



Of Geraniums and Garbage

By Pastor Rob Douglass

In June of 1994, Chris and I were experiencing a whirlwind of changes. Within a two-week span, I graduated from seminary, we had become parents for the first time and we were moving from Ohio back to Pennsylvania so that I could start my first solo flight as a pastor.

We had a great experience as an associate pastor in Shreve, Ohio, and during our last days there, the church gave us a lovely "send-off" celebration with gifts and thoughtful cards. It was a picnic at a park near the home we rented. Each of the 25 tables was tastefully decorated, and in the center of each table was a beautiful red geranium.

One of the fun ideas that the church had was that we were to take the geraniums with us when we moved to the new parsonage in Pennsylvania and plant them in order to both remember the congregation and know that people were praying for us.

It was an extremely thoughtful idea, but the one thing we did not need was worrying about a safe way to transport 25 geraniums 200 miles. It was very tempting to secretly dispose of the innocent plants in our last load of garbage as we pulled out of Ohio.

There was one problem. Several of the folks from the church who were instrumental in the party had talked about coming to visit us in Pennsylvania as soon as we were settled. Now, at one level I know that when people say things like that, they mean it, but it is also just the kind of thing that we say to each other at those moments. It is somewhat like writing "stay in touch" in someone's high school yearbook at the end of the school year. So, it was possible that they would never come and notice the missing geraniums . . . but if you knew these folks, you knew this wasn't likely.

These were the folks who surprised Chris and I by driving 200 miles to see me get ordained a few weeks

earlier. If they said they were coming to visit, the odds were that they would show up. So, the geraniums could not stay in Ohio.

On moving day, we struggled to find room for everything that we owned in either the U-Haul truck or our car. The last things to be packed were those stupid geraniums. Around four hours later, we arrived in Whitaker, Pennsylvania.

We had lined up help from my home church to assist in unloading the truck. As moving days seem to go, nothing went according to plan. Since I was the only one loading the truck, we left Ohio later than we planned. Since Rebekah had the typical needs of a newborn, we made more stops than I had planned. All of this combined to put us in Pittsburgh during afternoon rush hour, which made the trip take much longer than I had planned. By the time we arrived at the house, the only people still there were my parents.

It took us all evening to unload the truck. My parents left once the truck was empty. I turned to the car next. By the time we got around to them, the geraniums had been in an extremely hot car for several hours and were looking quite sad. I took them out of the back of the car and placed them in the grass beside the driveway to give them some water, hoping that maybe with the water and a cooler evening they would recover.

The next morning came, and I looked outside to check on the geraniums. Were they going to make it? I could not believe my eyes. The flowers were gone! All of that trouble, and nothing to show for it.

My first thought was, "What a welcome to town! We have things stolen from our front yard on our first night!" As it turns out, I apparently left the boxes of geraniums near where the previous pastor left his

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garbage, and that morning the garbage truck came.

Now, to this day I don't understand why someone would think that boxes containing 25 geraniums were garbage; nevertheless, I learned some lessons from this experience.

Satan is like the garbage man (no offense intended if you work for Penn Waste). He does not usually attack us when we are ready or when we are at our strongest. He attacks in our weak moments and in the weak areas of our lives, when we are not being careful.

It did not matter that I was diligent in my care for the flowers the vast majority of the time. I was careful with the geraniums in Ohio, in packing them in the car, and even on the trip, but one careless action of putting them too close to the road was all it took for my other efforts to be erased.

I Peter 5:8 states, "Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour."

If I may give you some advice in this new year, it is to be serious and vigilant in your spiritual life because we have a real enemy waiting for an opportune moment when he can catch us off guard and steal from us. And believe me, he wants more than our geraniums. May 2018 be filled with victory over the enemy.



Sermons & Scriptures

"To Live Is Christ"

Feb. 4	Phil. 3.1-11
Feb. 11	Phil. 3.12-21
Feb. 18	Phil 4.1-9
Feb 25	Phil. 4.10-20

Dillsburg Brethren in Christ

Doulos Editor: Carolyn Kimmel

Layout: Anne-Marie Brandt

Please send submissions for the
March 2018 issue to:

carolynkimmel@comcast.net

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

*Did you know you can download and listen to past
sermons on our website?*

<http://www.dillsburgbic.org/media>



***Words cannot express the love** we have felt from all of you during this long month when Scott's mom went to be with the Lord and his dad was hospitalized. To walk into the funeral and see flowers from our church, then to see Pastor Rob, Nathan, Wendell, Nina, and Victoria there; it brought me to tears. For all the words of concern and support that were conveyed through prayers, calls, cards, and e-mails, we were so humbled. Thank you for loving us and our extended family!

Cindy for the entire Raboci family

***Thank you for joining us** as we continue to provide help and hope to close to 20,000 people every year. Your prayers and support change the lives of those we serve.

Eric Saunders, Executive Director, New Hope Ministries

***Thank you for your continued support** of Matt and Julie Walsh. May the Lord bless you and keep you as you lean on Him each day.

Bruce Johnson, President, SIM USA

***The more you use your gifts to further His Kingdom, the bigger the outcome!** We are honored to serve the Lord in partnership with you and are **so grateful for your generous gift.**

David P. Walton, President, Push the Rock

*** Thank you to everyone who donated their used Christmas cards** to share the story of Christmas to many in India who have never heard the gospel message. To date we have received over 150 cards and they are still coming in!! So thank you!!

Jaylene Shannon and Karen Deyhle

~ STOP TRAFFIC ~

By Marj Strayer

A special thank you on behalf of Peace Promise, Mechanicsburg and FGA Education Project, Pakistan to the Dillsburg Brethren In Christ Church for your most generous offering in the name of Christ who said, "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." Luke 4: 18-19

The total offering as of today is \$11,790. What an incredible blessing! This will go a long way in providing freedom, education and the saving message of Jesus Christ to children in Pakistan and women and girls here at home. You have done a beautiful thing, Dillsburg. Thank you; the Lord bless you.

There is another opportunity coming up to support Peace Promise. On February 2, Peace Promise is having a fundraising banquet, titled "For Love of Freedom." If you have an interest in attending, there is information at the Welcome Center or you may see Marj Strayer.



peace
promise

*In The Pew Next To You...**Zoe Kamin***Born and raised in**

I was born in Hood River, Oregon; and raised mostly in the Dillsburg area.

A bit about my family

I live with mom, Jody, and my 13-year-old brother, Simon. We have one dog and two cats.

I spend my days doing

Schoolwork and spending time with friends! I am a nursing student at Messiah College, so I spend my days on campus.

How I became a Christian

I was not raised in a Christian home, but had some exposure to church through sporadic services (primarily holidays). I always believed in God, but I did not have a serious relationship with Him until my sophomore year of high school, when I finally allowed God to transform my heart and life.

A time I really saw God work in my life was

I see how God has been working throughout my entire life in a more big-picture way. The fact that I have such a strong relationship with Him now is a testament in itself. I could have easily ended up on a very different path than the one I am on, considering the experiences I had during my childhood.

My biggest passion is

Others! I love spending time with other people and learning more about them.

I spend my free time doing

I love a variety of outdoor activities, especially hiking and camping.

Favorite Bible verse

While I do not have ONE favorite verse (I'm pretty indecisive), my current favorite book of the Bible is James.

My favorite thing about Dillsburg BIC is

How welcoming the church is towards new people. I also appreciate all of the diverse and inspiring life stories.

Something that might surprise you about me is

I have double-jointed thumbs!

My favorite song is

Again, I am pretty indecisive, but one of my favorite artists is Josh Garrels.

A prayer request I have is

That relationships within my family will see restoration and healing.



the Book Nook

by Harriet Conrady



You can travel the world from your most comfortable chair . . . with one of our books in hand. You can visit Germany, South Africa, New York City, South Africa, Italy, England's Lake District – or even stay home with your own family . . . just by reading one of our new books listed below.

NONFICTION

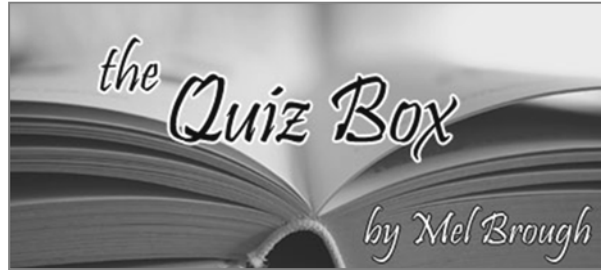
- ***Martin Luther***, by Eric Metaxas. In celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, Metaxas writes this biography of one of the most influential men in modern history. On All Hallow's Eve in 1517, a young monk named Martin Luther posted a document known as *Ninety-five Theses*. The subtitle of the book, "*The Man Who Rediscovered God and Changed the World*" may inspire you to read this outstanding biography.
- ***No-Drama Discipline***, by Daniel J. Siegel, M.D. and Tina Payne Bryson, PH.D. Again the subtitle of the book may help you know what the authors address. It is "*The Whole-Brain Way to Calm the Chaos and Nurture Your Child's Developing Mind.*" It might also help you to know that a young mother in our congregation suggested this book for our library because she is finding it very helpful. The authors teach a way to calmly and lovingly connect with a child – no matter how extreme the behavior – while still setting clear and consistent limits.

FICTION

- ***The Crooked Path***, by Irma Joubert. Lettie learns that life, while perhaps on a crooked path, is always a journey worth taking. She had struggled with perceptions that weren't accurate, but worked to compensate those feelings by pursuing a successful career as a doctor. She is able to help her very first patient by aiding him on the road back to restored health. Marco and Lettie find a happiness neither of them thought possible.
- ***A Dangerous Legacy***, by Elizabeth Camden. The setting of this novel is New York City in the very early 1900's. A telegraph operator, Lucy Drake, is a master of Morse code and has made herself a valuable asset to the Associated Press news agency. A sudden arriving British news agency gentleman puts her hard-earned livelihood at risk. Colin could give Lucy the edge she needs in a long legal battle she's been waging over a rightful inheritance . . . but it will mean walking through a web of treachery. Is it worth it?
- ***Enchanted Isle***, by Melanie Dobson. Our fiction selections move from South Africa, to New York City, and now on to an adventure in "one of the most enchanting places on earth, a quaint village in England's magical Lake District." A local leads Jenny to an unsolved murder that casts a shadow over the Lakes. Can Jenny and Adrian put the past to rest and restore a lost dream?

See you in the library!





On Saturday, January 6, the quiz team went to Grantham BIC church for the monthly practice tournament. It was the annual mixer tournament where quizzers and coaches were mixed together on teams as a way to get to know each other. Quizzing started with church specific teams, continued with mixed teams, followed by lunch. The day concluded with games.

The February practice tournament will be on **Saturday, February 3 at New Hope BIC church from 9 a.m. to noon.** We will be quizzing on 1st Corinthians Chapters 1-15.

Please mark your calendars with these important dates.

Saturday, March 3 – Practice tournament at **Dillsburg BIC** – 9 a.m. to noon

Saturday, April 14 – Allegheny Open Tournament at Meeting House-Carlisle – All day

Saturday, May 5 – Charlie Crider Memorial Tournament at E-Town BIC – All day

Saturday, May ??? – Regional Conference finals at TBD

Friday, July 13 – Monday, July 16 – Denominational Finals at Messiah College

Verse of the month: 1st Corinthians 10:13 – “No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide an escape, so that you can stand up under it.” - BSB (2016)

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

Jeff & Lois Conrady	February 15
Mark & Kathy Renard	February 26
Kay & Pat Gasswint	February 27
Bob & Rose Harlacher	February 27

forever & always



Happy
Birthday



Rob Douglass	February 1	Deb Monko	February 16
Becky Horst	February 1	Tyler Whitesel	February 16
Eliana Miller	February 2	Jenny Cathro	February 17
J-Lynn Conrady	February 2	Benjamin Gustafson	February 21
Adam Moesch	February 2	Jan Kerstetter	February 21
Eleanor Poe	February 3	Kendal Rank	February 23
Britton Hill	February 6	Mary Ann Brubaker	February 23
Sylvia Klick	February 9	Randy Straw	February 23
Emily Vader	February 10	Suzanne Erikson	February 26
Liam Gustafson	February 11	Mary Hulbert	February 27
Angelina Waris	February 11	Katie Renard	February 28
Annabeth Rotz	February 14	Beth Shelly	February 28
Christi Gard	February 15		

Life Groups...

Often intergenerational, life groups care for one another, apply God's Word to their lives, and reach beyond the circle of the group. They are an important way in which we discover the love of God and share it together. Some meet in homes, others in the church building, and most gather about twice a month — creating opportunities to develop meaningful relationships that go far beyond the Sunday morning handshake.

For more information, contact the church office.

February 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 9:00 am Classes 10:15 am Worship	5 3:00 p.m. Middle School Monday 6:30 pm Human Trafficking Meeting (Strayers') 7:00 pm Women's Bible Study (201)	6	7 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 6:15 Faith Finders 6:30 pm Intercessory Prayer & Praise 6:30 pm Thrive	8 Doulos Deadline	9	10
11 9:00 am Classes 10:15 am Worship	12 3:00 p.m. Middle School Monday 7:00 pm Women's Bible Study (201)	13	14 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 6:15 Faith Finders 6:30 pm Intercessory Prayer & Praise 6:30 pm Thrive	15 6:30 pm Leadership Council	16	17
18 9:00 am Classes 10:15 am Worship	19 3:00 p.m. Middle School Monday 7:00 pm Women's Bible Study (201)	20	21 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 6:15 Faith Finders 6:30 pm Intercessory Prayer & Praise 6:30 pm Thrive	22	23	24
25 9:00 am Classes 10:15 am Worship	26 3:00 p.m. Middle School Monday 7:00 pm Women's Bible Study (201)	27	28 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 6:15 Faith Finders 6:30 pm Intercessory Prayer & Praise 6:30 pm Thrive			