# **Doylestown Mennonite Church**

215.345.6377 Vol. 65 www.doylestownmc.org December 17, 2023 dmc@doylestownmc.org

No. 51

## WELCOME!

We are people on a journey of following Jesus, and we invite you to walk with us. In our desire to be authentic, we share our joys and struggles to both encourage and pray for one another. All are welcome to ask questions and participate in our activities. Our vision - *taking risks with and for Christ* - continues to shape us. Please feel free to make DMC your faith community.

~ Pastors Randy and Sandy

**Tithes & Offerings -** If you would like to give an offering, you may place it in the basket on the table at the front of the sanctuary. There is also an option to give online on the home page of our website (address at the top of this page).

#### Serving Today:

<u>Trustee of the Month</u>: Garry Landis <u>Greeters</u>: Don & Kathy Heckler

<u>Worship Leader</u>: Steve Landes <u>Music Leader</u>: Ronda Histand <u>Preacher</u>: Randy Heacock

<u>Nursery (worship)</u>: Cyndi Landis <u>Prayer Ushers</u>: Freida Myers, Don Heckler <u>Intercessor</u>: Kathy Heckler

Worship services are streamed live on the public church Facebook page beginning at 9:50 am. The video remains available to view at any time.

Video link: www.facebook.com/doylestownmc

#### Happening this week:

Dec 19Prayer by ZoomDec 20Christmas CarolingDec 22Prayer by Zoom

9:00 am 6:30 pm 9:00 am

### DMC Notes:

**Tuesday & Friday, 9:00 am - Zoom Prayer** - anyone is welcome to join these weekly prayer groups! Use this link - <u>https://tinyurl.com/</u> <u>mwvcdyze</u> - or use meeting ID: 982 3566 8858, passcode: 805803. To join by phone, call 1-929-205-6099.

The **Flower Sign-Up sheet** for January through May is now posted on the bulletin board by the mailboxes. Please consider what weeks you're able to provide flowers and sign up!

We are now working on the **2024 DMC Church Directory**. Please check the draft copy on the table by the mailboxes to make sure your contact information, birthday and/or anniversary is correct and current. If you have any changes or additions, please write them in. We aim to have the new directory available in mid-January.

Your 2024 offering envelopes are now in your mailbox. If you did not receive envelopes in 2023 but would like them for 2024, please <u>contact Kristine</u> in the church office.

Earlier this year MLT announced that DMC would seek to sponsor a **youth cabin at Spruce Lake Retreat**. The goal of raising \$50,000 by the end of the year was identified. \$21,300 has been received so far and since the goal is to finish this off by the end of 2023, we are inviting all to consider a one-time special gift to raise an additional \$28,700. Please clearly mark any donations for "Spruce Lake Cabin" fund and place with your regular offering.

**Singers are needed** when the DMC family goes Christmas caroling on Wednesday, December 20 starting at 6:30 pm. Meet at Don and Kathy Hecklers' home, 200 Murray Drive, Doylestown (215-345-4493); bring warm clothes, a flashlight and snacks.

**June Histand** went home to be with the Lord on Friday, December 1. A funeral service will be held here at DMC on Sunday, January 21 starting at 2:00 pm.

**Congratulations to Lisa & Mark Reiff** as they welcomed Silas Reiff into the world. Silas was born on December 10 and needed to be transferred to CHOP for further care. At this time, they are waiting for the results of additional testing. Please keep them all in your prayers.

**Next Sunday** in addition to our regular service at 10:00 am, we will have a Candlelight Christmas Eve Service at 7:00 pm. Our offering for the Christmas Eve service will go towards our mission budget.

On **Sunday, January 31** we will worship at 10:00 am around tables enjoying food together. Please bring bagels/cream cheese, cut fruit, breakfast cake, or some breakfast food to share. Naturally, any Christmas cookies that you wish to share are welcome too! Similar to the Thanksgiving meal, we will set the tables up and make preparations so we will begin eating by 10:30. Come ready to share blessings from 2023 and prayers for 2024.

#### Scripture Text – Matthew 2:1-13, Isaiah 42:1-13

What do we learn from a star?

What do we learn about people?

How can we best prepare to both receive and reflect the light of Christ?

#### 2023 Theme – Spirit-Produced Fruit

#### DMC participants to pray for:

**Marge Swartley** - receiving care at Grand View Hospital following a stroke. Pray for strength and encouragement as she has therapy and for Ray as he supports Marge. Marge is thankful for improvement.

Mark & Lisa Reiff, and baby Silas - they are at Children's Hospital in Philadelphia, as doctors continue to do some testing for Silas. They ask us to pray: "for God's provision over Silas' life, for Lisa and Mark as they hear about every doctor's belief about his future, for faith that God has a plan and a purpose for Silas' life."

#### **Prayer Guide:**

Sunday - Praise God for the love God has for all people.

Monday - Confess any hardness in your heart making it difficult to love your neighbor.

**Tuesday** - Pray for an individual who struggles believing they are loved by God.

Wednesday - Be still and allow God's generous love to fill your heart.

**Thursday** - Consider fasting from saying critical words about another today.

Friday - Who can you encourage today, especially a stranger?

Saturday - Give thanks today for the many people who are part of the kingdom of God, far and wide!

#### 2023 Crafted Prayer:

Dear Father, we praise and thank you for the glorious mystery of your Trinity. We are grateful that you have sent the Holy Spirit, whose transforming power is at work in us. The fruit that the Spirit produces in each of us brings forth your kingdom here on earth. Let us keep in step with you, Holy Spirit, ever mindful of the power that your gifts provide. We pray in Jesus' name, Amen.

#### **Community Groups @ DMC**

<u>Sunday</u> LAA (weekly, 7 pm - basement)

<u>Tuesday</u> Alanon (weekly, 7 pm - basement)

Sandy Ridge Community Garden Tuesday, Wednesday & Saturday work hours

#### Wednesday

AA (weekly, 12 pm - basement) Naranon (weekly, 6 pm - Rm 201) Bucks Co. Writers (weekly, 7 pm - basement)

<u>Thursday</u> Support Group (weekly, 7 pm - Rm 201)

#### December 10

Attendance: 46

Offering (12/8-15): \$5406.00 Spruce Lake Cabin support: \$7000.00