

Ocean Views

OCEAN VIEW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

NOVEMBER 2023

From the Pastor: Terry Dougherty



*Let gratitude be the pillow upon which you kneel to say your nightly prayer.
– Maya Angelou*

**Greetings in Christ, Congregants, Friends, and Readers:
Peace be with you!**

November is, above all else, the month in which we give thanks; in both good seasons and bad. Thanks for what God has given, and thanks for how God has preserved us, even thanks that we are here for another day filled with challenges we did not want. Regardless of which we are experiencing, we will discover how much there is to be thankful for just as soon as we begin to look!

This is Poem 2, from Book 2, of *The Consolation of Philosophy*, by Boethius. Boethius was a Christian of the early 6th century, imprisoned (and to be executed) on the basis of his Christianity; in short, a martyr:

If free-handed Plenty should dispense riches from her cornucopia as plentiful as the sands cast up by the storm-tossed sea, or as the stars that shine in heaven on clear nights, people would not stop crying their miserable complaints.

Even though God were overgenerous with treasures of gold, and deigned to satisfy every plea; if God honored the ambitious with the greatest honors, still all this would not satisfy.

Ravenous greed would endeavor everything and then discover other wants. No bridle can restrain our disordered desires within reasonable bounds. Even when one is filled with great favors, they

burn with thirst for more. No person can be rich, who cries fearfully and considers themselves poor.

My late, and most dear, Mother-in-Law, Fran Duncan, would ever say (and her lovely daughter often quotes her!): “Be who you are, frog”. That is to say, no part of life comes to us because it is pre-ordained or deserved – good or bad! We take the lot we’re given day to day, thankful we may work, or rest, or both, with and inside that lot, for the sake of others and for our own sake. To take joy in doing that is well on the way to being a joy-filled person in all passes and times and circumstances. Gifts and benefits and blessings are invisible until we look at them! Merely seeing is not believing, we always say; I would add merely accepting is not doing, is not being! What God gives God gives abundantly; we are to not merely seek abundance (that is selfish), but to see abundance. It is there!

I hope you will come to the Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service of the Southeast Sussex Ministerium (it is here, as it has been in years past). Please bring, if you do, a note of gratitude. If it is for someone, give it to them. If it is more general, we will collect it in a basket, which we will bless! If you are

bringing baked mini-breads, THANK YOU! Honestly, it is one of my favorite services, each year.

I'm not going to go on; this is a letter, not a sermon: I love you all, and I have seen the love you have for one another. Let love do its work, and be thankful! Here's a poem from Sidney Lanier:

*As the marsh hen secretly builds on the watery sod,
Behold I will build me a nest on the greatness of God:
I will fly in the greatness of god
as the marsh hen flies
In the freedom that fills all the space
'twixt the marsh and the skies:
By so many roots as the marsh grass sends in the sod
I will heartily lay me ahold on the greatness of God:
Oh, like to the greatness of God
Is the greatness within
The range of the marshes, the liberal marshes of Glynn.*

May the boundless and beautiful grace and peace of God surround all your days,



Request from Ollie Robling, Clerk of Session

In November the Session will be having our annual performance review with Pastor Terry Dougherty. If you have any comments you would like to share with us for consideration please email them to me at orobling@yahoo.com or leave them in a sealed envelope in the office with my name on it. Any comments regarding Terry would need to be signed to be considered. We would like to hear from you no later than Friday October 20. Thank you for sharing your thoughts with the Session.

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, October 2, 2023

Shaped by God We Love and Serve

Attending: Rev. Terry Dougherty (Moderator), Susan Baer, Bob Wolf, Ray Keeney, Bev Bailey, Marlene Quinn, Ollie Robling (Clerk of Session), and Jake Stavinga.

The Session meeting was opened by moderator Pastor Terry Dougherty at 7:03pm with devotion and prayer.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Session interview with Peggy Manion for membership. It was a very good discussion and Session had a chance to get to know Peggy. Motion passed to accept her into membership and she was warmly welcomed to OCPC. The actual induction date TBD.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Bob Wolf presented the Treasurers Report. Elaine had done a look at the income vs payroll and expense numbers for the last 6 months and we show a shortfall of about \$40K. Only 30 offering envelopes have been ordered for 2024 and they will not have a member number printed on them. Individual labels will be printed for members who choose to use envelopes. Work on the 2024 Budget will commence in October.

MOTION passed to receive the September Treasurers Report.

CLERK'S REPORT

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

MOTION passed to approve the Session minutes of the September 11, 2023 meeting.

Correspondence received since last meeting: 10 e-mails from Donna Scully, NCP, PC(USA) Store and Cindy Kohlmann. Letters were written to the Hartings regarding their note and generous gift, and to Amy Donohue and Elaine Wolf regarding their letters to OVPC regarding the locking of the sanctuary doors during worship.

A Motion was proposed by Pastor Terry to add an additional communion on November 28, by intinction, to accommodate the Presbytery meeting here. The Motion passed.

Liturgists for November: Ray Keeney and Jake Stavinga, with communion to be served on November 5, 26 and 28.

Next Vital Congregations meeting October 31 at 6:30. The November meeting will be on Nov 30th.

Next Session Meeting: November 13, 2023 at 7:00 PM in Fellowship Center.

There will be a Congregational meeting on November 5 after worship.

Changes to the Roll in August:

Gain/Loss of Members: 1 member removed
- Jim Ellis

Year to Date Membership: 81

MOTION passed to receive the Clerk's Report.

PASTOR'S REPORT

A written report was received from Pastor Terry. Terry informed the Session that he will be the 5th member from here to attend the Montgomery AL meeting in 2024. Barbara McAfee and Cindy Kohlmann will be coming to OVPC for a "routine visit from the Presbytery" and Nov 2, 9, and 16 were suggested possible dates.

MOTION passed to receive the Pastor's Report.

NEW BUSINESS

Marlene Quinn reported that the Personnel Committee did performance reviews with Shannon Flynn and Diane Brown and they were both very positive. The Personnel Committee would like to thank all the members who took the time to send them feedback comments on both employees.

A Motion was received from the Safety & Security Task Force to hold a meeting after worship on October 15th with all members of the congregation who are interested to express views and opinions regarding the locking of Sanctuary doors during worship. The Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

none

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Special Project - Mission -The Labyrinth - the Committee has signed a contract with Sipple & Sons to make the stone sign for the Labyrinth at a cost of \$3585 which is being paid by personal donations.

Special Project - Com/Tech - Bob Wolf is investigating streaming and copyright licenses.

Special Project - Grounds - Paving Parking Lot - no update

Special Project - Campus Safety - All safety equipment has been installed now, including the door peek holes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Christian Education - Bev Bailey
Sue Baer, Liaison

The 1st, 3rd, 4th, and 5th Sundays after worship each month

will be set aside on the OVPC calendar for Christian Ed.

Next Session Meeting: 11/13/23 @ 7:00pm in Fellowship Center

Meeting was adjourned and closed with prayer at 10:28pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Ollie Robling, Clerk of Session



Quarterly Financial Report

Bob Clark

OVPC QUARTERLY FINICIAL REPORT YEAR TO DATE FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 09/30/2023

Below is the year to date income and expenses for OVPC. Contact Bob Clark if you have any comments or questions.

	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter
Income:	\$76,589	\$122,174	\$153,406
Salaries and Expenses Paid:	\$53,168	\$102,071	\$165,403
Deficit or Surplus:	\$23,451	\$20,103	(\$11,997)
Money on hand at the end of the period:	\$31,523	\$27,273	\$11,579

NOTE: Income and Salaries and Expenses Paid categories are cumulative balances.

REMINDER The Finance Committee continues to feel, indications are we will still be short at least \$20,000 at the end of the year. We anticipate there will be a need to transfer at least \$10,000 from our brokerage account to the General Fund account.

The Committee would like to encourage you think about your financial situation for next year as we will once again be looking at a deficit budget.



I read the following essay in a little book titled, "Quiet Places of the Heart in Winter." It reminded me of our OVPC Prayer Shawl Ministry. Each time we begin a new prayer shawl, we are asked to lift up prayers for the person who will eventually be gifted with the shawl, praying that it will bring to that person peace and comfort during whatever life challenge they are facing. Marie Waehler

BLUE RIBBON LOVE

Do not forget to do good and to share,
for with such **Bread** sacrifices God is well pleased.
Hebrews 13:16

One day while driving down a country road, a woman named Ruth passed a small, wooden house with a sign outside that read, "Quilts for Sale." She stopped, knocked on the door, and was greeted by Martha, a little old woman in a faded gingham dress.

Martha led Ruth to a large cupboard and showed her beautiful quilts of every color and pattern imaginable. Pinned on each one was a blue ribbon.

"I make quilts, too," Ruth said, "but I've never been able to win a blue ribbon."

Martha replied, "My child, maybe your quilts don't have heart. Do you only want the blue ribbon? Every quilt of mine was made with someone special in mind."

We live in a day of shallow superlatives. Entertainers and athletes perform feats hailed "the greatest" by the world. But truly great human endeavors are those done for Jesus with some needy person in mind. And they bear the mark of eternal excellence.

By Dennis J. Dehaan: Our Daily

Women's Sewing Circle

October 11, 2023

The meeting was called to order by Moderator Ellen Neumann who opened with prayer. The PW Purpose was recited.

REPORTS

Secretary's minutes were approved as corrected.

Treasurer's report stated \$1154 JUMBLE profit and balance on hand \$13,232.79.

Circle Mission will meet on November 1 at 3 pm in Fellowship Center to decide which charities will receive donations for the year. **Please attend and voice your input!**

OVPC Mission- Following worship on November 12, coffee hour will include information about this holiday's alternative giving opportunities.

Women's Thank Offering will be collected at the door following worship on November 12th.

Sunshine- A new person is needed for this task! (Marie Waehler will offer info.)

OLD BUSINESS

November 6- Ocean View Brewery donates 10% of the entire day's earnings to the Ministerium.

November 21- Community Ecumenical Thanksgiving service. We need bakers to make small loaves of bread to distribute.

November 28 - Presbytery meeting at OVPC with dinner before and afterwards.

December 1- Christmas Pot Luck Dinner with AARP to entertain.

December 9- Nativity Festival

February 14 (Ash Wednesday)- Congregational soup and salad supper.

February 28- Ecumenical Lenten Luncheon at OVPC.

NEW BUSINESS

Lord Baltimore ES has reached out to Circle members to donate wrapped Christmas gifts of games, toys and books to needy children. We will offer 10 gifts.

Our new Bible Study entitled SACRED ENCOUNTERS THE POWER and PRESENCE of JESUS CHRIST in Luke-ACTs was led by Marti Sommer.

Our next meeting is November 8, 2023.

Following the reciting of the Mitzpah, the meeting was adjourned.

Lorie Hartsig



Randy Bartholomew	Nov. 6th
Dave Sergison	Nov. 10th
Karen Colwill	Nov. 14th
Kerry Shull	Nov. 14th
Sandra Gayle	Nov. 15th
Bob Clark	Nov. 16th
Charles O'Neill	Nov. 16th
Marti Sommer	Nov. 16th
Tom Bentz	Nov. 20th
Bill Kester	Nov. 20th



Joni and Ray Keller	Nov. 24th
---------------------	-----------



Kathy remembers her knitting skills.



YARN meets on Monday, November 6th 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!

Jumble

September 30th



Crop Walk



Bob Turner and family in Myrtle Beach doing their own crop walk.



**Coming
Soon**



NATIVITY FESTIVAL

**Saturday
December 9th
10 am - 2 pm**

*Many beautiful creches
and their stories.*

Ocean View Presbyterian Church

**SCAM
ALERT**

Medicare Fraud: Shut It Down

The best way to stop Medicare fraud? Help prevent it in the first place. Follow these 3 tips to protect yourself from scammers:

- 1. If you get a call, text or email asking for your Medicare Number, don't respond.** Don't give your Medicare card or Medicare Number to anyone except your doctor or people you know should have it. Remember, **Medicare will never call you** unprompted and ask you for your personal information.
- 2. Check your Medicare Summary Notices (MSNs) or claims statements carefully.** If you see a charge for a service you didn't get or a product you didn't order (like a COVID-19 over-the-counter test), it may be fraud.
- 3. If you suspect fraud, report it at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227).** Visit [Medicare.gov](https://www.medicare.gov), the official source for Medicare information, to learn more about preventing Medicare fraud.

Deacon's Committee

Sue Sigvardson

Southern Delaware Education Foundation is a non-profit that helps people in poverty through education. It serves the unemployed and underemployed of Sussex County. The organization provides 75% of the cost of workforce development courses. The student must raise the other 25%.

The scholarship can be used for workforce development courses, including but not

limited to environmental, hospitality, business and early childhood classes.

Residents with the boundaries of Southern Delaware and who demonstrate a need for financial assistance may apply.

This is the Deacon's mission for the month of November. 100% of donations go to the organization.

Thank you.

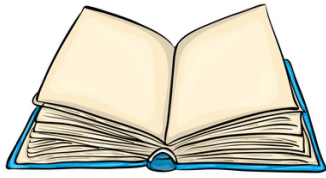


For the wonder of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale and tree and flower,
sun and moon and stars of light.

Opportunities for



- **Movie Night** at the Wolf's -NOVEMBER 3 (see announcement on last page)
- **Dine and Donate** at Ocean View Brewery NOVEMBER 6 to benefit the Ministerium
- **Coffee Hour** in Memorial Hall after worship, showing a preview of Alternative Holiday Giving by Mission Committee NOVEMBER 12th
- **Ecumenical Thanksgiving** worship service at OVPC NOVEMBER 21st



What Are You Reading?

Lorie Hartsig

We read to know we're not alone. C.S.Lewis

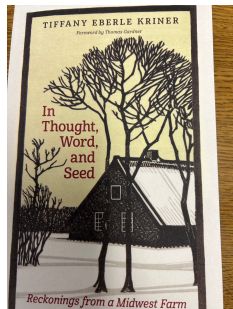
OVPC is a community of readers, whether within a book club or alone in a favorite reading spot. Some read to others or enjoy being read to. Send photos or just share what you are reading now. What have you really enjoyed and would recommend to others?

Jim Hartsig: *The Curious Charms of Arthur Pepper* by Phaedra Patrick

Lorie Hartsig: *Nineteen Steps* by Millie Bobby Brown
Out of Nowhere by Sandra Brown

Pam Dougherty: *North Woods* by Daniel Mason
Enough by Cassidy Hutchinson and will begin *The River We Remember* by William Kent Krueger

Terry Dougherty:



This, plus many of my books came from Hearts and Minds Books, York, PA. Owner Byron Borger sends regular recommendations and reviews.

Cindy Benjamin: *Stronger* by Cindy McCain

Elsie Young: *Mad Money* by Jodi Picoult (Book Club)
First Ladies (learned a lot at the beginning but lost interest and did not finish)

BTW: If you loved *Lessons in Chemistry* as I did, the film version is streaming on AppleTV on Friday evenings. It is very well done.

Please feel free to tell us what you are reading.

OVPC's Annual Mission Fair

Sunday, November 12, 2023

10:30-12:00 after church service

Coffee and pastries will be served.

**Come and meet representatives from
the six charities we will be supporting
in our Alternative Gift Market.**

**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

**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

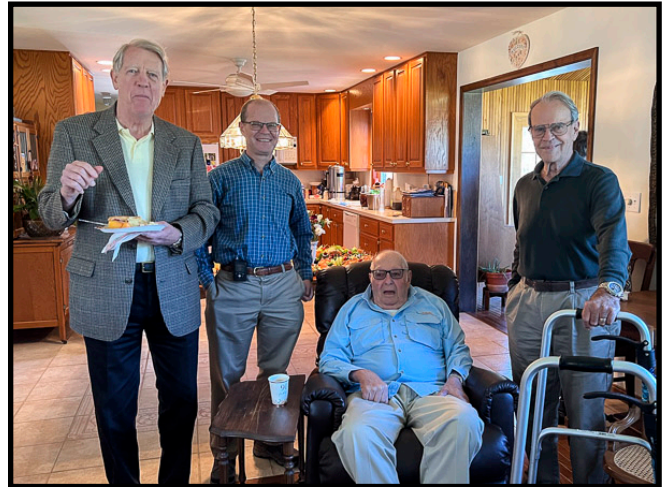
Ocean View Presbyterian Church

Sundays, November 26, December 3, 10, and 17

10:30 until noon

Fellowship Center

Elsie's 90th Birthday Party



Montreat

Terry Dougherty

Pastor Terry Went Down to Montreat

Thank you, OVPC, members all, and members of Session: thank you that one of my terms of call is to have a deliberate, self-guided program of continuing education. At this point, I could stuff a thick portfolio with notes, and papers, from the conferences and retreats I have attended in person, and another really thick one (see the high middle shelf in my office) with the Zoom conferences and programs I have participated in - I don't say this to boast, but to acknowledge that my education was not complete after Princeton, and that it never will be.

The most recent, as you know, was my Monday through Thursday jaunt to Montreat, North Carolina the second week of last month. It was a LOT of driving, summed up in the last ½ hour by the suddenness and beauty of the mountains at the border of North Carolina and Tennessee; that's where Montreat lies.

I was there for the (spelt and spoken carefully, joked OFTEN) *HOLY SHIFT* conference; designed as a partial analysis and answer to the ground shifting under the Mainline Church (and, now, evangelical churches and non-denominational churches) through the United States. Statistics (these were two of the most compelling presentations, to my surprise), analysis of how we got here, and slivers of hope for the future shared the desks and the main stage/ Worship space the presenters shared.

The keynote address was given by Diana Butler Bass, on Monday night (she could not be present for the entire conference). She offered a compelling historical analysis of the current historical and ecclesial moment, with full attention to the sequelae of the pandemic. Her prescription for the Mainline? A surprising one: that we return to our past strengths in education; specifically for the sake of helping the wider public with critical thinking. As well, that bent toward more

sophisticated thought could be addressed to where we are spiritually, not just socially. Bass advocates for robust Church Schools, Christian Education, and for denominational emphasis on denominational colleges - heady stuff!

The most impactful thing for me, though, as mentioned above, were two sessions (a plenary, in which he substituted for Kendra Creasy Dean, who could not be there, and a workshop) with Dr. Scott Thumma, a social scientist who works out of Hartford Seminary (UCC). He heads up a huge, multi-year analysis of churches of all sizes across the United States, focused on their attendance and their methods; the work is funded by the Lilly Foundation. As an aside, it is not too late for our own church to sign on as a participant, should we so wish! Feel free to ask me about it; it's too much to share here! I will be sharing with Session, Vital Congregations, and the cohort of New Castle Presbytery participants (pastors and facilitators) in Vital Congregations. Dr. Thumma carefully dissected how grave the crisis is, and pointed out where successes lie hidden amongst the rubble! Sobering, yet hopeful.

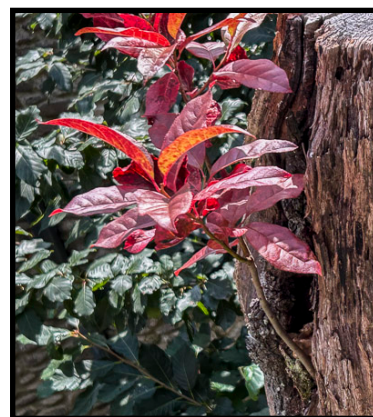
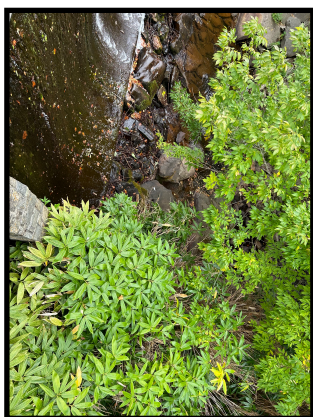
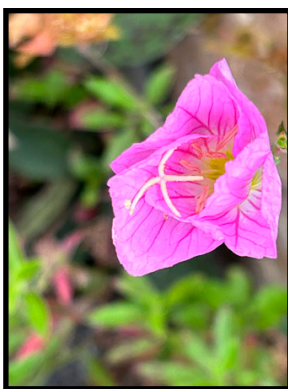
I also sat a workshop on missional engagement called Paying Attention. Much of what we learned there dovetails with the online course I am taking with Austin Theological Seminary on neighborhood engagement; that runs through next April. To be honest, I am struggling with the commitment of time; I also will be seeking to put together a team here at OVPC for some of the work.

This is getting long, but I would be wrong not to tell you about the musicians at Montreat: they call themselves collectively *The Current*, and I can't think of the last time I was so inspired by a group of VERY young people. Capable? No, superb! Spiritual? Oh yes! Committed to their faith? Like few people I

have met! Everybody there who wished to go enjoyed the (sponsored) treat of a lovely glass of beer, and an interview session with these seven "youth" at *The Railyard*, in bustling downtown Montreat (for those who have never been, that's a fond joke). We all came

away inspired, impressed, and with our hope in the next generation fully justified!

As I explained to Jim Hartsig, when I went I was struggling with a very balky knee, so I have no photos from the mountain walks I had hoped to enjoy. I hope the photos I did share will satisfy...





Join us for dinner and a movie on **Friday November 3rd** at Wolf's house. We will enjoy fellowship and a potluck meal at 5:30 and will get the movie going around 7:00.! If you would like to bring something to share that's great but don't worry if you can't - you are still more than welcome! Keep your ears out or talk with Elaine about a main course for the meal. If you would like to volunteer to provide it please let Elaine know.

This month in honor of Veterans Day we will be showing the 2009 film **'Taking Chance'** starring Kevin Bacon. Based on actual events, this is the story of Marine Lt. Col. Michael Strobl who volunteers to accompany the body of fallen soldier Pfc. Chance Phelps from Dover to his home in Wyoming. Along the way, there are many, many small and random acts of kindness and grace. A wonderful tribute to those lost by the evil war brings and those who continue to serve in ways we cannot even imagine.

[SEE A CLIP OF THE MOVIE HERE](#)

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

