

Blessing, Not Blasting the Youth

Something was different this Veteran's Day. Young men and women in uniform have started showing up at parades and community events to be recognized for their service to our country. Regardless of your politics, our younger soldiers should be recognized. Most of us think of Veteran's Day as a salute to the old men who served in Vietnam, Korea, and World War 2. Now there is a younger generation that has served in Iraq and Afghanistan since 9/11, and before that in the Gulf War.

A news reporter was talking to a group of old uniformed World War 2 veterans. He asked them if there was any difference in the heroism, bravery and service of today's young soldiers when compared to their service. The reporter, hoping to stir some conflict between the generations, did not succeed. Every one of those old veterans said that today's young soldiers are just as brave and making just as big a sacrifice as they did in the 1940's. Some of them said that today's soldiers were better in that the World War had a draft, but today's soldier volunteers.

It's very common and very easy for the old to criticize the young, and for the young to criticize the old. In these soldiers the fires of battle had burned away the criticism—and in its place was a common bond that spanned the generations.

We need to take a lesson from our warriors. We are all in a spiritual battle against the forces of darkness. Christ leads and we battle with the sword of God's Word and the shield of faith. If we have fought the good fight, we will not have it in our heart to criticize the young or the old. Instead we will have words of blessing. Having suffered and sacrificed we will know the bond that transcends every artificial distinction. We have served in different times and in different ways, but all in the cause of Christ.

God BLESS those who have gone before, God BLESS those who are coming forward. And let them hear that blessing from you.

Mark

NEXT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22:

THANKSGIVING SPECIAL COLLECTION

WEDNESDAY: **Some kids classes will be helping to pack lunches for the homeless**

SATURDAY: LUNCHES FOR THE HOMELESS: will be delivered on November 21st. We meet here at 10:30 AM. **THERE IS A SIGN-UP SHEET FOR THE SUPPLIES FOR THE LUNCHES.** See Anna or Pat C.

The Women's Shelter Thanksgiving Meal: "Harvest of Joy" Every year we get together meals for the shelter. This year we need to have all of the food here by noon on Nov.24th. We need **cooks** and **12 turkeys** and **all the fixings**. Please **sign-up** to bring some of it. **Monetary donations** will be accepted by Kathy Churchill if you can't give food.

Benevolence: Thanksgiving Day will be upon us soon. We would like to distribute our annual Thanksgiving Day baskets one week earlier this year. God willing, we would like to prepare **12 turkey baskets**. **There is a table downstairs for the non-perishable items.** If you can help with this act of benevolence, see the items below, needed to accomplish our goal: Tukeys-10-12 lbs., stuffing/mashed potatoes and gravy, canned yams, string beans/peas, canned cranberry sauce, cake mix, large apple juice. **Please note:** Monetary contributions will be gratefully accepted. Thank you, and may God Almighty continue to bless the work @ C.C.O.C.

Your brother in Christ. --- *Nelson*

YOUTH GROUP LOCK-IN: will be **NOVEMBER 27TH**

Our Men's Retreat at Camp Manatawny: This is just for us and is a single day event on December 12th. Please **sign-up** and see Bill Ceraso for details.

EVERYONE Is Invited To Visit Dave Pollack:

Sunday, **DECEMBER 6TH** at 1:30PM we will meet in the lobby of the Masonic Home of NJ. We will have directions. Let's **all** make him **feel uplifted** with a good turn-out!

If you can come, please **Sign-Up On The Bulletin Board** so we know how much soda and pizza to bring. The Young Trailblazers are organizing it.

GINGERBREAD HOUSES: will be made on **Dec. 13th**. Please look for the sign-up sheets on the bulletin board.

Lost Pen: On the day of Dave & Bibi's wedding, Chet lost a gold Cross writing pen in the circle driveway out front of the building. If any of you happen to find it he would be most appreciative. He's not concerned about its monetary value; but it holds great sentimental value to him.

Today's Worship Leaders

Worship Leader: Tate Perazzelli

Main Prayer: Dale Sherry **Closing Prayer:** Matt Fortunato

Lord's Supper: Heinz Fischer, Jess Nitla, Jay Nitla, Kevin Finn

Greeters: Rick Boyle, Wini Boyle, Bill Gill, Sue Gill

Nursery: Lydia, Anna, Shannon Next Wk: Norma & Brenda

Yellow Action Team cleans this week. **Norma** coordinates

LOCAL OUTREACH/MINISTRY

Mark Finn - Evangelist

Matt Fortunato - Associate Minister

Church Office- (856) 854-0197

Worship.....117

Bible Class98

Wed. PM.....70

LIFE Groups.....50

ELDERS:

Rick Boyle

Tony Ceraso, Jr.

Jack Swinehart

Contribution.....**\$3,568**

Budget Goal.....\$4,175

**Count Down: 1 Week 'til our
Special Collection for Matt's Support**



Collingswood Church of Christ

Church Website: www.ccc123.org

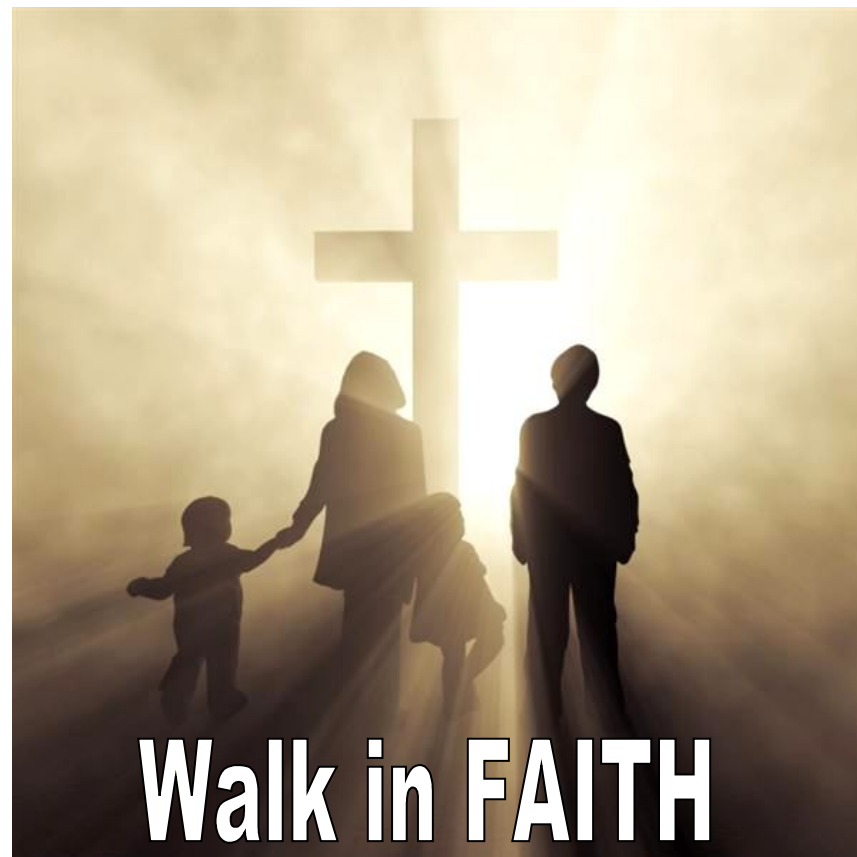
300 White Horse Pike

Collingswood, NJ 08107

November 15, 2009

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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)



Husbands, Fathers... they will follow if you will lead.

"These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up."

--Deuteronomy 6:6-7