



DOE RUN NEWS

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

www.doerun.org
November 2008

Grace to you and peace in the name of Jesus Christ!

As I sort-through and pack-up and do the thousand-and-one tasks involved in making a crosscountry move, I think often of Doe Run Church and how excited and blessed I feel for the opportunity to be in ministry with you all.

Frederick Buechner, in his book, *Wishful Thinking*, writes about “churchy” sorts of words that are either so familiar or formidable that no one pays them much attention any more. He says, for instance, that the word “blessing” has come to mean a pious formality— something said by ministers to start a meeting on a suitably serious note, or a polite, automatic response to someone who has sneezed in public. In fact, Buechner says that when we’re looking to convey a sense of hopeful circumstances, we tend to take much more comfort in the word “luck”, which “we all know has magic in it and that when you have luck, you really have something.”

Buechner writes of “blessing” in the biblical sense:

*“if you give me your blessing, you irreversibly convey into my life
not just something of the beneficent power and vitality of who you are,
but something also of the life-giving power of God in whose name the
blessing is given.”*

As I prepare to join you as pastor, I want to proclaim loud and long that I believe my call to Doe Run Church is indeed a blessing and not merely luck. I have felt the power and vitality of who you are as a congregation of Jesus Christ and I have also felt the life-giving power of God in the midst of the call process. Luck is merely a word expressing a human wish for magic— but blessing evokes the presence and might of a loving and gracious God. I am grateful for the mysterious power of God’s blessing as I leave Texas and begin a new journey.

Our life together begins with action in the joy and commitment of our gifts on Consecration Sunday. Soon after, we quiet ourselves in contemplation of Advent, that season of waiting and preparation for God’s greatest of all gifts. I look forward to our journey together and give thanks daily for the *blessing* I have received and will continue to receive— in you.

Rev. Brynne Crowe

New Consecration Sunday Is Coming Again to Doe Run November 16!

Congregations that approach financial stewardship from a biblical perspective do not view the money Christians give to their church merely as a way to pay its bills. Rather, such congregations see financial contributions as a way to help people grow spiritually in their relationship with God by supporting their church's mission and ministry with a percentage of their incomes.

Our congregation's Stewardship committee has once again selected the New Consecration Sunday Stewardship program as a way to teach biblical and spiritual principles of generous giving in our stewardship education emphasis this fall.

New Consecration Sunday is based on the biblical philosophy of the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive. Instead of treating people like members of a social club who should pay dues, we will treat people like followers of Jesus Christ who want to give unselfishly as an act of discipleship. New Consecration Sunday encourages people toward proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question "What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?" During the one blended morning worship at 9:30am on New Consecration Sunday November 16, we are asking our attendees and members to make their financial commitments to our church's missionary, benevolent, and educational ministries in this community and around the world.

Every attendee and member who completes an Estimate of Giving Card does so voluntarily by attending morning worship on New Consecration Sunday. We urge people to attend who feel strongly opposed to completing a card. The procedure is done in such a way that no one feels personal embarrassment if he or she chooses not to fill out a card.

We will do no home solicitation to ask people to complete cards. During morning worship our guest leader, Rev. Phoebe Kitson, Interim at First Presbyterian in Parkesburg, will conduct a brief period of instruction and inspiration, climaxed by members making their commitments as a confidential act of worship. It will also be the first Sunday that Rev. Brynne Crowe will lead worship, although she will not preach until November 23.

We will encourage participation in New Consecration Sunday events through the New Consecration Sunday team (the Stewardship committee) and board members. Since we will make no followup visits to ask people to complete their cards, we will make every effort to inform, inspire, and commit everyone to attend New Consecration Sunday and **free brunch that follows worship**. Thank you in advance for your enthusiastic participation in the upcoming Consecration Sunday events. Please save the date of November 16 on your calendar! (More details to come in November newsletter.)

The Stewardship Committee

Financial News: August 2008

<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>August Deficit</u>	<u>2008 Surplus</u>
\$11,274	\$15,336	\$4,062	\$3,851

Per Capita charges for 2008 are \$25.39 per member.

Per Capital charges for **2009** will be **\$26.51** per member.

Fellowship/Hospitality Committee: Thank you for the wonderful turn out for the Halloween/Harvest Event. We had over 65 people attending who enjoyed a great Magic Show that delighted the many children. Thank you to everyone who helped provide the soup, chili, hotdogs, treats for the kids and scrumptious desserts. Offering collected covered the expense for the entertainment. Thanks again from the Fellowship/Hospitality Committee.

November 30th, Sunday, 7:00 the **Greenwood singers** will return for their wonderful Holiday Concert. Refreshments following concert. A basket offering will be taken to help defray their expenses. If you would like to help make refreshments it would be greatly appreciated as we always have a nice crowd for this concert.

Note date change for the Colonial Candlelight (Williamsburg Style) Dinner. It will be Sunday, December 7, at 5:30. This was a big hit last year, so get out your colonial dish recipes and colonial dresses. A Sampling of some colonial dishes will be made by the Fellowship/Hospitality Committee. A flyer will be posted in November listing what will be provided by the Committee.

Splinters News: On November 4, 2008 the Splinters will meet at 11:30 am in the church Fellowship Hall. Kathryn Case will be hostess, Phyllis Russell will lead the devotions. Doris Spencer will be teaching a craft and each person needs to bring a pair of scissors. So bring your sandwich and join us for food, fellowship and fun!

You are invited to join the Splinters on their next outing. On Thursday, December 4, we are having a tour at Brandywine River Museum at 11:00 am with lunch there after the tour. The tour for seniors is \$5.00, others pay \$8.00. Meet at the church at 10:00 am to car pool. Are you going—let Hope Forbes know.

Do you know anyone who needs a prayer shawl! See Hope Forbes.

Safe Harbor: The second Friday of every month, Doe Run serves dinner at Safe Harbor (homeless shelter in West Chester). Let's not forget to volunteer to serve. Contact Lisa Urban.

City Gate Mission: November-all size freezer bags; December-creamed soups

Deacon of the Month: November-Megan Snyder; Assistant-Bob Hiller

The Deacons will be collecting food items for a Thanksgiving donation to the Coatesville Food Cupboard. They will be collecting canned and boxed items in the Nicholas Room. Donations of frozen turkeys are also welcome. Please see any of the Deacons for details.

Trustees: Trustee for November-Ed Law. Saturday, November 1, 9:00 am, Manse Cleanup. Saturday, November 15, 8:00 am, Fall Cleanup Day.

Communion: When served by Intinction, Doe Run will now have a separate chalice and plate of bread for those with gluten allergies.

Phillies Tickets: As you know, Ann and David Dickey were given tickets to next seasons Phillies games (6) which will be paid for thru donations. Donations may be given directly to Ed Scott or to Paul Swank. Ann and David were also given a lovey print of the church which was paid thru Session. Any extra ticket money donated will go toward the cost of the print.

Guest preachers are lined up for Doe Run: During the period after Rev. Ann and before Rev. Brynne begins, Doe Run will be blessed with some fine preachers at both 9:30 and 11:00 am services. They are:
November 2: Dr. Dick Streeter, Honorably retired, former Pastor of Paoli Church will preach and celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

November 9: Seminary Student Annalie Korengel Lorgus returns.

November 16: **9:30 am blended worship!! One service only! Rev. Brynne Crowe leads worship for the first time! New Consecration Sunday preacher Rev. Phoebe Kitson, Interim at Parkesburg will be the guest preacher and challenge us on our Stewardship! Free brunch to follow service!**

Emergency pastoral care will be provided by Rev. Steve Getty during this time and he will moderate the Session meeting in October. Contact Clerk Bill Dyke for pastoral needs and he will contact Rev. Getty.

Dear Doe Run Family: David and I want to thank all of you for your wonderful send off on October 12! We will always remember that day! What a lovely, chocolate laden spread of food! We do so appreciate and will always treasure the Bollinger framed picture of a snow covered Doe Run. It will hang in a place of honor, probably in a new office in another church for all the Presbytery to see! We will also enjoy the Phillies tickets next year and know that it will be as much fun as this year's baseball season and a lot of that will be thanks to your generosity! We will always treasure our time with Doe Run and will continue to pray for the church and Brynne as you begin a new chapter of ministry together. Thank you again for your love and support over these last two years. May God Bless all of you! Gratefully, Rev. Ann Dickey

