



OCEAN VIEW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MAY 2012

✘ Reflections ✘ Kerry Shull



“The adults are talking here. You kids go out and play.” There are some things that, though they may affect children, really are matters for adults. These are matters which are beyond that of children. Most of our anxieties we can share with children: guilt, oppressive power, and being unloved.

Yet there is another anxiety, one that pervades our culture. It is one from which we need to protect children. They will be confronted by it soon enough, but not now. It is the anxiety of meaninglessness. This anxiety is one that calls all things into question: every institution, every belief system, every human activity. It is the anxiety of our time. At one time, we told ourselves that progress was inevitable and that with ever-increasing knowledge, technology, and organization, we will experience a dawning of purposeful human existence. There would be no need for a redeemer, because history brings its own salvation. Modernity has failed to achieve this redemptive meaning. As one person noted, “it has brought about forms of society unprecedented for their captivity to boredom, apathy, and the sense of purposelessness,” (Douglas John Hall, *Professing the Faith*, page 503). There is “a growing collective indifference to life,” (Jürgen Moltmann, quoted by Hall, page 504). All institutions (governmental, financial, science, the church) are being judged for their failure in this regard. No wonder the atmosphere is so toxic and hostile.

Meaningless is inevitable if we choose to construct life apart from God, for we were created for life in relationship with God. Meaninglessness is inevitable if we choose to dominate people and the creation, for we were created to live in a mutually caring relationship with the world. We were meant to be mere creatures, in dependence on God and in community with others, but we desire more.

The thing is, we in the church have tended neither to acknowledge nor to discuss this form of anxiety. It is the thing we fear most of all. We present Jesus as a “figure of false comfort.” “It is comfort for those who are

Reflections (Cont.)

still relatively comfortable but sense, a little, the prospect of discomfort and wish to erase it as effectively as possible," (Hall, page 504).

What would it mean for the church to confront the challenge of meaning? On our own, we cannot. But our Representative, Jesus, has. The question is, Has Jesus so entered into the despair and meaninglessness of the world that we know he has dealt with this from the inside of the human experience? We have traditionally protected Jesus from any doubt or inner turmoil. Yet, Scripture testifies to a Jesus who really is Emmanuel, "God is with us," (Matthew 1:23; Isaiah 7:14). Jesus was truly tempted. He struggled in Gethsemane with God who willed his death. On the cross, what sense of utter futility must have overwhelmed him, for he was dying and absolutely no one understood who he was, or why his life was one of service, or why he was dying. In addition, he was dying and everyone had either turned in hatred against him or abandoned him. There was one more thing. Since he so completely identified with sinful human beings, could it be that even God had abandoned him? What if his cry from the cross—"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" (Matthew 27:24; Mark 15:34; a quote of Psalm 22:1)—really reflected a sense of God forsakenness? Jesus was "tested as we are," even if it was "without sin," (Hebrews 4:15), yet it was a real face-to-face grappling with guilt and despair.

To acknowledge Jesus' own struggle with meaninglessness is to open ourselves up to those who also struggle with it. We stand with them as fellow strugglers. But we also stand with them as representatives of Jesus who confronted this anxiety head-on. In reconciling us with God and in helping us to accept our creatureliness, he bestows on us meaning. What we need to acknowledge is how costly this was to Jesus.

Perhaps it is time for the children to go outside and play while the adults grapple with an issue that is truly only for adults. Who is Jesus? Is he Emmanuel, or did he only look the part? Did he struggle with meaninglessness, or was he too divine for that? A great deal rides on the answer.

"Spring is God's way of saying, 'One more time!'"

Robert Orben

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

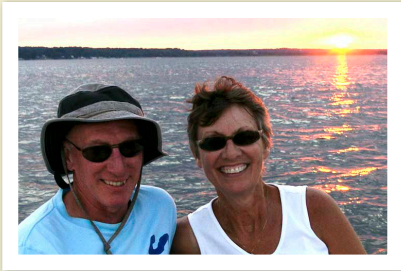
Deacons

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



Ode to the Walk

I love to walk....not on a treadmill as Jim likes to do, but outside, chatting with a friend or by myself, exploring the neighborhood for new construction, blossoms on the trees or just simply enjoying the quiet of being alone with my thoughts. Not only is walking good for the soul, but it never hurts to shake off some calories as well. All is accomplished.

Jim enters races. He has run since his high school days on the cross country team. I enter walks. I am not competitive and coming in at the end of the line does not bother me at all. Walking with a group is fun, too. You can do this when you walk. Running is solitary...one does not usually run in a team. When walking, the chatter makes the distance pass quickly and soon the finish line is ahead. What I love about the CROP walk is what I love about walking....exercise, conversation, good weather and being with others whose company I enjoy. Join us on May 5th....it will be a great time! promise....



Location
 Bethany Beach Bandstand

Registration
 10:00 a.m.

Group pictures
 11:00 a.m.

Entertainment
 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Walk
 11:30 a.m.

BGCC church will provide hotdogs after the walk on their church grounds.

Contact

Rose Mary Hendrix, 302-537-9417, rm.hendrix@mchsi.com

ANNIVERSARIES

Amy and Ed Hiner	May 2
Sara and Larry Kramer	May 4
Kathy and Herb Sheetz	May 6
Karen and Bill Colwill	May 20
Cindy and Steve Szlasa	May 22
Kathy and Larry Hofsiss	May 27

BIRTHDAYS

Marlene Quinn	May 13
Eunice Rollings	May 19
Eve Tolley	May 23
Elaine Wolf	May 23
Sue Dick	May 26



Christian Education

Marlene Quinn

We want to try a different format for our small group study and we would like suggestions from you. We hope to offer a book group during Sept, Oct, Nov, Jan, Feb, and March. Members of the group would gather once each month to share and discuss their views on a book. All participants would read the same book, and we would do a different book each month.

If you have a particular book, not necessarily religious, that has meant a lot to you, pass along the title and a short synopsis to any member of the CE committee. Current members of the committee are Bev Bailey, Gary Baer, Betsy Henifin, Bruce Hobler, Marlene Quinn, Jennifer Read, and Kerry Schull. We will choose the books for Sept and Oct at our June 19th meeting.

Stay tuned for further developments.

"The air is like a butterfly
 With frail blue wings.
 The happy earth looks at the sky
 And sings."
 - Joyce Kilmer, Spring

Deacons' Report

Mike Read

The Deacons are soliciting help from the congregation in maintaining an accurate and up-to-date Prayer List for inclusion in the weekly church bulletin. If you know of someone who is currently in need of special prayers who is not listed, please let one of the deacons or the church office know. Additionally, if someone who is listed is no longer in need of our prayers, please notify the office or one of the deacons of this, as well. Together we can keep our Prayer List updated on an ongoing basis. Many thanks for your help.

Become a possibilitarian. No matter how dark things seem to be or actually are, raise your sights and see possibilities- always see them, for they are there.....

Norman Vincent Peale

Worship Wanderings

Bev Bailey

The Worship Committee was very busy during the Lent/HolyWeek/Easter Season, preparing for meaningful worship experiences for the congregation. It was made extra busy by the fact that we weren't sure where we would be worshipping each week, but we were very glad to be back in the Sanctuary for Palm/Passion Sunday and Holy Week. We could really celebrate Easter with all our visitors. The flowers were beautiful this year. We thank all of you who contributed and we thank Kathy Sheetz, Cathy Yantz, Liz Hobler, Mike Quinn, and Bev Bailey for all the work to decorate the Sanctuary.

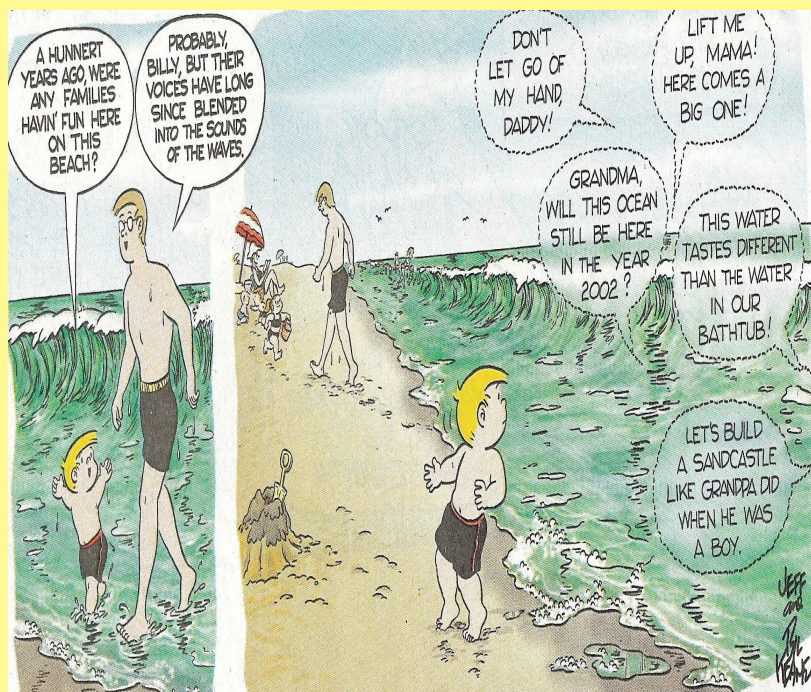
The Worship Committee has been exploring the creation of a "Banner for All Seasons" that expresses our congregation's beliefs and practices through our Values Statement on the front of our bulletin. We hope to create a quilted banner using all the colors of the church seasons and filled with symbols which are important to OVPC. We would like to form a task force of folks with artistic vision who can help us decide what we would like the banner to look like. We have asked Marti Snyder, a quilter who has helped churches create banners which are personal to them. She has also created banners for denominational gatherings and for Presbyterian Women. If you would like to be part of this creative planning session, please talk to Bev Bailey or anyone else on the Worship Committee.

Adult Ed Class - ESL

Ocean View Presbyterian officially began our Adult ESL classes on Wednesday, April 18. Classes will meet every Wednesday evening from 6 until 7:30 until Memorial Day at the Pyle Center. We will begin again on Wednesday, September 5, right after Labor Day. There were six teachers at our first class. Training and scheduling for fall teachers will be held sometime this summer. If you are interested in being part of this worthwhile and exciting mission project, please contact Mike or Jennifer Read.

"Welcome Summer" Cookout!

Everyone is invited Saturday, June 2, 4-8 pm



Mike & Jen Read
invite you to a
cookout at their
home.

Bring a picture of a
beach memory.

RSVP 302-539-0533 MikeNJenRead@yahoo.com

722 Fox Trail Dr. In Salt Pond

Session Report

Eariene DeFazio, Clerk of Session

The Session met on April 16, 2012.

The Session wants to thank the members and friends of OVPC for their generous contributions to Capital Improvements - the cost of the HVAC system and insulation of the Sanctuary have been completely paid for; your offering can be directed to the General Fund.

David Sergison from the Building and Grounds Committee met with the Session. The annual spring clean up is scheduled for April 28 from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.; the rain date is May 12. Volunteers have been cleaning and planting the gardens. Estimates were reviewed to replace the foam padding and to have the pew cushions steam cleaned. A MOTION was made, seconded and passed to have the pew cushions re-stuffed and cleaned; the total cost is approximately \$2,000.00. Another item that was discussed was to move one of the short pews to provide wheelchair access. A MOTION was made, seconded, and passed to retain one short pew to leave room for a wheel chair. A longer pew will be cut to size. Both pews will be placed where the floor grates were.

Sewing Circle requested permission to have a brunch following worship on Sunday, June 24, 2012. There will be no actual fee for the brunch but Sewing Circle will request donations. The purpose of the brunch is to raise money for the ongoing missions of the Sewing Circle. A MOTION was made, seconded, and passed to approve the Circle's brunch on Sunday, June 24, 2012, for the purpose of raising money for missions by receiving a freewill offering.

Last month a proposed Pastor's Job description was distributed. Recommended changes were incorporated into that job description. A MOTION to accept it was made, seconded, and passed to approved.

Jennifer Read answered questions the Session had concerning to the Adult ESL Class and the Financial Literacy Coaching Class. A MOTION was made, seconded, and passed to approve the ESL program for a trial six-week run (beginning April 18, 2012) and to reconvene the first Wednesday after Labor Day. A MOTION was made, seconded, and approved to be the broker for the Financial Literacy Coaching program; this class will be on an as needed or as requested basis.

Bev Bailey suggested the Session ask the Nominating Committee to bring forward a name each year for a person to be the Commissioner to the Presbytery from OVPC. A MOTION was made, seconded, and passed to ask the Nominating Committee nominate a ruling elder to be the church's commissioner to Presbytery. This would be on a yearly basis. The person would provide a report to the Session after each Presbytery meeting.

A MOTION was made, seconded, and passed to establish a Mission Committee to look into how we do mission at OVPC. The Committee would go over what the church is now doing, and see if there is way of doing mission so that the church is going in a central direction and is not as scattered in the mission opportunities. This Committee would then report back to the Session.

Communication and Technology Committee

Bob Wolf

We are spreading the word and can use your help! Our committee is currently working on developing a new 2 sided card that we can place in information racks in local visitor centers, real estate offices, motels, and other locations where area literature is available. The intention of this new brochure is to invite visitors/vacationers to worship with us while they are here without explaining who we are as a church. Information to be included on the card is address, phone number, website, worship time, and perhaps a small map showing where we are in relation to Bethany Beach. The most important part of the

circular will be the invitation or 'tag' at the top of the card to entice someone to pick the card up – and that is where you come in. Please send any ideas you may have to Kerry Shull, Jim Hartsig or Bob Wolf by May 8th.

We are also going to be expanding our exposure in area papers during the season – specifically in the Fenwick Island, North Ocean City area.

Our next meeting will be May 8th at 4:30 pm in the church office and we welcome you to join us.

Remember to visit our website often! www.ovpc.org

"The world's favorite season is the spring.
All things seem possible in May."
- Edwin Way Teale

Calling all Women!!!

We would like to start a new tradition at OVPC—that of a Women/Mother's Choir on Mothers Day. Cathy Yantz will be planning the choir for that Sunday and would love it if you would join the women of the choir and come sing. There will only be one rehearsal—and it will be on Sunday, May 13 at 8:30 am. Please let Cathy know if you would be willing to sing that day....

Photogenic

Photos by Jim Hartsig



**OCEAN VIEW
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**
WWW.OVPC.ORG
WORSHIP SUNDAY 9:30
EASTER IS NEW LIFE
GRACE AND LOVE
PASTOR: KERRY SHULL

May 2012 Calendar

Sunday		Monday	Tuesday		Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<u>29</u>	<u>Apr</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
9:30a -11:00a Sunday Worship (S) 10:30a -11:00a Service of Wholeness (Prayers for Healing) 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)	10:30a -4:00p Bridge (MH) 5:30p -7:00p Weight Watchers (MH) 6:30p -8:00p Choir Practice 6:30p -8:00p FARA (FC)	7:00p -9:00p Movie Night (MH)	8:30a -11:00a E.A.R.A.(FC or MH) 9:00a -12:00p Middlesex beach (MH)
<u>6</u>		<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>		<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>
9:30a -11:00a Sunday Worship (S) 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)		12:00p -2:00p Sewing Circle(MH)	10:30a -4:00p Bridge (MH) 5:30p -7:00p Weight Watchers (MH) 6:30p -8:00p Choir Practice (S) 6:30p -8:00p FARA (FC)	12:30p -4:00p Gardners By The Sea(MH)	8:30a -11:00a E.A.R.A.(FC or MH) 8:30a -1:00p CLEAN-UP DAY RAIN DATE 9:30a -4:00p OVPC Parking lot reserved for Town of OV
<u>13</u>		<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>		<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u>
Mothers Day 9:30a -11:00a Sunday Worship (S) 10:30a -11:30a Coffee Hour (MH) 7:00p -9:30p Acoholics Anonymous(FC)	7:00p -9:00p Session Meeting (MH)	9:00a -9:30p Bridge Club(MH) 10:00a -11:00a Bible Study(FC) 7:00p -8:30p Al-Anon(FC)	2:30p -5:00p Worship Committee (office)		Ascension Day 10:30a -4:00p Bridge (MH) 5:30p -7:00p Weight Watchers (MH) 6:30p -8:00p Choir Practice (S) 6:30p -8:00p FARA (FC)			8:30a -11:00a E.A.R.A.(FC or MH)
<u>20</u>		<u>21</u>	<u>22</u>		<u>23</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>26</u>
9:30a -11:00a Sunday Worship (S) 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)			10:30a -4:00p Bridge (MH) 5:30p -7:00p Weight Watchers (MH) 6:30p -8:00p Choir Practice 6:30p -8:00p FARA (FC)		8:30a -11:00a E.A.R.A.(FC or MH) 10:00a -12:00p Ocean Village (FC) 1:00p -3:00p TOWER SHORES (MH)
<u>27</u>		<u>28</u>	<u>29</u>		<u>30</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
9:30a -11:00a Sunday Worship (S) 10:30a -11:00a Service of Wholeness (Prayers for Healing) 7:00p -9:30p Acoholics Anonymous(FC)		Memorial Day (Fed)	9:00a -9:30p Bridge Club(MH) 10:00a -11:00a Bible Study(FC) 7:00p -8:30p Al-Anon(FC)			10:30a -4:00p Bridge 5:30p -7:00p Weight Watchers (MH) 6:30p -8:00p Choir Practice (S) 6:30p -8:00p FARA (FC)	7:00p -9:00p Movie Night (MH)	8:30a -11:00a E.A.R.A.(FC or MH) 12:00p -5:00p BRIDGE SPECIAL GAME (MH)

Friday Night At The Movies



Join us on May 4th at 7 p.m. in Memorial Hall when we watch “Freedom Writers” starring Hillary Swank, Imelda Staunton, and Patrik Dempsey.

Based on actual events, this is the story of how a new teacher in a recently integrated school inspires a group of students whose feeling of self-worth is based on those who tell them what they can’t do rather than what they are capable of. Many of these students are either in gangs or know someone who has been killed by gang violence; and they all know hate.

Feel free to bring your own comfortable chair (and anything else you like when watching movies --- blanket and pillow?).... Popcorn and drinks provided.

If you have a special request for a movie, please let Bob Wolf know and we will do our best to obtain it.

