January 25, 2015 Volume 31, Issue 04

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

Next Week: SOUPER Super Bowl Sunday and Parties

# SIGN UP NOW IN THE FOYER!

NEXT 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.

Beverages will be provided.

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

# EVENING SUPERBOWL PARTIES

#### Open to All:

At the home of Corny and Phyllis Walker, arrive between 5:00-5:30 PM

Bring Finger Foods! Please let Corny or Phyllis know if you will be attending their party.

**At the home of Steve and Jayne DePrince** at 6:00 PM Bring Finger Foods and Desserts! Please let Jayne or Steve know if you will be attending their party.

At the home of Mike and Tina Broyles, doors open at 5:30 PM! Bring appetizers or food of your choice. Please contact Tina to let her know if you will be attending and what you will bring.

#### For 18Thirty - Young Adults:

At the home of Carlos & Gina Isaziga at 6:00 PM PRICE OF ADMISSION: Everyone is asked to bring "Finger Foods" such as Buffalo Wings, Nachos, Hoagies, etc. Desserts and Beverages provided...don't bring those! Wear the jersey or colors of the team you are rooting for.

#### For Teens:

At the home of Tim and Melody Davis at 5:30 PM. Please bring snacks, desserts, and drinks. Pizza and wings will be provided.

### From Daniel's Den

# These truths your ministers want you to know, but none of us wants to tell you!

These six observations by **Thom Rainer** are important for you to know and understand **BEFORE** you speak to Carlos, Glynn or me on Sunday mornings before church.

- **1.** The time right before preachers preach is a time of prayerful focus. They have prayed that God will use their message and right before preachers preach they are focused on their sermon.
- 2. If you speak to the ministers at that time, consider giving a word of encouragement or prayer support.
- **3.** Consider holding back suggestions or criticisms of your minister right before the sermon. Can you imagine how you would feel if someone said something critical of you right before you spoke? If you feel like you must criticize your minister, please consider doing so at another time.
- **4. Consider holding back your request of your minister to make an announcement.** It can be a difficult for them to remember your announcement even if you write it out. Any last minute announcement request is likely not a good idea.
- **5.** Consider asking someone other than your minister to handle a problem right before the sermon. One of my most memorable moments was a lady running up to me as I was approaching the pulpit to preach. "You need to do something. The toilet is overflowing in the ladies restroom."
- **6.** If possible, consider introducing people to your minister after the sermon. I understand that such a practice is not always possible. Please hold off the distraction of introducing people before the sermon unless there is no other opportunity. **Thank you, Dan**



Dan Cooper aka "Dan, Dan, the Preacherman"

Can you imagine how you would feel if someone said something critical of you right before you spoke?



Carl Steiner, Deacon over World Evangelism

Love for our fellow man is the foundation and reason for our missions.

# A Servant Speaking

I hope that all of you are as pleased as I am with our new vision statement: **Desiring to be... A** place where God's love is experienced, known and shared by all.

I see God's love, our experiencing it, and showing it to others as the basic starting point of Christianity. It should be learned before we graduate Christian "kindergarten." "By this the children of God and the children of the devil are obvious: anyone who does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor the one who does not love his brother. For this is the message which you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another." 1 John 3:10-11

Love for our fellow man is the foundation and reason for our missions. When God's love is experienced by us, as shown to others on a mission trip, that trip is a success. As a result, real people in a real world are blessed, and their lives are made better. Many have had their lives made better so much that they changed their ways, accepted Jesus's teachings, and became heaven bound.

You might think that "the meager efforts I could offer won't be very valuable." God has used meek and humble people to do great things many times, so don't discount yourself. Let the love of God flow through you! You are likely to surprise yourself by how much good you can do. You can become a part of our work of sharing God's love to His people in different ways. You can support someone going on a mission trip financially or by encouragement. You can support a full-time missionary by encouragement or financially. Or you may personally do God's work by joining one of our mission teams.

#### **Upcoming Opportunities**

**The France Mission Trip:** Every two years a group of us goes to help our missionaries in Marseilles, France by encouraging the missionaries there and working on a Christian camp in the mountains, typically organized by Dan. (This year's trip is June26 -July 5.)

**The THEA Haiti Trip:** An effort to aid and educate the poor people of Haiti. Orphan support is done as well, usually in February and June. Lynn Sbaraglia, Jerri Manfre and myself are involved in this work.

**Mission Lazarus:** We are invited by the King of Prussia church to participate with them on this trip to Honduras every year in mid-July; seven of us participated in this trip last summer. For more information: www.kopchurch.org/missions

God loves us all, -Carl Steiner

# Almost Ten Years Ago.....

#### Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf Coast...

Our church sent both financial help and people help. Untold thousands of dollars plus hundreds of man hours were directed to the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

One of our primary contact people was **Ken Upchurch**, Allison Glover's father. He recently submitted a "Perspective" article for their local newspaper, recalling the events immediately after the storm, and he shared the article with us.

To God be the glory...our good deeds are having a lasting effect! *-Dan* 

**PERSPECTIVE**- excerpted from the *Hattiesburg American* 

After the storm, our city was in total shut down. Roads were blocked with fallen trees. People came out and immediately started cleaning up. They didn't wait on the city, the state or the federal government, they simply went to work.

At our house we could not get out of the yard — front or back. Every tree on the place had been toppled, our roof was damaged. I got on my cell-phone and called my best friend in Texas and asked him to come here with some gasoline and a few chainsaws so we could clean up our place.



A member of the Pitman team cutting off broken limbs in the Upchurch's backyard.

On Friday he showed up at our church with a bunch of pickup trucks, trailers and 18-wheelers and they proceeded

to unload in the parking lot.
When they finished it looked like a Walmart, Lowe's and Home Depot without walls!
There was everything we could possibly need to



A typical side street in Hattiesburg.

help others and help ourselves restore our lives.

At our house, we had 19 people who had come from New Jersey to help clean up neighborhoods all over the city. It just so happened that our house was the only house on our street that was hooked up to the main line that feeds Hardy Street and when their power came on so did ours.

We had people sleeping everywhere in the house. Under tables in the kitchen, on the floor in the office, anywhere they could find a place to lay down. Girls upstairs; men and boys downstairs. They would work in that heat all day, come home, take a shower and sing songs till midnight then get up the next morning have a few donuts, drink coffee and do it all over again. It was amazing what was done in that period of time. So many older people who had no way of cleaning up their places cried tears of joy when our new Yankee friends finished hauling, cutting and cleaning up for them. You talk about being grateful and thankful — these people were beyond that.

Complete strangers paying their own way and working as hard as possible. I often think of those days and the absolute goodness of so many people. Katrina showed what the human spirit can do. -Ken Upchurch, Hattiesburg, MS

# Camp Challenge Met!



We did it! We just met the Camp Manatawny Mortgage Challenge. We have now made one month's entire payment, \$3200, for Camp Manatawny's mortgage.

A generous donor agreed to individually pay for one month's mortgage, if 11 other donors or groups would step up and cover one

month's mortgage. We did our part. Thanks to all who participated and cooperated to reach a common goal!

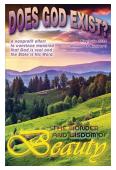
To God be the glory. Children will be blessed this summer because of your generosity.

Step by Step, -Dan

### Does God Exist?

The bi-monthly periodical that is published and distributed by John Clayton, *Does God Exist?* is "a nonprofit effort to convince mankind that God is real and the Bible is His Word."

This bi-monthly periodical will be sent into your home for free, if you would like. However, you need to renew your subscription (at no cost) every couple of years. If you have been on the mailing list



earlier and like to be added again simply send your request to "Does God Exist", P. O. Box 2704, South Bend, IN 46680-2704. Or carefully print your name to the sign up sheet in the Information Center and we will submit a bundle of names all at the same time.

Again, there is no cost. John Clayton, who was raised as an atheist, is now a devout believer....

Sign up this Sunday or next... Dan

### MORE SUPER SUNDAY INFO

#### Be SUPER Generous!



As you enjoy Super Bowl Sunday, please be mindful of the less fortunate and help Pitman Road Church of Christ be **SUPER** in support of Family Promise in 2015 by giving now. You will have an opportunity to make a contribution at The Pre-Game Party and each of the Super Bowl parties that will be hosted by our members.

All donations will be deposited directly into the Pitman Road Church of Christ Family Promise fund and designated specifically for the support of the Family Promise program here at PRCOC, which offers assistance to homeless children and their families.

Thanking you in advance for your support!

# Super Sunday Sandwiches



If you're looking for a quick and easy way to bring food to our Souper Sunday Pre-Game Party or any of the evening parties, Heritages is offering HALF PRICE SUBS on Super Bowl Sunday!

#### Please Note:

There will be NO Munchkin Ministry on Super Sunday, February 1st. Please have coffee and breakfast before you arrive. -Thank you!

#### ANNUAL CORPORATE MEETING

New Jersey state law requires that all non-profit organizations meet annually to report to the organization and elect their Board of Trustees. All members of the Pitman Road Church of Christ are hereby notified of the annual corporate meeting on Sunday, February 2nd, immediately following morning worship.



# You're Invited!

You can still buy tickets today! Register Now!



# **NEXT**

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

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 form 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.

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.



Saturday, February 2



6:45 PM Performances Begin

coffee house fellowship o praise and worship experience for young adults

REFUGE

Saturday • February 7th • 7-9 pm

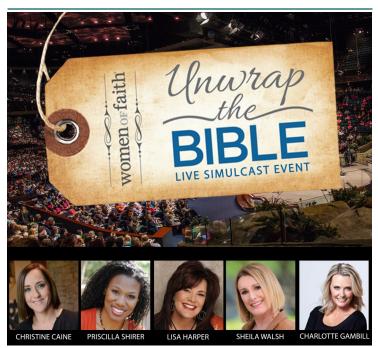
#### Sad News

Late on Thursday evening we received word from Steve and Patti that Jessica will be entering hospice. The doctors at Mayo told Jessica earlier in the day that her liver is shutting down and can no longer clear toxins from her body. She may only have two weeks to two months to live.

Patti writes, "What to pray for? GOD'S will to be done! If He wants a miracle at the 23rd hour and 59th minute for Jessica to stay with us - we will rejoice. If he wants to take her to her eternal home - we will rejoice."

Please continue to lift Jessica, Patti, and Steve in prayer. Pray also for the safety of Steve and Patti's other children and family members who will be traveling to be with Jessica during this time of potentially hazardous weather conditions.

### 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.

Registration will begin on February 8th; the cost of admission is \$15 and will include a light breakfast and lunch. Childcare will be available. Invitations and registration forms to hand out to family, friends, coworkers and neighbors will also be available.

Questions? See Janet Betts or Leza Davis.

### This Week's Prayer Requests

<u>Praises</u>: Continued thanksgiving for the physical safety of our members involved in accidents and falls due to the recent inclement weather.

#### **Prayers Requested:**

**Desmond Morris** came forward last Sunday to request prayers for strength to cope with life's trials.

**Pat Schuehler** is asking for the church family's prayers for her physical and emotional health. She says, "I know the prayers help."

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

**Adam Cerquoni,** surgery this Wednesday to remove his prostate.

**Jessica Broyles**, recovering from dental surgery to treat a bone infection in her mouth.

**Vickie Holmes,** Jayne Schofield's cousin, awaiting biopsy results.

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

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

Diane McConnell, new diagnosis of lung cancer.

Mary Jetton, chemo treatment for stage 4 cancer.

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

**Junior Varinas,** Gina Isaziga's brother, recovering from stroke, making great improvement.

**Stephanie DeStefano**, has a mass in the Parotid gland.

Jayne Schofield, still experiencing severe back pain.

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

**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.

Jessica Sikes, beginning hospice care.

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

**Marion Jacobs,** Barbara Robinson's father, diabetes & cardiac issues.

**Bob Manfre,** radiation treatment for prostate cancer.

**David Davis,** Harriet's younger son, 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

#### Office Staff

Dottie Grillo	dgrillo@coChrist.org
Annette Perine	.annette.perine@gmail.com

### **Our Elders**

Mike Broyles	mbroyles777@gmail.com		
Horatio Fenton	HoratioFenton@comcast.net		
	856-881-2039, hm		
	Greg.Linda.Krinks@gmail.com		
Mike Lazar	teacher.engineer@comcast.net		
Dave Perine	davidt.perine@comcast.net		
-	856-769-0836		
	lawrencepoint@helmerlegal.com		
<b>Dwight Thompson</b>	609-561-8561, hm		
	609-287-0109, cell		
	DOThompson@comcast.net		

#### Our Deacons

Bud BrittonGrounds Maintenance		
Derrick Busch Young Adults		
Tim DavisTeens		
Tony DeStefano Body Life & Fellowship		
Matt DowningWorship		
Glynn Durham LIFE Groups		
Darren Fields Greeters Ministry		
Brian HoldenSpecial Activities; Body Life		
Garth HutchinsonLocal Evangelism		
Larry Kellum, JrCaring &Sharing		
Brian Kleineweber Financial Consultant		
Brian Mansdoerfer. Building Maintenance; Jr. Worship		
Chuck OlleyTeens		
Aaron PearlYouth		
John Peoples New Member Involvement		
Steve Pierre-Jacques		
Audio Visual; Information Technology; Website		
Jay SchneiderServing Our Seniors		
Carl SteinerWorld 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

Lasi	VV C C R
Bible Class	141
Worship	235
LIFE Groups	100
Wednesday	No Meeting
Contribution	\$9,340
Fiscal YTD Goal	\$303,108.00
Contribution YTE	\$295,615.00

(\$7,493.00)

### Serving Us Today

**Under Budget** 

Nursery	Judi Campbell
Kids For Christ	Casey Buchanan
Jr. Worship	Brian Mansdoerfer
Hall Monitor: Bible Class	Judi Campbell
Hall Monitor: Worship	Casey Buchanan
Greeters: Front Entrance	Linda Prenger & Joe Marshall
Greeters: Back Entrance	Charlie & Doryann Seitz
Ushers	Horatio Fenton & Jonathan Hooley
Information Desk	Jackie Fenton
Shepherd's Call	Larry Point
Song Leader	Brian Kleineweber
Communion	Noah Lewis

### 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	Spencer's at 5PM	609-820-6071
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	Isaziga's at Noon	850-814-6632

### Wednesday Night Meal

Cook: Bill & Linda Murray

Menu: Jambalaya