

NEWS & VIEWS

January 8, 2023

Volume 22 No.1

Doylestown Mennonite Church

PASTOR'S PEN—

The beginning of a new year can bring many thoughts/questions to mind. Some have already made special plans to travel, some are anticipating a major transition such as a move or job change, while others may be waiting for healing or direction. Our theme for 2022, "Searching for the source" served us well. Our crafted prayer ended with the following statement: "Let us always produce fruit in our homes and in our community for Your glory." Our 2023 theme, "Spirit-produced fruit" grows out of this desire. The scriptural focus for this theme is Galatians 5:22-23.

Over the next 12 months I invite you to pray, study and reflect on this theme. Our Sunday morning services will focus on this for the next several weeks. One way to prepare for what God wants us to do is to begin reading chapter 5 of Galatians. In fact, you may want to read the entire book of Galatians several times for this month of January. Pay particular attention to how clearly it is named that the Spirit produces fruit. It is not of our own doing or goodness.

I know our worship planning team will prepare creative ways for us to experience/engage this theme. Pastor Sandy has already scheduled gathering times for listening prayer to write a crafted prayer. Pastor KrisAnne has written a theme song. I look forward to hearing from you all how God shapes you throughout the year.

To support the above efforts, I am planning to hold a monthly prayer gathering on the fourth Wednesday of each month to provide space for further opportunity for mutual encouragement. During these times, we will focus by praying a passage of scripture that invites us to trust God to yield Spirit-produced fruit. If you cannot attend these in person but are interested in receiving an email copy please let me know.

As we begin this new year, none of us know what will happen tomorrow, next week, or the rest of the year. We can trust that God will produce the fruit promised in Galatians 5 of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. As that fruit grows, I am sure 2023 will be a great year.

-Pastor Randy



2023 Theme: Spirit-Produced Fruit

Galatians 5:22-23

love joy peace patience kindness generosity faithfulness gentleness self-control

COMING UP....SOME SPECIAL DATES

Birthdays

MaryEllen Schade	1/1
Dave Chittick	1/10
Janey Garrido	1/13
Karry Bull	1/14
Judy Garrido	1/14
Don Derstine	1/31
Isaac Garrido	2/1
Jeff Buckwalter, Jr.	2/3
Jon Swartley	2/4

Anniversaries

Dave & MaryLee Chittick 1/25

KAREN'S PLACE COFFEEHOUSE

*Open the first and third Saturdays of each month,
7:00-10:00pm, October through June.*

January 7—Wendy Schettig and Sister Angel

January 21—Once Called Saul

February 4—Patrick O'Connor



FROM THE PRAYER CORNER

As we begin a new year, I have a few thoughts to share with you. Do you want to learn more about prayer in the coming year? Do you want to grow in your relationship with God?

Here are some ideas:

The second floor prayer room has several resources as well as a dedicated space for anyone in our congregation to use for personal prayer. Consider setting aside some time on a regular basis to use the prayer room. Feel free to contact Sandy to reserve a time and/r to arrange access if the building is closed.

There are several copies of PRAY, a magazine devoted to prayer available in the Second floor prayer room. Feel free to borrow and read to be encouraged in or walk with Christ.

Consider joining the zoom prayer group which meets on Tuesdays at 9 am and Fridays at 1 pm. It is a good opportunity to pray together and to be encouraged in our walk with Christ.

DMC has an email and phone prayer chain that helps us to pray for needs that arise in our congregation and community. If you would like to receive these emails, please contact Sandy Landes.

May we be like the disciples who asked Jesus, "Lord, teach us to pray."

—Pastor Sandy

FROM THE CHURCH LIBRARY—The
“Return to Northkill” Trilogy by Ervin R.
Stutzman

I’m often amazed at the wealth of information available in our church library. I wish I had more time to read. I’ve been devoting a lot of time recently exploring my wife Cindy’s Anabaptist ancestry going back to the late 1600s and early 1700s when they immigrated here from Europe. From 1618 to 1648, the Palatinate was devastated by the Thirty Years War which destroyed over 1000 villages and significantly reduced the population of that area. In 1640, orders were given in Berne, Switzerland to completely outroot Anabaptists. In 1650, Swiss Anabaptist refugees began arriving in the Palatinate. Pennsylvania was founded by William Penn in 1682 and Anabaptists began to migrate here from throughout the entire Rhine River valley, especially after Louis XIV conducted 2 long wars in the Palatinate from 1684 through 1713.

Hearing about my interest in early immigration to Pennsylvania, Freida suggested reading these three books about an Amish family who settled in Northkill (Bernville) in that time period. I’m grateful for the opportunity to do that. It has given me a much better understanding of what life was like at that time and how different people viewed and responded to challenging situations here in the colonies, before our revolution against Britain.

For centuries this land had been occupied by the Wolf, Turtle, and Turkey clans of the Lenape-Delaware tribe of the Algonquin people. They were non-confrontational, as are the Amish and Mennonites, and generally lived peacefully alongside them during this period. Trouble began when thousands of immigrants flooded in, demanded more land, and serious confrontations arose regarding misunderstanding of agreements.

Here are just several other significant events that took place during the time period covered in this “Northkill” trilogy:

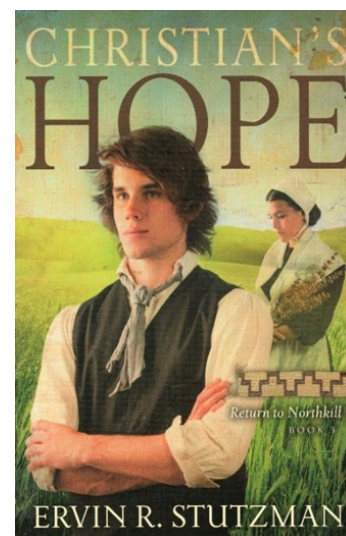
- 1744 to 1748 – King George’s War between England and France
- 1754 to 1763 – French and Indian War against the British and immigrants

- 1763 to 1764 – Pontiac’s War and the Paxton Rebellion in Pennsylvania. Royal Proclamation of 1763 established a boundary between Indians and EuroAmericans. Treaty of Paris ends Seven Year’s War (French and Indian War). Proclamation of 1763 bars settlement west of Appalachian Mountains.

Ervin Stutzman did a masterful job of portraying life here in Pennsylvania during that era, focusing on Jacob Hochstetler, his sons Joseph and Christian who were also taken captive as he was, family members and others whose lives were taken, Chief Custaloga, Chief Pontiac, prophet Neolin, Tom Lions, neighbors, and various other native, Colonial, and British characters ... all real people involved in these situations.

I highly recommend reading this very informative, thought-provoking, inspirational trilogy.

-Karl Strauch



REMEMBERING some events of 2022

>**January** - Karl Strauch became our Everence representative and gave us an overview of this resource.

>**February** - The funeral service for David Phy was held here and the Doylestown Fire Company Auxiliary served a meal.

>**March** - We enjoyed a spring getaway at Spruce Lake on March 25-27. Aimee Gourley gave us her thoughts on the experience of Faith Training Camp and living out her faith on the job.

>**April** - We held our Good Friday Service outside around a fire pit near the pavilion on a chilly, breezy evening. Easter was celebrated inside with breakfast and a service, including special music, an inspiring sermon and communion. Pastor Sandy concluded her sabbatical. On April 29 we celebrated the life of Doris Garges at a memorial service.

>**May** - Our first 5th Sunday day of service was May 29. Some of us washed cars and collected donations for scholarships at Pinebrook Day Camp. Others did a clean-up job for Joyce Zuzack at her shed or led a service at Neshaminy Manor.

>**June/July** - Fifth Sunday Day of Service took us to two places: sorting donated clothing at Hands in Service, and home cleanup and repairs for Jesse and Stephanie Gehman at their newly purchased home.

>**August** - Church picnic at Lost Acres Ranch with swimming, other games and wonderful food. Karen's Place hosted outdoor concerts on Monday evenings. Phil and Pratiksha Tyson and son Evan visited and reported on the work they are doing in Nepal. Seniors enjoyed a picnic at the Myers home.



Remembering 2022 continued

>**September** - Pig Roast at the outdoor pavilion - Good food and wonderful time to connect with one another!

>**October** - Karen's Place reopened on October 1. On October 16 Sam Sandler, "America's Premier Deaf Magician" gave us a message and a performance. Special for him was the first time as a hearing person after receiving a cochlear implant. The Fifth Sunday Day of Service at the end of the month took us to Harborview in Doylestown to lead a service and to Redemption Church in Bristol for cleanup and repairs to their building.

>**November** - Our Thanksgiving offering was collecting items to be packed into Relief Kits by MCC, and non-perishable food items to be taken to local food pantries.

>**December** - Christmas eve found us gathering for a special service of carol singing, special music and a meditation before lighting our candles during "Silent Night" and "Joy to the World". Many extended family members were present, including Randy's own family.



PARTING THOUGHT:

Holy Spirit, live in me, More like Jesus let me be;
Fill my soul with peace and love, Make me gentle as a dove,
More like Jesus as I go-- pilgrim in this world below,
Poor in spirit I would be, Holy Spirit, live in me.
—Fanny Crosby

Deadline for submitting items for the February News & Views: **January 31**

Pastor: Randy Heacock

randy.heacock@doylestownmc.org

**Pastor of Prayer & Pastoral Care:
Sandy Landes**

sandylandes1311@gmail.com

Doylestown Mennonite Church

590 N. Broad Street

Doylestown, PA, 18901

Phone: 215.345.6377

dmc@doylestownmc.org

Newsletter Editor: Lois Myers

Phone/Fax 215-794-8327

myersfm@juno.com

Pastor of Worship & Administration:

KrisAnne Swartley

krisanne.swartley@doylestownmc.org