

# The Only Replacement for Problems

This past weekend I witnessed a lot of love shown in God's family at the Church Retreat. Some of our members were doing fine, others were facing challenges and problems in their personal lives. But problems or not, people came and hung out together, talked, laughed, listened, and played. There is a healing, a refreshing, and a new perspective that God only gives when you are together with your fellow believers.

1 Corinthians is a letter from Paul to a church that had so many problems that he hardly knew where to begin. He deals with issue after issue for twelve intense chapters. Then he suddenly STOPS and hits the pause button. After teaching about all that needs fixing, he takes them back to what it's all about:

*"If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong.... Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails" (1 Cor. 13).*

Does this seem too corny, too simple? It's not. It's the main thing Paul wanted his troubled church to remember above all. It didn't mean that the twelve chapters weren't important. Their doctrine was messed up, there was open sexual sin, there were fights and divisions. That was serious! This church had almost destroyed itself. But the solution wasn't just to eliminate deviant behavior, but to *replace it* with something better. The goal was to practice a genuine, God-centered love in that church. That's what it's all about in THIS church too. Without the loving actions of chapter 13 (the love I saw at the

church retreat) our faith will sound as hollow as a resounding gong.

## TODAY

**Fellowship Meal Memorial Day COOKOUT!**  
**and Our VBS Planning Meeting:** BOTH are happening right after Worship in our Fellowship Hall. Team 2 is in charge of setting-up and cleaning-up.

**Remember: VBS is July 16<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>.**



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**Our Congratulations to NELSON NUNEZ:** on the completion of his Bachelor's Degree in Nursing. It's been a long road. Nelson graduated with HONORS!

**Cathedral Kitchen Homeless Meal:** We will serve this Tuesday, May 30<sup>th</sup>. See Vivian Carter to help.

**Haircuts for Missions:** is on FRIDAY, June 9<sup>th</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup>**, Noon to 2PM here at the building. **There IS a sign-up sheet for KFC families to contribute.**  
**SUMMER QUARTER Classes Start Next Week!**

**Sunday 9:30 AM**

Cradle Roll- **Karen** McEntire & **Fay** Ceraso  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade & Below – **Pam** Goen  
 4<sup>th</sup> /5<sup>th</sup> –**Josh** Henderson  
 Jr. High- **Becky** Finn  
 Sr. High – **Rich** Fabi & **Bill** Gill

**Wednesday 7:00 PM**

Cradle Roll – **Darren** McEntire  
 Elementary- June – **Hoa** Ly, **Jack** Swinehart

**Our Prayer List:**

Remember Ella Liebe, Bill Amos, a friend of Tony D., Velma Purdue, Pam Goen's mother, also, Bret's father in Texas recovering from a fall. Josephine Young and Anne Pollack also need prayer as they deal with the challenges of old age, and a mother from Honduras who needs prayers for her surgery and is fighting cancer. See Margaret for details if you can help this family financially.

**Today's Worship Leaders**

**Worship Leader:** Gerry Hogan  
**Welcome & Scripture:** Carl Smith (Psalm 40:10-13)  
**Opening Prayer:** Tate Perazzelli  
**Lord's Supper:** Dan Swinehart, Bill Ceraso, Lee, Logan McEntire  
**Scripture Before Message** Ben Churchill (Rom. 13:12-14)  
**Announcements & Closing Prayer:** Rick Boyle

**Nursery: Brenda and Nina** Next Week: Sandra M. & Tina  
**Green Cleaning Team** May 31-June 3 **Hardee** Coordinates

**OUTREACH/MINISTRY**

Mark Finn – Preacher  
 Church Office- (856) 854-0197

**ELDERS:**

**Worship Total** ..... 136  
 Worship Here ..... 90  
 Worship at Camp..... 46  
 Bible Class ..... 47

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

Wed. PM.....32  
**Contribution**..... \$3,107  
**Budget Goal**..... \$4,260

# Collingswood Church of Christ

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

300 White Horse Pike  
 May 28, 2017

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)



Love in God's Family

The Church Retreat



