

A Little Perspective, Please

Politics, anyone? Not me. Though I keep up with the news, my only words to those who ask are (1) pray for our nation, (2) vote, and (3) be an involved Christ-like presence in your community. To quote Jesus in a different context, "Anything beyond this comes from the evil one."

The people of God have survived every secular, military, and national power this world has produced. Throughout history the prophecies of scripture have proven true. The last chapters of the Holy Bible assure us that God Almighty will safely bring his people through every obstacle to an eternal home with him. If that is all that will survive, I want to be sure I am part of that group. The core of my identity is in the One who made me and to whom I belong. Any other national, political, or human subgroup by which I could be categorized is incidental to that. I belong to God. I am his and he is mine.

Long ago God's prophet, Elisha, was in a city surrounded by a marauding enemy army. Elisha's assistant cried out, "Oh no, my lord! What shall we do?" ... "**Don't be afraid,**" the prophet answered. "**Those who are with us are more than those who are with them.**" And Elisha prayed, "Open his eyes, Lord, so that he may see." Then the Lord opened the servant's eyes, and he looked and saw the hills full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha (2 Kings 6:15-17).

There is a spiritual reality that is much greater than the little ups and downs of human history. God knows. He cares. His hand is moving history forward. But the headlines of heaven are different than the headlines on earth. There is a much larger story that moves us from the screaming waves of right now, to the calm, quiet waters of God. Unless it's a school assignment, nobody is reading last year's big news stories. Just this week, I tossed a week's worth of newspapers into the recycle bin, but my Bible is still here. And so it shall ever be.

Mark

TODAY

"Winterfest Dinner", @ 5:00

Please show-up and join us for a great evening of Mexican food and fellowship. **Donations will help our teens attend the Christian Youth Rally in Tennessee this winter.**

Back by Popular Demand is Our 2nd Annual Church BOWLING NIGHT:

on Sunday, October 16 at 5 PM at the Pinsetter's Lanes in Merchantville. Please **sign-up** for a lane on the bulletin board. All ages are welcome. Come & bowl or just come & watch the fun. More info. to come.

Do YOU have a LIFE Group yet?

Remember that every Sunday there is an **After-Worship LIFE Group** that meets right after morning worship in the Teen Room. (this group will not meet next week, Oct 9th) If you want to check it out, just stay around. There are several other LIFE Groups as well; pick up a list on the yellow paper in the slots in the lobby.

Sr Youth Group: Meet here at the building on Friday, October 7th, 7-9 PM,

Area Wide Autumn Sing Along: will be at Pitman Road Church of Christ. Join them for this time of singing & honoring God on **Sat., Oct. 8**, 6-8 PM. Refreshments 6-6:30. Child Care provided. See bulletin board for details.

Anne Pollack: is now at Virtua Health & Rehabilitation Center at Berlin to help get her walking again. Location: 100 Long a Coming Ln, Berlin, NJ 08009. 856-322-3678

Parking: Please do not park beyond the sign by the small tree on this side of Harrison Ave., people have trouble turning in and out if there are cars there.

HELLO BABY! – Vinod and Maggie Nitla have ANOTHER Son! Casper Joseph Nitla was born on Saturday, Sept. 24, arriving at 7 lbs., 9 oz., 20” long. Also congratulations to Jay & Raji Nitla on another grandson!

New Visions “Shelter Care Packages” for the Homeless In October we are collecting personal care items for the homeless. We are making Ziplock bags with the following items: *disposable razor, trial-size or small bar soap, trial-size deodorant, winter hat, gloves, or scarf.* Place items in the large basket in the church lobby. Questions? See Brenda Collier.

Today’s Worship Leaders

Worship Leader: Dave Williams
Welcome & Scripture: Bret Goen (Psalm 27:7-14)
Opening Prayer: Tim Jones
Lord’s Supper: Jack, Darren McEntire, Henry Duncan, Ben
Scripture Before Message: Ethan Francoeur (Romans 6:11-14)
Announcements & Closing Prayer: Tony Ceraso Jr.

Nursery: Alexia & Jaela Next Week: Chris Ann & Elizabeth
Orange Cleaning Team Oct. 5-8 **Tony & Fay** coordinate

<u>OUTREACH/MINISTRY</u>	Worship Total 146
Mark Finn – Preacher	Bible Class..... 86
Church Office- (856) 854-0197	Wed..... 44
<u>ELDERS:</u>	LIFE Groups..... 45
Rick Boyle (856) 986-4876	
Tony Ceraso, Jr. (856) 278-6276	Contribution \$2,743
Bret Goen (856) 996-5267	Budget Goal \$4,260
Chet Churchill (609) 560-7179	Budget Shortfall \$29,700
Howard Mansdoerfer (609) 790-9969	–

15-Minutes Daily with GOD: 39

Collingswood Church of Christ

Church Website: www.ccc123.org
 300 White Horse Pike Collingswood, NJ 08107
 October, 2, 2016 Vol. XVIII No. 40
 “Now faith is being **sure** of what we hope for and **certain** of what we do not see.” (Hebrews 11:1)



We begin this season with GOD'S strength!