500 Pitman Road Sewell, NJ 08080 856-589-1500 www.coChrist.org FOCUS 2015

### Focusing on

- God's Word
- God's Son
- God's Vision
- God's Mission



One thing common to all humans are relationships. Join us on May 10th as we begin to explore relationships in a new sermon series, **LOVE**, **SEX**, & **RELATIONSHIPS**. If you are in:

a dating relationship,

a married relationship,

if you are experiencing relationships as a single person,

if you are a part of a parent/child relationship,

a sibling relationship,

any relationship

this series is for you.

## From Daniel's Den

#### A Modern Day Faith Hero

I have several modern day faith heroes. That list of men and women in God's honor roll, listed in Hebrews 11, is a mighty impressive list. I will not take one thing away from them; but they all lived 2,000 to 4,000 years ago. Are there any 21st century faith heroes? Who are your 21st century faith heroes?

Just this week I met my newest faith hero. He spoke at this year's Ohio Valley University's 57th Annual Bible Lectureship in Parkersburg, WV. His name is Dr. Kent Brantly. His life demonstrates the mercy and compassion of Jesus at an entirely new level. He and his family moved to Liberia in 2013 to bring the healing compassion of Jesus to the sick and hurting people there. At the time, the Ebola virus had not spread to Liberia. With the passing of time, however, the Ebola virus did spread into Liberia and he and the medical staff at the clinic in Monrovia, Liberia began treating Ebola patients. Kent became infected with the deadly Ebola virus. (That's another story). As the word spread of his terminal prognosis, the prayers of countless millions were lifted before our Heavenly Father. In addition, dramatic medical, international, and political maneuvering led to Dr. Brantly and one of his co-workers being brought him back to the USA. Ultimately he became the first American to be successfully treated for the Ebola virus in the USA. His daring and Christ-like compassion for the hurting led to his being labeled as Time magazine's "Person of the Year!" He was the speaker at this year's National Prayer Breakfast in Washington D.C., with President Obama and congressional leaders.

While many Judeo-Christian values may not be highly regarded by our pluralistic culture, compassion is still highly regarded. Brantly said, "Every day people are dying over there. There's someone's mother, father, daughter, son. They are not faceless people."..."God cares for the vulnerable among us, and he wants us to care for them, too." Dr. Brantly is the personification of Christian compassion.



Dan Cooper aka "Dan, Dan, the Preacherman"

Are there any 21st century faith heroes?

Who are your 21st century faith heroes?

-I have a new faith hero! Who is your newest faith hero? - Dan Cooper



Merle (Glynn) Durham Visitation Minister

Amazing things happen when you love someone with agape love.

## A Few Moments with Merle

#### **Zacchaeus**

Dan and I, along with Mark Finn from the Collingswood church, shared a two day get-a-way that provided a spiritual feast this last week. We attended the **Ohio Valley University Lectureship** in Parkersburg, W. VA on Monday and Tuesday. The theme this year was **Children Mean the World** to **God**.

One of the sessions that impacted me the most was led by Thaddeus Hill, son of Jerry and Fern Hill, founders of the Timothy Hill Children's Ranch in Long Island, NY, a good work long supported by our congregation. Thaddeus has been working at the ranch for 20 years after graduating from Harding University in 1995.

Thaddeus' topic was **Loving Lonely Children**. He began his talk by asking, "Who are the lonely?" Categories he identified included the fatherless, the friendless, those bullied, lack of authentic relationships, those who lack community, and those who choose loneliness.

A major point in the lesson was, "Amazing things happen when (agape) love is given." Thaddeus cited the story of Zacchaeus who was a professional thief (Luke 19). Everyone knew about him and what he had done. Thaddeus asked, "How lonely do you think Zacchaeus felt?" Jesus said to him, "I must stay at your house today" (vs. 5). In Jesus' presence we see an immediate transformation. Right away, Zacchaeus said, "I will give half of my possessions to the poor" (vs. 8). He continues by telling Jesus he will go on a door-to-door campaign and will pay back four times the amount he had cheated from any one. The taker becomes a giver.

Remember, amazing things happen when you love someone with agape love. This love always makes a person a priority. If you choose to love someone like this, there is no defense for it. You cannot stop this kind of love.

Who will you reach out and (agape) love this week? Perhaps you already know of a lonely person who needs your love.

## Dan's OVU Highlight!

Dan was blessed with the opportunity this past week to meet his "21st century faith hero," Dr. Kent Brantly. Here Dan is pictured with Dr. Brantly. Dan was also given the honor of leading the opening prayer before Dr. Brantly's session at the OVU Lectureship.





## Food Pantry Funds Low



Each week our Food Pantry ministry provides nonperishable food items to **many families** in need. **Millie Moore and Jim Frampton** work hard to keep the pantry stocked with food. Thank you Millie and Jim!

The groceries for our Food Pantry ministry are purchased with donations. Thank you to all of you who contribute financially to our Food Pantry! Currently, we are very low on funds to purchase groceries. If you are willing to make a monetary donation to the Food Pantry, please see Dottie, or write your check to Pitman Road Church of Christ, note "Food Panty" in the memo section, and drop it in the collection plate as it is passed. Please consider making a monthly donation to the Food Pantry ministry. Your generosity IS making a great difference for the better in the lives of many people!

# Spring Cleaning!!!

It's time to do some spring cleaning here at Pitman Road! Before the staff begins cleaning and organizing, we want to give you time to take any items home that belong to you. We are targeting the large storage closet in the FLC, the Information Center, the coat room, the office wing work rooms, kitchen and kitchen storage pantry. Please check around for anything you've left behind. If there is something stored here that needs to remain in the building for ministry or activity use, please label it with your name, and what it's

purpose is. You have until May 24th, after that date any items that are unidentifiable will be disposed of at the staff's discretion.



#### LIFE Group Leaders and Munchkin Ministers

#### We want to honor and express appreciation to:

- •• LIFE Group leaders and co-leaders & their spouses.
- •• Munchkin Ministry servants, (including those who set up & clean up.)

Join us on Saturday, April 25th, 9:00-10:30 AM, at PB's Diner on Delsea Drive in Glassboro.

You are our honored guests. There will be no cost to you.

Please let Glynn Durham know if you will be attending.



## Spring Musical Postponed

Due to the immediate health crisis **Diana Hutchinson's** father, **Franklin Rhodes**, is currently facing she has decided, after much consideration, to delay the Spring Musical until further notice. Diana is sorry for any inconvenience this may have caused. Please pray for Franklin, and the family, in this great time of need.

Join us for a special Wednesday Night Meal this week! Harriet, Judi, and JoAnn will be serving a delicious meal featuring beef brisket and pulled pork sandwiches, meat prepared by Mary Green! Please be sure to sign up TODAY on the salmon colored sheet and drop it in the collection plate.

# Coming Up in May!

A Weekend to Remember marriage event presented by Family Life will take place on May 1st - 3rd. You have two locations to choose from: King of Prussia or Washington D.C. We will not be formally organizing a group to go this year,



nevertheless we encourage couples to take advantage of this Friday night through Sunday event. It will bless your marriage. For information and to register, go to <a href="http://www.familylife.com/events">http://www.familylife.com/events</a>. If you have questions about the event you can see Derek Davis for information.



Feed the Hungry in Trenton Saturday, May 9th 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

A sign up sheet will be available soon at Information Center or send an email to **Larry Kellum, Jr.** to volunteer to serve the meal. Transportation to Trenton is provided from the church building in the van, departure is 10:00 AM. The group will return to the building at approximately 2:00 PM.

\$500 is needed to cover the cost of the meal. If you would like to donate, make your check out to Church of Christ and note "Trenton Meal" on the memo line.









## New Members



Tyler and Katherine Steffe placed membership with us last Sunday. They have been visiting with us for quite a while, and we are so glad they have decided to settle in at Pitman Road! Tyler is originally from Pittsburg, Katherine is from Mississippi; they met while attending Freed -Hardeman University. Katherine is a school

teacher and Tyler works for La Salle University. They are both active in our 18thirty group. Please get to know our newest young family. Welcome Tyler and Katherine!

# Requesting Prayers

Chris Bobe came forward last Sunday to request prayers and support in his effort to recommit his life as a Christian. Chris, his father Angel, and brother Angel Jr., have long been associated with Dan and Glynn and have at times attended both the Vineland and Pitman churches over the years. Chris, you are family here, and you have our support!

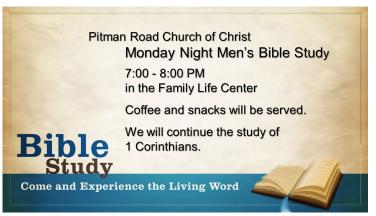
## You Can Fill a Need!

Jay Schneider plans to attend a Drexel Uni-

versity reunion on Saturday, May 2nd. At the reunion, there will be an opportunity to donate collecting men's and women's business suits of all sizes so that students have proper attire for interviews. Jay is accepting donations of any business suits you might want to donate! Clothing should be clean and in good

condition.





## This Week's Prayer Requests

**Praises**: Spring is finally here!!!

#### **Prayers Requested:**

**Barby Jo Crema,** Noreen Wills' mom, was diagnosed with an inoperable retinal tumor. She has an appointment at Wills Eye Hospital in Philadelphia on April 27th to determine the course of treatment.

**Harvey Grillo,** Dottie's son, needs prayers for his search for housing for he and the children.

**Franklin Rhodes**, cancer treatment.

Pat Schuehler recovering from cataract surgery.

**John Reimels, Jr,** in extreme pain from two bulging discs. Pain management treatment began last week. Please pray for it to be effective.

**Carl Steiner** is recovering from shoulder surgery. Please pray for a full recovery.

**Nancy Calabro,** continuous prayers for her health concerns.

**Georgette Kenna,** Beth Loeffler's mother, pancreatic cancer.

**John Grillo,** recovering at home after extensive surgery to repair his elbow.

#### Military:

Andrew Holden at West Point.

#### **Expecting:**

Sarah and Bruce Stratton, June

Anthony and Kristie Correll, June 25, a girl!

Mary Ellen and Justin Walker, August

Brianne (Gelsinger) and Tom Lodado, October

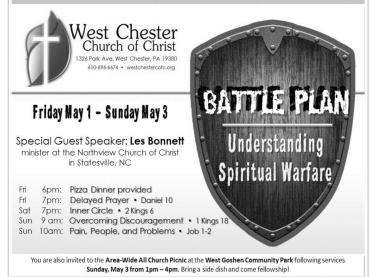
#### Engaged:

Anthony DeStefano & Hope Anderson, July 10, 2015

#### **Traveling:**

Florence Murray, visiting family in NC.

**Paul Stanford** 



### **Our Ministers**

### Office Staff

**Dottie Grillo**.......dgrillo@coChrist.org **Annette Perine**.....annette.perine@gmail.com

### **Our Elders**

Mike Broyles	mbroyles777@gmail.com
Horatio Fenton	Horatio Fenton@comcast.net
	856-881-2039, hm
•••••	Greg.Linda.Krinks@gmail.com
Mike Lazar	teacher.engineer@comcast.net
Dave Perine	davidt.perine@comcast.net
•	856-769-0836
	lawrencepoint@helmerlegal.com
Dwight Thompson .	609-561-8561, hm
	609-287-0109, cell
	DOThompson@comcast.net

### Our Deacons

Bud Britton	Grounds Maintenance
Derrick Busch	Young Adults
Tim Davis	Teens
Tony DeStefano	Body Life & Fellowship
Matt Downing	Worship
Glynn Durham	LIFE Groups
Darren Fields	Greeters Ministry
Brian Holden	. Special Activities; Body Life
Garth Hutchinson	Local Evangelism
Larry Kellum, Jr	Caring &Sharing
Brian Kleineweber	Financial Consultant
Brian Mansdoerfer. Buildin	ng Maintenance; Jr. Worship
Chuck Olley	Teens
Aaron Pearl	Youth
John Peoples	. New Member Involvement
Steve Pierre-Jacques	
Audio Visual; Inforn	nation Technology; Website
Jay Schneider	Serving Our Seniors
Carl Steiner	World Evangelism
Manny Vander Vennen	
Chui	rch Directory, Kids for Christ

### Sunday Schedule

9:00 AM Bible Classes 10:00 AM Worship

### Wednesday Night Schedule

5:30-6:30 PM Meal

7:00-7:45 PM Bible Classes 7:45 PM Fellowship

#### Last Week

Bible Class 158
Worship 257
LIFE Groups 84
Wednesday 77
Contribution \$9,449
Fiscal YTD Goal \$428,532.00
Contribution YTD \$422,993.00

(\$5,539.00)

## Serving Us Today

**Under Budget** 

Nursery Cindy Holden Kids For Christ **Debby Durham** Jr. Worship Brian Mansdoerfer Hall Monitor: Bible Class Judi Campbell **Volunteer Needed** Hall Monitor: Worship Greeters: Front Entrance Charlie & Doryann Seitz Greeters: Back Entrance Linda Prenger & Joe Marshall Ushers Garth Hutchinson & Anthony Phillip Information Desk **Debby Durham** Shepherd's Call Horatio Fenton Song Leader Matt Downing

Teens

### L.I.F.E. Group Locations Today

Group	Location	Contact
Brook Besor	Durham's, Thursday at 7PM	856-589-2280
Circle of Sisters	Prenger's, Tuesday at 7PM	856-689-7932
Convenience Group	Church Building at Noon	856-589-1500
The Flock	Buchanan's at 5 PM	856-229-1558
Hammonton Group	Broyles' at 5 PM	609-561-8532
Solid Gold	Hightower's at 6PM	856-769-2789
Teens	Church Building at Noon	856-589-1500
Vineland	H. Pearl's at 6PM	856-839-0015
18thirty	Isaziga's at Noon	850-814-6632

## Wednesday Night Meal

Cook: Harriet Wensel, Judi Campbell, Joanne Ruhland

Menu: Beef Brisket and Pulled Pork Sandwiches



Communion





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