



# DILLSBURG BIC CHURCH

GROWING DEEP



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## The Doulos Monthly Newsletter

### *Finding Time for "Special Time"*

*By Rachel Miller*

It was March 2020. Our family was in the newborn daze, already in our own lockdown as the world began to join us. I remember my husband running out to the office the evening before the official shut-down began (you know, the one that was supposed to last two weeks). "I just need to grab some essentials to be able to work from home," he said. He returned with two scooters, a soccer ball, Settlers of Catan, his desktop computer and an extra monitor. Those games and activities certainly did become some essentials in our house as we hunkered down for the next few months, living and working together in our little townhouse.

I remember looking at the empty months ahead on the calendar and feeling both relief and dread. I felt relieved because I'm a homebody and I rely heavily on sleep schedules—well-rested kids whine just a little bit less and when you multiply a little bit by four, it makes a noticeable difference in the house! Nothing on the schedule meant nothing to interrupt naps and bedtimes. But I dreaded the lack of playdates, the lack of babysitters, the lack of church meetings to attend to give me something to think about beyond feedings and dirty diapers and negotiating turns with toys.

I turned to social media to seek the advice of parenting gurus around the world. The most important strategy I learned was this little thing called "Special Time." It takes just 10 minutes a day (per kid). The child gets to choose the activity. No screens allowed. No interruptions. Lots of eye contact. It turns out that when kids feel seen, wanted and loved they are more likely to help out and comply with direct orders and less likely to argue and bicker with parents or siblings. I highly recommend it. And yet, we hardly ever do special time in our house anymore.

When I was first trying it out, we made it a priority and had Special Time every day for a whole week. It made such a difference! I was sold. But soon we began skipping days here and there. When society started opening back up again, we'd choose to enjoy things (good things!) like trips to the library or playdates with cousins instead.

Nowadays, Special Times are few and far between and I've been frustrated with the arguments and lack of

compliance around here. I know the solution, but knowing the solution doesn't always correlate to doing the solution. Doing often requires intentionality, self-discipline, sacrifice and perseverance. I bet we all have areas of our lives where, despite knowing what we ought to do, we have trouble actually doing what we ought to do. Paul talks about that in Romans 7 and James goes as far as to call it sin in James 4.

One of those areas for me has been daily devotions. "Create a Habit of Daily Devotions" has been my one and only New Year's Resolution for the past 10 years. I know you'll all cut me too much slack because I have young kids, but I'm pretty sure this is doable even with young kids.

I'm starting to think about daily devotions as Special Time with my Heavenly Father. It doesn't consist of lots of eye contact and whatever activity I choose, but I still come away feeling known and deeply loved, which changes everything. I wonder how much better I'll get along with my neighbors when I'm more consistent at spending time with my Father. I wonder how much more compliant I'll be towards His will.

Do you do "Special Time" with your Father? What else do you know you ought to do, but let "life" get in the way of actually doing? Maybe you can be so bold as to share that with someone. Accountability. Confession. Intentional Friendship. Sharing deeply with someone would check off so many important boxes!



## Dillsburg Brethren in Christ Staff



**Rob Douglass**  
Senior Pastor



**Jeff Conrady**  
Associate Pastor



**Naomi Smith**  
Associate Pastor



**Esther Spurrier**  
Pastor of  
Congregational Care



**Kathy Bennett**  
Administrative  
Assistant

## The Doulos Newsletter Information

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**Doulos Editor:** Carolyn Kimmel

**Layout:** Anne-Marie Brandt

Please send submissions for the  
October 2021 issue to:

**carolynkimmel@comcast.net**

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

## After school, you can help!

You've probably heard that we are starting an after-school program at DBIC. You might be wondering when and whether you have a role to play in our efforts. If so, this update is for you!

We plan to start the after-school programs in October once the kids have adjusted to school.

The elementary program will be called "Encircle" and will meet on Mondays and Wednesdays.

The middle school program will be called "Edge" and will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

We could use a few more volunteers in the "Encircle" program as well as some substitute volunteers for both programs for when our regulars are unable to be there.

We will be accepting a limited number of students in order to keep the relational piece strong between students and adults... so, more adults will mean more students who can attend.

We are also looking for a few prayer partners, since reliance on God is the only way this program will be successful.

If you feel a pull to help out in any way, please contact Jaylene Shannon ([localoutreach@dillsburgbic.org](mailto:localoutreach@dillsburgbic.org)) to discuss further details.



### Reminder: Worship Services begin at 10:00am in our green space.

Please feel free to bring a comfortable chair or blanket to sit on! The service is also streamed to the sanctuary for those who prefer to sit indoors. Leadership Council has decided that masks are not required in any of our worship areas at this time, but people should absolutely feel free to continue wearing masks if they want. Additionally, on Sundays when we move worship inside, the Fellowship Hall is being used as a child-friendly area and we will not be using the Orange Room during worship.

### Did you join a small group?

Looking for some wonderful friendship, prayer support and more? Small groups at DBIC are forming, and we'd love you to be a part of one!

Our groups are about sharing life together, talking about the sermon, praying, sometimes even eating and playing! It's a way to get to know each other and maybe even build some friendships along the way.

Let us know **THIS WEEK** if you are interested in joining or leading!

Please reply to [smallgroups@dillsburgbic.org](mailto:smallgroups@dillsburgbic.org)!

## *New Hope Ministry Musings...*

*by Ginny Spurrier* 

Greetings, Church family, after a long silence!

Requests for donations will resume in September! When we meet in the outside green space a bin will be provided by the table where you pick up the bulletin. The box in the Narthex is also still available. We will start off by asking for **laundry detergent**. Since many kids will be starting back to school, parents will be needing to do more laundry! It will be a privilege to be blessing our neighbors in this way once again.

Other NEW news: The kitchen at New Hope Ministries opened in July! This is a way New Hope wants bless the seniors and others of our community as some of the seniors they serve aren't getting the financial gains that families with unemployment benefits or children are receiving. A free full lunch will be served from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. each week day.

Volunteers are needed for help in the kitchen. Patti Christopherson will be there 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 pm. She is asking for volunteers even if you can only come to help serve the meal for an hour. If you have ideas, recipes, questions, or want to help, her email address is [jpeoinpa@gmail.com](mailto:jpeoinpa@gmail.com) and her number is 717-439-1016.

Farmers Fair 2021 – dates are October 15 & 16, 2021. The New Hope stand will be on Baltimore Street only this year, not at Dillsburg Center. Provided will be the “muffin tin game,” corn hole game, face painting and pumpkin painting, along with hand out info about New Hope Ministries.

A recent video of Eric Saunders describing the new New Oxford center is available on the NHM website. Eric is calling for volunteers to help set up the new site. On-Line sign up will be provided soon.

A new center was also opened in Enola over the past year.

The visits by clients during the COVID pandemic has been low. This is expected to change dramatically as things return to normal.

You can access the New Hope Ministries website at [nhm-pa.org](http://nhm-pa.org) for more information and to view volunteer needs and places to sign up.

Dillsburg Center:  
99 W. Church Street,  
Dillsburg, PA 17019  
(717) 432-3053

May God continue to bless this ministry abundantly and bless your giving whether it be monetary or tangible items...whether it be great or small!!





\*Our clients sometimes feel stuck in one season... crisis season! It can be hard for them to look ahead to see that things will change—in due time. Recently, you sent us a generous gift—thank you! Gifts like yours allow us to show our clients that they are just in a season and not only will this season pass, we can introduce them to the best guide ever—God Himself! The news gets better—He desires to not only guide them but to establish and grow a personal relationship with them! Pray for us as we seek to guide them to the great Guide!

*Rev. John Schaffer, Executive Director, Capital Area Pregnancy Center*

\*I hope you are all doing well and having a great summer. Because of you, numerous children are receiving food, care, support, help, hope and love! You are shining Jesus' light to those in need! Thank you so much!

*Joel Giovannetti, Gift Officer, New Hope Ministries*

\*Throughout our 40-year history, God has blessed us with people like you who care for adults in need. Your generous support of our mission is providing them with a safe home, meals, activities and so much more. You are giving hope and changing lives!

*Jodie Smiley, Executive Director, Paxton Street Ministries*



## A Joyful Day!



Esther Spurrier was ordained on Sunday, Aug. 22, with Heather Beatty, who is fulfilling the administrative part of the bishop role in the Susquehanna Conference, making it official. BIC pastor Debby Bentsch, a longtime friend of Esther's and a chaplain at Messiah Village, prayed for Esther and was then joined by others in our congregation who wanted to add their prayers of blessing and thanksgiving. Esther began the pastoral credentialing process in the 1990s and finished the required coursework while she and John were in Zambia through the church's distance learning program. She is now ordained by the Brethren in Christ U.S. for ministry in the church and service to the denomination.

*Photos courtesy of Joe Bennett*







### Taking Time to Be Wrong

Agreeing with others, especially when they are pointing out your faults, is not easy, but it can play a crucial role in peacemaking. When you are talking with another person, first listen for the truth, resisting the temptation to defend yourself, blame others, or focus on points of disagreement. Ask yourself, "Is there any truth in what he or she is saying?" If your answer is "yes," acknowledge what is true and identify your common ground before moving to your differences. Doing so is a sign of wisdom and spiritual maturity. "Let a righteous man strike me--it is a kindness; let him rebuke me--it is oil on my head. My head will not refuse it" (Ps. 141:5). "He who listens to a life-giving rebuke will be at home among the wise" (Prov. 15:31; cf. 15:5; 17:10; 25:12). By agreeing with the other person whenever possible, you can resolve certain issues easily and then focus profitably on matters that deserve further discussion.

*Taken from [The Peacemaker: A Biblical Guide to Resolving Personal Conflict](#)*

*by Ken Sande, Updated Edition (Grand Rapids, Baker Books, 2003)  
p. 168-169.*

### Food for Thought

Think back to arguments you've had. Can you recall a single instance when quickly defending yourself from the criticism of another brought peace? In contrast to a quick defense, James exhorts us to be "quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry" (Jas. 1:19). Consider the beginning of Proverbs 15:31: "He who listens to a life-giving rebuke..." Simply put, listening requires time--and reflection on what's been said. You have literally nothing (except pride) to lose and everything to gain by listening and not responding quickly when someone points out what they believe to be a fault of yours.

The next time someone brings a rebuke your way, restrain yourself from offering your verdict on their rebuke--whether that verdict be positive or negative--until you've had time to check in with the Lord about it. Tell the other person, "That's hard for me to hear, but I know I need to be quick to listen and slow to speak. I'd like some time to think deeply about what you've said." If it turns out that you still disagree with the other person, at least you'll both have the benefit of knowing that you're not responding at the jerk of a knee.

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The church has an email address which you can use for needs, issues, concerns, or suggestion related to the coronavirus outbreak: [connect@dillsburgbic.org](mailto:connect@dillsburgbic.org)

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



## WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Phil & Ruth Anne Engle September 5  
 Scott & Cindy Raboci September 9  
 Tariq & Angelina Waris September 20



Ryan Brubaker	September 1	Debbie Wertz	September 15
Ginny Spurrier	September 3	Heidi Tucker	September 15
Lillian Beers	September 3	Seth Wierwille	September 16
Cheryl Cross	September 4	Andrew Douglass	September 20
bj Martin	September 5	Ron Engle	September 20
Nathan Hoover	September 8	Eric Thuma	September 21
Robert Pomeroy	September 8	Julianne Douglass	September 21
Nevin Engle	September 9	Lincoln Hill	September 22
Stan Eyster	September 11	Judy Smith	September 24
Darius Gard	September 12	Nina Leister	September 25
Tom Hatch	September 13	Arabella Hill	September 29
Victoria Hoover	September 13	A'Marie Gard	September 30



# September 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 6:30 pm ZOOM Gathering	2 6:30 pm Fresh Hope meeting (Orange Room) 7:30 pm ZOOM Prayer	3	4
5 10:00 am Worship	6	7 7:00 pm Ladies' Book Club	8 5:00 pm Corner Life	9 6:30 pm Fresh Hope meeting (Orange Room) 6:30 pm ZOOM Human Trafficking Meeting 7:30 pm ZOOM Prayer	10	11
12 10:00 am Worship	13 7:00 pm ZOOM Ministry Council	14	15 6:30 pm ZOOM Gathering	16 6:30 pm Fresh Hope meeting (Orange Room) 6:30 pm Leadership Council 7:30 pm ZOOM Prayer	17	18
19 10:00 am Worship	20	21 7:00 pm ZOOM Deacon Meeting	22 5:00 pm Corner Life	23 6:30 pm Fresh Hope meeting (Orange Room) 7:30 pm ZOOM Prayer	24	25 9:00 am Prayer Walking Time TBD Anniversary Celebration
26 10:00 am Worship	27	28	29 6:30 pm ZOOM Gathering	30 11:00 am - 7:00 pm Blood Drive (FH) 6:30 pm Fresh Hope meeting (Orange Room) 7:30 pm ZOOM Prayer		

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