



The Doulos Monthly Newsletter

18 East Harrisburg, Street | Dillsburg, PA | 717.432.3847

www.DillsburgBIC.org

On the Journey

By Naomi Smith

I am in the stage of life when driving my kids around is a big part of how I care for them.

My minivan often feels like an extension of our home as I transport our three kids to the bus stop, to piano lessons, to orthodontist appointments, to birthday parties, and wherever else they need to go. At times it can feel overwhelming to keep track of all the transportation details, and occasionally I think, "What I am doing?" Then I take a deep breath and grab the keys again, because the bigger question is, "What else would I rather be doing?" If these precious kids need to get someplace, then I am blessed to share the journey with them.

On a recent Thursday afternoon, I had to laugh at myself. In a span of an hour and a half, I made five trips through the town of Dillsburg. I went to Northern Elementary School to pick up the son of a friend of mine and took him home. Then I swung by our house to pick up Reuben, who needed to get to soccer practice at Chestnut Park, and drove through Dillsburg there and back again. When I arrived home briefly, I collected Gloria and Miriam for a band concert at the High School, and off we went once more. If I were an Uber driver, it would have been a profitable hour, but as it is, I am paid in moments of grace along the way.

There is an intimacy to interacting with other people in a vehicle. For a span of time, we are present with one another, belted in, joined together but at a comfortable distance. A car ride provides a safe space to talk—less intimidating than the face-to-face interaction of a dinner table conversation. In a vehicle, we can look out the window, daydream, and connect in more subtle ways. Gloria softly sings a harmony part as we add our voices to the song on the radio. Reuben sits in companionable silence or asks thoughtful questions. Miriam shares openly about her day and requests an attentive audience—during one recent ride she queried, "Are you listening to me, Mom? Can you repeat what I just said?" On the journey, we strengthen the ties that bind.

The boy that I have been driving home from school once a week is from Pakistan, and his family is Muslim, so we often chat about their culture and customs. One week we were talking about Lent and Ramadan, and I told him about our Ash Wednesday practice of wearing crosses on our foreheads made of ashes. As I mentioned the words,

"From dust you came and to dust you shall return," he visibly brightened and turned toward me in his seat. "We say that, too!" he exclaimed. On the journey, we find common ground.

Our God is a God of the journey. He walked with Adam and Eve in the garden, wandered with the people of Israel in the wilderness, and joined the travelers on the road to Emmaus. On the occasions when I am in the car alone, I find the Spirit of God to be good company. When I allow my driving time to be unhurried and unworried, the silence and stillness of those minutes help to restore my soul. And when I arrive home, I occasionally linger in the van, wary of facing my to-do list inside, hungry to remain in a place of peace.

Just as I am eager to cultivate moments of connection as I drive through Dillsburg with my kids, God is eager to connect with his kids. We are wayfarers, but we do not journey alone. One of my favorite written prayers comes from the Lutheran Book of Worship, and it says:

*O Lord God,
who has called us your servants
to ventures of which we cannot see the ending,
by paths as yet untrodden
and through perils unknown:
Give us faith to go out with good courage,
not knowing where we go,
but only that your hand is leading us
and your love supporting us. Amen.*

Wherever you go this summer and however you get there, I pray that you will allow the Spirit of God to inhabit your travels and infuse your conversations with his grace. May you go out with good courage, not knowing what the journey will hold but knowing who holds you as you journey.



Celebrating Life Together!

Mother's Day 2023



Photos courtesy of Joe Bennett



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The Doulos Newsletter Information

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Please send submissions and content for the next issue to: carolynkimmel@comcast.net or place them in Carolyn's church mailbox by 8th of this month.

Do you have a prayer request? You can contact us by email at connect@dillsburgbic.org or by using the individual contacts in the staff listing.

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Under the Hood: Celebrating the 14th Anniversary of DBIC Car Ministry

By Kimberly Tucker



April 14, 2023 was a rainy day and Jon Gustafson of Happy Cars was hosting DBIC's annual oil change. The rain reminded me of the "olde days" when the Car Ministry changed oil in the church parking lot and it RAINED!

The Car Ministry started changing oil for a \$5 donation in 2009. At that time, the oil change happened twice a year—once in the spring and once in the fall. Beginning in 2012, Randy Straw agreed to host the oil changes at his garage off Range End Road. Due to our volunteer mechanics' schedules, we reduced our oil changes to an annual spring event in 2015. By then, Randy could accommodate three vehicles every 30 minutes! When he retired, sold the business and moved to the Carolinas to golf, Jon (Happy Cars) agreed to host our annual spring oil change in 2018.

This year, we changed the oil and did safety checks on 12 vehicles. Our oldest car was a 1999 Ford Mustang. Nathan Hoover and Steven Miller volunteered as our mechanics. We could use at least two more volunteer "mechanics." If anyone is interested in helping for the 2024 oil change, please contact Kimberly Tucker at pandktucker@comcast.net or 717-432-8194.



Thank you cards: Have you used the thank you cards in the pew racks? If so, could you let the office know if they help you cultivate a habit of being thankful? Have you received one of them from someone else? We would love to hear from you about how it made you feel! Please email or call the office to share your input!

Do you have a prayer request? Would you like: To receive emailed prayer requests? To receive the weekly DBIC email? A church mailbox? Offering envelopes? You can contact us by email at connect@dillsburgbic.org with your request.

THANK YOU

THANK YOU

THANK YOU

THANK YOU

THANK YOU

***Thank you** for your recent gift to Messiah University Collaboratory. **Thank you** for helping us maintain a posture of gracious Christianity, rooted in intellectual and spiritual humility as we model servant leadership and responsible citizenship.

Jon C. Stuckey, Vice President of Advancement, Messiah University

***Every** year, we ask our residents to complete a survey about their life at Paxton Ministries. In our most recent survey, one resident included this short but sweet comment: **“Thank you** everybody for a great home! I appreciate you all!” YOU are included in the “everybody” because it’s your support that helps to make Paxton Ministries a “great home” for this resident and many others. **Thank you**, DBIC, for your continued support!

Amy Starr, Director of Development, Paxton Ministries

***Recently**, we had an interesting week. One client came, thinking she was pregnant but not sure. Another came to our post-abortion counseling meeting, knowing she was not. She’s had two abortions in the past. Both women were vulnerable, in pain and wracked with their own private stresses and turmoil. At first, we knew only their names, not their stories. As our time with them progressed, their individual advocates sensed the leading of the Lord. We don’t usually include the Gospel in the first session, but this week was different. God was leading!

The ladies were presented with who Jesus is, what he did and why. Both clients grasped the forgiveness offered and accepted Christ as their personal Savior. Please pray that these two women will continue the new life they have chosen and that God will give us more opportunities! **Thank you** for being a tremendous blessing and a consistent partner to us!

The Rev. John H. Schaffer, Executive Director, Capital Area Pregnancy Center

***We** are grateful for your kind gift. Your support is crucial to us meeting the needs of those in our communities who reach out for help. You are a blessing. **Thank you**!

Eric Saunders, Executive Director, New Hope Ministries

***The** Harrisburg market is the second most competitive rental market in the country, due to a lack of inventory, particularly of affordable housing. That means landlords can be even more selective in who they rent to and will often choose applicants with better credit and a clean tenant history over the families we serve. This makes your support more crucial than ever, so on behalf of the families we serve, **thank you** for all you do!

Matthew Wagner, Executive Director, Family Promise of the Harrisburg Capital Region





**This month, we get an update from
Nathan and Cathy Bert,
serving in Central America.**

*Compiled by John and Esther Spurrier,
DBIC Global Outreach Commission*

Some time has passed since you heard from us. God's goodness and mercy has been evident in our lives as we walk this journey of health issues and "retirement." We have seen God's faithfulness every step of the way.

In August 2021, medical doctors ordered a full body bone scan to see how much my prostate cancer had spread to my bones. During the scan, I could see on the monitor that there were white spots all over my bones. The next day, Cathy and I were at the Mission global worker workshop at Roxbury and I asked for prayer for healing from the cancer. A long story short, I believe God healed me.

We started seeing signs of healing from a negative bone biopsy in September 2021, an inconclusive prostate biopsy in November 2021 and then in May 2022 a full body bone scan from which the doctor said that a lot of the cancer on the bone had disappeared.

Before leaving for our retirement home in Nicaragua in December 2021, I signed a two-year agreement to be a global volunteer with BICUS Missions in order to finish the things that I didn't finish before our retirement from ministry with BICUS Missions in Honduras (mostly legal stuff). Cathy continued teaching AP Chemistry online from Nicaragua to students at Academia Los Pinares in Honduras, where she had been a teacher and administrator for many years.

In July 2022, the school called Cathy again to ask if she would return to the school for the 2022-2023 school year and teach all of the chemistry classes. The school would provide housing and a full-time salary. So, we are living in Honduras until June.

The BIC Honduras leaders have asked me to teach "The Biblical Teachings of Marriage and Divorce." They also asked Cathy to give a workshop to selective Sunday school teachers to equip them to train Sunday school teachers.

We are thankful to God for providing us with ministries opportunities and good health. We thank you for your prayers. Continue to pray for us as we continue our journey in Central America.



Stop Traffic

By Marj Strayer

Many of you know that Peace Promise had their fund raising banquet, For Love and Freedom in April. It went so well! It is always amazing to see how so many people come together volunteering their time, talent and effort to ensure the evening is a success.

I am happy to report that donations totaled \$33,000. That is the greatest contribution for a banquet yet. Praise the Lord. The speakers were Kristina Glackin and Chey. They are both survivors of exploitation. Chey is one of our own at Peace Promise. Their stories touched our hearts and reminded us of the grave and heart-wrenching consequences of sexual exploitation. And yet, it was so encouraging for us to see their lives so turned around. That is what can happen when organizations such as Peace Promise get involved in these women's lives and the power of Jesus is unleashed through prayer.

I would like to thank all of those from Dillsburg BIC who attended the banquet, donated items for the silent auction and made contributions and volunteered to make this evening a wonderful success. I also want to thank our gracious God and Father who cares deeply for these precious women.

Please continue to pray for Patty Seamans, director of outreach to the women. She has been battling cancer and struggles with a lack of energy. Thank you.



Leadership Council Report

By Avis Whitesel

Highlights from the March & April Leadership Council meetings:

- March:
 - A motion was passed on the approval process for spending funds.
 - Time was spent discussing where gaps might be between our governing documents and how we function as a church.
- April
 - Approved the proposal for the air-conditioning bid.
 - Discussed a new focus on discipleship.
 - Discussed the rental property.

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, Randy Fish, Travis Moyer, Rachel Pease, Jason Smith, Heidi Tucker, David Vader, or Avis Whitesel.

Answers to Your Questions about DBIC: How Do I Check Out a Book From the Library?

By Ginny Spurrier and Naomi Smith

The DBIC library is located next to the nursery on the main floor of the church, and you are always welcome to browse the shelves and make use of the resources there.

To check out a book or DVD, simply remove the library card from inside the back cover of the book or the back of the DVD. Write your full name and the date on the card and place it in the wooden box on the desk, to the right of the computer.

To check out a magazine or newsletter, write your name and the name/issue of the periodical on the small notebook located on that shelf. When you are ready to return an item, place it in the return bin just inside the library door and we will reshelve it.

The library contains books and resources across many genres of Christian discipleship, both nonfiction and fiction, with materials suitable for children, youth, and adults. We also subscribe to a handful of periodicals, including Christianity Today and three Brethren in Christ publications (Shalom!, History Matters, and BIC History and Life).

If you have any library experience or would be interested in learning to use library software, we are currently in need of someone to help purchase and prepare new books to be added to our collection. Thank you!



Our former “retired” Librarian,
Harriet Conrady



Andi and Krishauna Brubaker updated DBiC on their
ministry in Guatemala on Mother's Day.

Global Outreach Meeting Rescheduled

The Global Outreach meeting that was postponed due to the speaker's emergency is now scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on June 25 via Zoom.

Tune in to hear Denise Conway tell of her amazing journey to Jesus and her current ministry to young adults in New Mexico, helping them earn their GED certification and passing on the reality of God's love for them.



Eye Can See Clearly Now

Jesus had much to say about resolving conflict. One of his most familiar commands is recorded in Matthew 7:3-5:

Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? How can you say to your brother, "Let me take the speck out of your eye," when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.

This passage is sometimes interpreted as a warning against talking with others about their faults. If you read it carefully, however, you will see that it does not forbid loving correction. Rather, it forbids *premature* and *improper* correction. Before you talk to others about their faults, Jesus wants you to face up to yours. Once you have dealt with your contribution to a conflict, you may approach others about theirs.

Taken from [The Peacemaker: A Biblical Guide to Resolving Personal Conflict](#) by Ken Sande, Updated Edition (Grand Rapids, Baker Books, 2003) p. 79-80.

Food for Thought

Every couple prays for a full-term delivery; however, *premature* births are not an uncommon reality. In these situations, everything will be accelerated and great care will have to be exercised on the part of the parents, nurses, and doctors. Premature babies usually spend time in the intensive care unit, where constant monitoring and attention can be given, many times with a one to one ratio of nurse to child. It's a fragile and often dangerous time. Most premature babies are fine, but some do not survive; everything took place before they were ready.

Ken's use of the word *premature* in connection with Jesus' words about conflict resolution is remarkable. Our efforts to "de-speck" our brothers or sisters before we "de-plank" ourselves create premature situations; something is happening before it should. It would be nice if there were roving spiritual-ICU teams who could help us in those moments to help carry the resolution to a healthy point, but that's rare. It's usually just two people, neither one seeing clearly, and both often too wounded to respond *properly*.

Conflict resolution always begins with the *eye* of the "I." So upon reflection, how many of your attempts at conflict resolution could be described as premature? Did you ever get around to examining yourself? Did you get help from others during these delicate situations? And did these conflicts end in reconciliation, or sadly, did your relationship die due to the unfortunate complications of premature confrontation?

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Celebrating Life Together!

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES



Rob & Chris Douglass	June 1	Mark & Cindy Burkholder	June 16
Zach & Brittany Carlson	June 4	Randy & Sue Fish	June 16
Chad & Em Brubaker	June 11	Scott & Chris Eyster	June 16
Jason & Naomi Smith	June 11	Dave & Joyce Jones	June 17
Joe & Kathy Bennett	June 11	Kenji & Meghan Kanazawa	June 20
John & Esther Spurrier	June 13	Randy & Wendy Zwally	June 22
Bob & Carmy Hess	June 14	Tony & Deb Monko	June 25



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Jim Spurrier	June 3	Brianna Eyster	June 17
Jill Poole	June 4	Sue Lawver	June 19
Oswald Miller	June 8	Brent Whitesel	June 22
Krishana Brubaker	June 10	Joyce Jones	June 24
Carmy Hess	June 12	Em Brubaker	June 28
Carolyn Kimmel	June 13	Karen Pomeroy	June 29
Brittany Carlson	June 13	Tim VanDyke	June 30

June 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 11:00 am - 6:00 pm Blood Drive (FH) 6:30 pm Fresh Hope meeting (Orange Room) 7:30 pm Zoom Prayer	2	3
4 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	5	6	7 6:30 pm Prayer and Sharing (Zoom)	8 Doulos Deadline 6:30 pm Fresh Hope meeting (Orange Room) 6:30 pm Human Trafficking Meeting (Strayers) 7:30 pm Zoom Prayer	9	10
11 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	12	13	14 6:30 pm Prayer and Sharing (Zoom)	15 6:30 pm Fresh Hope meeting (Orange Room) 6:30 pm Leadership Council (201) 7:30 pm Zoom Prayer	16	17
18 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	19	20	21 6:30 pm Prayer and Sharing (Zoom)	22 6:30 pm Fresh Hope meeting (Orange Room) 7:30 pm Zoom Prayer	23	24 4:00 pm Senior (60+) Picnic
25 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 6:30 pm Missionary Update	26	27	28 6:30 pm Prayer and Sharing (Zoom)	29 9:00 am Local Outreach Commission 6:30 pm Fresh Hope meeting (Orange Room) 7:30 pm Zoom Prayer	30	