

## Who Are You at the Table?

*“Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And BE THANKFUL. Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with GRATITUDE in your hearts. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, GIVING THANKS to God the Father through him” (Col. 3:15-17).*

WHO will you be at your Thanksgiving table? For the hosts you may be like the distracted Martha, who served a meal but lost sight of Jesus. If you're a guest, like the Magi you may bring a gift. Or maybe some food to share, like the boy who gave his lunch to Jesus to feed 5,000. You may be a prodigal son or daughter who comes to the table under a cloud of personal guilt. May you be welcomed as he with extravagant love. I pray you are not the resentful elder brother who refused to celebrate. Or worse, a Judas who couldn't wait to leave. Like Peter you may in the passion of the moment swear undying faithfulness only to fail. Yet he found forgiveness at Jesus' beach breakfast.

If you are at the head of the table and expected to say some words and bless the food, maybe you will be like Jesus who raised the level of a group meal to high spiritual significance. He broke the bread and explained the deeper meaning of sharing a table. He headed the table but kneeled down to wash feet.

Like the disciples on the road to Emmaus, only later might you realize how God filled your soul as you sat in that circle of love. Jesus was accused of loving meals a little too much. But it was there that he did much of his best work.

The power of God's love flows around a table. If you feel that peace, if you feel included in spite of your baggage, if you are surprised to find yourself laughing again—you can thank God for that. It's from him.

God made us to love the table. All cultures feel it. Christ built communion around it and someday we will gather round it in glory. And if you will allow, there will be a place for you there!

*Mark*

**TODAY is Our “Thanksgiving Catch-up” Special Collection:** What a blessing it is to give.

**“12-Hours of Prayer” was a GREAT DAY!** We MADE IT! Thank you to all who because of your faith and belief in the Lord prayed throughout this day. Most of all we thank our GOD! **He will bless our prayers.**

**Thanksgiving Dinners for Others** If you have not yet brought in food items or you want to donate cash to feed the needy get it to Nelson Nuñez today, our Deacon of Benevolence. Thanks!

**Gingerbread Houses on Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>:** will be right after worship. You need to bring a “house” to decorate. Pick up the instructions for your cardboard “house” in the lobby. Also, sign-up there to attend and also to bring candy supplies.

**“Christmas Party” Sunday, Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall.** The food, the decorations, the “*Talent Show*” — it's going to be great! Team 1 is in charge. Carl & Sarah are leading the Talent Show. **Sign-up to bring Food and to be in the Talent Show.**

**Cathedral Kitchen:** The next time we will serve is Fri. Nov. 28<sup>th</sup>. See Vivian if you can help.

**Youth Group:** Sat. 12/6 (evening) we will go see Logan in **CONCERT** @ the Medford Dickens Festival. Then on Sunday, Dec. 7 we will help with the **GINGERBREAD HOUSES**, Dec 12 we will do the **Drop & Shop childcare.**

**Our Teens sent out 3 boxes for “Operation Christmas Child”** from their own giving.

**Thank You Rick, Darren & Adrian for our ROOF:**

These brothers were HIGH up on ladders fearlessly fixing our roof for the winter and chasing down leaks. You guys have BLESSED us! Thanks!

**Drop & Shop- FREE Childcare** at the church building Friday evening, Dec, 12<sup>th</sup> by the **YOUTH GROUP**. We will provide pizza, popcorn, games & a holiday movie (probably *Polar Express*). Any **DONATIONS** we get will go toward Winterfest.

**Youth Group Raised \$600 for Winterfest** at the Pasta Dinner they held in October. Thanks to all who helped.

**Note:** The Winterfest registration deadline is Sunday, Jan. 4. \$37 for registration, \$12 for a t-shirt.

**Today's Worship Leaders**

**Welcome & Scripture:** Josh Henderson (Psalm 95:1-6)

**Main Prayer:** Nelson Nuñez

**Lord's Supper:** Darren McEntire, Tate, Rick Boyle, John Corbett

**Scripture Reading:** Jonathan Powers (1Chron. 29:11-13)

**Closing Prayer and Announcements:** Bret Goen

**Nursery: Elaine & Julie** Next Week- Sarah P. & Karen

**Pink Cleaning Team** Nov. 26-29. Howard & Donna Coordinate

**OUTREACH/MINISTRY**

Mark Finn – Preacher  
Church Office- (856) 854-0197

**ELDERS:**

Rick Boyle (856) 986-4876  
Tony Ceraso, Jr. (856) 278-6276  
Bret Goen (856) 996-5267

**Worship** ..... 123  
Bible Class ..... 91  
Wednesday ..... 39  
L.I.F.E. Groups ..... 46

**Contribution** ..... **\$3,013**  
Budget Goal ..... \$4,260

Daily Bible Readers: 37  
Collingswood Church of Christ

Church Website: [www.ccc123.org](http://www.ccc123.org)

300 White Horse Pike  
November 23, 2014

Collingswood, NJ 08107  
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“Now faith is being **sure** of what we hope for and **certain** of what we do not see.” (Hebrews 11:1)

Thank you, God  
for what you gave



for letting us give!