

# THE TIDINGS

Doylestown Presbyterian Church's Digital Newsletter  
**September 2024**



By now, you've likely heard the recent and exciting news of the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) extending a call to a candidate for DPC's new Senior Pastor/Head of Staff. Members are invited to attend a special **Meet & Greet** with the candidate in Fellowship Hall at **4 pm on Saturday, September 14**. Please RSVP by visiting [bit.ly/DPCMEET](https://bit.ly/DPCMEET). Childcare will be available with preregistration.

Then, on **Sunday, September 15**, the candidate will preach during our **single 10:30 am worship service**. A **congregational meeting** will follow, during which members will be able to vote to approve the call and the terms of the call. The worship service will be livestreamed as normal and then members who need to attend the congregational meeting online will switch to ZOOM. (more details will be shared separately.)

## Come, Connect, Celebrate

DPC's 2024-2025 Program Year begins on September 22!



**Come** together on Sundays as we gather for worship and classes for all ages. Learn more about worship times, musical ensembles, and educational opportunities throughout the week on Page 2.

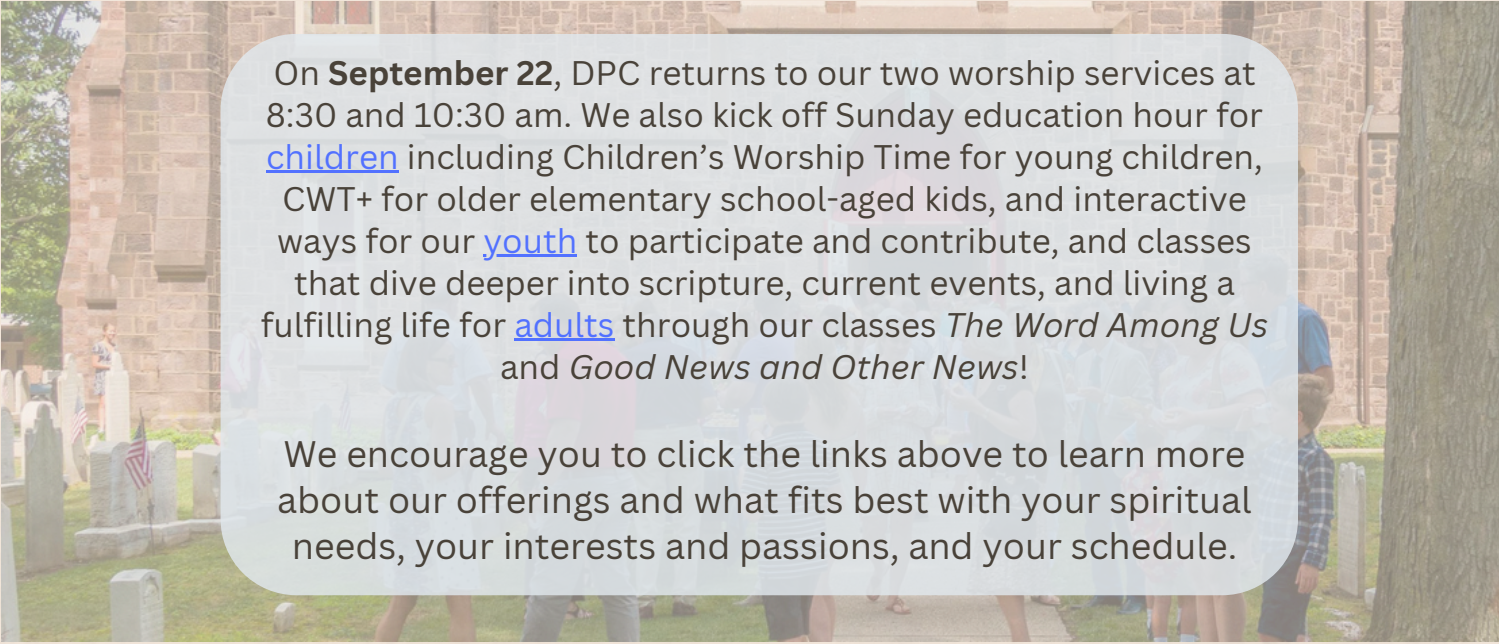


**Connect** with God's spirit and one another as guest preacher **Eric Barreto** leads a discussion on living faithful in community between services. Learn more on Page 3.



**Celebrate** the ways in which the church continues to thrive in unexpected ways as we welcome back **Ruth Faith Santana-Grace**. Details of her visit can be found on Page 3.

# Come, Connect, Celebrate



On **September 22**, DPC returns to our two worship services at 8:30 and 10:30 am. We also kick off Sunday education hour for [children](#) including Children's Worship Time for young children, CWT+ for older elementary school-aged kids, and interactive ways for our [youth](#) to participate and contribute, and classes that dive deeper into scripture, current events, and living a fulfilling life for [adults](#) through our classes *The Word Among Us* and *Good News and Other News*!


We encourage you to click the links above to learn more about our offerings and what fits best with your spiritual needs, your interests and passions, and your schedule.




**Wednesday Club** is a safe space to gather with friends for food, fun & fellowship! We get started on **September 11**.

You can sign up anytime at [www.dtownpc.org/children-family](http://www.dtownpc.org/children-family)

Are you interested in developing your musical gifts? Or maybe you've always wanted to learn the basics. Grow in spirit through song while meeting new people by joining one of DPC's various **musical ensembles**! There are opportunities for all ages! Visit [www.dtownpc.org/music+arts](http://www.dtownpc.org/music+arts)



**DPC's Youth Ministry** offers our next generation of young leaders ways to bond, to help others through mission efforts, and to enhance our worship experience. For details visit [www.dtownpc.org/youth](http://www.dtownpc.org/youth)



Growing in faith is never easy. Joining a **small group** can connect you with those searching for answers and seeking a meaningful relationship with God and others. The small group size encourages insightful, open discussion and time for all perspectives to be shared. Visit [www.dtownpc.org/growth-groups](http://www.dtownpc.org/growth-groups) to learn more about DPC's wide variety of groups, fill out a brief form, and a group leader will be in touch!

# Come, Connect, Celebrate



We are excited to welcome **Eric Barreto**, Associate Professor of New Testament at Princeton Theological Seminary, to DPC on **Sunday, September 29**. Eric will preach at both the 8:30 and 10:30 am worship services and during the education hour will lead a discussion of life in the early church, as described in the book of Acts. His keen Biblical insights into the Christian community have profound implications for the church today.

In his classroom and in pulpit, Eric pursues scholarship for the sake of the church, as he regularly writes for and teaches in faith communities around the country. Eric is a popular and highly sought-after speaker. It's no wonder that his classes at the seminary are always quickly filled.

Be sure to mark your calendars as this is a Sunday morning you don't want to miss.

We are grateful to Adult Education and Matthew 25 for organizing this day for us.

For more information about Eric, visit [www.ericbarreto.com](http://www.ericbarreto.com)

**The Rev. Ruth Faith Santana-Grace** returns to DPC when we welcome her with a **single worship service at 10:30 am on October 6**. Ruth, who serves as

Executive Presbyter of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, will preach at worship and be with us for a luncheon in Fellowship Hall. During this gathering, she will share reflections on the church's call to be a faithful witness and servant in an ever-changing world, describing how the church is alive and well through its diversity and inclusiveness as guided by the spirit of God.

Ruth has a deep understanding of the state of the PC(USA), having recently served as Co-Moderator of the 225th General Assembly, the highest non-staff elected office in the denomination, representing over 1 million members.



She has traveled the world extensively, representing PC(USA) and congregations across the country including DPC and will share her first hand working knowledge of the challenges and opportunities that await the church today and in the future.

To RSVP, visit [bit.ly/DPCRUTH](http://bit.ly/DPCRUTH). Childcare will be available with preregistration.

# Come, Connect, Celebrate

Are you concerned about all the single-use plastic in our lives and its impact on our world? What part does Pennsylvania play in producing these? What can you do? The first step is to educate yourself!

DPC's Earth Care Team is partnering with the Bucks County Foodshed Alliance to host a free viewing of the documentary film [Single-Use Planet](#) on Friday, **September 6** at 7 pm at Doylestown Borough Hall.



Also, the Earth Care Team reminds you to **Save Your Sneakers!** Donate old pairs of sneakers to keep them out of landfills.

Sneakers can be dropped off in boxes located at the entrance to the sanctuary building inside the red doors and in the Andrews Hall lobby **September 8, 15, and 22.**

For additional information about this effort, visit [www.gotsneakers.com](http://www.gotsneakers.com).

## 2024 DPC Women's Retreat

Let us gather to explore the essential ingredients of community by sharing stories of brave women in the Bible. These stories, like cherished recipes passed down through generations, offer wisdom, strength, and connection. We gather **Friday, September 20**, at DPC for an optional pre-retreat event from 7:00 to 8:30 pm, and then Saturday, **September 21**, at the Fulghams' Happiness Farm in Doylestown from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm, ending with lunch. Rev. Becca Bateman and the Retreat Team will lead our inspiring program on Saturday. All are welcomed so tell your friends and loved ones to join us in connecting with God and each other! Signup at [bit.ly/2024DPCWOMEN](http://bit.ly/2024DPCWOMEN). The cost is \$20 per person. If you have questions, feel free to reach out to Pastor Becca Bateman at [beccab@dtownpc.org](mailto:beccab@dtownpc.org).



Let's come together for a time of learning and fellowship during a wonderful retreat at Spruce Lake in the Poconos. The Senior Adult Ministry Committee invites you to join Pastor Pauline Sexton as she leads our program that will explore the many aspects of prayer as a spiritual discipline.

The retreat is set for **October 1-3** and is open to adults of all ages. We encourage you to spread the word to friends and family! This will be our third consecutive year visiting Spruce Lake, and the experience has always been positive. Spruce Lake's breathtaking setting allows for a close connection with God's creations in nature.

Visit [www.dtownpc.org](http://www.dtownpc.org) and scroll to "[upcoming events](#)" to join in this inspiring getaway.



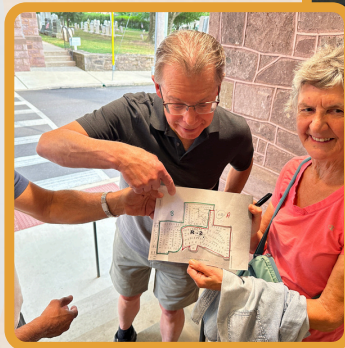
# Ministry in Motion!

The Library Committee has been hard at work **renovating the DPC Library**. And they are now in the homestretch! An anonymous donation designated for the Library is helping to fund the renovations and improvements, including new shelves, ceiling tiles, and a new configuration! A “soft opening” is expected to happen in September, with a grand opening celebration to follow in October!



As we turn the page on Summer, let's look back at DPC Summer Camp - VBS and ActingUP! **Click the photo** to view a fun recap video!

DPC was thrilled to see the participation during our first ever **Community Food Collection**. Borough residents filled more than 150 bags with food that was donated to the Doylestown Food Pantry. We continue to fight food insecurity through our **monthly Food Drive and Community Meal** - both occur next on **Sept. 15**. To volunteer or contribute, visit [bit.ly/DPC-CM](https://bit.ly/DPC-CM)



## Nominations for Ruling Elders and Deacons

**The Nominating Committee will soon consider candidates to begin their service in June of 2025.**

On the horizon, we are beginning to see glimpses of a new phase at DPC, as we wait for the arrival of a new senior pastor. What an exciting time to be a leader of this church, either as an elder or a deacon. Doylestown Presbyterian needs you to consider nominating yourself or a fellow member. We are looking for some able, gifted persons with strong faith and dedicated discipleship because of their trust in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior (from the Book of Order). It is essential that the committee recommends individuals who reflect the diversity of our congregation as these new officers will join with current ones in seeking the will of Christ for all the matters before us. Your perceptions as to fellow members who possess such gifts are critical to the committee's work. If you have a recommendation of someone (including yourself), **email [dpc@dtownpc.org](mailto:dpc@dtownpc.org)** with the following information:

- **Candidate's name**
- **Qualification and Attributes**
- **Examples of Leadership and/or faithful Discipleship**

You can also talk with any member of the Nominating Committee: Molly Blore, Allen Childs, Dot Fabian, Honor Hamilton, Terry Herring (moderator), Shelby Gaudio, Larry King, Kathy McQuate, and Rich Smith. The deadline for submitting nominations is **October 7**.