

What Would You Do With an Extra 15 Years?

One fine day, godly King Hezekiah was told by Isaiah the prophet of God to put his house in order because he was going to die. The king turned his face to the wall, wept and prayed to God for mercy. Isaiah was already walking home when the Lord stopped him and told him to go back to the king with another message: ***"I have heard your prayer and seen your tears; I will heal you.... I will add fifteen years to your life"*** (2 Kings 20:5-6). Furthermore, God assured the king that he would safely deliver his people from their enemies. What if Hezekiah hadn't prayed? What a different outcome!

We understand only dimly the overarching purposes of God in history. How he keeps track of 7 billion people in our world is beyond comprehension, yet he sees the tears of a single individual. In ways that are clear to God but mysterious to us, his sovereign will encompasses not only his will but also our prayers and his response to them. His will is going to be done but it is not a closed system. His will includes our prayers and our prayers change outcomes. This is astonishing. Why he does this comes down to one word: love. He knows you, he loves you, he hears you.

Hezekiah's story gets our attention because we care about our life span. He lived on to lead and serve God for fifteen more years. Such precious time! Yet people are known to spend at least a decade of their given life watching entertainment. You would think that the closer we get to the end of life, the less of life we'd want to waste. Research indicates otherwise. The older we get the more we passively sit and watch entertainment, easily doubling the amount we watched in our childhood years.

If the Lord decided to give you fifteen more years how would you use it? Would you use it to serve him? Would you use it to bless people? What are you doing with the time he's given you already? That is probably an indication of what you would do with more years... unless you repent. Life is God's gift. Life is therefore sacred. Your life is sacred. This year is sacred. This day is sacred. Please, realize it before one fine day a messenger of God meets you saying, "Put your house in order."

Mark

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

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

November 6th, right after Worship

in the "Teen Room" right across the lobby.

This brief, no-obligation class includes refreshments.

Ladies Harvest of Praise Nov. 12th: *"Abundant Redemption"* from 9:00AM to Noon. ***Please sign-up.***

Haircuts for Missions Nov. 12th: Noon to 5:30

Jr. & Sr. High Youth Groups: will meet Wednesday, Nov. 2nd, here at the building at 6:15 PM, we will be visiting a Nursing Home 6:30-8:00 and be back at church by 8:15. Please wear a costume that is not scary.

We are Serving Breakfast at "New Visions": to the homeless on Monday, November 7th. If you can help, please see Brenda Collier.

New Visions Shelter "Personal Care Packages" for the Homeless: We are collecting personal care items and preparing Ziploc bags with these items: *disposable razor, trial-size or small bar soap, trial-size deodorant, winter hat, gloves, or scarf.* **Place items in the oval basket in the church lobby.**

"12-Hours of Prayer" Nov. 19th: is Saturday, on the day before our "Thanksgiving Catch-up Sunday." We will link our prayers in 1-hour shifts. You just sign up for the hour you want to come in. If you really believe in prayer, sign up is on the bulletin board.

“Thanksgiving Catch-Up Sunday” is Coming November 20th. This is our annual special collection to close the gap in our budget and put money aside for our Missionaries. Keep this in prayer.

Thanksgiving Dinners for Those in Need. We are gathering food and empty copier-paper boxes to put together Thanksgiving dinners. Please bring in non-perishable Thanksgiving food items and place them in the round basket in the lobby. If you want to donate cash, get it to Nelson Nuñez, our Deacon of Benevolence. Thanks!

Congratulations to Olivia Jones and Logan McEntire who were inducted into the National Honor Society for their scholarship.

Today’s Worship Leaders

- Worship Leader:** Dave Cook
- Welcome & Scripture:** Carl Smith (Psalm 31:1-5)
- Opening Prayer:** Nelson Nuñez
- Lord’s Supper:** Henry Duncan, Jess Nitla, Rick Boyle, Logan McEntire
- Scripture Before Message:** Young West (Romans 8:1-3)
- Announcements & Closing Prayer:** Tony Ceraso
- Greeters:** Rick Boyle, Hardee Perazzelli, Wini Boyle, Elaine Firman

Nursery: Hoa & Thaleena Next Week: Norma & Layla
Yellow Cleaning Team Nov. 2-5 **Norma** coordinates

<u>OUTREACH/MINISTRY</u>	Worship Total 108
Mark Finn – Preacher	Bible Class..... 77
Church Office- (856) 854-0197	Wed PM
42	
<u>ELDERS:</u>	
Rick Boyle (856) 986-4876	
Tony Ceraso, Jr. (856) 278-6276	Contribution \$3,637
Bret Goen (856) 996-5267	Budget Goal \$4,260
Chet Churchill (609) 560-7179	Budget Shortfall \$32,054
Howard Mansdoerfer (609) 790-9969	

15-Minutes Daily with GOD: 24

Collingswood Church of Christ

Church Website: www.ccc123.org

300 White Horse Pike
 October, 30, 2016

Collingswood, NJ 08107
 Vol. XVIII No. 44

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

