

Ocean Views

OCEAN VIEW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DECEMBER 2023



From the Pastor: Terry Dougherty

Well, I finished my walk – and by that I mean my work, surely! – two days ago, I think it is, and I climbed up out of the bailey (alright, *village*) to my home. You see, I don't live in the townland; I am what some style a *Hill Bachelor*, living on my own up here. My home, like many others up and away, is hard to see unless you know where it is, for it is quite grown in by nature, even as it was set there in the first place. And I left there again, as evening drew on, because it is my habit as the holidays come on to go and dwell with those who have gone before me, in the little memorial ground. That is up high, above, and little visited, except by folk like me.

As I went, and as I stood, my thoughts became dark. You see, my mother and my father and my brothers are all there, below the ground, these many years. And, those wee wans that ever did come? They're gone away to grander places. They haven't kept in touch; neither have I. As I was there, the overpowering feeling and realization came over me, that I am the last of my name, and that when I am gone this sacred place will no longer know the name, and the stories, and the life we lived.

It hurt awfully, and I knelt down and put my hands over my face. And then – I don't know! – did I have a fit? Did I fall asleep? Something happened, for when I opened my eyes again, it was quite dark. Na Gealain Thuaidh (*Aurora Borealis*), what the

Scots folk call The Merry Dancers (*Na Fir Chlis*), were high and away; a very orange moon was just rising. It would not be a safe walk back down; "God save me", I thought.

'Twas then a bird, I've no idea what sort, appeared and hung over my head, all white below, and shining. I found I wanted nothing more than to follow it, so careless of my feet or head, I went where it went, keeping it above me. And who would think it? – I was led home. There I laid me down, and woke far too soon, to go to my appointed rounds.

Now as I've said, the holidays were coming on, and quickly, and the folks on my rounds wanted more than usual to visit. There were gifts of coin, and gifts of cookies, and gifts of conversation *go leor* (you guessed it, galore!); many a mug of tea at many a table. As the day went on, I will tell you certainly I began to feel hope, and then I began to feel there was a name for that hope, and the name was love.

That love, *cheardai* (friends) was all and only what I needed most; it's what we all need most. Thanks be to God, it's not hard come by!






I wish you love, and peace, and the time to savor them. *Nollaig sonas dhuibhe* (Happy Christmas, y'all!);

An Fil a Phoiste

Deacon Mission

Kristina Taylor

2023 Deacon Mission Update

MONTH	MISSION	AMOUNT
January 	2023 Time and Talent Surveys SERCAP ¹	30+ surveys returned \$960.00
February 	SOUPer Bowl of Caring	\$855.00 and many cans of soup!
March	One Great Hour of Sharing Special Offering (PCUSA)	\$1,067.00
April 	Sussex Crisis House ²	\$935.00
May	Pentecost Special Offering (PCUSA)	\$1,195.00
June <i>La Esperanza</i>	La Esperanza ³	\$760.00
July 	Operation SEAs the Day ⁴	\$965.00
August 	Pyle Center Emergency Fund (administered through South East Sussex Ministerium)	\$770.00



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
Diane Brown

Website
ovpc.org

Session
Susan Baer
Bev Bailey
Ray Keeney
Marlene Quinn
Jake Stavinga
Bob Wolf

(Clerk of Session)
Ollie Robling

Deacons
Gloria Bartholomew
Jim Berrie
Charlie O'Neill
Sue Sigvardson
Jan Stavinga
Kristina Taylor

Session Report

Ollie Robling, Clerk of Session

Monday, November 13, 2023

Shaped by God We Love and Serve

Attending: Rev. Terry Dougherty (Moderator), Bob Wolf, Ray Keeney, Bev Bailey, Marlene Quinn, Jake Stavinga, Elaine Wolf (Treasurer), and Ollie Robling (Clerk of Session). Sue Baer was absent due to surgery recovery.

The Session meeting was opened by moderator Pastor Terry Dougherty at 7:00pm with devotion and prayer.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

TREASURER'S REPORT

Elaine Wolf presented the Treasurers Report. The Profit & Loss statement is being revised to match the "Stmnt of Rev & Exp - Budget vs Actual YTD". This Stmnt of Rev vs Exp showed that YTD thru the end of October we are showing a deficit of only \$2921.

MOTION passed to receive the September Treasurers Report.

PASTORAL ANNUAL REVIEW:

Pastoral Review: Terry was dismissed from the meeting in order for the elders to conduct the annual pastoral review. The consolidated ratings and comments from the Session members' evaluations and the 11 congregation feedback letters were discussed. Terry was welcomed back into the meeting and the review was presented to him.

CLERK'S REPORT

MOTION passed to approve the docket for this meeting as modified.

MOTION passed to approve the Session minutes of the October 2, 2023 meeting.

Two MOTIONS passed via e-mail in October: (1) to pay Julius Jackson \$150 for his moderating the Safety & Security meeting and (2) permitting the OVPD to use our parking lot for overflow for an event.

Correspondence received since last meeting: 39 e-mails from Donna Scully, NCP, PC(USA) Store and Cindy Kohlmann.

Liturgists for December: Bob Wolf and Bev Bailey, with communion to be served on December 3 and 24. Next Vital Congregations meeting is November 29 at 6:30. There will be no meeting in December.

Next Session Meeting: December 11, 2023 at 7:00 PM in Fellowship Center.

Changes to the Roll in October:

Gain/Loss of Members: Peggy Manion joined on 10/2/23

Year to Date Membership: 82

MOTION passed to receive the Clerk's Report.

PASTOR'S REPORT

A written report was received from Pastor Terry and discussed.

MOTION passed to receive the Pastor's Report.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion passed to approve the 2024 Mission Schedule for the Deacons, the Mission Committee and the Sewing Circle.

MOTION passed for a Docket addition: Ray Keeney prepared and presented a flow chart of the organization of a church per the Book of Order. This will be discussed in more detail in the Dec. meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Barbara McFee to do "rounding" via ZOOM with Session members on Nov 16 @ 7:00 pm.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Special Project - Campus Safety - They should have a Safety & Security Manual developed in another month or two. The Task Force will be disbanded in early 2024 and turned over to the Facilities Committee to manage.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Christian Education - Bev Bailey, Sue Baer, Liaison

Sunday the 19th will be "Holy Moments" part 2 discussion.

Mission Committee - Mike Quinn, Marlene Quinn, Liaison

Chair of this committee for 2024 still unfilled.

Worship Committee - Eric Neumann, Sue Baer, Liaison

Advent times of prayer yet to be set.

Next Session Meeting: Dec. 11, 2023 @ 7:00pm in Fellowship Center

Meeting was adjourned and closed with prayer at 10:35pm.

Deacon Mission

Kristina Taylor

December Deacon Mission - Christmas Joy Offering

By giving to the **Christmas Joy Offering**, you honor God's gift of Jesus Christ by providing assistance to current and retired church workers in their time of need and help to

develop our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. Look for the Christmas Joy envelopes in your bulletin, in the pew racks, or ask a Deacon (*Gloria B., Jan S., Sue S., Charlie O. or Kris T.*).



Let us pray:

Loving God,

We thank you for the good news

Of Christmas and Jesus,
The perfect gift.

As we hasten to "bring him
laud"

With loving hearts, bless our
gifts

And bless our giving

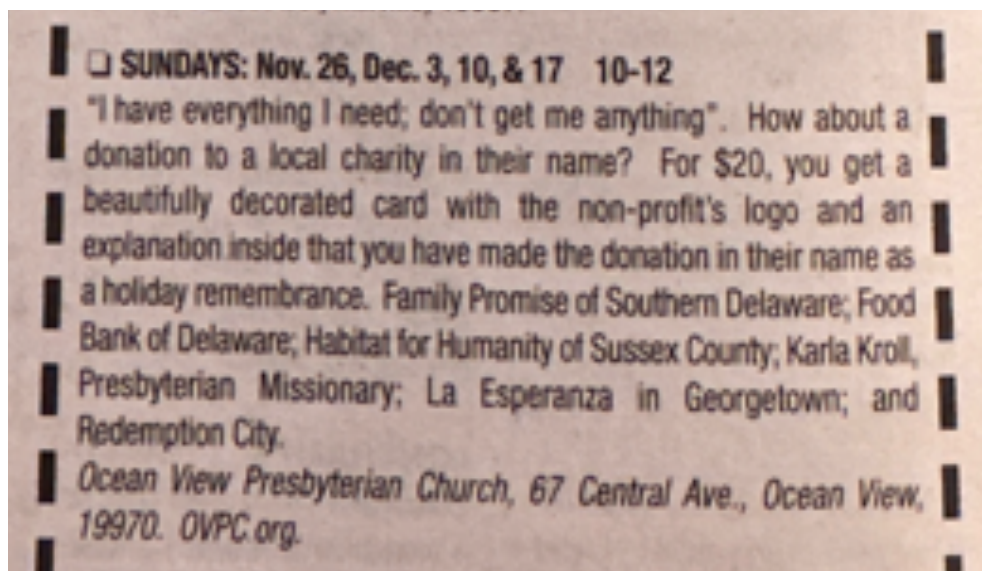
To the Christmas Joy
Offering.

That needs may be met,

And that all may know your
love.

Amen

In The News



Women's Sewing Circle

November 8, 2023

(Thanks to Marti Sommer for taking these notes in my absence.)

The meeting was called to order by Moderator, Ellen Neumann, followed by her prayer and prayer from Terry. Seven people were present.

Thanks to Bev and Lorie for providing refreshments.

The Purpose was recited.

Birthdays were acknowledged and Least Coin offering was accepted.

REPORTS

Secretary's minutes- approved.

Treasurer's report- closing balance \$14,231.41

Circle Mission report- accepted with Family Promise substituted for Lighthouse. See minutes of that meeting attached.

OLD BUSINESS

Nativity Festival- sign up for cookie baking passed.

Christmas Potluck Dinner - December 1st- Setup at 9:30 am

OVPC hosts Presbytery meeting on 11/28.

NEW BUSINESS

Paula Sims will install new officers at January meeting.

Church Decorating- 11/27 at 10 am.

Bev Bailey led Chapter 3 of our current Bible study.

Lorie Hartsig



Fully stocked cupboard waiting to supply the Sharing Pantry .



Lene Kuhblank	Dec. 4th	Beverly Stalnaker and Kerry Shull	Dec. 2nd
Bob Wolf	Dec. 7th		
Karen Rubin Hamilton	Dec. 15th		
Patrick Read	Dec. 18th		
Kathy Sheetz	Dec. 20th		
Eric Neumann	Dec. 20th		
Ronald Moritz	Dec. 21st		
Ruth Schafer	Dec. 25th		
Pam Price	Dec. 29th		

Opportunities for



- **Christmas Dinner** with the AARP Chorus - December 1st., 6pm
- **Nativity Festival** - December 9th and 10th, 10am to 2pm.



YARN meets on Monday, December 4th in Fellowship Center between 10-1 pm. Bring your lunch and any questions you may have about how and why we make prayer shawls. We will teach you how to knit or crochet if you have questions and we have lots of yarn and needles to share. We are a fun group of ladies and invite you to join us!

Worship Committee

Jennifer Read

Ocean View Presbyterian Church has purchased 20 large-print Bibles for the congregation to use. They will be put in pew racks throughout the sanctuary.

These Bibles are available for dedication in memory or honor of a loved one. For a donation, you can have your loved one's name on a book plate that will be placed inside the front cover of the Bible along with your name as the donor.

Please speak to Diane in the office or any member of the worship committee to make these arrangements. Member are:

Eric Neumann
Susie Baer
Kathy Sheetz
Jane Bonbright
Jen Read



NATIVITY FESTIVAL

Saturday
December 9th
10 am - 2 pm

*Many beautiful creches
and their stories.*

Ocean View Presbyterian Church

Nativity Festival 2023

Saturday, December 9th

Nativity Festival needs you!

To share your creche(s) :

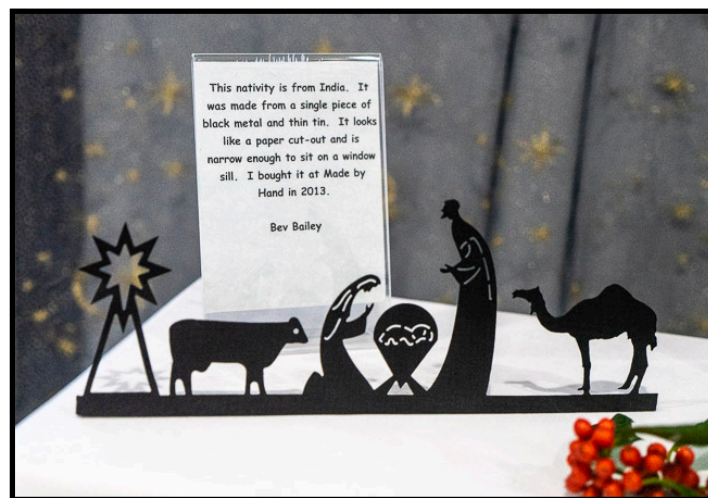
Give Jen Read the story of your creche.

Bring your creche to Memorial Hall to display on Friday Dec. 8th.

Also needed: cookies to share for the festival, leave in Memorial Hall on Dec. 8th.

Did you know?

Elsie Young took an idea her sister told her about and made it an annual event which OVPC has shared with the community for ten years - a sharing of not only our creches and their stories but also Christmas music from our choir, cookies and punch, and Christmas Spirit as well.



Elsie Turnbull Young

Oct. 9, 1933 to Nov. 1, 2023

Do what you can to show you care about other people, and you will make our world a better place.

Rosalyn Carter



What Are You Reading?

Lorie Hartsig

OVPC is a community of readers, whether within a book club or alone in a favorite reading spot. Some read to others or enjoy being read to. Send photos or just share what you are reading now. What have you really enjoyed and would recommend to others?

Think before you speak. Read before you think. Fran Lebowitz

Marlene Quinn: *Crow Mary* by Kathleen Grissom. I am reading it for my book group meeting in December.

Jim Hartsig: *The River We Remember* by William Kent Krueger.

Lorie Hartsig: *The Covenant of Water* by Abraham Verghese
The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store by James McBride

Pam Dougherty: I just finished the *Personal Librarian* (historical novel) by Marie Benedict & Victoria Christopher Murray. J. P. Morgan's personal librarian.
I am starting *Crow Mary* by Kathleen Grissom (historical novel based on the real life of Crow Mary).
Also reading *Prequel...An American Fight Against Fascism* by Rachel Maddow.
Just started *Absolution* by Alice McDermot

Marie Waehler: I just finished reading a book that's been a game-changer for me -- *Eat Everything: How to Ditch Additives and Emulsifiers, Heal Your Body, and Reclaim the Joy of Food* by Dr. Dawn Harris Sherling
I'm currently enjoying *A Family Farm in Tuscany, Recipes and Stories* from Fattoria Poggio Alloro, by Sarah Fioroni (owner of a family farm in Tuscany).

Terry Dougherty: *How to Inhabit Time* by James K. A. Smith



SCAM ALERT

- If you receive an unexpected call, text, or email requesting that you make a payment on your account, we recommend you check your account balance first.
- Bad actors may have gained access to your personal information such as address, account number, balance due and even last payment amount.
- Always confirm you are interacting with an authorized representative before engaging in any transaction.
- When instructed to make a payment through a link in an email, be sure the webpage you are redirected to is secure.
- Bad actors rely on misdialed phone numbers or making imposter calls from similar numbers to obtain your account and payment information. If you're unsure whether the person on the line is an authorized representative, hang up.
- If you see a misspelling, low-resolution image or graphic, or other mistakes and inconsistencies, delete the communication, or navigate away.
- Always check the email address of the sender.
- If the email has an unrecognizable address don't trust it.
- Never open links or attachments in unsolicited emails or text messages. They may execute a disguised program such as malware, adware, spyware, or viruses that can damage or steal your data.
- Some bad actors purchase similar website addresses, often with subtle typos or misspellings to take advantage of people who accidentally navigate to those sites. Once there, they may prompt you to make fake purchases, confirm or update your account credentials or install malware on your devices.
- Some sites may be accompanied by creative replicas that look like popular websites and may request you to confirm or update your account credentials.
- Always double-check that the web address you've typed into your address bar is correct.

NEED HELP?
Dial 2-1-1 Monday through Friday,
8AM-9PM. A free helpline that
connects you to local services.

2-1-1
Get Connected. Get Help.™

We're here to help wherever life takes you.

 Food	 Housing	 Health	 Employment
 Financial Assistance	 Crisis Intervention	 Support for Youth & Families	 Support for Seniors

DELAWARE 2-1-1
HAS RESPONDED TO OVER
ONE MILLION
REQUESTS FOR HELP.

✓ FREE
✓ CONFIDENTIAL
✓ BILINGUAL

United Way
United Way of Delaware

Local: Dial 2-1-1
Toll Free: 800-560-3372
Text: 898-211

**Third Annual Alternative
Christmas Gift
Market**

**Purchase donation cards to give
as Christmas gifts**

This year's charities:

**The Rev. Dr. Karla Koll,
OVPC Partner in Mission**

Redemption City

Food Bank of Delaware

**Family Promise of Southern
Delaware**

La Esperanza

**Habitat for Humanity of Sussex
County**

\$20 per card

Ocean View Presbyterian Church

Sundays, December 3, 10, and 17

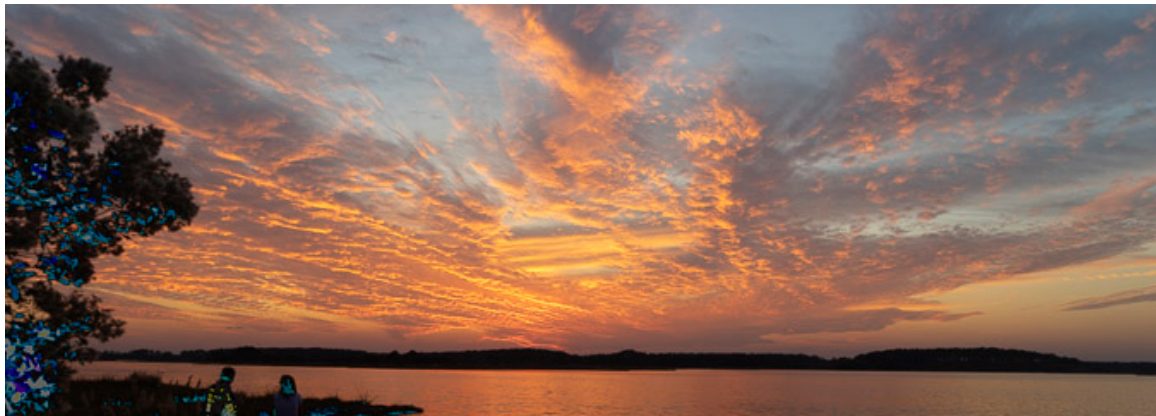
10:30 until noon

Fellowship Center

Blessing Bags

Marie Waehler

Delivery to Selbyville Middle School with the help Pam Davis, Student Liaison and custodial staff.



Said the king to the people everywhere,
"Listen to what I say!
Pray for peace, people, everywhere,
Listen to what I say!
The Child, the Child sleeping in the night
He will bring us goodness and light,
He will bring us goodness and light."

Crop Walk

Bob Doherty

This year's crop walk was on Sunday October 15th in the parking lot and gardens of Our Lady of Gaudalupe RC Church. The weather was clear with a light breeze.

Again this year ST. Ann's contemporary choir was there to entertain with music and song. Everyone in attendance had a chance to win a door prize.

Team OVPC had 14 members 7 guests and 4 puppies. We raised \$1125 online, \$1275 in checks, and \$22. Cash for a total of \$2422.

I had it totaled up and set to hand it over on Tuesday Oct. 24th.

Before I did I called a church member on a different manner. I was asked how we did on

the walk and if we met our goal. I said that our goal was \$3,000 and we raised \$2,422. I was asked to stop by the house to pick up a check for \$578 to make up the difference so we could meet our goal of \$3,000. We now have meet our goal ,and I handed in \$3,000.

This year's walk grand total is \$15,052.30. 25% of the grand total will stay local and will be equally divided among the member churches that have a food pantry.

I want to give a big thank you to everyone who supported the walk by being a walker, cheer leader and by making a donation to make the walk a success. Also a special thank you to Pastor Eloise Henry-Gordy and her team for all their hard work to make the walk possible.



Christmas Light

When everyone had gone
I sat in the library
With the small silent tree,
She and I alone.
How softly she shone!
And for the first time then
For the first time this year,
I felt reborn again,
I knew love's presence near.

Love distant, love detached
And strangely without weight,
Was with me in the night
When everyone had gone
And the garland of pure light
Stayed on, stayed on.

"Christmas Light" by May Sarton. Text as published in *Collected Poems 1930-1993* (W. W. Norton, 1993).

Photogenic

Lorie and Jim Hartsig



Dining and Donating to the Ministerium with thanks to Ocean View Brewery. November 13th.



Nancy and Bob Turner tending to their OVPC garden.





December is such a busy month both in our personal lives and at church, we will not be having a movie night this month. But plan to join us on Friday January 5th when we will start off a new year of fellowship, film, and fun!

Please remember to join us at OVPC for:

- Annual Christmas Dinner: December 1st at 6:00pm
- Advent Times of Prayer: from 6:00 – 6:20pm.
December 7th, 14th and 21st in the Sanctuary
- Annual Nativity Festival: December 9th from 10am-2pm
- Christmas Eve Candlelight Service: December 24th at 7pm

Looking for a Christmas gift for someone hard to shop for? Don't forget our Alternative Christmas Gift Market: December 3rd, December 10th, December 17th from 10:30 until Noon in Fellowship Center

If you have any suggestions for a movie you would like to see for movie night, please let Bob or Elaine know and we'll do our best to make it happen!

OCEAN VIEW
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
67 Central Ave
Ocean View, DE 19970

