



PITMAN ROAD

CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Happy New Year!
Wishing you and yours a blessed 2018!

Christmas Eve at Pitman Road



Last Sunday morning was extra special here at Pitman Road! We had a wonderful pancake breakfast, which was attended by over 200 people. **Tim and Melody Davis** did an amazing job (as they always do) coordinating the breakfast, the volunteers, and the decorations. Their crew was able to serve everyone smoothly and with minimal waiting. Many people volunteered to help, and there was more than enough delicious food for everyone.

Our Christmas Eve worship service was coordinated by **Garth Hutchinson**, and the special dramatization of the story of Jesus' birth was directed by **Diana Hutchinson**, starring our children and teens. Diana has an amazing gift to draw out the best talents in

our young people for these productions! We had a very full auditorium that morning. It was such a blessing to hear the multitude of voices lifted in praise to God for His indescribable gift to us in the coming of our savior, Jesus Christ!

Both the breakfast and worship service were planned and coordinated in a mere three weeks! There are many, many people who deserve special thanks; at the risk of leaving some out we will not attempt to list them all. Just know that your efforts were very much appreciated and key in making it a very special morning here at Pitman Road.

Our Mission

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

From Daniel's Den

Be The Gift (Part 3)

If you've been reading *From Daniel's Den* the last few weeks, you've noticed that I am quite taken with the latest book by Ann Voskamp, *Be the Gift*. I've been sharing ways that we can "be the gift" as we are all at the time of year that we are thinking about giving gifts. As this year draws to a close, I want to encourage you to "Be the Gift" in 2018! Here are a few more ways that Ann Voskamp suggests to do that:

- ☼ Be a prayer warrior. Not a panicked worrier. (p. 115) Gift someone by praying for them.
- ☼ "Jesus went without comfort so that you might have it. He postponed joy so that you might share it. He willingly chose isolation so that you might never be alone in hurt and sorrow." —Joni Eareckson Tada (p. 124)
- ☼ If your living isn't about giving, then you're already dying. (p. 126)
- ☼ The world needs people who will defy cynical indifference by making a critical difference. (p. 129)
- ☼ The only way to care for the disadvantaged is to disadvantage yourself, which is guaranteed to turn out to your advantage. (p. 133)
- ☼ I don't need to have things before I can offer a cup of water, open the door, my hand, or reach out to help those outside. I don't need to be thirsty myself; I only need to know I thirst too. (p. 134)
- ☼ Jesus comes as the homeless guy, the refugee, the child drinking filthy water---and you get to decide. Are you going to fill your life with more stuff, more safety, or more God? (p. 137)
- ☼ You are where you are to help others where they are. This isn't a Christian's sideline hobby; compassion is our complete vocation. We do not just care about people; caring is our calling. (p. 138)
- ☼ Real love is never safe! No one ever got saved unless someone else was willing to be unsafe. (p. 140)

You and I can "Be the Gift" in 2018! - Dan



Dan Cooper
aka
"Dan, Dan,
the Preacherman"

"Be the Gift"
in 2018!

You are where
you are
to help others
where they
are.



Manny Vander Vennen
Deacon

The
long-awaited
sound panels
have arrived!

A Servant Speaks

Come again...?

Have you ever struggled in our auditorium to make out the words a speaker is saying? A few years ago, our shepherds hired a sound consultant to analyze our auditorium and make suggestions on how to improve "speech intelligibility." The analysis showed that the many large flat surfaces in our auditorium (including the walls, ceiling, and floor) tend to cause sounds to bounce back and forth across the auditorium multiple times before dropping below the volume our ears can detect. This phenomenon is called **reverberation**, and the sound consultant said that excessive reverberation in our auditorium is the cause of the clarity issue.

Reverberation can sometimes be a good thing. For example, having a lot of reverberation in our auditorium tends to make the musical part of our worship service sound full and vibrant, but unfortunately it also tends to make the spoken part of our worship service sound muddled and indistinct. To improve the clarity of our pulpit ministry, without losing the rich sound of our music ministry, the sound consultant suggested that we add sound absorbing panels to the back wall of our auditorium. This is because sound panels mounted on the back wall are in the most effective location to prevent reverberation of sounds coming from our auditorium loudspeakers, which are primarily used to amplify the pulpit microphone. By not applying sound panels to the front and side walls of our auditorium, this should continue to allow the sound of our congregational singing to reverberate off these other surfaces and provide much of the same fullness and vibrancy we are used to hearing.

I am excited to announce that the long-awaited sound panels recommended by the sound consultant have arrived! Over the coming weeks, the panels will be installed incrementally on the back wall of our auditorium. Our hope and prayer is that these panels will help increase the ability for both our members and visitors to clearly hear and understand the transforming gospel of our Lord Jesus, and that we would all be compelled to *come again!*

-Manny Vander Vennen

Have Financial Peace in 2018!

What if you knew where all of your money was going each month? What if you were debt-free, investing, and making wise spending decisions? Learn God's way of handling money with Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University. You CAN take control of your money and start planning for your future!

Financial Peace University begins January 18, 2018, at Pitman Road Church of Christ.

This course is for adults and older teens. If you are unable to attend any night, make-up classes are available online.

Please register ahead of time and order your class kit at this website: www.fpu/1054125 and a \$10 discount will be available to you.

If you have previously taken FPU, you can reuse your existing kit, but please do register again. Consider purchasing a gift membership kit for someone who could benefit from FPU.

Any questions, or for help with registration, contact **Adam and Helena Cerquoni** at 856-275-1581 or helenasophia53@gmail.com.

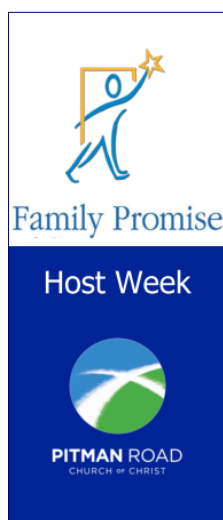


Coming Up at Pitman Road



Start the New Year off with REFUGE on Sunday, January 14 at 5:30 pm. Our theme this month is **Resolutions, goals, intentions—what's the difference? And where can we find God in our New Year's plans?** As usual we will begin with a time of snacks and visiting with one another, and then enjoy praise and devotional time.

ALL AGES ARE WELCOME! Come as you are!



Our next Family Promise Host Week is coming up! Please sign up now to volunteer the week of January 21-28. Sign up sheets are posted with all available openings. Rumor has it that **John Ashton** has put "a full roster of volunteers for our January Host Week" as the number one item on his Christmas list! So let's give John a peaceful and relaxed holiday, free from concern about the schedule! (Need inspiration...see Dan's article on the facing page about Being the Gift!)

Mark your calendar now with rest of the Host Week dates for 2018:

April 15-22
July 15-22
October 28 - November 4

Each host week the following volunteer positions are needed:

Shopper	Evening Hosts	Morning Drivers
Room Setup	Overnight Hosts	Evening Drivers
Room Breakdown	Van Transfer	
Cooks	Laundry	

Contact **John Ashton** regarding Family Promise at 609-214-8522.

Bring Your Own Craft Day

Saturday, January 27

Noon to 5:00 PM

in the Family Life Center

Snacks are provided!

Hope to see you there!



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	(breakfast) 206
Worship	277
LIFE Groups	NA
Wednesday	NA
Contribution	\$10,152.00
Weekly Goal	\$9868.00

This Week's Prayer Requests

Praises: Praise God for our wonderful morning here last Sunday!

Prayers:

Russell Foreman, Jessica's husband, is now recovering at home after suffering a heart attack due to a blood clot. Several blockages were found, but all were resolved with stents, praise God!

Dean Gardner, a friend of La'Verne Daniels, a dialysis patient, having to make an unexpected move to upstate New York.

Jason Hall, Sandy and Frank Sheehan's grandson, recovering from surgery to remove his gall bladder and appendix.

Dwight Thompson, lymphoma; chemotherapy.

JoAnn Ruhland, broken bones in her leg and foot.

Mike Lazar, more testing needed to determine cause and treatment for his back, neck, and arm pain.

Isaac Isaziga will have spinal fusion surgery to correct and stop scoliosis on January 18. The surgery will take about 4 hours and he will be in the hospital for 5 days. Carlos is requesting our prayers.

Ray Holmes, prostate cancer; will have radiation, date TBD.

Cindy Holden is recovering from wrist surgery.

Jacob Thies, recovering from latest round of chemo. He will have scans soon to check on his progress. Pray for excellent results!

Ministers

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Elder on Call for January and February: Dwight Thompson

Serving Us Today

Nursery	TBA
Kids For Christ	Jessica Forman
Jr. Worship	Brian Mansdoerfer/Harry Ake
Greeters: Front Entrance	Frank & Sandy Sheehan
Greeters: Back Entrance	Larry Peterson & Mike Lazar
Information Center	Jackie Fenton
Ushers	Horatio Fenton & Terry Rhymes
Shepherd's Call	Horatio Fenton
Song Leader	Mike Broyles
Communion	Tony DeStefano

LIFE Group	Location	Contact
Ageless	Winter Break/Resumes Jan. 7	
Brook Besor	Winter Break/Resumes Jan. 9	
Circle of Sisters	Winter Break/Resumes Jan. 8	
Cornerstone	Winter Break/Resumes Jan. 7	
Hammonton	Winter Break/Resumes Jan. 7	
Life Challenges	Winter Break/Resumes Jan. 7	
Men's Bible Study	Winter Break/Resumes Jan. 8	
Solid Gold	Winter Break/Resumes Jan. 7	
Teens	Winter Break/Resumes Jan. 7	
Vineland	Winter Break/Resumes Jan. 7	
Women in the Word	Winter Break/Resumes Jan. 9	
Young Married	Winter Break/Resumes Jan. 8	

Find Us on Social Media:

 @pitmanroadcoc  www.facebook.com/pitmanroadchurchofchrist  @pitmanroadchurch

Our Sympathy

We extend our sympathy to **Linda Kuznetzoff** and her nephew, **Zachary Kuznetzoff**, in the loss of their father/grandfather, **Peter Alexander Kuznetzoff, Sr.** A memorial service was held in Inverness, Florida on December 18. Cards can be sent to Linda at the address listed for her mother, Elinda Hunter, in the online directory.

We extend our sympathy to **Joe and Gina Marshall** on the passing of Joe's mother, **Emogene Marshall**, last Wednesday, December 27. Joe was able to be with her as she passed from this world to her heavenly home. The funeral service was yesterday in Virginia. Cards can be sent to the Marshall's address in the online directory.

One of Our Own Serving Our Country

Here is updated contact information for **Chris Jones, Jr.** He would love to hear from us!

LCPL Christopher A. Jones, Jr.
PO Box 456438
San Diego, CA 92145

M.E.D. Meeting!

**M.E.D.
Meeting
Sunday,
January 14
Noon-2 pm**

IMPORTANT MINISTERS, ELDERS AND DEACONS MEETING!

There is important and exciting news and information to share!

If you have received an email requesting your attendance at this meeting, please RSVP to Dan or Dottie ASAP.