

**Doe Run Presbyterian Church 1940-1990**  
**A Celebration of Faithfulness To God and To Each Other**  
**By Marian Stoner**

(excerpts from Remember the Past Have Faith in the Future)

The congregation of Doe Run Church met April 29, 1984, for Sunday worship services at East Fallowfield School. The church building had been gutted by fire. It is recorded that there was a good attendance as they met and a powerful feeling of God's love and of their togetherness. To quote, "Through this experience, we are discovering for ourselves and demonstrating to others that the church of Jesus Christ is not made of stone, wood and mortar but of people drawn together by god's love in service to each other and the world."

Rev. Mervin Fry wrote, "Over half the churches of our Presbytery sent contributions to help in the rebuilding effort. Many were small churches. We all experienced what it can mean to be a family of churches working together, helping each other out. In May of 1985 Doe Run was recognized as Donegal Presbytery's "Small Church of the Year" because of the spirit with which the congregation had worked together to restore the building and renew its congregational life."

Saturday, April 20, and Sunday, April 21, 1985, were days of rejoicing for the community of believers in Doe Run Presbyterian Church as they dedicated the restored sanctuary and Sunday School building to the Glory of God and its use. Today, the congregation continues to maintain a constant and devoted faith while working to make their church life relevant to the rapidly changing times around them.

As the Scotch-Irish settled the area around Doe Run they, "married the land and were involved in key pioneering so it became their home. They adapted to their new environment, consecrated themselves to God and Country and became dedicated nationals."

\*Fallowfield Township was named for Lancelot Fallowfield of Great Strickland in Westmoreland County, England. He bought the land from William Penn and later sold it to John Salkeid, a Quaker preacher taking up the land in 1714.

What about the families of John Filson, William Hanna, Francis Boggs and James Blelock? They and others in East Fallowfield Township and vicinity in 1740 erected a log meeting house on the North side of the Strasburg Road near the cemetery. They organized a congregation under the name of Doe Run Presbyterian Church in the Presbyterian of New Castle. The first log church stood within the grounds of the grave yard. The second church, also hewn of logs, was built in 1771 and stood between the present church and the grave yard. The third church of fieldstone was built in 1821 and was dedicated in 1822. The present church was restored in 1985 after being destroyed by fire in 1984.

John Filson, a Scotch-Irish immigrant, came from North Ireland before 1740 and settled in East Fallowfield Township. He died in 1751. His son John Filson jr., gave one acre of ground as the permanent site for Doe Run Meeting house.

William Hanna, the second person listed among the founders of Doe Run came also from North Ireland to Pennsylvania in 1731. He took out a grant of land in 1744 for 100 acres in East Fallowfield Township. He received a deed for 150 acres in 1745 from the Penn family. His relatives were ordained elders in Doe Run Church.