

April 2, 2023 | Volume 5, Issue 4 | 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.

Pitman Road POST

Make a difference

Move into family

Meet Jesus

HAPPY EASTER † HE IS RISEN

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

[A PEACHER'S PERSPECTIVE]

MY GOD, WHY HAVE YOU DESERTED ME?



Joey Peacher Preaching Minister

For three hours, beginning at noon, a sudden and unexpected darkness came over the earth. And at three o'clock Jesus shouted with a mighty voice in Aramaic, "Eli, lema sabachthani?" —that is, "My God, My God, why have you deserted me?" Matthew 27:45-46 TPT

Mark tells us that Jesus was crucified at the third hour (Mark 15:25), which would have been nine o'clock in the morning. The morning wore on with jeering from the crowd and insults from the robbers on either side of Jesus. Nine o'clock, ten o'clock, ten thirty... Sometime during morning, one of the thieves asked Jesus to remember Him. At noon, after Jesus had endured three hours of agony and insult, something new happened and Christ entered into the heart of His passion. "For three hours, beginning at noon, a sudden and unexpected darkness came over the earth." (Matt 27:45)

God turned off the light. When Jesus was born, there was light at midnight, and when He was crucified, there was darkness at noon. The sudden darkness tells us that something new was happening. Jesus was entering into the heart of His work as our sin bearer. The darkness reminds us that the events that took place in these hours are beyond our understanding...Here we enter the deepest mystery of what happened in that darkness. The terrors of the Father's judgment were poured out on the Savior. Try to take in what was happening here. Jesus became our sin bearer, and He was plunged into all the torments of hell. And in the depths of His agony, Jesus cried out, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" These words of Jesus open three windows into what was happening at the cross – the nature of sin, the pains of hell, and the extent of God's love.

Jesus suffered for sins on the cross. Our indulgent greed, our cherished pride, our secret lusts were laid on Him. Learn to hate sin at the cross by looking at what your sin did to Jesus. Look at how He was forsaken for you and ask yourself, "What sin is there that I cannot forsake for Him?"

Jesus suffered hell on the cross. He suffered consciously in blackest darkness, surrounded by demonic powers, bearing sin, under judgment, and separated from the love of God. This is hell and He endured it for us. The worst part of hell is to be separated from the love of God forever. Jesus endured hell on the cross so you would never know what it is like.

God's love is displayed at the cross and the extent of His love can be measured by the price that He paid to redeem you. Before He created the universe, God the Father had you in view and planned for you in love. Before you were ever born, God the Son took your flesh. He lived a perfect life for you. Then He went to the cross for you. God did all of this to save you. What greater proof could there be of His love for you?

There may be times in your life when you cannot feel the love or the presence of God. When these times come, you need to know that Jesus has been there too. When Jesus was in the darkness He said, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" Notice Jesus still referred to the Father as my God, even when He could no longer feel the comfort of His love. These words were a statement of faith from the lips of Jesus. When you cannot feel the love of God, you can exercise the same faith. God says, "I will never leave you nor forsake you" (Hebrews 13:5). You have a Savior to whom you can always come, even in the darkest moments of your life.

^{*} This article is an excerpt of the new book Six Hours that Changed the World by Pastor Colin Smith.

JOIN US TODAY FOR A "FIRST" SUNDAY SOCIAL! (BAGGED LUNCH)

Join us in the Family Life Center TODAY, April 2nd, directly after worship service! Due to Easter falling on the second Sunday of April, we are having our social TODAY!

This is NOT a potluck. If you didn't bring a bagged lunch, feel free to run to Wawa, Heritages, or any of the other places down the road to pick up something to eat, then join us in the Family Life Center.

Drinks have been provided. There will be fellowship and fun! Some people brought games to play.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: May 7th at 11:45 AM. We will also be having a "First" Sunday Social in May, due to Mother's Day falling on the second Sunday of the month. More details about the food to come!



IN LOVING MEMORY

Rit Crema, father of Noreen Wills, passed on to his reward on Saturday, March 18, 2023. Our love and prayers are with the Wills and Bates, along with the rest of the family.

Rit's memorial service will be

held THIS Tuesday, April 4th, at 6 PM at the Beacon Church on 6th Avenue in Galloway. If you would like to go in the church van, meet Dan at our church building at 4:45 PM on Tuesday. The van will return to our building shortly after the time visiting with family at the conclusion of service.

If you attend, your presence will be a huge encouragement to Bill and Noreen Wills and Kristy and Shawn Bates.



NOTARY SERVICES

The church now has a notary on staff! **Kate Ikeorha** is available at the building Tuesday through Friday during business hours.





WATCH AND DISCUSS GROUP

We have been meeting at the building on most Sunday evenings at 5PM to watch and discuss all episodes of the TV series, "The Chosen."

Below is the meeting schedule for April:

Class #3: **TODAY**, April 2 Class #5: April 23 Class #4: April 16 Class #6: April 30



CONGRATS!

Wesley Olley and Leah
Cernicky married on March
12, 2023 in Carlsbad,
California near Leah's
hometown of Mission Viejo.
Congratulations to this
beautiful couple, along
with Chuck, Andrea, and
the rest of the family.
Wishing you both a lifetime

filled with love, laughter, and happiness!



FAMILY PROMISE

Sunday, April 16 through Saturday, April 22

We still a shopper for both transition houses! If you are able to help, sign up in the foyer or

contact John Ashton. Thank you!

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT CAMP MANATAWNY THIS MONTH?

WORK AND WORSHIP WEEKEND Friday, April 21 - Sunday, April 23

Help get camp ready for spring retreats and summer sessions! There will be all kinds of work available for all different talents. For more details, visit www.manatawny.org/workandworship.

SPRING JR/SR HIGH RETREAT Friday, April 28 - Saturday, April 29

You have fun at camp each summer, and now you have a chance to enjoy it in the Spring! Join friends, summer staff, and other campers for games, campfires, and growing in your relationship with Christ. Be sure to invite new-to-camp friends!

Cost: \$45 (plus a \$4 processing fee)

Includes a light dinner, snacks, all activities, 1 night cabin lodging, breakfast/lunch on Saturday. Visit **www.manatanwy.org** to register.

ANNUAL CORPORATION MEETING Sunday, April 23

This is the time of the year that we ask you to become a member of Camp Manatawny and vote for our Board of Directors. For more information on how to join, either as a voting member or as a non-voting member, make sure to visit www.manatawny.org.

EARLY REGISTRATION, LAST CHANCE Ends on Sunday, April 30

Register and pay in full by April 30th and pay \$369 (a \$26 discount). If you register after April 30th, pay the full \$395.

There is a \$4 processing fee on all registrations. A \$50 (non-refundable) deposit is REQUIRED at time of registration. Your balance must be PAID IN FULL prior to the start of the session. For more details, and to register, visit www.manatawny.org.

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WAYS TO GIVE









In person at the worship service.

Via the easyTithe mobile apr

On our website at pitmanroadcoc.com

Text to Give Text amount to 856.209.6212

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