



OCEAN VIEW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OCTOBER 2017



## From the Pastor Gerald Egger

### Expectations Realized

As we enter my last three months of transitional ministry with Ocean View Presbyterian, I want us to reflect on what has been realized of our initial expectations, as laid out in the newsletter of October 2014. We have much to be pleased with. Here are the Expectations, as published in the OVPC Newsletter of October 2014, and our Realizations together over the course of three years.

#### Expectation, October 2014

“My expectation is that our work together will take more than one year but less than two, but that is just a guess. When the church is ready to call an installed pastor, my connection will diminish, then cease altogether. So in this regard, embarking on the interim period together is the start of a long goodbye to me and Marge.”

#### Realization 2017

My guess as to length of the transition was off. It took about 18 months to get the church ready to search for an installed pastor. Much of this time was spent improving administrative and financial effectiveness. One small example is the weekly worship bulletin, which is now so routine that we have most of it ready by the Monday before. Another indicator is that when we brought on a new office secretary in March of 2017, she mastered the job in a month's time (and not just because Linda is quite competent).

#### Expectation, October 2014

“There is a big blue sky for new ideas and plans, unencumbered by the past. Thoughts and feelings about the church, even negative thoughts and feelings, can be shared without jeopardy to long-term relationships. Conscious awareness of ‘how much time this is taking’ can spur decisions and active participation.”

#### Realization 2017

In 2014 the church budgeted \$156,500 for capital and operating expenses; the year ended with a small surplus but it wasn't enough to avert a cash crunch in early 2015. Two years later, in 2016, the church squeezed the budget down to \$151,400 and broke even, thanks to a \$10,000 increase in income over 2014. In the current budget year at the mid-point, income was running ahead of projection and expenses were running below - plenty of blue sky in that picture.

Yes, we have experienced times of impatience over the transitional process, more impatience I think in the months before the Pastor Nominating Committee was formed than in the 18 months since. As I recall our

three years together, it's been a time of tilling and enriching the rich soil left from a long and successful previous pastorate, getting it ready for new harvests.

Expectation, October 2014

"There are five over-arching tasks that we will accomplish together during the interim period."

#### **Realization 2017**

Our five large transitional tasks were largely completed by the time the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) posted the Ministry Information Form in May 2016, publicly starting the pastoral search.

Expectation, October 2014

"The first task is to come to terms with the church's history. The period between installed pastors is an ideal time to assess OVPC's role in the history of the Ocean View community."

#### **Realization 2017**

The history of Frankford Presbyterian Church's relationship with Ocean View was changed before I officially started as transitional minister, a courageous separation that has not harmed either congregation and, I think, cleared the field for OVPC to grow in mission.

We have freshened up our rolls. Half of the current membership has joined since 2006; we have received 22 new members since November 2014. I think our institutional memory is as strong as it needs to be.

Expectation October 2014

"The second great task is to put into words the church's current identity. As part of this task, Session will undertake a study to uncover missional opportunities."

#### **Realization 2017**

The Mission Study published in March 2016 presents a complete picture of OVPC today, including its place in the surrounding community. I am particularly pleased with the Narrative Budget first published in the Mission Study and updated for the 2017 annual meeting.

How a church spends its money is a good indicator of church health. The Narrative Budget paints a picture of OVPC doing God's work in four spheres: 44% of our cash supports worshiping; 23% supports growing in discipleship; 11% supports caring and communicating; and 22% supports reaching out in service and mission. That's a Christ-like vision, in my opinion.

Our Mission Matrix, a product of the Leadership Retreat in 2014, provides historical detail around "reaching out." Not only does OVPC budget over \$36,000 annually to benevolence, but members and friends donate another \$30,000 to specific mission appeals month by month. Hands-on service projects, such as works for the Milford Housing Development Corp. and the annual Nativity Festival, involve the wider community.

Expectation, October 2014

The third task concerns congregational leadership. In any vital congregation like OVPC, leaders get burned out and need a break. As new people come to church events for the first time, out of curiosity, they should get the impression that there is room for

## **Ocean View Presbyterian Church**

67 Central Avenue  
Ocean View, DE  
19970

**Service**  
Sunday, 9:30 A.M.

**Interim Pastor**  
Gerald Egger

**Church Office**  
302-539-3455

**Website**  
ovpc.org

**Session**  
Don Bailey  
Cathy Yantz  
Jennifer Read  
Mike Quinn  
Bruce Hobler  
Elsie Young  
Karen Colwill  
(Clerk of Session)

**Deacons**  
Earlene DeFazio  
Betsy Henifin  
Eric Neumann  
Cindy Benjamin  
Ollie Robling  
Sue Baer

**Newsletter Editors**  
Lorie and Jim Hartsig

curiosity, they should get the impression that there is room for them to contribute time and talents.

### **Realization 2017**

An indicator of people's commitment to the church is the annual officer nominating process. For the second year in a row, the nominating committee is enjoying an abundance of candidates for open positions.

The leadership profile of OVPC compiled in 2015 explains in part how the congregation sustains its programs and services at such a high level. Among our elders, deacons, and committee chairs we are blessed with communicators, greeters, planners, risk managers, teachers, fund raisers, and coordinators. (On the wish-list are financial managers, media and technology experts, publicists, and strategic leaders.)

Expectation, October 2014

"The fourth transitional task, one at which Ocean View Presbyterian already excels, is maintaining ties with the denomination, PCUSA. Eventually, the congregation will elect a Pastor Nominating Committee, which will be assisted by a liaison with the Committee on Ministry in the evaluation of pastor candidates."

### **Realization 2017**

The congregation elected a 5-person Pastor Nominating Committee in February 2016, which has met faithfully for the past 18 months to review candidates, greatly assisted by their presbytery liaison from the Committee on Ministry.

When I have attended the denomination's Big Tent conferences (2015, 2017), I have been pleased to recognize how our little church on Delmarva is contributing to the initiatives and thrusts of the larger church. An example is "We Choose Welcome," an initiative to support refugee settlement.

OVPC makes a strong impact in New Castle Presbytery. It is not unusual to have five elders and pastors at a presbytery meeting. Several members as well as the pastor and a retired pastor serve on year-round presbytery committees. Our Sewing Circle has maintained its historic commitment to Presbyterian Women's goals and education.

Expectation, October 2014

"Once the Pastor Nominating Committee has begun work, the congregation will be into the transitional task of committing to new ministries. The fifth great task of the transition is to bring all the inputs into harmony. Many needs will have been uncovered."

### **Realization 2017**

Groups and committees are coming up with new missions and ministries all the time. It's the growing edge of the congregation. The success of Sewing Circle's "Water 4" project is one example. A spirit of social justice and benevolence is nurtured by a strong Christian Education program, including TED talks and book discussions. Quite a few members are planning an educational trip together to our mission partner in Costa Rica.

I look forward to our remaining months together. We will celebrate our successes as we anticipate God's sending us an installed pastor who will take OVPC to the next level. It has been my joy and pleasure to serve as your transitional minister.



## *Session Report*

### *Karen Colwill, Clerk of Session*

The Session of OVPC met on Monday, September 11, 2017 at the home of Elsie Young.

The Rev. Jerry Egger opened with prayer and devotions at 7:00 P.M.

#### **Orders of the Day:**

Annual meeting with the **Mission Advocacy Team** Convener, Bev Bailey.

Bev shared with us the OVPC partnership story with Water4, 'The Little Church That Could'. The article is available on the website <http://water4.org/mychurch/>. We received the report of the 2017 accomplishments and the Mission Matrix.

Annual meeting with the **Finance Committee** Chair, Bob Wolf.

We received the report of the 2017 accomplishments. Approved **MOTION** to switch our PNC bank accounts to commercial accounts to avoid monthly service charges assessed to our current non-profit accounts. The Finance Committee will be starting the 2018 budget work in October.

Leadership Training will be held on January 19th and 20th, 2018.

The Reverend Egger has tendered his resignation as OVPC Temporary Pastor effective December 31, 2017 or sooner if a permanent pastor is called by the congregation. Each member and friend of OVPC received a letter this week stating Reverend Egger's request. Approved **MOTION** to accept the resignation of OVPC Temporary Pastor, Rev. Jerry Egger, effective December 31, 2017 or sooner if a permanent pastor is called by the congregation.

The **Monthly Committee Reports** were received.

Approved **MOTION** to accept the docket for the meeting.

Approved **MOTION** to accept the minutes of the August 14, 2017 Session Meeting with a change.

Approved **MOTION** to accept the Treasurer's Report for August 2017.

The Church Nominating Committee is meeting to fill the vacancies on our boards and committees. When asked to serve, please prayerfully consider serving the OVPC congregation in a leadership role.

Approved **MOTION** to elect Mike Quinn the 2018 OVPC Presbytery Commissioner.

Approved Worship Committee **MOTION** to receive the revised "Policy on Christian Marriage" with changes.

The Rev. Jerry Egger adjourned the meeting with prayer at 9:35 P.M.

*Christian Education*  
*Bev Bailey*

**Book Discussion, *Waking Up White***

**October 1 and continuing through November 19**

In small groups, we will have an opportunity to share reactions as Presbyterians to the thought-provoking book, *Waking Up White*.

The author, Debby Irving, grew up in a predominantly white, upper middle class community in Massachusetts. For much of her life, she didn't give much thought to race, even though she had encountered racial tensions at work and her children's schools. When she was in her 40s, after taking a graduate school course in "Race and Cultural Identity," Irving began to comprehend how much she had benefited over the years because she was white.

Irving writes about her discoveries and how she began to question her long held assumptions about race and culture in her 2014 book, *Waking up White, and Finding Myself in the Story of Race*. The co-moderators of the 2016 General Assembly are urging all Presbyterians to study Irving's story as a way of discovering our attitudes toward race hidden even from ourselves.

The 250-page book is available in stores and on Amazon.com for about \$17.

Small group leaders and times for this book study will be:

Bev Bailey, Sunday morning following worship in Fellowship Centre

Bruce Hobler, Wednesday mornings at 10 am in Fellowship Centre

Marlene Quinn will assist the Sunday morning class...

There will be a short introduction to this study for all participants on Sunday, October 2, and then the Sunday class will continue while the Wednesday participants will begin on October 5.

All participants should read the introduction and the 5 chapters in the first segment, "*Childhood in White*", before coming to class....The classes will meet each week through the third week of November. If you have not enrolled in this study and so desire, ask one of the teachers if you can join them...

More information on this important study will be available in the next month. The CE Committee members are: Gary Baer, Bev Bailey, Don Benjamin, Bruce Hobler, Jen Read, Bob Wolf, Cathy Yantz, and Pastor Jerry Egger.





Nok Schwartz	Oct. 2
Karen White	Oct. 4
Carole Trent	Oct. 7
Janet Anderson	Oct. 9
Elsie Young	Oct. 9
Carol Kratch	Oct. 12
Charlotte Wheatley	Oct. 14
Lorie Hartsig	Oct. 20
Oliver Robling	Oct. 25
Bob Turner	Oct. 27



Sandy and Dave White	Oct. 3
Mary Reed and Tim Smith	Oct. 7
Nancy and Bob Turner	Oct. 7
Elaine and Bob Jackson	Oct. 8
Earlene and Al DeFazio	Oct. 23

## *Advent Devotional*

### *Elsie Young*

October is here. ....ARE YOU AT WORK ON YOUR WRITING???

Tenderness is the language of the young children, of those who need the other. A child's love for mom and dad grows through their touch, their gaze, their voice, their tenderness. I like when I hear parents talk to their babies, adapting to the little child, sharing the same level of communication. This is tenderness: being on the same level as the other. God himself descended into Jesus to be on our level. This is the same path the Good Samaritan took. This is the path that Jesus himself took. He lowered himself, he lived his entire human existence practicing the real, concrete language of love.

His Holiness Pope Francis (2017)



**BE SURE TO MARK YOUR CALENDAR: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2017 9A.M. TO 12 P.M.**

We welcome glassware, small household items, kitchen miscellaneous, linens, pictures, small working appliances, knick-knacks, children's toys, books and any other nearly new items. PLEASE: NO CD'S, DVD'S, CASSETTES, clothing, shoes, purses or anything broken or soiled.

We also are looking for donations of baked goods, fine jewelry and plants.

BECAUSE STORAGE SPACE IS LIMITED PLEASE BRING DONATIONS TO SET-UP ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2017 between 8:30 am to 12 pm. If you must bring items prior to set up and/or need help unloading contact Linda (302-539-3455) any weekday before noon or Liz Hobler (302-541-0487). Books may be left under the coat rack in the Memorial Hall entrance area.

If you need further information, please contact Liz Hobler, (302-541-0487), Amy Peoples, 302-732-3939 or Kathy Sheet, 302-539-2827.

**"The clump of maples on the hill,  
And this one near the door,  
Seem redder, quite a lot, this year  
Than last, or year before;  
I wonder if it's just because  
I Love the Old State more!"**

**David L. Cady, *October in Vermont***

# *Fall Jumble*

OCEAN VIEW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
CENTRAL AVE JUST NORTH OF RT 26

Saturday, October 14, 2017  
9 AM to 12 PM



**Books**

**Bake Sale**



**Linens**



**Plants**

**WHITE ELEPHANT**



TO DONATE ITEMS CONTACT: Kathy Sheetz (539-2827), Amy Peoples (732-3939), Liz Hobler (541-0487) or the Church office (539-3455)

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO LOCAL MISSIONS



## *Sewing Circle*

### *Amy Peoples*

Leaves will soon be falling as cooler weather approaches. Get your calendars and markers and jot down the many activities of the Sewing Circle. Everyone is welcome and needed!

Before I begin with our activities, I want to remind you of a website that you will be interested in seeing : <http://water4.org/my church>. It is a lovely article about our involvement with Water4 called "The Little Church that Could". It makes you so proud of what we accomplished and thankful for our Circle Worship committee for spurring us on. It was good partnership and it got so much done. If you cannot get it on by computer, Bev has made copies of the article for us.

Now on to our October activities. Monday, October 2, YARN will meet from 10-2. Bring your lunch and a willingness to learn and come join this worthy group. They have a good time and get many Prayer Shawls made.

Sunday October 8th, there will be a Coffee Hour following the church service. There is a need for hosts for this time of fellowship in our church. It does not need to be fancy , so call either Marti or Ellen and volunteer.

Our Sewing Circle will meet Wednesday, October 11 , 12 noon. Bring your sandwich or salad and refreshments will be provided by Marlene Quinn and Amy Peoples. We will be studying Chapter 2,"In Community with the Living God", from our Cloud of Witness study book. If you do not have a study book, please contact Marti. They are \$10.00.

The Circle Mission Committee will meet in November to decide which missions we will be supporting this year.

The \$2.00 Circle dues are due now to the treasurer.

The Thank Offering presentation will take place in November.

The Fall Jumble will be Saturday, October 14, 8:30-12, with set-up, Friday, October 13 from 8:30-12. Get your items together. Bring your items on Friday, October 13, 8:30-12 or if you need to bring them prior to Friday, they can be brought to church office between 9-12 any weekday. Linda will direct them to shed or to the bench in Memorial Hall entranceway. Books should be taken to MH so they don't have to be moved twice. Be sure to get your goodies together for the different booths. Baked goods are appreciated. We want to have a bounty to sell. Remember all the proceeds go to our Mission projects.

On October 28, 9-12:30, the Fall Gathering will be held at Dover Presbyterian Church. We would like to have a big representation from OVPC so please contact Cathy Yantz. We will be carpooling up to Dover..

As I often mention, remember if you are not with us you are missed, come join us.

*Photogenic  
Jim Hartsig*



Another ramp.





# Thanks

Thanks to all who have signed up to be Ushers/Greeters. As you have witnessed, this is such a wonderful opportunity to meet and welcome worshippers to our Church and your commitment is greatly appreciated.

Sandy

## *New Members*

### *Mary Ella Reed and Tim Smith*



**Mary** was born in Bethesda, MD, a lifelong resident of Montgomery County, prior to moving to Ocean View in June of 2017. Most of her employment was in the veterinary field. She is an avid animal lover with 3 dogs and 2 cats.

Mary lost her only child, Maddie in 2011 at the age of 23. She has 1 brother, 1 sister, 2 nieces, and 1 nephew. They are the light of her life. She married her best friend, Tim Smith on Oct. 7, 2015 and is so very blessed and happy.

**Tim** lived in the Washington, DC suburbs of Maryland for the last 50 years. He graduated from the University of Maryland in 1980. He is a retired mailman after serving for 31 years.

He was an active basketball referee for 35 years. He has a daughter, Rebecca, age 22 who is a physician assistant student in Philadelphia. He attended or belonged to 3 different churches and has served a 3 year stint on the Session at Northwood Presbyterian Church, Silver Springs, MD.



## **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 October 2nd**

## *Friday Night At The Movies*



Join us at the Wolf's house on Friday, October 6th at 5:30 for a potluck supper followed by our monthly movie. Bring your favorite dish or dessert to share or just come and enjoy the fellowship.

This month by request we will be viewing the 2016 film 'Collateral Beauty' starring Will Smith, Edward Norton, Kate Winslet, and Helen Mirren. Can any good come from personal tragedy? Is it possible to see beauty in the world when your life is plunged into darkness? Friends try desperately to pull a man from the depths of despair but only when he writes 3 letters do all their lives start to change - the letters are addressed to Death, Love, and Time...

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 ---

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Ocean View, DE 19970

