

OCEAN VIEWS



OCEAN VIEW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

APRIL 2024



From the Pastor: Terry Dougherty

The General Prologue to the Sussex County Tales

About the time that April's mists
Have moistened March's earthen fists,
People take stock of their cash in hand,
And head for sun, and surf, and sand.
From Baltimore, Philly, and D.C.
They make for the beach at Bethany –
To birdwatch, or to ride the surf,
To cycle, or to tread the turf;
To fish in inlets, or at sea,
To walk, or run, for charity.
To shop in outlets, or for fine art,
To give their boredom a nice jump start!
They walk the boards, or run the trails;
They leave behind their [darned] emails!
While red sunsets and bright sunrise
Punctuate cerulean skies,
Who could make a better bet?
Still pretty cheap! And not hot yet!

Crabby Chowder

Apologies to you, gentle reader, and to Geoffrey Chaucer, whose General Prologue to the Canterbury Tales I have now mangled! But the Tales would be a fine (if difficult) document for churches to ponder: a wide variety of people, thrown together by one purpose, could easily be construed as a congregation...

All of the above is because I, as a child of the Jersey Shore, know the time folks begin to weekend and vacation always will move earlier, and later, than the classic three months of Summer. We can expect visitors now, and for a long while; not at the crisis level of high summer, but visitors. We live in a beautiful place; we are privileged to live in it. But the reality is, we also have to deal with the facts on the ground: gated communities are only the most prominent sign of the unaffordability of life here, and that trend is only rising (were I not employed, Pam and I could not afford to live here!). As does happen in cycles, wherever land value (on whatever basis, real or imaginary) rises, we are in fact driving original inhabitants away, and creating a place that selects who can live in it. We welcome visitors, and, if we are honest, wish them well then wish them gone!

As church, we can and should stand in the gap for those visitors, showing real hospitality, and

B

for the workers who can't afford to live here, showing them love, kindness and gratitude. Already, our Sharing Pantry is a tangible announcement of our love: it is costly (thank you to all who give in this way; it doesn't show in our budget!!!), and it is gracious. We make no demands of those who use it: working mothers, minimum wage earners, homeless and food insecure persons from every walk of life. We can afford to be proud of this, and humbled by it. For if we lose track of being simultaneously grateful and kind, we've lost track of our god, and all god's gifts that we, too, enjoy. And who, to paraphrase Paul, is more to be pitied than those who live on false understandings? Who can be granted the grandest and fairest vision, and behave as though it isn't there?

Charlie Peacock and Andi Ashworth, in their book *Why Everything That Doesn't Matter Matters So Much*, say it better than I can (p. 203): "*Your understanding of what is real and trustworthy is still in development. In many ways, you may not know what you don't know. A mix of humility and openness, confidence and grit, and dependence on the Spirit guide all of this. But on any given day, the mixture can be heavily skewed toward human determination – doing what it takes to make it happen. Sometimes, this is courage. Other times, foolishness. You might not know which for years to come.*"

Be at peace, with your neighbors and yourselves,

Pastor Terry



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
Jen Read
Jake Stavinga
Bob Wolf

(Clerk of Session)

Ollie Robling

Deacons

Amy Donahue
Pam Dougherty
Charlie O'Neill
Kathy Sheetz
Sue Sigvardson
Kristina Taylor

Newsletter Editors

Lorie and Jim Hartsig

Session Report

Ollie Robling, Clerk of Session

Monday, March 11, 2024

Shaped by God We Love and Serve

Attending: Rev. Terry Dougherty (Moderator), Bob Wolf, Susan Baer, Jacob Stavinga, Bev Bailey, Jen Read, Ollie Robling (Clerk of Session), Elaine Wolf (Treasurer), Jim Waehler (Facilities Committee)

The meeting was opened by moderator Pastor Terry Dougherty at 7:07pm with devotion and prayer.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Jim Waehler (Facilities Committee) presented the current makeup of the Committee and the fact that members of the Security Task Force will be join him on the Committee. A more active effort will be made to reach out to more organizations who might want to rent our facilities.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Elaine reported that all accounts have been reconciled. A revised Finance Committee Job Description was reviewed and a MOTION for Session to approve the modification to Finance Job Description relating to composition of the Committee so it can be put into place immediately passed.

MOTION passed to accept the February Financial Reports and the Treasurers Report.

CLERK'S REPORT

MOTION passed to approve the docket for this meeting.

MOTION passed to accept the Session minutes of the February meeting.

Correspondence received since last meeting: 12 e-mails from Donna Scully, NCP, PC(USA)

Store and Cindy Kohlmann, a thank you letter from Ministry Engagement & Support, and transfer request letters for George and Pam Price.

Liturgists for April : Jen Read and Sue Baer with communion on April 7.

Next Vital Congregations meeting April 4 and 11, 2024.

Next Session meeting April 8, 2024

Changes to the Roll:

Deaths: none

Funerals: none

Baptisms: none

Marriages: none

Gain/Loss of Members: Al & Alicia Tamilio joined

Year to Date Membership: 76

MOTION passed to approve the Clerk's Report.

PASTOR'S REPORT

A written report was received from Pastor Terry and discussed. MOTION passed for Terry to take Study Leave Days April 15th – 18th. Terry will also take a Study Day March 20th to attend Benevolent Community of Delaware Summit and will report back to the Mission Committee.

MOTION passed to approve the Pastor's Report.

NEW BUSINESS

Session received an email request from Amy Peoples to use half of memorial funds donated in Dick's name to install a railing along the steps to the pulpit. Several contractors contacted for proposals said they could not do it

as there was no way to make it sturdy enough to guarantee their work. Alternate solutions were discussed.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion regarding locking of the Sanctuary doors after worship begins was tabled until the June meeting.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Special Project - Mission Committee –The Labyrinth – Sipple is doing the granite monument and he is currently extremely backed up, so this will be delayed.

Special Project - Com/Tech – no update

Special Project - Grounds – Paving Parking Lot – no update

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Christian Education – Bev Bailey – distributed a schedule of CE



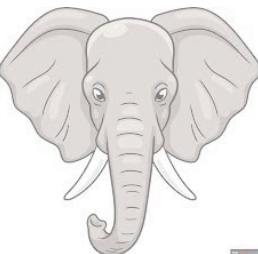



events for the period of March to May. - Sue Baer, Liason

The meeting was adjourned with prayer by Pastor Terry at 10:00pm.

THE VITAL CONGREGATIONS TEAM INVITES YOU TO EXPLORE..

"Who We Are and Who We Can Become."

APRIL 28, 2024 – 9:00am

 <p>COME EARLY AND HAVE SOME REFRESHMENTS BEFORE WORSHIP!</p>	 <p>COME AND ADD YOUR VOICE TO THE CONVERSATION WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!</p>	 <p>HAVE SOME FUN AND TAKE YOUR TURN AT THE FIRST EXERCISE THAT YOUR TEAM COMPLETED</p>
 <p>SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS AND MORE REFRFESHMENTS!</p>	 <p>CASUAL WORSHIP IN MEMORIAL HALL</p>	 <p>ARE YOU CURIOUS YET??</p>

Womens Sewing Circle

March 13, 2024

Lorie Hartsig

The meeting was called to order by Moderator Susan Baer with thanks to Nancy and Ellen for our goodies. Eleven members were present. Pastor Terry and Sue offered poems and prayer. The PW Purpose was recited and we were reminded of April birthdays: Sue Rizer and Sue Baer both on April 4th. April hostesses are Sue B. and Kathy S.

REPORTS

Secretary's minutes were approved as sent to members electronically.

Treasurer's report is included and states closing balance is \$12,338.36

OVPC Mission reports a Simple Supper will be served this Friday at 6 pm. Donations can be given to Society of Saint Andrew.

Session update- there is a need for more ppl to serve on the Facilities Committee.

OLD BUSINESS

Four women attended the **PW Retreat** last weekend. "Living Your Faith" was the topic.

Mother's Day **Gifts of Women** service will have Paula Simms as speaker.

Sharing Pantry-Kathy Sheetz reported asking the owner of a van who was taking most of the products from SP last weekend, "why?" He replied that he shares with a neighborhood of three families. After much discussion it was decided with a vote of 10-1 that the following note be placed in the pantry:

"Please limit yourself to 10 food items so that we may be of service to others as well. Thank you and God bless."

NEW BUSINESS

A vote was taken as to who would be willing to support and participate in the **Heavenly Luncheon** this year on July 24th. An unanimous acceptance of the date and planned activity was made. Motion carried to again sponsor this activity.

Labyrinth walks will be offered on Monday through Wednesday of Holy Week from 12-1 pm with Bev Bailey answering questions.

Following Bible study led by Bev and the saying of the Mitzvah, the meeting was adjourned.



Peter Maurer	April 3rd
Susan Baer	April 4th
Sue Rizer	April 4th
Sandy White	April 10th
Dottie Nicholson	April 11th
Pam Dougherty	April 20th
Jim Bonbright	April 23rd
Jim Ellis	April 26th

Marge and Jerry Egger	April 10th
Ellen and Eric Neumann	April 30th



The Deacons and our Session Liaison. Photo by Frank Duffy.

YARN meets on Monday, April 1st 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

Jen Read

The Worship Committee is hosting coffee hour on April 14. In addition to welcoming the Duffys as new members, we will have awareness displays to let the congregation know about Worship Committee responsibilities to OVPC and our projects throughout the year.

We will also have a celebration of the Holy Lands during coffee hour. There are several members of OVPC who have been fortunate enough to visit that area. The Worship Committee invites them to share the photos, slides, and mementos that they have brought back from their travels. It's a part of the world which may no longer be open for tourists, and we could enjoy their trips vicariously through the memories of our friends.

Please call Jane Bonbright, Kathy Sheetz, or Jen Read to make those arrangements.

Breathtaking

When all the branches are bare
and despair and death
are the air
then from the root
of breath
and the shoot
of Jesse, Jesus and us
beginning
again

Thomas Bentz





Medicare.gov

Here are 3 tips to protect yourself from Medicare fraud and scams:

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.
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, it may be fraud. **If you suspect fraud, report it at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227).**
3. Guard your Medicare card like it's a credit card.



Deacon Mission
Kristina Taylor

SAVE THE DATE

OCEAN VIEW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH DEACONS say:

“Thank you!”

for your support of the Missions of our Church.

CONGREGATION POTLUCK DINNER



FRIDAY, MAY 31st at 6:00 p.m.

MEMORIAL HALL

Speaker from Read Aloud Delaware/Sussex County
Ms. Stacy Penaranda

Deacon's April mission is Read Aloud Delaware/Sussex County, please donate generously.

Vital Congregations Team

Jen Read

The Vital Congregations Team invites you to explore "Who We Are and Who We Can Become". Join us on April 28, 2024. We hope you'll join us at 9:00 am for this important conversation.

The OVPC Vital Congregations (VC) Team has been meeting since last summer to address topics and issues of importance to our church. We have explored such values as trust, joy, conflict, values, courage, and how each of these affects our church and its members as we interact with one another.

Now we are prepared to share what we have learned with you, our congregation, and get your feedback. To do this, we have planned an informal worship service on Sunday, April 28, in Memorial Hall. The service itself will begin at 9:30 am, but we will begin at 9:00 am with several small-group activities that will get you started thinking. Refreshments will be served; grab some fruit or a pastry and some coffee and join us for a small-group opening. An abbreviated worship service will begin at 9:30, and then at 10:15 we will go back into small groups where we share our opinions and experiences on the following:

"What did you value about a church you formerly attended?"

"What do you value about OVPC?"

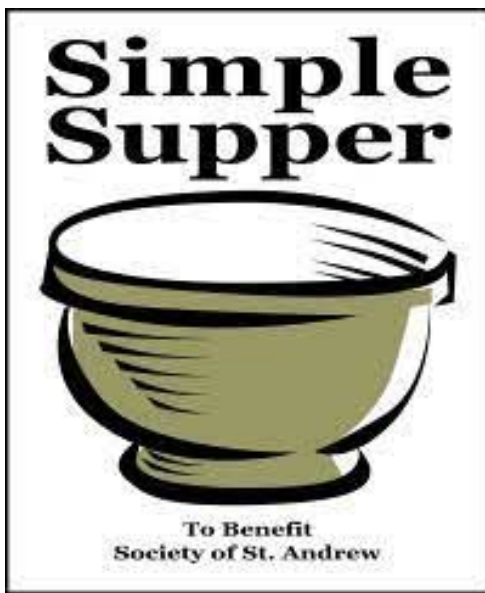
"What are your hopes for OVPC?"

"What can the congregation do to make sure OVPC continues to thrive?"

We have learned that these "listening circles" are the best way to find out what's going on, what members think and feel, and to give each person an opportunity to offer feedback and reflection.

We on the "VC" Team hope to develop a good structure which encourages healthy interaction which, in turn, will be lived out in relationships within our church community.

After the listening circles themselves have had time to answer these questions, they will report back to the whole group with their suggestions. There will be time for questions. The gathering will be closed with prayer by Pastor Terry.

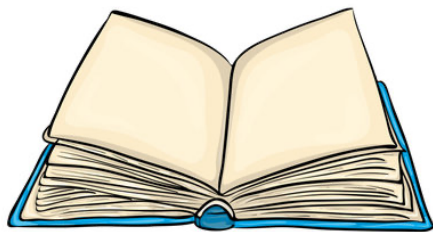


Pick one: either rice and beans or baked potato. Nothing else. That is all food deprived people may have for dinner.



Jean Siers tells how the Society of St. Andrew brings people together to harvest and share healthy food, reduce food waste, and build caring communities by offering nourishment to hungry neighbors.





What Are You Reading?

“Feed Your Head”

Grace Slick

Lorie Hartsig: **The House on Mango Street** by Sandra Cisneros...the story of a young Latino girl growing up in Chicago. Told in a series of short glimpses into her life, it is a funny and descriptive and beautiful book. A quick read unless the reader returns to pages again and again for phrases like, “*the dog is big, like a man dressed in a dog suit, and runs the same way its owner does, clumsy and wild with the limbs flopping all over the place like untied shoes.*”

Mostly What God Does by Savannah Guthrie....such a simple, meaningful message: God loves us...his loving us is a certainty. The author substantiates this through Scripture and her own personal experiences. Her bibliography is extensive.

The Fury by Alex Michaelides

The Teacher by Freida McFadden was a quick read while reading the others. A story of hurtful secrets and long-awaited revenge.

LEGACY A Black Physician Reckons with Racism in Medicine by Uche Blackstock, MD In her memoir, this is the author’s journey through medical training and a career as a doctor of emergency medicine and the realization of the inequality of care to non-white patients.

Jim Hartsig: **The Mountain In The Sea** by Ray Nayler

Whalefall by Daniel Kraus

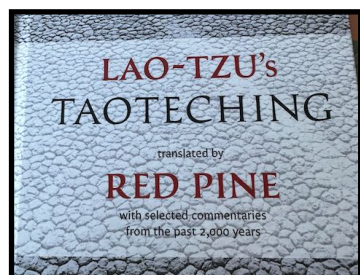
Pam Dougherty: **Someone Else’s Shoes** by Jojo Moyes (book club book)

Demon Copperhead by Barbara Kingsolver (book club book)

Deacon King Kong by James McBrid

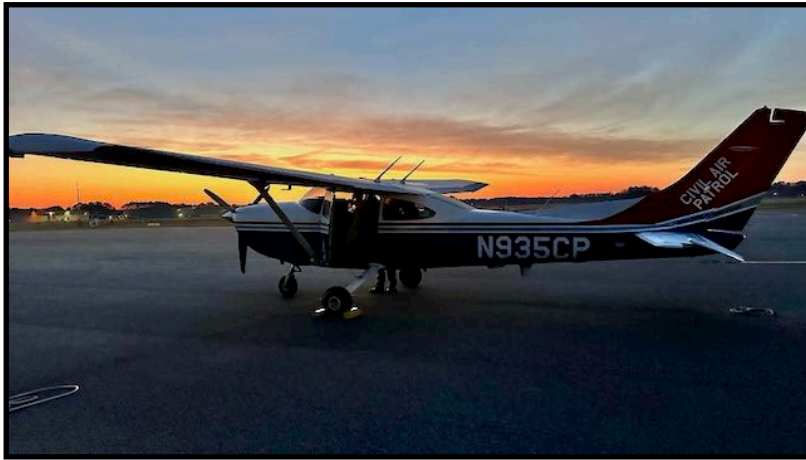
Marie Waehler: **This Time Tomorrow** by Emma Straub's on loan from Lorie. I've just begun, but like it already. One sentence captured my attention: "Her father was heavily pregnant with death, and there was little to do but wait...." This is a time-travel novel which Lorie knows I enjoy.

Terry Dougherty:



Photogenic

Bob Turner



Aircraft pre flight ready.



The flight crew (me the backwater being the aerial photographer).



Sunrise over the Atlantic Ocean from 4,000 feet altitude.



Tangier island from 6500 feet altitude.



Backseat Bob.

Photogenic

Lorie, Jim Hartsig and Bob Turner



Civil Air Patrol, Delaware Wing, Coastal Patrol Base 2 Memorial Composite Squadron recently held a special recognition promotion.



Kerry Shull , Deputy Commander for Cadets , was recognized for his outstanding service and achievements, was promoted to 1st Lt.





Let's Welcome Spring Together with Dinner and a Movie!

Join us for dinner and a movie on Friday, **April 5th** at the 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! This month our main course will be baked ham provided by Bob and Nancy Turner. If you would like to volunteer to provide a main course for a month, please let Elaine know.

What if you received an invitation to spend the weekend with God? Would you believe it? Would you accept? After an unthinkable tragedy, Mack Phillips receives that invitation and travels to an abandoned shack in the forest where he comes face to face with God, appearing to him as the Creator, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit.

The 2017 film '**The Shack**' is based on the book of the same name written by William P Young as a gift to his children and became an international best-seller. Our Christian Education team held a very successful book study several years ago and would like to present the film hoping it will spark a new round of conversation and maybe even give us a hint to the answer to some of the big questions we ask... like Why? Where Were You?

[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

