

THE TIDINGS

June
2021

Doylestown Presbyterian Church

Be a bridge for Christ and a beacon of His love



Start your Summer off with a **SIZZLE!**

Join us **June 14-17** for this new **Adult Vacation Bible School Experience**

This four-day program will be led by Rev. Brian Russo of Chestnut Hill Presbyterian Church and Pastor Pauline Sexton, along with special music from DPC member Bev Fulgham. Sponsored by the Senior Adult Ministry Committee, this event will help us form a renewed sense of purpose and hope as we reflect on our own personal journeys of faith. Adults of all ages are welcome – invite your friends!

We will meet each morning from 9:30 to 11:30 am under the pavilion in George M. Bush Park, 3868 Burnt House Hill Road in nearby Buckingham. This location holds a special significance to DPC, and especially to longtime member and former Elder Lynn Bush. The park is named after her late husband, who was also a member and who dedicated much of his career as a lawyer to helping to preserve open space land. George secured the property for the township to be transformed into this beautiful park in 2001, which will provide the perfect setting for our time of faith and fellowship.

On Thursday, we invite you to BYOL (Bring Your Own Lunch) as we enjoy food and fellowship at the close of the program. Drinks and desserts will be provided.

The program fee of \$20 will be collected when you arrive. The event will be held in accordance with DPC's health and safety policies which are subject to change. In the event of rain, we will gather in our Sanctuary. Visit www.dtownpc.org/events/avbs/ to register today!

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A LOOK AHEAD

Bridges and Beacons - now offered each Wednesday. We are seeking guest leaders with a focus on your favorite Bible story! Email dpc@dtownpc.org if interested!

Keep watch for a new **Sunday Sermon Podcast** - coming soon!

Scottish Communion is set for **July 11**

Mark Helms' final worship service will be **July 25**. See page 3 for details.

New newsletter format and schedule coming this fall. See page 3 for details.



FROM the PASTOR

At its most recent Session meeting, your officers approved the final allocation of our Ministry Enhancement Funds. Some of you will recall that as part of the Flourish One Fund initiative four years ago, \$100,017 was earmarked for non-budgeted efforts to strengthen our ministry. We followed the recommendation of our 2018-23 Strategic Plan and allocated one-third of those dollars to Worship, about half to Growing in Faith, and the balance for Mission efforts. We then invited Session committees to propose creative ways for using those resources.

In the years since, those gifts launched, enhanced, or transformed the ministries at DPC. They enabled us to try new things and address long-standing needs, keep our campus up-to-date and extend the care of our congregation outside these walls. The funds helped us address the goals of our strategic plan and adapt to circumstances we could not have anticipated at the start. Here are the totals for how those acts of generosity blessed our shared life:

- 30,000—first year of the Member Engagement Coordinator role
- 19,300—website overhaul and maintenance
- 16,958—replace projectors in sanctuary for in-person and livestream worship
- 11,302—congregation-wide mission efforts
- 5,654—replace sanctuary door closers and panic bars

What cannot be measured, of course, are the hearts inspired or comforted, the relationships formed or deepened, the hardship eased and the hope given.

- 5,404—AV tech support
- 3,000—launching of a Mothers of Preschoolers program
 - 2,500—Matthew 25 efforts
 - 2,000—exterior signage
 - 1,699—Chrismon tree
 - 1,200—women’s retreat
 - 1,000—Bibles for youth education efforts

What cannot be measured, of course, are the hearts inspired or comforted, the relationships formed or deepened, the hardship eased and the hope given. Yet without a doubt those resources—all of which came from your generosity—expanded the reach of this congregation in impactful and enduring ways.

If you have any questions about how those resources were used, please let me know. In the meanwhile, know of my joy in these latest acts by this body of faith to live out its call to “Be a Bridge for Christ and a Beacon of His love.”

John

SESSION REPORT

At its meeting on May 24, the Session:

- Approved for ordination and installation 17 officers-elect
- Approved a job description for the Director of Music and the Arts
- Recommended to the congregation the following corporate officers for 2021-22: President—Tom Petro, Vice-President—Melissa Hauser, Secretary—Doug Barnett
- Received updates on the searches for Associate Pastor and the Director of Music and the Arts
- Re-allocated funds previously earmarked for Camp Kirkwood projects
- Approved resources to paint the sanctuary exterior
- Approved final allocation of Ministry Enhancement Funds (see pastor’s article)
- Expressed appreciation to the Deacons and Ruling Elders in the Class of 2021 for their faithful service
- Approved changes in the roll. Total membership as of 5/24/21 is 1478





Congregational Meeting

Sunday June 13

10:30 in-person & on Zoom

The Session has called for a congregational meeting to take place virtually on June 13 beginning at 10:30 am. The agenda includes:

- Election of corporate officers for 2021-22
- Update from the 109/112 Mechanics Street Task Force on its work
- Election of the 2021-22 Nominating Committee
- Expressing its appreciation to those whose service to the Board of Deacons, Nominating Committee and Session concluded on May 31
- Enjoying a video summarizing the 2020-21 program year.

To join us for the meeting, please stay after worship in the Sanctuary or log-in via Zoom. **Direct link:** bit.ly/DPCJune13 **Meeting ID:** 870 2921 2993 **Passcode:** 993274

We hope you can join us for this special gathering as we celebrate the many ways God has blessed this body of faith during the past year.

CAREGIVERS' CORNER



HELLO! From Your Board of Deacons

In June, as groups gather to raise funds and awareness to cure Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia, we honor the strength and dedication of millions of caregivers. In the words of actor Peter Gallagher, speaking for the Alzheimer's Association, "Alzheimer's is a harrowing journey but there are moments of grace and poetry where, for a moment, the person you love makes themselves visible." May those moments of grace sustain you.

"Look to the Lord and His strength; seek His face always."

1 Chronicles 16:11

Thank you, Mark!



As Director of Music and the Arts Mark Helms prepares to say goodbye to DPC next month, we wish him heartfelt gratitude for his service and dedication to this church family.

Since Mark informed the congregation of his decision to pursue the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Choral Conducting at the University of Maryland, there has been an outpouring of well wishes.

"We are a stronger congregation because of Mark's creativity and collaborative work," said Pastor John Willingham. "The time went by far too quickly!"

DPC member David Fryling was on the search committee which recommended Mark's hiring. "I can say that we made a wonderful choice," said David, adding, "Mark's musicianship and interpersonal skills are exceptional. He has done so much for the church during the pandemic. I will truly miss him."

Eileen Telly, a violinist with DPC's String Ensemble, which Mark helped form, called his time here a blessing. "Mark is thoughtful, kind, talented, and purposeful in his role at DPC. I know that he will be missed, but I will be forever grateful for our time making music together.

Mark's final worship service at DPC will be on **July 25**. We invite you to join us as we express our appreciation!

CHANGES COMING!



DPC's newsletter is about to undergo some exciting changes! Following a summer hiatus, we will return in September with a brand new digital magazine that will be shared quarterly via email and posted to our website. This new publication will offer more in-depth looks at our various ministries, mission efforts, and beyond - featuring eye-popping images and engaging videos. Each issue will include a section that will provide an at-a-glance overview of all the upcoming events and programs at DPC to make sure everyone remains connected.

In between issues, all of our offerings will continue to be promoted in various ways - digitally on our website, verbally and visually during worship, via email and social media, and through specially crafted videos. Committee moderators will be integral partners in this process as they will work with our staff to bring fresh, new ways to shine a light on everything happening here at DPC. We are eager to take this step forward together and will be sharing more details in the near future. Stay tuned!

DPC Summer Mission Challenge

The Mission Committee is challenging everyone to participate in one of the following activities this summer...and encourage a friend to join you!

Bethel Presbyterian Church — Bethel Presbyterian Church is located in North Philadelphia and provides a weekly meal program and other services to people who are in need in their community. Join with Bethel’s mission team by providing canned goods for weekly food distribution, which we will be doing quarterly. Watch for the Sign Up Genius coming in **July**.



Caring for Friends — Caring for Friends provides food and friendship to homebound individuals in Philadelphia and the counties surrounding it. Help us pack meals for delivery from your own home! Pick up tray bundles (and directions) in the church entrances on Sunday mornings or in the Andrews Hall lobby. Return frozen meals to the Celtic Cross Room freezer on Sunday mornings or drop frozen meals off from 10:30 to 11:30 am during the 3rd Sunday Food Drive. Limited packing at church will resume soon - keep watch for a SignUpGenius.



Community Meal Distribution for Homeless – DPC provides meals to homeless individuals in our community on the third Sunday of each month. If you would like to receive the SignUpGenius to help with the meal or provide food, please sign up here: <https://bit.ly/DPC-Meal-Info>
Dates: **June 20, July 18, August 15**



Food Drive for Bucks County Housing Group/New Britain Food Larder – DPC hosts a food drive for our local pantries on the 3rd Sunday of each month. We need volunteers to help collect and sort food from 10am – 12pm. If you can’t volunteer, donations of food and grocery gift cards are needed as well. Drop off is 10:30 to 11:30 am on Mechanics Street. You can sign up to help here: bit.ly/DPC-FD
Dates: **June 20, July 18, August 15**



Habitat for Humanity House that Faith Built – DPC will be working with other faith communities in our area to build a house in Bristol for a local woman and her children.
Dates: Building will begin in June. Specific dates TBD



Rolling Harvest / Food Gleaning - Many farmers in our area donate produce they can’t use to food pantries or grow food especially for charitable organizations. Every Saturday there are opportunities to volunteer. Rolling Harvest works at Gravity Hill Farm in Lambertville from 9am-11am and the Carversville Farm Foundation in Buckingham harvests food for the Bucks County Opportunity Council’s pantries from 9 am - 12 pm. While you are welcome to help at either site, DPC volunteers will be meeting at Carversville Farm Foundation to volunteer with weeding and harvesting on the 2nd and/or 4th Saturday of the month since it is closer to DPC. We will meet at the farm and go for lunch afterwards.
Dates: **June 12, June 29, July 10, July 24, August 14, August 28**

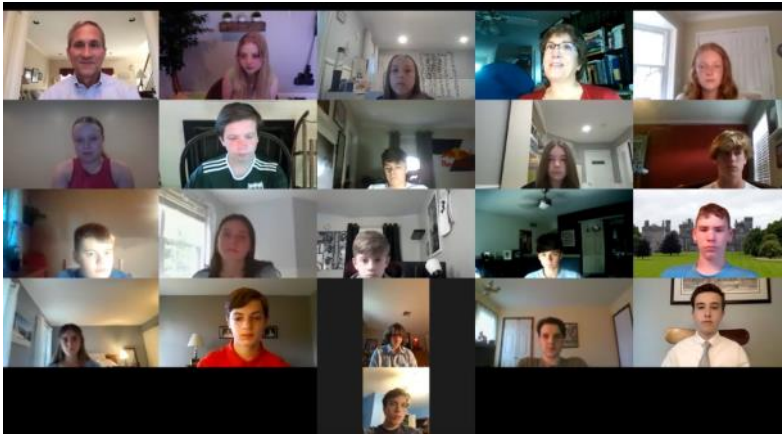
For more information or to sign up for any of these opportunities, you can also email Erin Rizk at erinr@dtownpc.org.





On Sunday, June 13, we will welcome 19 youth who participated in the Confirmation Class as members of DPC. These young people gathered online almost weekly for five months to discover who Jesus is: as described in the gospel of Luke, as experienced during prayer walks, in conversation together, and through personal mission projects. Each wrote a faith statement they presented during a meeting with Session, where they were warmly and wholeheartedly welcomed as members of DPC.

Many thanks to the twenty five prayer partners, the nine confirmation leaders, and the parents and grandparents who have helped each of these young people find a living faith in Jesus Christ.



Confirmands

- Emily Barchard
- Nicklaus Bonargo
- Patrick Coleman
- Matthew Cummings
- Liam Drollette
- Logan Ford
- Brian Hetzel
- Eric Hetzel
- Julianne Hunter

- Collin Jones
- Declan McCormack
- Reegan Moran
- Julia Peters
- Kaylie Polchan
- Caroline Rawlings
- Evan Spadt
- Quin Tettermer
- Ryan Veverka
- Anna Willard

Leaders: Mike Bowe, Phil Cacossa, Sharon Cummings, Terry Herring, Jill Eberts, Glenn Haas, Melissa Hauser, Kim Keller, Ethan Knapp, and Roberta Kearney



Get connected with DPC Youth!

- ⇒ **INSTAGRAM** - find us at [@dpcyouthdotcom](https://www.instagram.com/dpcyouthdotcom)
- ⇒ **FACEBOOK** - head to [dpcyouth.com](https://www.facebook.com/dpcyouth.com)
- ⇒ **REMIND** - Get timely [reminders](#) for DPC Youth events! Sign up for each grade section by texting the following to 81010
 - @dpc456 for 4th, 5th, 6th grade
 - @dpcms1 for 7th, 8th, 9th grade
 - @dpcsh8 for 10th, 11th, 12th grade
- ⇒ DPC [Youth Page](#) - more web updates coming soon!

SUMMER SUNDAYS!!! We'll be doing a lot of other things this summer - but here's our basic Summer Schedule! Look out for pop-up events and Family Day and afternoon events, coming soon! Check out the Tween and Teen pages on the DPC website for more - including details about our [Bible Basics Challenge](#) and all the **OUTRAGEOUS PRIZES** that go with it!

- ◆ **EVERY Sunday** – Worship, 9:30 am, in-person and online – EVERYBODY
- ◆ **EVERY Sunday** – Lunch Bunch Bible Challenge, 10:30 am - 12:00 pm, in-person
- ◆ **EVERY Thursday** – Thursday Night Zoomers, 7:00 pm, online

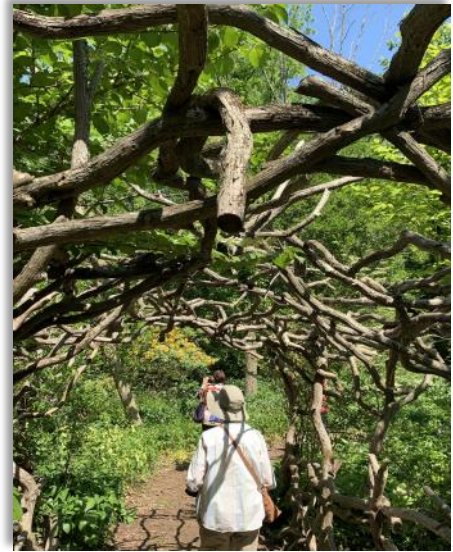
- 1st Sunday** – Rita's hangout, 12:30 pm – EVERYBODY
- 2nd Sunday** – Tweens hangout, 6 pm, location TBD – 4-6 grade
- 3rd Sunday** – Food Drive at DPC, 10:30 am at DPC – EVERYBODY
- 4th Sunday** – Teens hangout, 6 pm, location TBD – 7-12 grade

If you have questions, feel free to email Interim Director of Tweens and Teens Carrie Biermann at CarrieB@dtownpc.org

MINISTRY

in motion

GARDEN GETAWAY DPC members and friends took a trip to Hortulus Farm in Wrightstown for a special tour of the magnificent gardens. The outing was organized by the Senior Adult Ministry Committee.



MONTHLY FOOD DRIVE AND COMMUNITY MEAL Once again you stepped up and donated an unbelievable amount of food - 1,326 pounds - for those in need. Not to mention \$260 in grocery gift cards. Our Community Meal also provided food for 10 of our homeless friends and generated 29 meals for Caring for Friends!



MEMORIAL DAY @ DPC It was a joyous return of the Doylestown Memorial Day Parade which meant our DPC family once again was able to gather together for this special event! Many selfless volunteers provided baked goods and helped pass out treats and drinks to parade-goers.



Library News. The 2021-2022 schedule for the Read and Chat book discussion group has been finalized and is posted to our website. This group provided some much needed fellowship and thoughtful interaction during the last year as meetings shifted to outdoors. Please visit www.dtownnpc.org/adults/fellowship-and-education/library/ to review the entire list of books set for this year and email dpc@dtownnpc.org if you'd like to join in!



The Library Committee was sad to see one of its original members, Marianne Gilmour, recently step down and wish to sincerely thank her for her dedication over the years. We spoke to Marianne about her

nearly two decades as a trusted caretaker and valued voice of the Ruth I. Hughes Memorial Library and invite you to read about her service in the Spotlight on Engagement section of our website. Simply visit our homepage and click the "Get Involved!" tab at the top of the screen or click here: www.dtownnpc.org/get-involved/



Matthew 25 Update. Pulling together as a Matthew 25 congregation will continue to be an effort of personal reflection and collective action. With this in mind, the Matthew 25 Task Force has assembled

a wide array of content, tools, and educational recourses to equip us all as we address our stated focus of dismantling structural racism and its intersectionality with poverty. We encourage you to visit our Matthew 25 homepage www.dtownnpc.org/matthew25/, which will help guide you through this material and offer insight as to why this issue is one that affects each of us. This page will be frequently updated as our efforts evolve and we will keep you posted as new content becomes available too!

A film crew from PC(USA) has been working with our church to highlight our Matthew 25 efforts as part of an ongoing series aimed at inspiring other bodies of faith to embark on their own journeys. Last month, a videographer visited our campus and interviewed Pastor



Willingham along with five other DPC members throughout a day-long video shoot. The video is currently in the editing stage and we are told it could be ready to view by the end of June.

BibleTalk Summer Session. The adult education offering will be continuing during the summer with a series entitled *Who is Jesus?* Speakers will explore Scripture will take a closer look at our understanding of Christ. The six-week course will take place via Zoom from 8 to 8:45 am each Sunday from **June 20 through August 1** (with no class on July 4). **Direct Link:** <http://bit.ly/BibleTalkSummer> **Meeting ID:** 847 2935 8285 **Passcode:** 838350



MILESTONES

BAPTISMS

Wesley Sargent May, son of **Chris and Sarah May**, May 2

BIRTHS

Anastasios Gregory Theodosopoulos, son of **Leslie and Angelo Theodosopoulos**, grandson of **Greg and Sherri Hoynak**, April 28

Brynne Frances Bucciarelli, daughter of **Lindsay and Nick Bucciarelli**, granddaughter of **Lynne Roedel**, and great-granddaughter of **Fred and Eileen Roedel**, May 22

DEATHS

Bob Fighera, June 1



STRESS-FREE GIVING!

Convenient for you and consistent for your church

Our electronic giving program allows you to set up recurring or one-time contributions through checking or savings accounts, credit or debit card. It is as easy as visiting www.dtownnpc.org, selecting "Giving" at the top right section of the website, and clicking "Give Now," or you can Text to Give (with a credit card) by sending a text to 833-906-2067, enter the amount you want to give, and press send.

QUESTIONS?

Contact **Linay Richards** at linayr@dtownnpc.org



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Presbyterian Church

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127 East Court Street
Doylestown, Pa 18901

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June 1, 2021
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Compassion Camp - All New Year Two!

This summer, Children's Vacation Bible School will be a mix of days that are in-person and at home.

Keep watch for details, which will be sent in mid-June.

We are excited to be growing in compassion and love for ourselves, our neighbors, and our world!