

## Prayer that STOPPED Me

Prayer hasn't always moved me; it's often stopped me. Good thing. My first instinct to jump into a situation can result in something much worse. In prayer I ask the Lord to work, but then act like he won't.

Have you ever turned something over to the Lord only to snatch it back? It might feel better but won't help. Waiting on the Lord doesn't feel as good but works better. The impatience we feel is the "wrestling" part of prayer and is the point where many Christians just give up. If we only knew!

Jeremy Taylor wrote,

There is no greater proof in the world of our spiritual danger than the reluctance which most people always have and all people sometimes have to pray; so weary of their length, so glad when they are done, so clever to excuse and neglect their opportunity. Yet prayer is nothing but desiring God to give us the greatest and best things we can have and that can make us happy. It is a work so easy, so honorable, and to so great a purpose, that (except in the incarnation of His Son) God has never given us a greater argument of His willingness to have us saved and our unwillingness to accept it, of His goodness and our gracelessness, of His infinite condescension and our folly, than by rewarding so easy a duty with such great blessings.

The leverage for the blessedness you seek is in prayer. I don't want you to endlessly struggle with your own solutions only to come up with zilch. Nor do I want you to reach your goal only to find that it was empty and you lost what you needed most. Our Father in heaven is a good father. He's not going to cheat you. This world will. Put your trust in him. Fast and pray and trust in him.

*Mark*

**This is Our Month of "Prayer & Fasting"!** Please Sign-up with an anonymous check-mark on the day you will pray and fast. KEEP the prayers going!

**LIFE Group Leaders/Co-leaders will have a brief Meeting after Worship this morning.**

**Cary Ganges is Moving Away this Week:** We are having cake and refreshments after Worship to bid him a heartfelt but sad farewell. God bless you, Cary!

**WOW! Two Baptisms!** George and Khadijah Somerszaul are brother and sister, but NOW they are also brother and sister in CHRIST because they were baptized into God's forever family last Sunday! Their address: 1108 Park Court, Cinnaminson, NJ, 856-499-2369. They are niece and nephew of Kim and Claudia Azille and are here for college. Email: georgesomerszaul@gmail.com, ksomerszaul@ymail.com

**First WINTER Fellowship Meal NEXT Sunday:** A warm, delicious meal will be shared. Everyone **sign-up** to bring "Western-Themed" Food, like Chili, Sloppy Joes, Shepherd's Pie, Vegetables, Breads/Rolls, Desserts etc. **Team 3** is in charge.

**YOUTH GROUP Deadline:** The **WINTERFEST bus** is full and has a waiting list for 2016. **Registration of \$38 IS DUE TODAY** to reserve your seat. Please see Nawana!

**Youth Group, Saturday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, 12 Noon:** We will be doing a project. See Scott and Chris with questions (856-904-5364 or 5363).

**Cooking & Serving for the Homeless:** We will be serving them breakfast at 9AM at "New Visions" in Camden, Jan. 25<sup>th</sup>. Questions: See Brenda Collier.

**Cathedral Kitchen:** Our next date to serve is January 28, 3:30-5:30PM. See Vivian with questions.

## **Our L.I.F.E. Groups: Traditional Small Groups**

**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 6:00PM** Location: Varies

**Group Leader:** Mark Finn (858-7293)

**L.I.F.E. Group: Sunday 6:30 PM** Location: Varies

**Group Leader:** Dave Williams (962-8380)

**Co-Leader:** Jack Swinehart (858-1494)

**Kids For Christ (KFC) (Grades 2-5)** Location: Varies

**Group Leaders:** Ed & Laura Francoeur (856-780-5536)

**Junior High Youth Group (Grades 6-8)** Location: Varies

**Group Leaders:** Chris & Kristin Ceraso (856-456-5730)

**Senior High Youth Group (Grades 9-12)** Location: Varies

**Group Leaders:** Scott & Chris Schoener (856-228-9202)

### **Today's Worship Leaders**

**Worship Leader:** Gerry Hogan

**Welcome & Scripture:** Carl Smith (Psalm 139:1-10)

**Opening Prayer:** Henry Duncan

**Lord's Supper:** Ed Francoeur Sr., Ethan Francoeur, Ed Francoeur Jr., Eli Francoeur

**Scripture Before Message:** Logan McEntire (Rev 3:1-6)

**Announcements & Prayer:** Rick Boyle

**Nursery: Nawana & Renée** Next Week- Margaret & Elizabeth

**Yellow Cleaning Team:** Jan. 13-16 **Norma** Coordinates

### **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 ..... 137**

Bible Class ..... 90

Wed. Jan. 6 ..... 40

Wed. Dec. 30 ..... 50

**Contribution ..... \$2,918**

**Budget Goal ..... \$4,260**

**Daily Bible Readers: 28**

## Collingswood Church of Christ

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

300 White Horse Pike

January 10, 2016

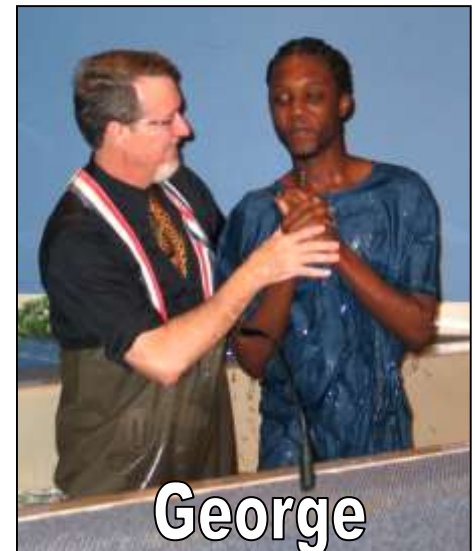
Collingswood, NJ 08107

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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)



**Khadijah**



**George**