

Lord, Baptize My List?

2015: the year I do dumb things more effectively. Wait... scratch that. I need an alternative.

A new year stretches ahead, un-walked, unsullied. A clean break from the past, a new start. Here at week-one I pause. I can name three things I want to change. But I did this a year ago. I put myself in the driver's seat and one year later I've made a round-trip to the same place I started. That's frustrating. I don't need nifty new components to a self-focused life. I need new life.

The screaming countdown in Times Square won't do it. The timeless whispered wisdom of God comes in the prayer of Psalm 86. Listen!...

***“You alone are God. Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name. I will praise you, O LORD my God, with ALL my heart; I will glorify your name forever. For great is your love toward me; you have delivered me from the depths of the grave.*”**

Am I trying to baptize my own wants, or am I letting God baptize me? All of me. Changing my “want-er”. With my list of wants I'm only doing empty things in a more effective way. What good is that? Instead I need a whole heart that praises God and walks in his truth. I need God's transforming, life-giving power. That automatically rewrites my old list into something much bigger than me, me, me.

God so loved the world that he did not send us a list. He sent his Son, the embodiment of this new life he offers. God's vision has arrived and is being established. It's moving. I can jump on his Kingdom vision or stand clutching my petty list. I'm not wasting another year making another trip back to where I started. I'll toss the list. I'm gonna jump! That faith-jump lands me in learning, truth, praise, and an undivided heart.

That's a real Happy New Year!

Mark

Our Month of “Prayer and Fasting” is Here: and many spaces are filled but there are still many days that don't have that anonymous check mark from a faithful volunteer to Praying & Fast on that day.

Do You Belong to a L.I.F.E. Group Yet?

L.I.F.E. Groups: Love, Involvement, Fellowship, Evangelism are Traditional Small Groups. Each Group meets in a different home or at the church building for informal times of learning of Jesus. We support each other in living right, we pray and have some refreshments. They are open to all ages including kids. Come choose one and join in.

L.I.F.E. Group: Sunday 6:00 PM
Location: Varies
Leaders: Chet & Kathy Churchill (609-560-7179)
Co-Leaders: Ed & Laura Francoeur (780-5536)

L.I.F.E. Group: Sunday After Worship
Location: Collingswood
Group Leader: Mark Finn (858-7293)
Co-Leader: Rick Boyle (856-662-2742)

L.I.F.E. Group: Sunday 6:00 PM
Location: Collingswood
Group Leader: Dave Williams (962-8380)
Co-Leader: Jack Swinehart (858-1494)

Other L.I.F.E. Groups . . .

Youth Group: Friday 7:00 PM (Mostly)
Location: Collingswood, Cherry Hill, Mt Laurel
Contact Person: Fay Ceraso (456-6222)

Kids For Christ (Grades 4-7): Monthly
Location: Varies (Mostly Gloucester City)
Group Leaders: Chris & Kristin Ceraso (456-5730)

France Mission Dinner, this Saturday, Jan. 10th:

Katherine Finn is hosting a dinner in the French style, Saturday, Jan. 10th at 6:00 PM. This is a free dinner to thank past and present supporters before she returns to the mission. All who are interesting in hearing more about the Lord's work in Marseille are invited to attend. Sign-up is on the bulletin board. Questions? Talk to Katherine.

Youth Group: Today is the Deadline for Winterfest Registrations. Feb. 20-22 is the Winterfest trip.

Haircuts for Missions: Please sign-up.

Elder Induction and Fellowship Meal is Sunday **Jan. 18th**. Group 2 is in charge of set-up, serving & clean-up.

Thanksgiving Catch-Up Special Collection TOTAL thus far is **\$35,402**. Praise God for his abundant provision!

Congratulations To Sean and Jessica Perazzelli: who were married this past Friday, January 2.

Today's Worship Leaders

Welcome & Scripture: Scott Schoener (Psalm 86:9-13)
Lord's Supper: John Derricott, Kevin Finn, Tim Lum, Thanh Ly
Scripture Reading: Logan McEntire (James 5:7-11)
Closing Prayer and Announcements: Tony Ceraso Jr.

Nursery: Debbie & Alexia Next Week- Chris Ann & Sarah P.
Orange Cleaning Team Jan. 7-10: Leaders Tony & Fay

<u>OUTREACH/MINISTRY</u>	Worship 116
Mark Finn – Preacher	Bible Class
Church Office- (856) 854-0197	Wed PM.....dismissed
<u>ELDERS:</u>	Christmas Eve Service ..
Rick Boyle (856) 986-4876	
Tony Ceraso, Jr. (856) 278-6276	Contribution \$1,547
Bret Goen (856) 996-5267	Budget Goal.....

Daily Bible Readers: 22

Collingswood Church of Christ

Church Website: www.ccc123.org

300 White Horse Pike
January 4, 2015

Collingswood, NJ 08107
Vol. XVIII No. 1

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

