

OCEAN VIEW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH JANUARY 2021

FROM THE PASTOR: TERRY DOUGHERTY



The Irish Postman shakes the snow from his cap, claps the snow from his gloves, stamps the snow from his boots, and checks in:

Athbhlian faoi maise dhuive! (Happy New Year to all of you!)

Tis a grand thing, at such marked-off days as this, to take stock of where we are in the world; we ourselves and we in the community that is ours. I know that for me, and I guess likely for you, last year feels like a hard one even to look at; a lost year, some say, even more than just a hard year. But I think, still, there was that in there that is worth examining, and maybe even saving. Spending so much time alone, there was abundant opportunity to do one of two things, really: to resent it all like mad (and go mad!), or to look deeper at who we already had been becoming – people not given to going below the surface at all, people doing from day to day with little thought of how it all hangs together (whether we will or no!). I myself have decided out of it all to engage my conscience, and try to be a fuller person; self-aware, and available to others. Sounds small, I know, - but I think it's not. Those two things are easy to say, much harder to do, because they require putting aside all the distractions, and embracing inconvenience (also known as other people!). Pray for me! Here's my list; call it resolutions if you must!

Develop my love of God, and my relationship to God, with a spiritual practice.

Fix something in my family.

Be of specific help to my church.

Deepen my life of prayer.

Simplify.

Look to how I will be remembered (and see to it I like it better!).

Be a blessing (and an encouragement).

Receive blessing (and be encouraged).

Here's a little new year's prayer, by my dear friend Anonymous:

Dear Lord, please grace me with: a few friends who understand me – and remain my friends; a work to do which has value; a mind unafraid to travel, even though the trail be unblazed; an understanding heart; a sense of humor; time for quiet meditation; an awakening to your presence in my life; patience to wait for all these things, and the wisdom to know them when they come. Amen.

We Irish observe the new year in a few traditional ways, always subject to context: Cleaning the house, top to bottom. Remembering our loved ones who have passed, by setting them a place at the table. Banging the walls of the house with bread, to ward off bad luck and evil spirits (I strongly recommend context here!). First footing (the importance of who first enters your door in the new year). Letting guests in by the front door, and out by the back (some say this is a good luck thing; I think it is formality/informality – friends use the back!). And at midnight, someone must say:

May your nets always be full; your pockets never empty; your horse not cast a shoe, nor the devil look at you in the coming year!

Dear, dear friends, it is always good to visit – "glad to meet; sorry to part" – but I think this past year has taught us to cherish it all the more. Love one another, for love is of God. Thank you for this time together; let's do it again, and soon. Now, done with this tea; on with my cap and gloves! I've places to go and people to see! May God bless you, and:

May your neighbors respect you, trouble neglect you, the angels protect you and heaven accept you!

Your friend, the Irish Postman.

"Whose woods these are I think I know. His house is in the village though; He will not see me stopping here To watch his woods fill up with snow." Robert Frost, Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening

Ocean View Presbyterian Church

67 Central Avenue Ocean View, DE 19970

Sunday, 9:30 A.M.

Pastor Terry Dougherty

Church Office 302-539-3455

Website ovpc.org

Session

Mariene Quinn Mike Read Ollie Robling Elaine Smith Marti Sommer Bob Wolf

Karen Colwill (Clerk of Session)

Deacons

Gloria Bartholomew Cindy Benjamin Earlene DeFazio Joni Keller Pam Price Mike Quinn

Newsletter Editors Lorie and Jim Hartsig

SESSION REPORT

Karen Colwill, Clerk of Session

OVPC Minute from Session – December 14, 2020

The Session of OVPC met on Monday, December 14, 2020, via ZOOM.

Rev. Terry Dougherty, Moderator, opened with prayer and devotions at 7:07 PM.

Orders of the Day:

We welcomed new OVPC Elders: Marlene Quinn and Elaine Smith to our meeting.

We expressed sincere appreciation for the last three years of ministry on Session by Elders Ellen Neumann and Bob Clark. Thank you for all your good works and contributions to OVPC.

Session received Pastor Terry's acceptance letter for his continued call to ministry at OVPC as Pastor.

We welcomed Dale Smith/Beverly Bailey, Mission Co-Chairs, to answer any additional questions regarding the PCUSA Matthew 25 initiative. Session has dedicated the Leadership Retreat, scheduled for January 23, 2021, to be focused on the Matthew 25 initiative with members of Session, Deacons and all Committee Chairs in attendance. It needs to be the focus of all we do, in OVPC activities and committees, and needs the commitment of OVPC leadership to the program for it to be successful. Session is looking forward to the retreat !

We welcomed members of the Pastor Support Team (PST): Kathy Sheetz, Pam Price, Mike Read and Karen Colwill to our meeting to share their 2020 Report to Session. This is the third and final year of the *Princeton First Call Pastoral Leadership Program*. The PST meets with Pastor Terry on a weekly basis to answer questions and offer support and on a monthly basis with Rev. Dr. Tom Kort, to review objectives and discuss new initiatives. In December, the PST performed a review of Pastor Terry's performance including status of all 2020 objectives. Based on the performance review, the PST will distribute all remaining Pastoral Personal Grant monies to Pastor Terry by December 31, 2020. The PST will continue to meet to wrap up and document the program as required by the program.

We welcomed Bob Wolf as Chair of the Finance Committee for the initial review of the 2021 budget. The Finance Committee has meet and presents a conservative yet optimistic budget. The members and friends of OVPC have stepped up and we're challenging them to continue their level of support. The final budget will be presented at the January 2021 Session Meeting for approval.

MOTION passed to approve the minutes of the November 16, 2020 and the November 30, 2020 Session Meetings.

MOTION passed to approve the **November 2020 Finance Reports**.

4

Finance Committee update:

Continue to limit our expenses (based on limited projected income) by taking actions **until our income is adequate:**

- all committee allocation/requests are frozen
- CARES Act Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) all funds have been used We are waiting for PNC Bank to issue compliance filing requirements to complete the process to turn the loan into a grant.
- **Thank You to OVPC members and friends for** your continued financial commitment during this pandemic !

Pastor Terry's report was received. **MOTION** approved for Pastor Terry's vacation request, December 27-31, 2020.

The Monthly Committee Reports were received.

The Mission Committee thanks the members of OVPC for supporting our PCUSA Mission Co-Worker, Rev. Dr. Karla Koll. OVPC sent a check for \$1,300.00 to PCUSA in Louisville for distribution to Karla.

Session approved the following MOTIONS:

Elected Mike Read, Chair of the Nominating Committee Appointed Committee Session Liaisons Appointed 2021 Liturgist Teams and schedule Elected Marlene Quinn, OVPC Commissioner to New Castle Presbytery Approved the 2021 Session Schedule Approved the 2021 Communion Schedule Approved the 2021 Paid Holiday/Office Close Dates Elected Liz Hobler, Treasurer Elected Karen Colwill, Clerk of Session Elected Officers of the Corporation: Marti Sommer, President Bob Wolf, Vice President Karen Colwill, Secretary Liz Hobler, Treasurer

OVPC Annual Report preparation has started. Reports are *due January 3, 2021 from the current Committee Chairs and Session Liaisons. Please send reports electronically in WORD.*

Session appreciates all the efforts from members and friends in keeping our facilities and campus sound and all that's involved in preparing for virtual worship. Thank You !

Session urges all committee chairs to get their Session reports to the office by the Wednesday before the Session Meeting: **January 11th Session Meeting - reports are due January 5th.**

The meeting was adjourned and closed with prayer at 9:29 PM



DEACONS

Eariene DeFazio

MINUTE FOR MISSION – JANUARY 2021 SURVEY OF TIME AND TALENTS

ach January the monthly mission is the "Survey of Time and Talents". What is this survey and what is it used for? The form lists many of the activities and committees at OVPC, you are asked to carefully review the items listed and mark those you would be interested in helping with or serving on, you are also able to write-in items not listed on the form. This survey is an excellent way to indicate your interests, willingness to serve, to indicate your experience and strengths. This information is summarized and is used by committee heads, the church office, as well as the nominating committee. Thirty-nine percent (39%) of the congregation completed and returned the survey in 2020, I hope we can increase this number to fifty percent (50%) in 2021.

Copies of the survey will be included in the bulletin during the month of January and will be available in the church office. Please complete the survey and return to the church office. If you have questions, please contact a deacon. Thank you!

Should old acquaintance be forgot, and never brought to mind? Should old acquaintance be forgot, and auld lang syne?

Chorus

for auld lang syne, my dear for auld lang syne, we'll take a cup of kindness yet, for auld lang syne.

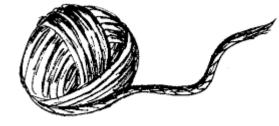


June Bonbright	Jan 2
Andy Smith	Jan 2
Elaine Jackson	Jan 8
Cindy Szlasa	Jan 8
Barbara Dietsch	Jan 13
Randall Bartholomew	Jan 16
Ellen Neumann	Jan 19
David Kratch	Jan 20



None





YARN...You Are Ready to Needle...

The need for prayers shawls continues and the YARN crafters continue creating beautiful, soft shawls for those in need. Please let us know of a person in need. Marlene and Lorie

SEWING CIRCLE

Amy Peoples

The OVPC Sewing Circle met on Wednesday, December 9, 2020 by way of Zoom. There were 12 members and Pastor Terry in attendance.

We gathered at 12:45 PM and chatted till all signed in.

Moderator Elaine asked Pastor Terry to open the meeting which he did with a lovely poem, "Winter at Herring Cove, by Mary Oliver. He dedicated it to Betsy and Buzz Henifin who both passed away in the last months.

He also led us in prayer.

Elaine than read a prayer called," A Humble Christmas Prayer"

December Birthdays.... Karen Hamilton, 12/15, Kathy Sheetz, 12/20, Pam Price 12/29

The minutes of the November 11.2020 meeting were approved as sent electronically.

Treasurer's Report: Marti reported that all the Mission checks have been sent out, over \$4000.00. Balance on hand, \$1757.33. Report filed for audit.

Marti has been asked to keep the Sharing Cupboard monies separate. She will keep track of them, there is \$500.00 in fund now.

Mission Report:

Lorie reported that we certainly did put our funds in good places and where they are needed right now because of COVID virus. For instance, the Cheer Center has closed except for delivering food to shut-ins and one of our Missions was Meals on Wheels. It was suggested that we take small items, soap, gift cards ,etc. so that the people who attend functions at the Cheer Center and have no families could receive gifts.

Sue Rizer thanked the Circle for their help with Rwanda Joy. All the children are back in school now which is a blessing.

Bev reported that the labyrinth plans which is will be in lot across the street are progressing well. Bev received a plot plan last night and will hopefully share with all of us soon. There is no need for permit from Town of Ocean View since there will not be a structure but it needs to be brought to Session.

Session:

Karen reported that the entire congregation received letters about the closing of the church because of COVID and the many virus cases in Sussex County. They will meet on December 14, 2020 with a lot of items for the end of the year round up.

Page 2, Sewing Circle Minutes, December 9, 2020

Sunshine;

Marie could not be with us but told Elaine that she has sent Christmas cards to all the people on Sunshine list.

Correspondence;

We received a thank you from Dave Swayze for the Prayer Shawl he received. It was even more special since it was on his birthday.

Unfinished Business;

The Way Home... Ellen and Eric have been picking up the items received from members which were taken to the church office and Memorial Hall. They will take them to the Georgetown office on December 18, 2020.

Lord Baltimore Elementary School families;

Elaine said that the gifts need to be in by December 16. They are to be wrapped, with child's name and number on them and put in large plastic bag .Lots of items have come in already. Elaine and Kathy will take the gifts to the school.

Nativity Festival

The virtual Nativity Festival has been a big success and has been seen by many. It was such a good thing that we were able to carry on Elsie Young' dream even with COVID. More publicity will be in local paper this week and in Presbyterian Weekly Musings. Ten years of the Nativity Festival and it is still growing thanks to many.

Blessings Cupboard;

The cupboard is well stocked, and the shelves are full in Fellowship Hall. Many from the community have wanted to donate to cupboard so it is thought we will put a donation basket out for these items. Also it was felt that a light was needed. Bob Dougherty is working on this. They will keep a running list so that items can be refilled as needed and they can decide what items are used or not needed.

Ash Wednesday is Wednesday, February 17, 2020.

Ecumenical Luncheon, no plans made since in all likelihood it will be cancelled.

Page 3, Sewing Circle Minutes, December 9, 2020

New Business;

Just a reminder... Souper Bowl Sunday is February 7, 2021. It is a Deacon Minute for Mission Project.

Our next Circle meeting will be January 13, 2021.

We than went on to our Bible Study, Chapter 3, "Lamenting Death" led by Marti.

The Zoom meeting was closed with the Mitzpah.

Respectfully submitted by Amy Peoples, secretary

USHERS

Judy Reich

A letter to our Ushers.... Our Front-Line Workers

As we begin a new year, I want to acknowledge and thank all our ushers. During the previous year, each one of you have been willing to greet us while trying to keep us safely separated, take temperatures and seat us, and always at a greater risk to yourselves.

You cannot follow the same safe procedures that you are asking others to follow. You cannot take temps and remain six feet away. The same goes for manning the doors and seating the congregants. You could have been safely curled up on the couch with a cup of coffee while watching the service on Sunday mornings. However, you decided to serve the Lord, by serving OVPC.

"Thank you" does not sound adequate to let you know how much I appreciate and respect every one of you. You are incredibly special people and are in my prayers that 2021 will be a healthy and peaceful year for all of you.

Judy Reich, Head Usher

"this service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God."

2 Corinthians 9:12

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Elaine Smith

Virtual Coffee Hour

Sunday, January 10, 2021

Please join us for a virtual Coffee Hour via Zoom at 10:30 am. Bring your favorite beverage, wear your favorite slippers, and socialize informally with good friends

Christian Education

Each of the following CE sessions will be presented via Zoom at 10:30 am on the specified Sunday. The Zoom information will be provided in the Church Calendar and Sunday Bulletin. Sunday, January 17, 2021

St. Augustine - Enlightenment

Marie Waehler will complete our series from last year on St. Augustine with a presentation on Enlightenment and how it relates to experiences in her own life. Sunday, January 24, 2021

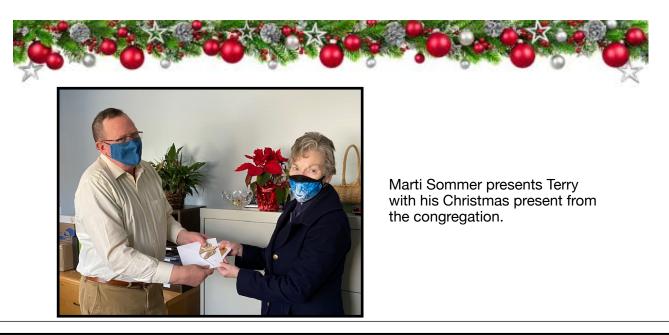
A Conversation on Racism

Continuing our discussions about racism in our society, we will be joined by Marlene Saunders and Don Peterson - two individuals who are active in the Southern Delaware Alliance for Racial Justice (SDARJ).

Sunday, January 31, 2021

KAIROS Prison Ministry

Pastor Terry and Dale Smith will share their experiences with this Christian ministry. Although the KAIROS Inside Weekends were cancelled in 2020, it is important to understand how this ministry to the incarcerated impacts all of us.





VOLUNTEER

South Coastal Village Volunteers invites you to volunteer and support older adults in our community so they can age in place.

Volunteer Your Way - You decide the type of services you would like to perform as well as the days and hours you would like to volunteer. We appreciate all that you have to offer and we will work with you to find the best fit for your contributions. We will provide orientation, training, and more.

Volunteer Opportunities:

Transportation –

Driving members to medical appointments, social or cultural events, the hairdresser or barber, grocery stores and errands.

Assisting with grocery shopping, clothing and gift shopping, and picking up prescriptions. Volunteers who elect to be drivers must provide a current driver's license and proof of insurance and must keep these current.

Taking care of minor household organization, minor household repairs, occasional pet care, and plant care,

Assisting with managing accounts and balancing checkbooks,

Friendly Visits or Calls -

Providing conversation and companionship, respite for caregivers, Assisting with puzzles or playing a game, sharing stories, photos, and memories.

Home Maintenance -

Changing hard-to-reach light bulbs, hanging pictures, checking smoke alarms, moving outdoor furniture, providing simple repairs and minor yard work.

Technology - Helping with computer, printer, email, programmable thermostats, smart phones, and more.

SCVV Office Assistance, Events and Programs - Answering phones, matching volunteers to member service requests, managing emails, data entry, and more.

HOW DO I BECOME A VOLUNTEER?

In order to keep our members safe and allow peace of mind, we require all volunteers to: complete an application (online or paper), to provide a minimum of two references, agree to a background check (performed on all potential volunteers); and to pay a \$17.00 fee for the background check. Please be assured that all information you provide to the Village will be held in strict confidence.

Please email southcoastalvillage@gmail.com or call 302 500-1281 for more information.

REMEMBERING BETSY HENIFIN

Elisabeth M. "Betsy" Henifin, 88, completed her earthly mission and passed away on Dec. 1, 2020.

She lived her faith doing what was fair and just to her neighbor, remaining compassionate and loyal in her love and never taking herself too seriously.

After graduation from Upper Darby High School, Henifin traveled west to Wilson College in Chambersburg, Pa., where she sharpened her wit, masterminded countless adventures and found time to earn a BFA with a minor in English. While at Wilson she met U.S. Naval Academy midshipman Edward Henifin on a blind date and made him work hard to win her over. She finally gave in despite his buzzard like appearance (her description to her roommates which led to his nickname "Buzz," so lovingly





bestowed), and his small-town Midwestern upbringing (perhaps opposites do attract). They were married after graduation and, loyal in love, began a partnership that lasted a lifetime.

Memorial donations may be made to support the mission work of Ocean View Presbyterian Church; 67 Central Ave.; Ocean View, DE 19970, or to Delaware Hospice Center; 100 Patriots Way; Milford, DE 19963.

We have taken a bit of Betsy's obituary to share in the newsletter; not so much because it used words her Sisters in Christ would have used to describe her sweet nature, but because it tells the story of how Buzz got his name....a story we have never heard told. And we thought we had heard all her stories!

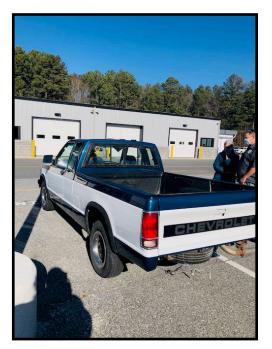
Don't forget to view the Nativity Festival Go to ovpc.org then click on the Nativity Festival icon.

GEORGE'S CHEVROLET S-10 PICK UP TRUCK Elsie Young

For the first 33 years of our marriage, we **needed** a truck. However, neither of us were willing to give up our cars, and we couldn't afford a third vehicle.

George retired in 1988 and one again began to vocalize his desire for a truck. So in 1991, when he was in Delaware he traded his third hand Oldsmobile for an S10. He never gave the truck a name, but it was his buddy ("the truck") and our second vehicle. When George need my car, I drove the truck to work. The teachers asked, "Whose truck is parked in the parking area?" They were amazed I could drive a truck, but "the truck" had an automatic gear shift and it drove like a car!

When I went to the hospital in 2015, some people hid the truck key. He asked, "Else, did you hide the truck key?" "NO" I had no idea where the second key was and he didn't either. However, one day as I returned from one of my jaunts the truck was running. To this day I do not know where he found it.



When anyone needed to use "the truck" a call was heard. Funny, the guys at OVPC had new trucks. They would say to George, "We don't want to haul this stuff in our new truck." S10 knew that appearance was no longer an issue and the calls were answered for whatever the need.



Fast forward. The S10 is 25 years old and time for inspection and the heater core showed need for repair. I began to say we needed to get rid of the truck. Negative response. Herb Sheetz mentioned that his son in-law was teaching car repair at Sussex Tech. Ah ha! a new approach and George agreed. "It would help kids, wouldn't it, Else ?" Decision made.

John and his buddies arrived, jump started "the truck", pumped up the tires and drove away. George missed the truck and often asked where it was. Herb took us to see the transformation and as we arrived at Sussex Tech, George made no comment. He got out of Herb's car and entered the truck - no keys- good thing- and immediately tried to start it. He never really looked at the total picture! He appeared sad all day but did not mention any part of the experience. The truck would have celebrated its 30th birthday in 2021.

A NEW YEAR'S PRAYER

Dear Lord, please give me ... A few friends who understand me and yet remain my friends A work to do which has real value, without which the world would feel the poorer ... A mind unafraid to travel, even through the trail be not blazed An understanding heart ... A sense of humor. Time for quiet, silent meditation. A feeling of the presence of God. And the patience to wait for the coming of these things, with the wisdom to know them when they come.

W.R. Hunt



"New Year ceremonies are designed to get rid of the past and to welcome the future. January is named after the Etruscan word janua which means door."

New Year's Customs

STOP

Stop Take three deep breaths, smiling Observe Proceed with love and kindness

Deepak Chopra

SCRABBLING

PRESBYTERIAN When you rearrange the letters: **BEST IN PRAYER**

ASTRONOMER When you rearrange the letters: MOON STARER

DESPERATION When you rearrange the letters: **A ROPE ENDS IT**

THE EYES When you rearrange the letters THEY SEE

GEORGE BUSH When you rearrange the letters: HE BUGS GORE

THE MORSE CODE When you rearrange the letters: HERE COME DOTS

DORMITORY When you rearrange the letters: DIRTY ROOM

SLOT MACHINES When you rearrange the letters: CASH LOST IN ME ANIMOSITY When you rearrange the letters: IS NO AMITY

ELECTION RESULTS When you rearrange the letters: LIES - LET'S RECOUNT

SNOOZE ALARMS When you rearrange the letters: ALAS! NO MORE Z 'S

A DECIMAL POINT When you rearrange the letters: I'M A DOT IN PLACE

THE EARTHQUAKES When you rearrange the letters: THAT QUEER SHAKE

ELEVEN PLUS TWO When you rearrange the letters: TWELVE PLUS ONE

AND FOR THE GRAND FINALE: MOTHER-IN-LAW When you rearrange the letters: WOMAN HITLER



Taste of Guatemala: Virtual Chocolate Tasting and Celebration

Thursday, January 28 7:00 – 8:30 pm (ET)

Join us for an evening filled with sweet bites, celebration and camaraderie! Registration is \$52 per household. This includes: four hand-crafted Guatemalan/Nicaraguan chocolate bars from <u>Triangle Roasters</u> and <u>Diego's Chocolates</u> - delivered right to your front door, an interactive tasting with chocolate sommelier <u>Estelle Tracy of 37 Chocolates</u>, a virtual journey to visit with our partners in Guatemala and see their work in action, and a \$20 tax-deductible donation. Makes a great "date night" or "family fun night." All are welcome!

Register Here

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/ tZcqf-ioqDloGNJicfrBkwfrrEG-tbi80mBr



MATTHEW 25 Submitted by Dale Smith

LOUISVILLE — In a year of unforeseen changes and challenges, the Matthew 25 vision to actively engage congregations in the world and community around them has taken on new meaning. Launched in April 2019, the Matthew 25 invitation has received its 700th congregation to make the commitment to radical and fearless discipleship.

Union Springs Presbyterian Church in Union Springs, Alabama, joins other congregations as well as 100 mid councils and groups in this journey.

"We are tiny," said Bill Sauser, commissioned lay pastor of Union Springs for 23 years. "But we are trying to use the resources we have been given for the good of community, as well as reaching out through the presbytery and General Assembly projects, like Matthew 25, to make a difference."

Union Springs is a small congregation with approximately 30 active members in a town of 3,000 and a county of 10,000. But don't underestimate its reach. Sauser shared that there is little to no economic opportunity locally, "so there is ample opportunity to do many, many things."

This small but mighty congregation is actively involved in the local food bank, financially supports a local prison ministry, sponsors Living Waters for the World and assists with other local projects that, as the church puts it, "support the people of the community."

And as if that isn't enough for a church of 30 members, church members and friends are also contributing to an effort begun by their presbytery, Sheppards and Lapsley, to pay off area residents' large medical debts.

"This not only helps the families, it is investing into the community," Sauser shared. "It stops bankruptcies for individuals and businesses and keeps rural hospitals viable to serve the community."

After hearing a dynamic presentation during a recent presbytery meeting from the Rev. Dr. Diane Moffett, president and executive director of the Presbyterian Mission Agency, the session discussed whether to commit to becoming a Matthew 25 church.

The answer was a resounding "Why wouldn't we?"

Almost all members are ordained as elders and according to Sauser, they take their ordination vows very seriously. Social justice issues can be challenging in this small and diverse town. The church members are active and involved, collaborating with other churches in the area to keep the church not only vital but engaged in the community.

Convicted by the Matthew 25 passage, both the 222nd and 223rd General Assemblies (2016 and 2018) exhorted the PC(USA) to act boldly and compassionately to serve people who are hungry, oppressed, imprisoned or poor.

To see the map and list of all 800-plus congregations, groups and mid councils, <u>click here</u>. You can learn more about the work of each congregation through their stories and videos.

pcusa.org/matthew25



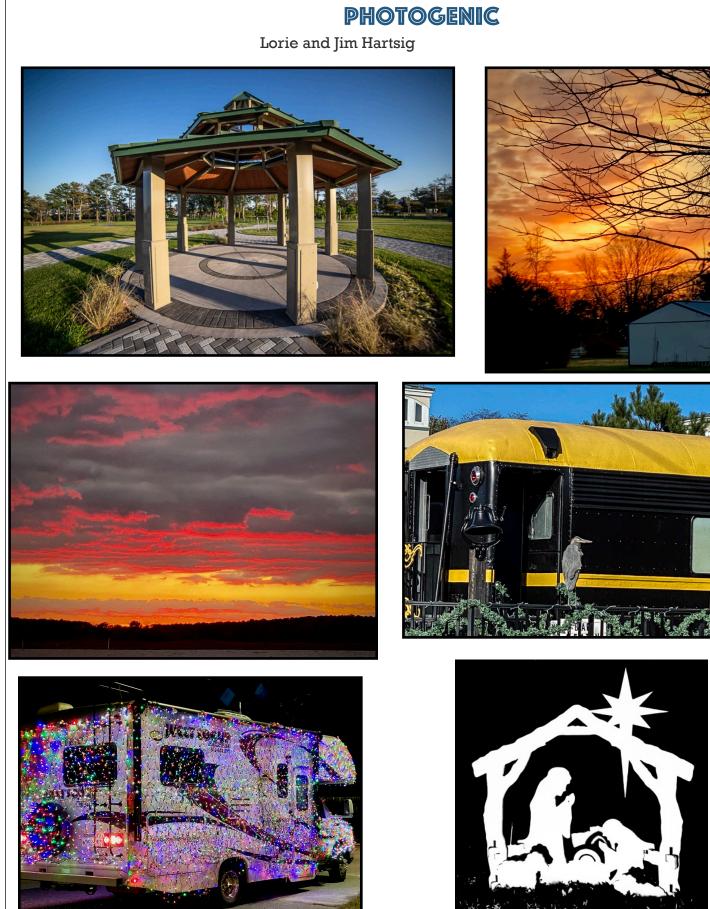
A Chrismon is an ornament representing a biblical symbol of faith - Christ + monogram. Eight years ago a small group of OVPC women made the ornaments that decorate our Chrismon tree. We hope next year we can once again enjoy seeing the tree in our sanctuary.



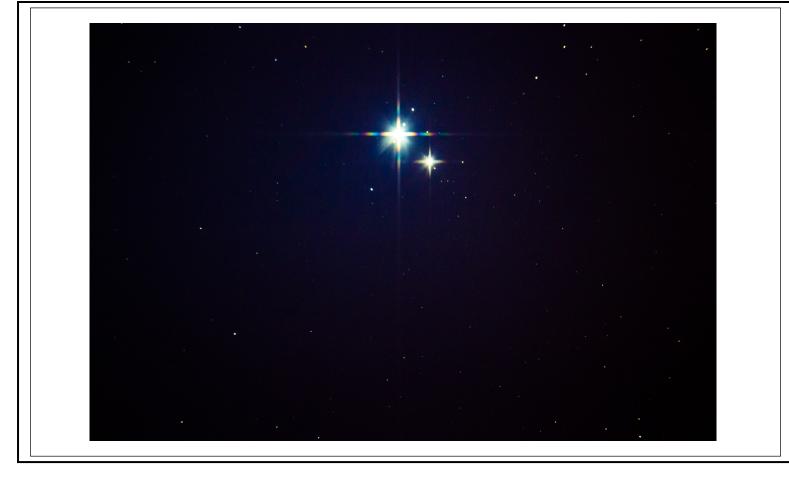
MEET ME AT THE MANGER December 5th

Meet Me At The Manger, a Ministerium event in Bethany Beach





OCEAN VIEW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH





Ocean View, DE 19970 67 Central Ave Ocean View, DE 19970