



PITMAN ROAD

CHURCH OF CHRIST

December 9, 2018

Volume 34, Issue 49

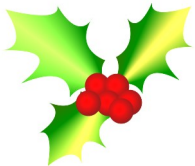
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Christmas Holiday

Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, December 23 at 9:00 am
in the Family Life Center



Once again this year, we will have a special pancake breakfast to celebrate the holiday and we are inviting very special guests! We will be reaching out to families we served through the Caring and

Sharing ministry. This year there will be a "special visitor" and photo opportunity. **Please invite your friends and family to this special event as well!**

Following the breakfast there will be a very special worship service. This worship service will be designed with our guests in mind and will again include a dramatic production by our youth. Christmas is a time of year that those who do not belong to a church are looking for a place to worship. Please take advantage of this great opportunity!

Invitation flyers for the breakfast and worship service are available in the lobby to make it easy to invite friends, family, neighbors, etc. Invite someone today!

Besides inviting friends and family, there are more ways you can help to make our breakfast event successful!

☼ **Tim and Melody Davis** are coordinating the breakfast, and they are requesting the following items. Contact Melody at 609-335-6572 if you can help, donate, or lend any of the following:

- ☼ 3 large griddles (to borrow)
- ☼ egg casseroles
- ☼ gallons of white milk and chocolate milk
- ☼ juice
- ☼ monetary donations
- ☼ **NOTE: Please do not bring items that are not on the menu.**

☼ **Arrival:** If you are bringing food, please arrive with your hot food heated at 8:30. If you are helping to serve breakfast, please arrive at 8:45.

☼ Please leave the best parking spots for our guests. Park at the back entrance or in the rear of the building.

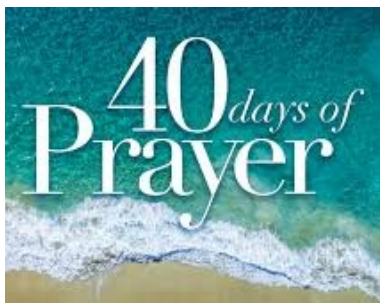
☼ Please be hospitable to our guests!

Our Mission

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

From Daniel's Den

40 Days of Prayer! --- What a Journey It's Been



Honest question... Has anything changed in your prayer life since we started this prayer journey? If not, why not?

The biggest change for me has been that after (or along with my prayer time), I have consistently worked in my prayer journal for the last month. Now, we are coming down to the final stretch of this challenging series. Today's message is "How to Pray in a Crisis" and next Sunday is "Why Doesn't God Always Answer the First Time I Pray?" Next Sunday, we are asking all of our LIFE Groups to set aside their regular LIFE Group time to watch one of the most spiritually challenging movies I have ever seen, **War Room**. I'll warn you, the title is rather misleading. Numerous ones

have already seen it, but this is another chance to catch this excellent movie.

If your group is not watching the movie, or if you're not in a LIFE Group and you'd like to watch it with our "Ageless" LIFE Group, join us at Andy and Donna's house. They plan to set up two TV's, with the movie running both upstairs and downstairs. We will eat first, then we'll watch the movie and share in a brief time of discussion. If you are going to join our Ageless LIFE Group, please contact Donna Mychajlowycz to see what you can bring.

Have you accepted my Sunday morning challenge of fasting and prayer yet? Will you join me in spending 24 hours fasting before Christmas? Will you imitate the example of Daniel by dedicating time to fasting and prayer? (Dan. 9:3). Why fast, you may ask? Fasting says, "God, I'm super serious about this." Jesus did not say, "If you fast..." Rather, Jesus said, "When you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites..." (Matt. 6:16)

- Join me in Fasting and Prayer, Dan the Praying Preacher



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

Will you join
me in
spending
24 hours
fasting before
Christmas?



Mike Broyles
Shepherd

This Christmas season, let's do some defining of our own to help us remember and share God's wonderful love.

Shepherd's Voice

Defining the Season

When I was a student in college I learned a sociological concept called "the definition of the situation." The concept proposes that the reality in a situation is how one perceives it, regardless of how others view it, or it actually is. The consequences are, therefore, just as real. Interestingly, this concept is biblical. Proverbs 23:7 says "As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he." Thousands of years later secular society "discovered" this concept. Secular society has a way of discovering godly teaching, and then claiming it as its own, or even worse, re-defining it. This Christmas season, let's do some defining of our own to help us remember and share God's wonderful love.

When you...

- ☼ See Santa, think of the spiritual gifts God gives to each believer.
- ☼ See presents, think of God's Indescribable Gift- Jesus Christ.
- ☼ See lights, remember that Jesus IS the Light of the world, and we reflect that light.
- ☼ See a Christmas tree, remember it has gone through a transformation, and so do we as God's children.
- ☼ See ornaments, think how God has placed different individuals together to create something greater than each part alone.
- ☼ See the color red, remember that a price was paid for our reconciliation with God.
- ☼ See wreaths, think of the victorious crown of life awaiting believers.
- ☼ See busy shoppers, think how many people are searching for meaning in their life.
- ☼ Hear laughing children, remember the joy of your conversion.
- ☼ Spend time with family, remember how God has made you a part of a larger, timeless family.
- ☼ See bows, remember how God has tied things "up in a bow" for those who believe.
- ☼ Hear bells ringing, think of the "message true and glad" and "ring it out."
- ☼ Experience the Christmas season, make it an opportunity to connect with God, and share His love.



Merry Christmas, **Mike**

THIS Friday!

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,
enter sponsor code: Pitman Road

Family Promise: Making a REAL Difference

If you wonder whether or not Family Promise makes a difference, read the article below from Family Promise of Gloucester County's December 2018 newsletter.

Success Story



Through our partnership with the McKinney-Vento Program, we have learned of a growing population of working homeless families living in area motels. These families are earning enough wages to pay for a single motel room for an average cost of \$1,400-\$2,000 a month, but not enough to save for a first month's security deposit and rent for an apartment. Their income leaves them ineligible for government assistance such as welfare and housing subsidies.

We received a call from one such family of six (2 adults and 4 children) who had been living in a hotel for the past **four years**. They had lost their home to foreclosure when mom took ill and could no longer work. Dad works full-time and earned enough to pay \$1,400 a month for a single hotel room plus food and other daily living expenses. They did not have a car due to the high cost to maintain and make repairs so dad rode a bike to work every day. They were excited to learn about our program and told us that we are the only organization to give them a chance, and keep their family together. They said that they would rather pay the high amount in a hotel room than separate their family. And they did just that for the past four years until Family Promise came along.

The family entered our program and moved into St. Peter's Haven Transitional House in August, 2018. We contacted 1-800-Charity Cars/Midas, who surprised the family with a donated mini-van. We connected them with Catholic Charities who helped subsidize their security deposit and first month's rent. We posted a need for furniture on Facebook, and received an overwhelming response for donations. After only two and a half months with Family Promise, they were able to move into a four bedroom home in Paulsboro, fully furnished. The family is beyond grateful. All they needed was a little time to save up and get ahead. Thank you to all who helped make their dreams a reality.

Mark your calendars now with our 2019 Family Promise Host Weeks. Let's commit to some more "Make a Difference Moments" in the coming year!

January 20-27 ♥ April 21-28 ♥ July 14-21 ♥ October 20-27

Holiday Schedule



- On Sunday, December 23, there will be no Bible classes, instead we will host the Pancake Breakfast at 9:00 am followed by the special worship service.
- On Sunday, December 30, we will have our regularly scheduled Bible classes at 9:00 am and worship service at 10 am.
- LIFE Groups will not meet formally on December 23 or 30. Please see the announcement below.
- We will not meet at the building on Wednesday, December 26.
- The church office will be closed for the holidays on Tuesday and Wednesday, December 25 & 26; and Tuesday, January 1.

LIFE Group Announcement



To close out our series on the 40 Days of Prayer, during the week of December 16, all LIFE Groups are encouraged to meet and watch the movie **War Room**. LIFE Groups will not

have regular meetings during the weeks of December 23 and 30. Some groups, however, are scheduling holiday social gatherings during this time. Regular meetings of all LIFE Groups will resume during the week of January 6.

Year End Capital Fund Gifts!

Do you know that a large percentage of the charitable giving in America each year is given between Thanksgiving and the end of the year. **As this year draws to a close, I would like to remind you that you can make a gift to our Capital Fund. Your gift can memorialize a friend or relative who has passed, or you can make a donation to honor a person who is still living.**

(Absolutely no guilt here, just a gentle reminder, if you have been blessed by God and want to "pay it forward.") To God be the glory.

Our Capital Fund is used to finance and support long term investments and improvements around our church facility. The new sound panels on the back of the auditorium came through a significant gift from a member and money from the "Capital Fund." New flooring for the lobby and a handful of other projects are on the drawing board for our building once we have our Certificate of Occupancy in hand.

Your "above and beyond" donations can be a huge blessing for our church for years to come. And your giving can be a "here and now" blessing as you give generously to our Capital Fund to extend honor to a special person in your life or remembrance of a departed love one. Appropriate forms are always available in the lobby. And, we have a book of remembrance that conveys our deep appreciation for the gifts. See the insert for pages of gifts so far this year.

Freely we have received, so may we freely give; **Dan**

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	139
Worship	193
LIFE Groups	103
Wednesday	Weather cancellation

This Week's Prayer Requests

Prayer Requests:

Karelle Pierre-Jacques recovering from prophylactic bilateral mastectomy surgery.

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

Judy Fitzpatrick, Chris Fitzpatrick's wife, biopsy confirms throat cancer. She will have radiation treatments, date TBD.

Pat Moore, Judi Campbell's sister, in rehab facility after a heart procedure. But she is not doing well. She is retaining excess fluid. She has also been diagnosed with diabetes.

Jessie Burrell, Mary Collier's sister, successful surgery to have toe amputated. She has a long recovery, but is doing well. Thank you for the prayers.

Larry and Fran Point have been ill for a couple of weeks; they are finally improving.

Lamont Langston, La'Verne Daniels' nephew, recovering from lung collapse after a biopsy.

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

George Kenner is recovering at home. Please call before you make any visits. **Praise! It was great to see him here last Sunday!**

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

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.

La'Verne Daniels at home recovering from foot surgery. See her note below.

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.

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Elder on Call for December: John Peoples

Serving Us Today

Nursery	Hope DeStefano
Kids For Christ	Jessica Forman
Jr. Worship	Brian Mansdoerfer/Harry Ake
Greeters: Front Entrance	Steve & Jayne DePrince
Greeters: Back Entrance	Andy & Donna Mychajlowycz
Information Center	Rebecca Guy
Ushers	Dave & Annette Perine
Shepherd's Call	Mike Broyles
Song Leader	Garth Hutchinson

LIFE Group	Location	Contact
Ageless	Texas Roadhouse at noon	856-981-9755
Brook Besor	Bacher's Tuesday at 7 pm	856-589-2280
Circle of Sisters	Sbaraglia's at 7 pm	856-419-0544
Covenant	Mychajlowycz's at 5:30	908-294-4056
Hammonton	Call for information	609-567-7484
Life Challenges	Church Bldg. rm B4 at noon	267-303-4877
Men's Bible Study	Next meeting Jan. 7	856-217-3956
Solid Gold	Walkers' at noon	856-478-6972
Teens	Church Bldg. at noon	610-476-9057
Vineland	H. Pearls' at 6 pm	856-839-0051
Women in the Word	Not meeting this week.	856-981-9754
Young Married	Meet with Hammonton group	856-899-9466

Find Us on Social Media:

 @pitmanroadcoc  www.facebook.com/pitmanroadchurchofchrist  @pitmanroadchurch

Thank You!

Dear Church Family:

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for the over whelming support after my recent surgery. Also the continued prayers, phone calls, visit, and prepared meals. Knowing that you were thinking of me made me feel loved. I am so grateful and thankful, your time and effort was highly appreciated. What a blessing! I hope to see you soon.

In Christian love, La'Verne Daniels



NEXT WEEK THE 2019 DATE BOOKS WILL BE AVAILABLE!

Look out for them when you come to church next Sunday!