

OCEAN VIEWS



OCEAN VIEW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MAY 2024



From the Pastor: Terry Dougherty

A spirituality that cannot bear witness to itself in the face of power is not a spirituality that I am interested in. I have suffered enough, and caused enough suffering, to know that anything that is either beyond or within me need to be tempered with a voice that can speak to power.

Hello to power.

Padraig O Tuama, in the Shelter, p. 235

Grace and Peace, Friends in Christ,

And THANK YOU for my conference back in April with *Dialogue for Peaceful Change*, at Lewinsville Presbyterian Church (a lovely facility, that also stepped up while we were there to say DPC was always welcome back!). I'd like to share just a little about it.

My lead quote is from the author through whom I had never before heard of DCP; he wrote the *Prayer Book for the Corrymeela Community*. That is Corrymeela, Ireland, and that is where, during the latter stages of what are known as *The Troubles* (the internecine strife, often violent, between Catholics and Protestants in Northern Ireland that dates back to the partition line between the 26 counties of Ireland and the 6 counties of Northern Ireland, drawn at the end of the Irish Civil War; May 1923.) There, in Northern Ireland, and particularly in Belfast, DCP in the 1970s developed and introduced its method of mediating conflict.

The method proved successful often enough that its use, over years, has expanded around the world, and not only in fields of intense civil conflict (though yes, in just such situations, where often practitioners were in danger themselves). "The church" is among the social entities that have recognized the utility of this method; it is through our friends in National Capital Presbytery that I, and two others from New Castle Presbytery, were invited to attend and learn beside them. National Cap provided 4 facilitators, and a moderator from Ireland.

That method is primarily through story-telling, by opposing persons or parties, in a neutral setting. There, the mediators from DCP capture the stories of opposing persons or sides in their own words, as accurately as possible (but without challenges or clarifications; only the urging to the parties to put forth their best understanding and memory through paraphrasing. In my own experience, it was paraphrasing without re-phrasing or re-framing that was hardest! Perhaps because of my pastoral background, problem solving was never distant from my mind – but that is not the task of the mediator!

B

The story telling is first discreet, each party with the mediators only. If the parties agree to continue, they come back to tell their stories – not to one another, but in one another’s hearing. The work of the mediators, again, is not to re-frame the issues, but to be continuously sensitive to “olive branches”, points where movement might be possible. Allowing those to be organic, and to belong to the parties, while ever so slightly allowing them to be noticed, is subtle but vital work. At every point, either or both parties might walk away, or might continue.

I, along with 9 others, was introduced to the method for 2 days, and then was in the thick of alternately role-playing opposing parties, and being mediators to other parties. It was exhausting and exciting at the same time! I have received a certificate, a guide book, and an invitation to be part of a community of practice (COP), where either virtually or, when possible, live, we may strengthen our skills. The potential exists to one day be asked to participate in the real thing!

I learned so very much! Above all, I learned how vital neutral space, and neutral practice, are to the resolution of conflict. The mantra was, and is, “Whose conflict? Their conflict! Whose space? Our space!” It was used – often! – to recall us to our role and our purpose: “we” help “them” come to a resolution or resolutions as best we can, without dictating any part except civility and respect.

I intend to follow through on this wonderful opportunity, and I have you all, through our Session, to thank!

Peace, Pastor Terry



Conference site at Lewinsville Presbyterian Church.

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, April 8, 2024

Shaped by God We Love and Serve

Attending: Rev. Terry Dougherty (Moderator), Bob Wolf, Susan Baer, Jacob Stavinga, Bev Bailey, Elaine Wolf (Treasurer), and Don Bailey (Buildings Committee), Margie Poffel (new member).

The meeting was opened by moderator Pastor Terry Dougherty at 7:05pm with devotion and prayer.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Interview of Margie Poffel for membership. It was a good discussion and Margie was approved for membership.

Don Bailey (Buildings Committee) presentation of 2023 activity and plans for 2024. Don confirmed that exit maps have been posted in all buildings. MOTION passed that the Safety and Security Manuals will not be placed in the buildings.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Elaine presented the March Treasurer's report and the Financial report for discussion.

MOTION passed to accept the March Financial Report and the Treasurer's Report.

CLERK'S REPORT

MOTION passed to approve the docket for this meeting.

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

Correspondence received since last meeting: 18 e-mails from Donna Scully, NCP, PC(USA) Store and Cindy Kohlmann.

Liturgists for May : Susie Baer, Bev Bailey and Jake Stavinga with communion on May 5, 19 and 26.

Next Vital Congregations meeting: April 11 with a Vital Congregations worship service on the 28th.

Next Session meeting May 13, 2024

Changes to the Roll:

Deaths: none

Funerals: none

Baptisms: none

Marriages: none

Gain/Loss of Members: gained one –Margie Poffel (joined 4/8/24),

George & Pam Price (transferred), Ray Keeney (resigned).

Year to Date Membership: 74

MOTION passed to approve the Clerk's Report.

PASTOR'S REPORT

A written report was received from Pastor Terry and discussed.

MOTION passed to approve the Pastor's Report.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion of Don Bailey/ Jim Waehler's letter that identified several items in the OVPC 2024 Narrative Budget that needed to be corrected.

Email MOTION passed in March to purchase a podium for the Sanctuary for Readers and Liturgists to use during worship.

MOTION to modify Diane Brown's work schedule from 4 days/week to 3 days with the

same number of work hours was tabled until the May meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

none

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Special Project - Mission Committee –The Labyrinth – the monument should arrive the first week in May.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Christian Education – Bev Bailey – 4/21 Chad Robinson from the Food Bank of DE will be here, 4/28 the Vital Congregations program, and 5/5 Star Words update. Sue Baer, Liaison

Deacons – Kris Taylor – Read Aloud DE will be here for the May 31 Deacons' Dinner. Bev Bailey, Liaison

Facilities - Jim Waehler – Motion that the procedures outlined in the Safety and Security Manual will remain in effect, unchanged, for 12 months from April 2024 was tabled.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer by Pastor Terry at 10:25pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ollie Robling, Clerk of Session



“He only got this job because of who his dad is.”

Womens Sewing Circle

April 10, 2024

Lorie Hartsig

The meeting was called to order by Moderator Susan Baer with thanks to Kathy Sheetz for our goodies. Ten 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. May hostesses will be Bev and Marlene.

REPORTS

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

Treasurer's report is included and states closing balance as \$11,306.39

It was added that Frankford Presbyterian Church donates \$300/month for our Sharing Pantry in return for the help received from OVPC members in their Thrift Shop.

OVPC Mission reports a letter of support was sent to Westminster Presbyterian Church in Wilmington to support a grant they requested to aid Syrian farmers in the costs of planting.

Session update- Bev reported that Margi Poffel was welcomed as a new member. The placement of the Labyrinth's marker was outlined and it will be installed next month. The safety and security manual will be kept in the office and copies of the floor maps of placement of emergency devices will be kept in each building.

OLD BUSINESS

Continued work on the Sharing Pantry for Frankford Presbyterian Church is ongoing.

Mother's Day **Gifts of Women** service will have Paula Simms as speaker. Sue B. will be coordinating the service with her and the following will participate: Nancy, Bev, Sue and Kathy.

Sharing Pantry-Amy Donohue and Margi have offered assistance with the Sharing Pantry. Lorie offered to instruct new helpers in the work needed to fill it.

NEW BUSINESS

Heavenly Luncheon Jen reports that the chicken provided this year will be boneless breasts that will be frozen in chunks. More on how to prepare this. Amy has offered to donate the decorations and napkins as she has done in the past.

Father's Day Brunch will be furnished by the women on June 16th.

Our June Circle meeting will be a potluck brunch. There will be a short business meeting and no Bible study.

We established a date for the **JUMBLE October 12th**. Still to come will be deciding volunteers to coordinate and man the committees to make this happen.

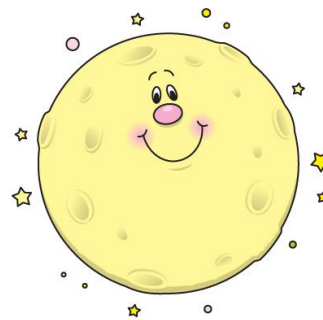
Bible study was led by Jen Read and the reciting of the Mitzvah followed.



Marjorie Egger	May 6th
Jake Stavinga	May 7th
Marlene Quinn	May 13th
Terry Dougherty	May 15th
Bill Wivel	May 21st
Elaine Wolf	May 23rd
Rich Kuhblank	May 24th
Ruth Shafer	May 25th
Sue Dick	May 26th
Bob Doherty	May 26th

Kathy and Herb Sheetz	May 6th
Cindy and Steve Szlasa	May 22nd

NEXT FULL MOON:
Flower moon, May 23rd



YARN meets on Monday, May 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!



Worship Committee

Jen Read

A New Pictorial Directory for OVPC

Your Worship Committee, in partnership with the Deacons and the Communication and Technology Committee is beginning work on an updated pictorial directory. We haven't had a new directory since 2016, and a great deal has changed in our church since then.

Photo shoots are scheduled in May for Sunday, May 5, from 11 am until 2 pm and for Wednesday, May 8, from 5 pm until 7 pm. Additional photo shoots are scheduled for June on Sunday, June 2, from 11 am until 1 pm and

for Tuesday, June 4, from 5 pm until 7 pm.

All photos will be taken by Jim and Lorie Hartsig in Memorial Hall. Dress is Business Casual.



If you have questions or if you want to choose your ten-minute photo slot, call Jen Read or Jane Bonbright. What?! You don't know our contact info?! We need a new directory! Jen (512) 750-0517 Jane (240) 606-7748.

Building and Grounds

Ray Keller

Needs Your Help!

Ray Keller, chairman of your Grounds Committee is calling for help from the congregation:



1) If you are thinning your flower beds this spring, we will come and dig up any perennials you want to donate to OVPC. We have lots of bare spaces to fill in both shady and sunny spots around the church.

2) If you are downsizing and want to donate any yard tools, electric leaf blowers, clippers, garden gloves, sprayers, or hand tools to the church, we will come and help you empty your shed.

3) If you would like to "adopt a garden spot" around the church, we will help you

choose a flower bed in the sun or the shade and just the size you want to work.

4) If you would just like to come and work with other "Green Thumbs" a couple times a month while the weather is still pleasant, we will be working up at the church on Saturdays, May 11 and 25 and Saturdays, June 8 and 22 from 9-11 am.

Questions? Call Ray Keller at (732) 245-7264 or Jen Read (512) 750-0517.

Deacon Mission

Kristina Taylor

FRIDAY, MAY 31, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

Memorial Hall

*DEACONS WILL PROVIDE MAIN DISHES,
PLEASE BRING A SIDE DISH!*

“Thank you!”

for your support of the Missions of our Church.

CONGREGATION POTLUCK DINNER



**Speaker from Read Aloud Delaware/Sussex County
Ms. Stacy Penaranda, Executive Director**

In Memoriam

Elaine Jackson passed away on April 19th

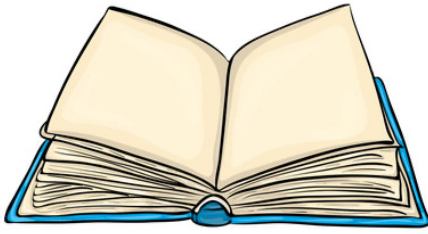


Easter flowers through a church window

Photo by Lorie Hartsig

Nothing Gold Can Stay --
Nature's first green is gold,
Her hardest hue to hold.
Her early leaf's a flower;
But only so an hour.
Then leaf subsides to leaf.
So Eden sank to grief,
So dawn goes down to day.
Nothing gold can stay.

Robert Frost



What Are You Reading?

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

Marie Waehler

Have a Beautiful, Terrible Day! Daily Meditations for the Ups, Downs & In-Betweens By Kate Bowler. I was having a couple weeks of major pity-parties because of continued back and hip pain, extreme fatigue, and other chemo drug side effects which greatly limit my ability to function (even though I was celebrating the remission of the leg tumor). I was in the library to pick up a book and perused the new books shelves. This book begged me to take it home and I'm grateful to God for prompting me, insisting that I do so. The author had stage-4 cancer that left her in severe chronic pain -- pain that for more than a year during her treatments gave her only one hour each morning where she could function; she used that hour to write this book. (She has written other such books.) God drew me to the book by the title. I recognized the phrase, "Have a Beautiful, Terrible Day," as words written by Frederick Buechner. Indeed, in her cover pages, she shares the full quote: "Here is the world. Beautiful and terrible things will happen. Don't be afraid." Her meditations gave me permission to have pity-parties, but to also recognize that I am loved by God (she has scripture quotes with each meditation) and I can rise above. These meditations have been a great source of hope and comfort for me. It would make a great gift for caregivers and for those suffering on a day-to-day basis.

The Little Liar by Mitch Albom. Jim and I read his latest book. An 11-year-old Jewish boy living in Greece with his family is discovered by a German officer who offers him a chance to save his family and others by persuading them to board trains heading "north," where new jobs and safety await. The boy does a good job every day, but later learns later that he has sent his family and neighbors to their doom at Auschwitz.

Days at the Morisaki Bookshop, a very thin novel by Satoshi Yagisawa, translated by Eric Ozawa. This was also on the new books shelves at the library. From the back cover: "The wise and charming international bestseller and hit Japanese movie about a young woman who loses everything but finds herself -- a tale of new beginnings, romantic and family relationships, and the comfort that can be found in books.

Marlene Quinn

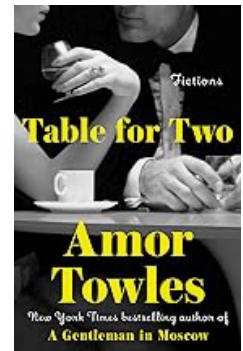
The Tiffany Girls by Shelley Noble. After reading two very serious books I needed a change of pace. It's based on some real women who worked for Louis Tiffany mainly as glass cutters as they prepared items to show at the Paris Exposition in 1900. It's an interesting look at life for single working women at that time.

Pam Dougherty

James by Percival Everett. The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn. Told from Jim's (enslaved) point of view. I couldn't put it down. My guess: it will be a best seller!

Table for Two by Amor Towles (author of A Gentleman in Moscow & The Lincoln Highway—great books!). This is 6 short stories set in NYC & a novella set in Hollywood. Promises to be outstanding!

The Princess of Las Vegas by Chris Bohjalian . Princess Diana impersonator & her sister drawn into a game of organized crime and family secrets. Off road for me...but I'm anxious to dig in!



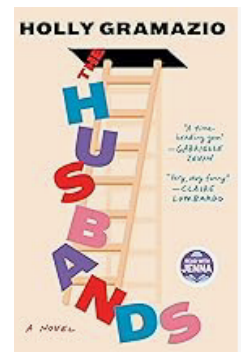
Lorie Hartsig

Madness by Antonia Hylton. Race and Insanity in a Jim Crow Asylum.

Gray Mountain by John Grisham. Young lawyer vs. Big Coal in southern Appalachia.

A Sudden Light by Garth Stein. Written by the author of The Art of Racing in the Rain which I enjoyed much more.

The Husbands by Holly Gramazio. A woman with more husbands than she can handle, so many different husbands. I read fast to see how this "fairy tale" would end!



**“Books are the bees
which carry the
quickenings
pollen from
one to another mind.”**

— James Russell Lowell

Guest House

This being human is a guesthouse
Every day a new arrival
A joy, a depression, a meanness,
some momentary awareness comes
as an unexpected visitor

Welcome and entertain them all!
Even if they are a crowd of sorrows,
who violently sweep your house
empty of its furniture,
still treat each guest honorably

He may be clearing you out for some new delight
The dark thought, the shame, the malice,
meet them at the door laughing,
and invite them in

Be grateful for whoever comes,
because each has been sent
as a guide from beyond

-Rumi-

Submitted by Marie Waehler

SCAM ALERT

I keep receiving packages I didn't order. What should I do so I won't be billed?

The USPS website says that many people simply pay for them. But you don't have to. If you have not opened the package, mark it "Return to Sender." USPS will send it back at no charge to you. If you open the package and like what you find keep it-free. This is a rare instance when "finders, keepers" applies.

USPS notes, "By law, unsolicited merchandise is yours to Keep." Why does it happen? It might be a scam called "brushing." The intention is to create a record of a verified buyer. Then the sender will write a fake review in your name." These fake reviews help to fraudulently inflate the products' rating and sales numbers," says the USPS website. This can result in increased sales.

My wife is getting calls supposedly from Medicare. They ask for her personal information so they can replace her card. I just want to know if this is a scam.

Yes, it is 100 percent a scam. Medicare will never call you uninvited and ask you to give

personal or private information. Medicare fraud is big business, and you want to protect your number as you would any other personal or financial information. If you suspect a criminal has your Medicare number, call 1-800-MEDICARE and watch your Medicare summary notices to ensure on one has charged items to your number without your permission.

My husband got an email from someone claiming to be with AARP, stating that he could fill out a survey to get a prize.

In the past year, there has been an increase in the amount of reports to the AARP Fraud Watch Network Helpline about scammers posing as AARP . This is not surprising because AARP is viewed as trustworthy. It's important to remember that AARP will never contact you unsolicited asking for personal or financial information. If you ever have a doubt, call the helpline at 887-908-3360.

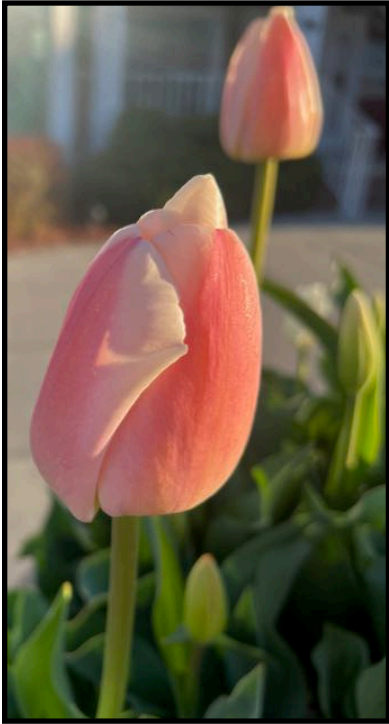
Source: AARP Bulletin, March 2024.

Quotable Quotes

- I was thinking about old age and decided that old ages is when you still have something on the ball, but you are just too tired to bounce it.
- Employment applications blanks always ask who is to be called in case of an emergency. I think you should write,"An ambulance."
- The older you get the tougher it is to lose weight because by then your body and your fat have gotten to be really good friends.

Photogenic

Lorie and Jim Hartsig





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

Join us for dinner and a movie on Friday, **May 3rd** 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! We are not sure of our main course yet but if you would like to volunteer to provide one, please let Elaine know.

Our movie this month was recommended from one of our movie night regulars and is the 2023 film **'The Miracle Club'** starring Maggie Smith, Laura Linney, and Kathy Bates.

*Ballygar, Ireland, 1967: a hard-knocks community that marches to its own beat, rooted in traditions of loyalty, faith and togetherness. There's just one tantalizing dream for the women of Ballygar to taste freedom and escape the gauntlet of domestic life: to win a pilgrimage to the sacred French town of Lourdes. And with a little benevolent interference from their cheeky and rebellious priest, close friends Lily, Eileen, Dolly and her son Daniel are the 'lucky' few to win this ticket of a lifetime at their riotous local raffle night.—**TMDB***

[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

