

# THE TIDINGS

Doylestown Presbyterian Church's Digital Newsletter

September 2025

## Peter Enns at DPC - Sunday, September 14



The Bible is the book for our lifelong journey of faith. This summer 100+ people engaged in reading "The Bible Tells me So," by Dr. Peter Enns. Many shared that they found themselves more curious about the Bible and came up with interesting questions to dive into scripture in ways they had not thought to before. They found his unique writing to be personal as well as pastoral.

DPC is delighted to have Dr. Enns preach at 9:30 am worship and also stay for a brunch Q&A. Sign up!

To RSVP for the Brunch & Learn [click here](#) or visit: [bit.ly/DPC-ENNS](https://bit.ly/DPC-ENNS)

## *Come Find a Rhythm Not Yet Heard...*

DPC's 2025-2026 Program Year begins!



### September 21

DPC moves to a worship schedule of **8:30 and 10:30 am**.

Education Hour, in between services, offers classes for children, middle schoolers, youth, and adults.

See **Page 3** for more details.



**Wednesday Club, Celebration Choir and Sunshine Singers** get started on **September 10!**

**Youth Group and Youth Choir** kick off on **September 14!**

To learn more about offerings for Children and Youth, check out **Pages 9 and 10**.



Growing in faith is never easy. Joining a small group can connect you with those searching for answers and seeking a meaningful relationship with God and others. Many Growth Groups are about to get started for the Fall season.

Be sure to check out [www.dtownpc.org/growth-groups](https://www.dtownpc.org/growth-groups) to see the full list of groups and sign up today!

# Mac's Meanderings

## A Rhythm Not Yet Heard

In the coming days we will put a poetic invitation on a banner at the front of the church. It's invitation will say, "Come Find a Rhythm Not Yet Heard." This line comes from a poem by John O'Donohue called *For the Artist at the Start of Day*.

One of the jobs of a faith community is to help people find their spiritual rhythm. There are many forces in life that pull us away from spiritual health. Some of these forces are of our own creation and some are not. The spiritual rituals and rhythms of a church helps us better deal with the stress of life.

I often say in new members class, "If you are in town commit to coming to worship." I don't say this because I want a big crowd or a "successful church." I say it because I believe the weekly rhythm of worshipping something bigger than ourselves is a practice that gets us focused on the right thing: Listening for and acknowledging God in our life.

In the rhythm of DPC, you will find the following:

- Humility, grace and mercy,
- Love of God and neighbor,
- Spiritual grounding,
- Mystery, beauty, and wonder,
- Rights of passage and initiation,
- and intergenerational community.

It's the church leadership's job to offer ritual and rhythm. It's your job to carve out time in your life for those rhythms and rituals to take hold and transform you.

Encourage people you know to come find a spiritual rhythm "not yet heard" this fall. I know God is up to something in your life!

With Love,

Mac



### PILGRIMAGE ALONG ST. OSWALD'S WAY

**Information Meeting.** Pastor Mac is considering leading a pilgrimage in 2026 along St. Oswald's Way in northeast England ([www.stoswaldsway.com](http://www.stoswaldsway.com)). Come on Tuesday, **September 9** at 7 pm in the Celtic Cross Room to learn more about St. Oswald's Way and details about this walking trip. Topics include: history, locations, accommodations, spiritual growth, mileage (an average of 12.5 miles per day), physical preparation, packing, meals, cost estimates, travel and more. No sign up necessary to attend this first information meeting.





On **September 21**, DPC returns to our two worship services at 8:30 and 10:30 am. We also kick off Sunday education hour [for children](#) between services (9:30-10:15), as well as Children's Worship Time (CWT) for young children, CWT+ for older elementary school-aged kids, Youth Bible Study, and classes that dive deeper into scripture, current events, and living a fulfilling life for adults.

We are excited to once again offer Sunday morning [adult classes](#):

- ***The Word Among Us***: 9:15 am, AH-213, where participants study and appreciate the beauty of Scripture and how we can use it in our own devotional times with God. Led by Dick Cornelius and Margaret Thoresen.
- ***Good News and Other News***: 9:30 am, DPC Library, where current events are discussed while reflecting upon the story from the perspective of faith. Led by Christo Claassens, Jenny Danzis, Ken Johnson, and Jay Stough.

# August Session Update

This month at Session:

- Linay Richards trained elders in how to read the church financial reports.
- Kristen Roland led Community Protection Program (CPP) training with the elders.
- Session approved moving the Library Sub-Committee under the Christian Education Standing Committee
- Session approved 25% of the Peace & Global Witness Special Offering go to Welcoming the Stranger ([www.welcomingthe stranger.org](http://www.welcomingthe stranger.org))
- Please answer your phone as the Elders & Deacons are calling all church households to:
  - Invite them to worship and brunch with Dr. Peter Enns who is preaching on Sunday, September 14th at 9:30 am.
  - Ask if there are any prayer requests the leadership can pray for.
  - See if households can provide new photographs for the church directory.
- We took a group photo. What a great group of ordained and called leaders!

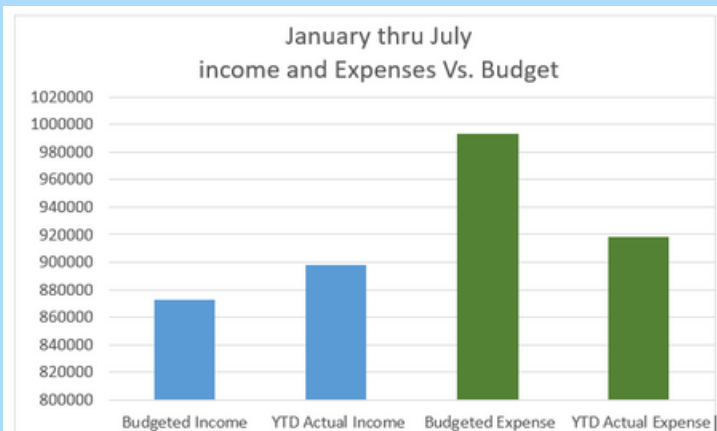
-- Linda Cacossa (Clerk of Session) & Mac Schafer (Pastor & Moderator of Session)



## Financial Corner



As we move into the last half of our Beyond Initiative (2024 & 2025), we are so grateful for your commitment to DPC. Overall, we are in good financial shape as we enter into the fall program year. Our income (pledges, non-pledge and other income), as of July 31, is about \$25,000 above our year-to-date budget. Our expenses are under budget by approximately \$74,000.



If you would have any questions or want to see the full financial report, please contact Linay Richards, Director of Finances and Operations at [linayr@dtownnpc.org](mailto:linayr@dtownnpc.org) or by calling the office (215-348-3531).

DPC is doing Christ's ministry in amazing ways and we thank YOU for your part in making it so!

--The DPC Finance Sub Committee





On **September 21**, DPC and Second Baptist Church of Doylestown present a program centered on the film *The Cost of Inheritance*. This hour-long PBS documentary uses a thoughtful and nuanced approach to examine historical injustice and inequality.

You are invited to view the film and join in discussion focusing on practical ways to address the complex issue of generational wealth in the United States. The gathering begins at **12:30 pm** at **Second Baptist** (6055 Swamp Road). Lunch will be provided. There is no cost for admittance but a free-will offering will be received to help support this program and others.

Below are comments from members of the Matthew 25 Sub-Committee who screened the film in advance:

To RSVP today, [click here](#) or visit [bit.ly/COST-FILM](http://bit.ly/COST-FILM)

*"Our faith's greatest command is to love God and love our neighbor as ourselves. Wrestling with my/our breach of this command individually, communally and generationally is central to our call."*

--Pastor Mac Schafer

*"I think this is a poignant and meaningful way to discuss a difficult topic. The power of the stories provide a relatable context, in addition to the history that others may not be aware of."*

--Tanner Benson

*"This is an excellent educational and moving documentary. It is not easy to watch, but needs to be watched."*

--Luray Gross

*In staying true to the mission of a Matthew 25 church, treating our neighbors as ourselves begins with understanding who our neighbors are.*

--Suzanne Courtwright



## *Sing, Play, & Rejoice!*

DPC's Music Ministry is full of kind, caring, welcoming people who are dedicated to making sure our worship is rich with beautiful music. The experience is very positive, and while we may work hard, there is a lot of laughter as well!

- **Joyful Bells** rehearsals begin **September 11**, each Thursday, from 6-7 pm.
- **Chancel Choir** rehearsals begin on **September 11**, each Thursday from 7-9 pm.
- The choir sings primary at the 10:30 am Sunday service from September through May, with seasonal special concerts.
- **DPC Instrumentalists** join together throughout the year to glorify God in worship. We have two special upcoming services on **January 11** and **April 26** featuring larger ensembles. Rehearsals will occur in the weeks prior.

Interested in joining in or learning more? Contact DPC's Director of Music and the Arts Jason Moore at [jasonm@dtownpc.org](mailto:jasonm@dtownpc.org).



# WHAT'S happening AT



## INQUIRERS' CLASS

Are you or someone you know interested in exploring membership at Doylestown Presbyterian Church? Join an Inquirers' Class! Faith is a journey. No matter where you are on that journey, we invite you to participate in this class to learn about the Presbyterian Church (USA) and the core values and ministries of DPC, connect with church leaders and other Inquirers, and reflect on your own spiritual journey. The next class is on **September 7**. Visit

[www.dtownpc.org/membership](http://www.dtownpc.org/membership) to learn more, see future sessions, and sign up today.

## gotsneakers?

A Sneaker Recycling Organization

The Earth Care Team reminds you to **Save Your Sneakers!** Donate old pairs of sneakers to keep them out of landfills. Sneakers can be dropped off in boxes located at the entrance to the sanctuary building inside the red doors and in the Andrews Hall lobby **September 7, 14, and 21**. For additional information about this effort, visit [www.gotsneakers.com](http://www.gotsneakers.com).



## Come Get the Scoop at the DPC Library! Sept. 7 at 10:30 am



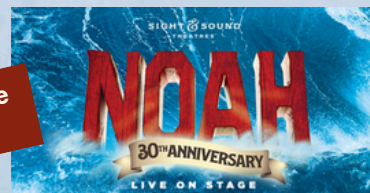
See what DPC's new and improved library has to offer following 9:30 am worship on **September 7**. All visitors will get a tasty cup of ice cream, and kids will receive a fun bookmark to color and a little surprise to take home! Our Library is more than just books...hang out, play games, enjoy a coffee, chat with friends, all while finding your next read.



**Fall Retreat at Spruce Lake—October 6-8.** The Perennials of DPC invite you to join in an enriching program "Walking in Wisdom" in the heart of the Pocono Mountains in northeastern Pennsylvania. Spruce Lake is located in a breathtaking area that allows for a close connection with God's creations in nature. The retreat is open to adults of all ages. We encourage you to spread the word to friends and family! Please use Spruce Lake's website for registration and payment:

[www.sprucelake.org/events/walking-in-wisdom](http://www.sprucelake.org/events/walking-in-wisdom)

Signup Deadline  
Sept. 15!



**Noah at Sight & Sound Theatre - November 6 - sign up today!** We board a comfortable coach bus to Lancaster for this inspiring performance of "Noah" followed by lunch at the world-famous Shady Maple Smorgasbord. Sight & Sound's productions are visually stunning and the talented performers will leave you with lasting memories and a rejuvenated spirit. The cost is \$175 per person (which includes show ticket, transportation, lunch, and tax). Visit [bit.ly/DPCNOAH](http://bit.ly/DPCNOAH) today to reserve your spot! Payment is due by **September 15!**



# WHAT'S happening AT



**DPC Moms and Dads Fellowship.** Explore the cultural hub of Doylestown Borough like never before while testing your knowledge and working as a team at DPC's scavenger hunt through town.

Join in this friendly competition hosted by the DPC Moms and Dads groups and created especially for us by our fellow DPC Dad's company. (Though this sounds fun for kids, this one's only for adults!)

Meet Saturday, **September 13** at 6:30 pm at the rear of the Doylestown Bookshop on Main Street and we will divide into teams. We will be walking through town, completing tasks, all before meeting up at Hopscotch to announce the winners, take a group photo, and have camaraderie over some well-earned food and drinks. The hunt will happen rain or shine!



Be sure to stop by the Celtic Cross Room throughout the year to see the artistic talents of DPC members and friends as part of the Celebrate the Arts Visual Arts Displays!

- **Stewarding God's Creation - Bountiful Harvest:** Check out this awesome Upcycled Art Display, much of which was created by the kids who took part in Middle School Mission Week on display **now!**
- **Joy:** October 30
- **Winter Blessings:** January 8
- **Peace Like a River:** March 5
- **Mountains/Valleys:** April 30
- **Family fun in the Summer:** June 25



## All-Church Pot-Luck!

on World Communion Sunday

**October 5**, following the 10:30 service in Fellowship Hall

A wonderful opportunity to gather as a church family to learn and celebrate who we are in Christ. Enjoy a variety of food traditions, a "passport" that will help all engage with one another complete with prizes, and an all-church picture at 12 noon sharp! A signup will come in the coming weeks. For now, save the date for you (and your family) to stay following the 10:30 service. Think if you might be able to help set up, clean up, help with children's activity table, or what is a food or drink from your tradition that you might share during this intergenerational gathering?

# DPC MISSION

## FOOD DRIVE & COMMUNITY MEAL



DPC's monthly Food Drive occurs on **September 21**, from **9:15 to 11 am** (at the entrance to Andrews Hall, under the bridge) to help stock the shelves of the Doylestown Food Pantry.

Following the worship service, also on **September 21**, we join together at **noon** in Fellowship Hall for our monthly Community Meal. Please note the time change as we shift worship schedules through May! If you'd like to get involved, just click [bit.ly/DPC-CM](http://bit.ly/DPC-CM) to sign up to volunteer –or just plan to stop by for lunch!



PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS  
SPECIAL OFFERINGS  
PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION

To highlight the Season of Peace, **September 7–October 5**, the annual Special Offering is received on World Communion Sunday, this year on **October 5**. Half of your total Peace & Global Witness Offering goes to the national church for peacemaking and global witness work worldwide while 25% goes to presbyteries for similar ministries on the regional level, and 25% is retained by congregations for local peace and reconciliation work. This year our local project is our mission partner, **Welcoming the Stranger**, an educational non-profit that since 1999 has offered free classes in English as a Second Language (ESL), computer skills, and United States citizenship exam preparation to adult immigrants and refugees in the Philadelphia metro region. “I was a stranger and you welcomed me” (Matthew 25:35).

DPC is in the process of getting a new digital directory...and that means we need updated photos of all of us!

If you haven't recently submitted an updated photo of you and/or your family to the church office, let us take one for you! Following both the 8:30 and 10:30 worship services on **September 28**, stay to have your photo taken. The process will be quick and easy. Feel free to get decked out in your Sunday Best, or keep it casual. These photos are simply meant to strengthen our connection as a church and help everyone more easily match names and faces.

If you can't be here for Picture Day, we encourage you to snap a quick photo yourself - or have a friend or family member take one - and send it along to Elaine in the Church Office at [elainek@dtownpc.org](mailto:elainek@dtownpc.org).

Thank you for helping to make this new directory a success! Stay tuned for details about when it will go live!

Picture  
Day  
at DPC

September 28





# DPC KIDS

## Children's Choir & Fellowship offered Wednesdays

Sunshine Singers (ages 4 to 1<sup>st</sup> Grade)

Celebration Singers & Handbell Choir (grades 2-5)

Wednesday Club (grades 2-5)

All beginning September 10

Click [HERE!](#)  
For a printable  
brochure with the  
full children's  
schedule and  
details about all  
offerings!

## Children's Ministry & Nursery offered Sunday Mornings

Infants 9 months-2 yrs  
AND 2 yrs-PreK

K-Second Grade

Third-Fifth Grade

All beginning September 21

You can sign up anytime at  
[www.dtownpc.org/children-family](http://www.dtownpc.org/children-family)



## September 7 Third graders receive Bibles!

Join us in 9:30 am worship for this special time when our third graders receive the Spark House Bible, which is full of faith-based stories designed to help children explore and interact with God's word through storytelling, colorful illustrations, and interactive activities.

# DPC Youth



## A note from DPC's Seminarian for Youth Ministry, Jamie Neal!

As we embark on the youth ministry year under the theme "Worship As A Living, Creative Journey", we'll discover how worship flows through our church gatherings and into the rhythms of our daily lives. I'm excited to lead and learn alongside our dedicated Youth Leaders, whose years of faithful service have laid a strong foundation for us. Together, we'll build relationships, deepen fellowship, and center every aspect of our journey on worshipping God. This will be an unforgettable year! See you soon!

**CLICK HERE!**  
**TO SEE THE COMPLETE**  
**DPC YOUTH SCHEDULE**  
**AND HANDBOOK!**

**DPC's Youth Ministry** offers our next generation of young leaders ways to bond, to help others through mission efforts, and to enhance our worship experience. **Youth Group** (5:45 in the youth room) and **Youth Choir** (4:30 in the choir room) kickoff on **September 14**. **Confirmation Class** and **6th-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Sunday School** begin on **September 21**. **Sunday Morning Bible Study for Grades 9-12** will begin **September 28** due to the Youth Choir singing at the 10:30 service and having an early call time. For details and to sign up today visit [www.dtownnpc.org/youth](http://www.dtownnpc.org/youth)

## MIDDLE SCHOOL MISSION WEEK

was an amazing and rewarding experience! Thank you to all the participants and leaders who made it happen!



To see the full recap video shown in worship earlier this month  
**[CLICK HERE!](#)**

Throughout the week we helped with:

- Monday: Habitat ReStore
- Tuesday: Hunting Park Christian Academy
- Wednesday: Carversville Farm & Upcycled Art
- Thursday: Cradles to Crayons.



Be a bridge for Christ and a beacon of His love

