



# DILLSBURG BIC CHURCH

GROWING DEEP



REACHING FAR

18 East Harrisburg St. | Dillsburg, PA | 717.432.3847  
www.DillsburgBIC.org

## Choices: Grandma Stories

*Here is another story I wrote for my grandchildren many years ago. I wanted to pass on to them some of the good values that were instilled in me as a child. Now I am reading them to my great-grandchildren.*

### LOVE WINS

My sister was only two years younger than I was, so I don't remember when Ruth was born. I only remember playing with her. Oh yes, I also remember sitting beside her when she was in her high chair. We sat under the big wooden Bible verse in the kitchen. The verse was from the book of Joshua, Chapter 24, Verse 15. It said, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." That meant that my father had chosen to live for God, and he wanted to help his family do that too. He and my mother could teach us and pray for us, but someday we would have to choose for ourselves.

I remember one day sitting beside my sister when we were little. We were eating mashed potatoes, and I chose to do a very silly thing. I took a spoonful of potatoes and scraped them on my sister's high chair. I don't remember why I did it—maybe I didn't like the potatoes, or maybe I was cross with my sister, or maybe I just wanted to make her fuss so my parents would talk to us. I don't even remember what my parents said or did, but I think I remember doing it because it was silly, and I knew I shouldn't.

One day I wanted some jam, or was it food colors I wanted? I pulled a chair up to the cupboard. I was worried about getting caught and wasn't very smart. My father was sitting in the next room, so I said, "Don't see me for a little bit, Papa." Of course, he came to see what his busy little daughter was into.

Sometimes I quarreled with my sister too. One day my Grandma Boyer was taking care of us, and I was quarreling. She made me sit on a chair for a while. I felt bad that my Grandma had to punish me. That made me stop and think.

When I was four years old, we went to a big church conference. While the men and women were meeting together, we children had our own meetings. They were fun. We sang and learned Bible verses. Sometimes we had stories with flannel pictures to show us what was happening. The fuzzy flannel made the pictures stick to the storyboard, and they could move around.

Sometimes people drew pictures with chalk. One lady drew a picture of a very sad man. She said that when we do wrong, it makes us sad, but Jesus died on the cross to be punished for us. He will forgive us if we ask Him, and He will help us to do right. Then she turned the picture upside down, and the same man was smiling.

I knew this was what I needed. When she gave us a chance, I prayed to ask God to forgive my sins. I asked Jesus to come into my heart to help me do right. I felt very light and happy in my heart, and I asked my parents to forgive me too. Later, I asked the lady to draw the picture on a little piece of paper so I could take it with me.



(Photo Left to Right: Father is Ohmer Herr, Ruth, Paul, Sam, Grace, Mother Rozella Herr. Photo was taken Summer 1946, right before Grace's 14th birthday.)

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I didn't always do right after that. Sometimes I had to pray and ask to be forgiven again. Sometimes I had to have other people pray for me. But I knew I wanted to do what God wanted. I kept on listening and learning.

Pretty soon, it was time for me to go to school. It was hard to be ready when the big yellow school bus came, but I liked school. My teacher's name was Mrs. Woodruff. Her husband had died, and she had children of her own. I don't know how she did it, but she seemed to have enough love for all the children in my class. We loved her too.

I learned to read, and I was learning to spell. One day, there was a word I couldn't remember. The teacher was giving us a test. "Coal," she said as she read the list. I couldn't think of how to spell it. I didn't mean to, but my eyes came down on my friend's paper on the next desk. There it was—C-O-A-L. I wrote it on my paper and got it right, but I wasn't happy. I had a choice to make. I could ask Jesus and my teacher to forgive me, or I could pretend I hadn't copied it. It was hard, but I chose to tell the truth. My teacher forgave me, and I did not copy again.

## Celebrating Baptisms



January 5, 2025

Mary Margaret McHenry

&

Jane Tucker

*Matthew 28:19 says, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit"*



## DILLSBURG BIC STAFF



ROB

JEFF

NAOMI

ESTHER



JULIE

COLIN

KATHY

### 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

Editors: Kathy Bennett, Anne-Marie Brandt

Layout and Design: Anne-Marie Brandt

Editor Emeritus: Carolyn Kimmel

Please send submissions for the next issue to:

newsletter@dillsburgbic.org

Dillsburg Brethren in Christ Church

18 East Harrisburg, Street | Dillsburg, PA 17143.3847

www.DillsburgBIC.org | fb.com/dillsburgbic



## 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/](http://www.dillsburgbic.org/corner-life/)

### February 12

Zuppa Toscana Soup  
(Potato, Sausage, Kale)

Salad

Rolls

Oreo Dump Cake

### February 26

Pork

Sauerkraut

Mashed Potatoes

Corn

Ice Cream Sundaes





# Save the Date

**\*\*FEBRUARY 15\*\***

## **Annual Congregational Council Meeting**

Our annual, church-wide business meeting will be held on Saturday, February 15, 2025. Please join us for a potluck breakfast at 8:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall, followed by the meeting at 9:15 a.m.

We will recall and celebrate God's work in and through our church community. We will also address business matters such as the new budget, membership in the Leadership Council (the DBIC board), deacon appointments, and any other recommendations from the Leadership Council. All DBIC attendees are encouraged to participate. Our bylaws permit only DBIC members to vote.

If you have a meeting agenda item to suggest, please contact DBIC Leadership Council Chair Rachel Pease (peaserachel@gmail.com) or Secretary Jason Smith (jason.smith@fulbrightmail.org) by the end of January.

### **Are you 60 or over?**

**Got the winter doldrums or cabin fever? Want to get together with other seniors for fun and fellowship?**

Come to the DBIC Senior Splash (no water involved) on February 1 at noon in the Messiah Village Community Room (Tuscarora Apartments, Terrace Level).

Please RSVP to Esther Spurrier (717-578-0243 or [espurrier49@gmail.com](mailto:espurrier49@gmail.com)) or Carmy Hess (717-602-7555 or [bchess80@msn.com](mailto:bchess80@msn.com)). Soups and drinks will be provided. Please bring crackers and cheese, or a salad or dessert item to share. Some of us will enjoy indoor shuffleboard. If you have a cornhole set, please bring that along!

**DBIC Senior Splash  
February 1 @ Noon  
Messiah Village Community Room**



In case of inclement weather, DBIC's policy is to cancel any in-person morning activities if Northern York School District is on a 2-hour delay. This would not impact afternoon and evening activities. All in-person activities will be canceled if the district is closed for the day or dismisses early due to the weather. For activities on weekends or days when school is not in session, please check radio and TV announcements (ABC27) or our website ([www.dillsburgbic.org](http://www.dillsburgbic.org)) for closure information.

**Prayer Chain emails:** To request a prayer to be sent out on our email prayer chain, please use the form on the church website: <https://www.dillsburgbic.org/prayer-request/>. If you are unable to submit it that way, you can email your request to the office at [office@dillsburgbic.org](mailto:office@dillsburgbic.org) or ask someone (a friend or your deacon) to submit it for you.

Our general guidelines are that we monitor the email from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Saturday. For urgent situations, you are encouraged to contact your deacon rather than rely on the email prayer chain, as there is no guarantee the email will go out immediately.

If you receive email prayer chain requests, please send any replies directly to the contact person mentioned in the body of the email. DO NOT reply to the email itself. If you reply to the email, it will go to the team monitoring the requests, not to the person who requested the prayer.



**Thank you** for your recent gift! Your investment in these precious lives is making a real difference. It takes consistent and tireless work on behalf of our Peace Promise team to forge relationships of trust, hope, and safety with these individuals. We're making a difference, and we couldn't do it without you.

~ Susan Vigliano, President of the Board, Patt Seaman, Executive Director of Client Services, Peace Promise

**Thank you** for your recent donation! Your gift helps survivors here in Pennsylvania find freedom. We appreciate you!

~ Peace Promise Board



## STOP TRAFFIC

*By Marj Strayer*

It is that time again! For Love and Freedom 2025 is right around the corner. This is one of the biggest fundraisers of the year for Peace Promise. The program is always interesting and heartwarming, and this year it will have a new venue and a fresh feel.

The event will take place in the Performing Arts Center. Instead of a meal, there will be hors d'oeuvres, a choice of desserts, and beverages served before the program. We will hear from a panel of survivors and much more. There will be no assigned seating—just general admission. The event will begin at 6:30 PM and end at 9:00 PM. Tickets are \$35 each or 8 for \$250. If a guest needs accessible seating, a box can be checked during online registration to reserve one.

More information will be coming soon, so stay tuned to hear about the program! We will also have a silent auction again this year, but with a new twist.

Please remember to pray for God to guide the committee putting this event together, and for the women who will be sharing their stories on the panel. May God give them peace and the assurance that they have something important to say. May the event be well attended.

Join us on March 14th to help support Peace Promise and their amazing efforts to ensure that all women experience wholeness and success.

**SAVE THE DATE**

Benefit ticket  
sales begin  
on 2/3



**MARCH | 14<sup>TH</sup> | 2025**

**PARMER HALL, MESSIAH UNIVERSITY**

**Join us in celebrating an amazing year with  
hors d'oeuvres, mocktails, and dessert.**

# The “Whys” of Thrift on Purpose: A Mennonite Central Committee Thrift Shop

By Kimberly Tucker

## Why an MCC thrift shop?

Let’s start with: **Who is MCC?**

“MCC is a global, nonprofit organization that strives to share God’s love and compassion for all through relief, development and peacebuilding.” (MCC.org)

## RELIEF

“In conflict [war] or disaster, MCC provides funds and supplies for emergency food and shelter.” (MCC.org)

## DEVELOPMENT

“MCC works with vulnerable communities to increase and sustain access to:

- \* Food and clean water
- \* Health [care]
- \* Education
- \* Income generation” (MCC.org)

## PEACE

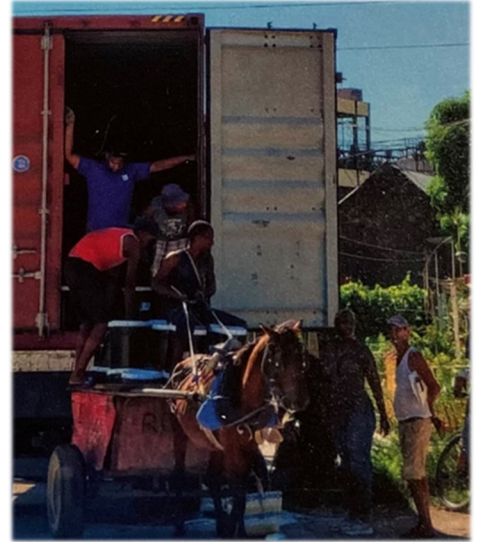
“MCC works for peace by:

- \* Teaching conflict transformation and peacebuilding skills
- \* Address systemic injustices that can lead to violence
- \* Facilitate dialogue where conflict divides” (MCC.org)

Now that we know who MCC is, **WHY** is Thrift on Purpose an MCC thrift shop?

In 2022, profits from MCC thrifts shops across Canada and the USA provided for 19% of MCC’s operating budget, making the **bi-national network of thrift shops**

**the second largest income source for MCC.** MCC thrift provides a significant source of income so that MCC can “share God’s love and compassion for all through relief, development and peacebuilding.” (MCC.org) The tagline, “**where every purchase is a gift to the world**” aptly encapsulates the mission of MCC. When you **shop, volunteer, or donate goods to Thrift on Purpose, you partner with MCC** to “meet local needs and build peace” on a global scale!



## Cuba

Hearty helpings of hope

Each year, MCC sends hundreds of thousands of pounds of canned meat around the world. This meat provides more than just nourishing protein to community members. “When we arrive with this help, many of them burst into tears because they feel God hasn’t forgotten them,” says Bishop Luis Hernandez of the Brethren in Christ (BIC) Church in Cuba, an MCC partner. BIC pastors and church leaders distributed meat in 2023 (pictured to the right) and after two hurricanes and an earthquake in fall 2024. Read more at [mcc.org/canned-meat-cuba](https://mcc.org/canned-meat-cuba). (A Common Place, Winter 2025)







## **General Announcements:**

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**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](http://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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:office@dillsburgbic.org)) to request one.

**Newsletter availability:** While we distribute the 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!

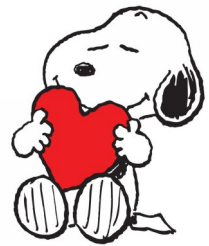
## WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Jeff & Lois Conrady

February 15

Tom & Kathy Renard

February 26



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Rob Douglass	February 1	Tyler Whitesel	February 16
Becky Horst	February 1	Nancy Prowell	February 18
Eliana Miller	February 2	Cathy Lyne	February 20
Eleanor Poe	February 3	Jan Kerstetter	February 21
Paul Lerew	February 4	Tariq Waris	February 21
Sharon Brandt	February 5	Eben Sneddon	February 22
Emily Schmehl	February 8	Kendal Rank	February 23
Emily Vader	February 10	Mary Ann Brubaker	February 23
Samantha Brandt	February 10	Jon Dale	February 27
Angelina Waris	February 11	Katie Renard	February 28
Diana Dale	February 12	Beth Shelly	February 28
Annabeth Rotz	February 14	Tessa Walsh	February 29
Deb Monko	February 16		

# February 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div>  <p><b>DILLSBURG BIC CHURCH</b>  <small>GROWING DEEP    REACHING FAR</small>            18 East Harrisburg St.   Dillsburg, PA   717.432.3847  <a href="http://www.DillsburgBIC.org">www.DillsburgBIC.org</a></p> </div>						
<b>2</b> 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	<b>3</b> 7:00 pm Deacon Meeting	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 9:00 am Ladies' Bible Study 6:30 pm Shine 6:30 pm Thrive 6:30 pm Sharing & Prayer	<b>6</b> 6:30 pm Martin Brass rehearsal 6:30 pm Fresh Hope 7:30 Prayer (Zoom)	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 9:00 am Ladies' Bible Study 5:30 pm Corner Life 6:30 pm Shine 6:30 pm Thrive 6:30 pm Sharing & Prayer	<b>13</b> 6:30 pm Martin Brass rehearsal 6:30 pm Human Trafficking mtg (Strayers') 7:30 Prayer (Zoom)	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 8:30 am Breakfast 9:15 am Congregational Meeting
<b>16</b> 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 9:00 am Ladies' Bible Study 6:30 pm Shine 6:30 pm Thrive 6:30 pm Sharing & Prayer	<b>20</b> 6:30 pm Martin Brass rehearsal 6:30 pm Fresh Hope 6:30 pm Leadership Council 7:30 Prayer (Zoom)	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 8:30 am Men's Breakfast
<b>23</b> 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 9:00 am Ladies' Bible Study 5:30 pm Corner Life 6:30 pm Shine 6:30 pm Thrive 6:30 pm Sharing & Prayer	<b>27</b> 6:30 pm Martin Brass rehearsal 7:30 Prayer (Zoom)	<b>28</b>	