

NEWS & VIEWS

October 5, 2025

Volume 24 No. 10

Doylestown Mennonite Church

PASTOR'S PEN: Celebrating the Harvest



This is the time of year when we celebrate the harvest, even if we are not farmers! There was a time when that was true for many DMC participants, but now we live in different places with many kinds of jobs. What is the harvest that is most important to us as followers of

Jesus today in our world? Certainly, we hope and pray for an abundance of God's goodness to be experienced as we follow Jesus where he leads.

How is God producing a harvest through you? How is God producing a harvest of righteousness through the ministry of DMC as we spread out in our communities, workplaces, friendships, families and neighborhoods?

I offer that the harvest of righteousness is experienced through generosity of spirit as we share freely with others.

- It might be sharing our financial resources.
- It might be sharing our time to listen to someone.
- It might be waiting for God to act in a situation that we don't have answers for but trusting that God will provide his love and grace.
- It might be learning to be more generous with forgiveness and grace when we have been wronged.
- It might be speaking up and acting on behalf of someone being oppressed or mistreated.
- It might be doing an act of service such as cooking a meal, raking leaves, or cleaning a bathroom.

Whatever the ways that God produces a harvest through us as his children, as followers of Jesus, I invite us to celebrate with joy when we experience that harvest. There are many opportunities to celebrate in our communities with fall festivals. What if we take the time to notice the goodness around us and celebrate what God is doing in the lives of people? What if we speak out loud and give thanks and praise to God for the harvest of righteousness that only God can produce! As we stay connected to Jesus, our Rock and Firm foundation, we can trust that God will receive the glory and praise. I close with this prayer from Philippians 1:9-11.

And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit (harvest) of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God. Amen

- Pastor Sandy



PS - To see a bountiful harvest of beauty and goodness, take a walk or drive out to the Sandy Ridge Community Garden!



COMING UP : SOME SPECIAL DATES

Anniversaries

Angel Mejias & Sandra Maldonado 10/3
Garry & Cyndi Landis 10/12

Birthdays

Dean Bartels 10/6
Glenn Wyble 10/6
Mike Ryan 10/10
Freida Myers 10/17
Lisa Reiff 10/19
Abe Landis 10/21
John Landis 10/24
Karl Strauch 10/28
Denny Bartels 11/1

FROM THE CARE TEAM

The Care Team met two times in September - the 2nd and the 30th; Gary Garges, Freida Myers, and Sandy Landes were present. We continue to read and discuss the book by Dennis Edwards, Humility Illuminated. The chapter on stewardship focused on the need to see all of life as a resource, our time, our finances, our gifts, etc. By recognizing God's generosity towards us, we can live with open hearts, rather than a scarcity mindset. Dennis writes, "Humility reveals that stewardship is to a greater degree about people rather than things." We also noted the many ways in which DMC participants are faithful stewards of time and resources, particularly the trustees who care for our property so well. We also discussed the compassion fund, visitation opportunities, and an upcoming possibility for a church membership class. Sandy shared that she is meeting with a few people to explore the prayer usher ministry. We shared some pastoral care needs and prayed for several individuals and families as well as the pastoral search team. We are grateful to be part of such a caring congregation.

- Sandy Landes for the Care Team (Freida Myers, Gary Garges)

KAREN'S PLACE

Karen's Place reopened on October 4 with Wind and Sail, a married music duo. Their latest song, "Shalom" reminds us that despite our doubts, insecurities and searching we can find ultimate peace and healing with Christ.

October 18 - The 27th anniversary celebration, a big event with prizes and giveaways, featuring the music of Matt Wheeler.



BON VOYAGE

On Sunday, September 21, we held special prayer for Gideon Youssef and his daughter Madison, who left on Monday, September 29 for Egypt, Gideon's home country. They will be going to the Coptic Christian Church of Cairo with relief supplies and

also help with food assistance to an orphanage called The Mother of Peace. Our congregation helped with some of the funds for these needs. They'll take along over 50 care packages that a group prepared on the 5th Sunday of August to send with them. It will be Madison's second visit there. We're looking forward to hearing a lot more about this trip!

SEPTEMBER WORSHIP

Three guest preachers brought messages to us during this month. On September 7 and 14, Mike Ford preached sermons based on the Beatitudes, after which he led a discussion on how to carry them into practice. He pointed out that the person who is poor in spirit knows the need of God and that meekness means humility and gentleness. Practicing the way of Jesus in everyday life brings justice, mercy, compassion and kindness.



September 21 brought Rob Arner and a message about Jesus washing the disciples' feet. He included the incident of Jesus' own feet being washed shortly before. Only God's love heals the world's brokenness, and failing to share amounts to stealing.

On September 28 Lisa Stenger focused on the parable of the sower. She pointed out that it all boils down to the conditions of our hearts. We need to acknowledge the authority of Jesus' words, pay attention to them and live them out in daily life.



COUNTY LINE QUILTERS

County Line Quilters ([website](#)), a non-profit quilt guild, has been having monthly meetings and workshops at our church for this past year, and they have even helped with our comforter project by joining in a few knotting events. If anyone is interested in joining some of their events, the next membership meeting is being held on Monday, October 13, at 7 pm in the fellowship hall. Doors open at 6:45. Meetings include a paid speaker, a member Show & Tell, and guild events, business, etc. It's a great opportunity to meet some talented and creative people!

If you'd like to attend as a guest, there is no charge for your first meeting. Thereafter, you're welcome to join County Line Quilters - the cost is \$35 per year or you may attend additional meetings as a guest at \$5 pp.

For information, reach out to :

Lois Moore: lomo151@gmail.com

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FROM THE LIBRARY:

Please keep reading. One of my favorites this past year was The Sweetest Thing by Elizabeth Musser. Two very different women become friends during the great depression. Family secrets are revealed and relationships are healed. I enjoy the Jacksons' books. One by Neta Jackson is Who is My Shelter, a Yada Yada House of Hope book. This

story shows how they lean on Jesus, the Rock. Dave and Neta Jackson wrote

Lucy Come Home, an amazing story of homeless Lucy, a dog, and her early life. I also reread Jan Karon's books about Father Tim who shepherds his flock. He meets many challenges including a big dog who adopts him and then a homeless boy knocking on his door asking for a place to stay. The books are funny, and also inspiring.



About 44 books were added to the library in 2024 and 16 so far this year. Other donations are currently being processed. We also sent 44 books to Care and Share to provide space for additions.

- Freida Myers, Librarian

Deadline
for
submitting
items for
the
November
issue of
News &
Views:
Oct. 28,
2025



PARTING THOUGHT

“ ... seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop,
a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.”

- Matthew 13:8



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