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## FOCUS 2015

### Focusing on

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

## God's Indispensable Gift

Motherhood is one of God's greatest gifts to humanity. A loving, committed mother is indispensable in our development. Mothers instill powerful social and nurturing characteristics in each generation. It is principally from their mothers that children learn the virtues of sacrifice, sharing, valuing others, compassion, community and a host of other values and skills.

Biologically, women are designed for self-sacrifice. When pregnant, a woman's body focuses its primary attention to nurturing the growing life developing within her, prioritizing the needs of her unborn baby. After her children are born, a mother will continue to sacrifice herself for the needs of her children.

God designed mothers to nurture. There is no greater nurturing power on the planet than a mother. When the apostle Paul described his love for the church at Thessalonica, he used the metaphor of a mother's love to describe how deeply he cared for the Thessalonians. He reminded them that he was like a "gentle" mother who "tenderly cares for her own children" (1 Thessalonians 2:7). When God described His love for Israel, He did so with a motherhood metaphor. He told Israel that He would comfort them like a mother comforts her children (Isaiah 66:13).

The book of Proverbs closes with a great tribute to women. It speaks of the beautiful, indispensable role that women play in God's creation. After 30 chapters of directions on living a good, godly, noble life, Proverbs closes with these words to the godly woman: "Her children rise up and bless her; her husband also, and he praises her, saying, 'Many daughters have done nobly, But you excel them all.' Charm is deceitful and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the Lord, she shall be praised. Give her the product of her hands, and let her works praise her in the gates" (Proverbs 31:28-31).

The best of all that God designed a woman to be is expressed in motherhood. Motherhood, at its roots, is a conscious, deliberate decision by a woman to enter into that noble, God-like act of loving self-sacrifice to participate with the God of all creation to bring a new life into the world.

This Mother's Day, I hope you will take the time to say thanks to your mother in a special way. No, she isn't perfect, and no, she didn't do everything right, but she gave you life.

And to mothers, I say thank you for all you have done to prepare your children to be the good men and women of the next generation. Our world cannot make it without you. Thank you for all you do. Happy Mother's Day.

-Barrett Duke (adapted)



## Our Vision

A PLACE WHERE GOD'S LOVE IS EXPERIENCED, KNOWN, AND SHARED BY ALL.

# From Daniel's Den

## The Colorful Four Page Document *Mission Marseille* Arrived Via E-Mail This Past Tuesday!

This edition of *Mission Marseille* features a "mission report" written by **Katherine Finn**, daughter of **Mark and Becky Finn** (the long time ministers of the Collingswood Church of Christ), about her mission work in Marseille, France. It's packed full of fascinating details outlining her numerous activities since she arrived in Marseille last February.

Katherine is training to become a certified camp counselor at **Centre Bonnefoi**. She just completed the Advanced Bible Study Series for European missionaries. She has helped to coordinate a Sweetheart Dinner for thirteen couples from the church and from their local community. She is helping to organize the offices and many ministries of the local church in Marseille. She is teaching English classes, helping to lead an afterschool program, and helping to produce their semi-annual play. On the day of their play they were shocked to have 100 visitors present for the program. Katherine is also a member of **Chorale Harmonie**, their singing group that performs both in their local community, and in venues throughout Europe.

I share this information because Katherine was first introduced to the work in Marseille on a mission trip she took with our church on our short term mission trip in 2009. She heard the call of the "great commission" (Matt. 28:18-20) in 2009, and that call has called her back to France repeatedly. Our France Mission Team will connect with Katherine this June, God willing.

Our church is determined to help the all of the world experience, know and share God's love.

**-Dan the Mission Man**



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

Katherine (Finn) was first introduced to the work in Marseille on a mission trip she took with our church on our short term mission trip in 2009.



**Larry Point**  
Elder

It is my opinion...no group of the Lord's people sacrifices its collective will to the will of ...

Frances and I are perhaps the longest standing members of this congregation, having been continuous members since 1968. During that time we have had connection with, or at least visited with, numerous other congregations of the Lord's people. From memory, we have had contact with groups in Alabama, Florida, Delaware, New York, Georgia, and Pennsylvania. One time we stopped on Sunday for worship at a congregation we knew nothing about while returning from a wedding in extreme Northern Pennsylvania and received several Sunday dinner invitations. We have always received warm receptions in Churches of Christ.

Never, however, have we sensed that these congregations were more diverse, loving, or unified than our own Pitman (a.k.a. Pitman Road) Church of Christ. It is my considered opinion that there may be no group of the Lord's people that sacrifices its collective will to the will of God in accordance with Ephesians 4 better than you. I, for one, consider myself extremely fortunate to be one of you.

**-Larry**

*For our out of town readers: Larry Point is an attorney by profession. It is my considered opinion that after 50 years of being a lawyer, he sounds just a little bit like an attorney.*

**-Dan**

## Shepherd's Voice

### An Ephesians 4 Church



## Recent Members



The **Bartley Family** placed membership with us last January, and although we included a write up in the bulletin at the time, Sherri was unable to catch up with all five for a complete family photo until last week! Pictured from left to right: **Tracy, Almira, William, Dayjon, and William Jr.**

In the original write up we noted that Tracy had just recently completed her MBA. We now also want to congratulate William for completing his MBA program as well!

## Monday Night Thanks



What a great Bible study we shared this past Monday night as Garth Hutchinson lead the discussion of 1 Corinthians. The plan was to finish 1 Corinthians, but we got stuck in our discussions over chapters 12, 13 and 14!

A special thanks to Harry Ake for coordinating this on-going series of studies designed specifically for our men. Harry keeps the weekly Bible studies relevant and on subject. He also provides cookies and fresh fruit snacks as well as a fresh pot of coffee.

We are taking the rest of the summer off, but this is an appropriate occasion to commend Harry for a job very well done. Way to go Harry!

In a world where we are constantly seeking fulfillment in our jobs, relationships, income, material goods, etc.,  
the reality is we need

**ONLY JESUS.**

Sundays • 10 AM • May 10<sup>th</sup> – June 7<sup>th</sup>

## New Members



What a thrill to introduce our newest family unit. We welcome (pictured right to left:) **Tom and Annemarie Cristino**, their daughter **Monica Fallon**, and Annemarie's mother **Anna Marie (Nancy) Lutz**. They have worshipped with us since the beginning of this year. They've had an interesting journey; after faithfully watching a church sponsored television program for about two years on Sunday nights they became convicted of their need to investigate further. They were baptized on October 5, 2014 at the Chew Ave. Church of Christ in Philadelphia. Due to the distance involved in getting there they went online and found our church, which was dramatically closer to their home.

This is a close family, currently living together in the same home. Tom is a respiratory therapist. Annemarie holds the designation of LCSW (licensed clinical social worker) and is a licensed therapist. Monica has just completed her degree in nursing from Thomas Jefferson University. Nancy is employed part time in the management office of an apartment complex.

Please welcome this family of four and show them they have come to the right place, *"A place where God's love is experienced, known and shared by all."* They were officially introduced to our church family last Sunday morning.



# Announcements



We are so excited that Corny and Phyllis will once again be hosting this long standing annual event!

The pool will be open, bring your bathing suits if you'd like to swim! Please supervise your children in the pool.

Entertainment will be provided by many of our multi-talented members.

Please contact Phyllis (856-478-6972) to let her know what you would like to contribute to the picnic. Please carpool to help with the parking situation.

It would be greatly appreciated if you would connect with Phyllis ahead of time to let her know you plan to attend, and what you will be bringing.

**It's time to do some spring cleaning here at Pitman Road!** 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 unidentifiable items will be disposed of at the staff's discretion.**

**SPRING**  
cleaning

**The Adult Curriculum Planning Committee** will meet this Wednesday, May 13th, to nail down the specific topics, teachers, and room assignments for our Summer Quarter. Do you have ideas? Submit your ideas to a member of the committee or any elder or minister as we will be meeting on Wednesday night, May 13th at 5:45.

## BABY SHOWER FOR SARAH!

Sarah Stratton, one of our newest members, will be having a baby girl in June. The Tuesday morning women's Bible study group is hosting a shower for Sarah on Tuesday, May 19. The shower will be held during our regular time: 9:45–11:30. We invite you to join us and get to know this delightful new sister in Christ. Sarah is registered at Babies R Us.

WHO: Sarah Stratton

WHAT: Shower for Baby Girl Stratton

WHERE: Church building, B-4

WHEN: May 19, 9:45-11:30

GIFTS: Babies R Us



## Sight and Sound Theater Bus Trip to see *The Miracle of Christmas*.

There are still many tickets available for the bus trip to see *The Miracle Of Christmas* on **Saturday, November 14, 2015**. There will be only one bus. There is a total of 49 tickets. If you are interested in going please sign up at the Information Center as soon as possible. The cost for adults is \$97, teens (13-17) \$79, and children (3-12) \$56. The cost includes bus, show, and dinner at Shady Maple restaurant. There will be time for shopping at the Rockvale Square Outlets. Please contact Brian Holden for more information at:

856-881-6792 or [bcholden94@hotmail.com](mailto:bcholden94@hotmail.com)



# Thank You!

Last Sunday, Tim, Melody, Garth, and about 20 teens came to our home. They raked, pulled weeds, mowed, planted flowers, sprucing up our yard! Tim told us this is one of the ways they serve the Lord. Thank you so much for your love and service!

**-Pat and Ted Schuehler**

I express my gratitude to the faithful family of God at Pitman for the beautiful plant and also for the many prayers. God continues to give me peace and strength each day because of the prayers of the righteous! I will always miss the family at Pitman, and hope to visit soon.

God Bless,  
**Cindy Bland**

## Area Events for Women



### Lower Bucks Church of Christ Ladies Day Luncheon

**Saturday, June 27th • 8:30 AM 2:00 PM**

**Theme: How to Remain Focused  
in a Small Congregation**

Guest Speakers: Cathy Iverson & Leila Washington

A continental breakfast and catered lunch will be served.

Register online at <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/lower-bucks-church-of-christ-ladies-day-luncheon-tickets-16456360417?aff=eac2>

### Overbrook Park Church of Christ Ladies' Luncheon



**Saturday, May 30th • 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM**

**Theme: The "Fruit" Inspectors**

Ten certified and qualified "Fruit Inspectors" will inspect and survey your spiritual fruit and inspire you in the Word to continue blossoming and sharing your fruit.

Registration is required by May 23rd.

Flyers with all the details are available at the Information Center. Please see Mary Collier if you have any questions or need more information.

**A BIG THANK YOU** to all those who contributed to the shortfall for our Pantry. We now have a well stocked pantry and funds to keep it filled.

**We are still in need of \$280 to cover the cost of yesterday's Trenton Meal.** If you would like to contribute, please note "Trenton Meal" on the memo line of your check and give it to Dottie, or drop it in the collection plate.

## This Week's Prayer Requests

**Praises:** Thankful for godly mothers!

### Prayers Requested:

**Sue Ward**, recovering from emergency abdominal hernia surgery and cellulitis.

**Audrey Wigzell**, Lynn Sbaraglia's mother, suffered a second stroke on Wednesday. Lynn is now in England with her.

**Joyce Reimels** is thankful for the prayers for her son **John Reimels, Jr.** So far pain management has been successful. Joyce asks for continues prayers that he remain pain free.

**Steve Musso** was diagnosed as having suffered a number of "mini-strokes." He has now been moved into a rehabilitation center to prepare him to go home.

**Donna & Bob Staff**, Linda Krinks parents, safety for them until they decide to accept in-home help.

**Michele Lord**, former member, Stage 3 Breast Cancer. If you would like to send a card, the address is 8669 Susie St., Jacksonville, FL 32210

**Vivian Owens**, friend of Paul Stanford, hospitalized after injuries suffered in a bad fall. At 92 years of age, it will be a slow recovery for him.

**Barby Jo Crema**, treatments for the tumor on her eye.

**Diana Ford**, app't on May 27th to discuss cataract surgery.

**Jeff Weber**, friend of the Schofields, hospitalized for circulatory and complications resulting from alcoholism.

**Harvey Grillo**, prayers for housing need by June 1.

**Franklin Rhodes**, cancer treatment.

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

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

**Georgette Kenna**, Beth Loeffler's mother, in hospice.

**John Grillo**, an area in elbow has not healed yet. Not allowed to pick anything up over 5 lbs. for another 5 weeks.

### 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

**Hope Hooley & Darrell Bargfrede**

### Traveling:

**Paul Stanford**

## Our Ministers

### Evangelist

**Dan Cooper** ..... dcooper@coChrist.org

### Minister

**Carlos Isaziga** ..... cisaziga@coChrist.org

### Visitation Minister

**Glynn Durham** ..... gdurham1@coChrist.org

## Office Staff

**Dottie Grillo** ..... dgrillo@coChrist.org

**Annette Perine** ..... annette.perine@gmail.com

## Our Elders

**Mike Broyles** ..... mbroyles777@gmail.com

**Horatio Fenton** ..... HoratioFenton@comcast.net

**Greg Krinks** ..... 856-881-2039, hm

..... Greg.Linda.Krinks@gmail.com

**Mike Lazar** ..... teacher.engineer@comcast.net

**Dave Perine** ..... davidt.perine@comcast.net

**Larry Point** ..... 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** ..... Building Maintenance; Jr. Worship

**Chuck Olley** ..... Teens

**Aaron Pearl** ..... Youth

**John Peoples** ..... New Member Involvement

**Steve Pierre-Jacques** .....

..... Audio Visual; Information Technology; Website

**Jay Schneider** ..... Serving Our Seniors

**Carl Steiner** ..... World Evangelism

**Manny Vander Vennen** .....

..... Church 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	138
Worship	248
LIFE Groups	105
Wednesday	86
Contribution	\$12,113
Fiscal YTD Goal	\$459,888.00
Contribution YTD	\$455,488.00
Under Budget	(\$4,400.00)

## Serving Us Today

Nursery	Judi Campbell
Kids For Christ	Carla Clements
Jr. Worship	Brian Mansdoerfer
Hall Monitor: Bible Class	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>
Hall Monitor: Worship	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>
Greeters: Front Entrance	George & Cookie Rowe
Greeters: Back Entrance	Larry Peterson & Mike Lazar
Ushers	Jonathan Hooley & Leonard Collier
Information Desk	Jerri Manfre
Shepherd's Call	Greg Krinks
Song Leader	Garth Hutchinson
Communion	Glynn Durham

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

Group	Location	Contact
Brook Besor	Durhams, Thursday at 7PM	856-589-2280
Circle of Sisters	Prenger's, Tuesday at 7PM	856-689-7932
Convenience Group		
The Flock		
Hammonton Group		
Solid Gold		
Teens		
Vineland		
18thirty		

**Mothers' Day!**  
**Sunday groups are not meeting today.**

## Wednesday Night Meal

Cook: **No Volunteer**

Menu: **No Meal**



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