

# #1 Why Church?

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## Part 1

For years, you have been receiving this email blast from Collingswood Presbyterian Church telling you what's going on. I hope you've found it useful and I hope you are excited that for a small church, we do a lot of great work in our community. This is a second weekly email blast, which will be sent on Sundays. It will focus on spiritual issues which I hope will get you thinking. Feel free to forward it to your friends and family.

As your pastor, I've come to realize that you might be asking the question, "Why Church?" By that I mean, many people say they believe in God, but they feel that they don't really need to come to a worship service to learn about God. Others say that Jesus is a great guy and all, but they don't really relate to him. Still others have been driven away and totally turned off by the scandals which have rocked many branches of the church, ranging from horrible misconduct by pastors to questionable decisions about politics from both the left and the right.

To all these things, I must say that frankly, there is a lot of merit in these arguments. It would be arrogant in the extreme to say the Church has a monopoly on how people should encounter God and how they should experience God in their everyday lives. Moreover, many find fellowship and meaningful relationships in other organizations as well as among close friends. Furthermore, I will be the first to admit the Church has done a brilliant job of "shooting itself in the foot," driving millions of people away with all the problems I've mentioned above and the many, many, ways pastors and congregational leaders have alienated people.

All this is to say that as one pastor serving one congregation in one particular denomination, I apologize. I'll have more to say about that in the weeks ahead.

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Grace and Peace to You!

Rev. Dr. Robert Higgs  
Collingswood Presbyterian Church  
30 Fern Ave. Collingwood, NJ 08108

***Please join us for Sunday Worship at 10:30!***

Website: [www.collingswoodpres.com](http://www.collingswoodpres.com)  
Email blast list: please send a note to [collspres@verizon.net](mailto:collspres@verizon.net)