December 16, 2019 Volume 34, Issue 50

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

NEXT Sunday!



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!

In Two Weeks!

As 2018 draws to a close, it brings a great opportunity to reflect back on both the good... and not so good. But as Christians, we know faith grows out of the not so good, as well as in the most devastating life experiences. In Hebrews 11, we read of some amazing faith heroes from 3,000 years ago. And, we have some pretty amazing faith heroes that are our contemporaries. In fact, some are in our midst.

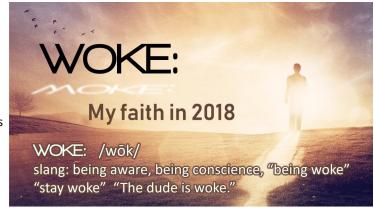
On Sunday, December 30, Dan's sermon, *WOKE: My faith in 2018*, is going to feature two of our members who will give their testimony of how life altering experiences impacted and grew their faith: Carla Ortiz and Dr. George Kenner.

On June 18 of this year, Carla and her daughter Je'ani were rearended by a tractor trailer in a multi-vehicle accident on I-95 near Baltimore. Carla escaped without serious injury, but Je'ani

sustained life-threating injuries, and was left paralyzed from the chest down.

On October 30, George was in a head-on collision that left him in Trauma ICU with broken ribs, lung trauma, and memory loss.

We hope you will be here as they share their powerful testimonies of how life altering events "woke" their faith and brought their relationship and connection to God to a higher level in 2018.



From Daniel's Den

The Birth that Changed the World

Jesus and His followers have done more to reduce sickness and suffering than anyone else in history. Jesus Christ has transformed more lives than any other person in the history of the entire world. Hence, our vision statement: "To meet others where they are, and together be transformed into the image of Christ."

"This Jesus of Nazareth, without money and arms, conquered more millions than Alexander, Caesar, Mohammed and Napoleon; without science and learning. He shed more light on things human and divine than all philosophers and scholars combined, without the eloquence of schools. He spoke such words of life as were never spoken before or since and produced effects which lie beyond the reach of orator or poet; without writing a single line, He set more pens in motion, and furnished more themes for more sermons, orations, discussions, learned volumes, works of art, and songs of praise, than the whole army of great men of ancient and modern times." – Philip Schaff

If you remove Christ from history you remove the great cathedrals of Europe, Michelangelo's "David," Raphael's painting of Mary, and Leonardo da Vinci's "The Last Supper." Also missing would be Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress*, Milton's *Paradise Lost*, Dicken's *A Christmas Carol*, and the works of C. S. Lewis. Our Lord restored value to human life. Christians in Rome of the first century rescued babies, because Jesus said, "Suffer the little children to come to me." A Hindu woman said to a missionary, "Surely your Bible was written by a woman ... because it says so many kind things for women."

If Jesus can save Saul, "The Terrorist of Tarsus," He can change any man or woman on the face of the earth. And He has!

- Join me in Celebrating the Christ; Dan the Preacherman



Dan Cooper aka "Dan, Dan, the Preacherman"

Jesus Christ
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entire world.



Derrick Busch Minister

Where are we in the process of me transitioning from 22 years of teaching into my role of full time ministry at Pitman?

We're All A Mess

Full Time Ministry & Your Prayers

Brenda and I believe that we are answering the call of God into full-time ministry here at the Pitman Road Church of Christ. To say that we are excited, willing, and filled with thankfulness and great anticipation for what God has done, and continues to do in our lives and yours, would be a gross understatement! We want each of you to know that we appreciate EACH and EVERYONE of you for your unique giftedness entrusted to you by God Himself as you glorify God and edify His body! YOU ARE A SPECIAL BODY OF BELIEVERS! It is our desire to grow with you, closer and closer, into the will of God as we mutually encourage one another.

It's been both enlightening to witness, and anticipated with great hope, that God would one day use all of my training: an undergraduate degree in music education, a master's degree in special education, an administrated certificate in special education, a master's degree in pastoral care & counseling, and a life familiar with struggle to fulfill the role as a full time minister. I remain humbled and grateful for the outworking of God grace and mercy in my life; to God be the glory!

Where are we in the process of me transitioning from 22 years of teaching into my role of full time ministry at Pitman? Here's where we are as we solicit your prayers: Before we can fully transition into full time "Face in the Building & Community" ministry, we need to both sell our house in Philadelphia and purchase a house in South Jersey. We presently have a buyer for our house in Philadelphia, and we are aggressively doing our due diligence along with our very gifted brother Larry Peterson to find a suitable house in South Jersey. Once these things are accomplished, I will resign from my present teaching position.

Please pray that both the buyer and us as the seller will be blessed by this negotiation process. Also pray that we will be blessed with a house that meets the needs of our family. Thank you for your continued prayers and trust!

-Derrick

MAD Moments!

Make A Difference Moments are happening here! Last Saturday, a van load of people traveled to Trenton to serve a meal to those in need at the North Clinton Avenue Church of Christ. This is the third time we've covered the \$500 cost of the meal and sent volunteers to help this year. Thanks go to Larry and Lea Ann Kellum for heading up the Caring and Sharing ministry and coordinating this service project. We also give special thanks to Barbara Robinson and her network of support resources. For the third year in a row, Barbara collects all sorts of supplies and fills bags with blankets, snacks, toiletries, gloves, and hats to give out to unsheltered people in Trenton and around the South Jersey area. This year, she also sourced these amazing coat/sleeping bag combinations! THANK YOU Barbara for being a "make it happen" person!





Last Sunday, the Women's Embark Ministry, headed up by Leza Davis and Carla Clements, again coordinated the Adopt-A-Family program with Eleanor Corbett House. We adopted 10 families this year! Yesterday, a party coordinated by our Pitman Road Youth Group, with Tim and Melody Davis, threw a Christmas party for the families where they received their gifts.



THANK YOU TO ALL who were involved in these efforts to make a difference in the lives of families and individuals in need this Christmas season!

BLANKET DRIVE: You can help Barbara continue to make a difference! Want to

help keep homeless and needy people warm this winter? Here is your opportunity! Donate clean and slightly used OR new blankets! Bring them to the building and drop them in the bin in the FLC by February 10.

goodnews

From Carla Ortiz: Today on just the 21st day that Je'ani returned to school, we witness vet another true blessing from God! Due to the support received through her home school teacher Ms. Rankin and the tremendous efforts that Jee has made since returning to school, we gathered today to celebrate Je'ani receiving GOLD honors for the marking period! She has accomplished maintaining all A's and we are so proud of her! Again, I am inspired to share God's goodness and encour-



age anyone and everyone to trust God's process in life! Jee embraces God's will for her life each and every day.



- 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. (See front page about what's planned for that morning!)
- •LIFE Groups will not meet formally on December 23 or 30.
- •We will not meet at the building on Wednesday, December 26.
- The church office will be <u>closed</u> for the holidays on Tuesday and Wednesday, December 25 & 26; and Tuesday, January 1.

Make a Difference **Here!** Meals Needed!

Karelle Pierre-Jacques has had a significant surgery. Will you help by preparing a meal for the Pierre-Jacques family? Contact **Brenda Peoples** to sign up 856-206-7688.



THE 2019 DATE BOOKS ARE AVAILABLE!

Pick up one in the lobby today!

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	117
Worship	186
LIFE Groups	90
Wednesday	37

Ministers	
Dan Cooper, Evangelist	dcooper@cochrist.org
	856-589-4197
Derrick Busch, Minister	dbusch@cochrist.org
Office Staff	
Dottie Grillo	dgrillo@cochrist.org
Annette Perine	annette.perine@gmail.com
Elders	
Mike Broyles	mbroyles777@gmail.com
Horatio Fenton	horatiofenton@comcast.net
	bcholden94@hotmail.com
Garth Hutchinson	609-414-2606
	grth.hutchinson@gmail.com
	teacher.engineer@comcast.net
John Peoples	609-617-7451
	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 Judi Campbell
Kids For Christ Desna Yanzuk

Jr. Worship Brian Mansdoerfer/Harry Ake

Greeters: Front Entrance Brian & Cindy Holden
Greeters: Back Entrance George & Cookie Rowe

Information Center Mary Collier

Ushers Justin Guy & Harold Pearl

Shepherd's Call John Peoples
Song Leader Mike Broyles

LIFE Group	Location	Contact
Ageless	Mychajlowyczs' at noon	908-294-4056
Brook Besor	Next meeting Jan. 8	856-589-2280
Circle of Sisters	Collier's at 7 pm	856-419-0544
Covenant	Perines' at 5:30	908-294-4056
Hammonton	TBA	609-320-9260
Life Challenges	Church Bldg. rm B4 at noon	267-303-4877
Men's Bible Study	Next meeting Jan. 7	856-217-3956
Solid Gold	Lazars' at noon.	856-223-1699
Teens	Church Bldg, at noon	610-476-9057
Vineland	TBA	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

Find Us on Social Media:





Giving for NOVEMBER	
November GOAL	\$39,320.00
Total November Contribution	\$34,498.00
Fiscal YTD GOAL	\$216,260.00
Fiscal YTD Contribution thru November	\$212,214.00

This Week's Prayer Requests

Prayer Requests:

Karelle Pierre-Jacques recovering well from prophylactic bilateral mastectomy surgery. Her pain level is manageable, praise God!

Steve De Prince had nerve and tendon transfer surgery on his right arm and is recovering at home.

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

Pat Moore, Judi Campbell's sister, doing better in rehab. They will not release her until she can walk with a cane.

Penny, Melody Schools' 7 mo. old granddaughter, having eye surgery on December 21.

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.

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

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.

Please continue to remember in your prayers **Doug Oliver**, **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.

The Gifts That Keep On Giving

Special thanks to all of those who made gifts over the last year to honor or remember special people in your life. Nearly four full pages were included as an insert in last week's bulletin. The gifts to our Capital Fund, unlike flowers that will fade, continue to bless our church, as we make significant improvements. We are very intentional about caring for this beautiful structure that God has blessed us with.

When you make a donation to our capital fund, the one who is honored is notified of your gift, and/or the family of the person who is memorialized is notified of your gift. It really is a win-win proposition.

Thank you again for all of those who made special donations last year. If you'd like to see a copy of our list for this year, or for any previous year, please see Dottie. -Dan