

# Freeze Up or Step Up?

The recent string of natural disasters in our hemisphere has been unprecedented. We can be overwhelmed and throw up our hands... or we can do something. Right now we aren't making our church budget and things are tight. But what does that matter when people are suffering and so many have lost everything?

We just completed collecting funds and sending them to Houston's victims of Hurricane Harvey. Now quick on its heels came Hurricane Irma hitting Florida. Our own John and Barb Cook returned this week to their home there, which suffered minor but significant damage. Then Hurricane Maria followed and destroyed some Caribbean Islands. We have families here at Collingswood who have relatives in Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic, and the Virgin Islands. Kim and Claudia Azille's parents' home was completely destroyed. Many of these islands now have no electricity and will not for many months.

We can feel hopeless in the face of such need. But this isn't a time to freeze up; it's a time to step up. We can't do everything but we can do something. The Good Samaritan couldn't undo what happened to the man lying on the side of the road, but he did something. The woman who poured perfume on Jesus before his crucifixion could not prevent his suffering, but Jesus praised her saying, "*She did what she could*" (Mark 14:8).

This is all the Lord expects of his people. On a grand scale our help seems small, but not to God. He sees down to even a cup of cold water given in his Name. We cannot know in this life the good that our part will do in combination with many others. We are our brother's keeper. We will not do everything, but in the name of Jesus we will do something. The Lord has always taken care of his church at Collingswood and he is not going to stop now.

We are not afraid to help.

*Mark*

**Parents & Helpers Meet after Worship TODAY:** "*After-School Sunshine*" is an experimental out-reach effort providing homework help, games and dinner on Wednesday's after school. To find out how to help, come to this short meeting!

**TODAY College Care Cards:** will be collected. Please hand them to Fay or Tony **and let them know which student's envelope it goes into.** *They will be at the table in the lobby after Worship to collect them. Thank you for your help. The Students always appreciate their care packages.*

**Puerto Rico Help—Nelson is Collecting Funds:** Also, there is a Small Basket in the Lobby: for supplies Tina Gonzalez is sending to Puerto Rico: batteries (size C & D), diapers, formula, baby food, non-perishable foods, flashlights. See more info on the basket.

**LIFE Groups are RE-STARTING:** Next week Tim and April's LIFE Group will re-start after Worship!

**Children's Church Meeting Next Sunday:** for **teachers and anyone who is interested in teaching** on Oct. 8<sup>th</sup> after Worship in the Teen Room. We will discuss the changes, offer suggestions, check out the curriculum, etc. Refreshments will be served.

**Youth Group:** Meet at the building Friday, Oct. 6<sup>th</sup> 7-9PM. Bring Nerf guns and darts. Oct. 21<sup>st</sup> we will caravan up to the 5K run at Camp Manatawny. **Anyone can join in the 5K run.** See Nawana.

**Youth Group Thanks You:** for coming to their dinner and contributing \$699 towards their Winterfest trip. **They are still accepting donations.** We also appreciate Chris & Kristin Ceraso for their great job organizing this event.

**Elders-Deacons-Preacher Meeting – Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30:** Deacons, save the date and join us—it's always GREAT to get our leadership together! **Dinner is included.**

**"New Visions" Homeless Meal:** will be Oct 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Special Collection is Coming Up November 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Today's Worship Leaders**

**Worship Leader:** Dave Williams

**Welcome & Scripture:** Carl Smith (Psalm 65:1-7)

**Opening Prayer:** Scott Schoener

**Lord's Supper:** Bill Ceraso, Jack, Jay Morris, Tommy Walker

**Scripture Before Message:** Ben Churchill (1 Cor. 6:15-20)

**Announcements & Closing Prayer:** Rick Boyle

**Greeters:** Dave Cook, Tony Sr., Stephanie, Debbie Powers

**Nursery Norma & Jaela** Next Week: Marguerite & Margaret

**Red: Cleaning Team** Oct. 4-7 **Lillian** 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

Howard Mansdoerfer (609) 790-9969

**Worship ..... 124**

**Bible Class ..... 74**

**Wednesday PM ..... 43**

**Contribution ..... \$3,331**

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

**15-Minutes Daily with GOD: 27**

# Collingswood Church of Christ

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

300 White Horse Pike

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)

Teen Winterfest Dinner