

Moving the Ball

You get your very own Superbowl. It's called "your life." Plays are being called by your Coach. You can listen to his direction or not. You can play hard or sit down on the field and give up. One thing's for sure: the play clock is ticking.

It's a strange game where you are both the quarterback throwing the ball downfield and the receiver who is catching the ball that you threw in the past. You also may look across the line of scrimmage to face off against a formidable opponent: yourself. Your own fears blocking you. Ongoing sins, unforgiveness, resentments, regrets, anger all poised to knock you down. There are boundaries you must stay within. There is a goal to be reached.

It is not unfocused chaos. The scriptures are our rulebook and playbook rolled into one. But you can know the rules and the plays and still lose unless you are actively listening to the Coach. You see only what is in front of you, he sees the entire field. He has the experience and he knows your capabilities.

In every game there are fumbles, penalties, lost chances. Strategy changes from offence to defense and back again. Game plans have to be scrapped and rewritten on the spot. Sacrifices are made, injuries sustained. You get knocked down a lot and you have to keep getting up. Sometimes you are ahead in the first half only to lose in the second. Other times you seem hopelessly behind in the first, and have a spectacular turn around in the last half. Some games don't resolve and go into overtime.

We have been entrusted with the Gospel. We are here to move that ball forward. It's not easy. There is opposition. But there is glory beyond measure exceeding the elation of the most improbable sports victories in history. Everyone who has carried this ball forward is going to be victorious. The clock will run out. It will be "game over" and everyone will know the score.

It's the biggest game in the universe and you are in it right now. Listen to the Coach. Play well. Don't lose sight of the goal. And MOVE that ball!

Mark

This Week You Can Preview Dave Ramsey's "Legacy Journey" If you want to take the 8-week series, the Sign-up sheet is on the display table in the foyer.

This NEW video series is about the BIG PICTURE of where you are going financially and spiritually. As before, this 8-week series has a \$100 planning kit we offer at cost (let us know if you can't afford it—we will help). There is also a Bible Class alternative to this in Feb/March.

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.

VBS Planning Meeting After Worship NEXT Sunday, Feb. 12th: Laura is having a short meeting about VBS and will give us the latest information. **VBS** is July 16-19.

"Fellowship Meal" February 19th. We will be having a **Pasta Meal**. The sign-up sheet is up. Team 5 is in charge of Setting up, Serving, 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 25th Stephen Ministry Workshop: is a half-day Workshop from 9AM-1PM (Check-in and on-site registration 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. **See the bulletin board for more details.**

Attention: If You Ordered Play Tickets: See Tony Sr. after service, he has the tickets and directions to give you.

Sr. Youth Group: Fri., Feb. 10th at church from 7-10pm

Today's Worship Leaders

Worship Leader: Gerry Hogan

Welcome & Scripture: Tony Ceraso Jr. (Psalm 34:8-15)

Opening Prayer: Bret Goen

Lord's Supper: Tony Sr., Carl Smith, Larry DeSimone, Hardee

Scripture Before Message: Ed Francoeur Jr. (Rom.10:12-15)

Announcements & Closing Prayer: Rick Boyle.

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



Nursery: Marguerite & Jaela Next Week: April & Hannah

Yellow Cleaning Team Feb. 8-11 **Norma** 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

Chet Churchill (609) 560-7179

Howard Mansdoerfer (609) 790-9969

Worship Total 127

Bible Class..... 79

Wed. PM 50

Contribution \$2,927

Budget Goal\$4,260

15-Minutes Daily with GOD: 36

Collingswood Church of Christ

Church Website: www.ccc123.org

300 White Horse Pike

Collingswood, NJ 08107

February 5, 2017

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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)



Chili Supper after "The War Room"

