



Doe Run News

Doe Run Presbyterian Church Newsletter

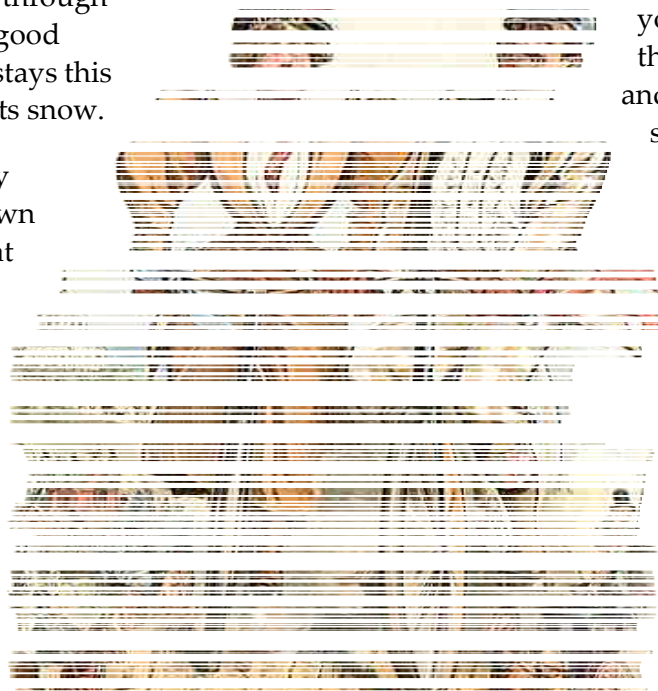
February 2006

From The Pastor...

As I look out the window and see a sunny but cool day I am wondering where winter is. We have made it halfway through and have been blessed with good weather so far and I hope it stays this way even though Tracy wants snow.

I finally managed to get my Christmas decorations down and am now wondering what to get Tracy for Valentine's Day. One day just goes into the next and the holidays seem to get closer and closer to each other. The days go by quickly whether we want them to or not and we are not always prepared for what's coming.

Preparing our lives for what's coming up seems to be a constant pressure on us but are we truly prepared? We may be prepared for what comes next in life but are we truly prepared for the future? Jesus lived his life preparing for the cross and taught his disciples to do the same. Is that part of our planning?



As we prepare for Valentine's Day, birthdays, anniversaries, and all those other special days take time to prepare for that special day when you will meet the Lord. Take time to read and study Scripture and reflect on how it relates to your life and pray with all your heart that you can live as God wants. Use the Lord in your preparations and you will find it all goes smoother.

Happy Valentine's Day,

Rev. Walt

* * *

We remember these friends in our prayers: **Bette and John Downing and Kathryn Robinson.**

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Thank you to everyone who contributed to the **Angel Tree project**. The CYWA was very grateful for our contribution. This year Doe Run sponsored 25 needy children with Christmas gifts. What a wonderful way to celebrate the birthday of Jesus! – *Suzanne Graves*

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Food for Thought

The Rose

A young, new preacher was walking with an older, more seasoned preacher in the garden one day. Feeling a bit insecure about what God had for him to do, he was asking the older preacher for some advice.

The older preacher walked up to a rose bush and handed the young preacher a rosebud and told him to open it without tearing any of the petals. The young preacher looked in disbelief at the older preacher and was trying to figure out what a rosebud could possibly have to do with his wanting to know the will of God for his life and ministry.

But, because of his great respect for the older preacher, he proceeded to try and unfold the rosebud while keeping every petal intact. It wasn't long before he realized how impossible this was to do.

Noticing the young preacher's inability to unfold the rosebud without tearing it, the older preacher began to recite the following poem:

It is only a tiny rosebud
A flower of God's design;
But I cannot unfold the petals
With these clumsy hands of mine.

The secret of unfolding flowers
Is not known to such as I.
GOD opens this flower so sweetly,
Then, in my hands, they die.

If I cannot unfold a rosebud,
The flower of God's design,
Then how can I have the wisdom
To unfold this life of mine?

So, I'll trust in Him for leading
Each moment of my day.
I will look to Him for His guidance
Each step of the Pilgrim's way.

The pathway that lies before me
Only my Heavenly Father knows.
I'll trust him to unfold the moments,
Just as He unfolds the rose.

What's Happening!

Annual Meeting News

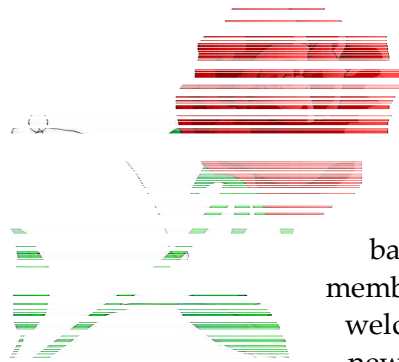
Doe Run's annual winter congregational meeting featured reflections on a busy and a productive year of mission and service, and concerns about the need to gain greater support for our budget in 2006.

Unveiled with the annual report was the 2006 unified budget, a total of \$127,326.00, a 2.2% increase over 2005's budget of \$124,535.00, and 6.2% above 2005's actual expenditures of \$119,907.28. Not included in this figure is the expense of our youth minister, which is presently being funded through income on the Shaneman Memorial Fund.

During 2005, Doe Run welcomed 22 new members, and lost 21 members through transfer, death or removal. In addition, 34 members were transferred to the inactive roll, for a year-end total membership of 209. 2005 was a record year with 11 baptisms. Counting baptized members children of members removed or inactive, and welcoming baptized children of new members, our baptized

member roll now stands at 133. We also remembered this year the passing of four members, Nellie Entrekin, Winnie Haines, Arnold Herzog and Raymond Weidler.

Nancy Hensel was elected as a deacon to fill the unexpired term of Jeanie Silver. We thank Jeanie for her service and look forward to Nancy's service on the Board of Deacons.



Mission News

Mission: Guatemala

The Mission Committee directly supports four international missionaries through the funds designated by the Session for mission. This month we would like to focus on Marcia Towers who has been working in Quetzaltenango, Guatemala since July 2004 in partnership with the Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Guatemala. There she is a site coordinator for the Young Adult Volunteer Program, hosting delegations and mission teams that travel to Guatemala to work and learn among Guatemalan Presbyterians, coordinating the logistics, communication, transportation, training, translating, and debriefing involved in these visits.

Guatemala is one of the poorest countries in the Western hemisphere, but is now in a period of relative peace, following decades of turmoil, violence, and resistance. Marcia's call there came after working several years along the Mexican border and in El Salvador. While she is very busy in her job coordinating visits from volunteers, she says, "I still believe that what I learned during my participation in the Reconciliation and Mission program a few years ago: that our *being* and *listening* is much more important than what we *do* ... I am meeting with people who ask me to listen to them, observing and learning from my Guatemalan co-workers in PRESGOV, asking many questions, hearing many very different analyses of the struggles and promises in the Presbyterian Church of Guatemala,



and thinking and praying to discern in what way God has called me to serve here in this position."

Marcia holds a bachelor's degree in industrial engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University of Blacksburg, Virginia, and a master's in public and international affairs from the University of Pittsburgh. She is a member of Highland Presbyterian Church in Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

Souper Bowl XV Kicks Off

Next Sunday, 140 million people all over the world will tune in to the Super Bowl football game. There will be parties with abundant food, friendship and fellowship. At the same time, there will be people worrying about staying warm, finding shelter and a

warm meal. Please join young people around the United States as they demonstrate God's love by loving their neighbors through the Souper Bowl of Caring. It's a simple, yet significant act of caring for others. Bring in a can of soup, or drop a dollar in the soup pot as you leave worship next Sunday. Those who need help may not know that you cared, but God will. And our young people are developing hearts for giving that can last a lifetime. Please support their efforts.



Doe Run has participated in the Souper Bowl of Caring for ten years. Our contributions benefit our local food cupboards.

Reflections *from the Journal of Mary Newlin Carlin*

February 7th, 1938

The calendar says February, the weather says a boisterous, boldly gay and jolly March but inside the house I have a bit of lovely, charming Spring. When Roy came to the party on Saturday evening he brought us a branch of flowering forsythia which he had brought indoors last week and forced to a premature blossoming. It is to be planted as the first offering in our Friendship garden. There seem to be very few flowers or shrubs here and they, like the trees, bear strong witness of a lack of care or attention. I think there are two weigelas, some spirea, possibly white and pink both, an old lilac, possibly a mock orange and a few iris and some scraggly, straggly rose bushes. Such a paradise for a would-be gardener and plenty to do for years to come.



man finds himself with bread in both hands, he should exchange one loaf for some flowers, since the loaf feeds the body, but flowers feed the soul." Easter Proverb.

I like that very much and just after reading it I happened to be listening to a noon time radio program called "Time for thought" and heard the speaker say "take time to stop and stare – time to stop and care" – I am trying to learn that lesson out here on the Farm and find I do have more time to listen to good music from the radio and I have a lovely winter bouquet of grasses and wild flower seed pods gathered while walking along the lane as I go for the mail. I have more time for thought and for writing and for thinking and reading my Bible and talking with God. I am so happy and so humbly grateful for all God's many, many blessings.

– Mary Newlin Carlin

In Brief...

Once again, PW is raising money for Church World Service by selling valentines, birthday and remembrance cards for **Blanket Sunday**. Each card costs \$5.00 and your donation buys a blanket for a refugee or other person in need. Cards will be available after church and during coffee hour.

Looking for the perfect Valentine's Day gift? Candy? Maybe, but fattening. Dinner? Sounds good but remember that cholesterol. Dancing? Tough on the feet and ankles. The solution: a

Bollinger print of the Church! The gift that is both non-threatening to your health, and shows your love forever. This print was specially commissioned in 1990 as part of Doe Run's 250th anniversary celebration; the original painting is on display at the church. Prints are available through the PW. Multiple purchase discounts are available. See Anne Croft or any other PW officer.