

There Was "Nothing In His Appearance"

WHAT DID JESUS LOOK LIKE? We all have some picture of him in our minds. No fantasy character, he lived in history as a man. Eyewitnesses to his life make no specific comment on his appearance. The prophet Isaiah noted that he was not particularly handsome or remarkable in his looks (Isaiah 53:2). It's who Jesus is that has endeared millions through the ages. The proud may take a pass, but the common people were drawn to him like a magnet.

Sometimes an artist can capture that ideal. In popular art Christ has many faces. What is most interesting are the other faces in the frame and their reaction to Jesus. Carl Bloch's "*Consolator*" is striking in this regard. Christ stands tall on a solid rock surrounded by people who need him. None are proud. The man clutching Jesus robe, eyes closed in blissful relief has at long last found consolation in a life where he found little comfort. A prisoner or perhaps an addict, still in chains, pleads with him. A child is drawn naturally to his side but is unsure how to respond. Women look to him in holy adoration, others older bearing untold sorrow gaze downward. A man exhausted by illness and life leans against him held up by his walking stick. Each person mute, there is nothing left to say in the presence of Christ. He is enough. The Christ figure extends his hands in invitation to the viewer, seeming to say, "*Come to me all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.*"

What this artist's image is trying to convey we have in reality. Christ told his disciples that when he left them he would send "the Counselor" or Holy Spirit. In sending them on their mission to go into the world with the Gospel, he said, "*I am with you always.*"

There was nothing in his appearance, but his person, his presence was everything. His presence is with you, Christian.

His peace, counsel, comfort, wisdom—everything he is is yours. You are loved.

Restless soul, everything you are searching for is in him.

Mark

VBS Meeting TODAY: right after Worship. Laura, Hoa, and Carl are getting us READY for our summer outreach (VBS is July 12-15). We'll have a brief informational meeting and curriculum preview downstairs. Light snacks will be provided. Please join us to learn how you can help out with VBS this summer!

Want to learn more about being a part of
Collingswood Church of Christ ?

Well... Come to our NEW Member's Class

TODAY right after worship service.

This brief, no-obligation class includes refreshments!

Talk to us!

Our Ladies Retreat is Friday-Sunday, April 17th-19th and there is still some room in case you wanted to still go. See the people at the table in the lobby for help.

WE are Cooking for the HOMELESS at "New Visions" AND serving them on Monday, **April 27th** at 8:45 AM. Becky and Margaret are coordinating the meal. Ask them how to help. New Visions is only 5 minutes from here.

Youth Group Friday: April 17TH, meet at the Churchill's home from 7-9 for reflections on Winterfest.

Cathedral Kitchen: The next date is Tuesday, April 21st to help serve the homeless at 1514 Federal Street, Camden, NJ 08105. We meet in the church parking lot at 3 and go from there. See Vivian.

Dr. Nate Weiwora Finished his Ph.D. Congratulations to Nate on successfully defending his dissertation!

Attention ALL Teachers, Coordinators, & Assistants of Our Children & Youth:

We are currently doing background checks on everyone working with and/or teaching our children and youth. Please see Donna Mansdoerfer for your packet of information and form to complete. Donna will be at the **TABLE IN THE LOBBY** after Worship with your envelope.

Pat Connelly is in PowerBack Rehabilitation Center: 113 South Route 73, Voorhees Township. Room 223 (main number 856-809-3500).

Our Condolences to Anne Pollack in the loss of her sister, Joyce this past Wednesday.

Today's Worship Leaders

Worship Leader: Gerry Hogan

Welcome & Scripture: Scott Schoener (Psalm 105:1-5)

Opening Prayer: Tony Ceraso Jr.

Lord's Supper: Jess Nitla, Carl Smith, John Derricott, John Corbett

Scripture Reading: Jiony Colon (1 Peter 4:12-16)

Closing Prayer & Announcements: Rick Boyle

Nursery: Tina & Tiana Next Week- Karen M. & Chris H.

Orange Cleaning Team: April 15-18 **Tony & Fay** 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

Chet Churchill (609) 560-7179

Howard Mansdoerfer (609) 790-9969

Worship 142

Bible Class 70

Wed PM..... 32

Contribution \$5,523

Budget Goal \$4,260

"COME TO ME, all you who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

-Matthew 11:28-30

Collingswood Church of Christ

Church Website: www.ccc123.org

300 White Horse Pike

Collingswood, NJ 08107

April 12, 2015

Vol. XVIII No. 115

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

Open Your Eyes

