



## DOE RUN NEWS

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February 2008

### ***Looking in Two Directions at Once!***

#### **Love Is The Meaning of Life!**

Hearts and flowers...Red and pink card with words of affection...These things remind us that Valentines Day is coming!! For one day this month, the world focuses on love. And yet the most profound words of love are not found on a greeting card. They are found in I Corinthians 13. They were not written by a man smitten by a woman, but a confirmed bachelor named Paul who understood that real love between people begins with God's gift of love to the world: his Son Jesus Christ. Paul writes that it is only in emulating the sacrificial love of Christ that we can ever really love one another. Here is what he has to say:

***1 Corinthians 13: "If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. 2 And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. 3 If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. 4 Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant 5 or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; 6 it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. 7 It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. 8 Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. 9 For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; 10 but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. 11 When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. 12 For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. 13 And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love."***

Someone wise said "love is what makes life worth living." Make your life worthwhile this year by seeking mature and lasting love, the kind that lasts past February 14 that lasts through eternity: love based on Christ's love for the world!

Ann G. Dickey, Interim Pastor

## ***Doe Run News***

**Annual Meeting** was held January 27, 2008. Copies of the Annual Report are available in the Narthax.

**Ash Wednesday Service**, February 6, 7:00 pm. Let begins on February 6! Join the congregation as we observe this season with a service of Holy Communion. Ashes will be given out to those who desire them after the service.

**V.B.S. is just around the corner!!!** This year Shelly VanKoevering and Lisa Last will be cedirecting. Everybody is invited to help plan this years VBS. Meetings will tak place during the Christian Ed meeting every third Monday of the Month. The next meeting with be February 21, 2008.

**PNC:** January 6 a Congregational Meeting was held to elect the Pastor Nominating Committee. The following people were elected to the committee: Ted Forbes, Deb Leonhard, Tom McFadien, Dan McGaughey, Kevin Mountain, Sueann Robbins, Jeff Sapper, Jeanie Silver, Kim Stefus, Janet Werner, George McGinnis. The co-moderators will be Jeff Sapper and Kim Stefus. The secretaries will be Sueann Robbins, Jeanie Silver and George McGinnis. The committee will be holding weekly meetings. The next meeting there will be a speaker from the Donegal Presbytery to give some insight on the trends for our next steps in the process.

**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)3839847 or email srobbins@immaculata.edu.

**New Members Class to be held Sunday, March 2 from 6:30-8:30 pm:** Come learn about the history, beliefs and traditions of the Presbyterian Church and explore being a member of Doe Run. The first hour and a half will be lecture/discussion about the history of the Christian Church, the Presbyterian Church and its government and Doe Run’s ministry in particular. An invitation to join Doe Run will be offered at 8:00 pm and those desiring to join may stay for a short meeting of the Elders to be accepted into membership. No need to sign up, just show up! No pressure to join, inquirers welcome as well! Led by Rev. Ann Dickey.

## ***Splinters News:***

Splinters will be meeting on Tuesday, February 5 at 11:30 am. Lathea Moskel will be hostess and Penny Swank will have the devotions. After lunch and our monthly joke, Rev. Ann Dickey will lead a Bible study. We will gladly put another chair in the circle so you can join us.

## ***Fellowship/Hospitality News:***

Meeting Monday, February 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:15 pm. This is the first meeting of the year, if anyone has any new ideas for Fellowship activities, concerts, groups, please contact one of the committee members.

We are planning a night out for dinner, car pooling to Newark, Delaware to the Blackstones Restaurant on Tuesday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, where Charlie Zahm will be singing. If you enjoyed his wonderful voice at the Doe Run Concert or Christmas Eve Service why not plan to join us. Contact Lathea Moskel or Ted Forbes to sign up. Check out the restaurant at <http://www.blackstonespub.com>

***Presbyterian Women News:***

The Presbyterian Women are once again sponsoring Blanket Sunday as a mission project for Church World Service. As in the past, Valentine, Birthday and In Memoriam cards will be sold during coffee hour on the following Sundays: February 3 and February 10. Please help support our mission projects by purchasing a card. You will also make a friend, relative or loved one very happy! 8,000 groups and churches across the country have held Blanket Sunday events that have provided more than 3.7 million dollars to help others in 80 nations including the United States. Just \$25 can provide 5 refugee children with a warm blanket! Thank you.

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

The PNC 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 2005) This month’s installment describes the “Care and Feeding of Clergy.” In this chapter, Rev. Kemper talks about differences between the laity and clergy in the **structure of their lives** and how these differences may create problems for clergy and laity in terms of expectations and needs.

To begin with, the **structure of a week** is different for clergy than for lay people. For clergy, Sunday is not a day of rest, rather it is the most intense week day of the week. Working Sunday throws the rest of the week into peculiar patterns. Many clergy take Monday off. Have you ever tried to do something with your children on Monday? In this day and age of working spouses, it is a little awkward when each has a different day off.

Most people look forward to the holidays. Nothing much happens during the holidays, and one can use these days for catch up. That may be how it is with lay people, but not with clergy. Many holidays are religious holidays and are important workdays for clergy. What is the point of these excerpts from the work routine of a pastor? The point is that clergy swim upstream against the currents of life’s typical patterns. Some ministerial personalities, the workaholics, thrive on this anomaly. Others accept it as part of the uniqueness of their vocation. Rev. Kemper contends that this anomaly is not good for either pastors or laity. It encourages workaholism in clergy. It encourages a dependency on the part of lay people. Lay people do not need a clergy present at every church event to make it “official”. For the benefit of clergy, have you ever considered this inconsistency about excessive work? Luther’s theological affirmation was “justification by faith, not works.” Work patterns are legitimate items for discussion and negotiation between laity and clergy. Accommodations can be made.

A second anomaly of clergy life that lay people should understand and meet creatively concerns **living arrangements**. The historic pattern is the provision of a church owned house as part of their compensation as long as they are pastors of that church. The alternative is the provision of a housing allowance that allows clergy to purchase or rent a home of their choice. Either way, there is an anomaly about clergy living arrangements. The anomaly is the church’s expectation that the pastor must reside in the town in which the church is located. For some lay people, they choose to live and work in the same community. For other laity, they choose to work in one place and live in another. For clergy it is one thing to select a church or be selected by a church-it is something else to select a church in a community that is congenial to oneself and to one’s family. When the arrangements for a working spouse are added to the process, placement becomes very complex. Lay people should be sensitive to these complications.

The next aspect of the care and feeding of clergy is **compensation**. Clergy are genuinely ambivalent about their financial compensation. Part of them would prefer that the issue did not exist. Other elements of church life are far more important than their compensation. Another part of the clergy personality acknowledges the necessity and reality of financial life and the needs of a family to provide for. The greatest inhibiting factor to clergy in the matter of compensation is the multiplicity of roles. The self-interests of the clergy are in conflict with the total demands on the church budget. Clergy should have higher salaries. This assertion arises from neither the highest of living nor the tradition of low pay. Rather the assertion arises from a contemporary phenomenon among the profession. The profession suffers from low self-esteem. Clergy tend to think they are not worth very much—at least when compared by economic standards. The culture also has a changing meaning of compensation. The culture can express approval and affection through compensation. Low salaries for clergy are subtle forms of rejection. A church should invite a pastor to live in its community by compensating the pastor according to prevailing community standards. Great confusions abound with regard to fringe benefits (health insurance, pensions, continuing education, social security, etc.). In today's world, fringe benefits keep rising in cost. The rise does **not** alter a primary fact—all fringe benefits are church expenses, not clergy compensation, even if paid directly to the pastor. Lastly, there is one more aspect of clergy compensation that lay people are good about giving. That element is **psychic pay**. Telling a pastor you appreciate him or her may be polite, but doing so has a marvelous effect. Pastors are givers. All they do is give themselves, their wisdom, their faith, their care to others. When one gives and gives, the well of giving drops lower and lower. A compliment, a “thank you”, marvelously replenishes the well of giving. The amazing part is that when pastors know that they are appreciated they give more and more than they knew they had to give.

**Next month: In the Beginning.... Trust: an Exploration of How Pastoral Relationships are Established.**