



OCEAN VIEW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH APRIL 2018



Pastoral Letter April, 2018

“Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus” (Phil. 4: 5-7). So wrote Paul to the church at Phillippi, insisting this must be the one thing they have gleaned from his teaching of the Gospel.

Before we let our Hosannas and our Alleluias fade, before our sheer gratitude and joy over our risen Lord yields to the quotidian, we really should look closely at what we’ve taken away from our observance of Lent and our hesitant walk toward the cross. Have we changed? Has a change been made in us? Do we carry inside us any new certainty, any new urgency?

Yes, it is too soon to know for certain. But Paul - and others - insist there are knowable fruits of the Spirit that will come to animate us in our yieldedness. “Ah!”, you say, “Odd word for a Presbyterian”. Not so; we pray with Jesus every time we are together, “Thy will be done”. We pray in our confessions that God might take charge of us, might help us in our weakness, might strengthen us in the Spirit. James tells us that if we submit ourselves to God, the devil will flee from us (James 4: 6). Jesus tells us we need to step into the yoke and traces with Him; He will teach us by working alongside us. Roy Hession wrote this: “Our yieldedness to God is measured by our yieldedness to others. Every humiliation, everyone who tries and vexes us, is God’s way of breaking us, so that there is in us a yet-deeper channel for the Life of Christ”.

Our Lenten practices meant to accomplish the same thing - a longer, quieter, gentler consideration of what happens to us, by and with who, in whatever way. Followed by a more considered, nuanced response; - or no response at all, as Jesus manifested before Pilate. Sometimes unrealized expectation, expectation offered nonetheless, is all the gentle person can offer an aggressor. It may manifest in no result, in a long delayed result, in a result never seen by ourselves or our contemporaries. The letter to the Hebrews tells of the cloud of witnesses; recent history offers us Nelson Mandela, and Martin Luther King.

Jesus would have us be gentle, regardless, and it is gentleness I am lifting up. A very long time ago, George Bethune had this to say: "Perhaps no grace is less prayed for, or less cultivated, than gentleness. Indeed, it is considered rather as belonging to natural disposition or external manners, than as a Christian virtue. Seldom do we reflect that not to be gentle is sin". That is the measure of God's subtlety, as we cooperate in God's great work of renewing us. God does indeed transform our minds; but in most cases we can't point to exactly when that happened.

God knows we can set a fire, and burn down the house around us, just with our tongue. But we are to emulate God's condescension to us - and I mean the word in its good connotation, as well as its theological one. God is never so powerful, never so right, never so justified, that God doesn't consider our plight, consider our nature - and seek to help us. Isaiah said "See, the Sovereign Lord comes with power, and His arm rules for Him! ... He tends His flock like a shepherd: he gathers the lambs in His arms and carries them close to His heart..." (Is. 40: 10-11).

Can we, in all the events of our time, do the same? Can we be gentle and forbearing, remembering that when we stand before a sinner, we stand before a mirror? As we meet people, let us meet needs, and so be daily converted to our best selves - the very ones God cherishes.

"A gentle answer turns away wrath...The tongue that brings healing is a tree of life" (Prov. 15: 1a, 4a).

In Christ's Love, Pastor Terry

**A gush of bird-song,
a patter of dew,
A cloud, and a rainbow's warning,
Suddenly sunshine and perfect blue--
An April day in the morning.**

Harriet Prescott Spofford

Ocean View Presbyterian Church

67 Central Avenue
Ocean View, DE
19970

Service
Sunday, 9:30 A.M.

Pastor
Terry Dougherty

Church Office
302-539-3455

Website
ovpc.org

Session
Don Bailey
Cathy Yantz
Bob Clark
Mike Quinn
Bruce Hobler
Ellen Neumann
Karen Colwill
(Clerk of Session)

Deacons
Earlene DeFazio
Sandy White
Eric Neumann
Cindy Benjamin
Ollie Robling
Sue Baer

Newsletter Editors
Lorie and Jim Hartsig

Session Report

Karen Colwill, Clerk of Session

The Session of OVPC met on Monday, March 12, 2018, in Fellowship Center.

Rev. Terry Dougherty, Moderator, opened with prayer and devotions at 7:10 P.M.

Orders of the Day

We met with Jim Ellis who is seeking membership in OVPC. Jim moved to Bear Trap in Ocean View in 2016. Jim is retired and had a successful thirty-year career with the US Department of Agriculture. His daughter lives here at the beach and a son in Florida and Indiana. Approved **MOTION** to accept James L. Ellis as a member on 'Transfer of Membership' from Chapelgate Presbyterian Church in Marriottsville, MD. Jim will be presented during worship on April 22, 2018. Welcome Jim!

We also met with Pam Dougherty who is seeking membership in OVPC. For those of you who have not yet met Pam, she is the wife of our new pastor and Mom to two daughters, one lives in Chicago and one in Hackettstown, New Jersey. Pam is retired and had a career working with preschoolers and a second career in Pediatric Nursing. Approved **MOTION** to accept Pamela Dougherty as a member on 'Transfer of Membership' from Panther Valley Ecumenical Church in Hackettstown, New Jersey. Pam will be presented during worship on April 22, 2018. Welcome Pam!

Cathy Yantz, Worship Committee Liaison, reviewed the 2017/18 Worship Committee summary of accomplishments. The new 2018 Activities were highlighted. New worship traditions are hoped to be developed under direction of our new pastor, Rev. Terry Dougherty.

The **Monthly Committee Reports** were received.

Communications and Technology **MOTION** to advertise on the 'Bethany Diner placemat' was approved via email prior to the session meeting due to the publisher's printing schedule.

MOTION made, seconded and passed to approve Session Minutes of February 19, 2018 with a correction.

OVPC received an award of \$2,397.90 from the Estate of G. William Tunnel.

MOTION made, seconded and passed to approve the February 2018 Financial Reports.

The New Castle Presbytery (NCP) is awarding a Spark Ministry Grant of \$5000 to each congregation in NCP for new mission opportunities. We will be reviewing the details and guidelines once received. The grant was announced last weekend at the Beach Retreat.

The Southeast Sussex Ministerium disseminated, to all member churches, the 'We Stand with Students' statement regarding the rally on March 24, 2018 and the 'Petition - An Act to Protect & Save Your Children'. **MOTION** made, seconded and approved to stand in concert with the Southeast Sussex Ministerium and share the information with our congregation on the OVPC website and to send an email blast directing members to our website.

Reminders

The Christian Education Committee and Mission Advocacy Team (MAT) are planning a weekend program 'Presbyterian Partners in Syria and Lebanon', April 13-15, 2018.

The April Session Meeting is April 9, 2018 at 7:00 PM in Fellowship Center. Our meetings are open to OVPC members. Please notify the clerk if you plan to attend.

Rev. Terry Dougherty adjourned the meeting and closed with prayer at 9:49 P.M.

Exploring Stephen Ministry

Dale Smith

Stephen Ministry is a process-oriented approach to one-on-one Christian caregiving. Founded in 1975, Stephen Ministries St. Louis has enrolled over 12,000 ecumenical congregations in implementing programs of lay caring ministry.

Stephen Ministry congregations equip and empower lay caregivers—called Stephen Ministers—to provide high-quality, confidential, Christ-centered care to people who are hurting. A quick way to understand how Stephen Ministry works is to think of these groups of people that are involved in the ministry:

Pastor Terry and church leadership: support Stephen Ministry; serve as one source of referrals; provide support for Stephen Leaders

Stephen Leaders: lay people trained by Stephen Ministries St. Louis in the Stephen Ministry process methodology, best practices, and small group facilitation; organize the activities necessary for a successful ministry; provide training and ongoing support for our Stephen Ministers

Stephen Ministers: selected lay people in a congregation, trained and then supported through ongoing continuing education and peer supervision

Care Receivers: people in need of care; those who need someone to walk with them spiritually in a time of transition, grief, or despair

At its February meeting, Session endorsed the possibility of having Stephen Ministry here at Ocean View. This exploration will provide the congregation more information about Stephen Ministry and help us determine the number of people interested in becoming Stephen Minister candidates. We are grateful that Dale and Elaine Smith, previously trained as Stephen Leaders, will be heading up this process.

Over the next several weeks, you will be hearing more about Stephen Ministry, through bulletin inserts, newsletter articles and info packets. There is also an information session planned for April 29th, following worship. All are welcome to attend.

Once the decision is made to proceed, interested candidates will complete a brief application and then discuss their interest, confidentially, with the Stephen Leaders. Then, the Stephen Ministry candidates will receive 50 hours of training in Christian caregiving skills. Some of the areas covered include listening effectively, dealing with feelings, confidentiality, being assertive, maintaining boundaries, and a number of topics dealing with specific life situations. Throughout, the training will emphasize the theology of caring for the whole person. Once the training class concludes, each candidate will be commissioned to two years of service as a Stephen Minister, including twice-monthly peer support meetings and continuing education sessions.

If you would like to know more about becoming a Stephen Minister here at OVPC, please connect with Dale or Elaine at church or at 908.859.2901. The church web site (ovpc.org) and stephenministries.org are also sources of further information.



Peter Maurer	April 3
Susan Baer	April 4
Jim Dietsch	April 6
Sandy White	April 10
Cindy Benjamin	April 15
Pam Dougherty	April 20
Bill Colwill	April 23
Dick Register	April 26
George Price	April 27
Marge Schaefer	April 28



Jerry and Marge Egger April 10

What is YARN, anyway? Lorie Hartsig

Excuse us....sometimes we take it for granted that new comers to OVPC know all about our committees and organizations. To back up a bit, I will explain YARN.

YARN (You Are Ready to Needle) as in crochet, knit or even weave was begun a few years ago by the women of the church to supplement our diminishing prayer shawl inventory and to create a lasting prayer shawl ministry. Prayer shawls have a specific pattern and are given to anyone within our church family or referred to us from other sources as a means of comfort during difficult times. A knitted, crocheted or woven prayer shawl is selected from our collection and is taken to the recipient by one or two of the members of the ministry with a prayer and a short visit. Anyone can give us a referral for one needing a shawl. We create these shawls during YARN which meets on the first Monday of each month at the church Fellowship Center from 10-2pm. Members bring whatever they are working on, are available to teach others how to create the shawls and discuss how the ministry is going. We have recently had two very generous gifts of yarn and needles (a LOT of yarn) so one only needs to come to YARN and we will get you started! Currently, we have started making Twiddle Mitts, an idea introduced to us by our own Sue Rizer. They are devised to keep fidgety hands busy such as those who live in the Alzheimer's Unit at the Renaissance Center where we have a monthly singing with the residents ministry.

To learn more about prayer shawls, Twiddle Mitts, or our ministry with the Alzheimer residents at the Renaissance Center, join us at our next YARN get together on April 2nd. Everyone is welcome!



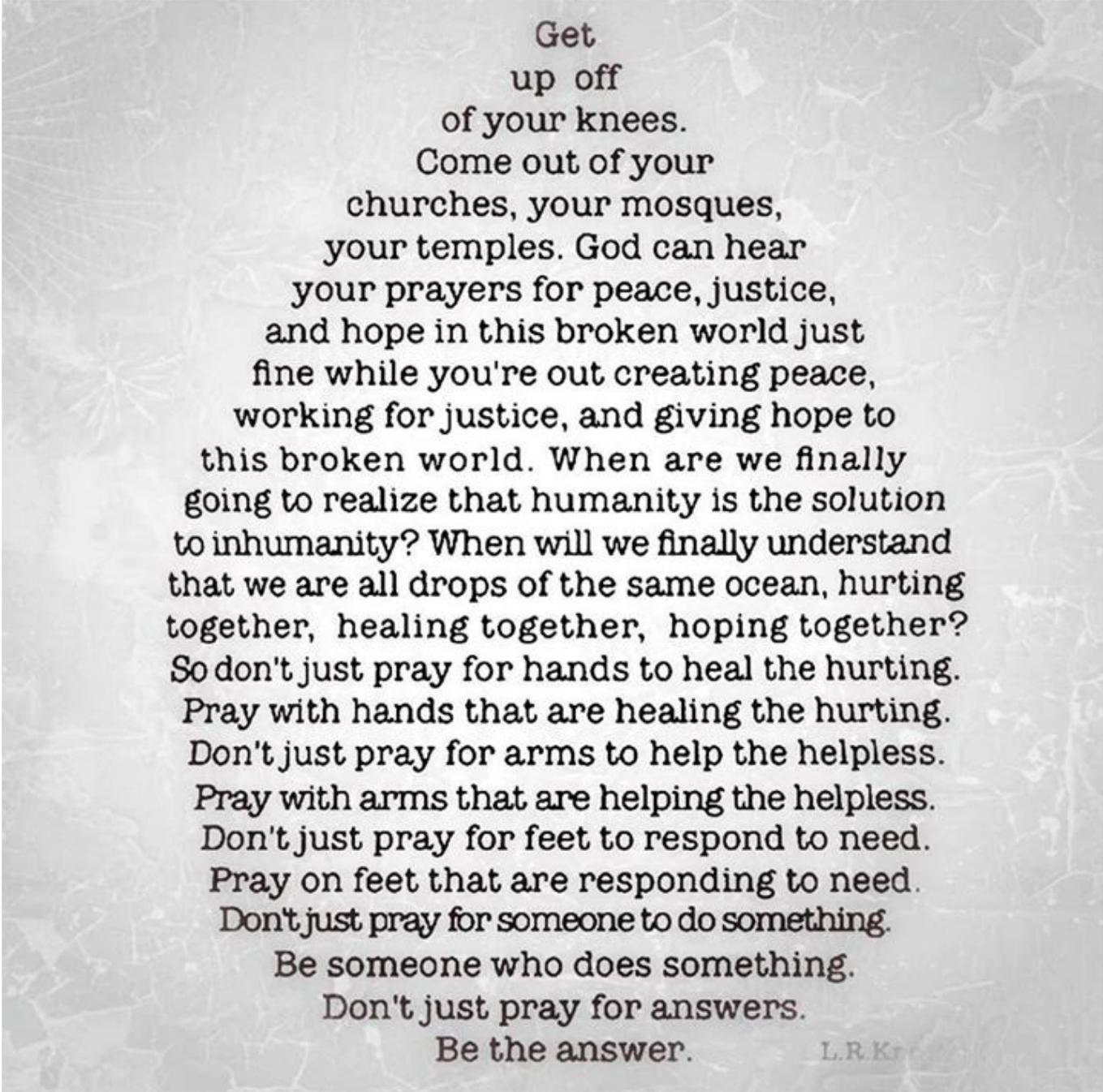
YARN...You Are Ready to Needle...

Knit or crochet or just watch and learn.

Join us in Fellowship Center
the first Monday of the month from 10 am-2 pm...
bring your lunch.

See you on April 2nd.

Article submitted by Thomas Bentz



Get
up off
of your knees.
Come out of your
churches, your mosques,
your temples. God can hear
your prayers for peace, justice,
and hope in this broken world just
fine while you're out creating peace,
working for justice, and giving hope to
this broken world. When are we finally
going to realize that humanity is the solution
to inhumanity? When will we finally understand
that we are all drops of the same ocean, hurting
together, healing together, hoping together?
So don't just pray for hands to heal the hurting.
Pray with hands that are healing the hurting.
Don't just pray for arms to help the helpless.
Pray with arms that are helping the helpless.
Don't just pray for feet to respond to need.
Pray on feet that are responding to need.
Don't just pray for someone to do something.
Be someone who does something.
Don't just pray for answers.
Be the answer. L.R. Knost

by L.R. Knost



Sewing Circle

Amy Peoples

As I write this it is hard to believe that spring is around the corner but it is and soon it will be warm. No matter the weather, the Sewing Circle of OVPC keeps busy. This is a full month. Come join us!

Sunday, April 1, we will be celebrating Easter. Follow the church bulletin for the activities leading up to Easter.

On Monday, April 2, YARN will meet from 10 till 2pm. Bring your lunch and join them. They always seem to have new ideas of things to make and give to shut-ins. Remember they are willing to help you learn how to do the projects.

April 8 is Gifts of Women Sunday. We are so happy to have Reverend Sara Colwill as our guest preacher. A Coffee Hour will follow the service. Members of the Circle will be participating in the service: Liturgist, Cathy Yantz and ushers, Karen Colwill and Amy Peoples. Kathy Sheetz and Lorie Hartsig will host the Coffee Hour following the service.

Wednesday, April 11 is our Sewing Circle meeting. Bring your sandwich or salad and refreshments will be provided by Sue Riser and Carole Trent. After lunch and the business meeting we will continue our Bible Study, chapter 8, "In Community with the Household of Faith" led by Bev Bailey. Hope you will join us.

The weekend of April 13-15 we will have "A Weekend with Billie Sutter". She is a certified Christian Educator and member of the Syrian Lebanon Partnership Network. She visited Lebanon and Syria in 2017 and will bring us up to date information about the area. We will meet Friday at 6:00 for pizza, salad, and dessert. She will give an introduction to Syria, Lebanon, and the Presbyterian Partnership.

On Saturday we will meet again with Billie at 9:30 AM to learn what is the Syrian, Lebanon Partnership Network? Healthy snacks, and coffee and tea will be available.

On Sunday, Billie will preach during worship time. A special reception will follow with Syrian delicacies provided by Nouha Dubaj and her family. This is indeed a special event at OVPC. Come and join in the learning experience.

Also that weekend on Saturday, April 14 at 12:15 there will be a hand bell choir concert at Mariner's Bethel UM Church, featuring Mariners Bethel UM Church, Saint Ann's Catholic Church and Southeast Sussex Ministerium.

Many of our members will be attending the Presbyterian Women of New Castle Presbytery Annual Retreat at the Dunes Manor Hotel in Ocean City from April 20-22.

Christian Education
Karen Ruben Hamilton and Bev Bailey

April 1: Easter Sunday.

April 8: Gifts of Women service with coffee hour.

April 13-15: Syrian Lebanon Partnership Network Presentation

Friday Evening: 6:00 Join us for Pizza, Salad and Dessert followed by an introduction to this Presbyterian Partnership.

A free will offering will be taken to help defray travel costs for Billie

Saturday: 9:30 am - An in-depth look at the Syria Lebanon Partnership Network
Healthy Snacks and Coffee, Tea

Sunday: Worship at OVPC with Billie Sutter preaching,
Coffee Hour with Syrian delicacies kindness of Nouha Dubaj.

Billie Sutter, a retired Certified Christian Educator for the Presbyterian Church USA, and a member of the Syrian Lebanon Partnership Network (A volunteer mission arm of the Presbyterian Church, USA) will talk about her 2017 trip to both countries. Billie served as an Educator in several churches in National Capital Presbytery and has recently retired and moved to the Atlanta, Georgia area.

*Sponsored by the Christian Education and Worship Committees,
and the Mission Advocacy Team*

April 29: Stephen Ministry Presentation

Dale and Elaine Smith will share information about what Stephen Ministry is all about, and how OVPC might become involved.

"We live in a world in which we need to share responsibility. It's easy to say, 'It's not my child, not my community, not my world, not my problem.' Then there are those who see the need and respond. I consider those people my heroes."

Fred Rogers

New Castle Presbytery

Mike Quinn

Presbytery Commissioner

On March 2nd & 3rd 2018 the 839th meeting of New Castle Presbytery & beach retreat was held at the Dunes Manor Hotel in Ocean City, MD.

On Friday the 2nd there was a Plenary by Harold Delhagen on “From Institutional to Missional Structure” From Church to Gospel Community. In the afternoon we had two workshops, one by the IGNITE team called “Do something else, charting a new course with IGNITE in New Castle Presbytery, and the second was “Mission in Partnership: Best Practices.

On Saturday we opened the meeting with worship and then the presbytery meeting was called to order. The docket was approved with minor changes. The search team for the Connectional Presbyter presented the Rev. Jessica MacMillian for the position and she was elected 84 yes and 4 abstentions.

The stated clerk report was next followed by a mission minute from IGNITE that each church within the Presbytery will be receiving a check for \$5000.00 for a Mission project. More details will be with the check and will be shared when the letter is received.

Next the Committee on Ministers and congregations moved that Jennine Money be ordained as a Minister of the word and Sacrament On March 25 at Georgetown Pres. Church. She has a call to be the hospital chaplain in Salina Kansas.

Next we celebrated the retirement of Frank Deming from Westminster Rehoboth and the welcoming of Rev. Kim Jackson as the new Pastor of the Dover church. The Committee on Preparation moved that Alex Sprague be moved from inquirer to candidate status. The vote was affirmative.

Next was the stated Clerk’s report. There were five Overtures presented and 4 of them passed. If you need additional details please see the website of New Castle Presbytery.

The committee nominations and representations moved that Charles Gilmore be elected to the COMC to the class of 2019 and Dave Lovelace to the Trustees for the class 2018. Both were approved.

The committee on leadership requested Marlene Quinn and Mark Olsen to say a few words about our outgoing Stated Clerk of Presbytery Bob Schminkey.

The meeting was closed with prayer.

When a Con Man Calls

frauds using false identities are on the rise

The government Clerk

“You have unclaimed property with our state. Simply pay this fee and we will release it to you”.

The Internal Revenue Service

“You owe taxes and are at grave risk of large fines or jail time if you do not settle this situation immediately.”

Learn more about protecting yourself against fraud at
aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork

March Maintenance Issues

Ray Keeney

A. Ongoing Maintenance Items:

- a. The handicap toilet in the ladies restroom has been disconnected from the floor and a pencil removed from the trap which was causing the blockage.
- b. Buzz reported the thermometer in the freezer is reading correctly. The thermometer on the outside of the freezer which indicates the temperature difference between the inside and outside differential appears to be giving acceptable readings. It has been decided to keep an eye on the readings and hold off making any further changes to the thermometers.
- c. Two of the window candle lights have malfunctioning photo cells and should be replaced (the lights are remaining on during the day). There are two electric candles in the drawer of the file cabinet in the MH mechanical room.
- d. Paint on the lower portion of the walls (wainscot) in the Sanctuary is bubbling up and peeling off. This appears to be a result of the stained wainscot not being treated before being painted, so the paint would adhere to the stain. Need suggestions on how and when to proceed.
- e. Mouse droppings have been observed in the kitchen of MH under the shelving next to the refrigerator. Traps have been set and 3 mice have been caught. There are gaps under the door leading outside next to the office. A new sweep or sweeps needs to be installed at the bottom of the door to seal off those gaps.
- f. Light bulb outside the double doors of FC was purchased and installed.
- g. Light bulb outside the entrance to the office was replaced.
- h. A security light outside the garage has been reported out.
- i. Top for the cabinet behind the organ has been installed.
- j. A letter has been prepared by Buzz and sent out to all of the groups meeting in both the MH and FC asking that they clean out their storage areas by the end of April.
- k. Buzz & I went through the Mechanical Room and noted that the water filter and water softener for the well are not used. The well is turned off and is only used for watering the shrubs during the summer. It does not appear they have been used in the last few years. The filter and softener are not needed for those functions. Additional storage space could be made available if these were removed.
- l. An inspection of the kitchen in MH was conducted by the Health Dept on Monday, March 19 and passed with no deficiencies.
- m. Three shelves in the Women Sewing Circle's storage room in FC pulled loose from the wall and collapsed. The shelves have been reattached to the wall.
- n. B & G Committee has been asked to move 20 folding chairs to the rear of the Sanctuary for both Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday.

Photogenic
MARCH for OUR LIVES
March 24th
Bethany Beach



Photo by Ellen Neumann



Photo by Pam Dougherty



Photo by Lorie Hartsig

Friday Night At The Movies



Join us Friday April 6th at 5:30 at Bob and Elaine Wolf's home to share a potluck supper followed by our monthly movie.

This month we will view the 2001 film 'Focus' based on the novel by Arthur Miller starring William H Macy, Laura Dern, and David Paymer.

Are we guilty of falling into the trap of the single story, the lure of stereotypes? When faced with intolerance or injustice, the easiest thing to do is nothing - speak up and you risk becoming an object of scorn. But when does enough become too much? In the waning months of World War II, a man and his wife are mistakenly identified as Jews by their anti-Semitic Brooklyn neighbors. He believes that if he corrects this "oversight" that everything will be all right, not realizing that logic and prejudice never go hand in hand.

If you are interested in hosting movie night, or have a special movie request, please contact Bob Wolf. Remember that you can be a host without having the movie at your home ---