

Where Is the Finish Line?

Did Abraham, Moses, and David fail? They are perhaps the greatest examples of faith in the Old Testament. Abraham wanted to see the nation that would come from his family. He didn't. Moses wanted to enter the promised land. He didn't. David wanted to build the temple. He didn't. They never attained their big goals. They might have felt they had run the race but not crossed the finish line. But what is God's view?

Goals we set for ourselves, even God-honoring ones, can be arbitrary. We make them up. We want to see a change in our world, but God is looking for a change in us. In God's estimation, maybe Abraham crossed the finish line when he was willing to sacrifice his "only begotten son" Isaac. And Moses crossed the finish line when, though discouraged, he kept leading the grumbling children of Israel after the golden calf incident. And David crossed the finish line back when he wrote the 23rd Psalm.

Is our goal really for God or for us? *"The LORD does not look at the things people look at... the LORD looks at the heart"* (1 Samuel 16:7). God's goal is how we are changed on our journey. In Matthew 25, neither the lost nor the saved were totally aware of how they'd done: *"When did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink?"* We aren't very good at judging our own life. God is judge so let him. In our walk we may think we have fallen short, when actually we crossed the finish line long ago.

Let's leave the finish lines to God. Keep walking. Keep loving and serving God. Keep loving and serving people. Don't despair. Don't worry. Don't ever quit.

Mark

Today is our Thanksgiving Catch-up Collection

This is our annual special collection to close the gap in our budget and put money aside for our Missionaries.

A NEW Member: Ella Liebe: Welcome, Ella! She comes from us Rossville Church of Christ in Georgia. Ella has been to our New Member Class and met with our Elders last week. Her address is 40 W. Park Blvd., Westmont, NJ 08108. 856-796-2536 ella.liebe@gmail.com

THANKSGIVING DINNERS are being Given to Those in Need. See Nelson Nunez with any questions, or if you want to help.

Children's Church: will be taught by **Dan Swinehart** and **Bill Ceraso**. The subject is **"Generosity"**.

Cathedral Kitchen Tuesday, Nov. 29th 3:30-5:30
If you would like to help serve, please see Vivian.

Sr. High Youth Group Lock-In: They will be joining a Lock-in at Tabernacle on Friday, December 2.

Operation Post Office Has a Red & Green Box: in our lobby, all ready for your cards. This is a chance for our kids (ages 4 – 10) to get to know our older members. Just bring in your **Christmas Cards** for your fellow members here and place them in the box. Our children will get them to our members AND this will save you the cost of postage! If you want to help, see Dave Williams.

Pray for Velma Purdue: Velma is very ill. She is Pam Goen's mother and a member here who for 13 years has been one of our shut-ins. She lives at the Voorhees Care Center on Evesham Road.

Haircuts for Missions: will be on December 10th.
Please sign-up for your spot.

Court House Church of Christ is Having a Hymn Sing: on Wednesday evening, Nov. 30 at 6:30pm.

Today's Worship Leaders

Worship Leader: Dave Williams

Welcome & Scripture: Bret Goen (Psalm 100:1-5)

Opening Prayer: Carl Smith

Lord's Supper: Jack, Josh Henderson, Tony Jr., John Corbett

Scripture Before Message: Jess Nitla. (Romans 8:18-23)

Announcements & Closing Prayer: Mark Finn

Greeters: Dave Cook, Jonathan Cook, Tiana Nuñez, Debbie Powers

Nursery: April & Hannah Next Week: Nawana & Jaela

Orange Cleaning Team Nov. 23-26 **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 Total 120

Bible Class..... 64

Wed PM 53

Contribution **\$2,677**

Budget Goal\$4,260

Budget Shortfall \$34,300

15-Minutes Daily with GOD: 26



Collingswood Church of Christ

Church Website: www.ccc123.org

300 White Horse Pike

November 20, 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)

Thank you, God
for what you gave



for letting us give!