

At times life is hard, as hard as crucible steel. It has its bleak and painful moments. Like the ever-flowing waters of a river, life has its moments of drought and moments of flood. Like the everchanging cycle of the seasons, life has the soothing warmth of the summers and the piercing chill of its winters. But through it all, God walks with us. Never forget that God is able to lift you from fatigue of despair to the buoyancy of hope, and transform dark and desolate valleys into sunlit paths of inner peace.

Martin Luther King Jr., from his eulogy at Sixteenth Street Baptist Church, Birmingham, for the 4 girls killed in the KKK bombing September 15, 1963.

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## THIS WEEK'S CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY	Worship Service – 9:30 am (S)		
Jan 19	Christian Ed Class– 10:30 – noon (FC)		
	AA Mtg. 8:00 pm – 9:00 pm (FC)		
MONDAY	Martin Luther King Day – Office Closed		
Jan 20	Christian Ed Committee 5:00 – 6:30 pm @ Bruce		
	Hobler's home		
TUESDAY	Bible Study – 10:00 am – 12:00 pm (FC)		
Jan 21	Seaside Serenity 6:45 – 8:00 pm (FC)		
	Deacons Meeting 7:00 pm (MH)		
WEDNESDAY	AARP Choir – 10:00 – 12:00 (FC)		
Jan 22			
THURSDAY	Shuffles Bridge – 11:00 am – 5:00 pm (FC)		
Jan 23	AA Young – 7:00 – 9:00 pm (FC)		
FRIDAY			
Jan 24			
SATURDAY	Yoga – Lisa Velasco (410-491-7311) 8:15 – 9:45		
Jan 25	(FC)		
	Grounds Clean Up 9:30 am – 11:30 am		
	Nar. Anonymous – 5:00 pm – 7:30 pm (FC)		
SUNDAY	Worship Service – 9:30 am (S)		
Jan 26	Christian Ed Class– 10:30 – noon (FC)		
juii 20	AA Mtg. 8:00 pm – 9:00 pm (FC)		

(S) Sanctuary (FC) Fellowship Center (MH) Memorial Hall

#### **RINGING OF THE BELLS**

#### SILENT MEDITATION

## **PRE-SERVICE MUSIC / PRELUDE**

#### WELCOME

#### **REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM**

# \* CALL TO WORSHIP Duck and Tirabassi: Touch Holiness

L: We worship the God who inhabits our world, and indwells our lives.

# C: We need not look up to find God, we need only look around: within ourselves, beyond ourselves, into the eyes of another.

L: We need not listen for a distant thunder to find God.

C: We need only to listen to the music of life, the words of children, the questions of the curious, the rhythm of a heartbeat.

ALL: We worship this God; who inhabits our world, and indwells our lives. Let us worship!

\*HYMN #450: Be Thou My Vision

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#### GATHERING PRAYER

Holy and merciful God, we have condemned racial injustice in our pronouncements, yet we cling to the privileges derived from social inequities. Let us confess our sin before God and our neighbor.

We have refused to heed your call to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with you, O God. We confess our slowness to do good, our blindness to injustice, our deferral of the dreams and hopes of the oppressed. We ought to be ashamed of our failures, yet we cling to private, selfish, imprisoning desires. Help us to name our sin, to claim responsibility for our actions and our inaction, and to change our behavior. Shake us from our sleep with your imperative to do justice; move us to action with the compassion of your grace, and give us courage to pay the price – however painful or costly – that your justice be done, on earth as it is in heaven. By your Spirit give us hope, and grow us toward your future. AMEN.

# Silent Confession

Deep in our hearts, we do believe that we shall overcome, one day; that the lion will lay down with the lamb. Jesus the Christ empowers us through forgiveness, and by His work in and through us. Let us be obedient, and make peace. The peace of Christ be with you!

#### And also with you!

Let us share glad signs of Christ's peace.

# CENTERING MUSIC #458 Thy Word is a Lamp Unto My Feet PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

**OT READING** Isaiah 55: 10-11 (p. 531) **ANTHEM** *The Word of God Incarnate* **GOSPEL LESSON** Luke 8: 4-15 (p. 51)

L. The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON: Guest Preacher: Rev. Dr. Tracy Keenan

#### **\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

#ResistHarm; Pat Luna and Molly Vetter (adapted)\*

We desire to love our enemies, and love those persons that hate us, whether in collective life or individual life, by looking at ourselves. Love is the only way.

We seek to discover the element of good in all people, acknowledging the image of God in all people. Love is the only way.

We wish to end the chain of hate and evil, and replace it with the strong and powerful element of divine love. Love is the only way. We ask for hearts free of the distortions of hatred. Love is the only way.

We aspire to live and serve with love's redemptive power. May we be instruments of your power, through love. Love is the only way.

Oh God, help us in our lives and in all of our attitudes, to work out this controlling force of love, this controlling power that can solve every problem that we confront, in all areas. AMEN.

#### **CONCERNS AND JOYS**

Please email, text or call your concerns directly to Pastor Terry at: Cell: 862-432-1196, Office: 302-539-3455 or <u>tdougherty@ovpc.org</u>

#### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

#### THE LORDS PRAYER

#### **CALL FOR THE OFFERING**

#### **OFFERTORY:**

# \*DOXOLOGY: #606: Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow \*DEDICATION

\*HYMN #331: God of Our Fathers, Whose Almighty Hand

# CHARGE

God has taken you by the hand, led you through the waters safely, and brought you to the fair shore. Now, in the spirit of Sankofa, "go back and get one!"; do for them as God has done for you!

#### BLESSING

**POSTLUDE:** 

We respectfully remind you of the ongoing expenses of our ministry, and of our beautiful campus. Please continue to donate. We can receive your donation by regular mail, online via PayPal or if you would like to drop your donation off, come to the office Monday through Thursday, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm and drop it in the mailbox outside of the office.

"May our gifts be a source of light, in a world that has learned to love darkness."

# **Prayer List**

John Burris	Alex Rhodes	Dottie Nicholson
Mo Gittman	Family of Elaine	Peggy Schaffer
(Maureen)	Jackson	Family of
Carol Kratch	Ruth Schafer	Charlie O'Neill
Family of	Jeff Neihammer	Pastor Bruce
Dick Peoples	Norbert Kraich	Gillette
The Family of Janice	Flora Beaver	Francis Carbine
Parris	Judy Reich	Andrea Miller
Pat Robinson	Cheryl Hartman	Owen Ricciardi
The Family of	The Family of	The Family of
Bob Clark	Dave White	Bill Wivel

Prayer requests will be kept on this list in the bulletin for three months unless the office hears otherwise.

If you need prayer for whatever reason, call Kathy Sheetz (302-539-2827) to initiate a chain of prayers. Please contact the office at 302-539-3455 or email <u>office@ovpc.org</u> to update the prayer list! Thank you!

Our live streaming services will begin at 9:20 with pre-service music with worship beginning at 9:25. If you happen to miss us live, please visit our YouTube page so you can worship with the recorded version.

LITURGIST: Al Tamilio

#### **SCRIPTURE READER:**

**GREETERS**: Jake and Jan Stavinga

# SANCTUARY FLOWERS - In honor of Ellen's birthday

#### Announcements 01/19/2025

#### <u>This Week</u>

- **Guest Preacher** January 19<sup>th</sup> @ 9:00 will be Rev. Dr. Tracy Keenan.
- Christian Ed Committee Meeting 5:00 6:30 pm at Bruce Hobler's home.
- **Deacons Meeting** Next Deacons meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, 7:00 9:00 in Memorial Hall.

## <u>Future Events</u>

- Food Pantry Grocery shopping lists have been replenished. Pick up one today so you can take advantage of sales and keep our hungry neighbors fed. Thank you for each and every item you contribute!
- **Mission Committee** –Scheduled for Monday, January 27<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 9:00 in the Fellowship Center.

#### <u>New Initiatives</u>

- January Mission Opportunity: Time and Talents.
- **2025 OVPC Flower Chart is available** If you are looking to purchase flowers for a special celebration or memorial, please sign up on the chart posted in the rear of the sanctuary. You can also contact the office @302-539-3455 or email <u>office@ovpc.org</u>. The cost is \$30.
- **Reminder 2025 Calendar Events** Please send your calendar events to the office so the 2025 calendar can be updated.

# **Ongoing Events**

- To work in Frankford Thrift Shop, contact Elaine Wolf.
- **Announcements**: All announcements are due to the office by Monday prior to the date you want it published.
- **OVPC Choir** Rehearsal has resumed and will continue weekly on Wednesdays at 6:30pm in the Sanctuary. Returning choir members and new voices alike are welcome to attend. If you are planning to be part of the Choir for the 2024-2025 season, please let Shannon know via email (<u>ShanFlynnMusic221@gmail.com</u>) or text (443-405-5799). Looking forward to a great year of making music together!

# Volunteers Needed

- **Greeters** If you are interested in volunteering, please use the sign-up sheet in the back of the church or call Pam Dougherty. Thank you
- Scripture Readers If you are interested in volunteering to read, please call the office or email at office@ovpc.org.

#### **Ocean View Presbyterian Church**

67 Central Avenue Office: (302) 539-3455 EMAIL: office@ovpc.org Website: <u>www.ovpc.org</u>

#### PASTOR

Rev. Terry Dougherty – Email: <u>tdougherty@ovpc.org</u> **ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT** Al Yoor – Email: <u>office@ovpc.org</u> **CEMETERY INFORMATION** 

TBD

#### **NEWSLETTER EDITORS**

TBD

#### WOMEN'S CIRCLE

Sue Baer – Email: slglbaer@aol.com

## SESSION for 2025

Jake Stavinga – Email: jdstavinga@gmail.com

Sue Baer – Email: <u>slglbaer@aol.com</u>

Amy Donahue - Email: donahueam@gmail.com

Bev Bailey – Email: <u>baileybev@aol.com</u>

Al Tamilio – Email: <u>altamilio@gmail.com</u>

#### **CLERK OF SESSION**

Ollie Robling – Email: <u>orobling@yahoo.com</u>

#### TREASURER

Elaine Wolf – Email: <u>Elainewolf523@comcast.net</u> MUSIC DIRECTOR

Shannon Flynn – Email: ShanFlynnmusic221@gmail.com

#### **DEACONS FOR 2025**

Kathy Sheetz – Email: <u>hsheetzfishon@verizon.net</u> Kris Taylor – Email: <u>taylor.kristina.r@gmail.com</u> Pam Dougherty – Email: <u>pddougherty@live.com</u> Bob Wolf – Email: <u>wolfbo@comcast.net</u> Alicia Tamilio – Email: <u>atamilio66@comcast.net</u> Elaine Wolf – Email: <u>elainewolf523@comcast.net</u>