



Dover Bethany Global Methodist Church

www.dbgmc.org

Rev. Salvatore E. Buonocore, Senior Pastor

Rev. Emily Sydor, Associate Pastor

December 2025 Church Newsletter

Have a Merry, Messy Christmas

Every bride wants a “perfect” wedding. I’ve done weddings for almost 40 years – every one of them had something that didn’t go as planned! There is no such thing as the perfect wedding.

The same applies to every holiday gathering and celebration. Forget the perfect Hallmark Christmas movie. Forget a “silent night” and “sleep in heavenly peace.” It’s not real life. If you are striving for the perfect Christmas, you are going to be frustrated and you will drive those around you crazy!

The first Christmas was a mess: no room in the inn, sheltered in a stable, an untimely trip while being pregnant and due at any minute. There were unexpected (and uninvited) guests when a family with a newborn would like some privacy. And don’t forget the reason for the trip – a census (bureaucrats!), which means more taxes! The first Christmas was not perfect – it was a mess.

What was perfect was the gift God gave us that night.

“For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.”

First Peter 1:18-19 NIV

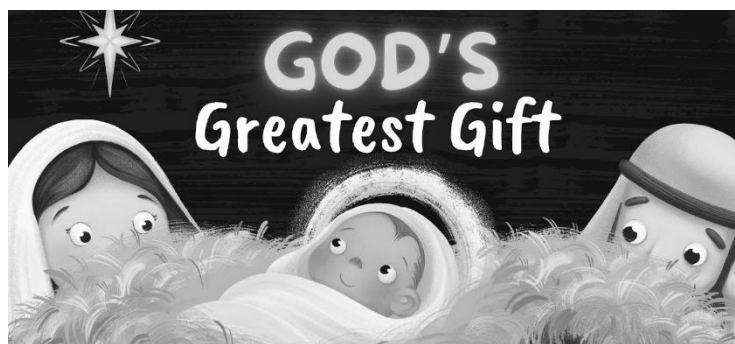
Without blemish or defect – the perfect sacrifice, the perfect gift!

When it comes to Christmas, don’t focus on the logistics.

Focus on Jesus, the perfect gift.

Real life is messy, as will your Christmas celebrations also be, probably. Don’t sweat it. But with that in mind, let us celebrate none the less!

“Take Risks” and God Bless,
Pastor Sal.



KNOWING GOD

GROWING IN FAITH



SERVING OTHERS

SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

Since Last Year...

- † We host the York County Home School Choir on Wednesdays –95 kids!
- † Chocolate bunnies and contact cards distributed at Dottie's on the day before Easter.
- † Hosted and taught a Biblical Meal for 2 nights in May with about 30 folks.
- † Hosted a Car Show on June 28 with 52 entries.
- † Praise in the Park for the community at Brookside Park on June 7th, free food, church info and free music by our P&W team.
- † \$3,500 given in scholarships for higher education
- † Flood Relief Offering - \$3,000+
- † 6-year-old Anyla – offering to help with medical and other expenses - \$5,100+
- † The church paid to send Pastor Emily to Malawi for their convening annual conference of the Global Methodist Church. Dover Bethany also acquired 3 laptops and software to send over and tee shirts for all their delegates plus some extra finances.
- † Aug 30 – We held a craft show with about 44 vendors.
- † Sept: We had 4 nights of prayer (some as prayer walks in Dover and throughout the trailer park)
- † Aug 27-Sept 1: Dover Fireman's Carnival info table & give-a-ways
- † Sept 6 was a Hot Dog give-a-way at Dottie's
- † On Sept 13, we gave gift bags to our local businesses around Dottie's.
- † Sept 17 - After the police shooting, we lead a prayer time at the old police barracks.
- † Sept 20 - We distributed gift bags for each family in Llewellyn's trailer park.
- † Oct 4 - We gave gift bags to the Northern Regional police and staff.
- † Oct 5 - We led a P&W and healing service at Turkey Valley GMC in Millerstown PA with about 70 in attendance.
- † We have a mission team of about 13 going to Nigeria in Oct of 2026 – Fund raising rummage sale brought in \$2,000+ toward that trip.
- † Oct 19th - Manchester/Mt Wolf Halloween Parade – giving away candy and contact cards and won 1st place for our giant shoebox float!
- † Oct 22nd - Trunk or Treat at Dottie's with five different cars/trucks to give away candy and connect with the community. We had a prayer table and were able to pray with several folks. Possible 1,000+ families were present.
- † Hosting line dancing on Wednesday nights – we have seen about 24 different folks!!! 75% of those attending is not Dover Bethany family!!!
- † Nov 16 - Shoebox Packing Party: 250-270 in attendance with 1,602 shoeboxes packed and sent!
- † Hosting in our Chapel the new Spanish congregation: Trono de Gracia Inglesia.
- † In the new year we will be launching a Trail Life Troop

goodness of God

This doesn't count the "usual" stuff we do: Stiches of Love, the Warming Tree, DNA groups, Mission Central, monthly Food Party Sundays, Kids Connection and Sunday worship! I am sure there are some things that have been missed on this list of mission and ministry.

The Dover Bethany Family is marked by faithful stewardship and generous giving: Between scholarships, special offerings, sending Pastor Emily to Malawi and Shoeboxes – giving over and beyond your tithes and offerings was more than \$30,000!!!

And with billboards 2 or 3 times a year, we are being seen by tens of thousands of people each day for the 60 plus days they are displayed.

Mission, ministry, outreach service!!! We celebrate all of this and continue to pray for opportunities to connect with the community, have opportunities to share Jesus, to see transformation and discipleship take place. We are not building a Dover Bethany kingdom or a Global Methodist kingdom **but God's Kingdom!!!**

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Christmas Services

Christmas Eve Potluck meal: December 24th, 5:30pm

Christmas Eve Worship Services:

Wednesday, December 24th

7pm (child-friendly with glowsticks) and 9pm (candlelight)

Christmas Day Worship Service:

Thursday, December 25th, 10am

Christmas Caroling

We will gather as a church family and carpool to go Christmas caroling to our shut-ins and others who could use some holiday cheer. This will be on Sunday afternoon, December 14th. Please meet at the church by 1PM to join in for the fun. If you know someone that would be blessed by our stopping and caroling at their home, please give us their name and address on your Communication Card.

Caroling will be following by a dinner at a local restaurant to be announced in the bulletin. Both carolers and any church member is encouraged to join in for the dinner. Watch your bulletin for more details.

Baltimore Operation Christmas Child Processing Center

There are still spots to join in working at the OCC Processing Center on Sat, Dec 13th from 2pm -6pm. Sign up on your Communication Card.



Paint Crew

We are repainting the basement and will need a slew of volunteers. Next work day is Saturday, December 13th from 8am to noon. Please sign up on your Communication Card.

Trail Life - January

Watch your bulletin for more info. This is for boys ages 5 thru 18. If you have any boys who may be interested or if you are interested in volunteering, please let us know on your Communication Card.

Welcome Torno de Gracia Inglesia

Our brothers and sister in Christ of the Spanish-speaking fellowship, "Torno de Gracia Inglesia" are meeting in the chapel on Sundays at 10am. Please help them feel welcome in our building.

Together Living with Cancer (TLC)

Meets every 3rd Thursday from 6:00–7:30 PM

TLC is a support group open to anyone affected by cancer; patients, survivors, caregivers, and family members. It's a space to share, listen, and pray together. **Please Note: Conversations are confidential.** Sharing is always optional. We focus on personal stories, not outside topics. Listening matters more than giving advice. Prayer is part of every gathering. This is not a medical or counseling program, but a caring community.

Contact Holly McKean (717-873-8559) or Mark Burkhart (717-900-7189).



December 2025 Volunteer Schedule	7	14	21	24 Christmas Eve		28
				7:00 pm	9:00 pm	
Greeters	Elaine Myers Donna Snyder Nancy Dehoff Vivian Quigley	Rich Crager Carl Krause Pat Smith Carolyn Blymire	Mike & Ginger Lehr Jim & Holly McKean	We need you!	We need you!	Dennis & Joan Wilt Deb Kemper Jack McLeod
Nursery	Tennille Burkhart Aleia Brown	Carla Green Ginger Lehr	Pat Smith Lynette Stief	We need you!	<i>NO Nursery available</i>	Maria Spence Gail Wolgamuth
Hospitality	Mark & Margie Burkhart	Jeff & Lynette Stief	Vivian Quigley Elaine Myers	N/A	N/A	The Runks
Head Usher	Rich Crager	Jack McLeod	Allan Crisamore	We need you!	We need you!	Jason Spence
Counters	Deb Kemper & Fran Peifer					

FREE Line Dancing Lessons Night

Come and join in on Wednesday, December 3rd from 6:00 pm—8:00 pm. No experience needed! Come kick up your heels with fun, easy line dances for ALL AGES! Great music, friendly vibes, and 100% FREE entry. Bring friends, family, or come solo – everyone is welcome!

Financial Life of our Church

Update on our OCC shipping account

As a result of some generous contributions, we were able to pay \$10 each for 1,600 shipping labels from Samaritans Purse for the shoebox gifts and have \$341 balance as of 11/27/25.

We did a bulk purchase of stuffed animals for the shoebox gift for \$1,334. This expense came out of our missions account in the general fund.

We received \$468 in donations in memory of Lou DeHoff as of November 27.

Thanks to all who very generously contributed to the family of Anyla Sweeney. \$5,280 was received.

The balance in our Checking Acct on 10/31/25 was \$64,000. \$19,973 is available for general fund purposes.

GENERAL FUND – Thru October 2025

REVENUE

Contributions	
General Fund/Sunday School	290,383
Other Donations	2,945
Memorial Gifts	530
Other Income	1,809
TOTAL REVENUE	\$295,667

EXPENSES

GMC Connectional Funding	13,756
Human Resources	
Pastoral Support	148,777
Lay Employees	29,639
General Operations	
Church Administration	6,671
Church/Parsonage Utilities	27,067
Property Maintenance	15,276
Taxes, Insurance, Fees, etc.	44,379
Team Expenses:	
Serving, Growing, Sharing, Knowing	19,671
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$305,236
BOTTOM LINE	(\$9,569)



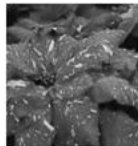
Dover Bethany Global Methodist Church Calendar

December 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Merry Christmas	1	2 7pm The Chosen	3 2-6 pm OCC Processing Center 6pm Line Dancing	4	5 6 pm Homeschool Choir Concert at Northeastern HS Performing Arts Center (Door #4)	6
7 8am Helping Hand Class 10:00am Trono De Garcia Church 9:00am Worship 3:00pm – 4:30pm The Connection: Children's Ministry	8	9 7pm The Chosen	10 9am Stitches of Love 6pm Line Dancing	11	12	13 Painting Work Day 8am-noon Church Basement rented - pm
14 8am Helping Hand Class 10:00am Trono De Garcia Church 9:00am Worship 1:00pm Christmas Caroling 6:00pm Meal at Restaurant	15	16 7pm The Chosen	17 6pm Line Dancing	18 6pm Together Living with Cancer (TLC)	19	20
21 8am Helping Hand Class 10:00am Trono De Garcia Church 9:00am Worship FOOD BANK Sunday 3:00pm – 4:30pm The Connection: Children's Ministry	22	23	24 5:30pm Potluck Dinner 7pm Christmas Eve Service 9pm Christmas Eve Service	25 10am Christmas Day Service MERRY CHRISTMAS!	26	27
28 8am Helping Hand Class 10:00am Trono De Garcia Church 9:00am Worship 3:00pm – 4:30pm The Connection: Children's Ministry	29	30 7pm The Chosen	31	2026 happy new year		



RED RIBBONS



RED GLITTER



CHRISTMAS BEAUTY QUEEN

NAME _____ PHONE _____

QTY.

_____ @ \$15.00 Red Ribbons = \$ _____

_____ @ \$15.00 Red Glitter = \$ _____

_____ @ \$15.00 Christmas Beauty Queen = \$ _____

TOTAL DUE \$ _____

Check# _____

In Memory Of _____

In Honor Of _____

Poinsettias are available to purchase NOW!

You may order "In honor of" or "In memory of" those special people in your life.

Names will be listed in the Dec 21st bulletin.

Poinsettias will be available for pick up on Sun, Dec 21st or Thurs, Dec 24th at the conclusion of our Christmas Eve service.

COST \$15.00 each

All proceeds benefit the IMO Mission Trip to Nigeria in 2026

Orders must be placed prior to Dec 14th

Please drop your order form along with your check payable to Dover Bethany GMC in the designated box found in the lobby. Questions? Contact Tammy Clemens 717-887-6932

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Dover Bethany
Global Methodist Church
4510 Bull Road
Dover PA 17315

Christmas
BLESSINGS

*Pastor Sal and Nancy wish
you the richest blessings
for Christmas and a very
happy new year!*