

January 1, 2022 | Volume 5, Issue 1 | 500 Pitman Road, Sewell, NJ 08080

# Our Vision

To be a place where God's love is experienced, known, and shared by all.

# Our Mission

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

A YEAR IN REVIEW - 2022

# Pitman Road POST

lake a difference

Move into family

eet Jesus



(Our Vision) To be a place where God's love is experienced, known, and shared by all, by (Our Mission) meeting others where they are and together being transformed into the image of Christ.



#### Dear Burmese family support team,

Dan Cooper and I were finally able to meet **Jamilah and her young son** on Monday, December 12<sup>th</sup>! So exciting! We had a great visit. The social worker, Anna, was with us, and she had an interpreter on the phone through whom we could all communicate.

Jamilah is most grateful for our help with her monthly rent. She thanked us many times! We also presented her with a check for \$1000, thanks to your generosity. At first she smiled and thanked us for the "piece of paper." When we explained what it was, she seemed to recognize it and said a friend explained how to deposit checks. (She does have a bank account.) She was most grateful for that gift as well!

When we asked what need she might have in the apartment, she said "something to warm up the curry." She was referring to a microwave oven. Harold Pearl has already offered one to donate. Thank you, Harold!

Her apartment appears to have been updated and painted before her arrival. It is neat and clean, but small. There is a small kitchen with a counter top and a pantry room, but no place for a table. There are two bedrooms, and a small hallway connecting the kitchen and the bedrooms. We sat on folding chairs in the hallway as there is no living area. I would say that no more than three people could visit her at once.

Jamilah works nights baking bread. Her 13-year-old daughter is in charge of her two younger siblings while Jamilah is gone. She recognizes that this is not ideal but does not have another solution.

Attached is a photo with Jamilah, as well as some photos of her building and her south Philly neighborhood. There are many Asian markets and eateries nearby.

When asked if she was happy in her new life in the US, she smiled and said "yes!!" Most importantly: her children can go to school, and they can eat well. Neither of these was possible where they came from.

Once again: many thanks for your generosity! Jamilah and her children are deeply grateful!! Before we left, we prayed for her and thanked God for her safe arrival here. Her life is hard, but is apparently ever so much better than where she came from.

Yours in Jesus, **Diana Hutchinson** 







#### "TABLE TALKS" BIBLE STUDY

#### Resumes THIS Wednesday, January 4 At Noon in Room B4 (Library)

Join Dan and Joey every Wednesday for "Table Talks!" Bring a bagged lunch and fellowship with us as we eat and have a Bible study. We hope to see you there!



#### SECOND SUNDAY SOCIAL

#### Sunday, January 8 at 11:45AM In the FLC, Following Worship Service

Join us for our first church potluck of the new year! This month, there will be no specific theme. Just bring a dish to share! (Drinks will be provided.) Feel free to bring your favorite game to play. We hope to see you there!

**Reminders:** Please bring all food FULLY prepared; heated, cut, and ready to serve! We have a hot box for food that needs to stay warm during service. (NOTE: Please do not put cold food into the warmer. It will not make your food any hotter than it was when you put it into the warmer.)





Family Promise

#### FAMILY PROMISE

Sunday, January 15 through Saturday, January 21

We still need MANY volunteers to cook for both transition houses! If you are able to help, sign up in

the foyer or contact John Ashton at **609-214-8522** or **jashton834@comcast.net**. Thank you!

### TESTIMONIAL SUNDAY

#### Sunday, January 29 During Worship Service

"Testimonial Sunday" is held each fifth Sunday during our worship service. This is a time when our members share with our church family how God has worked in their lives. We ask that anyone wishing to participate this month would please submit their testimony to an elder. Testimonials should be approximately ten minutes or less.



# Follow Camp Manatawny on Social Media



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# BABY PACKS

Starting this month, we will be collecting specific items to help

women during childbirth. More details are in the foyer, but if you have any questions see or contact Debbie Lancaster or Sandy Sheehan.

# A YEAR IN REVIEW: 2022

#### Baptisms (3)

Amanda Bingham Teanna Cutaden, Abby Vander Vennen

#### Marriages (3)

Andrew Holden to Christina Varghese
Bert Kellum to Bernard Henderson
Zack Olley to Eve Ulbrich

#### Deaths (2)

Anne Peoples, Betty Davis

#### **Graduations (11)**

Dayjon Bartley, Carla Clements, Cassidy Davis, Chu Ikeorha, Kaitlyn Nevins, Clay Olley, Evan Patterson, Ashley Pearl, Stephanie Pierre-Jacques, Donavan Spencer, Bethany Schneider

### MONTH BY MONTH ACTIVITES AND EVENTS

#### January

Starting off the New Year with special family production "Light Show" during Sunday morning worship service on January 9. First Family Promise Host Week of the new year, coordinated by John Ashton. Families continue to stay in housing, but our members shop and bring them meals for the week. First Craft Day of the new year, coordinated by Dottie Grillo. Jackson and Esther House visit PRCOC and share about their unique work in Greece. Their topic is, "Life on the Front Lines Today for a Missionary Couple in Thessalonica Greece!" One of Pitman Road's generous couples begins a Matching Gift Challenge in memory of Anne Peoples.

#### **February**

We invite all member to "Re-Connect", and all children's, teen, and adult Bible classes resume in person. Teens and chaperones attend Winterfest in Gatlinburg, TN. First Refuge of the new year, coordinated by Will and Kristy Romeo-Mendez. Craft Day, coordinated by Dottie Grillo.

#### March

New 2022 spring quarter Bible classes begin. Dave Perine leads a class called, "Prayers in the New Testament" on Wednesday evenings over Zoom. Joey leads a class called, "Prayerful Parenting in a Frightful World" on Sunday mornings. Mike Broyles leads a class called, "Connecting Proverbs" on Sunday mornings. Jay Schneider continues to hold worship during Bible class hours over at Parke Place. "Annual Secret Sisters Revealing/Joining Party, coordinated by Dottie Grillo, held at the church building. Four new Secret Sisters join the ministry! We collect supplies and donations to help the people of Ukraine. Refuge, coordinated by Will and Kristy Romeo-Mendez. Kitchen Work Days at Camp Manatawny. Jonathon and Robin Steward share Harry Steward's faith journey for Sunday morning worship. A group of cadets from West Point come and lead our worship service on the last Sunday of the month.

#### **April**

We encourage everyone to continue to "Re-Connect" by adding member extracurricular activities to our monthly calendar. Another successful Family Promise Host Week, coordinated by John Ashton. Work and Worship Weekend, Annual Corporation Meeting, and Junior and Senior High Retreat at Camp Manatawny. Craft Day, coordinated by Dottie Grillo. Refuge, coordinated by Will and Kristy Romeo-Mendez.

#### May

Dan coordinates a trip to Israel. College seniors graduate. Ladies' Retreat, Family Camp, and Summer Camp Open House at Camp Manatawny. Craft Day, coordinated by Dottie Grillo. Memorial Day Luncheon and Game Day at the church building on Sunday, May 29th. Around 60 people stayed after service for food, fellowship, and fun!

#### June

New 2022 summer quarter Bible classes begin. High school seniors graduate. Graduate celebration for grads, family, and church members is held at the church building in the FLC. Some of our member go on the France Mission Trip, where they help repair Camp Bonnefoi.

#### July

We host the local community for the fourth of July as they watch Alcyon Lake Park fireworks from our property. Refuge plays for the Fourth of July, coordinated by Will and Kristy Romeo-Mendez. Mandy Mansdoerfer coordinates another successful blood drive. Family Promise Host Week, coordinated by John Ashton. Rebekah and Elizabeth Lazar direct camp week Junior High 1 at Camp Manatawny. Craft Day, coordinated by Dottie Grillo. First Testimonial Fifth Sunday during our worship service, where members share with our church family how God has worked in their lives.

#### **August**

Manny Vander Vennen directs camp week Elementary 1 at Camp Manatawny for the last time before passing the torch to a new director. Jonathan and Robin Steward host a pool party for our church at the Raccoon Valley Swim Club. Craig and Katie Young make their annual visit to Pitman Road. Craig provides a mission update during Bible class, and then delivers the sermon during our worship service. Refuge, coordinated by Will and Kristy Romeo-Mendez. Craft Day, coordinated by Dottie Grillo.

#### September

New 2022 fall quarter Bible classes begin. Craft Day, coordinated by Dottie Grillo. Refuge, coordinated by Will and Kristy Romeo-Mendez. Men's Retreat at Camp Manatawny. LIFE Groups resume after summer break. Munchkin Ministry resumes for the first time after COVID. First Wednesday "Table Talks", led by Joey Peacher and Dan Cooper. First Second Sunday Social (held monthly, every second Sunday after worship service) is a success. Theme is "Sandwiches, Salads, and Sides." Farewell prayer and cake for Dave and Annette Perine.

#### October

Our last Family Promise Host Week for the year 2022. Trunk or Treat, along with prizes, bounce house, and hay ride takes place at our building, coordinated by Joey and Callie Peacher. A Secret Sister Brunch, coordinated by Dottie Grillo (food prepared by Andrea Olley) is held at our building in the FLC. Refuge, coordinated by Will and Kristy Romeo-Mendez. Junior and Senior High Retreat and Manatawny Run at Camp Manatawny. Second Sunday Social, theme is "Mexican Food."

#### November

Handmade Thanksgiving cards (made with love by Brittany Spaeth) are signed and sent out. Pack the Pulpit food collection provides 48 families with Thanksgiving dinner baskets. Tina Broyles coordinates annual collection of "shoeboxes" for Operation Christmas Child. This year, we were given a goal of collecting 115 boxes with the motivation of Joey and our elders agreeing to take a pie in the face if that goal was reached or exceeded. 129 boxes are filled and collected by members, meaning many pies were thrown. Craft Day, coordinated by Dottie Grillo. One of our members generously offers a "Matching Gift Challenge" in support of a new church plant in Millville. Refuge, coordinated by Will and Kristy Romeo-Mendez. Second Sunday Social, theme is "Thanksgiving Dinner."

#### **December**

New 2022 winter quarter Bible classes begin. Ladies' Day held for Pitman Ladies, coordinated by Stephanie DeStefano and Tina Broyles. Christmas theme for Ladies' Day is "Joy". American Red Cross Blood Drive, coordinated by Mandy Mansdoerfer. Maggie Mansdoerfer coordinates, collects, and delivers items to Veteran's Haven Homeless Shelter in Hammonton. Special "Jingle Jam" Christmas celebration during worship service. Second annual Pitman Road Christmas Show, hosted by Mike Broyles, including performances by many of our members. Refuge, coordinated by Will and Kristy Romeo-Mendez, wraps up 2022 before taking an undetermined amount of time off. We close out 2022 with a special Sunday morning worship service on Christmas day.



Our Pitman Road Ladies' Day was a day filled with love, laughter, and JOY! We had brunch, sang together, shared stories, and participated in many joyful activities. Thank you, Stephanie DeStefano, Tina Broyles, and Melody Davis for coordinating this event, and many thanks to all of those who also helped to make it a success!



If you missed our special Christmas "Jingle Jam" service, make sure to go back and watch it on our Facebook Page or YouTube Channel!



Our second annual 2022 Christmas Show at Pitman Road was a success! This Christmas Celebration included special performances by the Yanzuks, the Vander Vennens, Two Horns and a Bass, the

France Group, Refuge, and more! Thank you, Mike Broyles, for hosting another successful Christmas Show. Also, a special thanks to everyone else who was involved in making the show a success.



On Christmas Sunday, 62 of us gathered at Pitman Road for a continental breakfast shared by Dan Cooper and a special, interactive worship service coordinated by Mike Broyles. Thank you to all

who helped to make this service so meaningful.



**WAYS TO GIVE** 

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In person

worship service.





Via the easyTithe mobile app.



On our website at pitmanroadcoc.com



Text to Give Text amount to 856.209.6212

#### Minister

Joey Peacher, Preaching Minister ....... jpeacher@cochrist.org

#### Office Staff

Dottie Grillo ......dgrillo@cochrist.org

Katelyn Ikeorha.....kikeorha@cochrist.org

Mike Broyles	mbroyles777@gmail.com
	dcooper@cochrist.org
Brian Holden	bcholden94@hotmail.com
Garth Hutchinson	609-414-2606
	grth.hutchinson@gmail.com
Andy Mychajlowycz	andymych@hotmail.com
John Peoples	609-617-7451