

8.9.26 Heritage Updates

Mats of Love, 8/11

We meet each Tuesday from 10:30 - noon. All women are always welcome to help with cutting, tying, or crocheting grocery bags for sleeping mats. (Or you're welcome to bring in whatever project you're currently working on and just enjoy the time together).

Lunch Ladies, 8/12

All ladies are invited to meet for lunch at Smiley's Diner on 273 this **Wednesday, 8/12 at 1:00 pm.** Contact Virginia Palmer at 302-740-8605 by 10:00 am if you're planning to attend.

Men's Bible Study on Joshua, 8/15

We meet **every other Saturday at 8:30 am**, studying Judges. Meets this week at Mark Foreman's home (224 Delilah Dr, Bear). All men are welcome! Contact John Hrenko for more information at 302-704-6798.

Annual Congregational Meeting, 8/23

After the morning service on August 23rd, in accordance with Book of Church Order 25-2, we will have our annual congregational meeting to:

- discuss our church budget for the next fiscal year
- vote on the reelection of ruling elder John Hrenko, ruling elder Joe Mayberry, deacon Gary Morgan and deacon Rick Adams to serve another three-year term
- vote on the election of Joe Graves as ruling elder and James Swank as deacon
- hear ministry reports

Heritage Kids

Nursery is available for **infants-PreK** during worship (if staffing allows). Feel free to use it for however much of the service you desire.

Junior Church is available (if staffing allows) during the 2nd half of the service for students in **Kindergarten through 4th grade**. Children are dismissed during the songs before the sermon and return during the final song. The classroom is in the back of Fellowship Hall - straight out the back of the sanctuary.

Red Folder activity pages are also available at the table by the sanctuary door for anyone who wishes to use them.

God's Kingdom Building:

Prison Outreach of DE- Update from Tim Santa Barbara

Some of you may remember me writing about a man named Ishmael who recently graduated from Teen Challenge. Well, this month, his brother Ruban graduated!! We first met him in our discipleship class at Howard R Young Correctional Institute about 3 or 4 years ago. It has been a long road. **Please take a moment to read his testimony he wrote from Teen Challenge:**

I grew up in a single-parent household in Wilmington, Delaware, with my brother and sister. After my dad's passing when I was five years old, I started looking up to the next male figure in my life, my older brother who was still just a kid himself. We developed an unhealthy codependency of the blind leading the blind, both searching for our identities in each other which led us on a destructive path of addiction and jail.

At 32, I was lost and broken. I felt hopeless and unloved. While incarcerated, I met a pastor who showed me the love of Jesus through his actions of diligently sharing the Word with me. This same pastor was also discipling at a detox facility where my brother was receiving help and would go on to point us in the direction of Delmarva Adult & Teen Challenge.

When I entered the Men's Program, my brother was 9-months into it. During that time, God had performed an 'Ezekiel 36:26' heart transplant, removing the heart of stone and replacing it with a heart of flesh. My brother appeared the same in his external physical being, but he had gone through a radical transformation on the inside. "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new." (2 Cor. 5:17) My brother had been stripped bare and placed on the solid Rock of Jesus Christ. God opened my eyes, and I knew that if He could do it for him, then He could do it for me too.

Over the past year, God did just that - He softened my heart and showed me His grace and mercy. Through the ministry of DATC, I developed a relationship with Jesus: the Way, the Truth, and the Life. There were many hard days where I would fall, but I got right back up and continued to seek God. The love of Christ was shown to me by the Godly men on staff through their help, encouragement, correction, and discipline.

As I close out the 12-month program, I am grateful for the foundation that was laid here at DATC and look forward to carrying out the Great Commission at my local church in northern Delaware. To God Be The Glory!