



## Selection Committee Update

**The minister selection process has entered a critical stage, so we wanted to give you a view of how the process is progressing.**

### The Candidates

As you may remember from prior updates, the minister selection process is not an open job posting to which potential candidates can apply. Instead, we have contacted 30+ recommenders – individuals who know the Pitman congregation and who are well situated to identify and recommend candidates who would meet the qualifications for the pulpit minister position and who would be good fits within our body. Over the last two months we have received the names of 14 men (but additional names may still come in the future). All of them have excellent academic qualifications. Many have served as pulpit ministers at other congregations, and all have preaching experience. Most have also served in other ministerial roles (youth minister, worship minister, etc.). Several have taught or are currently teaching at Christian colleges and are considering returning to full-time ministry. And two are wrapping up their commitments as missionaries (one in China and one in Mozambique), establishing and growing churches and training leaders. Several have experience in community outreach. The Lord has blessed us with excellent potential candidates.

### The Process

After reviewing each candidate's qualifications, we dropped two from consideration. The remaining candidates were all contacted to confirm their interest in the position. We provided them with links to our "We Are Pitman Road" prospectus documents and video, a link to our web site, and a description of the selection process. We also had initial phone calls with several candidates to answer questions. Five of the candidates have elected not to continue through the process for a variety of reasons (deciding to stay in their current position, accepting a job at another congregation, or deciding that we would not be a good match for them). Two of the candidates are still praying and discussing with their wives about whether to start the process with us. Five others have confirmed their interest and are proceeding through the next 3 steps in the process:

Providing information – this includes submitting their latest resumes, a cover letter explaining why they would be a good fit at Pitman and why we would be a good fit for them, links to videos

of sermons they have preached, written outlines of their sermons, and written answers to 5 deep questions we have sent them.

Initial interviews – these are 90 minute interviews via video with each candidate that include 2 interviewers from our side (a brother and a sister) and an observer/note taker.

Second interviews – these are interviews via video with each candidate, together with their wife, and include follow-up questions with a focus on their joint perspectives on ministry, family life and their respective involvements in the body.

Seven members of our team are serving as reviewers of the candidate written answers and the videos of their sermons, scoring them according to a set of evaluation criteria that the committee has defined.

### Where We Are Today

On November 15, we had initial interviews with two of the candidates who are far along in the process. We will have second interviews with them in early December. At this stage, we believe that both of these candidates are qualified for the pulpit minister position and we continue to evaluate their interview responses and all the material they have submitted.

Once the committee feels that we have identified a top candidate for the pulpit minister position, we will recommend that candidate to the elders. The elders are responsible for the

final stages of the negotiation with the recommended candidate. If, for any reason, the recommended candidate is not confirmed, the selection committee will continue through the process with the qualified candidates that remain in the pipeline until the pulpit minister position is filled.

**We are deeply grateful for your continued prayers as we proceed through this process and seek out God's will and guidance.**

*In Him and in your service,*

#### The Minister Selection Committee

Andy Mychajlowycz (chairman), Andrea Olley, Annette Perine, Anthony DeStefano, Karelle Pierre-Jacques, Karllyle Adams, Kathy Ashton, Leanne Kellum, Manny Vander Vennen, Mike Grove, Sherri Herndon, Steve DePrince, Tim Davis, and Tyler Steffy

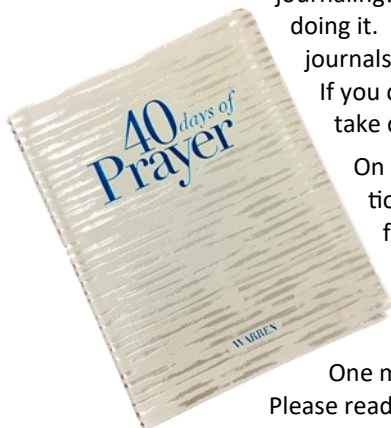
## Our Mission

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

# From Daniel's Den

## 40 Days of Prayer ...Praying & Journaling

Due directly to our current 40 day prayer journey, I'm doing something I have never done before ...I am journaling! I had intended to do it, but I simply never got started. This time I am doing it. How about you? We still have about a dozen of those beautiful prayer journals left, and if you'll see Dottie, she has one for you for \$7. It is not too late! If you cannot afford a journal at this time, let Dottie know and I will personally take care of the cost, because I want you to be blessed like I've been blessed.



On each day of journaling there is a scripture to read, and then three questions for reflection and meditation. I can personally recommend journaling for going deeper in your prayer life. And to be clear, if our 40 days of prayer is going to take us any deeper, you and I are going to need to do something that we didn't do the previous 40 days, such as journaling. Will you join me?

One more thing to be praying about—the Minister Selection Committee. Please read the front page article. Our Selection Committee is seriously, albeit silently, working behind the scenes. Potential candidates are being interviewed. Sermons of candidates are being reviewed. References are being checked. Our Selection Committee needs, and even covets our prayers. They are charged with a heavy responsibility. They need God's direct help in this process, and they are soliciting our prayers. If you have not been doing so, please join me praying for them regularly. And, let them know personally how much you appreciate them for their hours of work. Let them know you're praying for them.

*- Pray without Ceasing; Dan the Praying Preacherman*



**Dan Cooper**  
aka  
**"Dan, Dan,  
the Preacherman"**

I can personally recommend journaling for going deeper in your prayer life.



**Derrick Busch**  
Minister

"The purpose for prayer is not to conform God to my way of seeing things; the purpose for prayer is to conform me to the Kingdom, power, and glory of God."

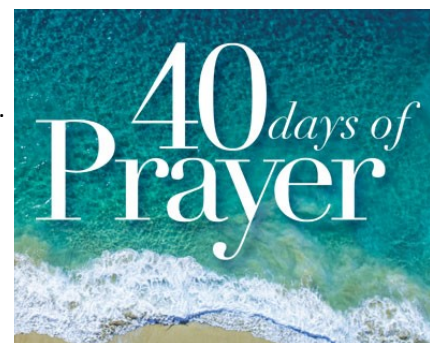
## THE PATTERN FOR PRAYER (Brief Reflection)

As we continue collectively, to engage in our 40 Days of Prayer series, you may have found that there's a phrase or a word that you have encountered during your reading, or during the sermon series that has challenged you to the very core of your beliefs about prayer. This is good! As we continue this journey together, here are two questions that may help us in our growth process in prayer: Have your prayers become more God centered, than self-centered? Have you been challenged to change your core beliefs concerning prayer?

Well, as I reflect on part two of lesson four entitled, "THE PATTERN FOR PRAYER," the phrase that has caused me to reflect deeply is as follows: "The purpose for prayer is not to conform God to my way of seeing things; the purpose for prayer is to conform me to the Kingdom, power, and glory of God." The word that grabbed me in this phrase is "conform," which led to two further questions, "Have my prayers been fixated on my attempt to conform God to my way of seeing things? And secondly, "Have I been "offering" prayers to God with a fixed answer in mind that conforms to my wishes and deep seated heart's desire?" It was eye-opening to see that my prayer life at times was very "Derrick" centered. This "Derrick" centered praying interrupted the peace that God has offered.

Why? Because, self-centered prayers ignore the foundational purpose for prayer; God's glory! Self-centered prayers ignore the fact that God, in all of His wisdom and power is in control. Self-centered prayers give the illusion that we are in control; and this results in forfeiting the peace of God. Be encouraged by Philippians 4:6-7.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.



*-Derrick*



## TODAY!

### New Sunday Morning Winter Quarter Bible classes begin today!

**WOMEN'S MINISTRY:** There will be an organizational meeting to plan for the upcoming Women's Prayer Breakfast immediately after the worship service in the Chapel, for **ALL** women who are interested in attending and/or helping to make this event happen. **WE NEED YOU!**

**Annual Cookie Exchange,** 1:30 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 this evening a 5:30 for a special Christmas Celebration **REFUGE** here at the Pitman Road Church of Christ. There will be fellowship, a devotional, and praise music. Light refreshments will be served. **COME AS YOU ARE!** All are invited. Hosted by Cornerstone LIFE Group.

## Giving Generously

Camp Manatawny is aggressively working to pay off their debt. And, they are getting close!

I received a call on "Giving Tuesday" asking us to donate. I reminded them that Katherine and I had already donated earlier in the year. They promptly thanked me. I proceeded to tell them that we believe in reducing debt and we believe in the mission of Camp Manatawny. So, we sent them another \$100 to help with their debt reduction. Because of a matching gift offer, that \$100 will be doubled and it will become a \$200 contribution.

I will never ask you to donate to a cause that I do not support. We made our donations, and I am encouraging you to think seriously about a generous donation to Camp Manatawny to help them eliminate their debt by the end of this year.

Did you know that Christians are the most generous people in the world when it comes to volunteering time and sharing their resources? In 2017 charitable giving in the USA topped \$400 billion setting an all-time record. A large percentage of that giving is done between Thanksgiving and December 31 each year. If God has blessed you generously, will you give generously back to Him and worthy causes that honor Him? **-Dan**

goodnews

**Congratulations to Mason Steward!** Mason has been selected to be a one of a team of three culinary students that will represent Gloucester County

Institute of Technology in a statewide culinary competition for hot foods. We "heard" that Mason worked very hard to earn his place on the team. **We are proud of you Mason!**

## Coming Up In December

### FEEDING THE HUNGRY IN TRENTON

**SATURDAY, December 8 • 10:00 AM-2:00 PM**

**SIGN UP AT THE WELCOME CENTER TO VOLUNTEER TO SERVE THE MEAL.**

**\$335 IS NEEDED TO COVER THE COST OF THE MEAL.** If you are willing to contribute, note "Trenton Meal" on your check, drop it in the collection plate, or give it to Dottie.

This December...



Pitman Road Church of Christ  
**AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE**

**Friday, December 14, 2018 • 2:30 PM - 7:30 PM**

Appointments are preferred but not required.

To make an appointment, go to [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org), enter sponsor code: Pitman Road

**Appointments for blood donation are filling up! Please go to online registration to lock in a time slot and expedite your registration process.**

**Check next week's bulletin for more details on our Pancake Breakfast, and how you can help!**

## Local Resource for Veterans and Their Families

Dear Congregation,

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the Pitman American Legion, Post 49, Chaplain. I also serve as County Chaplain. I make myself available to the veterans in your congregation. There may be questions, advice, prayer, or comfort that a veteran or their family may need. I am available for counsel at their convenience.

In His Service, **Ron Murschell**

856-589-6094, [rmurschell@comcast.net](mailto:rmurschell@comcast.net)

## Our Schedule

### Sunday

9:00 am Bible Classes  
10:00 am Worship

### Wednesday

7:00 pm Bible Classes

### Office Hours

Tuesday - Friday  
8:30 am - 4:30 pm

## Last Week

Bible Class	108
Worship	175
LIFE Groups	NA
Wednesday	31

## This Week's Prayer Requests

**The monthly prayer list for December is now available.**

### Sunday Morning Requests for Prayer:

**Larry Kellum, Sr.** met with doctors at U of Penn and was told that there were no more treatment options for him. Please lift Larry and the Kellum family up in prayer as they face this new phase in Larry's journey. Thank you, Larry, for your positive attitude, and for your beautiful song.

### Prayer Requests:

**Karelle Pierre-Jacques** will be having prophylactic bilateral mastectomy surgery on December 6. She is requesting prayers of the congregation on her behalf.

**Steve De Prince** will have nerve and tendon transfer surgery on his right arm on December 11.

**Doug Oliver** has reached the halfway point in his radiation treatments. He is feeling well, and asks for your continued prayers.

**George Kenner** is now recovering at home. Please call before you make any visits.

**Debra Bryant**, Barbara Robinson's sister, recovering from surgery for a brain tumor.

**Judy Fitzpatrick**, Chris Fitzpatrick's wife, awaiting biopsy results.

**Pat Moore**, Judi Campbell's sister, now in rehab facility after heart procedure. She has also been diagnosed with diabetes.

**Debby Durham** is at home recovering from tendon and bone fusion surgery on her foot. Prayers for complete healing are appreciated.

**Amanda Collier**, sister of Lee Collier, recovering at home from heart valve surgery.

**Bill Carney**, Barbara Carney's husband, recovering from heart bypass surgery, at Pitman Manor for rehab.

**Barbara Perry** recovering from cataract surgery, preparing for the surgery on the other eye.

**La'Verne Daniels** at home recovering from foot surgery. .

Please continue to remember in your prayers **Gwen Phillip, Dwight Thompson, Linda Prenger, Patti Frambes, and Doug Oliver** as they receive treatment for cancer, as well as **Kareem Rutledge, Jr. and Je'Ani Lyles** in the rehabilitation from life changing injuries.

## Ministers

**Dan Cooper**, Evangelist ..... dcooper@cochrist.org  
..... 856-589-4197  
**Derrick Busch**, Minister ..... dbusch@cochrist.org  
..... 267-303-4877

## Office Staff

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**Annette Perine** ..... annette.perine@gmail.com

## Elders

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**Horatio Fenton** ..... horatiofenton@comcast.net  
**Brian Holden** ..... bcholden94@hotmail.com  
**Garth Hutchinson** ..... 609-414-2606  
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**Dave Perine** ..... davidt.perine@comcast.net  
**Dwight Thompson** ..... 609-561-8561-home, 609-287-0109-cell  
..... dothompson@comcast.net

**Elder on Call for December: John Peoples**

## Serving Us Today

Nursery	Becky Vander Vennen
Kids For Christ	Manny Vander Vennen
Jr. Worship	Brian Mansdoerfer/Harry Ake
Greeters: Front Entrance	Ron Dargan & Mandy Mandsdoerfer
Greeters: Back Entrance	Justin & Rebecca Guy
Information Center	Donna Mychajlowycz
Ushers	Larry Peterson & Corny Walker
Shepherd's Call	Garth Hutchinson
Song Leader	Mike Broyles

LIFE Group	Location	Contact
Ageless	Sheehans' at noon	609-828-3494
Brook Besor	Bacher's Tuesday at 7 pm	609-617-7451
Circle of Sisters	Sbaraglia's at 7 pm	856-419-0544
Covenant	Not meeting this week.	908-294-4056
Hammonton	Broyles' at 6 pm	609-561-8532
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	Not meeting this week.	
Teens	Church Bldg. at noon	610-476-9057
Vineland	H. Pearls' at 6 pm	856-839-0051
Women in the Word	Church Bldg. FLC, Tues. 9:45 am	856-981-9754
Young Married	Church Bldg. at noon	856-899-9466



## We Extend Our Sympathy

We express our sympathy to Brian and Suzanne Kleineweber in the loss of Brian's mother, **Irene Baur**. She passed peacefully last Sunday morning, November 25, surrounded by family. Brian and Suzanne flew back to Colorado the day after Keon and Imani's wedding, expecting this outcome, so her passing does not come as a surprise. The funeral was in Colorado. Cards can be sent to the Kleinewebers at their address in the directory. If you would like, donations can be made to our Capital Fund in Irene's memory.

## Thank You!

Brothers and Sister of Pitman Road Church of Christ, Thank you so much for the love of Christ you have for people in need. My family and I are forever grateful to receive your love basket for Thanksgiving. Thank you all, **Colette and family**

## Find Us on Social Media:

 @pitmanroadcoc  www.facebook.com/pitmanroadchurchofchrist  @pitmanroadchurch