

PITMAN ROAD
CHURCH OF CHRIST

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PITMAN ROAD POST

Our Mission

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

A PEACHER'S PERSPECTIVE



Joey Peacher
Preaching Minister

We are not promised or guaranteed physical safety. John's gospel records some of Jesus's final words. Arguably, these words are the most important things Jesus wanted his followers to remember. He mentions peace of mind and heart (Jn 14:27), being filled with joy (Jn 15:11), and the help of the Holy Spirit (Jn 16), but not once does Jesus guarantee security for our bodies. He does promise there will be trouble in this life (16:33). Yet, as fleshly people, we tend to focus on our physical security.

We must make paramount the entire human being. We are more than flesh and bones. We are spirits and souls. We are a complex mixture of mind (mental), soul (spiritual), heart (emotional), and strength (bodily). Jesus alluded to this when he told us to love God in all those ways. When I read of missionaries and martyrs in history and in the events of Scripture, I read very little concern for physical safety. In fact, just the opposite happens in most cases. People on fire for God run towards possible bodily harm while declaring their spirits completely at peace. I have felt at times that decisions, at many different levels, have weighted the physical health much heavier than the rest of our health.

We live in fear instead of faith. Our hearts are wicked and deceitful. (Jer 17:9) We rot on the inside. Emotional exhaustion and mental trauma weigh us down. Yet, God gives us heart transplants. His primary concern is for our spirits and our souls. When our hearts are focused on the sacrifice of Jesus, burdens of this world are lifted. When we join to declare faith over fear, to declare our potentially eternal souls are more important than our temporary bodies, we perform an essential function for ourselves as human beings. We give our spirits what they need to remain strong and healthy when we worship God in community.

Life is full of risk and danger in a cursed world. We will lose. We will fail. We will suffer. We will die. The Christian transformative journey is not a straight, joyful line up the ladder to heaven, but a series of dips, curves, ascents, pauses and restarts. We are not the first generation of Americans or Christians to face challenging times, and we will not be the last. Past leaders, who faced and overcame extraordinary times, challenge, comfort and strengthen me. Reflect on their words and remember: this time too will pass.

Security is mostly a superstition. It does not exist in nature, nor do the children of men as a whole experience it. Avoiding danger is no safer in the long run than outright exposure. Life is either a daring adventure, or nothing. - Helen Keller, *The Open Door*

A race, like an individual, lifts itself up by lifting others up. - Booker T. Washington

Grave perils are yet to be encountered in the stormy course of the Republic -- perils from political corruption, perils from individual laziness, indolence and timidity, perils springing from the greed of the unscrupulous rich, and from the anarchic violence of the thrifless and turbulent poor. There is every reason why we should recognize them, but there is no reason why we should fear them or doubt our capacity to overcome them, if only each will, according to the measure of his ability, do his full duty, and endeavor so to live as to deserve the high praise of being called a good American citizen.

- Theodore Roosevelt, *The Duties of American Citizenship*

Every man must decide whether he will walk in the light of creative altruism or in the darkness of destructive selfishness. - Martin Luther King, Jr.

Help us to conquer the apostles of greed and racial arrogances. Lead us to the saving of our country... and a peace that will let all men live in freedom, reaping the just rewards of their honest toil.

- Franklin Delano Roosevelt

The time has come to turn to God and reassert our trust in Him for the healing of America...Our country is in need of and ready for a spiritual renewal. Today, we utter no prayer more fervently than the ancient prayer for peace on Earth. - Ronald Reagan

We cannot allow physical separation to become emotional isolation...In this time of testing, we need to remember a few things. First, let us remember that we have faced times of testing before. Following 9/11, we saw a great nation rise as one to honor the brave, to grieve with the grieving and to embrace unavoidable new duties. And I have no doubt -- none at all -- that this spirit of sacrifice is alive and well in America. Second, let us remember that empathy and simple kindness are essential, powerful tools of national recovery. - George W. Bush

FROM DANIEL'S DEN

"PEACEMAKERS"



Dan Cooper
Connections Minister

Jesus offered a special blessing upon peacemakers. Being a peacemaker is not for the passive. Peacemaking requires action. Prayer. It is difficult! It requires listening...active listening. Negotiating. Conflict resolution. Patience! Thick skin! Silence! Diplomacy! Mediation! Did I say patience?

Matthew 5:9

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. (ESV)

Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called children of God. (Douay-Rheims)

Happy are those who work for peace; God will call them his children. (Good News Translation)

Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God. (KJV)

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. (NASV)

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. (NIV)

Blessed [spiritually calm with life-joy in God's favor] are the makers and maintainers of peace, for they will [express His character and] be called the sons of God. (Amplified Bible)

Happy are those who strive for peace—they shall be called the sons of God. (The Living Bible)

You're blessed when you can show people how to cooperate instead of compete or fight. That's when you discover who you really are, and your place in God's family. (The Message)

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. (NRSV)

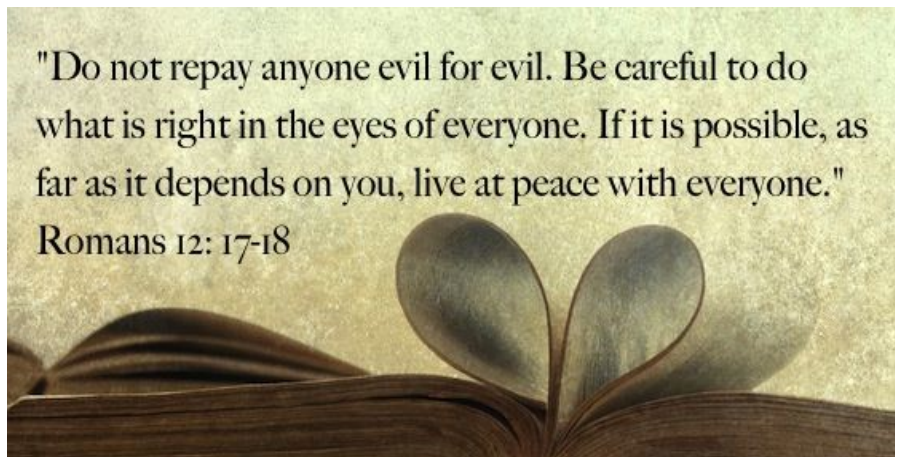
Blessed be peaceable men, for they shall be called God's children. [Blessed the peaceable, for they shall be called the sons of God.] (Wycliffe Bible)

Happy are those who work for peace; God will call them his children! (Good News Translation)

How blessed you are when you make peace! For then you will be recognized as a true child of God. (The Passion Translation)

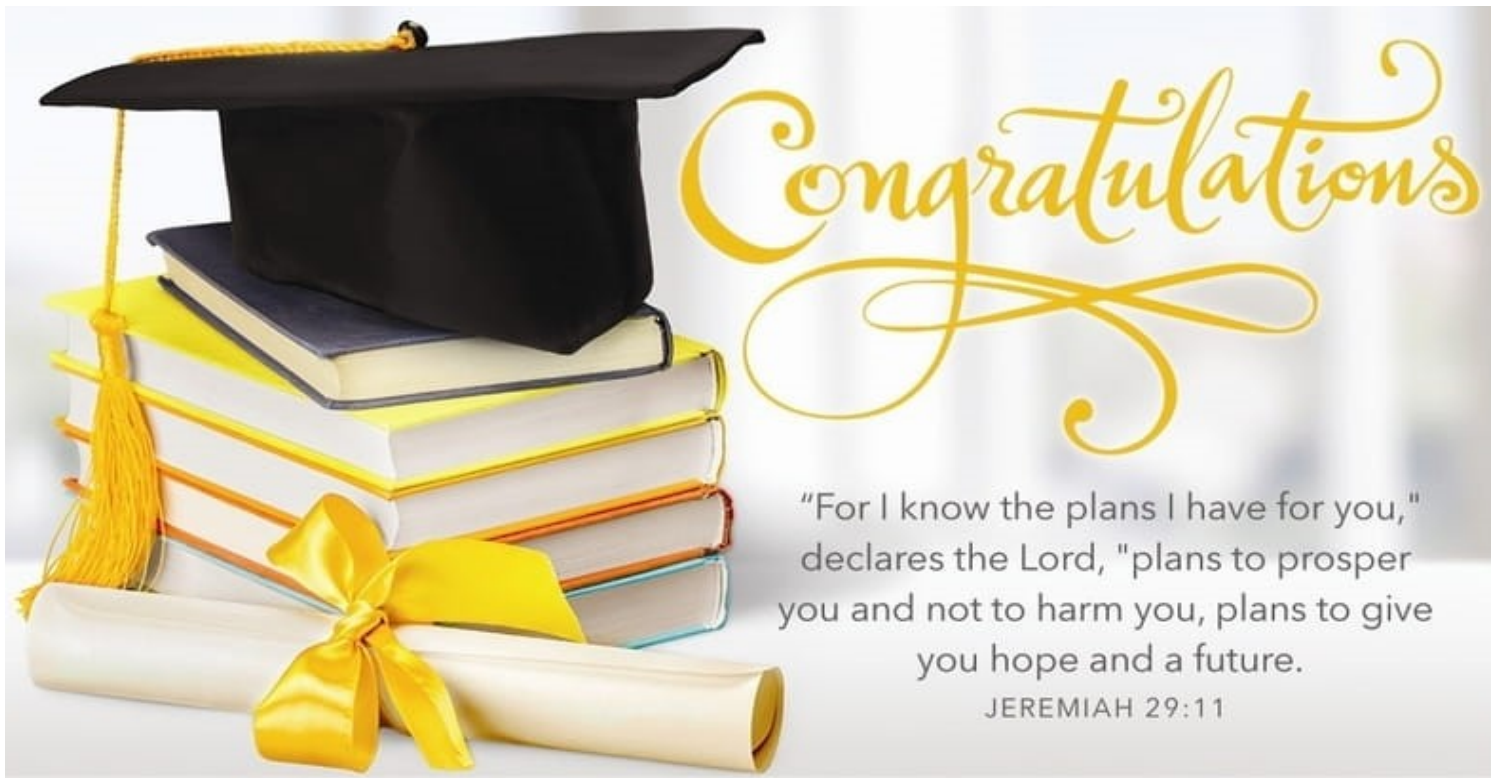
My Challenge To You? Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. **Rom. 12:17-18**

Editor's Note: Early in my undergraduate training in ministry, I was taught that becoming an accomplished linguist and reading fluently in Hebrew or Greek, while very desirable and helpful, is a skill only acquired by a few. Furthermore, I learned that the next best thing to becoming a Hebrew or Greek scholar, was reading any given text from a variety of translations.



"Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."
Romans 12: 17-18

Praying to be a Peacemaker in our troubled times; **Dan the Connections Man**



Stephanie Pierre-Jacques graduated Magna Cum Laude from the State University of New York at Fredonia with a

Bachelor of Science in Music Therapy. She will be sitting for her board certification this summer, and then will be heading back to Fredonia for her Master's in Music Therapy.



Toria Haden received her Masters of Occupational Therapy (MOT) degree from Wesley College in Dover, DE. She is currently waiting to start her last 12 week rotation

of Fieldwork in a Skilled Nursing Facility. After the rotation, she will be able to sit for her board/licensure examination and then begin her search for a job.



Brittany Brier graduated from Mount St. Mary's University in Emmitsburg, Maryland May 2020 with a Bachelor of Criminal Justice/ Communications. During her time there, she was President of the Black Student Union (BSU), a Peer Leader, and an intern at Mother Seton Elementary School. Brittany plans to pursue a career in Social Work, possibly in Maryland, Virginia, or DC. She hopes to work for the Center for Missing and Exploited Children one day. Brittany thanks God, family, and friends for helping her succeed thus far.





Logan Davis received his Masters of Social Work (MSW) degree from the University of Tennessee in May 2020. He is currently looking for a job and residing in Nashville, Tennessee with his new bride, Adyson.

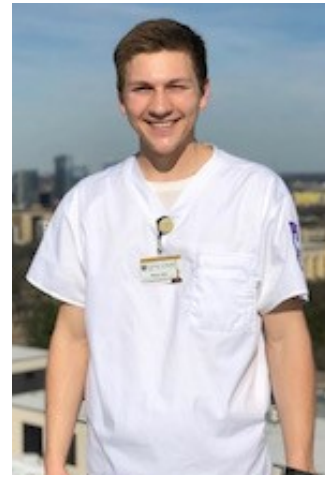


Steve McBride will be officially finished with his E. R. Residency Program at the end of June. He begins a new job in Indianapolis on July 1. Way to go, Steve!



Wesley Olley graduated from Lipscomb University with his Bachelor of Science in Nursing. He started a job with the Nashville Veterans Affairs Hospital 10 days after graduation. He was disappointed about missing his pinning ceremony, due to the

pandemic. But, he's hoping to have a pinning prior to the December graduation. He will be pinned by his aunt who is also an RN. Wes would like to attend grad school after gaining a few years of experience to determine exactly how he wants to further his nursing degree education. Prayers for clear professional direction over the next few years would be greatly appreciated!



Congratulations

Logan Davis and Adyson Marcus were married in a beautiful outdoor ceremony in Cleveland, TN on May 23, 2020. They are currently living in Nashville, TN, where Logan is looking for a job in Social Work after receiving his Masters (MSW) degree from the University of Tennessee in May. Adyson is preparing for her last semester of school at Lipscomb University. She will do her student teaching and graduate in December. Thank you to everyone who has loved and supported them! It takes a village! - **Tim and Melody Davis**



But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.” 1 Samuel 16:7

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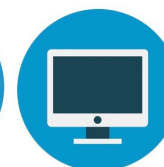
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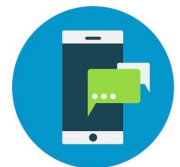
In person
at the
worship service.



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