



DOE RUN NEWS

Doe Run Presbyterian Church
3104 Doe Run Church Road
East Fallowfield, Pa. 19320
(610) 486-0744

www.doerun.org
December 2007

Make Christmas a Time of Meaning for You and Your Family!

For many years, I have taught a course on “Unplugging the Christmas Machine” in local churches. I find that people add stress to an already busy time of year by raising their expectations for decorating, gift giving and food preparation and thus end up not enjoying their holidays when their expectations are not met. One article I find very helpful to having an enjoyable and spirit filled Christmas comes from Rick Warren’s article in Ladies’ Home Journal of December 2004: “The Purpose Driven Christmas.” He shares several suggestions for us to consider as we approach the month of December.

- 1) **Make Christmas a Time for Meaningful Fellowship:** Because we spend more time with family and friends during the holidays, it is easy to overload our schedules. Realize that you can only be in one place at one time and that your body still needs to rest. Keep in mind that most of the conversation at parties is superficial, about sports, the weather or even gossip about others. Real fellowship occurs when there is heart to heart sharing. This is especially true when family members take the time and energy to really listen to one another and create a family memory that will last a lifetime.
- 2) **Make Christmas a Time of Personal Growth:** Many people dread holiday times because family gatherings remind them of unresolved hurts and conflicts. A different way to approach family events is to practice reconciliation. The purpose of Christmas is to proclaim the coming of the Prince of Peace. Ask yourself who you need to forgive this Christmas. Try to let go of hurts and both parties will be blessed.
- 3) **Make Christmas a Time for Helpful Service:** The best gifts are usually ones you cannot wrap. Offer your time and talents to serve those in need. Do simple acts of kindness for someone like picking up a package, offering to babysit or taking a meal to someone who is housebound.
- 4) **Make Christmas a Time for Joyful Worship:** God sent us a Savior and the carols proclaim “Rejoice! Celebrate! Joy!” Try not to miss church services that focus on God’s gift to the world. Make attendance at worship and fellowship events a priority. Worship at home by playing and singing carols. Read Advent readings at mealtime and bedtime, make it part of your daily schedule.
- 5) **Make Christmas a Time for Cheerful Sharing:** The good news proclaimed by angels at Christmas was the gift of a child sent to save the world and bring peace. Remember that God loves you and cares about you! Check out the scripture passages that proclaim the birth of Jesus. You will find that people are more open to discussing spiritual matters in December so share the good news with your family and friends! It is the best news that they will ever get!

May this be the best Christmas you have ever had!

Rev. Ann G. Dickey, Interim Pastor

Financial News

Income	Expenses	October Surplus	2007 Deficit
\$ 9,905	\$ 7,882	\$ 2,023	\$ 4,382

2008 Per Capita cost: \$25.39/member. The Budget and Staff committee is working hard to create a 2008 budget that reflects current ministry at Doe Run. The budget will include items such as the pay for a contemporary music leader and youth director after the grant money is all used up, probably in the spring. The Pastor Nominating Committee will see a line item for 2008 which will give them money to use in visiting and hosting Pastor candidates. The request for mission money to the Presbytery has increased for 2008 by almost \$500. All these items mean an increased budget to be approved by Session in December and presented to the congregation at the **Annual Meeting at noon on January 27th**. It is not too late for members to turn in Estimate of Giving Cards (found in the Nicholas room) to help Doe Run meet the projected needs for 2008! Currently we have \$111,000 pledged for 2008. If you have not turned in a card, would you consider doing so? The Session thanks you for your support!

For a while, we have struggled with the best use of the Jean Shaneman gift to Doe Run. After a long time of deliberation, a decision has been made to use the funds to both help with our current expenses, at least until we end our deficit, and to grow the funds for future projects. Below is policy that was passed by the Session. Should you have any questions about the policy, please see one of the members of Session.

At the September 25, 2007 meeting of Session, the following policy was approved on recommendation of the Shaneman Fund Advisory Committee: "On an annual basis, an amount of 5% of the Shaneman Endowment Fund-not to exceed \$10,000-will be transferred to the Current Fund. In no event will money be transferred if it results in lowering the Shaneman Endowment Fund to below \$175,000. The 5% yearly amount will be computed by using the ending balance of the Shaneman Endowment Fund as of September 30th of the preceding year-rounded to the nearest \$100-and will be transferred to the Current Fund with Session approval in equal amounts on or about the 20th day of March, June, September and December of the budget year." In addition, at the same meeting the Memorial Endowment Fund was renamed the Capital Improvement/Building Fund. This change was made to clarify the purpose of these funds. That is to provide the Church with a source of money to pay for medium to large capital expenditures where we would otherwise have to borrow the money from outside sources or have an internal fund raising project. We have always repaid the money taken from the Fund as an expenditure item in subsequent Current Fund budgets.

Doe Run News

Let's Make 2008 the "Year of the Bible"! Join other Doe Runners who will pledge to read most of the Bible during the year using the guide book "The Bible Book of the Month" by Rev. James Davison, a Presbyterian Minister from Pittsburgh. This guide takes one book of the bible each month, alternating Old and New Testament books, and breaks each book into daily readings to be done at home. It also provides commentary and discussion questions for each book of the Bible. Books read are: Genesis, Matthew, Exodus, Acts, First Samuel, Psalms, Letters of the Apostle Paul, Proverbs, Luke, Minor Prophets Isaiah and John. To get your book at a cost of \$12, send your check to the church office or Rev. Ann, made payable to Doe Run Church, by December 16. If enough people sign up, a discussion group may be formed to meet every other month to discuss readings. Reading the Bible is a great way to start the New Year!

Coatesville Area Lions Club will be sponsoring Noah's Ark Animal Workshop on Saturday, December 8 at the Doe Run Church from 9:00 am till noon. Along with pancake breakfast, Santa will be in attendance. Please see sign up forms in the Narthex. For more information call (610)269-851.

Doe Run Silent Auction, save the date, February 23, 2008, 6:30 pm for this fun evening of food, fellowship and bidding! We are asking all Doe Run Members to think about what they may be willing or able to "donate" to be auctioned off. Do you have a great talent or skill that you would be willing to share? Do you know of someone who owns a restaurant or any kind of business that would be willing to donate something? Any Questions? Contact Sueann Robbins (610)383-9847 or email srobbins@immaculata.edu.

Mission Committee is in the process of composing the mission survey for the Annual Report and we would like to hear from you! If you have participated in any mission activities apart from a Doe Run committee activity during the past year, please contact Suzanne Graves and let her know. Mission work may include Meals on Wheels, Toys for Tots, Operation Thanksgiving/Christmas driving someone to a doctor's appointment, housing cleaning, etc. All names will remain anonymous. Thank you!

Sunday School News: The children will be performing their Christmas play at the 11:00 service on December 16. Gift baskets will be on display and tickets will be sold during coffee hour on December 2, 9 and 16 for the Sunday School Gift Basket raffle. The drawing will be during the coffee hour on December 16. We are asking for donations of gift baskets for our raffle. We are always looking for more volunteers. If you can help out in anyway, please contact Kim Boulger at 610-380-7907 or kboulger1@yahoo.com.

Kid Crusaders are Back: Shelly VanKoevering and Lisa Last are requesting all kids to come join the Doe Run Kid Choir Group, The Kid Crusaders. We will be singing in church at both the 9:30 and 11:00 services on December 9th. Practices will take place in the choir room between the 9:30 and 11:00 services. Kids of all ages-Come join the fun! Any questions please contact Shelly at (610)857-1023 or via email shellyvk@hotmail.com

Doe Run will be collecting for the **Angel Tree Program** again this year. For any of you who are new, paper ornaments are hung on a tree in the Nicholas Room with children's names, ages, and gift ideas. You take a name, if you would like to donate, and we collect wrapped gifts for that child. Our last Sunday of collection will be December 16th. The gifts will be taken to the CYWA in Coatesville so that they may distribute them the week before Christmas. The ornaments should be on the tree by December 2^d. If anyone has any questions, please contact Kim Campbell (610)384-8272.

Interim Pastor Ann Dickey's Interim Contract has been renewed by Session for another year beginning November 28, 2007 (one year maximum). Copies of the Interim contract including financial agreement are available on the table in the Nicholas Room.

Congregational Meeting called by Session for Sunday, January 6 at noon to elect Pastor Nominating Committee! After approving the Mission Study, Area One of the Committee on Ministry of Donegal Presbytery has given permission for the Nominating Committee to present a slate of nominees to the congregation on January 6. Nominations may be made from the floor but the nominee must be present to agree to serve. Please plan to attend this most important meeting of the congregation on January 6!

Doe Run thanks Stephanie Anderson for her work as Youth Director in 2007! We wish her blessings in her new role as the Director of Young Life in the Phoenixville Area School District. The youth of Doe Run will give her an appreciation luncheon on December 9 at 11:00 am. We are so glad that Steph will

still be a part of the Doe Run congregation by continuing her support at the 9:30 am service and possibly taking part in new areas of the church's life. Applicants for the position of Youth Director are being interviewed by the Session in December to start working with the youth on January 6. Please pray for Stephanie in her new role and for our youth program as it makes this transition!

Christmas Offerings: The Session has decided that the Christmas Joy Offering will be taken on Sunday morning December 23rd at both services. This is a traditional Presbyterian offering which gives money toward pensions for older pastors and supports ethnic colleges. The Doe Run Christmas offering will be taken Christmas Eve, December 24th at both the 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm services and will go toward local mission projects as directed by the Mission committee and Session. Thank you for thinking of others.

Christmas Eve Services: Monday, December 24, 6:00 pm, Childrens' service featuring stories, traditional and contemporary music and carols. 8:00 pm, Traditional Scripture reading and carol service featuring the choir and organ, Sacrament of the Lord's Supper and Candle lighting for all. No nursery provided for this evening. Children are welcome at both services.

Find Yourself Having Surgery or in the Hospital? Please call me or have someone let me know so I can visit you! I really hate finding out days later that you could have used a visit while receiving medical care! My cell phone is (484)467-3885. Thank you! Rev. Ann Dickey

Fellowship/Hospitality:

Next meeting Tuesday, December 4, 7:00 pm (change from Monday). Mark your calendar for Sunday, December 9, 5:30 pm, Colonial Covered Dish Dinner. Many colonial dishes made by the Fellowship Committee; ham with raisin sauce, peanut soup, Brunswick stew, venison, apple dumplings. If you want to get into the spirit of the Holidays and you have a recipe from the Colonial Period, bring it or a covered dish of your choice. Nancy Hensel, Ted Forbes, Kim Campbell have Colonial Recipe books if you would like to be adventurous. If you still have the colonial garb from the Centennial, we encourage you to wear it. We will end the evening with the singing of Christmas carols. Come and enjoy an evening of fellowship. Please plan to attend. Bring family and friends; a covered dish and place setting for each person." Questions, call Lathea (610)4860343 or any of the Fellowship Committee.

Deacons:

Modena Family Center donations 2007: The Deacons would like to thank the members of Doe Run for their donations to this year's food drive for the clients of the CYWA in Modena. Although we got a late start, we collected 11 turkeys and about 20 bags of food items which were dropped off on Monday, November 19. We were told that this year the food was especially needed for families in Modena and surrounding areas. Thanks also to Megan Snyder whose school donated a large number of canned and boxed food items.

Mission Study Update:

The Mission Study Committee is pleased to report that we have completed Doe Run's Mission Study Report. The final version of the report was presented to Session at the November 27th meeting and was unanimously approved. The next step in the process is for the report to be sent to the Presbytery's Committee on Mission for approval. Once the report is approved, the Nominating Committee can start working to nominate members for the PNC (Pastor Nominating Committee). Once the Nominating Committee has completed its work, the nominees will be announced at a congregational meeting in early January, where the committee will be voted on and elected. Copies of the Mission Study Report will be made available to the congregation upon approval of the COM.

I would personally like to thank Ted Forbes, Bev Hiller, Ann Croft, Scott Clark, Doris Spencer and James Graves for all of their hard work and dedication in helping to create this report.

And speaking of the PNC, if you are interested in serving on the PNC, please contact Jeff Sapper at (610)873-2522 or jeffsapper@msn.com

Splinters News:

The December meeting of Splinters will meet on Tuesday, December 4th at 11:30 am. Dorrie Carlin is the hostess. For the program we will be making table wreaths, Doris Spencer will be assisting us.

The group has completed and given out 17 prayer shawls. We could use more knitters as the demand always seems to be greater than the supply.

WANTED:

MAW (mature, adult women) part time work in relaxed atmosphere, 3+ hours, first Tuesday of each month starting at 11:30 am. Must be able to enjoy other MAW, have fun, make a sandwich. No night driving, no references or experience required. Great benefit package. Call (610)2693592 ask for Hope.

Presbyterian Women:

Sarah Circle meeting, Thursday, December 6, 7:15 pm at the home of Sue Monaghan. Bring a gift for the Yankee Swap (something you have around the house that you would like to re-gift) wrapped in pretty paper.

Whose Job Is It Anyway?

This past Spring we tried to let everyone know what the Job Description was for the Session, Trustees and Deacons. Many thanks to all of those folks who now serve or have served in these positions!

The Stewardship Committee is working on a Time and Talent Survey so that it can be used by the various Boards and Committees to find help when help is needed. We are all so thankful for our church and the many years it has stood and helped in the community. Often times there are things that need to be done and it is helpful to know who is available to help with that need. Every single person is talented in some area. Please consider this and fill out and return the survey. Many hands make the workload lighter! We are not talking about you spending endless hours at the church, but perhaps you could serve on a committee that interests you. In June, we will be looking for people to serve on committees, so we think it would be in your interest to find out what the committees are and what they do. If you see something that looks like it is right up your alley, then volunteer your name when they ask for nominations!

This month we will explore the job of the Stewardship Committee since they are most active at this time of year. I am sure you have heard them mentioned several times in the last few months. The Stewardship Committee is responsible for the annual pledges received for the church to help plan church programs. This year the Committee planned the Consecration Sunday which was very successful. We worked with another church this year the Honey Brook Church and helped each other have a successful campaign. The Committee, as well as some faithful volunteers, catered the luncheon at Honey Brook and their Committee catered ours. Now the Committee is involved in updating the Time and Talent Survey. This Committee meets monthly and after services on Sunday as needed. They also sponsor a Coffee Hour at least once a year. Perhaps your interest is in this area, perhaps not. Be watching for future editions of "Whose Job Is It Anyway?" to find out what other committees do. Until then, remember that Doe Run is your church and any help that can be given in any area is much appreciated!

Greenwood Singers' Christmas 2007 Schedule: Concerts are free, everyone is welcome.

Sunday, December 2, 3:00 pm, Parkesburg Presbyterian Church, Wright & Main, Parkesburg, PA

Saturday December 8, 7:00 pm, Living God Lutheran Church, 3200 Horseshoe Pike, Honey Brook, PA

Sunday, December 9, 7:00 pm, Oxford Presbyterian Church, Pine St., Oxford PA

“What Every Church Member Should Know About Clergy” by Rev. Robert Kemper

The PNC, when elected, will study this book which has proven to be very helpful toward providing insights into the kinds of challenges and conflicts that pastors confront and work to resolve and how they do so. (Reprinted from the Articles of the PNC of Unionville church in 2007)

Part Two: Characteristics of the Clergy: Vital to successfully meeting challenges and conflicts in a church, are several personality attributes that are likely to be found in pastors. First of all, clergy have a **mediating personality**. “Theologically, mediation takes place between God and humanity. Socially, it occurs between the local church and other social communities. Politically, mediation takes place within the church as different age and interest groups compete for places, power and resources.” “Mediating personalities hold a larger view of the scheme of things. They have a theology of inclusiveness: 1) God is a God of the whole human family. 2) The church is One despite its different denominations. 3) People are to live in harmony and peace.”

A second personality attribute is that clergy have **high work addiction**. “One of the images that lay people have of clergy is that they are busy. Both lay people and clergy like that image. There is nothing sinful about being involved, active and busy except when they are done to excess. Sometimes, without meaning to, churches exploit the work addictions of clergy personalities. In the absence of clarity about their sphere of responsibility, lay people let clergy take responsibility for the whole church. When done according to the wishes of the laity, it is a virtue. When done to the contrary, it is a source of complaint.”

Third, clergy are **people oriented**. “They have personalities that would rather be with people than with things or numbers. Pastors have a tendency to prioritize people concerns over task concerns. A parishioner concern/crisis will take precedent over a task concern like preparing a sermon. A congregation may not be especially sensitive to this personality trait. They hear a half baked sermon on Sunday and they assume that their pastor is half baked, not that their pastor allowed a people concern to supersede his or her other tasks.”

Lastly, and most obvious, a pastor’s personality has a **strong religious and spiritual component**. “The religion of clergy is theological, historical, disciplined, comprehensive and intellectually structured. Clergy religion is not a compartment of thought or segment of life. Religion becomes a world view, a way of looking at everything. Like lay people, though, the religion of a pastor has peaks and valleys. The only difference is, that clergy, in the low points of faith, must function as if their faith is constant. It is helpful to remember in these peaks and valleys, that God alone is constant. Human perceptions of God rise and fall.

The healthiest religious personality in pastors is a personality resting on true humility. True humility in pastors does not desire that all others think as they think, but that all others join the pastor on a journey in search of the ineffable mystery of God.

Next month: How do you become a Pastor?

DECEMBER 2007

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 World Communion 1 st Sunday of Advent	3	4 9:30 am Quilters 11:30 am Splinters 7:00 pm Fellowship	5 7:00 pm Choir	6 7:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:15 pm PW	7	8 Lion's Club Santa breakfast 9:00 am till noon
9 5:30 pm Colonial Covered Dish	10	11 9:30 am Quilters	12 7:00 pm Choir	13 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	14	15 8:00 am Mens' breakfast
16	17 7:00 pm Christian Ed	18 9:30 am Quilters 7:00 pm Session	19 7:00 pm Choir	20 7:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm Trustees	21	22
23	24 Christmas Eve Services 6:00 pm and 8:00pm	25 Christmas Day	26	27	28	29
30	31 New Year's Eve					