

The Rest of John 3:16

John 3:19-21 "This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed. But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light...."

Don't stop at John 3:16! Just beyond this rightly beloved verse ("*For God so loved the world...*") is the reason for John 3:16. A solution won't be rightly understood if we don't know the problem. As we continue reading past the solution of John 3:16, we find the deep problem that only God could ever have solved. Here it is: We are messed up. We know the difference between light and darkness and yet choose darkness. We can admit this or deny it, but it's true.

The world deep down is afraid of practicing Christians, not because of who we are but how it reflects on them. When in faith we step into the light of God it shows our sins and flaws, and yet we persist in walking in the light. This testifies to everyone that it can be done and with a happy and blessed result. The admission of our sin is not fatal but freeing. This is the healthy, healing alternative to worldly posturing and a living indictment of the secular stance. But there is still more if you read all the way to verse 36.

Chapter 3 closes with this shocker: "*Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on them*" (John 3:36). The world is eternally lost. We have the solution! Jesus didn't come to condemn the world but to save it. And he calls on us, the saved, to show others the way and to be his "light of the world."

When you read the rest of John 3:16 you see what is at stake. We must share this Gospel. It doesn't matter if people like it or not—it's too important to just let others face a Christless eternity. Some will listen. Aren't you glad someone shared Christ with you? For Christ's sake, pass it on!

Mark

Our Church Retreat is this Weekend:

TODAY we have a Worship Service here AND at our Church Retreat at Camp Manatawny.

Big VBS Planning Meeting NEXT Sunday:

May 28th, right after Worship Service at our Fellowship Meal. We need everyone's participation to make our VBS outreach a success. **VBS is July 16th-19th.**

Cookout Next Sunday, May 28th celebrating Memorial Day, **here** at the building. Team 2 is in charge of setting-up and cleaning-up. ***Please sign-up to bring food.*** See the bulletin board.

Sr. High Youth Group: will meet early next Sunday, May 28th at 9:00 AM in the Sr. High room for a Pancake Breakfast.

The "After Worship" Life Group: Will start Back up after the Summer Events slow down. The start-up date will be in the bulletin.

Please Keep These Folks in Your Prayers:

Health Concerns: Ella Liebe (In Lourdes), Brenda's Mom, Anne Pollack, Velma Perdue, Josephine Young, (Matt Lawson's mother), and a mother from Honduras who Margaret found needs prayers for her surgery and in fighting cancer. See Margaret for details if you can help this family financially.

Cathedral Kitchen Homeless Meal: We will serve on Tuesday, May 30th. If you can help, see Vivian Carter.

Haircuts for Missions: will be on FRIDAY, June 9th from 1-7 PM. Please sign-up for your slot.

KFC (Grades 2-5) Group: invites Dad & Mom to "Planting Seeds" – Tea/Hot Chocolate Party on Sunday, June 4th, Noon to 2PM here at the building. There will be a sign-up sheet for KFC families to contribute.

June 11th We Celebrate Our High School Graduates, Alexia and Hannah: After Worship we will meet downstairs to have cake, pretzels, fruit and to sign their graduation cards.

Today's Worship Leaders

Worship Leader: Carl Smith

Welcome & Scripture: Scott Schoener (Psalm 42:1-5)

Opening Prayer: Nelson Nuñez

Lord's Supper: Jay Morris, John Derricott, Henry, Jiony Colon

Scripture Before Message Ed Francoeur Jr. (Rom. 14:15-21)

Announcements & Closing Prayer: Rick Boyle

Nursery: Fay & Layla Next Week: **Brenda and Nina**

Blue Cleaning Team May 24-27

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 138

Bible Class..... 76

Wed. PM..... 33

Contribution \$3,709

Budget Goal\$4,260

15-Minutes Daily with GOD: 31

The MOST important

moments of the week!

Collingswood Church of Christ

Church Website: www.ccc123.org

300 White Horse Pike

Collingswood, NJ 08107

May 21, 2017

Vol. XVIII No. 19

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



Our youth express

their love to Mom

