scriptures the things concerning himself" (24:27). Jesus is physically in their presence, but he talks about the Scriptures with them. Jesus wanted to make sure the disciples understood the Scriptures before he revealed himself to them. Luke writes that God kept them from recognizing him. Perhaps Jesus wanted their understanding of the resurrection to be based not on their personal experience, but on Scripture.

Later in Luke 24, Jesus appears to the remaining eleven disciples, and he again points them to the Scriptures: "Then he said, "When I was with you before, I told you that everything written about me in the law of Moses and the prophets and in the Psalms must be fulfilled. Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures" (24:44-45). Jesus could have simply said, "It's me! I'm back from the dead. Hear my voice. Feel my skin." Instead, he takes the time to lead his disciples back to the Scriptures so they could see what they had missed.

Jesus was playful with his friends and loved to see them learn. He also brought them back to the word of God. Jesus was a playful Bible teacher. He probably would have been the children's favorite. Jesus believed the scriptures were enough to prove who he was, even for the guys who witnessed him alive after his crucifixion. He wanted them to know the Bible and he wants us to know it too. We need to see what Jesus was very concerned about his disciples seeing: that the whole Bible is about him. If Jesus and his friends can be playful with each other WHILE learning the scriptures, we can too. If Jesus thought scripture was sufficient then, they are sufficient now.

*Excerpts from "Why Didn't The Disciples on the Road to Emmaus Recognize Jesus?" by Nick Kennicott, Bible Study Magazine*



## FAMILY PROMISE HOST WEEK (TWO TRANSITION HOUSES)

**Easter Sunday, April 17 through Saturday, April 23**

Thank you to those who already signed up to help! **We are still in need of volunteers to cook!** Please contact **John Ashton**, our coordinator, at **609-214-8522** to volunteer, or if you have any questions regarding drop-off procedures, location, the day or position you have, etc.



## HELP US GET THE GROUNDS AROUND OUR CHURCH BUILDING INTO TIPTOP SHAPE!

There are TWO ways that you can make a difference!

- 1) **Pick a flower bed and adopt it as yours.** Edge the flower bed, weed the flower bed, then spread mulch around the flower bed. Basically, just give it the love and care that it needs!
- 2) **Join us for a big workday between 8AM and 1PM on Saturday, April 9.** Coffee and donuts will be served at 8AM. Lunch will be served at noon, for all of those who are present.

Bring your tools, or use ours. Join us and help make our building and grounds look beautiful! As **Bud Britton** used to say, "we make our first impressions on people before they even walk into our church building."



### CONGRATULATIONS!

**Abby Vander Vennen** was baptized by her dad, Manny, on **Sunday, March 13**. Abby was born and raised here at Pitman Road, and now we can rejoice as we count her as a sister in Christ! Congratulations, Abby!



### CONGRATULATIONS!

**Tim and Kathie Monica** are celebrating the birth of their fourth grandchild! **Michael Lee Monica** was born on **Wednesday, March 16, 2022**, weighing in at 8lbs 6oz. Baby and mom are doing great. Tim, Beth, and big sister Aria were thrilled to finally welcome Mikey home! Aunt Ashley, Uncle Chris, and cousins Caden and Chase are so excited, too!



### INFO ABOUT REFUGE

Refuge will be taking a break for the next few months. They will be meeting and performing again (tentatively) on the **Fourth of July**. However, if you are interested in getting involved, contact **Kristy or Will** at any time!

**THANK YOU!**



### IN LOVING MEMORY

**Charlene Feagin**, sister of Russell Foreman, went to be with the Lord on Tuesday, March 1, 2022. We pray for peace and comfort for Russ, Jessica, Christopher, Lewis, and the rest of the family during this time.

**Joshua Davis**, grandson of Harriet Wensel, entered his Heavenly home on Friday, March 4, 2022. Our love, comfort, and prayers are with Harriet, Nancy, Jessica, David, and the rest of the family.

**Loren Schmidt**, father of Tim Schmidt, went to be with the Lord on Friday, March 25, 2022. We pray for peace and comfort for Tim and Ladeana, as well as Loren's wife, Joyce, and the rest of the family during this difficult time.

"Dear Pitman Family, thank you for the beautiful arrangement in Diana's honor, along with the many cards and prayers on our behalf. They are greatly appreciated. - **Van, Chris, and Vanessa**"

"Dear Pitman Road Church Family, thank you for the beautiful floral arrangement that you sent to honor Charlene. Also, we greatly appreciate your kind and thoughtful words and prayers. Our family will always remember your kindness. Love, **Russ, Jessica, Nikki, Christopher, Lewis, and Edward**"

"To my Pitman Road Family, thank you so much for all of the beautiful cards that were sent to me after the passing of my grandson, Joshua. All of the love, prayers, and concern for me was felt and deeply appreciated. Love to you all, **Harriet Wensel**"

# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT CAMP MANATAWNY THIS MONTH?

## ANNUAL CORPORATION MEETING Sunday, April 23 at 7:00PM

Confirm your membership, pay your dues, and vote for our Board of Directors! If you are 18 or older, and a member of the Church of Christ, you can become a voting member. If not, you can still be a non-voting member. Everyone is encouraged to join! Visit



[www.manatawny.org/annualmeeting](http://www.manatawny.org/annualmeeting) for more information, or to get involved as a member!

## WORK AND WORSHIP WEEKEND Friday, April 22-Sunday, April 24

Help get Camp ready for Spring retreats and Summer sessions! There will be all kinds of work available for all different talents. Register to reserve lodging and to help Camp prepare for the number of people attending. A schedule for the weekend will be sent on a later date to those who are registered. To register, or for more information, visit [www.manatawny.org/workandworship](http://www.manatawny.org/workandworship).

## JR/SR HIGH SPRING REATREAT April 29-30, Grades 7-12

You have fun at Camp each summer, and now you have a chance to enjoy it in the Spring and Fall! Join friends, summer staff, and other campers for games, campfires, and growing in your relationship with Christ. Be sure to invite new-to-camp friends! Cost is \$35 plus a \$4 processing fee. Visit [www.campmanatawny.org/jrsrspring](http://www.campmanatawny.org/jrsrspring) for more information, the sample schedule, or to register!



## THANK YOU, WEST POINT CADETS!

Last **Sunday, March 27**, a group of West Point cadets led the Sunday morning worship service here at Pitman Road. Among this group, was our very own **Luke Olley** and **Brianna Peoples**. It was so nice to be able to worship together! Thank you, Clayton, for delivering the message, and thank you to the other cadets and their chaperones who were involved in coordinating and leading the service. We would also like to thank our members who hosted the cadets while they were here for the weekend, as well as everyone who helped out with preparing/coordinating meals and transportation.

## CONNECT WITH US

-  [www.pitmanroadcoc.com](http://www.pitmanroadcoc.com)
-  @pitmanroadchurch
-  856.589.1500
-  [www.facebook.com/pitmanroadchurchofchrist](http://www.facebook.com/pitmanroadchurchofchrist)

## WAYS TO GIVE

-  In person at the worship service.
-  Via the easyTithe mobile app.
-  On our website at [pitmanroadcoc.com](http://pitmanroadcoc.com)
-  Text to Give  
Text amount to 856.209.6212

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