

# Do Not Worry About Your Life

Trusting God when you don't see a solution may be the hardest test of your faith. It's no stretch to ask God to bless your own remedy; you've decided for him. But what if you see no way forward?

The Lord is not against work or trying to improve our lot in life. The problem is our solutions. Our impatience with our situation, the eagerness to find relief that leads us to foolish decisions that only make things worse. When you are stuck in mud and you press on the gas, your speedometer will say you're going 30 miles-per-hour when really you are getting nowhere.

What Jesus said about worry sounded even crazier to the people of his day than to us. We face financial challenges, relationship problems, and medical treatments. They faced starvation, poverty, invasion by the occupying Roman army, and as for medical treatment, they had none.

What the Lord told these troubled people, and us, is that God really, truly loves us and knows our situation. He says God will take care of us in this fallen, troubled world. Worry and our misguided solutions that spring from it only make matters worse.

As we work, as we serve, as we love—we don't do so in feverish fear. We do so in faith. We live in calm assurance, believing God in his wisdom is working his better solution.

Jesus command not to worry is probably the most known yet least obeyed of all his teachings. We say we believe, but when it comes down to it our worry shows we don't really believe his promises. We only see our reality. Jesus saw not only our reality but the spiritual reality as well. He assures us that we are in God's hands, and those hands are benevolent, merciful, tender. How many times did Jesus say in amazement, "*O you of little faith*" (Matt. 6:30, 8:26, Luke 12:28)? He is worthy of your trust even when you see no way forward.



*Luke 12:22-31*

## **Evening Fellowship Meal is NEXT Sunday**

**6:00 PM:** *Sign-up to bring food on the bulletin board.* Our special guest, Ron "Big Mac" McFarland will tell us about his mission work in China where our own **Allison Cook** will be spending a year starting this fall! After our Pot Luck meal, Ron will explain more about the work of "**China, Now**" a ministry of churches of Christ since 1993.

## **Allison Cook Is Going to Wuhan, China to Teach English in a University With "China, Now":**

She is taking on this Mission work for at least 10 months. There are some **costs** to this. Margaret, Tate, and Jeff, our Mission people, want to give us an opportunity to help her financially for her time abroad. Please see one of them if you can help.

**Lost and Found:** *This is the last week it will be set-up!* We found what you might be missing so please take a look at the "**Lost and Found**" table downstairs in the Fellowship Hall. You might be surprised to find something of yours.

**Youth Group:** Here, 7-9pm, Saturday, Aug. 19. Wonder what it takes to run a home? Learn home owning & maintaining, budgeting, balancing bank accounts, paying bills, applying for loans & credit.

**Homeless Meal at New Visions:** is coming up August 22. We will be serving a home-made breakfast to the homeless. If you will help, please see Brenda Collier.

**Camp Men's Retreat:** is coming up Sept. 15-16, Friday evening into Saturday, at Camp Manatawny. The theme is "**Relentless.**" (See the bulletin board)

**To Register & Pay for the Men's Retreat:**

Go to [manatawny.org](http://manatawny.org) and click on "retreats". You must sign-up & be paid-up by Sept. 8 for the \$30 cost. Afterwards it is \$40. Boys 12 and under are \$5.

**We are renting a van to ride in at no cost:**

There is a sign-up sheet for those who are sure they are going so Bill can order the right-sized van. Questions? See Bill Ceraso.

**Camp Manatawny is Celebrating Its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** on Aug. 26<sup>th</sup>, with a Saturday celebration at the Camp.

**Today's Worship Leaders**

**Worship Leader:** Gerry Hogan

**Welcome & Scripture:** Bret Goen (Psalm 55:1-8)

**Opening Prayer:** Josh Henderson

**Lord's Supper:** Darren, Logan, Ed Francoeur Sr., Ed Francoeur, Jr.

**Scripture Before Message:** Jiony Colon (1 Cor. 4:9-14)

**Announcements & Closing Prayer:** Tony Ceraso Jr.

**Nursery: Sandra F. & Elizabeth** Next Wk: Marguerite & Nina

**Red Cleaning Team** Aug. 16-19 **Lillian** 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** ..... 121

**Bible Class** ..... 74

**Wednesday PM** ..... 38

**Contribution** ..... **\$4,466**

**Budget Goal**.....\$4,260

# Collingswood Church of Christ

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

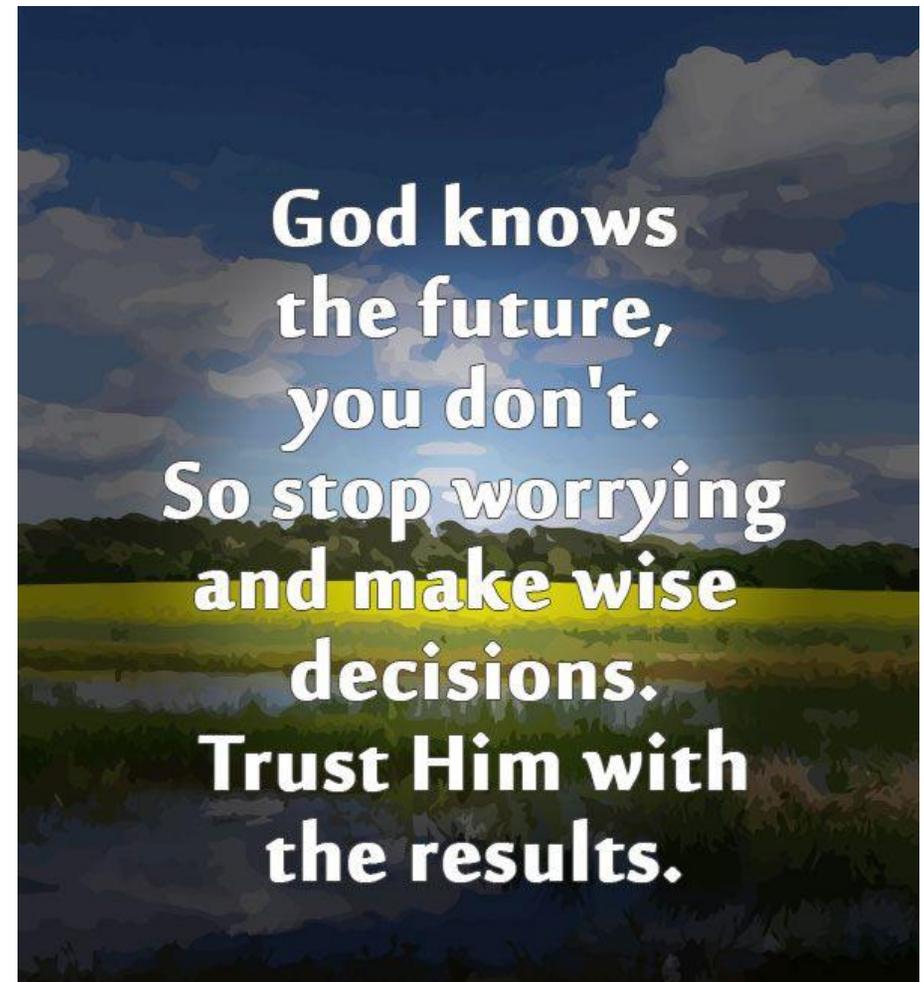
300 White Horse Pike

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)



Read: Luke 12:22-31