



God Did That!



So what are the odds? Four siblings in NJ become Christians because of an uncle in Las Vegas?

"Uncle Mark" lives in Las Vegas. He is a dedicated Christian and determined to share his faith, with anyone who will listen. He begins teaching the Bible to his nephews and nieces in NJ. Then, during the month of July, four of them become baptized believers. **Javon and Marlon Willis** were baptized on July 15, and their sister and her husband, **Justice and Gabriel Rodriguez**, were baptized last Sunday.

But there is more. **Carl Steiner** connected with the two brothers, Javon and Marlon, and made sure they made it to church. Then **Steve and Jayne DePrince** connected and made certain that Justice and Gabriel made it to church. Derrick and I also jumped into the mix and shared, led, listened, and taught.

If I've ever seen a 21st century application of a 1st century teaching, this was it. Check out 1 Corinthians 3:6-9, "I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. He who plants and he

who waters are one, and each will receive his wages according to his labor. For we are God's fellow workers. You are God's field, God's building."

God did this. We were His partners and we guided these four precious souls into the new birth and new life. We congratulate Gabriel and Justice and welcome them into our family here at Pitman Road, and into the larger family of God! And, in the coming months, we look forward to welcoming the child that they are expecting!

Check your church directory for all of their pertinent information, names, birthdays, anniversary and full addresses! -Dan



Heartfelt Thanks

Dear Church Family.

I am sure that you have heard about the unfortunate car accident that happened to Jee and I on June 18. I just wanted to take a moment to let you know what happened that REALLY mattered on that day.

Jee and I were truly blessed by the love of Jesus Christ as we came face to face with death. God intervened on our behalf by navigating our car into a clear path and bringing the car to a complete stop inches before we fell into a ditch. He did all of this with an 18-wheeler tractor trailer attached and sitting on our backs (literally)!!!

By the grace of God, Jee was flown to Johns Hopkins, the hospital that is ranked third in the country for spinal cord rehabilitation. Jee had suffered a completely severed spine. At that time we didn't know that she had such a severe injury. She laid under God's watchful eye in the Pediatric ICU for over a week. The doctors were not sure if she would live. She endured a 7 1/2 hour surgery with three teams of doctors to try to piece her spine back together. The doctors informed us that they tried their best to salvage her spinal cord but it was too damaged. They gave us the news that she would never walk again and would have a very long road



This is where we started...

of recovery ahead of her. She was paralyzed from underneath of her breast bone to the tip of her toes for life. Accepting that prognosis was painful, but all I could keep thinking about was how God had spared our lives and that He would surely continue to see us through.

From that day forward, we reached out to you all and asked for prayers and encouragement to help us along the way. Those

...continued on page 3

Our Mission

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

From Daniel's Den

Connecting to God's Family Brings L.I.F.E.!

Are you ready? LIFE Groups will be kicking off soon! LIFE Groups take a break over the summer months, then restart in September each year. It's time to begin planning for 2018-2019 LIFE Groups!

Andy Mychajlowycz, our LIFE Group coordinator, will be sharing the annual LIFE Group message during the worship service on August 26. LIFE Group leaders and potential hosts are currently being contacted (if you're interested in leading or hosting, contact Andy). At least one new LIFE Group is being formed. And some LIFE Group leaders are already recruiting new members for their groups. Sign-ups for LIFE Groups will begin at the end of this month, with the first official LIFE Group gatherings happening the week of September 9.

We invite (even urge) all members to connect with our church family in a deeper and more personal way starting this fall by committing to a LIFE Group!

And, to all LIFE Group leaders, why not coordinate a picnic or some type of a meeting sometime in August as a springboard for the fall? The Ageless LIFE Group invites you to join us today at Andy and Donna's house for a barbeque. We will begin about noon, and conclude by 2:00. If you'd like to know what to bring, contact Andy and Donna.

By the way, who remembers what L. I. F. E. stand for?

CONNECT as we increase in **Love, Involvement, Fellowship, and Evangelism, Dan**



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

Connect with our church family in a deeper and more personal way starting this fall by committing to a LIFE Group!



Derrick Busch
Minister

We're All A Mess

But God!

Think with me about life's unexpected storms, stressors, peaks and valleys, and even the unexpected shark attacks that in our most diligent preparation and due diligence, they catch us off guard! To say that life can be overwhelming at times, would be a gross understatement. There seems to be this constant struggle and pull in each of us, at our very core, that demands the successful fulfillment of our plans, driven by the notion that we know best. Perhaps it can be simply tagged as, "Our Plans vs Reality." Does this picture resonate mentally?

As we think about life together, I want these two powerful words to become deeply rooted in our hearts, **"But God!"** As I think about these two words, my heart turns to **Romans 8:28**, *"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his*

purpose." Have you ever sat and thought about decisions that you've made that you would characterize as prayerful and approached with much counsel, yet you did not get **your** desired end? **"But God!"** Have you been praying for a child or loved one that appears to be far from the Lord? Even reading this article may be causing that very familiar uprising of hopelessness or even anger as you continue to wonder if you will ever see them walking with the Lord. **"But God!"** Perhaps you've made a decision, or a series of decisions, that you deeply regret, and now have to endure the painful outcome of walking through those decisions. **"But God!"** God is there for you!

Note the top 10 stressors for adults, young adults and kids. **Adult stressors:** death of a spouse (or child*), divorce, marital separation, imprisonment, death of a close family member, personal injury or illness, marriage, dismissal from work, marital reconciliation and retirement. **Young adult stressors:** money, the future, appearance, weight, health, getting a job, getting into a chosen career, finding a job which pays enough money, the health of a loved one, and meeting a partner. **Child and teen stressors:**

parent having problems, fight with a friend or sibling(s), taking a test, wondering if someone thinks you're attractive (teens especially), not having enough privacy, birth of a brother or sister, moving to a new school, re/marriage of a parent, not having enough money, and finally, having a teacher that doesn't like you. Are you exhausted? When we accept at a heart level the words, **"But God,"** we are encouraging a heart turn towards the sovereignty and control of God in **EVERYTHING!**

Let's **encourage one another and ourselves** by meditating deeply on the **"But God"** passages: **Genesis 8:1, Genesis 31:42, Genesis 50:20, 1 Samuel 23:14, 1 Kings 5:4, Nehemiah 9:17, Psalm 49:15, Psalm 73:26, Isaiah 40:8, Jonah 2:6, Matthew 19:26, John 1:18, Acts 2:24, Acts 3:15, Acts 5:39, Romans 5:8, Romans 6:23, Romans 8:9, 1 Corinthians 1:27, 2 Timothy 2:9. -Derrick**



Two Ways to Provide Food in Our Community



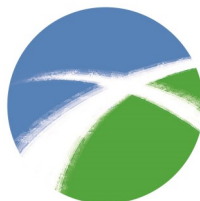
**THE ANGELS
COMMUNITY OUTREACH**
PROVIDING A HAND UP TO THOSE IN NEED

more significant way is **The Angels Community Outreach**. It is a non-denominational organization designed to help individuals going through difficult times.

They are asking for our support with a "Brown Bag Challenge." This effort is similar to our "Pack the Pulpit." There is a specific list of items needed on the brown bags which you can shop for and fill up the bag. These brown bags go to veterans and families living on low incomes.

The brown bags can be picked up at our building, **but they must be returned directly to "The Angels Community Outreach" at 334 South Broadway in Pitman.**

This in no way diminishes our on-going efforts through our Food Pantry. In fact, our funds to restock the pantry here are very low. If you would like to contribute to our pantry, you may write a check to Pitman Road Church of Christ and note "Food Pantry" on the memo line. Drop it in the collection plate or give it to Dottie. You can also give through EasyTithe.



Handouts Available

If you would like copies of the handouts that were available at last Sunday's informational meeting on the role of women in the Churches of Christ, please see Dan.

If you are a member of our church, and would like a copy of our 2018-2019 fiscal year budget, which will be presented today at the end of the worship service, please see Dottie in the church office.

One of the local ministries we are supporting to help us connect with our community in a

Craig and Katie Young's Annual Visit

Long time missionaries Craig and Katie Young will worship with us on Sunday, August 19. Craig will give a report on the work in France during 9:00 am Bible class, which is always both enlightening and sobering. Then Craig will preach during the 10:00 am worship service.

Following the worship service, **those who have participated in past France mission trips, and anyone interested in next year's trip (June 21-30, 2019), are invited to the home of Garth and Diana Hutchinson** for a picnic to honor the Youngs. The Hutchinsons and Coopers will provide the meat for the picnic, **all who attend the picnic are asked to bring a side-dish; a sign up sheet will be available at the Welcome Center.**

The picnic will begin at about 12 noon and conclude about 2:00 pm. Toward the end of the time together, I will share some handouts that Sherri and I have put together, answer questions, and share the reasons you may want to participate in this upcoming mission trip. -Dan

Time to say

← *goodbye* →

to **BRANDON & MALLORY**

Please join them on Sunday, August 19,
for a time of informal fellowship and
light refreshments in the Family Life Center,
immediately following the worship service.

Heartfelt Thanks ...continued from page 1

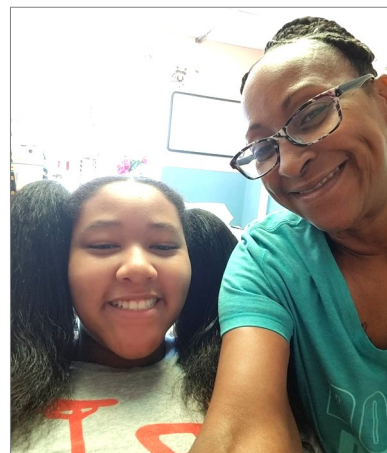
prayers, well wishes, love, and kind thoughts have brought us thus far. Jee is now in an extensive rehab program. She is able to sit up without any support, take off her shoes, brush her hair, pick up small items off of the floor, move herself manually from one place to another using her arms, putting on her own shirt, graduating to a manual wheelchair from an electric wheelchair, playing basketball and hide and seek, and enjoying many other activities that she enjoyed before the accident. All of this she has accomplished within a four week time frame. Most importantly, she has embraced her change in lifestyle with a beautiful smile every day, and a heart that thanks God for protecting us and giving us an opportunity to live to see another day. She thanks God for injuring her and not me because I wouldn't have survived. She prays for the family of the other 14 year old girl that lost her life in the same accident, and she prays for the truck driver that hit us. She asked that we forgive him because God would want us to.

During this time, I have been unable to work and have been struggling financially to keep everything in tact until we get home. I have put my complete trust in the Lord and He continues to shine through. Dan helped me set up a PayPal account for the last few weeks because he said he wanted to be able to send me money to help. I finally got the account set up and today I got a

notification that there is a large deposit made to this account from my church family with a message that says to "Never forget that you are loved."

My heart is smiling and tears of joy flood my eyes as I humbly say "Thank you from the bottom of my heart." This money is very much needed and will help pay important bills. Please know that you all are loved and appreciated. We can't wait to get home so that we can celebrate life and the goodness of the Lord with our church family who has held us up in so many ways during a difficult time! Thank you again, and Jee and I will see you all soon!

(I'm attaching photos so you can see where we started, and see how far God has brought us! #GOD'S PLAN)



Look how far God's brought us!

Our Schedule

Sunday

9:00 am Bible Classes
10:00 am Worship

Wednesday

7:00 pm Bible Classes

Office Hours

Tuesday - Friday
8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Last Week

Bible Class	115
Worship	184
LIFE Groups	NA
Wednesday	43

This Week's Prayer Requests

The list of August 2018 Ongoing Prayer Requests is now available. Long-term requests will appear on that list; new and urgent requests will appear in the bulletin.

Doug and Jan Oliver; after receiving the good news that Doug's last testing showed no sign of cancer, Jan's job is now in jeopardy. Please pray that the situation is resolved, and Jan's employment will continue as she carries the family's healthcare coverage, which is of great importance for both of them.

Sandy Sheehan, having a liver biopsy tomorrow. Prayers for conclusive results are requested.

Jean Lansdowne, who visits with us regularly and used to bring her sister, **Florence Duncan**; asking for prayers for Florence who is now in hospice care. Send notes of encouragement to Jean at 202 South Woodbury Rd Pitman NJ 08071.

Marion Jacobs, Barbara Robinsons father, has been hospitalized at Elmer Hospital for an infection in his big toe.

Jennifer Ewing, David & Kat Lindsey's neighbor, had surgery on Friday to remove melanoma. Prayers requested for successful surgery and complete recovery.

John Schofield is now recovering at home.

Je'ani Lyles, see the article on page 1. Cards can be sent to: Bloomberg 10 South, 1800 Orlean St., Baltimore, MD 21287

Kareem Rutledge, Jr. continues rehabilitation from traumatic brain injury.

Van Edwards radiation treatments for breast cancer.

Linda Prenger is recovering at Rachel Stetser's home. She will have to undergo both radiation and chemo treatment. Please pray for her complete healing and emotional wellbeing. **Visitors are not appropriate at this time. You can send cards to Linda at Rachel's address in the directory.**

Larry Kellum experimental drug treatment for MDS. He will begin treatment soon.

Brian Mansdoerfer, surgery recovery, torn pectoral muscle.

Roseann Savastano, meningitis is improving, thank God!

Diane Perales cataract surgery recovery.

Dwight Thompson, treatment for Hodgkin's lymphoma. He tolerated the last chemo treatment much better.

Mike Lazar recovering from shoulder surgery.

Stephanie DeStefano, diverticulitis.

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Elder on Call for August: Garth Hutchinson

Serving Us Today

Nursery	Robin Steward
Kids For Christ	Summer Break
Jr. Worship	Summer Break
Greeters: Front Entrance	Justin & Rebecca Guy
Greeters: Back Entrance	Ron Dargan & Mandy Mansdoerfer
Information Center	Donna Mychajlowycz
Ushers	John & Brenda Peoples
Shepherd's Call	Brian Holden
Song Leader	Garth Hutchinson
Communion	TBA

Collingswood VBS Begins Tonight!

Collingswood Church of Christ hosts their annual Vacation Bible School beginning tonight and continuing each night through Wednesday at 7:00 PM (August 5-8).

The Collingswood church is located at 300 White Horse Pike, Collingswood, NJ 08107; 856-854-0197.

John Cooper, Dan's brother, who specializes in Christian Evidences, will be leading the adult and teen discussion.

The VBS will feature the traditional songs and activities for all kids up through the 6th grade. There are nightly refreshments.

Sunday: The God Question - The Existence of God

Monday: The Jesus Question - The Historicity of Jesus

Tuesday: The Bible Question - The Reliability of the Bible

Wednesday: The Reality Question - Archaeology & the Bible

Thank You!

Dear Church Family,

It is with much humility and appreciation that I offer our deepest thanks for all your love, prayers, and support during the loss of our mom.

There is nothing in this world more beautiful than a church family showing Christ's love to others in time of need.

The service was beautiful and the luncheon that followed allowed our family time to share and celebrate together happy memories, something we had not done in 40 years. God bless you all.

In Christian Love, **Steve and Jayne DePrince**

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