

PITMAN ROAD

CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Dramatic and Exciting New Changes - Wednesday Nights Starting in September!

Coinciding with the beginning of the new school year, our exciting new Wednesday night format begins on Wednesday, September 7th!

What will stay the same? Dinner will still be served from 5:30-6:30 (beginning on September 14th). We will still meet at 7:00 and be headed home by 8:00.

What will be different? Just about everything else!



On the first Wednesday night of every month we will all (children, teens, and adults) meet in the auditorium for a time of singing, praise and worship. We'll have our whole group together to worship in song! We'll learn new songs. We'll sing kids' songs! This is an intergenerational time of worship and praise.

On the second Wednesday night of every month, we will all have choices. Aaron Pearl will coordinate activities for the Children's Ministry! Tim Davis will coordinate activities for the teens! This will also be a time to conduct ministry meetings! Classrooms will be designated for ministry meetings; ministry leaders must schedule their meetings with Dottie and she will assign the rooms. All ministry leaders are urged to schedule meetings during this time, and not during the dinner hour. In addition, a textual Bible study will be in the Chapel (B-3) for those who want to attend a traditional Bible class.

Meetings
Classes
Activities



On the third Wednesday night of every month we will all (children, teens, and adults) meet in the auditorium to begin a time of prayer. After a brief introduction, Derrick Busch, our designated third Wednesday night leader, will dismiss prayer teams to various classrooms. Each prayer team will have a specific prayer focus, which will vary from month to month. This, too, will be an opportunity for intergenerational interaction. Additionally, a textual Bible class will be held in the Chapel (B-3).

On the fourth Wednesday night of every month, we will all have choices. Bert Kellum, along with our young adults and other volunteers, will be coordinating a puppet show for our Children's Ministry! Tim Davis will coordinate activities for our teens! Once again, classrooms will be designated for ministry meetings; ministry leaders must schedule their meetings with Dottie and she will assign the rooms. All ministry leaders are urged to schedule meetings during this time, and not during the dinner hour. Also again, a textual Bible class will be available in the Chapel (B-3)!

Meetings
Classes
Activities



Fifth Wednesday nights (which occur approximately 4 times each year) will be designated as a Choice Night! We will not meet as a group at the building. Instead, you are encouraged to visit or have dinner with members and/or non-members, have Bible studies, perform acts of service to our members or in your community, etc. We ask that you report to Dottie any time spent with anyone other than your immediate family members so we can measure outreach and fellowship opportunities.

Our Mission

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

From Daniel's Den

LIFE Group "Sign Up Sunday" is NEXT Sunday!

As September approaches, we are excited about our new LIFE Groups for this fall! A short time back, I facilitated a questionnaire within our church and asked two questions: 1) **Why do people go to LIFE Groups?** And 2) **Why do people leave LIFE Groups?** Good questions. Wouldn't you like to know the answers? Honest responses were as follows: (14) "Why Go?" and (7) "Why Leave."

1. Why do people go to LIFE Groups? 1) I love the fellowship; 2) I need the support from others; 3) I want to know people better; 4) I love the Bible studies; 5) I want my children to have friends at church; 6) Sometimes I go because I feel it is my duty; 7) I like to share food and drink together; 8) I love it when we sing together; 9) I rejuvenate for the week; 10) I go to LIFE Group to network with other Christians; 11) To pray together; 12) To praise God with others; 13) Because I like the LIFE Group Leader; and 14) I go to LIFE Group because of the convenient location.

2. Why do people leave LIFE Groups? 1) Exhaustion: We were using our house too much; 2) Child care: Our children were not involved enough and we felt kids were being neglected. 3) Scheduling: The times groups were scheduled interfered with nap schedule. 4) Travel distances: Our LIFE Group was too far away for us to consistently get there. 5) Our LIFE Group chronically started late and ended late. 6) Tension: There was one trouble maker in our LIFE Group, and I just couldn't take them. And, 7) Unable to host: Since I was unable to host a LIFE Group, I couldn't feel a part.

- **Dan the LIFE Groupman!!**

"They devoted themselves to the apostles teaching, and fellowship, and prayers. And day by day...they were together and breaking bread in their homes, receiving food with glad and generous hearts...having favor with all the people!" (Acts 2:42-27) Sounds like they were in a LIFE Group.



Dan Cooper
aka
"Dan, Dan,
the Preacherman"

Why do
people go to
a LIFE Group?

Why do
people leave
a LIFE Group?



Merle (Glynn) Durham
Visitation Minister

A Few Moments with Merle

"NEW NORMAL"

I don't recall ever hearing these two words before August 2006. And from the first time I heard them, I hated them.

I was sitting in a grief support group with 18 other widows and widowers when I first heard those two words. My wife of 35 years left me to be with the Lord some six months earlier. On this night, our facilitator talked about our "new normal." In my heart I cried, "But I don't *want* a 'new normal!' I want my wife back! I want our life and our love back!"

Over the last few months I have been trying to adjust to another "new normal." It has been brought about by a diagnosis of stomach cancer. Long gone are days of uninterrupted activity and back to back appointments for visits or Bible studies with people I care about.

Many have prayed for me and offered words of encouragement or advice. One thing I most often hear comes from fellow cancer strugglers who say, "Rest, rest, rest!" And I have to tell you, that is hard advice for me to follow. But it is a "new normal" for a body weakened by cancer and the brutal side effects of chemotherapy.

Let me hasten to say there have been blessings that have come from slowing down or stopping to rest or to nap. Blessings of being able to spend needed time with Debby. Blessings of renewed strength to be able to make a phone call to the sick or shut-in, or to the hurting. Blessings of being able to be alert enough to write or to read. Blessings from the convicting Scripture (Psalms 46:10) that says, "Be still and know that I am God."

The words "new normal" are not new. And what they represent is not necessarily bad. But what they mean may be new for each of us. As changes occur in our lives it is good to know we are not alone. Through every "new" experience God is with us and He will help us with every difficulty, challenge, and pain.

--Merle (Glynn) Durham

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NOW IS THE TIME!



Back to Church Sunday is coming up on September 18th...that's FOUR WEEKS from today! We encourage you to be praying about who you want to invite...and then go and invite them! To make it easy for you, we have convenient invitation cards available at the Welcome Center and on either end of the lobby near the bulletins. Please pick up a few, put them in your wallet, handbag, backpack, etc., so you'll be ready at any time to invite someone **BACK TO CHURCH!**



Go Beneath the Surface and Transform Your Life

Also... on September 18th, we begin what promises to be an impactful sermon series: Emotionally Healthy Spirituality. It's a simple truth, but one that trips up believers everywhere: You can't be healthy spiritually if you're unhealthy emotionally. Join us as Dan and Carlos lead us to look more closely at what it means to break free from bondage to the past and experience true emotional healing. Do you know someone who can benefit from this series...invite them **BACK TO CHURCH ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18TH AS WE BEGIN THIS JOURNEY TOGETHER!**

Sign Up Sunday is NEXT Sunday!



Why go to a LIFE Group? Because life is better in community! Next Sunday new LIFE Groups for 2016-2017 will be announced. LIFE Group leaders will be available in the lobby before Bible classes and in between Bible classes and the worship service to talk to you about their LIFE Groups and answer your questions. Some previous groups will reconvene for another year, and new groups will be forming. There's one for you! During our worship service, Glynn will share a special sermon about LIFE Groups and why they are important in each of our lives. Please plan to be here on this important day!

Outreach Opportunities!

Two opportunities to start the school year off right for children in need!

Opportunity #1

"Back to School" Supply Drive: We are collecting the following items. Please drop them in the bin at the Welcome Center... **you get one more week to do this...please have everything in by NEXT Sunday, August 28th!!!**

- backpacks / book bags
- pencils and pens / erasers / pencil cases
- crayons and colored pencils
- pencil sharpeners (that hold the shavings)
- highlighters and markers
- folders / composition books / notebooks
- binders and loose leaf paper
- graph paper / index cards/flash cards
- scissors/rulers/calculators
- "Book Sox"



Opportunity #2

It's that time already and **Angels of God Clothing Closet** in Pitman is in need of **sneakers, socks and even underwear for kids in need.**

Many children start the school year without these basic needs and we can help. Sales are going on everywhere right now so why not pick up one or more of these items (one for male and one for female) and put a smile on a child's face. Place your items in the box labeled *Embark Ministry* at the Welcome Center by August 31st. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. Thank you for your support and generosity. -Leza Davis



Do you have extra clothing or accessories clogging up your closets and dressers?

Bring it all to the Pitman Road Women's Ministry Clothing and Accessory Swap!

Where: Pitman Road Church of Christ Family Life Center

When: Saturday, August 27th, 10:00 am to 12:00 noon

Who: You and a friend or two!

Bring: Gently used clothing, shoes, and accessories.

How it works: As people arrive with their items, areas will be designated by category: dresses, tops, jackets, pants, jeans, shoes, jewelry, hats & scarves, etc. While items are being organized everyone can mingle, enjoy some light refreshments, and browse the treasures coming in. Then we will start the swap! Any leftover, unwanted items will be donated to charity.

Clean out your closets and bring your clothes, shoes, and accessories to trade with old and new friends! **Questions? Contact Brittany Spaeth, brittanybanks@gmail.com or Rebekah Lazar, doesthatcomeingold@gmail.com.**

Our Schedule

Sunday

9:00 am Bible Classes
10:00 am Worship

Wednesday

7:00 pm Bible Classes
7:45 pm Fellowship

Office Hours

Tuesday - Friday
8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Last Week

Bible Class	128
Worship	216
LIFE Groups	NA
Wednesday	79
Contribution	\$6,987.00
Fiscal YTD Goal	\$72,884.00
Contribution YTD	\$60,827.00
Under Budget	(\$12,057.00)

Ministers

Dan Cooper, Evangelist..... dcooper@cochrist.org
..... 856-589-4197
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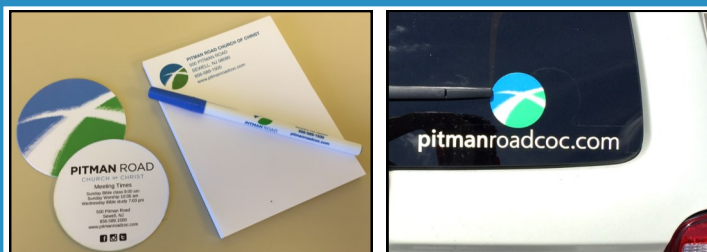
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Elder on Call for July and August: Mike Lazar

Serving Us Today

Nursery	Lori Hernandez
Kids For Christ	Summer Break
Jr. Worship	Summer Break
Greeters: Front Entrance	TBA
Greeters: Back Entrance	Mary & Lee Collier
Ushers	Debby Durham
Information Center	Glynn Durham & Corny Walker
Shepherd's Call	Dwight Thompson
Song Leader	Matt Downing
Communion	Noah Lewis



We've got some new things for you! Stop by the Welcome Center to pick up some of our round cards to hand out! We also have new pens, notepads, and vehicle window decals with our new logo for you to use for yourself or share!

This Week's Prayer Requests

Praise: Praises that Harriet Wensel did not have a heart attack and was released from then hospital within the day. Praise that Annette's dad, Ed Gandolfi, got a clear report after a heart catheterization! (Please pray for the source of his fatigue to be diagnosed.)

Prayers Requested:

Jayne Schofield, xray reveals spine injuries are worse; she is in great pain. Pray for approval of MRI by insurance company.

Jonathan Hooley is awaiting results from a liver biopsy.

Nelda Porter, Debby Durham's mother, medical testing. Debby is traveling home from Chicago later today.

Rob Weltzin must make important decisions about the care of both of his grandmothers as their health declines rapidly.

Heidi Schaub, friend of Hope Hooley, tumor in stomach.

Bud Britton continues to improve slowly.

Charles Ward, Sue Ward's father, hospice.

Manny Vander Vennen's Mom, Ruth

Once again our church family rallied around a brother during the time of loss, this time we were there as Manny's mother, Ruth, was laid to rest. What a moving tribute was given to this servant hearted servant of Jesus Christ! Thank you, church family, for being there for Manny, as many of us made the trip up to Mount Laurel for Manny's mother's funeral. As always, your memorial gifts are appreciated, too. If you would like to make a memorial gift in honor of Manny's mom, there are forms available in our foyer. **-Dan**

Great Commission Faithfulness

Three prayer requests from our long time France Missionaries, **Craig and Katie Young**, during their time with us this past Sunday!

1. Craig Young's father is now on hospice care. Pray for God to provide guidance and peace.
2. Sylvan, the long term "camp caretaker" is now on dialysis and is awaiting a kidney transplant. Pray that a donor can be found, and the Sylvan's life will be prolonged, since he plays such a vital role at Centre Bonnefoi.
3. Pray for the financial support of four students, all from the Marseille church, who need to raise funds for one full year of "Christians On Mission" (CEM) discipleship training program. Each student needs about \$1,000 per month, and Craig is happy to tell you how you can help. Contact Craig at cgyoung@neuf.fr . Support is needed from this September (NOW), through next August, 2017. That means if you support one of these CEM students, and if you go on the next France Mission trip, you will get to work with them at Centre Bonnefoi next summer, God willing. How cool is that?

-Dan



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