

GROWING: What's the Secret?

1,000 Bible-based churches and ¼ million Christians across this nation were carefully researched to learn about how spiritual growth actually happens. The results are presented in the book "Move: What 1,000 Churches Reveal About Spiritual Growth," by Greg Hawkins and Caly Parkinson.

Here is the one main conclusion that stood out above all others: "**Nothing has a greater impact on spiritual growth than reflection on Scripture**" (p. 19). This was true for all stages of spiritual development, from being an unbelieving seeker first learning of Christ, all the way to being a fully Christ-centered believer, who would say, "My relationship with Jesus is the most important relationship in my life. It guides everything I do."

This was not about reading the Bible in church. We all do that. It means reading the Bible on your own *outside* of church. It's what we at Collingswood have called our "Daily Bible Readers." When we take a count each Sunday, we average around 25 Daily Bible Readers out of our average of 125 in attendance. That's 1 out of 5. Interesting that the research showed the same result of 1 in 5 Christians reading the Bible on their own every day. That's us!

These 1 in 5 who are doing this daily reflection on Scripture are the ones who grow in their faith. These are the ones who keep reaching new levels of joy and depth in their walk with Christ. They are the least likely to report being stalled in their spiritual growth and dissatisfied in their faith. The most likely to report feeling lovingly connected and daily led by God.

This is another example of research revealing what the Lord has been telling us all along. Jesus said, "**IF you continue in my WORD you are really my disciples. And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free**" (John 8:31-32). Of all the things we could set before our eyes, all the things we put our mind in a day, nothing is more significant than the daily sunlight of Scripture.

Mark

TODAY Is Our LAST Day Of Our Month Of "Prayer & Fasting"! Thank you for KEEPING the prayers going!

Homeless Will Be Served a BIG Breakfast at "New Visions" by Collingswood Church! tomorrow, Feb. 1st. We will be cooking and serving a big breakfast meal for these cold and hungry souls. You can meet at the church at 8:30 for a ride, or drive to 555 Atlantic Avenue, Camden, NJ, just 10 minutes away. See *Brenda* with any questions.

Cathedral Kitchen: Our date to serve is February 23, 3:30-5:30PM. Questions? See Vivian.

Youth Group: Feb. 5 meet at Sky Zone, 2834 Route 73 North Maple Shade, NJ 08052 at 7:00 PM for 7:30 jump time. Weekends sell out, so tickets must be purchased on line in advance at www.skyzone.com/moorestown. Note: Our boxes for "Operation Christmas Child" successfully went to the Dominican Republic last month!

Church Directories Are Being Updated Note:

- 1. UPDATE:** To update your personal directory page, please use the beige *bulletin insert* and fill in any changed or new information or "Spotlight." If you need a new picture see Larry. Give your forms to Donna or Fay by Feb. 7th.
- 2. FIRST TIME:** If you have NOT been in the Directory before or are a NEW member, **blue forms are in the lobby.** See *Larry* for your picture. Give your form to Terri Little by Feb. 7th.

NEXT Sunday is the HALF-WAY POINT in paying off our Church Mortgage! God has been FAITHFUL! We will have a special Worship Service to thank the Lord for his provision!

Baby Shower for Alyssa Finn, Next Sunday, February 7th: Alyssa's Baby Shower next Sunday will be right after Worship. **Lunch** will be provided. A **sign-up sheet** is posted to help with bringing food. They are expecting a BOY. She is registered at "*Babys-R-Us*." If you have questions, see Kathy Churchill, Bibi, or Katherine Finn.

Our Next Fellowship Meal is February 28st: Team 4 is in charge. The theme is PASTA! We are moving it a week later since our youth and parents will be away at Winterfest Youth Rally on Feb. 21st.

Today's Worship Leaders

Worship Leader: Dave Cook

Welcome & Scripture: Carl Smith (Psalm 141:1-4)

Opening Prayer: Gerry Hogan

Lord's Supper: John Derricott, Nelson Nunez, Darren, Jiony

Scripture Before Message: Ben Churchill (Rev 3:19-4:3)

Announcements & Prayer: Tony Ceraso Jr.

Nursery: Elaine & Alexia Next Week- April & Jaela

Orange Cleaning Team: Feb. 3-6 Coordinators: Tony & Fay

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 Jan 17 131

Bible Class Jan. 17 ...76

Wed. PM Jan.2048

Worship Devo Jan 24..10

Wed. PM Jan.27.....40

Contr. Jan 17..... \$2,796

Budget Goal\$4,260

Jan. 17 **Daily Bible Readers: 41**

Collingswood Church of
Christ

Church Website: www.ccc123.org

300 White Horse Pike

January 31, 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)

