

Pitman
Church of Christ
PO Box 205
856-589-1500
WWW.COCHRIST.ORG



The Proclaimer

We proclaim Him so that we may present every man mature in Christ. Colossians 1:28

Reflections on the Elders' and Ministers' Retreat

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Your elders and preachers [except for Larry and Steve, who were both sick :(] met last Friday evening and Saturday morning into early afternoon in Ocean City for our annual retreat. First of all, we want to thank **Mary Delhagen and her sisters** for their generosity in letting us use their house there. It meets our need for privacy and comfort beautifully, and we deeply appreciate them for allowing us to use it free of charge.

The eight plus hours we spent working there was valuable time for several reasons: team building, reaffirmation of our love and respect for one another (allelon!), dreaming of the future, shepherding concerns, praying for one another (allelon!) and numerous people [We prayed for all seventy of the names that you submitted a month ago after the sermon on "dry bones."]; situations, and decisions. And, yes, some eating and laughing together (allelon!).



Above: Our elders pray for us in public, but they also prayed for us last weekend during their retreat.

Much encouragement was shared and a continuing course was charted by faith for the future.

You can be assured that we are united in our love for one another (allelon!) and for you, the sheep who make up the church. Thank you for your prayers, not only for this time together, but the ongoing prayers we know are lifted up for us daily.

I believe 1 Peter 5:1-4 beautifully describes the aspirations we share as your elders: *"To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder....Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your*

care, serving as overseers—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not greedy for money, but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away."

Love in the Lord, Greg

WE HAVE FOUR EVENTS NEXT SUNDAY!

We have four events next Sunday!

- ⇒ **Blue Jean Sunday**
- ⇒ **Hot Dog Roast**
- ⇒ **Building Tour with Scripture Blessings**
- ⇒ **Trunk or Treating**

Here are more details about each of the above events.

Blue Jean Sunday: Dress casually and wear a church logo shirt if you own one. Do you have a friend who needs the Lord? Who needs our love? This may be a great Sunday to invite them.

Hot Dog Roast: Bring hot dogs and buns for your family, plus one of the following:

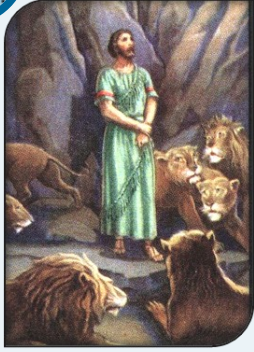
vegetable tray, fruit platter, chips, or dessert. *Drinks will be provided.*

Building Tour with Scripture Blessing: We will be guided through the building and then given the opportunity to write scriptures on the floors of the rooms. (Picture, right.) If you can't bend over to write, someone with younger knees will write your scriptures. These scriptures will then be typed, printed, and displayed in each room.

Trunk or Treating: Bring your costumes and favorite candies! Decorate the trunk of your car! We will have fun interacting with our children as they collect their goodies.



Above: Nick Contravo has already written a scripture on the floor at the entrance to our new conference room. He believes that in the past, our elders set two "ancient boundary stones"—unity and peace—which still stand. Amen!



FROM DANIEL'S DEN

26 YEARS OF TRADITION

JIM DANIEL, FRANK RIZZUTO, JOHN RUCKER,
DWIGHT THOMPSON, TOM TOY, LARRY POINT,
GREG KRINKS, MIKE LAZAR AND HORATIO FENTON!

This tradition has lasted for twenty-six years: Every fall your church leaders gather, generally at the shore, for a two-day emphasis on prayer, planning the church's future, and deepening our bonds in Christ. The names of the participants have changed (always our current elders and preachers), but the purpose remains the same: to collectively seek first the kingdom of God for the Pitman church of Christ in an atmosphere of intentional seclusion. Just as Jesus and the early church leaders shared deep and intense time together (See Mark 9:30-50), 21st century church leaders intentionally set aside time to intensely discuss kingdom business.

I remember those first few fall meetings with Frank, John, and Jim down at the Spokony's shore home. I remember when Dwight joined the group in 1991 and our meetings moved to the Welburn's home in Stone Harbor. Larry, Tom, and Greg were added to the leadership team in 1994; and the retreats to plan and to pray continued at the Welburn's place, then moved to the Kleineweber's place in Ocean City.

Mike and Horatio were added to the leadership team in 2007, and the wonderful times of prayer and planning have been moved to the shore place of Mary Delhagen and her sisters.

Intense time with my elders proves again the wisdom of God's plan for church organization. These men love you, church family. They sacrifice deeply for you. They speak for you and express your concerns. They love God. They love the lost and are looking for effective ways to reach the lost.

I thank God for our shepherds and I am already looking forward to our 27th year at the shore next October. Time with these brothers, my co-workers in Christ, is such a blessing.

Blessed by the Best, Dan



*Dan Cooper,
aka
"Dan, Dan,
the Preacher Man"*

Every fall your church leaders gather for a two-day emphasis on prayer, planning the church's future, and deepening our bonds in Christ.



We don't have to become a slave to our thoughts and egos.



*Dr. Steve Sikes
aka "Mr. Steve"*

THE FRONT PORCH

CLEANING THE TOILET

You probably almost skipped this article because of the title. Thanks for hanging in there! The title may be disgusting but I believe my point is worth your continued reading.

Last Sunday I preached on becoming a suffering, servant slave. My topic came from the Gospel of Mark and the words of Jesus. I even included a 2002 video clip of Stanley Shipp (in our home) saying these same words, "We must become suffering, servant slaves."

Now, let's fast-forward eighteen hours to my day off. It's Monday morning and my wife is combing her hair in our downstairs bathroom and asks, "Steve, when was the last time you cleaned our toilets?"

Just hearing my wife's question gives you a little information about where I am in my quest to become a suffering, servant slave! OH, MY! According to Jesus, the Holy Spirit convicts us of sin, righteousness and judgment (John 16:8), and after Patti's question, I sure wasn't convicted of righteousness!

What to do?

1. My first thought was to ask Patti when she last cleaned the toilets.
2. My second thought was to say I didn't think they were so bad.
3. My third thought (you can tell I'm a thinker first and doer second) was to turn to our daughter Jessica, who has continual migraines, and ask her the same question!

So there you have it: My initial (thinking) response was: 1) Reaction; 2) Rationalization; and 3) Relative Distribution! I'm glad all of my thoughts aren't put up on a big screen somewhere for everyone to read.

However, my point is: WE DON'T HAVE TO BECOME A SLAVE TO OUR THOUGHTS AND EGOS! WE ARE CALLED TO BECOME SUFFERING, SERVANT, SLAVES OF JESUS IN SPITE OF OUR SELFISH THOUGHTS!

So, I 'let go my ego' and said..."They'll be clean when you come home from work today."

Hmmm...toilets are clean, and as always...*God is Good! Mr. Steve*

Men's Hiking Expedition

Men and boys of all ages are invited to join us on a challenging and fun hike at Tohickon Valley Park in Bucks County, PA. This is about a two-hour drive from Pitman.

Sign-up sheets will be available on Sunday morning at our worship service. Please contact Jay Schneider or Brian Kleineweber for more information.

DATE: Saturday, November 6th

WHO: Men and Boys

LOCATION: Tohickon Valley Park, Bucks County

TIMES: Leave from the Kleineweber's at 8a and return around 5p.

SIGNING UP: Sheets are in the PHS foyer.

CONTACT: Jay Schneider, Brian Kleineweber

Below: Aaron Pearl, Austen H., and others navigated the rocks last fall on Hawk Mountain.



Cliff Dando, who is returning November 4th, will be living temporarily with Dottie's brother, Bill Murray, and his wife, Linda.

Christmas Spectacular

Brian Holden has notified us that there are **no more tickets available** for the Radio City Music Hall "Christmas Spectacular."

EVENT: Radio City Music Hall *Christmas Spectacular* in NYC

DATE: Saturday, November 20

COST: \$62, which includes the show and transportation. *(Meals are not included.)*

TRANSPORTATION: Two chartered buses

CONTACT: Brian Holden.

PHONE: (856) 881-6792

EMAIL: bchoen94@hotmail.com

Volunteers for Pizza Night in November

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR WEDNESDAY NIGHT PIZZA: Katherine Cooper has volunteered to order and pick up the pizza each Wednesday night from Jim and Mike's. Now we need additional volunteers to set up the room and help clean up.

Here are the duties. **SETTING UP:** Arrive by 5:15, remove the church's tablecloths, and arrange the two tables in the back corner for serving the pizza. Fill the pitchers with water, and set out the napkins and cups.

CLEANING UP: Cleaning up involves wiping down the tables, replacing the tablecloths, rearranging the two tables in the back corner, and storing the dry pitchers and the paper goods in the trunk of your car. The Coopers will take the empty boxes and trash bags to their house and dispose of them there.

We thank Susie, Callan, and Rachel for getting us started! Any one of these three can give you more details about this process.

THANKSGIVING CARDS

We'll be signing Thanksgiving cards starting on November 7th.

Benja Ringler's Sister and Family

Ross and Benja Ringler, former members who now live in Huntsville, AL, sent us the following note. Benja's sister and family (pictured below) were devastated by the flood last May in Nashville. About four feet of flood waters entered their home; and, although they had flood insurance, their insurance company is not covering much of the cost of renovation.

Amanda (my sister) and her husband are both Christians. They are graduates of Lipscomb University (Bill '91 and Amanda '97). They are long-time members at the Brentwood Hills Church of Christ in Nashville.

Amanda and Bill's home was destroyed in the Tennessee floods on May 1, 2010. They had homeowner's insurance and flood insurance and thought that they had done everything they needed to do to be "protected." They have learned through this grueling five-month process that they are going to be responsible for \$127,000 of the renovation process—all costs NOT covered by any of their insurance policies. There are many more details in the letters; but, essentially, Amanda and Bill have to come up with a significant portion of the money before they can even begin to repair their home.

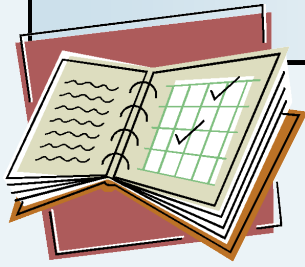
Most importantly, Amanda and Bill need all the prayers that people can give right now! *Thank you so much for anything you guys can do to help get the word out! I really appreciate it!*

Benja



Bill and Amanda Price and daughters

PITMAN CHURCH CALENDAR



Winterfest 2011 is February 18-20. We have room for only ten more passengers on the bus. If you want to go, please see Tim Davis ASAP!

Date	Event	Contact/Location
October 31	Blue Jean Sunday <i>and</i> Hot Dog Roast <i>and</i> Trunk or Treating <i>Bring a friend!</i>	Hot dog roast at 500 Pitman Rd.! Please bring hot dogs and buns for your family, plus one of the following: vegetable tray, chips, fruit, or dessert. Drinks will be provided.
November 6	Men's Hiking Expedition 8a-5p	Brian Kleineweber, Jay Schneider Tohickon Valley Park in Bucks County, PA.
November 14	Orphan Sunday Special Contribution	Steve Sikes
November 20	Radio City Music Hall <i>Christmas Spectacular</i>	Brian Holden New York City
December 4	Annual Cookie Exchange	Donna Lazar
December 11	Feeding the Hungry	Mike Lazar; Trenton, NJ
February 18-20	Winterfest <i>See details below.</i>	Tim Davis Gatlinburg, TN

Stand Your Ground Youth Retreat at Camp

For our teens, the two most important events each year are **Winterfest** in February and **Stand Your Ground** in October. About twenty of our teens attended the Stand Your Ground (SYG) annual retreat at Camp Manatwny a week ago. This year's retreat, hosted by the Freehold and New Brunswick churches of Christ, was entitled, **Counterfeit Christianity Unmasked**. The theme verse was 1 Timothy 4:12: *"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity."*



The cross of Christ Is lifted high both literally and symbolically.

Each session was focused on removing your "mask" and letting your true light and love for Christ be seen. The featured comedian, Brad Durant, was able to present this through his comedy.

Even while laughing, the kids were reminded that it's okay to be themselves, especially in a non-Christian setting. The vocal group "Durant" entertained with an acapella concert.

Next to Winterfest, the kids really look forward to SYG. It allows them a chance to renew their faith and commitment while also reconnecting with the friends they see at camp each summer.

This fellowship takes place while they attend the varied events of the weekend: a concert, a comedian, athletic events, meal times, and worship times.

They left with valuable lessons that will give them the ability to stand their ground and let their true light shine for Christ.

Robin Brier



Toria and Troy hang on for dear life during a strenuous athletic event known as "tag."

OCTOBER TEEN CALENDAR

WHEN?

Friday, October 29

WHAT?

Halloween Costume Party at 7:00

TELL ME MORE...

Location is TBA. We will award cash and prizes for the best costume! Bring \$5.00 to help with snacks.

OUR MINISTERS

Evangelist
Dan Cooper dcooper@coChrist.org

Family Life Minister
Steve Sikes ssikes@coChrist.org

OFFICE STAFF

Dottie Grillo dgrillo@coChrist.org

Katherine Cooper.... KatherineACooper@gmail.com

OUR ELDERS

Horatio Fenton HoratioFenton@comcast.net

Greg Krinks..... 856-881-2039, hm
Greg.Linda.Krinks@gmail.com

Mike Lazar..... teacher.engineer@comcast.net

Larry Point856-769-0836

Dwight Thompson..... 609-561-8561, hm
 609-287-0109, cell
 DOThompson@comcast.net

Tom Toy.....856-466-9067, cell
 Barrelman@comcast.net

OUR DEACONS

Bud Britton.....brittonreb2@verizon.net

Mike Broyles mbroyles1@comcast.net

Tim Davis tmdaviszoo@comcast.net

Rich DeLoskey DeloskeyRJ@comcast.net

Tony DeStefano anthony.destefano@navy.mil

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Rich Rinne r.rinne@comcast.net

Jay Schneider..... jay.w.schneider@boeing.com

Carl Steiner BSte11625@aol.com

Manny Vander Vennen
 VanderVennen.Manuel@synthes.com

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 Fax: 856-589-8233
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LAST WEEK

Bible Class	174
Worship	225
Contribution	\$8,386
LIFE Groups	164
Wednesday	110

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

BIBLE CLASSES 9:00 AM
 WORSHIP 10:00 AM
LIFE Groups Listed Below

SUNDAY LOCATION

PITMAN HIGH SCHOOL
 225 Linden Ave.
 Pitman, NJ 08071

WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

CLASSES MEET AT 7:00 PM
 DEVOTIONAL at 7:45 PM

WEDNESDAY LOCATION

PITMAN METHODIST CHURCH
 758 North Broadway
 Pitman, NJ 08071-2017

SERVING US TODAY

NURSERY Debbie Contravo, Cindy Holden

CHILDREN'S CHURCH Jen Pearl

GREETERS Darren and Dee Fields

SERVING US NEXT WEEK

NURSERY Jo-Ann Rinne, Becky Vander Vennen

CHILDREN'S CHURCH Carla Darunday

GREETERS Darren and Dee Fields

L.I.F.E. GROUP LOCATIONS TODAY

GROUP	LOCATION	CONTACT
Central	Darunday's	469-261-4614
Hammonton	Hernandez's @ 5:00	609-652-8311
Marriage Mentoring	Peterson's	609-744-2400
Noon Time Group	Fenton's	609-625-4153
Pitman for Lunch Bunch	Cooper's	856-589-4197
Silver Lining	Durham's	856-589-2280
Solid Gold	Lazar's	856-223-1699
Southwestern	Pearl's	856-690-1405
Teens	Holden's	856-439-4681
Time Travelers	Holden's	856-439-4681
Vineland	Wilson's	856-629-1708
Young Adults	The Firehouse	609-230-2220

<http://sigospel.webs.com>