



DILLSBURG BIC CHURCH

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The Doulos Monthly Newsletter

MAY 2020

A Candid Look at Motherhood

By Jaylene Shannon

When I was young, all I ever really wanted to do was be a mom. I don't know if I played with dolls, but I think the way my mom loved me was probably what made me want to be a mom so badly.



My mom grew up without her mother, which is why I think she worked extra hard to be a good mom for us. As a teen, I remember she used to spend lots of time with me. We enjoyed shopping trips

together. She'd lay on my bed in my room and let me talk and talk, sometimes until she fell asleep.

Mom has the spiritual gifts of mercy and acts of service. She has the biggest heart and cares for others. It's sometimes out of our deepest pain that God works to bring glory to Himself in our lives and minister to others in more effective ways. Mom's parents both died when she was a young child; she could have grown bitter, but she did not. She cried herself to sleep a lot as a teen because she felt alone, but that made her a great listener. She has been a mentor, a pastor's wife, a counselor and a friend to many. I thank the Lord for my mom. While she didn't have a good role model to follow, she became a great role model for me.

I will never forget the day when Ron and I thought I might be pregnant and he looked at me and called me "Mommy." My heart jumped with those words. Was I going to be a mom? We'd been married five months, and it was all I dreamed of. I loved being pregnant, except for morning sickness and fluctuating hormones! Mostly, I loved feeling a new life moving inside of me.



The miracle of life was never as amazing as holding my newborn baby in my arms. I saw the eyes of God in that little one. In the years to follow, I had two more babies, each very special in their own way.

Our three children kept me stepping. I often felt exhausted and overwhelmed, and I know I made a lot of mistakes. I kept them before my heavenly Father and kept trusting Him to bring good out of my weakness – and He did. I couldn't be prouder of my children today. God taught me so many things through motherhood, like

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Gifts in an Interrupted Life

By Pastor Rob Douglass

There is a modern proverb that has been attributed to numerous people across the political spectrum, from Saul Alinsky on the left to Winston Churchill on the right. It goes something like this: "Never let a good crisis go to waste." While those words in the mouths of politicians of any persuasion ought to cause us concern, there is still some truth to the statement.

As I write this, there are whispers of reopening the economy. I have no idea if that will be the case by the time you read this or not.

Certainly, these days have been full of fear, stress, anxiety, and for too many people – profound loneliness. But as I consider the return to "normal" life, I wonder if there have not been quiet gifts in these days that are easy to miss now and that could be lost if we are not careful in our rush to get back to the way things used to be.

Slowing Down

I think for all of us, our days are slower than they had been. This is not a bad thing. I can't tell you the last time my family did a puzzle together.

Intentional Connections

Since we can't go out with friends or have them over and since we are less likely to run into folks at the grocery store or at the mall, we have had to be

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Continued from Page 1—Rob Douglass

intentional about connecting with people. Sure, our current forms of connecting are not as personal as sitting beside someone, but when we are connecting now, it is hardly by accident nor are we taking it for granted.

Solitude

Another gift, if we will see it, is solitude. These strange days have given us an opportunity to grow in the ancient spiritual formation practice of solitude, which may look like, but is radically different from simply being alone or experiencing loneliness. Solitude is a time of being alone where we intentionally set aside space and time for God to do deep work. There are lessons to learn by being alone with God that cannot be acquired another way. The only relationship that has not been interfered with in any way by the virus is our relationship with God. How might we use this time to grow deeper with Christ and more familiar with the Holy Spirit?

These are just a few of the gifts that we could experience now if we seek God in this time. Let's not simply ask for deliverance but ask where is God in this? What is he doing? What is he teaching? What would he have us do? Let's not let a good crisis go to waste.

As one of my heroes, Dietrich Bonhoeffer once wrote, "We must be ready to allow ourselves to be interrupted by God." I don't think I was ready to be interrupted, but I don't want to miss the opportunity.

Continued from Page 1—Jaylene Shannon

self-sacrifice, self-discipline and courage. I learned how to put others first even when I felt like I had nothing left to give, how to plan and organize, to make moments count, to capture moments on camera for good memories and to laugh a lot.

I parented very intentionally so I could teach my children independence and how to work. They had chores, learned to pay their own bills when they were young, worked in the garden, cleaned the house and washed the dishes. We spent time in the Bible together as a family, and we talked around the dinner table every evening. They didn't always like some of the things we made them do, but they are responsible young people as a result.

Mothering them today is challenging. My youngest is an hour away, then two hours away, and the oldest is about 28 hours away by airplane. Some days my hands feel so incredibly empty I just want to cry. Sometimes I think my heart will break. I miss the noise and chaos. I miss my four grandchildren a lot. Other days when they are all here, I'm exhausted all over again, but I LOVE it!



Apart from my own kids, I've been blessed to be like a mom to others – our foster kids, our dorm kids and, most recently, a few young women I have had the privilege to mentor.

I think these days of being a mom during COVID-19 are some of the hardest. I can't hold the little ones. I can't hug my adult children or the women I mentor, and I can't hug my parents who recently moved to a retirement community. We stay in touch on Facebook and WhatsApp, but not knowing when I will see them again in person is very hard. I am trying to be brave and appreciate all that I do have. I know God has blessed me beyond what I could have imagined.

If you are without your mom, had a mom who made a lot of mistakes, have empty hands or are missing your mom or your children, know that Jesus holds your heart close to His and He whispers, "I love you and I will fill those empty places with others for you to love. Trust me." Happy Mother's Day!



Stop Traffic

By Marj Strayer

The Coronavirus has had an effect one way or another on millions of Americans and people around the world. I would like to focus on one specific population that exists in most likely every country in the world—the women who struggle with life in the adult entertainment industry, prostitution, and those who are trafficked and forced into brothels.

Since adult clubs are shut down in our country, on first consideration, you might think that this is good for these women. But, in fact, quite the opposite is true. What we are hearing from those who are helping on the front line is that these women are desperate for income to provide for themselves and their families. They do not qualify for unemployment because they are considered private contractors. So, unfortunately, many of these women will prostitute themselves or give in to pimps in order to meet the financial need. That places them at great risk. There is no one to monitor their safety; they are completely alone with no help should they run into trouble.

Peace Promise with their staff and many volunteers are reaching out to these women with financial help and donations of food and gift cards and tele-counseling. This has been a very trying time not only for the women they serve but also the women and men who provide services. This has required many added hours of work on everyone's part plus many have the added responsibility for their children at home doing online schooling, and some are having their own financial struggles.

So, I am asking you at Dillsburg BIC to please pray for the women who receive services from Peace Promise, as well as women from around the world who find themselves in these circumstances. May God open their eyes to see that those who belong to Him are the very ones whom they can trust to reach out to for help. May this time of fear and uncertainty lead them to the One who can give them true security. May God protect them from the temptation to engage in dangerous behavior.

Also please pray that God will encircle with protection and give strength and wisdom and provision to those who are reaching out to meet the needs of these women. If you feel led to donate money or gift cards to help in providing food, you may purchase Aldi or Giant gift cards and get them to me. Call me at 717-432-4240 or text 717-329-1435. Thank you!





THIS MONTH'S SPOTLIGHT: ERIC & CORIE THUMA ZAMBIA

Hello from Zambia. We wanted to share about the past few months—including how COVID-19 is affecting life and work here in Zambia. We'll start at the beginning of 2020...

In January, we held our first ever Whole Life Coaching/Youth Sports Leadership Development training here at PTRZ. Coaches Gerald and Melody organized and carried out the entire weekend program, with the help of a guest speaker from Operation Mobilization.

The training focused on the importance of coaching and incorporating Biblical principles such as integrity, servant leadership, and creating unity in the body. A favorite quote from the weekend was, "When we see leadership as an opportunity to serve, the world will be a better place."



Since the start of PTRZ, we have dreamed that we would one day have the staff and facilities to host trainings like this and can now look forward to hosting many more in the future.

Visit to USA - maybe?

Two weeks ago, we were excited to announce that we were changing things up a bit in 2020. Instead of our 'normal' visit to the USA over the winter months, we were coming back in the summer time—due to arrive in Pennsylvania on June 4 and return to Zambia on Aug. 31. We haven't experienced a USA summer in nearly seven years, so we were looking forward to being reminded of its joys. At this point, due to COVID-19 we are really not sure what will happen, just like most people, we hang in the balance and will do our best to wait and see how this plays out. For now, we hope and plan to see many of you this summer!

Corona Virus Update

In mid-March Zambia reported its first two COVID-19 cases. As of mid-April, the reported confirmed number was cases was 52 with two deaths, and the government has set out major mandates and is being especially proactive. Only one international airport remains open, churches are limited to one-hour services and restaurants are only permitted to serve take-out food. PTRZ programming is closed for now—and it's likely our staff won't be reporting for work in the coming weeks as we implement more conservative social distancing. No one seems to know what the virus will end up doing in southern Africa—but we're watching and learning from the rest of the world how to best prepare.

Thanksgiving and Prayer

- We thank the Lord for a great rainy season.
- We thank the Lord for the growth here at PTRZ and provision to complete the library.
- We are praying for our staff and their families in this time of uncertainty.
- We pray for Zambia—and the whole wide world—in its battle against coronavirus.



Spiritually Speaking: The Principle of Two Worlds

By Marlin Zook

There is a spiritual world and there is a physical one. These exist at the same time and in the same place, but they are very different.

The physical world, which contains what is called natural, is the created world. It has its own laws that we call the laws of nature. There are the laws of gravity that regulate the movement of mass and energy. There are the laws of sound and of light. Into this physical world, human beings are born and live in and adjust to these natural laws and even being able to modify the laws to a degree. But the one aspect that has not yet been overcome is that there is always an end to every aspect of life. One can defy gravity—for a while. Cold can be overcome also for a while. Light can extend into the darkness as we develop and harness electricity—for a while. But everything eventually dies and has to be replaced.

The spiritual world is seen most vividly in the Easter season when we see life emerge from the grave. In the natural world, everything comes to an end and dies. A seed in the natural world falls into the ground and dies but out of that death a new plant emerges, which suggests that life continues after death. Christ lived in the physical world but, because of his spiritual nature, was able to point to life apart from the physical. Jesus always lived with a focus on the Father and in communion with the spiritual world, which is a part of the Kingdom of Heaven.

For Jesus, the spiritual world was primary and as a result Jesus healed the sick, fed people by multiplying five loafs of bread and two fish into enough so that 5,000 – plus men plus women and children ate all they wanted and left food on their plates. Jesus as one belonging to the spiritual world could reverse the effect of illness and even death. He entered the physical world as all of us do but because of his participation in the spiritual, he overcame the power of the physical world and the power of darkness that was manifested here. He rose again gaining victory over illness and all the powers confronting the spiritual world.

We enter the spiritual world when we hear Jesus' words that we must be born again, of the Spirit. This is a new birth that starts our life journey in the spiritual. This spiritual life is different than life in the physical. Some

differences include a living interactive relationship with God where communication is both heart and mind, intellectual and emotional, a real love relationship.

The physical world is focused more on the mind and logic, while the spiritual is more focused on knowing what God desires and is saying. This difference got Jesus into a lot of trouble with Jewish leaders. Another difference is that God is a person and there develops an intuitive “knowing” rather than reasoning things out. Our physical world is focused on reason—thinking things through—but the disciples made an impression by the fact that they were uneducated men, but they had been with Jesus.

Jesus' confession at his crucifixion is the core truth of the spiritual reality (Matt. 26:64). Jesus facing the cross, boldly declares that a day is coming when people will see him sitting at the right hand of the Father (place of authority) and returning to the physical world as an exalted Being (on the clouds). Jesus, being crucified, is not finished. He does not decay like the rest of physical nature. He rose victoriously over death. He lives gloriously in the heavenlies or spiritual world and in a place of authority.

What happens in the physical world does not change the reality of the spiritual. Eventually the spiritual world will prevail. Remember, the physical world is always moving toward decay and deterioration. Will the physical world be replaced by the spiritual, immortal world? Will the spiritual world transform the physical world? We do not know. What we know is that Jesus will return to the physical world and be very visible to everyone. Every eye will see him!

In the meantime, Jesus rose from the dead and we have the witness of those who saw his resurrected body, recognizable but of a different quality and with different abilities than the original. This Jesus is coming again to make a new heaven and earth. The superior and spiritual world will transform our world into one which is permanent and glorious and very different from a world now deeply troubled by coronavirus.

Praise God in the highest and joy to all people.





*We are all missing our visitors to Paxton Street Home! How can you help during this time of change and uncertainty? Continue your faithful support! We still need your financial help as we continue providing a healthy, comfortable home, regular meals and daily care to all our residents. Pray for us! We value your prayers on behalf of our residents and staff. Pray for protection from this virus, for peace during anxious times and for help in making wise decisions. Stay in touch! You can still "visit" us by logging in to our Facebook page and website or by sending us a note of encouragement at development@paxtonmin.org. We look forward to hearing from you, and as always **thanks** for your recent donation!

Jodie Smiley, Executive Director, Paxton Street Ministries

*It had to have been God's timing...we had our annual banquet just before all of this coronavirus mess happened. In fact, all of the events at the Radisson after ours have been cancelled. We had a great crowd...second highest ever...even more than last year! The emphasis of the evening was "Embracing Life." That's just what we did!

We heard two moving testimonies that were examples of God at work...specifically at CAPC. We recognized God's hand at work despite what we hear in the headlines. We ended the evening by singing "To God Be the Glory." It was a really special night! **Thanks so much** for your ongoing financial support!

The Rev. John Shaffer, Executive Director, Capital Area Pregnancy Center

* Peace Promise stands beside women who have experienced these situations through violated Protection from Abuse orders, through tattoos placed on their bodies, claiming them as property, and through manipulation and coercion. This month, we stood next to victims in PFA violation hearings providing a sense of parental protection, we advocated with law enforcement and medical providers, we spent hours in trauma counseling appointments and tattoo parlors as emotional and physical claims to their bodies were covered up and replaced with symbols of new life and freedom. We reminded them that they are free, they are not alone, and they are in control of their lives and their bodies. Most importantly, we spent hours in prayer for them and with them, knowing that their true freedom and identity is found in Jesus Christ. Will you join us in the battle for freedom? First Friday Prayer is the foundation of Peace Promise. All are welcome to join us in prayer on the first Friday of each month at 7 p.m. at Mechanicsburg Brethren in Christ. **Thank you** for your recent financial gift. Your investment in these precious lives is making a real difference.

Susan Vigliano, President of the Board, and Patty Seaman, Executive Director, Peace Promise

Leadership Council Report

By Avis Whitesel

Here are some highlights from the March Leadership Council meeting:

- We welcomed new members to Leadership Council, Landon Horton and Rachel Pease.
- We spent a majority of our meeting praying and discussing how COVID-19 is affecting our church and how to respond.

The full minutes of the Leadership Council meeting are located on the bulletin board in the lobby.

If you would like additional information or to follow up on any items, please contact a Leadership Council member, Pastor Rob Douglass, Phil Engle, Landon Horton, Ray Knepper, Sharon Miller, Rachel Pease, Heidi Tucker or Avis Whitesel.

Freshly picked: Spring haikus

By Kimberly Tucker

COVID—19 Act I

No toilet paper.
Fear. Six feet separation.
Eat. Sleep. Walk. Laugh. Pray.

COVID—19 Act II

Cannot breathe. Cough. Fever.
Store shelves empty. Stay at home.
Zoom meetings connect.

COVID—19 Act III

Wash hands. Face masks. Wipes.
Die alone. Isolation.
Share. Be kind. Smile.

Simple Pleasures during the COVID—19 Pandemic

Telephone calls. Mail.
Nature's eye candy—tree blooms.
Cook new recipes.



Our sanctuary may be empty, but our "church"
is full.

Photo credit Joe Bennett

The church has launched a new email address
which you can use for needs, issues, concerns, or
suggestion related to the coronavirus outbreak:
connect@dillsburgbic.org

Please use this address to connect with the church
leadership about any needs you may be
experiencing during this time.

VBS is coming this Summer!



Save the Dates:

July 13-17, 2020

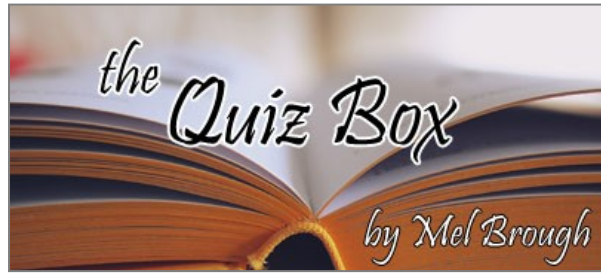
6:00pm-9:00pm

Our theme is:

"Jesus' Power Pulls Us Through"

Dillsburg BiC Church
18 E. Harrisburg St. | Dillsburg
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The Allegheny Open Tournament on Saturday, April 4 at Grantham BIC church was canceled.

Our next quizzing event will be the Charlie Crider Memorial Bible Quizzing Tournament on Saturday, May 2 at Elizabethtown BIC church, starting at 9 a.m. As of the writing of this article, the event was still on the schedule. We will be quizzing on Hebrews 1-13, 1st Peter 1-5 and 2nd Peter 1-3.

Even though we are not having practices, please keep studying so we can be ready to quiz on May 2 or on some other date in the future.

Since the teams from both Dillsburg and Grantham were planning to go to Denominational Finals at General Assembly, it was decided to not have Regional Conference Playoffs. However, due to the expense and the uncertainty of whether or not General Assembly will be held this year, Dillsburg decided to not travel to Kansas for quizzing. Soon after Dillsburg made the decision, Judah Fickett, denominational quiz director canceled the Quizzing Finals at General Assembly. It's still to be decided whether or not to have Denominational Finals this year, and if so, when and where to have it? More information to follow when it is available.

Verses of the month: 1 Peter 5:6-7 – “Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, so that in due time He may exalt you. Cast all your anxiety on Him, because he cares for you.” *The Holy Bible, Berean Study Bible. Copyright ©2019 Bible Hub.*

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 starting November 1 and ending October 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:

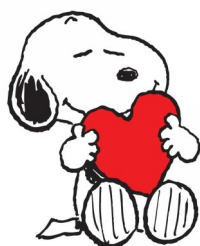
Mel Brough 717-432-4864 mabrough58@gmail.com

Brent Whitesel 717-432-9048 abwhitesel@gmail.com





WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES



Glen & Cindi Brubaker	May 7
Robert & Karen Pomeroy	May 8
Shelby & Audra Sieber	May 23
Rick & Charity Miller	May 25
Bob & Gail Brubaker	May 27
Seth & Becca Wierwille	May 27
Eric & Corie Thuma	May 29
Dwight & Annabeth Rotz	May 30
Isaac & Heidi Tucker	May 31



Grace Spurrier	May 2	Reece Thuma	May 17
Kimberly Tucker	May 2	Krista Reitnour	May 18
Levi Sowers	May 2	Jessica Hatch	May 19
Kathy Renard	May 6	Faithe Spurrier	May 20
Paul Cathro	May 6	Charity Miller	May 20
Spencer Sieber	May 6	Garret VanDyke	May 21
Bob Hess	May 7	Meredith Engle	May 24
Ellen Hoover	May 9	Nina Hoover	May 28
Ruth Zook	May 9	Wendy Zwally	May 28
Scott Raboci	May 10	Xayvion (c/o Tucker)	May 29
Helen Leach	May 11	Jason Brubaker	May 29
Levi Pomeroy	May 11	Miriam Smith	May 29
Shekinah Waris	May 13	Amy Kimmel	May 31
Jim Shelly	May 13	Samuel Walsh	May 31
Barb Miller	May 17		

If you are not able to make a Sunday morning service, you are able to send an email to dbicmedia@gmail.com and they will send you a link to the YouTube Live channel to watch online. *The link changes weekly.*

Did you know you can download and listen to past sermons on our website?
<http://www.dillsburgbic.org/media>





MAY



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 Zoom "QPR" Training
3	4	5	6 6:30 pm Zoom Gathering	7	8 Doulos Deadline	9
10	11	12	13 6:30 pm Zoom Gathering	14	15 6:30 pm Zoom Deacon Meeting	16
17	18	19	20 6:30 pm Zoom Gathering	21 6:30 pm Zoom Leadership Council	22	23 9:00 am Zoom Prayer Walking
24	25 7:00 pm Zoom Ministry Council	26	27 6:30 pm Zoom Gathering	28	29	30
31						

These events subject to change. Stay tuned for information from DBIC on any canceled or rescheduled events.