

Other People Need a Counselor, Not Me

Next Sunday during Men's Class and Ladies Class we are having some local Christian counselors come and speak to us. "Dr. Steve" will talk to the men, and Jeannie Kelly will talk to the ladies.

Will you ever need a counselor? At some point, yes. Will you actually get counseling? Most people don't and suffer needlessly. And the people closest to them suffer as well. Unaddressed problems don't just affect you. They can persist for generations until someone in the family wises up and gets help.

Who were the counselors in the Bible? Often they were prophets and priests who stood by the king to advise him. Nathan the prophet confronted King David about his sin and helped him get right with God and his people. Sometimes it was a wise relative. Father-in-law Jethro advised Moses about his unsustainably busy schedule.

What is the "counsel" of scripture on this? "*The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure*" (Jeremiah 17:9). "*Do you see a person wise in their own eyes? There is more hope for a fool than for them*" (Proverbs 26:12). "*The way of fools seems right to them, but the wise listen to advice.*" (Proverbs 12:15).

If you are prideful, fearful, or selfish you will persist in excuses, self-justification, and refusal to change. If you are wise, humble, and caring you will listen to advice. We all have blind spots. A trained, Christ-focused, objective outside observer can get you pointed in the right direction.

I have received Christian counseling and benefitted from it. Becky and I have received counseling in our marriage and are happier for it. Why would we repair our roof, fix a hurting tooth, or replace a flat tire but refuse to repair the vastly more important matters of the soul? Our ability to love well depends on getting some occasional help. What we leave behind for those we say we love may hinge on the day you finally decided to go to a counselor.

Mark

VBS Planning Meeting TODAY AFTER WORSHIP: Laura is having a short meeting about VBS and will give us the latest information. **VBS** is July 16-19.

Christian COUNSELORS Will Teach the Men's and Ladies Bible Classes next Sunday! Don't miss this special Bible Class featuring local Christian Counselors. Dr. Steven Silverstein, and Jeannie Kelly M.A.C. will be with us. We also plan a "Q&A Time" after Worship for any who want to stick around for questions.

Guest Speaker Jordan Smoak Next Sunday. Jordan is one of the ministers at Gateway Church of Christ in north Jersey. Don't miss it.

Fellowship Meal NEXT Sunday, Feb. 19th. We will be feasting on a delicious ***Pasta Meal***. The **SIGN-UP** sheet for you to ***bring food*** is up. **TEAM 5** is in charge of Set up and Clean-up.

EDP Meeting, Feb. 20th, 6:30 PM: Our Elders, Deacons, and Preacher are meeting for dinner, prayer and making plans for 2017.

February Haircuts for Missions: there will be no posted date but **please contact Margaret** directly as she has random times during the week to fit you in.

If You Need Directions to the Play: see Tony Sr.

Cathedral Kitchen: will be on February 28th. See Vivian if you can help serve

"Stephen Ministry" Workshop, Saturday,

Feb. 25th: Stephen Ministry is a half-day of powerful training in how to HELP others spiritually. It goes from 9AM-1PM (Check-in begins at 8AM) at Haddonfield United Methodist Church. We are paying for anyone wanting to go to learn how to care for and minister to others in a distinctively Christian way. This is a powerful national program that is coming to our area. It's local, it is brief, and WE are paying your way! **See the bulletin board for details.**

Jr. & Sr. Youth Groups: Winterfest Feb. 17th -19th

Today's Worship Leaders

Worship Leader: Dave Williams

Welcome & Scripture: Henry Duncan (Psalm 34:17-22)

Opening Prayer: Scott Schoener

Lord's Supper: Dave Cook, Rich Fabi, Tim Jones, Ed Francoeur

Scripture Before Message: Ethan Francoeur (Rom.11:17-23)

Announcements & Closing Prayer: Rick Boyle

Greeters: Scott Schoener, Nelson Nuñez, Chris Schoener, Sue Gill

Nursery: April & Elaine Next Week: Debbie & Hannah

Blue Cleaning Team Feb. 15-18

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 122

Bible Class..... 83

Wed. PM 43

Contribution \$5,825

Budget Goal \$4,260

15-Minutes Daily with GOD: 38

Collingswood Church of Christ

Church Website: www.ccc123.org

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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)



Jesus, our Wonderful Counselor