

PITMAN ROAD
CHURCH OF CHRIST

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500 Pitman Road
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www.pitmanroadcoc.com

PITMAN ROAD POST

Our Mission

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

FROM DANIEL'S DEN

TOUGH TIMES DON'T LAST...TOUGH PEOPLE DO!



Dan Cooper
Connections Minister

These are unprecedented times. In everyday language, "unprecedented times" means "we have never seen anything like this before." Nada! Never!

Here are some of the exceptionally tough issues we are currently facing in our country! There is this pandemic that headlines every news account for months and has now killed over 200,000 Americans, and hundreds of thousands more across the rest of the world. There is racial unrest. There is political division. There is polarization over the replacement appointment for Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg. There is isolation! There is fear and anxiety! There are forest fires sweeping across the Western States. There are floods. There is hatred. There are face coverings. There are the social distancing requirements. There are lost jobs. There are mandatory restrictions that prevent kids from going to school. Dottie cannot visit her aging mother at a care center, due to COVID-19, and you cannot visit your aging, even dying parent.

And we ask, "Where is God?" Many see these troublesome times as indications of Biblical prophecy being fulfilled. And, they may be! Or, they may not be! This is not the first plague the world has faced in the last 2,000 years. This is not the first time we've seen racial tension, unrest and violence since Jesus walked the earth. This is not the first time to face hatred, rumors of wars, wars and persecution since Jesus' death.

We live in a fallen, imperfect world. The "evil one," the "serpent," devil," "father of lies" "prince of darkness," "dragon," "Beelzebub," "Behemoth," and the "fallen angel" is busy doing everything in his power to undermine the goodness and the power of God. This prince of darkness is out to steal your hope and your confidence.

But, I want to remind you, Satan loses! God wins! Death is conquered! Death dies! Sickness and disease pass away and God wins. We win! Never doubt. We are on the winning team. Do not give up! Do not quit! Remember what Paul reminded the Christians when they were living in doubt and facing trials and times of uncertainty. Therefore, my beloved ... be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain. (1 Cor. 15:58).

Remember... "Tough times don't last, tough people do!" - **Dan**

CONGRATULATIONS, WILL AND KRISTY!

Congratulations to **Will and Kristy** on the birth of their baby girl! **Eliana Karis Mendez** was born on Tuesday, September 22 at 6:17pm at 20 inches, 9lbs 9oz. Eliana means "my God has answered me." Karis is for her grandmothers, Kathleen and Iris, and Karis also means grace and charity in Greek. All is well. Praising God and feeling very grateful!



SAIL AWAY PARTY FOR MIKE AND DONNA LAZAR!

Saturday, October 17 from 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
in the Church Parking Lot

We have found our retirement home! Come join us as we celebrate our move to Virginia. Hope to see you there! - **Mike and Donna Lazar**

THERE'S AN A.P.P. FOR THAT!

[A PEACHER'S PERSPECTIVE]

OUR POLITICAL ALLEGIANCE IS TO HEAVEN



Joey Peacher
Preaching Minister

Paul's words in Phil. 3:20 break into our contemporary landscape with a reorienting word. "Citizenship." (From the Greek word, politeuma – sound familiar?) Why do we need such a word?

Political posturing is taking over every conversation today. Even the weather becomes grist for pointed comments about a particular view about global warming. Guns, children, sexuality, health care, the environment, race, justice, education, and the list goes on. We baptize every important idea (and many unimportant ones) into service of the left and of the right. Tragically, many Christians in the U.S. are falling into the trap of identifying with an array of issues on the right or on the left, resulting in a blurring and distorting of the Christian faith. We can quickly take elements of our faith and press them into service to our political convictions.

Let's go a little further. Evidence abounds regarding the polarization of our land. So red states and blue states, Republican party and Democratic party, become the standard bearers. What happens, often so subtly that we don't notice, is that we work our Christian faith into our own particular mix of political views. The result is that you can find people from either party declaring that you can be Christian only if you align with that party. Then our political views, which we've married to our Christian faith, show up at church! That is why we so desperately need to heed Paul's words.

The apostle declares "our political allegiance is to heaven!" Humans, in the world of the first century and the 21st century, have a persistent propensity to seek our own stability and security. We quickly believe the lie that we hold the future in our hands; so we'd better get this right. Yet every single time humans get to thinking, "We can get this right," we assert ourselves and our own hubris. We end up living, as Paul notes, as "enemies of the cross of Christ" (Phil. 3:18). We assume we must save ourselves, so we attach ourselves to all manner of political ideologies to secure our future and stabilize our land. In so doing we commit idolatry by placing our faith in political platforms, presidential candidates, party ideology. I encourage you by reminding you where our political allegiance lies. Please understand me. I am not saying that one can't hold political convictions or that a person should not vote come November. Voting is a part of what it means to be a U.S. citizen; please study the issues well and vote!

Paul exhorts that "our political allegiance is to heaven" because it is only from heaven that a Savior will come. Paul rarely declares Jesus as Savior, but he does so here in Philippians. In so doing, he makes it perfectly clear that all that needs saving will find saving in and through Jesus Christ. Safety, security, and a hope for our future lies with – and only with – the present and coming Savior.

How will we be identified? Are we Christian Americans, Christian Republicans, Christian Democrats? Or do we dig deep into the wellsprings of the Christian faith and recognize that our primary identity is bound up in our baptism into Jesus Christ? The church and our land desperately need leaders who will rise and remind us that for those who follow Jesus, "our political allegiance is to heaven!"

(Modified from Mosaic, by Carson Reed)

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD (SHOEBOX)

Once again, we have an opportunity to bless children in need with a gift for the holiday season. Start purchasing items now, while we wait for the shoeboxes to arrive!

Visit <https://www.samaritanaspurse.org/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/> for important COVID-19 updates and how to pack your shoebox. You can also bless children around the world without leaving home, by building a shoebox online.

Tina Broyles will be sending out more information via email, so keep an eye out!



WOMEN'S CONFERENCE



A women's conference was brought to my attention, and I want to bring it to your attention as well! **The theme is Story Maker, and will be live streamed on Saturday, October 10th from 9:00-4:30.** The title is "Journey Through Eden" Discover God's narrative to redeem His creation.

Several of us are planning on pairing together (or at the most 3 people) to view together at a host home. We will be socially distanced and masked or however we are comfortable together during these COVID times.

I have provided the link so you can see how to register.
<https://www.storymakerconference.com/>

Check out the list of speakers and the schedule. **Everyone is to register individually.** Please reach out to a friend or friends and plan to view this live stream together at one of your homes, or if you are more comfortable viewing it alone, that is perfectly fine as well. It reminds me of our "Women of Faith" days.

If you have any questions or need help figuring out a plan, let me know. Also, I can provide you with names of those participating and other possible hosts. Please consider being a host if necessary.

The cost is about \$35.00.

Please let me know once you register by texting or calling me, Tina Broyles, at 609-320-0534. I'd like to know so I can be of help coordinating any arrangements that could be helpful to you! Also, we may zoom during breakout sessions, so I'd want to invite you to those. Looking forward to hearing from you!

Blessings to all of you! - **Tina**

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WAYS TO GIVE



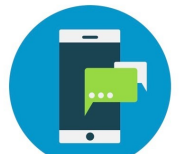
In person
at the
worship service.



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