



PITMAN ROAD

CHURCH OF CHRIST

December 25, 2016

Volume 32, Issue 52

500 Pitman Road
Sewell, NJ 08080
856-589-1500

www.pitmanroadcoc.com



Bethlehem, also known as the City of David, is a real place. It existed 2,000 years ago, even 3,000 years ago. It was a little village then, just a few miles outside of Jerusalem. It is still a relatively little village. You can visit there today. In fact, nearly every tour that you take to Israel has Bethlehem listed as one of the prominent stops. It is a neat place to visit. Hundreds of years before Jesus was actually born, the Old Testament prophet, Micah (5:2) prophesied that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem. Two of the Gospel writers confirm that Micah was right! Jesus was, indeed, born in Bethlehem (Matt. 2:1-6 and John 7:42). In Bethlehem, on top of the traditional site where Jesus was born, three churches have a major presence (Greek Orthodox, Roman Catholic and Armenian). Pictured to the left is the Church of the Nativity as it looked on a recent tour.

If you walk into my office, you will see a half dozen olive wood carvings I've purchased in Bethlehem. I am proud of them. I'll show them to you, and let you touch them. But the greatest event in the history of Bethlehem is not about wood carvings. No, the greatest event in the long history of Bethlehem is the birth of Jesus Christ some 2,000 years ago. The incarnation! Immanuel!

Pictured to the right are olive wood carvings I have collected from Bethlehem.

Forever Grateful that God became flesh in Bethlehem, **Dan Cooper**



Our Mission

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

From Daniel's Den

Christmas Sunday, 2016!

Merry Christmas! How will you honor Jesus during the holidays? How will you celebrate His birth, His sinless life, and His horrific death? What gifts will you give to honor His gift to us? I find it perplexing that many of us chose to honor Jesus not by giving gifts to Him, but by giving gifts to each other. (That would be something like honoring our president's birthday by giving gifts to our kids.)

So, how might you honor Jesus in 2017? I think I know! I really do. He showed us how to do it! We celebrate Jesus by losing our life for His sake (Mt. 10:39). That's radical! We do what he did! We leave our secure places (He left heaven), and we get involved in a life of giving. Even a sacrificial life style. Jesus modeled that. We help the poor. We engage strangers. We pray a lot. We connect with sinners. We spend time alone with the Father. We touch sick people. We are intentional peacemakers. We turn the other cheek. We sacrifice. We communicate with our adversaries. We grasp that our actions are motivated either by love of self or love of Him; so we chose to be motivated by our love for Him.

If, both individually and as a community of believers, we are going to celebrate Jesus...

We Pray Fervently!

We Go Urgently!

We Give Liberally!

We Live Dangerously!



Dan Cooper
aka
"Dan, Dan,
the Preacherman"

So,
how might
you honor
Jesus in 2017?

Celebrating God's Greatest Gift, **Dan**



Brian Holden
Shepherd

I have many things to be thankful for, especially as I look forward to spending time with my church family.

Shepherd's Voice

Blessings

As the year comes to an end, I spend more time reflecting on how much I have been blessed this year. I have many things to be thankful for, especially as I look forward to spending time with my church family.

I have really enjoyed our congregational bus trips. They have become an outreach to the community and we have built relationships with people who enjoy fellowshiping with our church family. I have received a lot of positive feedback from them on how much they have been blessed. I thank you for your participation with these trips because they wouldn't happen without your support. Our next trip to Sight and Sound Theater to see "Jonah" will be our largest bus trip to date with 108 people signed up. It is nice to be able to spend a day together fellowshiping, enjoying a show, and sharing a meal together.

When we began Munchkin Ministry this fall, some changes were made. Having it between Bible classes and church service made it available to more members and provided a time of fellowship with visitors before the worship service. I am thankful for the Munchkin Ministry team which has volunteered their time to make sure that everything is set up and cleaned up in a timely fashion. This ministry has been a blessing to many of us.

We have been attending this church for 23 years. Cindy and I were married in this church by Dan Cooper and our son, Andrew, grew up here. I want to thank all of you for the love, encouragement, and blessings that you have bestowed upon my family over the years.

"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds." Hebrews 10:24

In Christ the Lord,
Brian Holden

Just Jesus

Can you imagine a life of deeper meaning, stronger faith, and closeness with God like never before? As we look into 2017, that's what we see. We see our lives changed, our families changed, our church changed, our communities changed, and that's just the beginning. May this year be your best year. May this year be the church's best year.

Who will make all this all possible?

Just Jesus. Him alone.

Take this journey with us in 2017!

TODAY!

- ★ No Bible classes.
- ★ No Kids for Christ or Jr. Worship.
- ★ There is an attended nursery for children under the age of 3.

Wednesday:

- ★ No midweek meeting or meal
- ★ Spend time with loved ones!

Next Sunday, January 1st:

- ★ No Bible classes.
- ★ No Kids for Christ or Jr. Worship.
- ★ There is an attended nursery for children under the age of 3.



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!

The France Mission Trip is Coming Up!

We are planning for our next mission trip to France! Our trip will be from Friday, June 23rd to Sunday, July 2nd. God willing, we will fly from Newark International Airport to Paris, then take the TGV (high speed train) from Paris to Marseille.

We especially need people with construction skills. If you have any interest, or need more information, please contact Dan Cooper or Garth Hutchinson. We have 13 signed up right now, and we really could use a few more. Cost for the entire trip is about \$2,200. We can provide help with finances, but all workers will also need to provide or help raise some of their own support.

Successful Service Project!



We thank the **Leza Davis, Carla Clements**, and the **Women's Embark Ministry** for coordinating the Adopt-A-Family gift drive. They also went over and above, and threw a party for all of the families at the Eleanor Corbett House in Glassboro, which shelters families in need. About 30 guests attended. Children were treated to filled stockings, activities, and snacks. Thank you to our members who participated in this community outreach, whether you bought gifts or helped with the party. This is the way to be the hands and feet of Jesus!



**Our Next Family Promise Host Week
is January 22nd - 29th.
Volunteers needed!
Sign up in the lobby!**

Our Schedule

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

Last Week

Bible Class	107
Worship	248
LIFE Groups	NA
Wednesday	107
Contribution	\$12,980.00
Fiscal YTD Goal	\$260,300.00
Contribution YTD	\$235,012.00
Budget Deficit	(\$25,288.00)

WHAT A GREAT TIME FOR AN END OF THE YEAR CONTRIBUTION!

**YOU WILL GET A TAX DEDUCTION FOR THE 2016
CALENDAR YEAR, AND YOUR DONATION WILL HELP
TO REDUCE OUR \$25,000 BUDGET DEFICIT.**

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 horatiofenton@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

Elder on Call for December: Dwight Thompson

Serving Us Today

Nursery	Robin Steward
Kids For Christ	Children sit with family today.
Jr. Worship	Children sit with family today.
Greeters: Front Entrance	TBA
Greeters: Back Entrance	Larry Peterson & Mike Lazar
Information Center	Brenda Peoples
Ushers	Glynn Durham & Tyler Steffy
Shepherd's Call	Dwight Thompson
Song Leader	Mike Broyles
Communion	Carl Steiner

**LIFE Groups
have the
week off!**



Wednesday Night Meal: No church meeting tonight.

Cooks: Share a meal with family and friends!

This Week's Prayer Requests

Praise: College students are home for the holidays!

Responding to the Invitation:

Dottie Grillo responded to the invitation asking that she be spiritually strong as both she and John face major health issues. Of course Dottie is asking for our prayers as they pertain to healing and minimal pain, but also that God will sustain her and her faith during this time of major testing. Dottie has been a faithful servant of this church family for years, and when she asks for prayers, we all take her request very seriously.

Rob Weltzin's parents and sister were involved in a serious car accident and hospitalized. His mother and sister are now recovering at home, and hopefully his dad was released by today. He had to have reconstructive surgery on his wrist. Please pray for their continued recovery.

Prayers Requested:

Glynn Durham, recovering from chemo treatment and dealing with pain, fatigue, and neuropathy.

John Grillo will be having a series of surgeries to repair the infected bone in his leg; the first surgery will be on January 3. Please pray for successful repair and reconstruction of John's leg.

Dottie Grillo was diagnosed with bursitis in both hips. She had an injection in one hip, and will have the other this coming week. Physical therapy after John's surgery. She is not facing surgery! Praise God! Please pray for pain relief and healing!

Beverly Steiner, recovering from hip replacement surgery.

Bob Manfre, recovering from surgery at home.

Paul Kauffmann, medullary sponge kidney disease. Will be having surgery on one kidney, and then the other. Date TBD.

Dawn Alter, JoAnn Ruhland's niece, also has medullary sponge kidney disease. Will be have surgery for the second time.

Barry, friend of Jerri Manfre, being treated for leukemia. He will be in Cooper Hospital undergoing treatment for at least a month.

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

Pray for safe travels and good health for our "snow birds" who have already left or are preparing to leave for Florida:

Paul Stanford, Bud & Barbara Britton, Jim & Clare Hightower.

Greetings from Anne Peoples

To My Dear Church Family,

I do miss you all so very much, and love you. Thank you all again for what you have done for me. I do not live that far away.

Please stop in if you are traveling near here. My phone number is 302-533-6558.

May all of you have a wonderful Christmas with friends and family.

Love In Jesus, Anne

Help Wanted

Cumberland Christian School has an immediate opening for a custodian. The primary role of the custodian is to care for the neatness, cleanliness, and utility of all school facilities. Work hours are Monday – Friday, 1pm to 9:30pm with occasional Saturdays. Interested applicants can apply on our website.



@pitmanroadcoc



www.facebook.com/
pitmanroadchurchofchrist



@pitmanroadchurch