

# NEWS & VIEWS

October 2, 2022

Volume 21 No.10

Doylestown Mennonite Church

## PASTOR'S PEN—

### “What’s new?”

I have a friend who often asks me that question when I see her. Sometimes I don't know how to answer her because it seems like things are pretty much the same for me from day to day. In reality, however, each day is new and as we seek to follow Jesus, each day will bring something new for us to learn and experience. I recently shared with the DMC congregation when I preached in September about the remodeling project we are undertaking in our kitchen. The project is coming along very well, thanks to Steve's expertise and perseverance. In another month or so, we will move our dishes and foodstuffs into the new spaces in our cabinets and I will enjoy cooking again.

When I preached, I touched on the idea of the new “spaces” that God may be opening up in our lives as we allow God to “deconstruct” those behaviors and thought patterns that are not life-giving. Isaiah 43:19, “See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?” God created the world in his way long ago but is still creating and doing new things in our lives. God is the most creative person we will ever know and if God says he is doing a new thing, we can trust that it will be good.

Sometimes it may be difficult to recognize the new if we don't have an openness to it. Most of us welcomed the “new” season of fall as we were ready for cooler weather and the rains. It is true that sometimes the new is difficult to accept, when it involves a loss, a change, or a challenge. Perhaps it is when we go through the harder “new things”

that we more deeply appreciate the loving support of a Christian community like DMC.

I think the invitation from God is true for all of us, no matter what age or life experiences we are having. The invitation is to look for the “new thing” God is doing in your life. It could be a new learning about his love, a new relationship, a new skill, a significant transition, or a new area where you need to trust God in a deeper way.

I encourage you to pray and ask God to not only do a new thing in your life, but to give you eyes to perceive what God is doing and to receive it with joy and gratitude. We can trust God to use it for his glory!

-Pastor Sandy



## COMING UP....SOME SPECIAL DATES

### Birthdays

Dean Bartels	10/6
Glenn Wyble	10/6
Heidi Swartley	10/8
Mike Ryan	10/10
Freida Myers	10/17
Lisa Reiff	10/19
Abe Landis	10/21
John Landis	10/24
Karl Strauch	10/28
Ron Miller	10/31
Nancy Heacock	10/31

### Anniversaries

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

## KAREN'S PLACE COFFEEHOUSE

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

The coffeehouse reopened on October 1 with the band Fare Thee Well.

Coming up:

**October 15-** The Ally J Band and celebrating the 24<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of Karen's Place!



**November 5-** Dana Isles & Facedown

## CARE TEAM REPORT

The Care Team met by Zoom on Tuesday, September 20, 2021. Our Biblical focus was Philippians 1:1-6 where Paul talks about partnership in ministry. We are not lone rangers but partners together and each one of us is equal before God. Rather than doing things to or for someone, doing things with that person is more effective, even though it may not seem as efficient.

We noted some in our congregation who are partners in ministry, offering their gifts. There is strength in partnership. Sandy reported recent use of the compassion fund and mentioned a few of her recent visits. We joined in prayer for some facing struggles currently.

Robin is moving to Maryland but we are glad that she will continue serving through December. We invite your prayers as we discern next steps.

Freida Myers for the Care Team—Sandy Landes, Randy Heacock, Robin Miller, Aimee Gourley

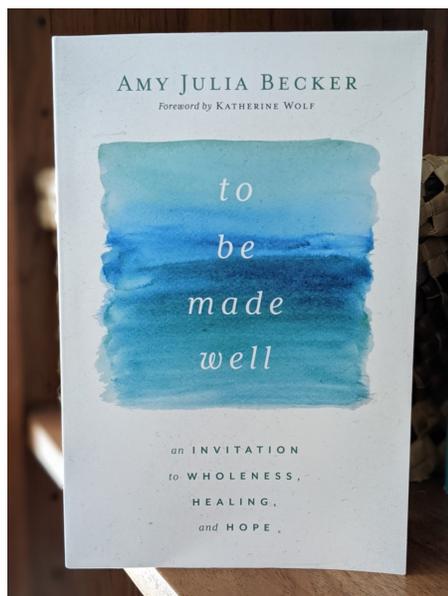
## FROM THE CHURCH LIBRARY

To Be Made Well by Amy Julia Becker is an “invitation to wholeness, healing, and hope.” In a chapter on “Restored to Community,” Becker talks about her mother-in-law who called to say she had just received a diagnosis of cancer. Becker and her husband traveled the next day to be with her along with other family members, friends and church members. They restored her house and her healing began that day as she was no longer isolated but was reconciled to family and the church community who all came to help.

Throughout the book Becker parallels the story of Jesus healing the bleeding woman with her own mother-in-law. Jesus called the woman “Daughter.” He told everyone she was healed so they could restore her to the community from which she had been shunned because of her illness.

Becker’s mother-in-law still fought the cancer and mental illness but experienced personal, spiritual and social healing during her last months of life. One reviewer says that “This book will better equip you both for your journey in the healing process and to be an agent of healing.” I recommend this if you want to learn more about mental illness and how we can help each other find healing.

Freida Myers, Librarian



## A PIG ROAST

Saturday, September 24, was the day for gathering in the pavilion to enjoy a roasted pig with many of our friends and neighbors. The meat was tender and delicious, with plenty of sides and various tasty desserts to fill out the meal. Some people enjoyed lawn games, others were happy to sit and visit with each other. Many thanks to Angel and Sandra and their helpers for giving us this treat!



## PIG ROAST CONTINUED



**DEADLINE** for submitting items for the November News & Views: **November 1**

## PARTING THOUGHT -

Fill me anew, fill me with your Holy Spirit...  
Fill me anew, fill me with your loving kindness...  
Fill me anew, with a constant faith abiding...  
Fill me anew, fill me now with joy and gladness...  
Jesus-Bruderschaft, Gnadenthal 2004

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