



PITMAN ROAD

CHURCH OF CHRIST

October 22, 2017
Volume 33, Issue 43

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



Martin Luther

Reformed and Restored

500 years ago this month, on October 31, 1517, Martin Luther, a professor of theology, nailed a list of 95 theses (propositions) to the door of All Saints' Church in Wittenberg. His desire was to start a discussion on the sale of indulgences and on several other doctrinal positions and practices endorsed by the Catholic Church which were far removed from the teachings of the scriptures. He wanted to REFORM the church and its practices, but what resulted was a religious revolution that we know today as the Protestant Reformation.

My family and I lived in Geneva, Switzerland, for 12 years. At the base of the Old City, there is a monument that people refer to as the Reformation Wall. It is a very wide monument containing 10 statues of men considered to be the heroes of the Protestant Reformation –

committed to a return to the Bible as the ultimate source of truth, and to a united belief in the need for sincere repentance. These views were a total rejection of the Catholic Church's teaching on authority and salvation.

It is interesting to note that Martin Luther does not appear on the Reformation Wall. Some say it's because he came before the Protestant Reformation began. Others say that Martin Luther and John Calvin (the greatest Geneva reformer) did not get along, so Luther was left off Geneva's monument. Luther's actions started a nearly 300 year-period during which many others came and tried to further reform the practices of the Catholic Church and of the many denominations which came out of the Reformation. Unfortunately, this led to division and produced denominational Christianity.

In the early 18th Century, another movement began, which came to be known as the Restoration Movement. We, in the churches of Christ, find our roots in this movement. In 1801, at Cane Ridge, Kentucky, a revival was led by a preacher named Barton Stone. The Holy Spirit moved those present to combat the "state of the church" in their day – to focus not only on the authority of the Bible, but also on the unity of believers, on the active leading of the Holy Spirit, and on the RESTORATION of the practices of the primitive church. In 1825, Alexander Campbell, another leader of this new movement, wrote 32 essays entitled "A Restoration of the Ancient Order of Things", in which he described, based on the scriptures, the essential practices of the 1st century church – among them baptism by immersion, taking communion on the 1st day of each week, and biblical leadership structures within each congregation.

Not only did the Lord desire for the church to be restored, but God also speaks about our need for personal spiritual restoration. In 2 Corinthians 13:11, Paul writes: "*Finally, brothers and sisters, rejoice and strive for full restoration!*" The Greek word translated "restoration" here is "*katartizo (καταρτίζω)*", from which we get our English word catharsis, meaning to cleanse or purge. It appears 16 times in the NT. Looking at some of its other uses in the NT can help us understand what Paul means when he talks about "full restoration":

The apostles were mending nets [Matthew 4:21]. We need to mend and patch our spiritual fabric.

We are instructed to complete that which is lacking in our faith [1 Thessalonians 3:10]. We need to fill in what is lacking in our spiritual makeup.

The world has been framed by God. [Hebrew 11:3]. Our spirituality needs to be framed by God.

We are told to gently restore a brother [Galatians 6:1]. Our spirit state is being restored by our Father.

Following our baptism, we have been REFORMED (re-made) by God into a new creation. And now, as we allow his Spirit to work in us, he frames us, he perfects us, he mends us, he patches us, he fills in what is missing, he purges and cleanses, and he puts things in order, so we can be FULLY RESTORED!

- Andy Mychajlowycz



Memorial doorway in Wittenberg Cathedral



Center section of Reformation Wall in Geneva, Switzerland

Our Mission

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

From Daniel's Den

"My Favorite Holiday!"

What is your favorite holiday? Mine is not May 5th, although the Mexican government designated my birthday, Cinco de Mayo, as a national holiday! May 5 does not, in spite of what you may have heard, celebrate Mexican Independence Day. Rather, it honors a day in 1861 that a rag tag group of Mexican troops defeated the French army in Puebla, even though the Mexicans were outnumbered two to one! (Interestingly, Cinco de Mayo is now a bigger holiday in the USA than it is in Mexico!) My favorite is not July 4th, although I love that the patriotic parade marches by the front of our house every July 4th. It may surprise you, but my favorite holiday is not Christmas, although I love the emphasis on Jesus and kindness and all of the family gatherings around Christmas. My favorite holiday is actually Thanksgiving!

On Thanksgiving our church sends beautiful, handmade, **Thanksgiving Cards** to those who have impacted our church family in the preceding year. On Thanksgiving we **"Pack the Pulpit,"** and give out frozen turkeys and full meals to 50 needy families from our local communities. On Thanksgiving we celebrate rich fellowship and abundant love with families and friends.

- I will praise the name of God with a song; I will magnify him with **thanksgiving**. (Psalm 69:30)
- Let us come into his presence with **thanksgiving**; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! (Psalm 95:2)
- Enter his gates with **thanksgiving**, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name! (Psalm 100:4)
- And let them offer sacrifices of **thanksgiving**, and tell of his deeds in songs of joy! (Psalm 107:22)
- I give **thanks** to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus... (1 Cor. 1:4)

Take time to Sign the Cards and Express Thanks to Some Special People, Dan



Dan Cooper
aka
"Dan, Dan,
the Preacherman"

*Take time to
Sign the
Cards and
Express
Thanks to
Some Special
People, Dan*

Deacon of Seniors



Jay Schneider
Deacon

Do they
throw up
their
hands
and give
up?

Imagine that you've managed to retire at age 55. You and your spouse move away to the rugged west for a few years, then in your early 60's you decide to move to central Pennsylvania to be within a half-day's drive of your grandchildren and very close to good medical care. You have a desire to be an active part of what the Lord is doing, so after a few years at a church, you decide with several other couples, to plant a church in your area. In your early 70's the new congregation moves into a well-worn church building. You and your spouse and the other families put much work into the building and the church, but in less than a decade, the preacher has left and you and the remaining two other elderly couples sell the building and meet in your home for Sunday morning church, singing to the tunes of recorded worship songs. This is the situation for my dad's younger brother and his wife. So what does a house church of six very senior believers do? Do they throw up their hands and give up? For now, while they are still able, they press on with a ministry to up to 55 kindergarten and first grade students, known in PA and many other states as Released Time. In Pennsylvania the rule is that parents may sign a form to allow their child to leave the school building for religious instruction for up to 36 hours of released time in a school year. So the house church rents a room in the fire house across the street from the school and provides a 45 minute period of a vacation Bible school-like experience most weeks from October to May. (To learn more about Released Time see <https://www.releasedtime.org> or about Good News Clubs at www.cefonline.com)

To you, who despite ailments and increasing age are making meals, cleaning house, teaching, babysitting, driving people to appointment or otherwise taking care of others, you have my utmost respect and appreciation. The Pitman Road church of Christ salutes you!

I have heard advertisements on the radio that a care giver can be paid for taking care of their own family member. If this interests you, I am told the first step in the process is to contact the New Jersey Corporation for Aging.

Jay Schneider
Deacon of Seniors



THIS WEDNESDAY - October 25th

6:15-7:00 pm

Rain or Shine!

A safe, traffic free environment for your children to Trick or Treat! Please accompany your children through the parking lot while they Trick or Treat.

Refreshments for all will be provided inside our building. Fun activities in our Family Life Center after Trunk or Treat.

Invite someone!
Flyers available at the
Welcome Center!

"A Celebration of Gratitude"



Ladies, We hope you will plan to attend a special luncheon "A Celebration of Gratitude," on Saturday, November 4 from 12:00 - 2:00 pm. As the stores put out their Christmas decorations we want to purposefully

choose Joy and a heart filled with Thankfulness and Gratitude. We are too blessed to be stressed this holiday season! We will share a lunch of various soups and salads, a short devotional and lots of time for fellowship. Sign up now in the foyer. Plan to join us and BRING A FRIEND!

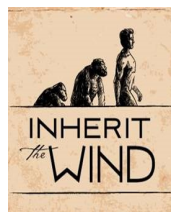


The Christian Chronicle - Last Chance

Today is the last chance for you to sign up to receive the Christian Chronicle, if you are not receiving it. This is a monthly publication with news about the churches of Christ. There is no cost to you! Sign up today!

Laurel Church of Christ Ladies' Day

- Saturday, October 28th at Laurel Church of Christ, 1010 South Central Ave., Laurel, Delaware
- Topic: If the Shoe Fits
- Registration & Coffee Hour 9:00am
- Program 10am - 2pm
- Lunch is provided
- Guest Author & Speaker Debbie Kea
- You are encouraged to bring a donation of winter hats, gloves, or scarves that will be collected and given to the Home for the Brave a Veteran Women's Homeless Shelter in Milford, Delaware.
- For additional information please call Ginger Trader: 410-543-0000



Our own **Linda Wyatt** is performing in the play. The **Ageless LIFE Group** is going to attend the play on **Sunday, November 5th at 3pm**. You are all invited to Join them!

The performance dates are:

Friday, November 3, 2017 - 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, November 4, 2017 - 2:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 5, 2017 - 3:00 p.m.

Ticket Prices – \$25 individuals - \$23 child/senior

Let's Ask God...



This past Sunday during our time of worship, we were encouraged to pray for the Pitman Road body of believers. Specifically, we were encouraged to pray the words of **Colossians 1:9-12** printed below. Let's ask God to set our hearts aflame FOR HIS GLORY!

⁹ And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may **be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding,** ¹⁰ so as **to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work** and **increasing in the knowledge of God;** ¹¹ **being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy;** ¹² **giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.**

LET'S ASK GOD...



It's not too early to start thinking about Thanksgiving. Phone calls are coming in already asking to be put on our list. We will be filling 50 baskets again this year, so that means we will need 50 turkeys and 50 pies (store bought or baked, it doesn't matter). We don't need them brought in yet, but if you know you are going to donate turkeys or pies, please let Dottie know. The Pack the Pulpit bags will be out in the foyer, next

Sunday October 29th. Be sure to pick one up and fill it with the items that are listed. Pack the Pulpit Sunday is November 19th.

Our Schedule

Sunday

9:00 am Bible Classes
10:00 am Worship

Wednesday

7:00 pm Bible Classes

Office Hours

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

Last Week

Bible Class	141
Worship	192
LIFE Groups	99
Wednesday	48
Contribution	\$9037.00
Weekly Goal	\$9868.00

This Week's Prayer Requests

PRAISE: Jayne Schofield is praising God for: her house sold in one day, bought new home, family came together.

PRAYERS:

Rachel Stetser is having knee replacement surgery tomorrow.

Cindy Holden is having wrist surgery on Nov. 3 and will be out of work for 3 months.

EXPECTING: Tyler & Kathryn Steffy - December

SYMPATHY: Our sympathy is extended to both Noah Lewis and Waverly Hale as they both lost their fathers, **John Lewis** and **Richard Hale**.

Ministers

Dan Cooper, Evangelist dcooper@cochrist.org
..... 856-589-4197
Derrick Busch, Minister dbusch@cochrist.org
..... 267-303-4877
Andy Mychajlowycz Minister andym@cochrist.org
..... 908-294-4056

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 September and October: John Peoples

Serving Us Today

Nursery	Melody Davis
Kids For Christ	Carla Clements
Jr. Worship	Brian Mansdoerfer
Greeters: Front Entrance	Hope & Jonathan Hooley
Greeters: Back Entrance	Ron Dargan
Information Center	Mary Collier
Ushers	Lee Collier & Terry Ryhmes
Shepherd's Call	Dave Perine
Song Leader	Garth Hutchinson
Communion	Aaron Pearl

LIFE Group	Location	Contact
Ageless	Sheehan's @ noon	609-828-3494
Brook Besor	Durham's Tuesday at 7 pm	856-589-2280
Circle of Sisters	Sbaraglia's Monday at 7pm	856-419-0544
Cornerstone	Church Bldg. rm B2 at noon	609-226-4031
Hammonton	Ashton's at 6 pm	609-233-4330
Life Challenges	Church Bldg. rm B4 at noon	267-303-4877
Men's Bible Study	Church Bldg. Monday at 7 pm	856-217-3956
Solid Gold	Walkers's @ noon	856-478-6972
Teens	Church Bldg. at noon	610-476-9057
Vineland	H. Pearl at 6 pm	856-839-0051
Women in the Word	Church Bldg. FLC Tues. 9:45 am	856-981-9754
Young Married	Adam's at 1 pm	609-922-4510

Bulletin Update from Disaster Assistance...

This is the organization to which our church sent over \$3,000 to provide support (both personally and collectively) following the major hurricanes. Below is an update that we received on Tuesday, 10/17...

We have been setup here in Texas for 45 days. In that time 74,211 Lunches have been handed out, over 8 semi loads of donated supplies handed out, small kitchen appliances & dry-wall being purchased and handed out, volunteers have helped muck out flooded houses and now installing drywall back in those that are ready.

While working on the above Hurricane Irma hit Florida...part of our team left Texas and went to Jacksonville FL to work with the Westside CoC. We handed out 3,124 Lunches and conducted many bible studies. We left the leaders a significant list of those that wanted to continue studying.

Now while still here in Texas we are doing what we can to help those who have lost there homes to the fires in CA.

Our plan is to stay setup here at League City Church of Christ in Texas and continue providing the items I talked about above. Also we have talked with Wharton TX, they had 1400 houses flooded and only 17 had flood insurance. With that information one of our team members spent the day yesterday there handing out food and other supplies while seeing what the needs were. I will coordinate the work in California while being here in League City, TX.

So much going on, so many thank yous for all the churches & volunteers that have been doing all this work. Many thank yous to everyone who has sent in donations to make this mission work possible.

Volunteers are needed here in Texas to help install drywall both skilled and unskilled. We have housing with showers available.

If you would like to help with the ongoing work in Texas & California donation information at www.disasterassistancecoc.com

WE ARE YOUR MISSION

Mike Baumgartner
Disaster Assistance CoC
Combating Natural Disasters with Acts of God
281-881-1876
www.disasterassistancecoc.com

Find Us on Social Media:

 @pitmanroadcoc  www.facebook.com/pitmanroadchurchofchrist  @pitmanroadchurch