

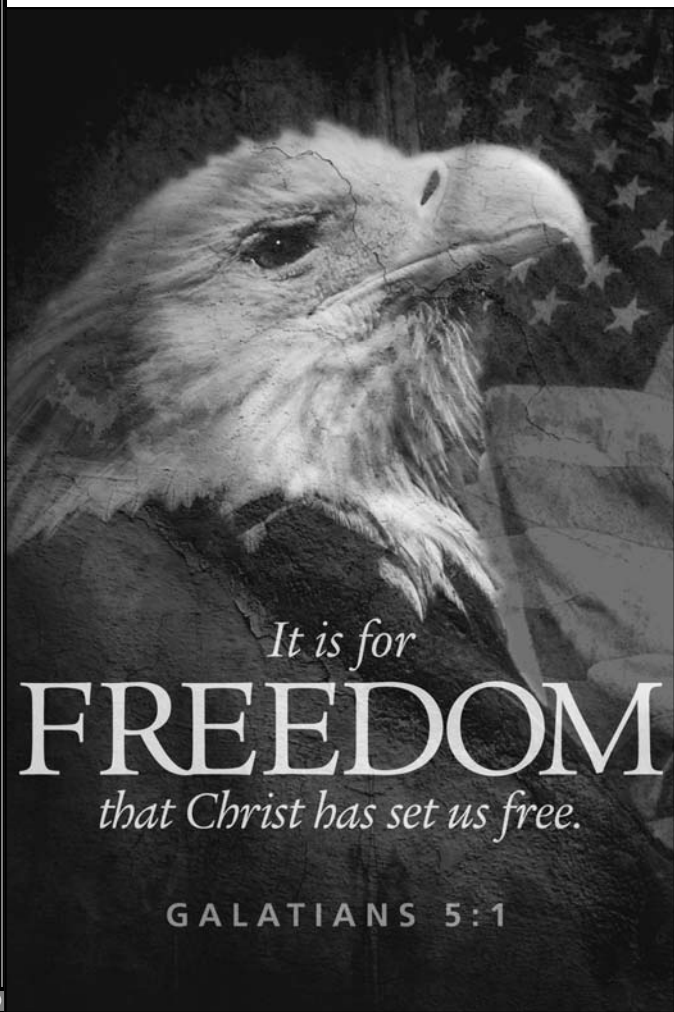
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JULY 2012



It is for
FREEDOM
that Christ has set us free.

GALATIANS 5:1

Worship the Lord with Us!

Sunday Worship

Traditional Worship Service: 8:30 am

Sunday School for all ages: 9:30 am

Contemporary Worship Service: 10:45 am

*Listen to "A Place of Grace"
every Sunday at 11:00 AM on 560 WFIL.*

FIRST CHURCH WINDOWS is published by:
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Monday: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm
Tuesday - Friday: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
(Closed for lunch 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm)

FIRST CHURCH WINDOWS is online at
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e-mail. Send an e-mail to
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In Windows This Month...

From the Pastor's Heart.....4
Announcements.....6
God's Squad8
The RYVER 10
Calendar.....12
Missionary Messages.....14
Wings of Prayer16
2012 Graduates18
Birthdays and Anniversaries.....20
The Kid's Page.....22



The submission deadline for the *August Windows* update is July 10th.

***THANK YOU FOR
SUPPORTING WINDOWS!***



From The Pastor's Heart

When I was a youth pastor we brought 80 teens plus helpers to the Lake of the Ozarks for a canoe weekend retreat. The 10 mile canoe trip downstream was amazing through the beautiful landscape of the Ozarks. However, the highlight was the mid-way point where



everyone would get out of their boat, have lunch and use the swing ropes across the water and drop in to the water like the old Mountain Dew commercials. Many were having a blast on this hot day swinging out. However, being the leader, I needed to stay below to make sure everyone else was safe, and also the jump off point was a bit high for me so I opted out. When I started hearing this chant: "Pastor Sam!" My name was being cheered to take a jump. How could I? I was the guy telling everyone else when to jump in to the water for safety.

The group got so loud I wanted to protest. Now, up on this high ledge, I was excited until the person in front of me jumped off. The person who took my place to help others jump safely did not help the person to focus and so their swing was very scary! At that point I wanted to chicken out, but in my mind I thought, "you must jump, you're the leader." This experience reminded me of being at an amusement park waiting in line for the roller coaster wanting to use the chicken exit while watching others ride. When I grabbed the rope and swung out across the water, it was great with everyone's cheering and just before I was in trouble heading back to the wall a loud unison cry came "jump" and I let go before I was toast! The moral of this story is it is easy to lose focus as we get caught and even consumed in the things of life.

The other day I was talking with a group of people who were sharing about how easy it is to get consumed with life even during the summer months. Later I began to ask myself, what helps beat that life consuming feeling even during hectic and difficult places life brings to us, so we can keep on track with the things the Lord would have us do!

Jeremiah, in the book of Lamentations 3:22-24 during a very difficult time in dealing with rebellious Israel, says “Because of the Lord’s great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. I say to myself, “The Lord is my portion; therefore I will wait for him.” Jeremiah found it all began with His seeking the Lord.

Jim Cymbala says it best... **“There is no ‘automatic pilot’ by which we can run our lives. We constantly need the Lord’s direction as we face all the decisions of life.”** Apostle Paul shares even while he is jail in Philippians 3:13-14 “But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.”

There are times we can take are eyes off the prize and lose focus. However, as we seek and wait on the Lord, even when we are hanging on by our fingers, we can still accomplish great things for God in the midst of difficult places. Let’s keep swinging and trusting and believing as we seek to share the good news of God’s love, mercy, grace and hope in our lives this summer regardless of where God places us!

In His love and Grace,
Pastor Sam



“GREAT IS YOUR FAITHFULNESS.”

L A M E N T A T I O N S 3 : 2 3

ATTENTION!



Adult Sunday School / Bible Study

Summer is a time to kick back, relax and do things a little differently. Again this summer we're giving our adults the chance to do Sunday School a bit differently. All adults are invited to meet in the Parlor at 9:40 am for a time of prayer and study. Various teachers – some new faces and some we've learned from for a few years – will be sharing a study on Psalms – Prayers of the Heart. Karry Corbitt will kick off our study on July 8th with Psalm 1. July 15th we'll look at Psalm 2. Stan Sheaffer will share Psalm 3 with us on July 22nd. Ellen Wagner will consider Psalm 8 on July 29th. Please join us! It's a chance to hear new teachers, meet new people and grow in God's word.



JULY HAPPENINGS

Young Family Picnic & Volleyball
Sunday, July 17th at 6:30 pm at the church.


South Seaville Camp Meeting
July 15 thru July 29.

Erma Camp Meeting
July 20 thru July 29.

Church Picnic with Prayer,
July 25th at 6:00 pm.



There will be an August Windows newsletter. Please contact the church office if you have an article to be submitted. Space will be highly limited for this issue. Any articles not published in the August issue will be held for the September issue. Thank you and have a great summer!



Senior High (grades 9-12) meets on Sunday nights and **Junior High (grades 6-8)** meets on Wednesday nights, both from **6:00-8:00 pm** (for relationship building and spiritual topical discussions), and **everyone** meets on Sunday mornings at **9:00 am** (for deeper Bible teaching and spiritual life training) except for the following:

- ♦ **All-ryver Serving** – (last Sun; all grades) – *focused on meeting needs in our surrounding community*
- ♦ **All-ryver Worship** – (last Wed; all grades) – *experience God through music, teaching, and arts*

COMING EVENTS

Summer Trip Stuff:

G.O.S.P.E.L. L.I.F.E. Dates

Sunday, 7/8 - 4:15 pm

Final meeting before we leave! Come with all assignments completed. Dinner will be provided.

Sunday, 7/15 - 10:45 am

"Send-off" service in church

7/15 - 7/21

Lancaster! Pray for our team this week!

Great Escape Dates

Wednesday, 7/25 - 4:45 pm

Final meeting before we leave! Come with all assignments completed. Dinner will be provided.

Sunday, 7/29 - 10:45 am

"Send-off" service in church

7/30 - 8/4

Great Escape! Pray for our team this week!

Cookouts

SH - 7/1, 5:30 - 8:00 pm

JH - 7/11, 5:30 - 8:00 pm

School's out! Summer's here! Time to celebrate! Cookout (rain or shine) at the Zook's - donations for food will be accepted (if you'd like) and the pool will be open if it's nice.



FSO (For Seniors Only)

Sunday, 7/1 - 8:15 pm

If you are a senior in high school, we invite you to join us at the Zook's house this Sunday after senior high! I'm excited to meet with you several times over the next few months to share, pray, discuss and wrestle through some of the issues you'll be facing through the soon-coming transition.



God's Squad - 7/10 to 8/2

If you're entering grades 8 and up, don't miss this great opportunity for God to use you in ministering to kids in our community! See Shawn to get involved.



JULY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
1 Picnic following worship 10:00 AM VBS CELEBRATION SUNDAY! 6:00 PM Senior High Youth Group	2	3	4
8 Combined SS begins 8:30 AM Traditional Worship Service 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Contemporary Worship Service 6:00 PM Senior High Youth Group	9 7:00 PM Connecting Team meeting 7:00 PM SPR (possible)	10 10:30 AM God's Squad	11 6:00 PM Junior Group 6:45 PM Master (Jesus) Crew M
15 South Seaville Camp Meeting begins 8:30 AM Traditional Worship Service 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Contemporary Worship Service 6:00 PM Senior High Trip GOSPEL LIFE	16 7:00 PM Finance Team meeting	17 10:30 AM God's Squad 6:30 PM Young Family Picnic & Volleyball night	18 6:00 PM Junior Group 6:45 PM Master (Jesus) Crew M 7:00 PM Women Living with Tho
22 8:30 AM Traditional Worship Service 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Contemporary Worship Service 6:00 PM Senior High Youth Group 6:30 PM Small Group Leadership Training	23	24 10:30 AM God's Squad	25 6:00 PM Church Praise & Prayer 6:00 PM Junior Group 6:45 PM Master (Jesus) Crew M
29 Erma Camp ends So. Seaville Camp Mtg ends 8:30 AM Traditional Worship Service 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Contemporary Worship Service 6:00 PM Senior High Youth Group	30 JH Trip Great Escape 7:00 PM Church Council (as needed)	31 10:30 AM God's Squad	

2012

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	5 12:00 PM Noon Time Prayer 6:45 PM Praise Team Practice 7:00 PM Job Seekers	6	7
High Youth Men & J Men	12 10:30 AM God's Squad 12:00 PM Noon Time Prayer 6:45 PM Praise Team Practice	13	14
High Youth Men & J Men Men's Study - rns	19 10:30 AM God's Squad 12:00 PM Noon Time Prayer 6:45 PM Praise Team Practice	20 Erma Camp begins	21 SH Return from GOSPEL LIFE
ch Picnic, High Youth Men & J Men	26 10:30 AM God's Squad 12:00 PM Noon Time Prayer 6:45 PM Praise Team Practice	27	28

MISSIONARY MESSAGES



David & Phyllis Schmid

They left a cold, snowy Maine to arrive in the tropical hot sun of Haiti on March 2nd. Two teams came from Indiana in February to put up the walls and our team completed the roofs and doors for two families who had been living in tents in our neighborhood. The team is pictured with one of the families. We know Haiti made a lasting impression on the lives of these team members. Work on another home in the area has begun. Many still live in tents or less than desirable living situations. Spring rains are coming and this makes a difficult living situation even more so. Please pray for God's protection in these building projects.



Neal & Barbara Goetsch

Another wonderful work is unfolding in the life of a sister led to the Lord by one of the Loughborough saints. She returned to head the Physics Dept. in a large Chinese university. After one lecture during which she boldly mentioned her belief in the existence and creative power of God, she announced she would be willing to meet with any students who had questions. Out of a class of nearly 1000, 16 came to her office for a Bible study. Subsequently, the group has grown and been divided into two studies! Pray for this sister who has put her career "on the line" for Christ.

Fellowship House of South Camden Children's Summer Camp

Summer will soon be here ... broken glass, drug deals, violence, poverty, heavily polluted air that especially stinks in the summer heat, dangerous public parks. Does this sound like the ideal place for a child to spend the summer? South Camden is one of the poorest neighborhoods in the country, but for our children it is home. They have no swimming pools, no safe parks, and no clean streets. Most have never experienced a summer vacation.

That is why Fellowship House will be providing 50 children in grades K-4 a safe and fun place to enjoy day camp for 6 weeks this summer (July 2-August 10). At Camp Peace the children learn about God, go on swimming trips every week, play in our beautiful playground "Butterfly Park" (the only safe and clean park in the area), play games, perform arts/crafts, watch fun skits and puppet shows, learn music and dance, go to carnivals, participate in basketball leagues, eat a healthy breakfast and lunch, and so much more!

College interns come from all over America to work with the children and build relationships with them. We hire neighborhood teens (most who grew up in our after school programs and summer camps themselves) as peer leaders for the children. This experience enables the teens to grow as leaders in their city.

The week before Camp Peace begins, the 3rd and 4th grade children have a chance to get away from the city to Camp Streamside in the Poconos. For many of the children it is their first experience outside the city of Camden. In the midst of beautiful surroundings, they will make new friends, and enjoy canoeing, archery, crafts, swimming, basketball, etc.

Our passion is to provide a safe, fun, and enriching environment for the children, so that they know they are loved by God.





Wings of Prayer

Do you like acronyms - taking letters of a word to make a phrase or another word to help you remember a word or phrase? As a nurse I found them very helpful for remembering the names of body parts and actions required in various situations. They have also proved to be reminders in my Christian walk. My favorite comes from Corrie

ten Boom. As a young girl, she was imprisoned with her family in a Nazi concentration camp for harboring Jews in their home. She defined "FAITH" as the Fantastic Adventure In Trusting Him.



This past Spring the youngsters in the after-school program at Fellowship House were introduced to an acronym to help them pray. Since then, I have used it almost daily in my own prayer life. The word is ACTS. The components of prayer it illustrates are Adoration - Confession - Thanksgiving - Supplication. I have found that not only does it help me in my prayer life, it is also helpful in my daily walk.

Adoration

When thinking of or praying to God, we can focus on the needs of others or ourselves, forgetting to praise and adore the One who provides. Psalm 8 starts, "O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!" Starting my prayers with this thought is a reminder of how great He is. We are often likened to sheep who would wonder aimlessly without a shepherd. Psalm 100:3 says, "Know that the Lord is God. It is He who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture." Remembering that it is He who is in control can help us focus our prayers better.

Confession

Throughout their journey in the desert after fleeing Egypt, the Jews questioned God, often rebelling in myriad sinful ways. Moses, in reviewing what God told Him on Mount Sinai, tells God's

people in Leviticus 26:40-42 to confess their sins. “But if they will confess their sins ... I will remember my covenant with Jacob ... Isaac and ... Abraham.” In Christ’s crucifixion, our sins are paid for in full. Does that mean we no longer need to confess our sins? No. Paul in his letter to the Romans repeats this description by Moses. He concludes with this reminder in Romans 10:9. “That if you confess with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.”

Thanksgiving

We look around us at the beauty of summer, thankful that God created it for us. As we get ready to celebrate our country’s 236th birthday, we should be thankful that the authors of the Declaration of Independence were Christian men, stating that we “are endowed by our Creator...” They knew that man’s laws should never replace God’s Law.

When giving thanks, there is a part of 1 Thessalonians that we must be careful not to misquote or remember incorrectly. In his final instructions to the Thessalonians, Paul writes in 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18, “pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” I have highlighted the word “in” because many think Paul wrote we should give thanks for all circumstances. There is a vast difference between these two words. Our God is a loving God. He is with us always, whatever our circumstances.

Supplication

We need to ask God to guide and help us. What is too often forgotten is that God will meet our “needs,” which may not be the same as our “wants.”

Out of the mouths of children... One youngster at Fellowship House was trying to read the word “supplication.” Having some difficulty with it, he asked me for help. The literacy tutor in me wanted to help him sound it out or break it down into words he knew. The innocence in him taught me the lesson. Looking at the word, he thought it might be “like ‘supply’ and ‘vacation’ together.” And that is one way to look at supplication. God will supply what we need. Because of that, we can take a vacation from worrying if our needs will be met.

May this summer be filled with Son shine for each of you.
Mary Emily Cameron



College

Sarah Peters graduated Cum Laude from The Richard Stockton College of NJ with a Bachelor of Science in Social Work and will be attending University of PA Advanced Standing Master's Degree Program for her MSW in clinical social work beginning in July.

Rachel Elizabeth Schmitt graduated from James Madison University with Cum Laude honors and two degrees in 4 years. Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies with a minor in elementary education and a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre and Dance with a concentration in Dance. She has already started her Masters in Elementary Education also at James Madison University.

High School

Gina Bossi graduated from Haddon Twp HS and will be going to Mount St. Mary's for elementary education.

Ramona D'Souza graduated from Haddon Township H.S. and attending Rutgers University New Brunswick this fall to major in Biomathematics with a pre-med track.

Kathleen Duffy graduated from Haddon Twp H.S. and will attend Eastern University in the fall to major in social work.

Amanda Fry graduated from Haddon Twp H.S. and is going to Philadelphia Biblical University for youth ministry.

Hannah Merschen graduated from Haddon Twp H.S. She will be attending Philadelphia Biblical University, majoring in business and minoring in music.

Eddy Newton graduated from Collingswood H.S. He will attend West Virginia University to major in Petroleum Engineering.

Maxwell David Schoch graduated from Collingswood H.S. Max will be attending Cedarville University in the fall studying Computer and Mechanical Engineering with a Minor in Bible.

Laura Wioncek graduated from Haddon Twp H.S. In the fall she will attend Camden County College for 2 years and then transfer to Rowan University to major in math/special ed.

Katelyn Wood graduated from Kingsway Learning Center's Secondary School in Moorestown, NJ.

8th Grade

Andrew Dobson graduated from 8th grade and will be attending Collingswood High School in the fall.

Devin Plumlee completed 8th grade from Maple Shade H.S. on June 15th.

Matthew Christopher Schmitt graduated from Haddonfield Middle School and will attend Haddonfield Memorial HS in the fall.

Jake Shourds graduated 8th grade and going to Haddon Twp H.S. in the fall.

Scholarship Recipients

Vanaman Scholarship

Lindsey Corbitt
Emily Davis
Kathleen Duffy
Jason Jensen
Hannah Merschen
Eddy Newton
Max Schoch
Eric Wertz

Susan B. Alexander Scholarship

Kathleen Duffy
Hannah Merschen

Church Scholarship

Kathleen Duffy
Greg Rosa

Mid-Winter Advance Kenneth P. Stevens Memorial Scholarship

Amanda Fry and Max Schoch




Birthdays

July 4	Karisa Pascall
July 5	Jonathan Schwehm
July 6	Judy Boswell Bob Brown Jean Robb
July 9	Maria Gianfrancesco
July 10	Andrew Boswell
July 11	Eric VanPelt
July 12	Jennie Aceto
July 14	Mackenzie Hemphill
July 15	Kristin Hosking
July 16	Eleanor Young
July 19	Stephany Mountain Margie Underwood
July 23	Doug Schmitt
July 24	Carolyn Alexander
July 28	Nicole Hoover
July 30	Judy Wagner
July 31	Ray Grube Nancy Ollis

If you have not already done so, please give your dates (birth dates and anniversary dates) to the church office in writing or by e-mail: maria@fumccollingswood.org.

Anniversaries

July 9 Jim & Ruth Doherty
July 13 Jason & Nicole Meyers
July 16 Doug & Ellen Wagner
July 17 Bill & Carolyn Alexander
Gary & Kathy McGaurn

 <p>An Early Step Toward A Godly Walk</p>	Baptisms at First Church
	Faith Alannah McAteer June 3, 2012



PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS
Received on June 10, 2012

Karen Alexander
Scott Alexander
Terry Chickachop
Kathleen Duffy
Hannah Merschen
Joyce Ofori
Jen Shannon
Scott Shannon
Tina Stewart

THE WAY, THE TRUTH, THE LIFE

Play this game with a group of friends to remind you to follow Jesus.

What you need:

- Large space for running
- 3 jump ropes or 9 traffic cones

What you do:

1. Using jump ropes or traffic cones, form lines at both ends of the playing area. Also make a dividing line in the middle. Designate one side as “The Way” and the other as “The Truth.” The center line is “The Life.”
2. Choose one person to stand in the middle of the center line. He or she is the caller, yelling, “The way!” or “The truth!” or “The life!” The rest of the players also start on the middle line.
3. When a location is called, players run as fast as possible to the designated area. The last person to arrive switches places with the caller.
4. When “The Life” is called, players run to the center line and raise both hands. No one gets out.

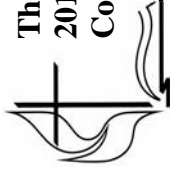
Bible QUIZ

Jesus illustrated the future coming of the Son of Man and his kingdom: When the _____ tree sprouts leaves, he said, you know that _____ is near; when various cosmic signs take place, you’ll know the Son of Man and the kingdom of God are near. Choose the correct pair of words to fill in the two blanks.

- A. pine; winter
- B. beech; spring
- C. fig; summer
- D. olive; autumn



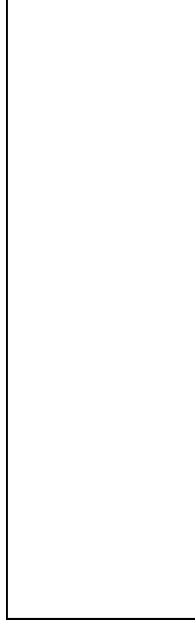
Answer: C (See Luke 21:29-31.)



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Collingswood, NJ 08108

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Loving God...Loving People...Connecting With Our Neighbors