



OCEAN Views

OCEAN VIEW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JANUARY 2012

✧ Reflections ✧ Kerry Shull

As we anticipate the arrival of a new year, I thought it worthwhile to recall a passage that truly celebrates newness. We find it at the end of the Scriptures.

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children. (Revelation 21:1-7)

New Years has us looking backward to reflect upon the passing year. Where has the year gone? It also has us looking ahead, anticipating the year that awaits us. The opportunity arises to evaluate our lives and resolve to make changes. We can be better. We can begin again. Things can be new.

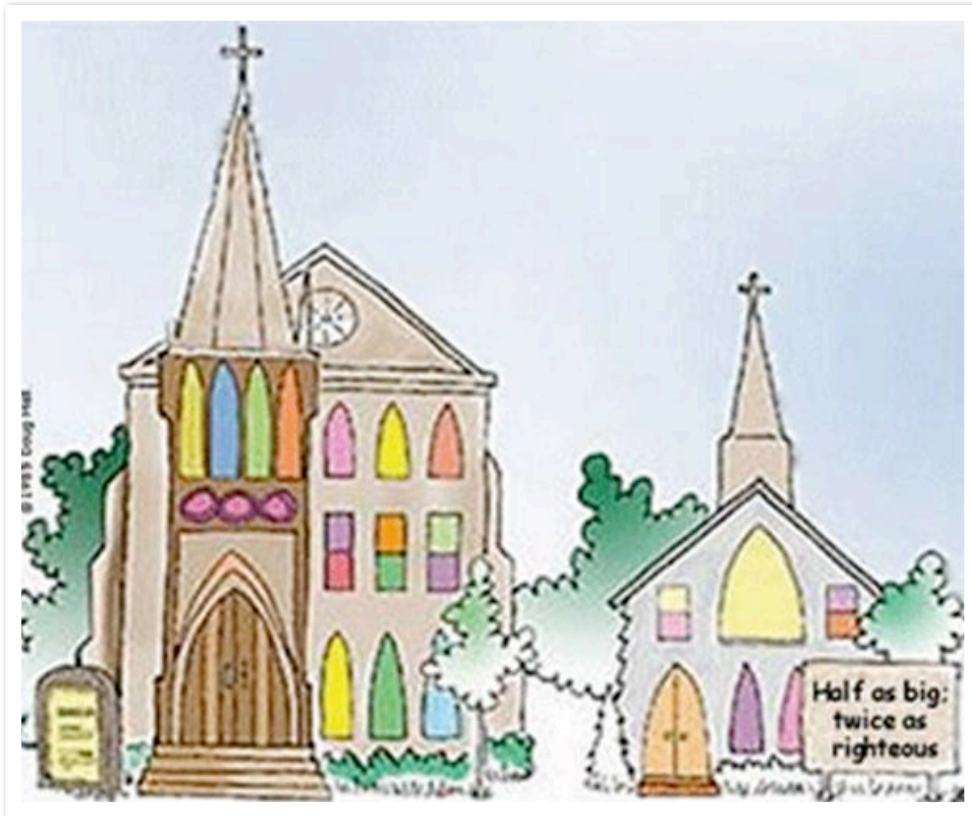
If we find that keeping those resolutions is problematic, it underscores the difficulty we have of willing newness. Usually, significant change arises out of crisis. A friend asks, "So, how is that working for you?" Well, there are times when it does not work and we end up in crisis. What we learn in Scripture is that God is often frequents the dark recesses of crises. In crisis a new vision of the world and our place in it arises. In crisis the energy arises to pursue that new vision. Out of crisis there is the resolve needed to work through the complexities of change, to decide for the vision again and again.

The thing is, God wills newness. God wills an incredible newness: where all that God intended of creation will finally be realized, where God will dwell among a transformed humanity, where a new community (the Kingdom) will come into being in which everyone is valued and everyone has a place at the table. God's newness is the fulfillment of creation. God's newness is the realization of the new community Jesus has gathered.



Reflections (Cont.)

It is God's promised newness that keeps us envisioning a new life in a new year. It is the promised newness that keeps us seeking for God until God finds us. It is the promised newness that fills us with hope. It is a hope for God's future. It is a hope for the new year.

**Correction**

Last month the photo acknowledgment should have included Bob Turner.

Ocean View Presbyterian Church

67 Central Avenue
PO. Box 287
Ocean View, DE 19970

Service

Sunday, 9:30 A.M.

Pastor

Kerry Shull

Church Office

302-539-3455

Website

ovpc.org

Session

Beverly Bailey
Karen Colwill
Richard Peoples
Mike Quinn
Jennifer Read
Herb Sheetz

Deacons

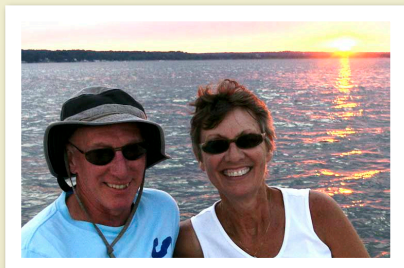
Mike Read
Edna Ewing
Jim Hartsig
Bruce Hobler
Amy Peoples
Cathy Sheetz

Newsletter Editors

Lorie and Jim Hartsig
Send submissions to:
newsletter@ovpc.org

....From The Editors

Lorie and Jim Hartsig



"The Old Year has gone. Let the dead past bury its own dead. The New Year has taken possession of the clock of time. All hail the duties and possibilities of the coming twelve months!"

- Edward Ayson Powell

Starting Over

There is much talk at the end of one year about starting afresh in the next year. This is probably why many people make resolutions, pledging to do better about eating, exercise or whatever as the new year approaches. All well and good, BUT I don't hold onto those lofty pledges to do better even for a few weeks....do you? Oh well, next year....sigh. As I think about this dilemma, it occurs to me that God gives us an opportunity each day to renew, to hit the refresh button, to start all over. I like second chances. I like knowing that if I fall flat on my face trying to be better today, I have tomorrow to try again. And I like knowing that I am forgiven for my failures....all positive as I look forward to the new year!

Aside from this deep thinking as I pause from the Christmas card writing, I must acknowledge the positive that was happening at OVPC in December. Each day as I read the Advent Scriptures and entry for the day, I was grateful for the effort that went into this booklet. So many diverse interpretations! And if you did not attend the Nativity Festival, you missed a perfect way to get into the spirit of the season. The creches, choir and hard work of Elsie and her team were perfect in every way!

Here is confirmation of what others thought of the Nativity Festival, as quoted from a Christmas letter received by the Quinns:

"....I went to a creche display this morning at our neighbor, the Quinn's church. The Season of Love became quite real to us as we sang familiar Christmas songs, looked at an unbelievable number of different creche sets, and spent time with church members as we enjoyed punch and homemade cookies. It is amazing how such simple things when shared can bring love and warmth into an open heart."

Attention Snowbirds

Keep in touch with us by sending us words and pictures of your activities from the sunny South.

Building and Grounds

Buzz Henifin

'Tis the holiday season and all have been very busy. Little was accomplished by B&G alone, but help extended throughout the buildings and grounds of the church.

The set up for the Christmas dinner, decorating for the Christmas Season, the crèche tables and platforms, thanks to Herb and George the yard free standing crèche was cut out painted and set up for the nativity display and then moved to the yard near the flag pole. Some help was given to the ladies decorating the church and there were pictures from previous years of where things go. The small platforms for the poinsettias were brought out and Mike reprogrammed the thermostat in the sanctuary to maintain the temperature at sixty degrees for the plants. Dave has worked to keep some color around the church by planting flowers and cleaning leaves that have accumulated since the work day. Bob, our electrician, has replaced several candle lamps in the Sanctuary and will get the rest after the first of the year.

THANK YOU to all who have helped and contributed to making OVPC buildings and grounds safe and looking good.

Some of you know that Dave Sergison has agreed to serve as the B&G chairman. Mike, Dave Kratch and I will continue to help where we can. The four of us wish you and yours the most wonderful Christmas and a very happy New Year.

Women's World

Betsy Henifin

At the December 14 Circle meeting members enjoyed a delicious pot luck luncheon. The highlight of the business meeting was the announcement from Carol Kratch, Mission Chairperson, that Circle had given a total of \$6000 to missions over the past year. Some recent recipients include The Heifer Project, Salvation Army, Peach Tree Center, and Cape Henlopen Food Basket. In addition, the Circle had contributed canned goods at this meeting to the Salem Methodist Church Food Pantry. The cub scouts from OVPC will deliver this food. We wish everyone of our church family a blessed Christmas and a Joyous New Year.

ANNIVERSARIES

Buzz and Betsy Henifin January 8

BIRTHDAYS

Andy Smith	January 2
Bill Kellam	January 3
Cindy Szlasa	January 8
Barbara Dietsch	January 13
Dave Kratch	January 20
Howard Dick	January 23



There is a new support group for incessant talkers meeting at an area church. It is called On and On Anon.

Opinion Poll:

"In January
it's so nice
while slipping
on the sliding ice
to sip hot chicken soup with rice.
Sipping once
Sipping twice."
- Maurice Sendak, *In January*

Which soup is the best winter warm up?

Karen C.	Butternut squash
Buzz H.	Homemade chicken noodle, minestrone
Don B.	Grandma's chicken rice and meatball
Bev B.	Split pea with ham, French onion, wonton
Earlene D.	New England clam chowder
Carol K.	Chicken noodle
Dave K.	Onion
Liz H.	Smoked turkey bean cooked slowly in crock pot
Bob W.	Elaine's homemade vegetable beef with a couple slices of her freshly baked bread.
Marlene Q.	Bev's split pea soup
Mike Q.	Bean, potato
Jim H.	Big Fish Restaurants's pumpkin/crab bisque
Lorie H.	Aunt Bev's country supper soup

So here is a good winter past time...call up one of these folks and join them for their favorite soup meal. (I'm calling Liz.....)

Kaye's Korner

A reminder to get ready for the end of year audit. Bring information to the office or give information to Elaine Wolf.

We need committee reports by January 15th to get ready for the end of year report.

A special thanks to all who read Scripture on Sunday mornings, or whenever I needed someone to read.

Hope everyone had a great holiday, and have a blessed New Year.

Prayer Chain

The Church has a Prayer Chain for whoever needs prayer for whatever reason. Call Hilary Smith (302-436-5678) with prayer requests.

"Should auld acquaintance be forgot
and never brought to mind?
Should auld acquaintance be forgot
and days of auld lang syne?
For auld lang syne, my dear,
for auld lang syne,
we'll take a cup of kindness yet,
for auld lang syne."

- Robert Burns, *Auld Lang Syne*

Communication and Technology Committee

Bob Wolf

There hasn't been a lot of activity on our website during the holiday season but we have tried to keep up with all of the many activities going on in the Church. Make sure to visit the photo gallery page to see photos of the many crèches that were on display in Memorial Hall. Thanks to Jim Hartsig for the photographs.

The 2011 Advent Devotional was printed and distributed. Thanks to Elsie Young and everyone who contributed to the book for their hard work. We hope to be able to publish next year's edition online.

As Elaine Wolf leaves her position on Session we welcome Karen Colwill as session liaison to our committee.

By the time this Newsletter is published, we expect to have an audio page available on the

website where you will be able to listen to the Sermon and Offertory Anthem. Several services will be archived and you will be able to choose what you would like to listen to. If you have not received a separate email inviting you to view the new page, please make sure you look for it on the website. Please let me know if you have any questions at all on how to access this page or if you have any issues in doing so. The next issue of the newsletter will have more information on the different options you have available to you (downloading, etc) with these audio offerings.

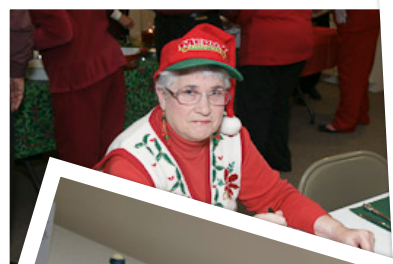
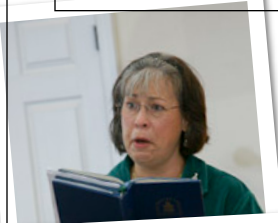
As always, we welcome any input into the content or design of our website and encourage everyone to join us at one of our monthly meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for January 10th at 7 p.m.

Remember to visit often! www.ovpc.org



Photogenic

Photos by Jim Hartsig



January 2012 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<u>1</u> Jan	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>
New Year's Day (Fed) 7:00p -9:30p Acoholics Anonymous(FC)		9:00a -9:30p Bridge Club(MH) 10:00a -11:00a Bible Study(FC) 7:00p -8:30p Al-Anon(FC)	4:00p -5:00p DEACONS (FC) 5:30p -9:00p Lord Baltimore Lioness (MH)	5:30p -7:00p Weight Watchers (MH)		10:00a -1:00p Wt Creek Marina (FC)
<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>
7:00p -9:30p Acoholics Anonymous(FC)		9:00a -9:30p Bridge Club(MH) 10:00a -11:00a Bible Study(FC) 7:00p -8:30p Al-Anon(FC) 7:00p -8:30p Comm & Tech (O)		5:30p -7:00p Weight Watchers (MH)		
<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>21</u>
7:00p -9:30p Acoholics Anonymous(FC)	ML King Day (Fed)	9:00a -9:30p Bridge Club(MH) 10:00a -11:00a Bible Study(FC) 1:00p -2:00p Christain Ed Committee (FC) 5:30p -6:30p CUB COMMITTEE(FC) 7:00p -8:30p Al-Anon(FC)		5:30p -7:00p Weight Watchers (MH)	5:45p -8:30p CUB PACK SET- UP(M H)	5:30p -8:30p CUB PACK (MH)
<u>22</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>28</u>
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<u>29</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>1</u> Feb	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>
7:00p -9:30p Acoholics Anonymous(FC)		9:00a -9:30p Bridge Club(MH) 10:00a -11:00a Bible Study(FC) 7:00p -8:30p Al-Anon(FC)	4:00p -5:00p DEACONS (FC) 5:30p -9:00p Lord Baltimore Lioness (MH)	Groundhog Day 11:00a -1:00p Southeast Sussex Ministerium Meeting(FC) 5:30p -7:00p Weight Watchers (MH)		

Friday Night At The Movies



Join us on January 6th at 7 p.m. in Memorial Hall when we watch 'Mr. Holland's Opus'. This movie shows us all how we can impact others without even knowing that we have.

“Glenn Holland is a musician and composer who takes a teaching job to pay the rent while, in his 'spare time', he can strive to achieve his true goal - compose one memorable piece of music to leave his mark on the world. As Holland discovers 'Life is what happens to you while you're busy making other plans' and as the years unfold the joy of sharing his contagious passion for music with his students becomes his new definition of success.”

Written by [<russell.boyd@dsto.defence.gov.au>](mailto:russell.boyd@dsto.defence.gov.au)



OCEAN VIEW
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
P.O. Box 287
Ocean View, DE 19970

