

When It's Okay To Be a Joke

"In regard to evil be infants, but in your thinking be adults." (1 Cor. 14:20)

It wasn't so long ago that I was talking to a neighbor on my street. He said his son in his early 20's was getting married and I congratulated him. I told him I would be glad to do the wedding if they needed a preacher. He appreciated the offer and told me they already had a church their family had always belonged to.

Later, I saw their son and congratulated him. As an old married man I stood there at the fence leaning on my rake, and shared with a smile what a big adjustment it would be for him to get married and live with a woman for the first time. He listened for a while, but then said with a chuckle, "But we are *already* living together."

"Oh... well... hmm...," I stammered. What do you say? I felt like a fool. I had naively assumed that a young couple would wait until they were married to live together. No. So this was okay with him, with his parents, and with their church. How strange.

Looking back I treasure that naive moment. I was thinking the best of people who professed to follow Christ. In a time when all of God's protective boundaries have been erased, they had not been erased from my heart. And I thought others were that way too. They are not. So I was the fool that day. I guess I became a funny story in that family. And I am totally okay with that. God, I offer that moment up to you.

Mark

Upcoming Preparations for VBS

June 25, Noon- Prepare Crafts –see Laura

July 5, Wed 7 PM – VBS fliers door-to-door

July 9, Noon- "Clean-up Day" after Worship

July 12, Wed 7 PM – VBS fliers door-to-door

July 15, Sat, 9 AM- "Decoration Day"

July 16, 6:30 PM- Show up early first night

July 16, 7 PM- VBS Starts!



NEXT Sunday is an ITALIAN STYLE POTLUCK

FELLOWSHIP MEAL: Please **sign-up on the bulletin board** to bring food. Team 3 has set-up and clean-up.

VBS: Volunteers are NEEDED for VBS!! Please see Laura if you are able to teach a Bible lesson, help with crafts, or supervise the nursery. **Next Week:** *We will be helping to prepare crafts for VBS after the Fellowship Meal.* if you can help, see Laura. **Please remember all volunteers must also have a completed background check prior to VBS.**

Youth Group TONIGHT, 5:00 PM, meet at 17 Lambert Ave., Gloucester City, NJ 08030 for Hannah's graduation party.

Everyone is invited TONIGHT to stop by Hannah Ceraso's High School Graduation **PARTY** beginning at **5 p.m.** at 17 Lambert Ave., Gloucester City, NJ 08030 (Chris, Kristin & Nicky's Home).

Jr. High Youth Group End of Year Party!

This Friday, June 23rd, 6:30-8:30 at Laurel Lanes Rt. 73N in Maple Shade. There is **no cost** for this event, but please **let Ed or Laura know** if your child will attend.

Happy Father's Day!

Compassion Experience is coming up THIS Saturday, **June 24th**, at 11 AM at a local church at 520 S. Kings Highway in Cherry Hill. This interactive event shows the life of those who are poor, as you walk through replicas of some "Compassion" children's homes and environments. We will be taking a group Saturday, so **sign up in the lobby** for this family friendly event. Questions? Please see Becky Finn.

Cathedral Kitchen: We will be serving on Tuesday, June 27th. If you can help, please see Vivian.

Our Prayer List: Sandie Fabi's dad, Larry- health. Chris Schoener's mom, Pat- health concerns. "Esly" in Honduras.

Haircuts for Missions: July 8th.

Today's Worship Leaders

Worship Leader: David Williams

Welcome & Scripture: Henry Duncan (Psalm 46:7-11)

Opening Prayer: Dave Cook

Lord's Supper: Larry, Carl Smith, Josh Henderson, Hardee

Scripture Before Message Joel Lewis (Deut. 6:6-9)

Announcements & Closing Prayer: Tony Ceraso Jr.

Greeters: Rich Fabi, Jack Swinehart, Sandie Fabi, Nawana Ceraso

Nursery: April & Thaleena Next Week: Debbie & Elizabeth

Purple Cleaning Team June 21-24 **Becky** 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 119
Bible Class..... 68
Wed. PM..... 50

Contribution \$5,486
Budget Goal\$4,260

15-Minutes Daily with GOD: 27

Collingswood Church of Christ

Church Website: www.ccc123.org

300 White Horse Pike
June 18, 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)

Fathers, we need you!



prophet... He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers; or else I will come and strike the land with a curse."
Malachi 4:5-6

