



# PITMAN ROAD

## CHURCH OF CHRIST

January 8, 2017  
Volume 33, Issue 02

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## Who We Are and Whose We Are

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*Ring in the New Year often signals a time for new beginnings. Even in the "new" there is One who is unchanging, yet His mercies are new every morning. As we prepare for our new 2017 focus on Just Jesus, let's take a moment to reflect on who we are as a body of believers, noting Who is at the center of all that we are.*

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.

### **Our Vision For Our Church**

*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.*

### **Core Beliefs**

*We believe...*

- The Bible is the inspired word of God. Psa. 119:105; Mt. 4:4; 2 Tim. 3:16
- There is one God, existing as God the Father our Creator; God the Son our Savior; and God the Spirit our Helper. Mt. 28:19-20; Col. 2:9; Jn. 14:9; Jn. 14:16-17; Gen. 1:26
- Jesus Christ is the Son of God who died to reconcile humanity with God. He rose from the dead and later ascended into heaven. He will come again. 1 Cor. 15:3-4; Jn. 3:16; Jn.14:3; Col.1:19-20
- The Holy Spirit lives in believers, renewing and transforming us, and preparing us for a home in heaven. Ro. 8:11; 1Co. 3:16; Ti. 3:5,6
- We are saved and forgiven by God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ. Eph. 2:4-9; 2 Tim. 1:9
- The church is the worldwide family of God of which Jesus is the head. It consists of individuals and communities of believers working to make known the wisdom of God. Eph. 4:10-13; Col. 1:15-18
- We have a responsibility to share the gospel of Jesus Christ, make disciples, baptize believers, and model God's love. Mt. 28:19-20; Mt. 22:37-39; Mk.16:15,16; Ro. 10:14-15
- Christians meet together to worship, fellowship, and remember Christ's death, burial and resurrection. Ac. 2:42-47; Mt. 26:26-28; Mt. 15:8; Eph. 5:19; Ro.12:1; Rev. 5:6-14

### **Core Values**

*We value **HEARTS**:*

**Humility**, for we are all broken and in need of God's grace. Eph. 2:4-5; Jas. 4:4-6

**Encouraging personal growth in knowledge and service.** Eph. 4:16; Heb. 6:1-2

**Attracting individuals from diverse backgrounds.** 1 Co. 9:19-22

**Reaching outside the walls of our building.** Jn. 1:1,14; Lk. 19:1-10

**Teaching God's Word in meaningful and relevant ways.** Lk.15

**Strengthening relationships - marriages, families and friendships.** Jn. 13:34-35; Jn. 17:20-23

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## **O U R M I S S I O N**

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

# From Daniel's Den

## 27 Shirt Hangers and 12 Pant Hangers

I got new clothes for Christmas this year. How about you? I got new slippers, two new sweaters, new socks, as well as a beautiful new shirt and two ties. Beautiful clothes. But, when I attempted to put all my new stuff away, it wouldn't all fit into my closet. Remembering Jesus' story about the farmer tearing down old barns to build new barns (Luke 12:18), I decided not to build a new closet. By the time I cleaned the closet (between Christmas Day and New Year's Day), I'd given away 27 shirts and 12 pairs of pants. It felt so good! How do I know how many shirts and slacks I gave away? I counted the 39 empty hangers after my purge.

If you want to feel better about yourself as we enter 2017, clean your closet. Get rid of some of your stuff. Do our possessions possess us? Don't clean out my closet. Don't clean out your spouse's closet. Clean YOUR closet (Matt. 6:28-29).

And speaking of cleaning out stuff, how about getting rid of some other stuff in your life? Trash those **words** that do not belong in a Christians vocabulary...trash them. We will answer for every word we speak. (Matt. 5:37)! Clean out your closet! Those **web sites and photos** that clutter your mind and tantalize your eye with pornographic trash, clean out your closet...and focus on pure thoughts (Matt. 5:8). That **anger** you have buried deep in your heart...trash it! Take all those **grudges** and throw them in a trash bag! Clean out your closet! If you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses (Matt. 6:14-15).

Want to feel better about yourself in 2017? Jesus says, clean your closet! Get rid of some stuff! You can do this! Jesus will help! One Monday night last year at the Monday Night Men's Study a brother told the other guys how he once talked, the filthy words he once used. Then he said, "since I started coming to this church, I don't talk like that anymore." He cleaned his closet!

I have 39 hangers if you need a few. I dare you, clean your closet; **Dan the Preacherman**



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

Get rid of  
some stuff!  
You can do  
this!



**Carlos Isaziga**  
twitter @carlosisaziga

## Carlos' Corner

### RESOURCES TO HELP YOU GROW AS A CHRISTIAN

Church, it's my honor to be one of your ministers.

But I have a confession to make. If you're depending on me to meet all of your spiritual needs, you're going to be disappointed. I'm not the guru or expert and I don't have a corner on the spiritual market. Back in the 1500's, a guy named Martin Luther started a reformation, helping people understand they could have direct access to God. Luther was right – YOU have direct access to God. You can pray on your own, worship on your own, and serve on your own. The church is a huge part of faith, but you can grow in your faith all week long, not just on Sunday.

I wanted to send you some links and resources to help.

#### Bible

- **YouVersion** is a great website (and they have a fantastic app, too) for reading the Bible. You can choose a reading plan, share notes and questions with others, and keep track of your progress.
- The **NIV Study Bible** is a great Bible to use for study. There are lots of footnotes and articles to help you understand context and meaning. It is one of the Bibles I use when I'm working on sermons.

#### Books

Here are a few of the books I've read that have helped me grow in my faith.

- *Purpose Driven Life*
- *Emotionally Healthy Spirituality*
- *Practicing the Presence of God*
- *What's So Amazing About Grace?*
- *Mere Christianity*

#### Podcasts

I listen to lots of sermons – here are some of my favorites:

Andy Stanley • Tim Keller • Judah Smith • Matt Chandler • Rick Warren

I hope this list helps you grow in your faith. Pick one of the resources and try it out for a week or two. And be sure to let me know what you found helpful.

Grace & truth,  
Carlos

YOU have  
direct access  
to God. You  
can pray on  
your own,  
worship on  
your own,  
and serve on  
your own.

**TODAY!**

If you would like to make Pitman Road church your church, or find out more about our Vision, Mission, Beliefs, and Values, then please join us today at 11:45 am in room B2. Lunch and childcare will be provided!



## Women's Bible Study Seminar This Week!

### Attention All Women!

Please join us for **OUR FIRST** three-night Bible study seminar led by our very own Brenda Busch!

Date	Time	Location	Theme
Wednesday January 11	7-8 pm	Church Building	Prayer
Thursday January 12	7-8:30 pm	Hutchinson's 9 Adams Ave. Pitman	Prayer
Friday January 13	7-8:30 pm	Hutchinson's 9 Adams Ave. Pitman	The Church as God's Dwelling Place

*Let's start right in 2017!*

*...Celebrating together what God has done through our prayers!*

*...Examining His Word together!*

*Come and start the New Year with your sisters!*

## You're Invited!

In honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, you are invited to **A Visit with Harriet Tubman**. Engross yourself in a performance by **Millicent Sparks**, accomplished actor/writer/producer, as she portrays Harriet Tubman. Millicent Sparks has performed on local, regional and international stages, film and television, and truly brings Harriet Tubman to life. Follow the journey of one of the most celebrated figures of the 19th century during the Underground Railroad and the Civil War. This realistic portrayal is an event not to be missed. **The First Presbyterian Church in Pitman and the Pitman Council of Churches welcome you to the Sanctuary at 10 Wildwood Avenue on Sunday, January 15, 2017 at 1:30 PM** for this event that you simply have to see. A free-will offering will be collected. See you there.



## Important Schedule Change

### ATTENTION SECRET SISTERS!

The Revealing Party scheduled for February 11th has been rescheduled for Saturday, March 4th. Dottie is very busy caring for her husband John as he recovers from surgery, and she is not able to prepare for the party and the upcoming 2017 Secret Sister year the way she would like. Party details will be provided as the date gets closer.

## On Being Partners in Serving the Homeless

**"Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the LORD, and he will reward them for what they have done." Proverbs 19:17**

On one given night, January 26, 2016 (almost exactly one year ago), the Point-In-Time Count by Monarch Housing Associates found a total of 61 household, including 112 persons, were experiencing homelessness in Gloucester County. And a significant number of those people were children.

In partnering with Family Promise in Gloucester County, we are helping to serve many homeless families, especially those with children. In the 11 years since the beginning of the program, Family Promise has served over 150 families, including 500 individuals, most of those being children. For most of 2016, each week, 4 families were being accommodated; averaging about 12 individuals. Family Promise, along with churches like our own, provided shelter, food, transportation, social services, parent education, and fellowship. The goal is not only to serve those who have found themselves homeless, but to also to assist them in securing employment, housing, and independence. Our Pitman Road efforts with Family Promise are making a real difference for real people with all too common economic hardships.

As we approach our first Family Promise Host Week of 2017, consider being a part of this ministry that has had such a great impact in our surrounding community, so that in this coming year we can reach out to even more families struggling with homelessness. **You can start by signing up in our lobby for any one or more of the many open volunteer slots for January 22nd-29th.** If you need more information, please see John Ashton or Mary Collier.

## Bus Trip Money Due

For those who are signed up, the money for the bus trip to see **Jonah** at Sight & Sound Theater **is due by February 5th**. The date of the show is May 20th. The cost is \$98 for adults, \$84 for teens (13-17), and \$64 for children (4-12). The cost includes bus, show, and dinner at Shady Maple restaurant. Checks should be made out to Pitman Road Church of Christ, please note "Jonah" on the memo line. Money should be given to Brian Holden or put in his mailbox in Dottie's office. **If you signed up for the trip but no longer plan to go, please contact Brian Holden and let him know as soon as possible because there are people on standby. PLEASE TURN YOUR MONEY IN BY THE DUE DATE.** For additional information please contact Brian Holden at (H) 856-881-6792 (C) 856759-2542 or e-mail: bcholden94@hotmail.com .

### Ladies of Virtue 6th Annual Retreat

**We Are Lights For Jesus Christ:**

**Display Through Me!**

March 3-4, 2017

Sheraton Columbia Town Center Hotel, Columbia, MD  
For registration and information: [www.virtueinchrist.org](http://www.virtueinchrist.org).

<b>Our Schedule</b>	
Sunday	
9:00 am	Bible Classes
10:00 am	Worship
Wednesday	
5:30 pm	Meal
7:00 pm	Bible Classes
Office Hours	
Tuesday - Friday	
8:00 am - 5:00 pm	

<b>Last Week</b>	
Bible Class	NA
Worship	214
LIFE Groups	NA
Wednesday	66
Contribution	\$7,464.00
Fiscal YTD Goal	\$281,124.00
Contribution YTD	\$248,678.00
<b>Budget Deficit</b>	<b>(\$32,446.00)</b>

## This Week's Prayer Requests

**The monthly prayer list of long-term, ongoing prayer requests for November is now available as an insert in this week's bulletin, also next to the bulletin in the lobby, and will be sent out via email. New, urgent, and immediate prayer requests will appear in the bulletin.**

**Praise:** Giving thanks for the new lighting on the front of our building. Thank go to **Carl Steiner** for installing them.

### **Prayers Requested:**

**John Grillo** continues treatment at Lady of Lourdes hospital He had procedures on Tuesday and Thursday clean out the infection from the bone in his leg, but even with heavy medication, John was still in great pain. He is scheduled for another procedure tomorrow. A lengthy recovery time is expected. Your prayers for John's healing, minimal pain and Dottie's perseverance are very much appreciated.

**Mary Collier** will be having surgery on her back on January 23.

**Glynn Durham**, chemo treatment this week; pain, fatigue, and neuropathy.

**Beverly Steiner**, continues to recover from hip replacement surgery.

### Ministers

**Dan Cooper**, Evangelist ..... dcooper@cochrist.org  
..... 856-589-4197

**Carlos Isaziga**, Minister ..... cisaziga@cochrist.org

**Glynn Durham**, Visitation Minister..... poppydurham@gmail.com

### Office Staff

**Dottie Grillo**..... dgrillo@cochrist.org

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

### Elders

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

**Horatio Fenton**..... horatiodfenton@comcast.net

**Brian Holden** ..... bcholden94@hotmail.com

**Garth Hutchinson** ..... 609-414-2606  
..... grth.hutchinson@gmail.com

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

**John Peoples** ..... 609-617-7451

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

**Dwight Thompson**..... 609-561-8561-home, 609-287-0109-cell  
..... dothompson@comcast.net

### Serving Us Today

Nursery	Brenda Peoples
Kids For Christ	Carla Clements
Jr. Worship	Brian Mansdoerfer
Greeters: Front Entrance	Larry & Lea Ann Kellum
Greeters: Back Entrance	Horatio & Jackie Fenton
Information Center	Mary Collier & Linda Prenger
Ushers	Justin Guy & Glynn Durham
Shepherd's Call	Garth Hutchinson
Song Leader	Matt Downing
Communion	Derek Davis

LIFE Group	Location	Contact
Ageless	Mychajlowycz's at noon	908-294-4056
Beginning Anew	Church Bldg. at noon	856-589-1500
Brook Besor	Durham's, Thursday at 7pm	856-589-2280
Circle of Sisters	Sbaraglia's Monday at 7pm	856-419-0544
E.H.S.	Church Bldg. rm B4 at noon	856-589-1500
Family of Teens	Church Bldg. FLC at noon	856-589-1500
Hammonton	Olley's at 5 pm	609-457-6464
Men's Bible Study	Church Bldg., Monday at 7pm	856-217-3956
Paracletes	TBA: Call for info.	856-449-9656
Solid Gold	Lazar's at 6pm	856-223-1699
Teens	Church Bldg. FLC at noon	856-589-1500
Vineland	H. Pearl's at 6pm	856-839-0051
Women in the Word	Church Bldg. Tuesday at 9:45 am	856-589-1500
College	Refuge at 5:30 pm	609-226-4031
Young Professionals	Refuge at 5:30 pm	347-922-2248
Young Married	Refuge at 5:30 pm	856-899-9466

Wednesday Night Meal: Chili, Corn Bread, Salad

Cooks: Harriet and Judi

## Bread of Life Ministry

### ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS:

The Bread of Life Ministry is seeking volunteers to sign up to either bake and/or assist in passing out bread for our guests on a monthly schedule for 2017. Please consider volunteering for one month this calendar year. Any questions, please contact Mary Collier at 215-888-0646 for a detailed explanation. You can see/contact Mary or visit the Welcome Center to sign up.

## Thank You!

Hello Hammonton LIFE Group at Pitman Road Church of Christ, First, a big thank you! I want you to know how much I appreciate your generous gift. Because of you I will be able to enjoy lots of foods and other things from Wawa :) Thanks again for thinking of me! Warm regards, **Amanda Rodriguez**

### To My Wonderful PRCOC Family!!

I don't know where to start. My life has been so blessed by so many people and you are part of that blessing. If Justin and I could personally thank each and everyone of you we would, but we thought this message would reach you all at once!

Thank you for all the wedding shower gifts, parties, best wishes, attendance to the ceremony, and for just being who you are!!

If Justin and I could sit with you individually and tell you our stories, you would know that God's promises are true and that HE makes "BEAUTY FROM ASHES!!" (Isaiah 61:31)

My family and I are truly grateful to have people like you in our lives. Thanks again!!

May you continue to be a shining light in this dark world! May we continue to express Christ Love to those who have never experienced HIM!!

With sincere Gratitude and Love;

**Justin and Rebecca Guy**

**(and our children: Nathan, Amanda, and Hannah)**



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