

Be a bridge for Christ and a beacon of His love

THE TIDINGS

Doylestown Presbyterian Church's Digital Newsletter
February 2025

Code Blue Shelter

at DPC, February 2025

In its first few nights of operation this month, the shelter has averaged more than 30 people seeking a warm meal and place to sleep. Many of you have already donated time, care, and food, but as temps remain frigid, the need for volunteers and groceries will continue as DPC hosts the shelter throughout February. Current needs include hot cocoa, raisins, fruit cups, and more.

Interested in helping?

Visit bit.ly/DPC-CB to join a kitchen crew, or bit.ly/DPC-CBG to donate food!



DPC'S CARBON FOOTPRINT CHALLENGE

The Carbon Footprint Challenge was developed to invite participation of the whole congregation to act on the global issue of climate change - in our personal lives and as members of communities. It invites children and adults to share in this important work together.

Join the DPC Earth Care Action Team as we look at our individual Carbon Footprint and view some actions to take that can mitigate climate change. Beginning **February 16**, you'll be able to find the Carbon Footprint Challenge (CFC) in the Celtic Cross Room and near the bridge in Andrews Hall. You are invited to select a sticker or stickers that correspond to actions you or your family are doing now and come away with some new ideas, too.

This challenge will be visible and available into the Spring and the action steps will change over time. (We will let you know when the next set of actions goes up!)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE YOU WILL FIND...

Pastor Mac ponders how we can strive for a less anxious life using Jesus as an example - **Page 2**

The DPC Library presents radio host, author, and sports reporter Mike Sielski - **Page 3**

A look back at a truly meaningful Day of Service at DPC - **Page 5**

A Letter from Pastor Mac

Less Anxious Presence

As I read the gospels, I often wonder what Jesus' internal level of anxiety and reactivity was like in the various situations he faced. Right or wrong, because of Jesus' divinity, I have always imagined him to be the least anxious and least reactive person to ever have walked the earth. I imagine him focused and highly engaged in the topic at hand, but also incredibly grounded with appropriate levels of intensity.

We are all reactive on one level or another. To not be reactive on some level would mean we were dead. On the other hand, I believe none of us like when our anxiety and reactivity get the best of us. For many of us, we need help with anxiety. Counseling, support groups, and in some cases, medication help us. For others of us, we figure out ways to try and manage it day to day.

However you take in your news right now, there is certainly a lot we can react to. If taking in news has occupied more space in our individual lives than spiritual practices, quiet times, faith rituals and rhythms, that is something we each need to re-evaluate and take account of.

In faith circles I have worked and moved within, we sometimes talk about how we can be a "less anxious presence." ***A prayer we might all have right now is asking God to help us be a less anxious presence. This could help our inner life, our relationships, and the community we live in.*** Being a less anxious presence could also ground us in Christ to bring out our best abilities with humility and compassion in a world that has many needs.

You are loved beyond your wildest imagination,



January Session Update

The DPC Session met on Monday, January 27. The following are highlights of that meeting:

- Session reviewed and approved the 2024 PC(USA) Statistical Report
- Session reviewed the 2024 financial results
- Session reviewed and approved the 2025 Operating Budget
- Session approved the date and agenda of the Congregational Meeting held on Sunday, February 2nd

-- Linda Cacossa (Clerk of Session) & Mac Schafer (Pastor & Moderator of Session)

WHAT'S happening

AT



DPC's monthly **Food Drive** occurs **February 16** from 9:15 to 11 am. Every donation makes a difference in the lives of those in need! Following the later worship service we join together at noon for our monthly **Community Meal** with our own congregation, community members and homeless guests as we celebrate God's love. Visit bit.ly/DPC-CM to see how you can volunteer or contribute with food - or just plan to stop by for lunch!



Celebrate Bucks County

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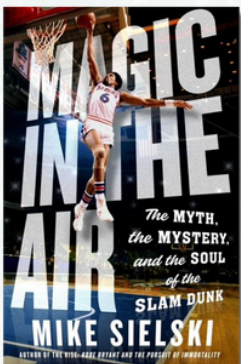
DPC's Matthew 25 and Senior Adult Ministry Subcommittees and Second Baptist Church of Doylestown's Christ and Cultural Humility group are thrilled at the expected turnout for this Saturday's Celebrate Bucks County African-American History luncheon, co-sponsored by both churches. More than 165 people registered to attend the event at Second Baptist before last week's deadline!

Second Baptist Church of Doylestown has also invited our congregation to visit a traveling exhibit presented by the **Lest We Forget Museum of Slavery** on **February 16** at 12:30 pm at Second Baptist.



Join in the Celtic Cross Room for a special Family Movie Night on **February 16** from 4 to 6 pm as we watch *The Wild Robot!* Kids of all ages will enjoy this exciting, heartfelt adventure. Grown-ups are asked to stay for the movie too as this is not a drop-off event. Snacks will be provided. This event is presented by the Children's Ministry Committee.

Undie Sunday is back again! Let's help the people of the Bethel Presbyterian Church community by donating new women's and men's underwear (sizes S-3X) and children's socks. Donation boxes are located in the lobby of Andrews Hall, just inside the Mechanics Street entrance to the sanctuary, and in the front narthex by the red doors. All donations should be received by **February 23**.



Noted author, radio host, and award-winning sports columnist **Mike Sielski** will be joining us in Ruth I. Hughes Library at 9:30 to 10:15 am on Sunday, **February 23**. He will discuss his new book *Magic in the Air: The Myth, the Mystery, and the Soul of the Slam Dunk*. The book, according to its description on Amazon.com, "brings to life the tale of the dunk while balancing sharp socio-racial history and commentary with a romp through American sports and culture. There's never been a basketball book quite like it." Mike, a Doylestown resident, will be available to answer questions and sign copies of *Magic in the Air* which will be available for sale thanks to Doylestown Bookshop.



DPC Home Help Corps is ready to serve in the New Year! Our volunteers (27 strong) help members with a wide variety of tasks ranging from simple home repair to larger scale moves and yardwork. We are happy to provide rides to medical appointments, and we can help you with errands. Just contact the church office at 215-348-3531.



Have you ever considered leading a Growth Group at DPC? It can be as easy as discussing a book, or a podcast, or artistic works centered around Scripture with fellow church members. DPC has many ongoing groups that offer the opportunity to connect with others and grow in spirit. Many of them are ongoing while others are about to get started. Visit www.dtownpc.org/growth-groups to check out the list and consider joining a group, or contact Pastor Becca Bateman at Beccab@dtownpc.org if you have interest in facilitating one of your own!



**Celebrate the Arts Presents:
All Creatures Great and Small
February 27**

Experience moving artwork in the Celtic Cross Room by members and friends depicting wild or domestic animals. If you wish to submit pieces, in a variety of mediums, they should be framed and ready to hang. Include your name, medium, and title of the piece. Works can be delivered to the office between Sunday, **February 23** and Thursday, **February 27**.



Fat Sunday! Mark your calendar for **Sunday, March 2** as we prepare of the season of Lent with a Mardi Gras celebration for all ages! We'll gather in Fellowship Hall following the 10:30 service for a pancake lunch, jazz music, mask-making, and a parade led by the kids! Keep watch for full details and to learn how you can contribute to this special time together.

SUMMER CAMP! Sign up today!

VBS 9AM-NOON
JULY 7-11
AGE 4-GRADE 6
WWW.DTOWNPC.ORG

ACTING UP!
12PM-3PM

DPC's Summer Camp is now open for registrations! Sign your kids up today for the awesome and enriching VBS program in the morning! And, back by popular demand, older kids can also join in for ActingUP music and drama camp in the afternoon. You won't want to miss this amazing week that always has all the campers (and their parents) buzzing all summer!

For more information and to sign up today, visit www.dtownpc.org/summercamp2025

Reminder!

As Pastor Mac continues to get to know the congregation, two simple actions can help him - and all of us - be connected:

Wearing your DPC name tags! If you would like a DPC name tag, contact Elaine in the church office. Tags cost \$10 each. If you have a name tag, try to remember to wear it whenever you attend worship or an event.



Updating your photo in DPC's digital directory! Just email a photo to anyone on the church staff or to dpc@dtownpc.org. If you still have not added the *ChurchLife* Directory app to your cellphone, just contact the church office and we can get you started.

Ministry in Motion!

Last month's **Day of Service at DPC** began with a moment of worship where we honored those in our historic graveyard who are African American. Attendees then made their way to Fellowship Hall for a time of service where participants chose between six different projects helping ministries in need. This included over 500 meals packed for Caring For Friends, 200 snack bags, and money from the bake sale enough to buy a brick supporting the Bucks County African American Museum.



The **DPC Moms** recently helmed the kitchen at the Code Blue shelter here at DPC. The group has two fun gatherings coming up in the spring, so stay tuned for more info. Moms of all ages are welcomed!



The **DPC Dads** along with Pastor Mac (behind the camera) hit the hiking trail earlier this month at Ralph Stover Park/High Rocks! Keep watch for details of future gatherings as new faces are always welcome!



During their first gathering in the new year, Element Youth Group got a bit messy with a special dessert called a Gutter Sundae served in - you guessed it - a gutter!



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