



The Doulos

Doulos: Greek n. "servant"



Newsletter of the Dillsburg Brethren In Christ Church

April 2017

Paths in the Wilderness: Thoughts on Lent

By Naomi Smith

One of my father's retirement projects has been to carve out new trails through the woods that surround our cluster of houses up here on the mountain. He cuts down trees, widens deer paths, and clears away thorny branches to let us walk where we have never walked before. As I ambled along his newest trail recently, I was struck by how a new path—even through a familiar landscape—can alter a person's perspective. A new path reveals contours in the land I had not noticed before, vistas I had not seen. Without changing the boundary lines of a place, a new path opens up new possibilities.

This Lenten season, I have been thinking about boundaries and freedom. Lent begins 40 days before Easter, with the darkness of Ash Wednesday, when we recall the broken boundaries of the Garden of Eden and God's bleak pronouncement over Adam and Eve: "For dust you are and to dust you will return" (Genesis 3:19). Whenever I attend an Ash Wednesday service, I find it deeply meaningful to stand before a pastor and receive a fingerprint of ashes on my forehead—this outward sign of my brokenness, my weakness, my humanity. And I never fail to take some strange comfort in hearing that God "knows how we are formed; he remembers that we are dust" (Psalm 103:14).

God remembers that we are dust—that we are limited creatures, bound by time and space. We are limited by our physical bodies, by injury and illness and age. We

are limited by our own needs and the needs of family members and friends. We are pressed up against boundaries of obligation to work or church or community, and in certain seasons, the grass does indeed look greener on the other side. God remembers that we are dust, but like Adam and Eve, we forget. We forget to draw near to God in our weakness, and instead we begin to search the edges of our good gardens—the spacious places in which we are planted—and to be tempted by what we do not have. We forget the abundant goodness of the God who walks with us, who calls to us, "Where are you?" We begin to question his methods and his timing.

The 40 days of Lent evoke the 40 years of the Israelites wandering in the wilderness and the 40 days of Jesus' fasting in the desert: places of great need and dependence upon God. This Lent, I am recognizing that in places of need, I have a choice in my



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Our Pastoral Staff

Rev. John Reitz
Interim Pastor



Nathan Stonge
Pastor for Worship &
Communication Arts



Jeff Conrady
Pastor for Youth



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response to God's provision. I can grumble about the boundaries of my life, complaining and quarreling like the Israelites in the desert. Or I can choose the path of Jesus, who was also hungry, but whose deep communion with his Father gave him manna of a different kind. When the devil came to tempt Jesus in the desert, Jesus responded by quoting Moses' words to the people of Israel: "Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord" (Deuteronomy 8:3).

This month, as we follow Jesus on his journey to the cross and rejoice in the miracle of the Easter resurrection, let's also remember Jesus on his path through the wilderness. In obedience to his Father, Jesus accepted the limits of humanity—he became dust, like us, and he died, like us. But the grave had no power to contain him, and our broken bodies cannot contain the power of the Holy Spirit at work in us.

Like a new path through a familiar patch of woods, the love of Jesus carves new contours of freedom through the prickly confines of my life. I am finite and cannot be otherwise, but I serve an infinitely loving, forgiving, powerful, and creative God. He continues to open up new possibilities within the boundaries of my good garden—and gently he beckons me to walk with him.

Upcoming Easter Services

Have you ever joined a "Maundy Thursday" gathering?
Consider coming for these special opportunities on **April 13:**

- 6:00 p.m. Men's and Women's Foot Washing
- 6:45 p.m. Fellowship Meal
- 7:30 p.m. Sharing Communion

Celebrate Easter Sunday!

- 9:30 a.m. Refreshments (Upstairs)
- 10:15 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary)

Adults and children's classes on Easter break. During worship, Nursery & Cherub rooms will be staffed, while grades 1 and up join the service.



Dillsburg Brethren in Christ

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Please send submissions for the
May 2017 issue to:

carolynkimmel@comcast.net

or place them in Carolyn's church
mailbox by **April 8th.**

2017 Congregational Council Report

By Steven Miller

We had 77 attendees at council this year, well above our five year average of 59. Christie Gustafson was the chair and opened the meeting and Pastor John Reitz gave words of welcome, highlighting Pastor Rob Douglass's presence, and noted the different meeting format of council this year. Pastor Nathan Stonge led us in two songs, "King of Heaven" and "Good, Good Father."

We received written reports of the ministries of the church as well as a video of Ministry Council leaders sharing their hopes for 2017 around the theme of loving "the one" among us as we focus on "the One." Then Pastor Rob spoke of his desire to "love, listen, learn, and lead" as he enters service at DBIC. He also shared his desire to develop discernment in leadership and to determine the congregation's interest, need, and readiness for "re-visioning."

We received the Stewardship Report, noting the roughly \$10,000 of giving over expenditures. Jason Brubaker explained the End of Year Funds process (approved at Congregational Council in 2016) for allocating excess funds: 50% to a Project Priority List; 30% to a Ministry Partner; 20% to Common Ministries (formerly Cooperative Ministries).

We approved the following projects: Secure Children Check-In (\$550), 48 Children's Bibles (\$750), Update Exterior Doors (\$7,500). Attendees were asked to give input to Leadership Council by selecting one of the following Ministry Partners: 1.) New Hope Ministries (for Building Campaign); 2.) Peace Promise (to hire Patty Seaman as Outreach Director) 3.) Open Door Development (Matt and Julie Walsh) for road repair kits. A motion was passed to make an exception this year and designate the portion of excess funds for Common Ministries (20% of excess funds) toward the denominational "Honor the Past: Build the Future" campaign. The denomination has received a matching pledge for each dollar donated to the campaign which builds the BIC Pension fund and focuses on church multiplication efforts.

Capital Campaign report. Gary Lebo reported on the work of the team toward the objective of making the facility more user-friendly and aesthetically pleasing, both in terms of fixing things up and dreaming big. The team is still identifying and exploring areas that fit this objective. Gary noted that an Ingathering offering will be taken in June for the Capital Campaign.

We adopted the draft 2017 budget. Jason gave details on several items from the budget, including clarification regarding a large gift which will be disbursed into the general fund over three years.

Volunteers concluding service over the past year were recognized and Pastor John prayed over them. The following elders, deacons, and delegates were confirmed and Pastor Rob prayed for them. Elders: Jason Brubaker, Stewardship Director (3/1/2018)-1 year term; Christie Gustafson, Chairperson (3/1/2019); Clarence Brubaker (3/1/2019)-2 year term; Avis Whitesel, Secretary (3/1/20)-3 year term; Mike Beachy (3/1/20)-3 year term. Deacons: Steven & Rachel Miller (3/1/21); Landon & Grace Horton (3/1/21). Susquehanna Conference Delegates: Christie Gustafson, Riley Wingert, Grace Holland (alt.)

We concluded our time with and lunch meal, discussing several questions about "Making Space" and "Hopes for the Future" and leaving feedback for Leadership Council to review.



*Dear DBIC family,

It is difficult to adequately express our gratitude for all you did to allow us to walk through our husband/father/grandfather/great grandfather's service on January 27 with a greater peace because of your show of love and compassion. **Thank you so much!**

The Keller family

***Thank you** for your donation to Priority 1 Ministries – and for sending another wonderful team to serve in New York City missions! God Bless,

Bonnie Westberry, Priority 1 Ministries

***Thank you** for your support of Matt and Julie Walsh. It's great to have you partnering with SIM in the Lord's work!

* "I have seen boys starting to do well in class through the lessons they learn here at Push the Rock Zambia. The kids are becoming more responsible, which means we will have a responsible community and not only that, but we will have responsible husbands and wives." This report from the field (where DBIC's Eric and Corie Thuma serve) shows the transformative power of Christ's love as more and more children experience the kind of sports ministry that we offer. **Thanks to you!**

David P. Walton, President, Push the Rock

***Thank you** for your recent donation to Messiah College Collaboratory operations. Through your continued support, Messiah College thrives.

Beth Trott Clark, Director of Annual Giving, Messiah College



A child at New Hope Ministries sends a thank you for our support.



Be a hero: Volunteer for this year's VBS!

HERO CENTRAL VBS is planned for June 19-22 from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Here's where we could use your help:

Lead: Games Bible

Decorating Music Opening Science Sound/Media

Assist with: Crafts Games Bible Decorating Music
Opening Flexible

Be a Class Shepherd: Preschool/K 1st/2nd 3rd/4th/5th Flexible

Provide a snack

Online registration is now available for your child by visiting www.myvbs.org/dbic

If you are willing to help with one or more of these areas, please see Jenny Cathro or email her at jccathro@gmail.com



In The Pew Next To You...

Audra and Shelby Sieber

Born and raised in

AUDRA: Fairfax County, Va.

SHELBY: McAlisterville, Pa

A bit about my family

AUDRA: Our boys, Spencer (11) and Aaron (5), keep us busy. Spencer is in the 6th grade at West Shore Christian Academy. Aaron will be in Kindergarten there in the fall. My parents and my brother still live in Northern Virginia.

SHELBY: Both parents and their families are in Juniata County. I have two sisters and three brothers.

I spend my days doing

AUDRA: Optometry, caring for my boys

SHELBY: Optometry



How I became a Christian

AUDRA: I was not raised in the church. I met Shelby in Optometry School. He witnessed to me and during that time, I accepted Jesus.

SHELBY: I was raised in the church, but I was saved when I went to church camp as a youth.

A time I really saw God work in my life was

AUDRA & SHELBY: When Spencer was born eight weeks early, he spent a month in the NICU. The Lord gave us his strength and peace during this time. He blessed us with Aaron when we thought that we would not have any more children. And then he gave us what we needed when Aaron was born and spent a week in the NICU with pneumonia at birth. The Lord is always busy at work in our lives and he worked mightily when He healed Audra from malignant kidney cancer when Spencer was 11 months old, even without the need for chemotherapy.

SHELBY: I also feel God working in the everyday scenarios of life. Once I dropped my wallet on the step of my truck and drove off. The wallet fell off in the middle of the road in front of a garage near my hometown. A man who worked there saw it in the road, looked at my ID and called the only Sieber he knew. That happened to be my dad. He returned my wallet with all the cards and cash. That wallet could have ended up anywhere, but I think the Lord put in the hands of an honest man.

My biggest passion is

AUDRA: Caring for people, whether it be family, friends, patients, fellow congregants or anyone in need.

SHELBY: Hunting, spending time outdoors

I spend my free time doing

AUDRA: Crochet, macramé, tatting, reading

SHELBY: Playing with the boys, hunting, playing farmer with food plots, outdoor photography

Favorite Bible verse

AUDRA: Philippians 4: 6-7

SHELBY: John 3:16 and Micah 6:8

Leadership Council Report

By Steven Miller

At our February meeting Pastor John asked us for reflection on transition priorities that we had identified last fall. We discussed at length the need for evaluation of our interim experiments, particularly in the form of the worship service.

The capital campaign team is considering possible solutions to our limited sanctuary space, including two services, enlarging sanctuary, etc. They are continuing to refine and develop ideas, and seek input and more ideas from the congregation.

Giving has been uncharacteristically good at the start of the year. We were apprised of the fact that DBIC was listed as a beneficiary of John Fries' life insurance policy. Sharon Miller has agreed to be Financial Secretary, but is unable to start until this summer. Jan Kerstetter has agreed to serve in the interim.

A report from the transition team noted the planned ingathering (March 26) for welcoming the Douglass family, as well as Pastor Rob's visit to DBIC the following week. He will meet with Leadership and Ministry Council on April 1 and will preach on April 2. An installation service is being planned with Bishop Ken Hoke for July 2.



"In the Pew..." Continued from Page 5

My favorite thing about Dillsburg BIC is

AUDRA: Friendly and open to everyone. We engage kids in activities, learning about God.

SHELBY: The sense of true worship and praise in our service and that we are staying true to the Word of God as we seek Him.

Something that might surprise you about me is

Audra has been a professor of anatomy and physiology at Central Penn College and she used to teach aerobics.

My favorite song is

AUDRA: Really hard to choose! I enjoy a lot of different types of music. Currently, I would say "Mary Did You Know?" by Pentatonix.

SHELBY: "Amazing Grace"

A prayer request I have is

AUDRA: Continued unity, strength and growth of our congregation. Also, continual outreach to our community.

SHELBY: I pray that the Lord will continue to guide the hearts and minds of our nation's leaders, giving them the strength to make many important decisions about how we will be governed and whether our rights and freedoms will be affected.

Stop Traffic

By Marj Strayer

April is the month for new everything. It is the month when most of nature comes into bloom (usually) with new life. Birds are building nests and laying eggs to start a whole new brood. We are busy putting away winter things and getting out our spring and summer outfits as well as buying new ones. We are also busy buying new accessories for these spring outfits. For the ladies this includes new purses. But what about last year's model? Maybe it isn't worn out yet so maybe you feel guilty about throwing it away or shoving it in some corner there to remain forgotten forever.

Well, I have good news. I have the answer for you. You don't have to suffer guilt over purses discarded before they are worn out. During the month of April, there will be a bin in the lobby with a sign on it saying "**Change Purse.**" In this bin you can place your gently-used purses; purses that aren't damaged and haven't suffered much wear and tear. At the same time you can do your part to fight human trafficking. What?

Yes, that is right. **Change Purse** is an organization that collects gently-used purses and resells them. The money goes entirely to organizations involved in fighting human trafficking, Peace Promise being one of these. These organizations work hard to help those who are being sexually exploited to find freedom and find new work, education, new homes, new lives, and some find new life in Christ.

This year, in April, the church will celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior. What a wonderful way to show our love and thanksgiving to our Lord by helping to fight for freedom for those who are in captivity.

Thank you. If you have any questions, please contact me.

If you place a purse in the bin, put your name on a slip of paper inside the purse. A purse will be drawn from the bin at the end of April. The name inside will receive \$25 as a gift to be used, if you like, toward the purchase of a new spring purse.



The Book Nook

By Harriet Conrady

Read the reviews below and choose one of these new books to read. The new books can be found on the book cart at the library entrance.

NONFICTION

- ***Appointments with Heaven***, by Dr. Reggie Anderson. To my dear library friends, don't rule this book out because it is a true story . . . not fiction. It's written by a medical doctor and tells his stories of real life encounters with God. Dr. Anderson and his wife are personal friends of Steven Curtis Chapman and his wife, Mary Beth. That relationship is a great story, too. So read it. You'll be glad you did.

FICTION

- ***A Changed Agent***, by Tracey Lyons. When Elsie Mitchell arrives at her small town in the Adirondack Mountains, she is offered a job as caregiver to a mysterious out-of-towner's orphaned niece and nephew. She doesn't know that the children's uncle is an undercover Pinkerton agent posing as a lumber company foreman. Surprises are ahead for Elsie.
- ***Long Way Gone***, by Charles Martin. At the age of eighteen, musician and songwriter Cooper O'Connor took everything his father held dear and drove 1,200 miles from home to Nashville. . . his life and hopes riding on a six-string guitar. This is a radical retelling of the prodigal son story and takes the reader from tent revivals to the Ryman Auditorium to a tender relationship between a broken man and the father who never stopped calling him home.
- ***Of Stillness and Storm***, by Michele Phoenix. Lauren supposed it would be an exhilarating life – reaching primitive tribes in remote regions of Nepal. After two years in Kathmandu, she feels torn between her husband's calling and the well-being of their 13-year-old son, Ryan. While her husband treks the Himalayas finding purpose in his work, Lauren and Ryan struggle alone. Read the story of honorable intentions and troubled love.

A DVD

- ***The Bridge***. A Hallmark movie made from the book, *The Bridge*, written by Karen Kingsbury. The Bridge is a bookstore and coffee shop where Molly and Ryan share a great friendship during their first semester in college. A misunderstanding tears their relationship apart. Watch the DVD to see if they can open their hearts to a second chance.

See you in the library!



THE QUIZ BOX

By Mel Brough

On Saturday, March 4, the quiz team traveled to the Grantham BIC church for the March practice tournament. There were six teams (Dillsburg had two teams, Grantham, the Meeting House (Carlisle) and Elizabethtown had 2 teams). It was another great morning of quizzing.

Our next quizzing event will be the Allegheny Open Tournament hosted by **the Meeting House (Carlisle) BIC** church on **Saturday, April 8, starting at 9 a.m.** This will be an all-day event. We will be quizzing on Luke Chapters 1-19. Everyone is invited to come and support the quizzers.

Please mark your calendars with these important dates.

Saturday, May 6 – Charlie Crider Memorial Tournament at E-Town BIC – All day

Saturday, May 20 – Regional Conference finals at Dillsburg BIC – 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Friday-Sunday, June 23-25 – Denominational Finals at Bongiorno Conference Center in
Carlisle, Pa.

Verse of the month: Luke 16:13 – “No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.”

Both the Allegheny and Atlantic conferences are looking for a conference quiz director. Please join me in prayer for these positions to be filled quickly.

A great way to financially support the quizzing ministry at Dillsburg is to purchase Giant gift cards. Please see Avis Whitesel to purchase gift cards or if you have any questions.

To be eligible to quiz, you must be between the ages of 12 and 19 sometime during the quizzing year, which is defined as beginning Nov. 1 and running through Oct. 31. Quizzing provides an opportunity to study God's Word, fellowship with other youth, participate on a team and experience positive competition.

If you have any questions about quizzing, please contact one of us:

Mel Brough	432-4864	mabrough58@gmail.com
Brent Whitesel	432-9048	btw10@comcast.net





WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

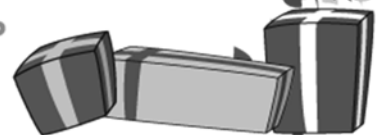
Jack & Helen Leach	April 2
Dave & Bev Murtoff	April 8
Nathan & Sarah Hoover	April 16



Tim Horst	April 1	John Reed	April 15
Erika Pease	April 4	Tony Monko	April 17
Aaron Poole	April 6	Ariela Vader	April 17
Matthew Whitesel	April 6	Ed Strayer	April 17
Ethan Beachy	April 9	Grace Horton	April 18
Jason Emig	April 9	Patti Miller	April 18
Tyler Monko	April 10	Sam Klick	April 18
Corie Thuma	April 10	Connor Engle	April 21
Mary Reed	April 11	Chris Eyster	April 23
Kayce Heck	April 12	Ana Wingert	April 24
Shelby Sieber	April 12	Ray Knepper	April 27
Thomas Walsh	April 14		



Happy Birthday!



April 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 9:00 a.m. Classes 10:15 a.m. Worship	3	4	5 9:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Intercessory Prayer & Praise 6:30 p.m. Thrive 6:30 p.m. Kids' Club	6	7	8 DOULOS Deadline
9 9:00 a.m. Classes 10:15 a.m. Worship	10 6:30 p.m. Human Trafficking Meeting (Strayers')	11	12	13 6:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service	14	15
16 Easter 9:30 a.m. Fellowship and Refreshments 10:15 a.m. Worship	17	18	19 6:30 p.m. Intercessory Prayer & Praise 6:30 p.m. Thrive 6:30 p.m. Kids' Club 6:45 p.m. Leadership Council	20	21	22
23 9:00 a.m. Classes 10:15 a.m. Worship	24	25	26 6:30 p.m. Intercessory Prayer & Praise 6:30 p.m. Thrive 6:30 p.m. Kids' Club	27	28	29
			Family Promise			
30 9:00 a.m. Classes 10:15 a.m. Worship						
Family Promise						