

February 12, 2017 Volume 33, Issue 07

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# What's Coming Up In 2017

We are already a month into the new year...time flies! So before July 22-29 Camp Manatawny Jr High 1 - grades 5, 6 & 7 it flies away completely, here's a run down of some important Aaron Pearl - director dates on our 2017 calendar so that you can mark them onto July 29-Aug 5 Camp Manatawny Elementary 2 - grades 3 & 4 your calendar. Be sure to read the bulletin for update infor-July 30 Fifth Sunday mation, changes or additions to the church calendar. Move Into Community session August 5-12 Camp Manatawny Elementary 1 - grades 1 & 2 Jan., Feb., March Meeting Jesus Manny Vander Vennen - director February 17-19 Winterfest August 6 **REFUGE** February 20 Presidents' Day August 12 **Clothing Swap** March 4 Secret Sister Revealing Party August 26 Camp Manatawny 50th Anniversary March 5 Spring Quarter classes begin August 30 Fifth Wednesday - Outreach Cookout at Starting Point session Alcyon Lake Park **REFUGE** Sept., Oct., Nov. Moving Into Community Daylight Saving Time begins March 12 September 3 Fall Quarter classes begin March 18 Senior Saints Dinner September 4 Labor Day March 25 Bring Your Own Craft Day September 9 Kids' Back to School Breakfast Fifth Wednesday - No Midweek meeting March 29 September 10 Starting Point session April, May, June Making a Difference LIFE Groups Kickoff Easter Egg Hunt April 2 **REFUGE** April 9 REFUGE September 17 Back to Church Sunday- Bring a Friend Day April 16 Easter Sunday - Bring a Friend! Fellowship luncheon April 16-23 Family Promise Host Week September 22 Secret Sister Fall Get-Together Women's Friendship Friday April 21 September 23 Bring Your Own Craft Day April 29 Community Yard Sale and Health Fair September 27 See You At The Pole prayer service April 30 Fifth Sunday October 1 **REFUGE** Starting Point session May 7 October 9 Columbus Day **REFUGE** October 14 Community Yard Sale May 13 Feeding the Hungry in Trenton October 15-22 Family Promise Host Week May 14 Mother's Day Fun Fall Festival Sight and Sound Theater bus trip October 21 May 20 October 25 Bring Your Own Craft Day Trunk or Treat May 27 November 5 Daylight Saving Time ends Memorial Day Picnic at the building May 28 Starting Point session Moving Into Community session **REFUGE** May 29 Memorial Day November 18 Women's Gratitude Tea May 31 Fifth Wednesday - No Midweek meeting November 19 Pack the Pulpit Sunday June 4 Summer Quarter classes begin November 22 No Midweek meal or meeting REFUGE November 23 **Thanksgiving** June 9 American Red Cross Blood Drive at PRCOC November 25 Bring Your Own Craft Day June 10 Kids End of School Year Cookout, ages 2-12 Fifth Wednesday Midweek - follow "4th November 29 June 18 Father's Day Wednesday" schedule **Annual Family Blessing** December 3 Winter Quarter classes begin June 23-July 2 Mission Trip to France Cookie Exchange at Donna Lazar's house June 24-July 1 Camp Manatawny Sr High 2 - grades 11 & 12 **REFUGE** July 1-8 Camp Manatawny Sr High 1 - grades 8, 9, & 10 July 2 December 8 PRCOC American Red Cross Blood Drive Starting Point session December 9 Feeding the Hungry in Trenton July 8 Feeding the Hungry in Trenton December 17 No Wednesday Night Meal July 8-15 Camp Manatawny Jr High 2 - grades 6, 7, & 8 Midweek classes with meet July 9-12 Pitman Road VBS featuring Patrick Mead December 24 **Christmas Eve Sunday** July 15-22 Camp Manatawny Intermediate - grades 5 & 6 December 25 Christmas July 16-22 **TIME Team Trip** December 27 No Midweek meeting or meal July 16-23 Family Promise Host Week December 31 New Year's Eve Sunday Bring Your Own Craft Day July 22

# From Daniel's Den

#### On Being Salt and Light...

I am deeply pondering what it means for me to be salt and light in the 21st century world. It means, among other things, that I am different from my environment.

Being salt and light means I forgive others because I am in union with Christ, who is in me, and isn't He a forgiver? Being salt and light means I am willing to be inconvenienced, and isn't the willingness to be inconvenienced the ultimate proof of love? "You are most loved not when you are pretending to have it all together; you are actually the most loved when you feel broken and falling apart. " ... "Real living doesn't always feel like living; it can feel like you're dying." ... "When you let yourself love, you let parts of you die." ... "Love is really love - when we are loving the unlovable. Forgiveness is really forgiveness—when we are forgiving the unforgiveable ... Faith is really faith—when we believe God for the unbelievable." ... "Outloving is the only medicine that healed anything." ... "Be brave and do not pray for hard things to go away, but pray for a bravery that's bigger than the hard thing." --- from Ann Voskamp, in *The Broken Way* 

"If today were you last, would you do what you are doing? Or would you love more, give more, forgive more? Then do so! Forgive and give as if it were your last opportunity. Love like there's not tomorrow, and if tomorrow comes, love again." - Max Lucado

There should be no such thing as an indifferent and uncaring disciple. People are lost in darkness. How can we not shine like a city set on a hill? (Matt. 5:13-17)



Dan Cooper aka "Dan. Dan. the Preacherman"

"If today were you last, would you do what you are doing? Or would you love more, give more, forgive more?"

On Being Salt and Light, Dan the Preacherman



John Peoples Shepherd

Ultimately, God is the start and finish. both for the knowledge children.

# Shepherd's Voice

#### Parenting 101

Parenting 101. Is there such a thing? It has been said that children do not come with an instruction manual. In general that is true. Each child is different, uniquely made in the image of God with gifts, talents, and with a purpose and plans that God has designed into each of us as His children (Gen 1:27, Eph 2:10). And to take it one step further, each parent is different, uniquely made. Hence, parenting is not an easy task; there are many variables and factors that influence our children and us as parents. So what is one to do? Go to the Creator, seek information and resources (books), and pick up insights from others.

Ultimately, God is the start and finish, both for the knowledge and oversight of our children. Pray for wisdom, He will grant it (James 1:5). And as for oversight, I highly recommend that you dedicate your children to God. Though it can be scary, there is something freeing in giving your children to God. He knows them better than we do, He knows what plans He has, and He has their best interest in mind. By dedicating your children, you acknowledge that though they are your responsibility, you trust in God to lead you in their upbringing and accepting His path for them.

Resources are a great help. You don't have to wait to have kids to look for some. I am sure there are newer current books out there, but here are a few from the past that I found helpful: Dare to Discipline, and The Strong-Willed Child (for those extra special little ones), both by James C. Dobson; Raising a Modern-Day Knight by Robert Lewis; She Calls Me Daddy by Robert Wolgemuth. We did not agree or do everything in these books, but they are good guides to help and give practical insights. They will and oversight help you to correct and guide the upbringing of your children (Prov. 29:17).

Of OUT In the end, the best personal insight I can give is spend time with your children, especially in the early years. You will develop the relationships that will help through the later years. One of the best things we did was to read to our kids every night... Even when they were able to read faster and better than me. That time opened up so much opportunity to talk, listen, and share. I thank Brenda for encouraging that idea. I treasure those times.

## TONIGHT



### Blanket Drive Resumes!

February is the "month of love," so here is a tangible way to show Jesus' love to the less fortunate. Let's help keep homeless and needy people warm this winter. You can bring new or clean and slightly used blankets to the building for the month of Febru-



ary. Barbara Robinson is coordinating this effort; if you have questions, please contact her. Please drop your new or slightly used, clean blankets in the box in the Family Life Center.

Help Neededfor Family Who Lost Everything in Fire

Stephanie DeStefano teaches at the Buena Regional School Middle School which is only 23 miles from the building. One of the 7th grade students, a girl named Mackenzie, had a house fire this past weekend and the family lost EVERYTHING. They are currently living in a hotel. (Thankfully, no one was home at the time and the pets were rescued.) Because the need is so great, donations will be taken from our church family today and next Sunday-2/19/17. There is a Donation box available in the foyer. Any item, toiletries, gift cards, etc. will be used. Even furniture, etc.

Clothing sizes are: Men Clothing: Shirts XL, Medium-Large Pants 18, 32/30

Women Clothing: Shirts 2XL-3XL, XL Pants 24, 16

If you have any questions, please contact Stephanie: cell phone--609-560-5690 home phone--609-567-9607



Angels of God in Pitman is in desperate need of toilet tissue and especially feminine products and is asking for donations. We will collect donations through Sunday February 26th. Please ANGELS OF GOD place them in the container marked "Embark" in the foyer. Also, their purple bag ministry is coming up soon. Your participation last year was

overwhelming. Now's the time to start setting aside items you wish to donate during the Lenten season. Details to follow. Thank you for your generosity. Embark Ministry, Leza Davis & Carla Clements

## Responses to the Invitation on Feb. 5

Max and Debbie Lancaster placed membership with us. They have been visiting for the last ten months and felt this was the time to come forward. They both grew up in Churches of Christ. After 27 years as a Burlington County Special Education Teacher and a Special Olympic Coach, Debbie retired last summer. Debbie quickly tells you she is from Austin, Texas and is a die-hard Cowboy Fan! (You are welcome to visit our home and experience Debbie's Dallas Cowboy Shrine!). Debbie was an "Air Force brat" and lived in many Base locations, including several years in Honolulu at Hickam Field/Pearl Harbor, where she was baptized at age 10 by her Father the day before he shipped out to one of several Viet Nam tours. Her faithful parents still live in Austin.

Max is a Tennessee-an who transferred to NJ long ago, loved it and stayed! He is an Electrical Engineer by degree and worked for DuPont and Bristol-Myers-Squibb for many years before getting into real estate. Today, he is President & Broker of several real estate and title companies including Keller Williams Real Estate in Princeton. Max and his father were both baptized on his 14th birthday at Highland Street CC in Memphis by Texan George Stevenson, as a result of his faithful example mother's example. O yes, Max is a Philadelphia Eagle Fan and his wife gives him heartburn!

Cathy Toomey also came forward to place membership with us on Sunday morning. Cathy was originally introduced to our church by Bert and Larry Kellum, and the Solid Gold LIFE Group. She has worked most of her life in patient care. In August, 2013, she first visited our church, and she gradually became more and more interested. She repeatedly said to Bert, "Don't give up on me." She feels like the Spirit led her to Larry and Bert and our church at just this time. After a lot of praying and numerous visits she concluded, "I feel like this is where God wants me to me." She said to herself, "I have friends here." Cathy was baptized in 2010 and she is delighted to consider us her church home.

#### **Terry Rhymes**

Terry and Pam moved to New Jersey late last year, and quickly began looking for a Church of Christ. They found our church through an on-line search. Both are baptized believers and before moving to NJ they had been active members of their church in Kentucky. Terry retired, (an early retirement, because he'll tell you he's really too young to retire) from his last position in Kentucky. Since their move here, Terry has recently accepted a position at Cumberland Christian School, working mostly during an afternoon/evening shift. He frequently manages to join the men at least in one of our morning prayer times.

Terry and his wife, Pam, moved to South Jersey to help out with grandchildren and family, during a difficult transition time. Pam is a nurse and frequently works on Sundays.

For more information on the people listed above see our on-line directory

In addition to the other responses...

Horatio Fenton responded to give an update on his health, and to thank one and all for the cards, prayers, and many other expressions of love and concern over the last few weeks. Dan

## 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	122
Worship	n/c
LIFE Groups	114

LIFE Groups 114
Wednesday n/c
Contribution \$10,994.00
Fiscal YTD Goal \$333,184.00
Contribution YTD \$295,478.00

(\$37,706,00)

#### Ministers

**Budaet Deficit** 

 Dottie Grillo
 dgrillo@cochrist.org

 Annette Perine
 annette.perine@gmail.com

......dothompson@comcast.net
Elder on Call for January and February: Mike Broyles

#### Serving Us Today

Nursery

Kids For Christ

Jr. Worship

Greeters: Front Entrance

Cindy Holden

Manny Vander Vennen

Brian Mansdoerfer

Jackie & Horatio Fenton

Greeters: Back Entrance Ron Dargan & Mandy Mansdoerfer
Information Center Mary Collier & Brenda Peoples
Ushers John Peoples & Corey Peoples

Shepherd's Call Mike Broyles
Song Leader Matt Downing
Communion Carl Steiner

## LIFE Group Location Contact

Ageless	Cooper's at noon	856-589-4197
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 7m	856-419-0544
E.H.S.	Church Bldg. rm B4 at noon	856-589-1500
Family of Teens	Church Bldg. FLC at noon	856-589-1500
Hammonton	Ashton's at 5pm	609-233-4330
Men's Bible Study	Church Bldg., Monday at 7pm	856-217-3956
Paracletes	Call or text for information	856-449-9656
Solid Gold	Walker's at 6pm	856-478-6972
Teens	Church Bldg. FLC at noon	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
Young Adults	Church Bldg. rm B2 at noon	609-226-4031
Young Married	Call or text for time & location	856-899-9466

Wednesday Night Meal: Meatloaf & Baked Ziti

Cooks: Harriet, Judi & JoAnn

## This Week's Prayer Requests

Praise: Four new members identify with us this week.

#### **Prayers Requested:**

Sandy Sheehan, knee replacement surgery on Feb. 15.

**Mandy Mansdoerfer** was diagnosed with breast cancer; her prognosis is excellent! She is scheduled to have a bilateral mastectomy on Feb. 24.

Mary Collier is recovering from back surgery and pneumonia at PowerBack Rehabilitation, room 226, 113 South Route 73, Voorhees. She would love calls and visits. 856-809-3626. She has her cell phone with her, so please call her on that number first. 215-888-0646

**Glynn Durham**, side effect from chemo. Please pray for pain

**John Grillo** is recovering at home. He has a long road ahead of him which includes radiation of his leg because of the cancer they found during surgery on his leg and physical therapy. Visits and phone calls are appreciated. (856-582-9339).

#### Thank You's

Your love and generosity has impacted and blessed our lives by your warm gift to my family and I. Gina, the kids and I are incredibly thankful for your gift of love and sacrifice that you presented to us just after the New Year. It was a surprise, but it wasn't. It wasn't surprising because that is the kind of congregation that you are. You have been loving, accepting, patient, welcoming, friendly, and encouraging. In our three years here we have been recipients of your love and generosity many times. Thank you church.

If you are a guest with us this morning, please be aware of the kind of people you will find here. You will find people who truly love God. You will find people who want to love you. You will find people who want to help those needing help. You will find people who desire to introduce you to God's love. What can we say? Thank you. Thank you for deciding to spend your morning with the Pitman Road church. May God bless you on whatever road of life you may be on.

"How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you?"

-1 Thessalonians 3:9

Grace and peace, From the Isaziga family

You surprised me....again. It's become an annual event now! The Sunday to express appreciation to your ministers always surprises me. I am never expecting it. My second surprise is always the amount of your generosity. Thank you for your monetary gift. Debby and I will find a good way to use the money.

You continue to humble me with your love, prayers, and many ways you express your appreciation for me and my ministry, even during my sickness. I love you! Glynn



