

December 4, 2016 Volume 32, Issue 49

500 Pitman Road Sewell, NJ 08080 856-589-1500 www.pitmanroadcoc.com

# December is Here!



# Today!

New Winter Quarter Bible Classes Begin! Please check the schedules posted in the Lobby and Family Life Center.

### Annual Cookie Exchange!

TODAY! December 4th at 1:00 PM At the home of Donna Lazar, 214 Harrison Ridge, Mullica Hill 856-223-1699

Please bring 6 dozen cookies wrapped in 1/2 dozen packages, (6 cookies per pack.) Hope to see you there!!!



Join us tonight at 5:00 prv for a very special Refuge as we celebrate the birth of our Savior with songs of the season.

> Please bring a favorite holiday finger food or goodie to share!

### Our Mission

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

#### A Great Gift from God to Man - The Bible: Some Interesting Facts About/From the Bible

- The most shoplifted book in the world is the Bible.
- In 2011, British calligrapher Donald Jackson and a team of calligraphers completed what is believed to the first handwritten Bible with illustrations since the invention of the printing press. It took 12 years to complete and cost \$8 million.
- Jesus had four brothers and several unnamed sisters (Mathew 13:5).
- There is no physical description of Jesus in the Bible. None!
- Thomas Jefferson made his own Bible out of scrapes from the New Testament in order to focus on the moral teachings of Jesus of Nazareth instead of impossibilities like the miracles.
- Hell in modern Bible translations refers to "Gehenna," an actual place outside Jerusalem where they burned garbage and thus there was always a fire burning. The bodies of those deemed to have died in sin without hope were thrown there to be destroyed.
- There is an organization that illegally parachutes copies of the Bible into North Korea.
- The Bible is actually a compilation of 66 books written over a period of about 1,400 years by about 40 authors.

The Bible is one of God's Greatest Gifts to His People, Dan



Dan Cooper aka "Dan, Dan, the Preacherman"

The Bible is one of God's greatest gifts to His people.

A Servant Speaks



Darren Fields Deacon; Greeters/ReachOut

We need to remember that visiting a church for the first time can be an intimidating experience.

#### Be Our Guest!

My ministry area coordinates greeters to meet our visitors and contact them after their visit through the ReachOut ministry. This ministry exists to help us fulfill the Great Commission in our own local communities. Local Evangelism is an area of critical importance for the growth of our congregation, the maturity of our members, and the wellbeing of the souls all around us. We need to remember that visiting a church for the first time can be an intimidating experience. We all have been there at least once. People frequently visit a church for the first time during a period of stress or change in their lives. We want to be responsive to their needs and make their initial visit with us a meaningful one.

**Greeters Ministry:** We coordinate the greeters for both the front and rear main entrances for Sunday morning services. The schedule for greeters starts prior to the start of Bible class and at the beginning of worship service. Greeters are asked to greet everyone and distribute bulletins to everyone who enters. Of utmost importance, greeters are to hand out a guest folder to every first time guest and encourage them to fill out the "Connection Card" and then place it into the collection basket or drop it off at the Welcome Center.

**ReachOut Ministry:** This ministry was created to coordinate church members with our visitors after their initial visit to our church service. On Sunday or Monday, an email is sent the ReachOut team members to provide their ReachOut assignments. The email explains to the ReachOut team members of their assignment which could be contact the visitors through emails, note (sent through the mail), phone calls, or visits. Most importantly, we offer prayers for our visitors. I believe that these are important ministries because so many churches miss opportunity to grow their church simply because they didn't know the visitor(s) were there. I believe that every person that walks through our doors should be welcomed and then contacted after their visit.

-Darren Fields



#### TODAY!

If you would like to make Pitman Road church your church or find out more about our Vision, Mission, Beliefs, and Values, then we would love you to join us today at our Starting Point meeting, at 11:45 am in room B1. Lunch and childcare is provided.

#### This Week!

#### **GIVE THE GIFT OF LIFE!**

American **Red Cross** 

Pitman Road Church of Christ American Red Cross Blood Drive Friday, December 9th, 2:30 - 7:30 PM

Appointments are preferred but not required.

Sign up sheet will be available at the Welcome Center, or contact Hope Hooley.

## Feeding the Hungry in Trenton

THIS Saturday, December 10th • 10 am-2 pm Sign-up to help serve at the Welcome Center!

Thank you to all those who contributed to meeting the \$500 cost of the meal, and also to those who have donated blankets.

#### Ministry Opportunity

Have you "adopted" one of our college aged young adults yet? Engage Women's Ministry is kicking off a new ministry: Introducing the College Age Encouragement Ministry. We all know what an exciting, frightening, and challenging time this is in a young person's life. Engage Women's Ministry is asking our life groups, and individuals, or families at Pitman to adopt a college aged member and send them encouraging notes, texts, and possibly an occasional small care package. We have many of our 22 college aged young people who are still in need of "adoption!" Please contact Andrea Olley at andreaolley30@gmail.com or on her cell #609-457-6464.

### Matching Gift Update

Several have asked how we are progressing with our Matching Gift - Pay Down the Mortgage Challenge.

- To refresh your memory, former members have promised to match any and all of our gifts up to \$20,000 to pay down our church mortgage. All monies that are received and so designated will go directly toward the mortgage and paying down our church debt.
- Thanks to all who have contributed so far. As of this past Sunday, we have given \$14,225. Praise God.
- We have until the end of the year to collect the balance of \$5,775, at which point we will have paid down the principle on our mortgage by an extra \$40,000.
- Your special donations can also be used to honor or memorialize a loved one, former member, or family member. Write your check to the Pitman Road Church of Christ, and note on the memo line: Matching Gift Challenge

#### Coming Up This Month!



Sermon Series Schedule for December: Today: The Gift: The Word of God, The Bible December 11th: The Gift: The Cross and the Celebration **Over Death** 

December 18th: The Gift: Community & Church - Dan December 25th: The Gift: Fresh Starts & New Life



#### Bible Studies Schedule for December

Monday Night Men's Bible Study will meet tomorrow night at 7:00 pm. Then there will be a winter break for the rest of the month. The study will resume in January.

Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study will meet on December 6th & 13th at 9:45 am, and will be off on December 20th and 27th. The study will meet again on January 3rd.

### Opportunity to Serve Abroad



school teacher in Japan! Japan A devoted missionary family serving in Japan has need of a junior/ senior high teacher to come serve

with their team. The purpose would be to help homeschool the children of team members -- IN

ENGLISH! They are seeking a committed Christian. Please pass the word! Kindly contact Garth or Diana Hutchinson for more information, or email the family directly. Thank you! Chad and Jennifer Huddleston: cjfamily@b-1.jp

Grateful for Generous Hearts, Dan

Our Schedule	Last Week	
Sunday 9:00 am Bible Classes 10:00 am Worship Wednesday 5:30 pm Meal 7:00 pm Bible Classes	Bible Class	122
	Worship	NC
	LIFE Groups	NA
	Wednesday	NC
	Contribution	\$6,595.00
Office Hours	Fiscal YTD Goal	\$229,064.00
Tuesday - Friday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm	Contribution YTD	\$199,177.00
	Budget Deficit	(\$29,887.00)

#### Ministers

Dan Cooper, Evangelist dcooper@cochrist.org			
Carlos Isaziga, Minister			
Glynn Durham, Visitation Minister			
Office Staff			
Dottie Grillo			
Annette Perineannette.perine@gmail.com			
Elders			
Mike Broylesmbroyles777@gmail.com			
Horatio Fenton horatiofenton@comcast.net			
Brian Holdenbcholden94@hotmail.com			
Garth Hutchinson			
grth.hutchinson@gmail.com			
Mike Lazar teacher.engineer@comcast.net			
John Peoples 609-617-7451			
Dave Perine davidt.perine@comcast.net			
Dwight Thompson			
dothompson@comcast.net			
Elder on Call for December: Dwight Thompson			

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#### Servina Us Todav

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Nursery	Janet Betts
Kids For Christ	Debby Durham & Tina Broyles
Jr. Worship	Brian Mansdoerfer
Greeters: Front Entrance	Justin & Rebecca Guy
Greeters: Back Entrance	Derrick & Brenda Busch
Information Center	Dianna Hutchinson
Ushers	Gartt Hutchinson & Larry Point
Shepherd's Call	Mike Broyles
Song Leader	Dwight Thompson
Communion	Brian Holden

LIFE Group	Location	Contact	
Ageless	Cooper's at noon		
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	Rake leaves @ Savatano's	856-589-1500	
Hammonton	Broyles' at 5pm	609-561-8532	
Men's Bible Study	Church Bldg., Monday at 7pm	856-217-3956	
Paracletes	Greenfields Assi't Lvg. at 2 pm	856-449-9656	
Solid Gold	Lazar's at 6pm	856-223-1699	
Teens	Rake leaves @ Savatano's	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 5pm	609-226-4031	
Young Professionals	REFUGE at 5pm	347-922-2248	
Young Married	REFUGE at 5pm	856-899-9466	
Wednesday Night Meal: Pork Loin, Au Gratin Potatoes			
Cooks: Harriet, Judi, and JoAnn			
		11.1	

## This Week's Prayer Requests

MONTHLY LIST OF ONGOING PRAYER REQUESTS- There have been no changes on our monthly prayer list for November, so please continue to use that list for the month of December.

Praise: Thankful for so many opportunities to be the hands and feet of Jesus.

#### **Prayers Requested:**

Dottie Grillo is experiencing extreme pain in her back and legs. She has an appointment with an orthopedic doctor on Dec. 13.

John Goodman has been struggling with congestive heart failure. Please pray that the latest medication the doctors have given him will clear it up.

Glynn Durham, recovering from another round of chemo.

Jayne Schofield scheduled for an epidural on December 30th to relieve lumbar pain.

Paul Stanford has begun his wintertime travels.

### New Guest Folders



You will soon be seeing our new Guest Folders placed under some of the seats in the auditorium for the easy access of our guests. We ask that you and you children refrain from using the folders and inserts as scratch paper. Thank you so much in advance for your cooperation!

### Just a Couple of Reminders

You have until this Friday, December 9th, to drop of new, or gently used, clean blankets. The blankets will be taken to Trenton on Saturday for distribution to homeless and needy people.



If you are participating in the Adopt-A-

Family effort with the Embark ministry, please bring in your wrapped gifts by next Sunday, December 11th. Please remember to tape the tag onto the box that you were given when you selected your family member. Gifts can be dropped off in the Family Promise room, D1.



2017 Date Books are available now in the lobby.

Please help yourself!

We do ask that you take only one per person.