

500 Pitman Road
Sewell, NJ 08080
856-589-1500
www.coChrist.org

FOCUS 2015

Focusing on

- God's Word
- God's Son
- God's Vision
- God's Mission

You're Invited!

Did you miss "I Still Do"
last October?

If so, you are urged to take
advantage of this rebroadcast
of the simulcast event!



Saturday,
January 31st,
8:30 AM- 5:00 PM
at Pitman Road
Church of Christ

"I Still Do™" is a powerful, practical, one-day marriage event where couples can invest in and strengthen their marriage. Couples will affirm importance of strong, healthy, committed marriages in every culture. By exploring God's design for marriage, couples will have a chance to reaffirm that their marriage matters – to their children and to the rest of society.

Not only do we strongly encourage our members to attend, we also ask that you use this as an outreach opportunity to invite family, friends, neighbors and coworkers to share this marriage-changing event!

Tickets are available NOW in the foyer on Sundays or directly from Derek Davis.

Tickets are \$10 for our member couples. For \$10 you will get one ticket for you and you spouse, and nine complementary tickets to give to those couples you invite to attend.

Lunch will be provided and served during the lunch break. Childcare will be available.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Derek Davis at 856-625-5353.

SIGN UP NOW IN THE FOYER!

Sunday, February 1st in the Family Life Center
immediately following the worship service.



Are you bringing soup/chili or sandwiches?

Please indicate your choice by
writing your name on the sign up poster.

All of our members and guests
are invited to attend our annual
**SOUPER SUPER SUNDAY
PRE-GAME PARTY**

It doesn't matter whether your team made it to
the big game or not... there will be food, fun,
& fellowship for all!

Members are asked to bring
soup, chili, or sandwiches to share.

Please bring all hot food pre-heated!

Beverages will be provided.

Desserts will be provided by
ministers', elders', and deacons'
wives.

Questions? Please see Annette Perine.

NO MUNCHKIN MINISTRY ON FEB. 1

From Daniel's Den

Surprised again...but ever so grateful!

Why should we be surprised? Your gift of love came in January this year, just like it always does. But, it had honestly not even crossed my mind. In retrospect, it usually comes sometime in January. Why didn't I expect it! When I saw Larry Point walking to the front of the auditorium my first thought was, "Larry does not usually offer the closing prayer." Then he began and it struck me! This is the Sunday the church is offering the ministers our Christmas gifts. So, yes, even after 31 years, I was still surprised. Maybe I am just a slow learner! But, never ever do we take your goodness, and your generosity for granted. So, yes, we were surprised, but ever so grateful!

Surprised not just by your gift, but also by the generosity of the gift you presented to the us last Sunday! Thank you just doesn't seem to be enough! All at the same time a wide range of emotions ran through me... gratitude... joy... unworthiness... embarrassment... thrill... humility... pride... love... shock... dumbfoundedness... appreciation... and wonder!

Thank you for still believing in us and supporting us! Thank you for still loving us...in sickness and in health...for better or for worse! Thank you for blessing us with your loving gifts. We are honored and so appreciative. Whether you gave \$5, \$20, \$50 or \$100 toward the collective gifts for your ministers, thank you from the Coopers.

Thirty Years of Love, Appreciation and Dedication to our Church Family...

-Dan and Katherine



Dan Cooper
aka
"Dan, Dan,
the Preacherman"

Never ever
do we take
your
goodness,
and your
generosity
for granted.



Merle (Glynn) Durham
Visitation Minister

A Few Moments with Merle

Loneliness

Loneliness. We have all felt it at one time or another. One study suggests twenty-five percent of respondents admitted to being lonely within the preceding few weeks. Over one in ten admitted to being "severely lonely" over the last week. We just came through the holidays, a time of extreme loneliness for many people.

Loneliness does not have to be a wasted moment for us. From loneliness can arise at least two positive results; we can make these observations from 2 Timothy 4:9-22: **First, it makes us aware of others' significance.** The apostle Paul may have never appreciated Dr. Luke so much as he did in the dungeon. Luke was the only one with Paul, the only one who could assist with his physical needs. Paul even viewed John Mark in a different light. In Acts 15 we find that he had little respect for the one he considered a deserter. John Mark had deserted Paul in Pamphylia while on his first missionary journey. The truth is, we need one another. A Barbara Streisand song proclaims, "People who need people are the *luckiest* people in the world." But the lyrics don't go far enough. The fact is, people who need people are the *only* people in the world. I am glad that those of you who read this article are in my life. I need you. I want to be a blessing in your life

The second benefit of loneliness is that it forces us to turn our concern over to God. Even though Paul had been wronged by Alexander the coppersmith, he left the matter to God, who would repay his opponent according to his deeds (vs. 14). Even though he could have worried over the circumstances holding him in prison, he focused on the Lord's ability to deliver him and His capability to keep him safe (vs. 18) Why not turn your problem or circumstance over to the One "who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine." (Ephesians 3:20)

Let me go ahead and say here.....WOW!! Once again, I was overwhelmed with the generosity of your Christmas financial gift to Debby and me and of your expressions of love and appreciation for me and my ministry to this church. Thank you! You are the best. I look forward to the year ahead. The best is yet to be.

Merle (Glynn)

The truth is,
we need
one another.

AN UPDATE FROM OUR MISSIONARIES IN FRANCE...READ AND PRAY!

Dear Family in Christ,

Many of you have contacted me in the last few days asking for news and for direction in prayer in the aftermath of the terrible terrorist attacks in Paris. Thank you so much for your thoughts and prayers!

What is Happening

First, while we are safe and sound in Marseille, far away from the theatre of these tragic events in Paris, the fallout of the worst terrorist attack in France in over 50 years will be important. While there is no comparison with the scale of what took place in the US on 9/11, this is, in a sense, France's version of 9/11.



At the children's club at church Friday, I spoke with one of the women (atheist) who brings her daughter each week, and she talked of being on the verge of an anxiety attack.

Saturday, as I drove past our neighborhood synagogue, a visible police presence protected the Sabbath worship time there.

The gatherings in all the major cities in France yesterday were attended by nearly 4 million people. The largest gathering in France's history! You have no doubt seen, even in the US, the *Je suis Charlie* signs, in solidarity of the victims of the first attack, (the second took the lives of 4 people in a kosher store.)

This solidarity has a biblical tie. While Jesus did not wear a sign on his back, he did, indeed, humble himself and become one of us. Let us never forget that as we serve those around us.

A Few Statistics

France is the home of the largest Muslim population in Europe at 6 million (10% of the population). Marseille has the largest Muslim population by percentage of any city in Europe (25%) or over 300,000.

For Your Prayers

In this time of insecurity, **please pray that we would be bold in proclaiming and living the love of Christ and the confidence we have in God.** We are in contact with so many Muslims. Now is the time, more than ever, to love them and reach out to them. In this time of anxiety, **pray that we speak words from the God of all comfort (2 Cor 1:3) at every opportunity.**

Pray for the perpetrators and the victims.

The Perpetrators: Those responsible for the attacks were radicalized (at least in part) in French prisons! I regularly see three young men (on the soccer field and/or at church!)

who have spent time in prison in Marseille. **Pray for conviction of sin instead of hardness of heart.** The three I know are well aware of their sin and are repentant. This saves them from a radical ideology, and, I believe, will bring them all to transformed lives in Christ.

The Victims: As the attack was against the press, it is taken as an attack on all of France, on the specific value of Freedom of expression. While we indeed stand for freedom, as Christians this has a very specific meaning. Galatians 5:13 says: «"You, my brothers and sisters were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge your sinful nature ; rather, serve one another humbly in love." **Pray that we may use our freedom to serve others humbly in love.**

Thank you for your love for us and your prayers for us. We are so grateful to God for you. May the peace of Christ, that surpasses all understanding, guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus (Philippians 4.7).

-Craig Young

Manatawny Mortgage Challenge

We accepted the Camp Manatawny Challenge to make one mortgage payment in 2015.

**The mortgage amount is \$3,200.
To date, we have collected \$2,987.**



A huge thank you to those who have already made a contribution to this worthy effort.

We still need \$213 to close the gap. If you feel inclined to help support the worthy efforts at Camp Manatawny, please drop a check into the collection plate this Sunday, or drop us a note with a check made out to the Church of Christ. On the memo section of the check, please add "Camp Mortgage Challenge."

**To God be the glory,
-Dan**

ANNUAL CORPORATE MEETING



As a non profit organization, recognized by the state of New Jersey as a tax exempt corporation, the state of NJ mandates that we meet annually. That being the case, our elders have selected the first Sunday of each February as the date for our annual meeting. Please consider this your written notification of our church's annual meeting, traditionally held on Super Bowl Sunday each year. If you are an active member of the Pitman Road Church of Christ, and in good standing, please consider yourself informed and invited of the **Pitman Church of Christ's annual corporate meeting, this year on Feb. 1, immediately after morning worship assembly.**

Save the Date!



Pitman Road Church of Christ Women's Ministry

is offering a broadcast of the Women of Faith
live simulcast event **"Unwrap the Bible"** on

Saturday, March 14, 2015
8:30 AM- 5:00 PM.

See familiar stories in a new and meaningful way! Open your Bible and step inside the Scriptures as dynamic teachers bring God's Word to life at a powerful all-day Saturday event. When it comes to the Bible, there's always more to unwrap!

Tickets are \$15 and will be available soon. The ticket price includes lunch. Childcare will be available. Please invite family, friends, coworkers and neighbors! Invitations to hand out will also soon be available. Questions? See Janet Betts or Leza Davis.

Do you have a performing talent you would like to share with the congregation?
Then Café Night is for you!

Would you like to enjoy an evening of entertainment and fellowship?
Then Café Night is for you!

Sign up NOW at the Information Center! Please indicate any set up you may need for your performance.

Also, all who plan to attend are encouraged to sign up to bring a dessert, also at the Information Center.

Café Night

Saturday, February 28th
7:00 PM

Attention Secret Sisters

Getting Ready for the 2015 Year!

A couple of important things I need to know right now to help me prepare:

- If you are NOT continuing with Secret Sisters, please let me know right away.
- If you are not a Secret Sister and would like to join, or if you need to update your information please see me for a questionnaire.

Secret Sister Revealing Party

February 7th • 1:00 pm
at the home of Melody Davis
415 Grape Street, Hamonton, NJ 08037

Transportation: If you would like to car pool or ride in the church van, please meet at the bldg. at 12:15. Brittany will be driving the van.

What to bring: Your favorite finger food and your "revealing" gift for your Secret Sister.

Please note: If you are not able to attend the party please be sure to give your gift for your Secret Sister to Melody or me. It is no fun for any person to be left out.

Thank you so much for your support of the Secret Sister Program! -Dottie

Bring Your Own Craft Day

Saturday, January 24th
Noon to 5:00 PM
in the Family Life Center
Snacks are provided!

Hope to see you there!

18thirty Bowling Night

Friday, January 23rd at 8:00 PM
Meet at Brunswick Zone in Turnersville
Costs \$10 for 2 hours of bowling and shoes

Teen for Hire

Dear Church Family,

My name is Stephanie Pierre-Jacques. For the last three years I have been a member of the Business and Finance Academy at my school. The Business and Finance Academy is an academic program that teaches students important aspects of business so we can successfully pursue careers in any field of interest, because business is evidently everywhere.

The summer of our junior year, we are required to complete a 120 hour of internship in a business setting. It can be paid or unpaid. It can be in any industry as long as I can be exposed to basic business concepts. I will receive a grade based on your evaluation and a presentation that I must prepare and present on my experience.

I have a resume prepared for your reference. If anyone is interested in meeting with me to discuss the possibility of an internship, I would greatly appreciate it.

I look forward to meeting with you, please contact me at stephaniepierrejacques@yahoo.com or 856-728-3774.

God Bless,

Stephanie Pierre-Jacques

Speaking of Stephanie....

Stephanie Pierre-Jacques was inducted into the Williamstown High School's chapter of the National Honor Society this past Wednesday night.

Congratulations Stephanie from your church family!



THANK YOU SO MUCH!

Roseann Savastano would like to thank all those who took care of her following her surgery. Food, visits, cards, and prayers were greatly appreciated!

Wednesday Night Thank You!

A HUGE plate of gratitude is served up to **Bill and Linda Murray** for volunteering to prepare Wednesday Night Meals for three consecutive weeks! So your appreciation by signing up for the meal in advance so they can prepare accordingly... and by volunteering to cook a meal!

We Extend Our Sympathy

We offer extend our sympathy to **Joe Pollard** and his family on the passing of Joe's mother Brenda Pollard. Funeral services were held last Thursday. If you would like to send a card of condolence you may send it to Joe at: 5203 Apple Lane, Paulsboro, NJ 08066

This Week's Prayer Requests

An updated list of ongoing prayer requests is now available in the foyer next to the bulletin.

Praises :

Many, many thanks that **Mallory Perine** was spared injury in a serious car accident last Monday night. God did that!

Prayers Requested:

Millie Moore, severe break in arm/hand. She will be having surgery on January 26. Contact JoAnn Ruhland if you can help with providing meals for Jim and Millie.

John Baron, Joyce Reimels' brother-in-law, hospitalized due to seizures. Please pray also for Joyce's sister **Ellen** who is his caregiver.

Mickey Rizzuto, numerous health issues, including spinal deterioration and a recently diagnosed case of cellulitis

Diana McConnell, new diagnosis of lung cancer.

Mary Jetton, chemo treatment for for stage 4 cancer in the lymph system.

Jos Ransdorp, major back pain and spinal issues, and a new spot recently discovered on his lung.

Junior Varinas, Gina Isaziga's 45 yr. old brother, recovering from stroke, making great improvement.

Stephanie DeStefano, has a mass in the Parotid (salivary) gland.

Jayne Schofield, still experiencing severe back pain.

James Smith, the Points' son-in-law, severe digestive system pain, undergoing testing.

Charles, a minister in a far away place, whose wife has left. He is asking for prayers for their child, Elizabeth, and for the judge in this matter, to have wisdom and discernment.

Billy Marker, Linda Murray's cousin, has had a heart attack and is in need of triple bypass surgery.

Nancy Calabro, blood clot and cardiac issues.

Jim Blackson, continuing his recovery from brain injury due to his accident at work.

Jessica Sikes, having many complications, much pain. Cancer is progressing. Steve and Patti ask for prayers for Jessica's complete healing.

Lee Cooper, Dan's father, awaiting prostate surgery, (not for cancer,) and a pacemaker.

Marion Jacobs, Barbara Robinson's father, in a rehabilitation center after a blood sugar drop and mild heart attack.

Bob Manfre, radiation treatment for prostate cancer.

David Davis, Harriet's younger son, continues to need fluid drained from his body and his liver is not functioning very well. He may have a liver transplant.

Military: **Andrew Holden** at West Point.

Expecting:

Brendan and Lisa Downing, March

Ryan and Pam Monaghan, March

Lauren (Camorata) & Jeremy Thompson, March 28 - a boy!

Engaged:

Timothy Holmes & Paige Rothmaller, April 4, 2015.

Anthony DeStefano & Hope Anderson, July 10, 2015

Traveling:

Paul Stanford

Our Ministers

Evangelist

Dan Cooper dcooper@coChrist.org

Minister

Carlos Isaziga..... cisaziga@coChrist.org

Visitation Minister

Glynn Durham..... gdurham1@coChrist.org

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Our Elders

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Dwight Thompson 609-561-8561, hm
..... 609-287-0109, cell
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Our Deacons

Bud Britton Grounds Maintenance

Derrick Busch Young Adults

Tim Davis Teens

Tony DeStefano Body Life & Fellowship

Matt Downing Worship

Glynn Durham LIFE Groups

Darren Fields Greeters Ministry

Brian Holden Special Activities; Body Life

Garth Hutchinson Local Evangelism

Larry Kellum, Jr. Caring & Sharing

Brian Kleineweber Financial Consultant

Brian Mansdoerfer Building Maintenance; Jr. Worship

Chuck Olley Teens

Aaron Pearl Youth

John Peoples New Member Involvement

Steve Pierre-Jacques
..... Audio Visual; Information Technology; Website

Jay Schneider Serving Our Seniors

Carl Steiner World Evangelism

Manny Vander Vennen
..... Church Directory, Kids for Christ

Sunday Schedule

9:00 AM Bible Classes

10:00 AM Worship

Wednesday Night Schedule

5:30-6:30 PM Meal

7:00-7:45 PM Bible Classes

7:45 PM Fellowship

Last Week

Bible Class	164
Worship	276
LIFE Groups	128
Wednesday	94
Contribution	\$10,397
Fiscal YTD Goal	\$292,656.00
Contribution YTD	\$286,275.00
Under Budget	(\$6,381.00)

Serving Us Today

Nursery	Judi Campbell
Kids For Christ	Jenn Pearl
Jr. Worship	Brian Mansdoerfer
Hall Monitor: Bible Class	Judi Campbell
Hall Monitor: Worship	Volunteer Needed
Greeters: Front Entrance	Derrick & Brenda Busch
Greeters: Back Entrance	Anthony & Gwen Phillip
Ushers	Lee Collier & George Rowe
Information Desk	Mary Collier
Shepherd's Call	Horatio Fenton
Song Leader	Mike Broyles
Communion	George Kenner

L.I.F.E. Group Locations Today

Group	Location	Contact
Bereans	Murray's at Noon	856-464-8595
Brook Besor	Durham's, Thursday at 7PM	856-589-2280
Circle of Sisters	Prenger's, Tuesday at 7PM	856-689-7932
Convenience Group	Church Building at Noon	856-589-1500
The Flock	A. Pearl's at 5PM	856-690-1405
Hammonton Group	DeStefano's at 5PM	609-567-9607
Solid Gold	Lazar's at 6PM	856-223-1699
Teens	Church Building at Noon	856-589-1500
Vineland	H. Pearl's at 6PM	856-839-0015
18thirty	Church Building at Noon	850-814-6632

Wednesday Night Meal

Cook: Bill & Linda Murray

Menu: Jambalaya