



"Choices: Grandma Stories"

By Grace Holland

Thirty years ago I was enjoying my grandchildren and wished that somehow I could pass on to them the good values that were instilled in me as a child. As I prayed, it occurred to me to write short stories of some of my experiences and how the choices I made influenced my life. I called the book, Choices: Grandma Stories and sent several stories at a time to my grandchildren.

Now I am enjoying my great grandchildren and we've pulled the book out to revisit the stories I wrote. See what you think of this first one.

A Certain Summer Day

The sun was smiling in my window as my eyes popped open, and I jumped out of bed as softly as I could. My sister was still sleeping and no one else seemed to be moving in the house. It took half a second to slip on my dress, and then I tip-toed in bare feet down the wooden stairs, through the kitchen and across the screen porch. I was careful not to let the screen door bang.

The cement steps were still cool because the sun had not reached them yet. It was cool under the maple tree, too. It was only June, but my feet were already tough enough to walk on the gravel in the driveway. I headed west toward the Middle Barn with the sun warming my back, but then I came to the first lane going between the rows of trees and bushes. I decided to go down to the elm tree with its big arms reaching out and its roots making cozy places to sit.

I loved this time of morning. Everything seemed clean and new and it was fun to think of all the things I could do that day. It was especially fun to choose where to go and what to do for a little while. Later on there would be chickens to feed and weeds to pull and hay to make, but right now I could do what I wanted to.

The grass was wet from dew like it always was on a summer morning. It glittered in the sunshine. The grass

got taller as I went along. Father did not mow this far away from the house. Mowing was hard work when you pushed the mower to make the blades go around. Sometimes we tied a goat in the lane or brought Father's little moving sheep pen to let the sheep eat grass in new places, but nobody had nibbled the grass here.

I looked to see if there were any blossoms left on Father's flowering shrubs, as he called them. I loved flowers. It was hard to explain why. They just seemed so special and lasted such a short time. There were no flowers left on the shrubs. Their time for blooming was already over, but there were plenty of tiny green leaves. It was wonderful to see everything full of life again after the cold winter.

I sat for a while in the curve of the big tree root. Then I went back towards the barn, but this time I walked in the rows of Father's evergreens. Yesterday he had gone through with the horse and cultivator and the ground was soft between my toes. At the end of the row was the mulberry tree. It was special, my Grandma said, because it was a weeping mulberry. Instead of reaching up, its branches hung down, and it was starting to seem like a little house inside the circle. Some of the mulberries were getting pink. I would have to come back before long and have a feast.

On the other side of the Middle Barn was the lane where the apple trees grew. There were cherry trees too and I looked to see if we would have any cherries this year. The cherries were hard and green but there were lots of them. My big brother and I would pick them and Mother would make cherry pies with fancy edges and little peep holes in the crust.

Beside the cherry trees was the grape arbor. We called it an arbor because it had big iron poles for the vines to grow on. In the fall there were always juicy purple grapes, fat red ones, tangy white ones and--my favorite--tiny

DBIC STAFF



Rob Douglass
Senior Pastor
rob.douglass@
dillsburgbic.org



Jeff Conrady
Associate Pastor
jeff.conrady@
dillsburgbic.org



Naomi Smith
Associate Pastor
naomi@dillsburgbic.org



Esther Spurrier
Pastor of
Congregational Care
espurrier49@gmail.com



Julie Lerew
Worship Coordinator
julie.lerew@
dillsburgbic.org



Colin Patterson
Youth Pastor
colin@dillsburgbic.org



Kathy Bennett
Administrative Assistant
office@dillsburgbic.org

The Doulos Newsletter Team

Doulos Editors: Kathy Bennett, Anne-Marie Brandt, Rhonda Hebbard

Doulos Layout and Design: Anne-Marie Brandt
Editor Emeritus: Carolyn Kimmel

Please send submissions for the next issue
to: newsetter@dillsburgbic.org

Dillsburg Brethren in Christ Church
18 East Harrisburg, Street | Dillsburg, PA
717.432.3847
www.DillsburgBIC.org

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sweet pink ones. Under the arbor my grandma had planted lots of flowers that liked the shade. She knew just which ones to plant where, and I liked to watch her plant and hoe and straighten the flowers as though she loved them.

I sat down beside the flower bed to think. Where should I go next? I could go to see the baby chicks in their little house with six sides, or I could go to see how big the lambs were getting, or I could go down to the woods to see if there were any more wild flowers. I could decide myself. It was fun to be free to choose.

Then Mother called. "Graa-aace." It was like a song with two notes. The first one was higher and the second one lower. I didn't move. It came again, "Graa-aace." Breakfast must be ready. I was hungry, but I would rather explore some more. Here was another kind of choice. I could act as though I didn't hear. Or I could answer and go to the house. I waited for one more call, "Graa-aace." I stood up and surprised the birds that were sitting in the grape arbor.

"Com-ing," I answered with my own two-note song.



Sunday School for all ages begins on September 8, 9 a.m.

Christians and Politics

Come join us as we work through the video course "The After Party" which helps us to get to a Christ-centered political identity. Leaders: Naomi Smith, Rob Douglass, and Steven Miller

Experiencing God

Come join us as we learn more about how we can experience God in our daily lives.
Leaders: John Spurrier and Randy Fish

Ladies Bible Study

Ladies, you're invited to join us Tuesday evenings for an inductive Bible study from the comfort of your own home!

We study, we share, we pray, and occasionally we meet in person. Come, connect with us beginning on October 8th and then on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month via zoom. For our first two weeks, we will be diving into the title gem of a book, Haggai.

Contact Joyce Jones for more details.

Celebrating Life Together!

An energetic group of Shine kids and volunteers gathered for a Summer Fun Day outside Scott and Cindy Raboci's home on July 20. Everyone enjoyed water games and running games, all topped off with ice cream sundaes and salty snacks. Thank you to everyone who planned, helped, and came!



BOUNCE HOUSE



CHILI COOK-OFF 5-6 PM

SEPT. 7, 4-7 PM

FREE FALL FUN FEST

**SHARE A FALL EVENING
WITH FRIENDS,
FOOD, MUSIC, AND GAMES!!**

CHILI COOK-OFF SIGN UP:

[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/DILLSCHILI](https://tinyurl.com/dillschili)



CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT

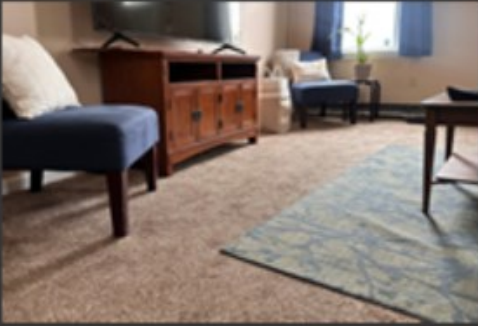
ICE CREAM SUNDAES 6-7 PM

CRAFTS/GAMES

DILLSBURG BIC CHURCH - 18 E HARRISBURG ST. - DILLSBURG, PA



Excerpts from the Peace Promise August Newsletter....



An update on our survivors from Patty, our Executive Director of Client Services:

We got a house! ... and now we are turning it into a HOME. Over the last month we have been in high gear getting two of our survivors moved into their new safe space that they can call home. Home is something neither have had for the past few years. Home is where we will gather with them and create new memories, new habits and cheer them on as they grow. - Welcome HOME!

We also accomplished so much more during our Life Skills groups! We had a visit from an emergency room social worker who shared valuable insight on how to advocate for themselves or friends as well as helping them to understand their rights. This also opened up a lot of questions about who can make decisions for their care if they are unable. We will be planning a follow up so our ladies have access to the information and documents needed to make these decisions for themselves. We followed up that class with a visit from a nurse practitioner friend who answered a lot of general health questions that we may not feel comfortable answering in other settings.

The ladies also participated in a second "interaction with law enforcement" meeting and found a surprising connection with a law enforcement friend whose story includes going from gang to law enforcement. - It was a great surprise for all!

They continue to work through the Safe People book during our group and are really starting to see the impact others we allow into our worlds have on our personal wellbeing.

They are each juggling a lot of pieces that are still fairly new to them with work and schedules, so please continue to pray as they do the hard work of healing.



Run for Freedom is an annual 5K event to raise money for the work of [Peace Promise](https://www.peacepromise.org/). Participants may choose to create or join a team to raise money and do their run/walk together on their own, or attend our in-person event.

This year's in-person event will be held at Siebert Park in Camp Hill (2414 Cumberland Blvd, Camp Hill, PA 17011), on Sunday October 20th at 2 PM. Teams or individuals may attend this event or complete their run/walk at date/time and location determined by the team leader. <https://runsignup.com/Race/PA/CampHill/RunforFreedom2024>

THANK YOU

THANK YOU

THANK YOU

THANK YOU

THANK YOU

THANK YOU for the gracious gift. God is using your faithfulness together with SIM cross-cultural workers and partner churches 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 compelled to keep going so that all may experience the goodness of Jesus in human form! We are grateful to be in ministry with you. Thank you for magnifying the Lord with SIM as we exalt His name together.

~ Matt & Julie Walsh, SIM USA

THANK YOU for joining with us as we share God's love and hope with more than 25,000 people every year. Your support directly feeds guests at New Hope Ministries in so many ways. As you know, thousands of families rely upon our programs and services every day. From our food pantries to youth programs to budget classes, your generous donation ensures that every guest has their need met in a given day. Thank you for partnering with us in this meaningful work as we share help and the hope of Jesus with our neighbors in need!

~ Molly Helmstetter, CFRE, Director of Development, New Hope Ministries

Thank you for your confidence in the New Horizons Foundation, Inc. Your generous support has enabled the beneficiaries of your gift to continue the work they have been called to do. We appreciate the opportunity with you on this important project.

~ Dr. Steven Prensner, President, New Horizons Foundation

THANK YOU! We use gifts like yours to help our clients navigate their "time travel" We help some prepare for the birth of that precious little one as well as help others move forward from their abortion decision. The significant constant is the love, grace, mercy and forgiveness found in the finished work of the cross.

~ Rev. John Schaffer, Executive Director, Life Choices Clinic

THANK YOU so much for supporting Paxton Ministries! Your recent donation is making an impact and is helping us provide adults in need a community where they can feel like they belong. Through your gifts, service, and prayers, you are surrounding our residents with an inspiring and compassionate community. We are so grateful for you and for the difference you make! We deeply appreciate your help as we fulfill our mission to provide affordable housing and support services to adults in need with Christ-like love!

~ Amy Starr, Director of Development, Paxton Ministries

Dear church, this donation is out of respect for the free oil change I received from the church. HC Automotive did it and I got in June 4, 2024. I apologize for being so late with (the) donation. I adopted a service dog and have been in training with the dog. So tired! Thank you for your kindness and may God love and protect you.

~ Love, Coral

THANK YOU for allowing us to use the church yesterday (August 15) for a blood drive. We saw 37 donors yesterday, and collected 30 units of blood. So with your help, we will be able to save 90 local lives.

~ Rick Pope, Donor Resource Consultant, Central PA Blood Bank



Dear Church Members,

Thank you for choosing to partner with The Dillsburg Senior Center. In the past year, you have helped us in many ways. The \$2,000 donation will help support our operating expenses. Your members have also been supportive with their personal time and talents: painting our dining room, delivering a refrigerator when ours stopped working, fixing door locks, and volunteering for numerous other upcoming projects. Recently, the church also graciously delivered a new stove and vacuum cleaner to the center.

The Dillsburg Senior Center has gone through countless changes in the last 50 years. We have seen our membership numbers fluctuate over time. Covid was an especially challenging time for us. Over the past three years, we have tried to rejuvenate all aspects of the center including our facility, our programs, and our community awareness.

The center is thriving, thanks in part to the church's contributions. Our board of directors, members, and staff are extremely appreciative of your contributions to this ongoing effort. We look forward to continuing this partnership to support the older residents in Dillsburg and surrounding areas.

Sincerely,

Tracy Emig
Dillsburg Senior Center



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 6:30PM. If you can volunteer time to help prepare, serve, or clean up after the meal. Please sign up at www.dillsburgbic.org/corner-life/

September 11

Crack Chicken Casserole
Salad/Fruit
Ice Cream

September 25

Walking Taco Casserole
Veggies/Fruit
Brownies

In the Pew Next to YOU... Meet: Colin Patterson & Emily Garber

Born and Raised in...

Colin: New Cumberland, PA

Emily: Carlisle, PA

A bit about my family...

Colin: My parents are Kirk and Patty Patterson. My mom is the children's pastor at Harrisburg BIC Church. I have an older sister, Alissa, who lives in Kansas, and she has two foster sons. In May, I am getting married to Emily Garber.

Emily: I have an older sister who is in the army. She is currently stationed in Maryland with her husband. I currently live at home with my mom, dad, and grandma. My family and I are really close and they are super important to me.



How I became a Christian...

Emily: I grew up in church, but started to get more involved as I joined youth group. That is when I started to play for our worship team and started to take my faith seriously.

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

Colin: When I was in high school, I was working at Kenbrook Bible Camp as a CIT. Towards the end of the week, I felt a strong calling towards ministry. This was the first time that I had felt God in a specific way like that. My calling towards ministry is what gave me the motivation to push through the rest of school.

My biggest passion is...

Colin: Working with and encouraging young people in their walk with Christ. One of the reasons why youth ministry is so close to my heart is because a lot of the formative pieces of my faith journey happened when I was in middle school and high school. Because of this, I want to be able to use my story and experiences to impact the lives of young people in the same way that I had people reach me at that age.

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

Emily: When I was in college and felt lost. I didn't know what I wanted to do post-college and started to struggle with a lot of anxiety. I saw God a lot during that time as he showed me where He was leading me.

I spend my days...

Emily: Working for a nonprofit in Harrisburg where I support kids in foster care as they move towards adoption, hanging out with my fiancé (!!!) and my friends.

I spend my free time...

Colin: I read and collect comics and I play video games. I also like to spend time outdoors whenever I get the chance.

Emily: I spend my free time... playing board games and card games, watching the sunset, hanging out with friends, being outside

Favorite Bible verse...

Colin: James 1:2-4: Consider it due joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

My biggest passion is...

Emily: Caring for and loving those in need.

My favorite thing about Dillsburg BIC is...

Colin: The closeness of the community. Since visiting here for the first time, Emily and I were able to feel both how close this community was to each other and also the welcoming atmosphere that is created.

My favorite song is...

Colin: This changes very frequently, but as of right now, it's the Beautiful Letdown by Switchfoot.

Emily: Maine by Noah Kahan



THE BOOK NOOK

Explore and Discover our Church Library
Free to Borrow From!!



The DBIC church library is being graciously tended by Ginny Spurrier (who is reshelving books) and Ariela Vader (who is processing new books). If you have suggestions for books to be added to the library, contact Ariela at ariela.vader@gmail.com, but we kindly ask that you find a different place to drop off unwanted books. Thank you!



COMING SOON THRIFT ON PURPOSE

Thrift on Purpose is opening this fall in Mechanicsburg. You can help us get started by donating gently-used items, or by volunteering once the store is open this fall. MCC Thrift Shops support the humanitarian work of MCC worldwide and locally. Please consider how you might help!



Donate

- Clothing & Shoes
- Accessories
- Bags, Wallets & Luggage
- Housewares & Decor
- Linens
- Craft, Sewing & Gift Supplies
- Office Supplies
- Media
- Toys, Games & Puzzles
- Sports Equipment
- Hardware Goods
- Medical Supplies
- Electronics

We cannot accept large appliances, TVs, consumables, and items containing hazardous waste.

Volunteer

Volunteers are vital in helping Thrift on Purpose make a difference in the community and around the world! These roles are needed for us to be successful:

- Backroom receiving, processing, sorting, and pricing of incoming donations
- Retail floor restocking and customer assistance
- Operating the point of sale system, cash register, and customer service
- Housekeeping to keep the shop clean and attractive to shoppers

Please contact volunteer@thriftonpurpose.org to explore the possibilities.



Dillsburg BIC
Thank you for
partnering with us!

Please bring your items to be donated to DBIC between 8/1/24 and 9/29/24 on Sunday mornings. The garage will be open before Sunday school, after Sunday school, and after worship service to accept your donations. If you have a larger donation or any questions, please contact Kimberly Tucker at pandktucker@comcast.net. Sign up to volunteer at our web site: www.ThriftonPurpose.org



We “unwrapped” the fun during Christmas in July!

We had a joyful Christmas in July at New Hope, and it was snow much fun! All our centers got into the festive spirit with holiday treats, jolly music, and plenty of merriment. A big **thank you** to everyone who donated during our Christmas in July: Deck the Shelves food drive. If you missed it, don't get your tinsel in a tangle—we accept donations of food and personal care items every day we're open.

Thank you for helping us spread holiday cheer and feed the hungry in our community!



Yup, it's turkey time!

We're gearing up for Thanksgiving and are in need of turkey donations to share with our guests. If you or someone you know can donate a turkey, we would deeply appreciate your generosity. Donations can be dropped off at any New Hope Center during our regular business hours. For more details, please give us a call or visit our website. If you have a store coupon for a free turkey or ham, please consider redeeming it and bringing the item to us, as we can no longer accept coupons directly. **Thank you for helping us make this holiday season special!**



General Announcements:

Service Livestream: We will continue to stream the church services for those who do not attend in person. You will receive a link via email each Sunday. You can also join the livestream by going to the website (www.dillsburgbic.org) If you view the service using the link in your email, you will not need a username or password; however, please note that a username and password will be needed to access services from the dillsburgbic.org website due to privacy and copyright issues. The username will ALWAYS be: dbic and the password will always be: "sermons" (without the quotes). Feel free to share this information with anyone you know who would like to join us virtually as we worship!

The church nursery is open during the 10:00 a.m. worship service for children ages 0-4 (any kids not yet in kindergarten). You can sign in your children in the nursery room (next to the library) and pick them up after the service.

Free Greeting Cards: If you could use greeting cards, please help yourself to the ones available in the narthex literature rack. They have been donated and the supply will be replenished as they are used.

Fresh Hope for Mental Health: First and Third Thursdays, 6:30-8:00 pm, Orange Room. This is a peer-to-peer group, meaning that everyone attending is affected by a mental health challenge of their own or of a family member or close friend. It is not necessary that you be in treatment with a therapist or doctor to attend, but our meetings are not a replacement for treatment when needed. We incorporate faith practices with psychological information or science-based information about mental health and share information, support, and encouragement with one another. The privacy of individuals who attend is important, so we are asked to keep our conversations confidential.

Support Group for Christian parents of LGBTQ+ children. (Meeting time shared as needed to protect privacy) Do you want support in your efforts to love your child and have a good relationship with them? Do you have questions or fears about your child's future? Are you questioning your parenting? We are not trying to change your child, the church, or the world. We are here to support and honor each other in our efforts as parents who love their LGBTQ+ children. If you would like to join us in judgment free conversation, please contact Rob at freshhope@dillsburgbic.org or 717-432-3847.

We are no longer scheduling regular office hours. Staff members will still be available by appointment or by chance. Please email or call if you want to plan a time to meet with any member of the staff. If you need a key fob to access the building throughout the week, please contact Kathy (office@dillsburgbic.org) to request one.

Newsletter availability: While we distribute the quarterly newsletter by email and it is available on the website, we also realize some people prefer having a paper edition. If you would like a printed copy in your mailbox each month, please call or email the office and let Kathy know!

Celebrating Life Together!

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES



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



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Colin Patterson	September 2	Debbie Wertz	September 15
Ginny Spurrier	September 3	Heidi Tucker	September 15
Lilliana Beers	September 3	Andrew Douglass	September 20
Cheryl Cross	September 4	Ron Engle	September 20
bj Martin	September 5	Julianne Douglass	September 21
Nathan Hoover	September 8	Allie Focht	September 22
Robert Pomeroy	September 8	Judy Smith	September 24
Nevin Engle	September 9	Nina Leister S	eptember 25
Stan Eyster	September 11	Sawyer Carlson	September 28
Tom Hatch	September 13	Treyson Moyer	September 28
Victoria Hoover	September 13		

September 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:00 am Update with the Walsh family 10:00 am Worship	2	3	4 6:30 pm Sharing & Prayer	5 6:30 pm Fresh Hope 7:30 Prayer (Zoom)	6	7 4:00 - 7:00 pm Fall Fun Fest
8 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	9 7:00 pm (Zoom) Ministry Council	10 6:40 pm Ladies' Bible Study	11 5:30 pm Corner Life 6:30 pm Shine 6:30 pm Thrive 6:30 pm Sharing & Prayer	12 6:30 pm Human Trafficking mtg (Strayers) 7:30 Prayer (Zoom)	13	14
15 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	16	17 6:00 pm Ladies' Secret Pal Dinner	18 6:30 pm Shine 6:30 pm Thrive 6:30 pm Sharing & Prayer	19 6:30 pm Fresh Hope 6:30 pm Leadership Council 7:30 Prayer (Zoom)	20	21
22 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	23	24 6:40 pm Ladies' Bible Study	25 5:30 pm Corner Life 6:30 pm Shine 6:30 pm Thrive 6:30 pm Sharing & Prayer	26 7:30 Prayer (Zoom)	27	28 8:30 am Mens' Breakfast
29 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	30	31	A stylized tree with green leaves and a brown trunk, set against a white background.			