

# NEWS & VIEWS

June 4, 2023

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Doylestown Mennonite Church

## PASTOR'S PEN—

“Timing is everything,” a quote that describes a mindset in our culture, emphasizing the belief that there is a right time for everything. We would like to believe that we can do everything right, including at the right time so everything goes according to our plans, but reality tells us something different. Reality tells us that things do not often go according to our plans or our timing. Perhaps that is a good thing!

In Ecclesiastes 3, the famous chapter on time, we are reminded that life has its various events and taking the time to be present in the “times” of our lives brings to mind the need to trust in God and to learn to wait, a practice that stretches our patience muscle. As I write this, we are awaiting the birth of a new grandchild into our family. I have recently participated in and attended several funerals. I hear the stories of graduation celebrations from high school and college. Our lives are filled with sorrows and joys, birth and death, conflict and healing, etc. While I often want things in my time, God says to wait, to trust, to let the slow work of his love transform our hearts.

Handcrafting a piece of furniture, a flower arrangement, a building, a quilt, etc. takes time just as it takes time for God to do the work of crafting us as disciples. Maybe the time it takes to grow as a disciple is a good thing! It takes submission to God’s Spirit and to each other. Maybe we desire to see growth in others and ourselves, but it may not always happen in our

timing... God knows us each as individuals and our faith community at DMC. God is crafting us according to his plans and timing. I am married to a craftsman, who takes his time to do a good job of remodeling a space, whether it is a kitchen, Pinebrook cabin, or motel space. It doesn’t happen overnight.

Unlike remodeling a living space with materials like lumber and drywall, as God shapes us, we participate in the crafting of our lives as disciples. As we continue with the focus on prayer during this next month, I invite us all to yield to the slow work of God’s transforming love in our relationship with God. Invite God to build you up in your inner being, to be strengthened with power by His Spirit, knowing that his crafting of you as his disciple will take time, but God’s work in us will produce fruit for his glory.

-Pastor Sandy



## COMING UP....SOME SPECIAL DATES

### Birthdays

Garry Landis	6/1
Camille Garrido	6/5
Noah Gidley	6/6
June Histan	6/15
Ronda Histan	6/21
Ray Swartley	6/28
Gary Garges	7/2

### Anniversaries

Randy & Nancy Heacock	6/5
Karl & Cindy Strauch	6/15
John & Sara Faye Moyer	6/16
Don & Kathy Heckler	6/20
Cesar & Judy Garrido	7/1

## KAREN'S PLACE COFFEEHOUSE

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

Indoor concerts have concluded for the year, but watch for our Monday Nights in August outdoor concert series!!

## CARE TEAM REPORT

The Care team met via zoom on May 30. In attendance were, Randy Heacock, Sandy Landes, Frieda Myers and Aimee Gourley. We read and discussed Luke 12:13-34, the parable of the Rich Fool. We are continuing to read Strong and Weak by Andy Crouch. We discussed chapter 5, which focuses on the topic of exploiting. We

talked about the connection between exploiting and suffering. We also gave our reactions to the following quote: "Idols take away our relationships."

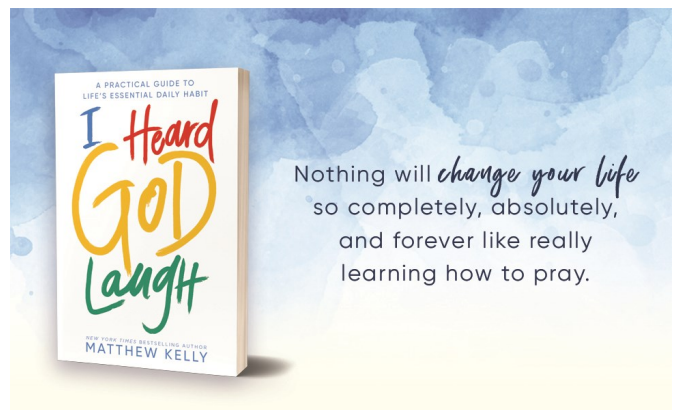
We spent some time in prayer to lift up our congregational members who have particular needs. We will meet again on July 11.

-Aimee Gourley for the Care Team (Sandy Landes, Freida Myers, Randy Heacock)

## FROM THE CHURCH LIBRARY

Sermons recently focused on prayer. Consider checking out one of the books in the prayer section. I recommend I Heard God Laugh, a Practical Guide to Life's Essential Daily Habit by Matthew Kelly. This book was donated by Joyce Zuzack; it had been a favorite of her husband Dave. There are many other books good for summer reading.

-Freida Myers, Librarian



## TWO SPECIAL EVENTS

On Sunday, May 7, David Santopietro was baptized and we welcomed him as a member of our congregation.



Sunday, May 21 was a Mission Sunday. Phil and Pratiksha Tyson and son Evan were with us. They reported on their work in Nepal. They work for organizations that deal with human trafficking, Phil oversees the business affairs of Beauty for Ashes, which provides dignified employment in six villages where young people have no other job prospects. They produce items for export, bringing needed income. Pratiksha works for Love Justice, which has already rescued 38,000 young people by traffickers with the false hope of good jobs elsewhere. Her focus is family homes. These homes each take in twelve homeless children with a parent couple, raising them like a family.

**Deadline** for submitting items for the July News & Views: **June 27th**

## PARTING THOUGHT:

Open my eyes, Lord, Help me to see your face,  
Open my ears, Lord, Help me to hear you voice,  
Open my heart, Lord, help me to love like you .

-Jesse Manibuscan (Tr. From Spanish)

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**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