



DILLSBURG BIC CHURCH

GROWING DEEP



REACHING FAR

November 2023

The Doulos Monthly Newsletter

18 East Harrisburg, Street | Dillsburg, PA | 717.432.3847

www.DillsburgBIC.org

"God is Faithful"

By Faithe Spurrier

One book, among many, we have reflected on this year is "Where All Hope Lies" by James R. Van Tholen. It is a collection of sermons for the liturgical year compiled by friends and family after the preacher died of cancer at age 36.

The title page of the book features this verse: "May God Himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole Spirit, Soul, and Body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The One who calls you is faithful, and He will do it." (1 Thess. 5:23 -24)

What does it mean that God is Faithful?
How will He "Do It"?
What is He doing anyway?
Where is He keeping His promises?

As we have struggled in recent years with loss, disappointment, discouragement, and weariness, these questions dangle in our hearts like burned-out Christmas lights. Yet, we do believe, beyond any doubt, that God is Faithful. He cannot lie; He is True to His Word, and He keeps His promises.

Faithfulness in our life together, to me, means we depend on God in our weakness to keep us close to His heart, and as we continue to say "Yes" to Him, He provides what we need. We wish this meant that we wouldn't suffer, wouldn't have doubts, wouldn't be betrayed or battered or bereft. But this desert is where we learn real dependence on Him; this dry, arid place; this sacred space of walking.

Lydia Horst wrote a precious note to Carolyn (Kimmel) that was read at her bedside, and it speaks so well to all of us. She penned, "... we do not know the future, but God does, and He will do what is right."

Yes, in spite of cancer, He does what is right. And because of His promise that "cancer will not have the last word," it did not! Not for Gary (Lebo) or Carolyn or the many others who have been taken by this horrible disease. All the promises of God are "Yes" in Jesus Christ, and because of Him, death is defeated and we can have Hope!

And yet we grieve these empty spaces in our lives; these precious friends and family taken too soon. Much too soon....

We were reminded last month by Anne-Marie's article to think about "What's Next."

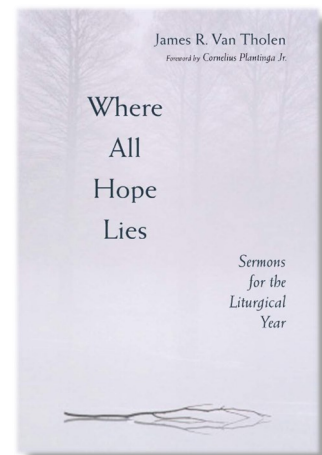
Maybe next we see our journey together in new ways; maybe we remember what is really important and let go of what is not; maybe we listen to God's heartbeat - the steady, constant life blood of His purposes and grace.

It is comforting to not need to have all the answers because He does, and as He continues to walk with us in our weakness, we know His faithfulness.

He is with Us.
He provides for Us.
He draws Us to Himself.
He keeps His Word.

Deuteronomy 7:9 says, "Know therefore that the LORD your God is God; He is the faithful God, keeping His covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love Him and keep His commandments."

Thank you, Good Father, for this beautiful, hard life. Thank you, Jesus, for making the way for all to be together again in You. Thank you, Spirit, for comforting, encouraging, and reminding us of Your Truth. In this desert; in this sacred space, we walk and are never alone.



WORSHIP & WONDER:

Art for Advent

CALLING ALL CRAFTERS & ARTISTS

PAINTERS, POETS, WOOD
WORKERS, QUILTERS, GRAPHIC
DESIGNERS, CULINARY ARTISTS,
MUSICIANS... & MORE!

All Ages & Expertises:

Submit art in November
to be displayed during Advent
in the Narthex, as an act of Worship.
Let's be filled with Wonder!

*Culinary Art Sunday to be announced.
Contact julie.lerew@dillsburgbic.org for details.*

Welcoming our newest member!



We welcomed Art Bert into our congregation on
September 24th during our worship service.

♥...♥...♥...♥...♥...♥...♥...♥

Christmas Choir

We would love to have you join us for
Christmas Choir this year! Rehearsals will
be held on the following Sundays from
2:00-3:30 p.m. in the sanctuary: November
5th, 12th, and 19th (no rehearsal on the
26th), and December 3rd and 10th. There
will also be a dress rehearsal (TBA). We
will sing at the morning service on Sunday,
December 17th. If you are interested in
singing or have questions, please contact
Randy Fish at rfish@messiah.edu.

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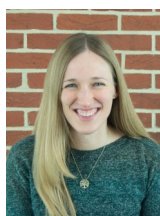
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The Doulos Newsletter Information

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**Please send submissions and content for the
next issue to: newsletter@dillsburgbic.org
by the 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.

Dillsburg Brethren in Christ Church

18 East Harrisburg, Street | Dillsburg, PA

717.432.3847

www.DillsburgBIC.org

Celebrating Life Together!

Farmer's Fair Clean-Up





* **Thank you** for this gracious gift! God is using your faithfulness together with SIM cross-cultural workers and partner churches to demonstrate the goodness of Jesus in many places where people otherwise live and die without having a single Christian who will be their friend. We are grateful to be in ministry with you.

SIM—Matt & Julie Walsh support

* **Thank you** so much for your continued support of the Collaboratory at Messiah University. We could not advance our mission of educating students and solving real-world engineering challenges without your support. Please keep us in your prayers as our semester progresses, and our students work on 20 different projects.

Bryce Walters, Program Manager, Messiah University Collaboratory



The Kingdom of God

Oneness, Harmony.
This is the kingdom of God.
Unity, Shalom.

Kimberly Tucker

* **Thank you** for your generosity during our recent ingathering offering. We have been using the portion designated to Local Outreach to fund some endeavors in our neighborhood. The recent “Dillsburg Clean-up” was very well received. The social media post where we shared the information had 106 “likes” and 42 comments, and we had the opportunity to speak to many people on the phone. Such a strange feeling to tell someone how happy we are to take their junk! Here are some thanks we received from people whose trash helped fill 2 large roll-off dumpsters:

Just wanted to thank you all so very, very much. You have no idea how happy we are. We’re getting up in age and our children (10 of them) have accumulated so much over the years . And it’s so difficult to get rid of those things .. we came out to go to the Giant and seen it all gone. Wish you could have seen the smiles on our faces. We are so blessed. We were hoping we’d see you taking it as we wanted to make a donation. Please let me know where I can send a donation ... again thank you so very much. - Steve and Stacy

Thank you so very much for taking our car bumper – especially in the rain!! – J.Y.

Finally, **thank you** from the church and the neighborhood to all the guys who went out in the rain and made short work of visiting 22 or so homes to pick items up, and to Isaac and Steven for the heroic job of dropping off the electronics. (We didn’t know there was a 5 TV limit!)



STOP TRAFFIC

by Marj Strayer

Good Ground, formerly Ruby Coffee + Co., was founded by two Messiah University students who had two goals: serve good coffee and empower survivors of trafficking. Through trauma-informed employment and barista training, they are able to offer economic development opportunities to women who have been exploited by the commercial sex industry. They created this coffee shop to fill that need and to journey alongside survivors as they work towards gaining life skills.

They are projected to open this winter and are currently raising funds for renovations and equipment. Check out the “More than Rubies” campaign page to learn about the importance of economic empowerment and to partner with them financially. They will be located at 244 S 17th St, Camp Hill.

peace
promise



GOOD
GROUND
COFFEE COMPANY

An Opportunity of Hope - Soaps by Survivors is a sister company of Peace Promise and one that fuels our vision of economic empowerment for the women we serve. Soaps by Survivors offers a survivor-made product line of natural and organic bath & beauty products with all proceeds going directly back to Peace Promise to aid in supporting those we serve. Your purchase makes a difference in the lives of the exploited.

SOAPS BY
SURVIVORS
a peacepromise venture



In the Pew Next To YOU: Meet: Adam and Emily Schmehl

Born and Raised in...

Adam: Elizabethtown, PA

Emily: Carlisle, PA

A bit about our family...

We met at Messiah College and got married in 2017. We moved to Dillsburg in 2022 and welcomed our first child, Wesley, in July 2023. He is of course our complete pride and joy. We have a very snuggly pup named Tesla and absolutely adore our niece and nephew.

We spend our days doing...

Adam: caring for our son, our dog, and working at Katapult Engineering alongside many special and talented people providing software solutions to the telecom industry.

Emily: caring for our son, our dog and working at UPMC supporting low income individuals living with disabilities.

How I became a Christian...

Adam: I grew up going to church and having faith be an important part of my life. It became more personal and tangible as I was struggling with major depression in college. Still wrestling with what it means to be a follower and attempt to imitate Christ!

Emily: I was born and raised to follow Christ and grew up in, the formerly named, Carlisle BIC church. I chose to become baptized as a teen and as an adult have continued to explore my faith.

A time I really saw God work in my life was...

Adam: ...summer after freshman year at Messiah. I was in a really dark place and it felt like the Holy Spirit pulled me up and rescued me. I remember listening to “Something Beautiful” by Jars of Clay one morning as the sun came up and I just fell apart. Since then, there have been very difficult moments but everything has been colored with a sense of hope from Him.

Emily: ...when I gave birth to our son. God protected and sustained us throughout the pregnancy, labor & delivery, and each moment since Wesley was born. Every person we encountered at the hospital was profoundly kind and compassionate. We have been surrounded by his loving beauty in the support of so many in this congregation, our friends and family and from our workplaces. The moment I delivered Wesley, “How Great Thou Art” came on through our music playlist and the midwife I had prayed would deliver Wes had just started her shift that day and brought him into the world. After having been in the hospital for four days, I knew this all was not just happenstance. Through the unexpected, the moments of uncertainty, and the grogginess of new parenthood, God has been ever close through his Created.

My biggest passion is...

Adam: I have many passions! I love supporting teams and serving people, and I have so much to work on when it comes to listening to, loving on, and encouraging others. I enjoy playing music, running, video games, and learning more about how we were made and how our minds tick.

Emily: ensuring the care of others, particularly those most vulnerable and marginalized.

I spend my free time doing...

Adam: running and playing disc golf

Emily: spending time outside (hikes, gardening, soaking in the sunshine)

Favorite Bible verse...

Adam: Ephesians 5:2. “Walk in Love”

Emily: Exodus 4:11-12 - ¹¹ Then the LORD asked Moses, “Who makes a person’s mouth? Who decides whether people speak or do not speak, hear or do not hear, see or do not see? Is it not I, the LORD? ¹² Now go! I will be with you as you speak, and I will instruct you in what to say.”

My favorite thing about Dillsburg BiC is...

Adam: My favorite thing about DBIC is that people genuinely love each other and their community and the world like crazy and it’s so clear through both actions and words.

Emily: the congregation is truly a community and takes the call to love and serve others seriously

Something that might surprise you about me is...

Adam: I'm a pretty open book and tend to over-share, so i'm not sure I could say anything that would be a surprise! I love analyzing movies/tv (and our culture in general) to find places where I think the Holy Spirit is at work and God is calling us to Him. I feel like I see so many beautiful things every day!

Emily: I have a degree in Gerontology and wrote a seminar and lesson plan on the importance of care for caregivers.

My favorite song is...

Adam: Goner by twenty one pilots, Trees by twenty one pilots, Stupid Deep by Jon Bellion, To Be Alone With You by Sufjan Stevens

Emily: Rise Up by Andra Day, Turning Page by Sleeping At Last, and The Universe by Gregory Alan Isakov (something you should know about me is that I have many favorites of things).

A prayer request I have is...

Adam: Please pray for hope and courage to continue growing at parenthood, and the ability to learn from all the amazing parents surrounding me!

Emily: ...that God would bring healing and relief to my parents.





Doug & Barb Miller

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

Doug and Barb Miller have recently returned to the US after 23 years of missionary service among the Yawo Muslim people in Malawi. They are living with Steven and Rachel and currently worshipping with us. They will be speaking in church on November 26th. Below is their most recent update. Greet them and give them a warm welcome when you see them.



Dear Family and Friends,

We thank the Lord for...

1. A very smooth transition for us so far.
2. His provision of the perfect home, an in-law apartment at our son Steven's home.
3. 18 from V13 who were baptized (10/7) with testimonies of assurance of salvation.

Please pray for...

1. Visits to resume teaching at V26 and to meet the chief at new V31 (10/10).
2. Favor as we meet our neighbors.
3. Success with theological exams for Madalitso & Ethel (10/18-25).
4. Successful cataract surgery for Barb (10/19 and 11/2)

Thank you for your prayers and support,

Doug and Barb

Note: Please consider using this "[30 Day Yawo Prayer Guide](https://rb.gy/7gsbq)" (<https://rb.gy/7gsbq>) as you pray for the Yawo. I urge you, first of all, to pray for all people....[God] wants everyone to be saved and to understand the truth. (1 Timothy 2:1a, 4, NLT)



Our new apartment in Dillsburg, PA



Group of those baptized in Lake Malawi



You are invited to... Shine!

All elementary-aged kids (K-5th grade) are invited to join us on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

We will meet Bible characters, sing songs, play games, make crafts, enjoy snacks, and more.

We hope to see you there!

Who: Kids from Kindergarten to 5th Grade

When: Wednesdays, 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Where: Fellowship Hall, Dillsburg BIC Church

What: Learn, Sing, Have Fun, Eat Snacks!

<https://vbspro.events/p/events/bcaffb>

Corner Life Meals

On the first and third Wednesdays of the month, come to the Fellowship Hall for a delicious free meal served from 5:30-6:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to linger after the meal for songs and activities for all ages, including Thrive youth group and Shine which will begin at 6:30 p.m.. If you can volunteer time to help prepare, serve, or clean up after the meal, please sign up at www.dillsburgbic.org/corner-life/. We only have one meal for the months of November and December due to the holiday schedules.

*** Menus are subject to change. ***

November 1

Pepperoni Pizza Sliders
Veggies
Potato Chips
Apple Crisp

December 6

Pork Loin
Smashed Red Potatoes
Baked Corn
Assorted Pies

New Hope Ministry Musings

By Ginny Spurrier

New Hope Ministries is busy once again preparing for the Thanksgiving and Christmas events to help eligible individuals and families in our community who need some extra encouragement and support during these special times of the year.

THANKSGIVING NEWS...

This year, Thanksgiving Food Baskets will be distributed at the Dillsburg New Hope Center on Friday and Saturday, November 17 & 18. Our DBIC family is participating with a donation of 250 tubs of cake frosting (any flavor). Your donation is DUE at the church no later than SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12. This is a large amount and, hopefully, by the time you read this there will have already been many tubs donated but probably more are still needed! (Another church in the Community will be donating the cake mixes.) Thanks to each one for digging deep in your pockets for a few extra dollars to help provide a sweet dessert for many needy families in our Community this Thanksgiving!

CHRISTMAS NEWS...

Each year New Hope has an event which is called the "Christmas Blessings Express". This will be the 13th year when eligible guests of New Hope will be able to "shop" at the Center for unwrapped gifts for the whole family. Also, if the guests desire, there will be volunteers on hand there to wrap the gifts for them. All gift wrapping supplies are donated, also.

If you would like to participate and can purchase a new gift for this event you will see the "Giving Tree" in the Narthex which has "ornaments" with needed items designated. Please take an "ornament", purchase the item designated and place it UNWRAPPED in the New Hope container beside the tree. (If you don't see anything on the tree you want to purchase please feel free to purchase something that you think would be nice to receive.)

This event will be held Thursday and Friday, December 6 and 7 at the Dillsburg Center. All gifts are DUE at the church no later than WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4.

Thanks so much, in advance, for your generous and faithful expressions of caring by sharing with many in our community who are in need!! May God richly bless you as you consider these opportunities to reach out and once again bless our neighbors!

1 Timothy 6:18,19 (TLB)

"Tell them to use their money to do good. They should be rich in good works and should give happily to those in need, always being ready to share with others whatever God has given them. By doing this they will be storing up real treasure for themselves in heaven—it is the only safe investment for eternity! And they will be living a fruitful Christian life down here as well."

New Hope Ministries
99 W. Church Street
Dillsburg, PA 17019
(717) 432-2087 ext. 211
www.nhm-pa.org



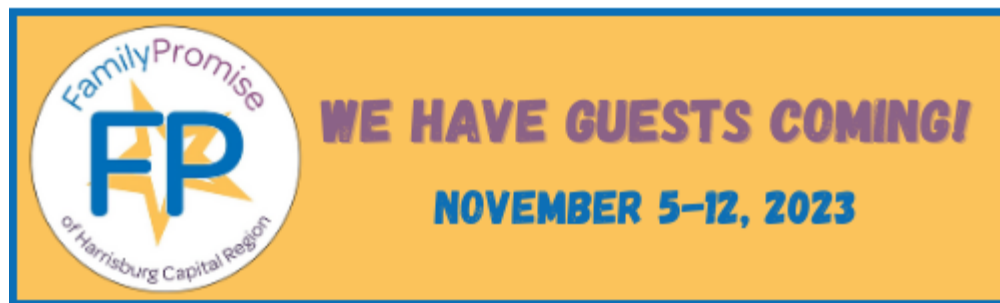
Why I have a Secret Pal/Sister

As told to Nina Hoover, Secret Pal Coordinator

One Sunday morning, I had a lady from our church approach me and say, 'Nina, I would like to tell you something that has been on my mind for several months now.' As we started to chat, she related the following: 'I really want to let you know how much the Secret Pal program has meant to me over the years. I've had secret sisters in the past; however, a year or so ago, I wasn't sure about my new pal. I didn't know her very well, in fact, not at all. When I picked out her name (we do this at our annual Secret Pal Dinner Party), I wasn't sure how I was going to relate to her. One of the things that she had written down was something that I could associate with. Besides praying for her, I was able to "connect" with her through little gifts, etc., without revealing my identity.' She went on to thank me for providing a way for ladies to be involved in a program that really doesn't involve a lot of time or energy, however, it connects ladies of all ages in a sisterhood.

If you are a post-high school lady, look for more information coming in the December Doulos inviting you to the dinner party that will be held in January. If you have any questions, please see me, and I will be happy to talk with you.

Let us not love with words or speech
but with actions and in truth.



This is the last time our church will be hosting families from Family Promise in 2023. Starting on November 5th through the 12th, we will have up to three families. If you are interested in participating in this weeklong event, there are various ways in which you can help. First, we need people willing to serve as evening and overnight hosts. Next, we need to provide food for breakfast and lunch. Additionally, we will be making the evening meals for these families. Descriptions of each role with further information can be found on the SignUp Genius sites. The links are on the church website at <https://www.dillsburgbic.org/family-promise/>

For any other questions, feel free to contact Scott and Cindy Raboci at (717) 425-0672 or sraboci@yahoo.com. Thank you in advance for your support!



Evil Has A Name

"Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour." (1 Peter 5:8)

Satan prefers that we do not recognize his role in our conflicts. As long as we see other people as our only adversaries and focus our attacks on them, we will give no thought to guarding against our most dangerous enemy. Both James and Peter were aware of this danger, and they warn us to actively resist Satan's schemes (James 4:7; 1 Peter 5:9). Paul gives a similar warning, reminding us that "our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms" (Eph. 6:12).

Taken from [The Peacemaker: A Biblical Guide to Resolving Personal Conflict](#) by Ken Sande, Updated Edition (Grand Rapids, Baker Books, 2003) p. 50-51.

Food for Thought

"There are two equal and opposite errors into which our race can fall about the devils. One is to disbelieve in their existence. The other is to believe, and to feel an excessive and unhealthy interest in them. They themselves are equally pleased by both errors and hail a materialist or a magician with the same delight."

-- C.S. Lewis, *The Screwtape Letters*

Who is your most dangerous enemy?

Think about it for a moment. What would you say? Odds are that among both non-Christians and Christians, most of us would answer in terms of flesh and blood; in other words, someone or some group of people. But as Ken reminds us, that's just not the case. Three scriptural authors -- Peter, James and Paul -- all echo the reality that our most dangerous enemy in this life is Satan.

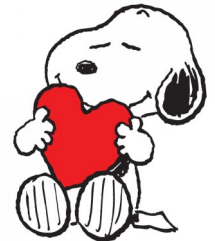
There is an enemy out there and we're basically oblivious to his schemes - we're asleep at the wheel. We just keep on blaming each one another, a.k.a., flesh and blood, for everything that's going on. Ken says it well: Satan prefers that we do not recognize his role in our conflicts.

If we have any intention of living as peacemakers, it's imperative that we live with an awareness of our most dangerous enemy. Now it is true that most of our struggle comes through flesh and blood, but we've got to be self-controlled and alert, remembering that it's not ultimately against flesh and blood that we battle.

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Celebrating Life Together!

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES



Kyle & Tammy Leister	November 4
Ray & Cheryl Cross	November 10
Seth & Amy Miller	November 14
Paul & Patty Cathro	November 17
Dan & Anne-Marie Brandt	November 18



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Natasha Beers	November 4	Jazmin Leister	November 16
Harriet Conrady	November 4	Kathy Bennett	November 16
Mike Lawver	November 5	Cindy Burkholder	November 18
Paul Tucker	November 8	Lois Conrady	November 18
Isaac Tucker	November 10	Brandon Eyster	November 20
Grace Hardy	November 12	Cheryl Heck	November 20
Sue Fish	November 15	Lucy Miller	November 23
Andrew Cathro	November 16	Mark Burkholder	November 26
Olivia (Kimmel) Alcaraz	November 16	Cam Holman	November 29

November 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 9:00 am Ladies' Bible Study 5:00 pm Corner Life 6:30 pm Shine 6:30 pm Thrive 6:30 pm Sharing & Prayer	2 5:30 pm Martin Brass rehearsal 6:30 pm Fresh Hope 7:30 Prayer (Zoom)	3	4 Set Your clocks back tonight!
5 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 2:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	6 7:00 pm (Zoom) Ministry Council	7	8 Doulos Deadline 9:00 am Ladies' Bible Study 6:30 pm Shine 6:30 pm Thrive 6:30 pm Sharing & Prayer	9 5:30 pm Martin Brass rehearsal 6:30 pm Human Trafficking mtg (Strayers) 7:30 Prayer (Zoom)	10	11
Family Promise Hosting						
12 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 12:00 pm LC/MC/Staff Discipleship meeting 2:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	13	14 6:40 pm Ladies' Bible Study	15 9:00 am Ladies' Bible Study 6:30 pm Shine 6:30 pm Thrive 6:30 pm Sharing & Prayer	16 5:30 pm Martin Brass rehearsal 6:30 pm Fresh Hope 6:30 pm Leadership Council 7:30 Prayer (Zoom)	17	18 9:00 am Logan Park and Dillsburg Borough clean up day!
19 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 2:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	20	21 10:00 am - 7:00 pm Blood Drive	22	23 THANKSGIVING DAY	24	25
26 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 12:00 pm Lunch	27	28 6:40 pm Ladies' Bible Study	29 6:30 pm Shine 6:30 pm Thrive 6:30 pm Sharing & Prayer	30 5:30 pm Martin Brass rehearsal 6:30 pm Fresh Hope 7:30 Prayer (Zoom)		