

Ocean Views

OCEAN VIEW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JANUARY 2023



From the Pastor: Terry Dougherty

The Journey Prayer

God, bless to me this day,
God bless to me this night;
Bless, O bless, Thou God of grace,
Each day and hour of my life;
Bless, O bless, Thou god of grace,
Each day and hour of my life.

God, bless the pathway on which I go;
God, bless the earth that is beneath my sole;
Bless, O God, and give to me Thy love,
O God of gods, bless my rest and repose;
Bless, O God, and give to me thy love,
And bless, O God of gods, my repose.

Brendan the Navigator (484-577)

I do love to think of New Year's Day as zero hour, the clock turned back to 00:01, the page turned back not only to chapter 1, but in fact back to the introduction. Recomposed, we, as the Benedictines say, always begin again. As my experience of OVPC begins again, with a new Church Musician, and with some new officers, I am humbled by the realization this is my sixth start. Five years gone by, exactly: I began on 1-1-2018. When I think back how little I knew, how much I needed to learn, and how very afraid I was that I would fail both you and God, I am humbled. WE made it through; I would not have made it without your love, wisdom and support.

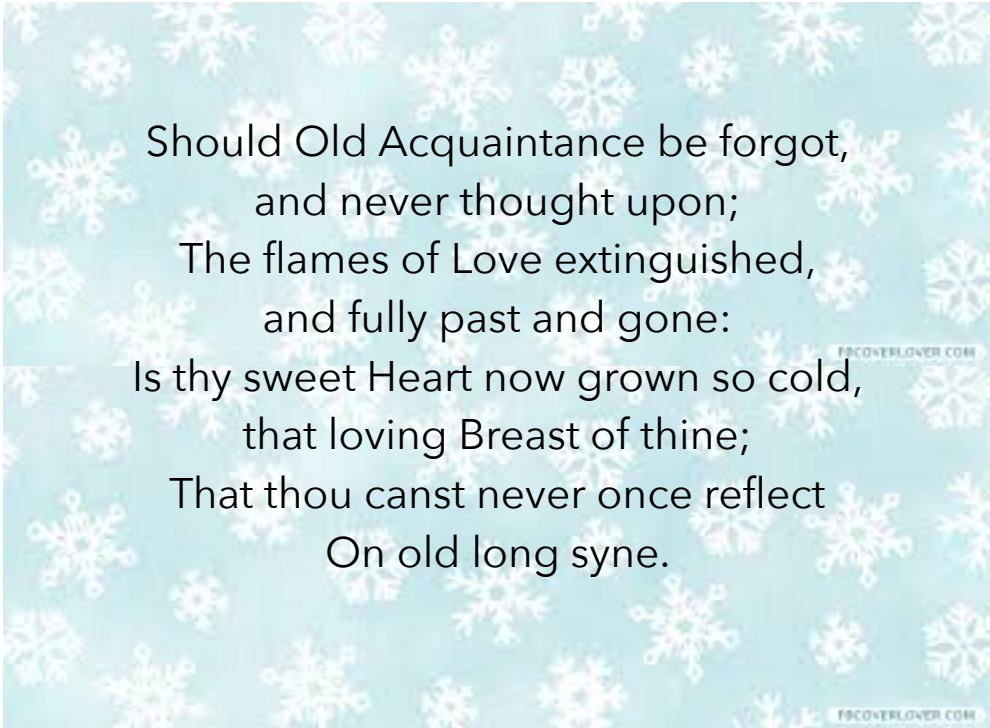
I remember my first congregational actions : getting a couple of vehicles out of the snow on Church Street, and reaching out to (who else!) Bob Wolf to see if it would be possible to record a sermon for the first Sunday in my new call - a snow day, what with 14 inches having fallen! Bob was great, the handheld mic did its work, and here we are five years on.

I just closed up another box of a years' sermon prep and sermons, and I took that moment, as I have each (lectionary) year, to look back at who and where I was. One stark realization was how much more I rely on my own intuitions and insights (following proper, sometimes fear-filled prayer!) than I did then. There is a very real divide between the academic and the practical work of ministry,

but it's very important not to choose sides - especially important not to let either "side" languish. Either side can be tiring though, if there's not joy in it. I thank you, through tears, as I acknowledge that I went through a season of no joy whatsoever, just recently. I thank you because you cared more about me, than about my role, and that meant everything. Permission is the most important component of grace: permission to succeed or fail; permission to be who you are, and to change; permission, above all, to start again, "forgiven, loved and free".

I am eager for this new year; I hope you are, too. We as a congregation have been through a lot; more than appears on the surface, and we are faced with questions about whether and how we need to adapt to the world after the pandemic, just as we were once faced with questions about how to go on being church in a secularized world. I am very glad that it is with you, all of you, that I will face into the breezes, and winds, of this new year!

Athbhliain faoi mhaise dhuibh! (Happy New Year to yez!)



Should Old Acquaintance be forgot,
and never thought upon;
The flames of Love extinguished,
and fully past and gone:
Is thy sweet Heart now grown so cold,
that loving Breast of thine;
That thou canst never once reflect
On old long syne.

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

Monday, December 12, 2022

Shaped by God We Love and Serve

Attending: Rev. Terry Dougherty, Bob Wolf, Mike Read, Marlene Quinn, Bev Bailey, Ray Keeney, Susan Baer, Jacob Stavinga, Ollie Robling (Clerk of Session) and Elaine Wolf (Treasurer).

The meeting was opened by moderator Pastor Terry Dougherty at 7:01pm with devotion and prayer.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Elaine Wolf reported that all reconciles were clean this month. The Deacons have money to disburse before the end of the year. Bob Wolf presented the financial reports and there were no questions. Bob suggested that in the January meeting he would again explain each of the reports to the Session.

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

ORDERS OF THE DAY

The first draft of the 2023 Annual Budget was distributed by Bob Wolf and reviewed and discussed. Line 13 on the budget is the money it would take to bring the last line to zero - in other words what the budgeted shortfall is. This shortfall has been impacted because after COVID we don't have the rental income we used to have. We need to get the word out to the public that we have space available for rent, as with HOAs. We need to do some congregational training on what the Per Capita

is and what the Presbytery does for the member churches. The final draft of the Budget will be presented to the Session in the January meeting for approval.

MOTION approved to appoint Session liaisons to the Committees. See the Committee Reports section below to see who was appointed to each Committee.

MOTION approved to elect officers as follows: Bob Wolf President, Sue Baer Vice President, Elaine Wolf Treasurer, Ollie Robling Clerk of Session, Bob Wolf and Bev Bailey to share Presbytery Commissioner, Bev Bailey as chair of the Nominating Committee with Marlene Quinn as Session Liaison.

MOTION approved to accept the Deacons monthly Missions for 2023

The schedule for monthly Liturgists/ Communion Servers was set as follows: Marlene Quinn and Sue Baer for January, April, July and October, Ray Keeney and Jake Stavinga for February, May, August and November, and Bev Bailey and Bob Wolf for March, June, September and December.

CLERK'S REPORT

MOTION passed to approve the docket for this meeting.

MOTION passed to accept the Session minutes of November 14, 2022

Bob Wolf alerted Session that the Annual Report to the Congregation needs to be started now.

Correspondence received since last meeting: 12 e-mails from Donna Scully, NCP, PC(USA) Store and Cindy Kohlmann.

Liturgists for January : Marlene and Sue

Next Session Meeting: January 9, 7:00 PM at Fellowship Center

Changes to the Roll:

Deaths: Brooks Goldman (10/27/2022)

Funerals: none

Baptisms: none

Marriages: none

Gain/Loss of Members: one

Year to Date Membership: 91

MOTION passed to approve the Clerk's Report.

PASTOR'S REPORT

A written report was received from Pastor Terry. There were no questions raised regarding the report. The report contained the following motion: MOTION approved for OVPC to reach out to NCP and seek permission to host the Presbytery meeting of November 28, 2023, with the understanding it will be a hybrid meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

The issue was raised that Pastor Terry should be the one doing the "assurance of pardon" after the confession, not the Liturgist. Terry responded that in the Presbyterian Church any ordained person can do this, even though some Pastors elect to do it themselves.

OLD BUSINESS

None

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Special Project #2-2021 Mission Committee - The Labyrinth Project - OVPC will be getting a proposal from Lords Landscaping to perform maintenance for the Labyrinth. The only remaining issue is obtaining the benches, and the question arose if people donating a bench could have a name put on it. This raised the broader question regarding establishing an OVPC Policy that could allow "In Memory Of" plaques without any monetary reference to be placed around the property.

Special Project #4-2021 Com/Tech -no update

Special Project #6- Grounds Committee - Paving of Parking Lot - no update

The meeting was adjourned with prayer at 9:59pm by Bev Bailey.

Respectfully submitted,

Ollie Robling, Clerk of Session



| | |
|-----------------|----------|
| Jane Bonbright | Jan 2nd |
| Andy Smith | Jan 2nd |
| Elaine Jackson | Jan 8th |
| Cindy Szlasa | Jan 8th |
| Barbara Dietsch | Jan 13th |
| Ellen Neumann | Jan 19th |

Mission Committee

Mike Quinn

The Mission Committee asks that you consider donating to the Samburg Tornado Relief fund to help the people of Samburg Tennessee as they try to rebuild the town. We trust you remember that we are committed to this mission project thru March of 2023. We thank you for your support.



YARN meets on January 2nd. from 10am-1pm in Fellowship Center.

Besides prayer shawls, hats, scarves and lap blankets were contributed to Meals on Wheels for their Christmas deliveries. Thanks to Marie, Marti and Sue for creating these lovely gifts.



WOMEN'S SEWING CIRCLE

December 14, 2022

Shaped by God, We Love and Serve

Terry opened the meeting with the reading of "Christmas Light" by May Sarton and "Making the House Ready for the Lord" by Mary Oliver. Ellen read from this year's Advent Devotional. Our purpose was read together. A birthday to be celebrated this month is Kathy Sheetz's.

REPORTS

Secretary's Minutes were approved as sent electronically.

Treasurer's report closing balance is \$8517.79

Circle Mission checks for designated giving will be sent next week.

OVPC Mission Alternative Gift Christmas Market total is \$2545.

Session Update Sue Baer and Jake Stavinga were welcomed as new Elders.

Correspondence from GIANT states we benefitted from Blooming' for Good bouquets campaign \$143. A thank you note was sent to Melissa Hansen, program manager.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussed the addition of coffee to the Sharing Pantry.

NEW BUSINESS

Ash Wednesday soup and salad meal will be before worship at 6 pm on February 22, 2023.

Next meeting is on January 11, 2023 with hostesses Marie and Pam.

Bev led us in our Bible Study on the Sabbath with a reminder to remember our Bibles! The meeting was closed with the Mitzvah.

Lorie Hartsig, Secretary

Thank You

On behalf of the staff at Lord Baltimore Elementary School we would like to express a special thank you for our generous donation for our holiday families. We are most appreciative for the heartfelt time and effort put forth to make this holiday extra special for our Lord Baltimore families and school children. We are indeed fortunate and very grateful for the continued support offer community outreach organization, especially during these challenging times.

Sincerely, Pam Webb and Barkley Heck

Blessing Bags

Marie Waehler

In mid-December, Sue Sigvardson and I dropped off another full carload of goodies to Selbyville Middle School. My contact, Ms. Pam Davis, thanked us for our continued generosity. Pam is a double leg amputee, but she is a whirling dervish zipping up and down the school hallways in her wheelchair. The dedication and love she provides to the students are admirable. She is in the process of being fitted for two prosthetics and we pray that she will soon be up and out of that wheelchair running through those hallways.

In the photo, Pam is holding a snack that we provide that gives quick energy to children who come into her office in need of something to eat. She said that it might surprise us to know that many children in SMS have diabetes and a quick snack such as this is critical to keeping them from crashing during the day.

The Blessing Bags list of preferred items we supply to SMS can be found on

our website and inside the Blessing Bags bin outside the church from Monday-Thursday during church office hours. But below you will find the items that Pam said are most beneficial for the children when they show up at school hungry or when they pop into her office during the day in need of an energy snack that they can quickly eat before returning to the classroom:

1. Small containers of apple juice with no added sugar
2. Small bottles of water
3. Chewy Chocolate Chip Granola Bars (BJ's brand or something similar)
4. Nutri Grain Fruit Bars (name brand or BJ's brand)
5. Ramen Noodle Soup Cups (chicken flavored)

I thank you for your continued kindness and generosity to the students and staff at Selbyville Middle School.



Ocean View Presbyterian Church Donates Funds to SERCAP for Small Grants to Low-Income Homeowners in Sussex County, Delaware

Ocean View Presbyterian Church (OVPC) in Ocean View, DE recently donated \$4,000.00 to Southeast Rural Community Assistance Project, Inc.'s (SERCAP) certified CDFI (Community Development Financial Institution) Loan Fund to support low-income homeowners in Sussex County, DE. The funds will specifically be used to provide small grants for critical home repairs and the repair and/or replacement of individual household septic systems.

Formed in 1856 the Ocean View Presbyterian Church was the first church to be built in this area. This check is one of the largest donations made by the Church to an organization. It comes out of a 15+ year activity helping people live in their Sussex County homes - through hand-building access ramps, repairing roofs, and more. Today, it is the home of a vibrant and giving



congregation of 92 members with Rev. Terence Dougherty as Pastor. "OVPC hopes this will be a blessing to our Sussex County community."

SERCAP's Loan Fund provides a variety of affordable loan products to low-income homeowners, including: Individual Household Well Loans, Individual Household Septic Loans, and Home Improvement Loans. The donated funds from OVPC will complement SERCAP's individual loan products by enabling eligible low-income homeowners in Sussex County, DE to access a loan/grant combination that will help to keep monthly loan payments affordable, allowing SERCAP to assist more individuals and families.

For more information about these small grants for low-income homeowners in Sussex County, DE, and the specific eligibility requirements, please contact SERCAP's Loan Fund Manager, Sherman Pennix, at 540-345-1184 ext.142 or via email at loanfund@sercap.org.

For more information about Ocean View Presbyterian Church, please visit our website at www.ovpc.org, or call 302-539-3455.



Left to Right OVPC members: Kristina Taylor, Herb Sheetz, and Gloria Bartholomew;

Deacons

OCEAN VIEW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH HAS TALENT!!

Happy New Year Ocean View Presbyterian Church members and friends. Annually, the Deacons come before the congregation and request our church members and friends to complete a Time and Talent survey.

The 2023 Survey of Time and Talent form lists volunteer opportunities for one and all.

Please prayerfully review the survey, check the boxes of those church activities that speak to you, and please hand the completed survey to your favorite OVPC Deacon:

Gloria Bartholomew, Sue Sigvardsen, Jan Stavinga, Kris Taylor,
Charlie O'Neill or Jim Berrie!

The survey will be printed on colored paper and inserted in your bulletins on
January 1st and January 8th, 2023

OVPC - 2023 Survey of Time and Talents

Name: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____

I am willing to be contacted about serving in the following areas:

CARING

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deacon Board | <input type="checkbox"/> Greeter / Usher | <input type="checkbox"/> Christian Education |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pyle Center Food Bank | <input type="checkbox"/> Healing Service Assistance | <input type="checkbox"/> Communications/Tech |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Home Meals | <input type="checkbox"/> Reading Scripture | <input type="checkbox"/> Facilities Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Home Visitation | <input type="checkbox"/> Singing in Choir | <input type="checkbox"/> Jumble Volunteer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hospital Visitation | <input type="checkbox"/> Solo Singing/Playing | <input type="checkbox"/> Heavenly Luncheon Vol |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hosting Coffee Hour | <input type="checkbox"/> Worship Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Funeral Reception |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OVPC Mission Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Participate in a Lay Service | <input type="checkbox"/> Ministerium |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prayer Chain Ministry | <u>GROWING</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> Nativity Festival Volunteer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prayer Shawl Ministry | <input type="checkbox"/> Bible Study | <input type="checkbox"/> Office Work Volunteer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Securing Church Property | <input type="checkbox"/> Buildings Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Sharing Craft / Hobby |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Stephen Ministry | <input type="checkbox"/> Finance Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Teaching ESL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Women's Circle | <input type="checkbox"/> Grounds Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Visitor Contact/ Follow-up |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kitchen Ministry/Pathways | <input type="checkbox"/> Officer Nominating | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sharing Pantry | <input type="checkbox"/> Personnel Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| <u>WORSHIP</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> Session | <u>OTHER</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Changing Banners | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crafting Banners / Artwork | <u>REACHING OUT</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Giving Children's Talk | <input type="checkbox"/> Cemetery Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |

Deacons

Gloria Bartholomew

DEACONS January Mission with SERCAP
Southeast Rural Community Assistance Project, Inc. (SERCAP) is the Deacons' January Mission. You may remember we introduced you to them in November and gave them grant money to assist low-income Sussex County residents. With low-interest loans up to \$15,000 SERCAP is spreading the word via postcards, PSAs and contact with local service and news organizations. And, it's for homeowners needing help with home improvements and constructing/"rehabbing" well water or septic systems. Deacons will use the remaining portion of their Milford Housing Development Corp. funds to provide another grant and ask that you join us in this month's mission. It just may be the way to keep homeowners safe in their houses and out of shelters! Contact Kris Taylor or Gloria Bartholomew.



Taking down the tree.

Thank You !

Bob Wolf

A special thank you to all who participated in the writing and production of our 2022 Advent Devotional. I have been involved in this project for many years now and Elsie and I always say that 'this is the best one yet!'; and this year is no exception. It is particularly special to me because during production I read the meditations as just words on a page making sure they are formatted correctly and thinking about what images we can find to compliment them. But when that first Sunday of Advent comes, I open the freshly printed book to a wonderful gift where those same words come to life and I am drawn into the story being told, the feelings, memories and passions being shared. It is such a beautiful way to start the day! Can hardly wait to see what you all come up with next year!!



Cemetery Committee

Jim Hartsig

The price of cemetery plots and columbarium niches are going up on April 1st, 2023. The prices have not changed for at least 15 years and are way below market value.

We will raise the price of a cemetery plot to \$1500. The cost of a marker and engraving would be born by the family. The price of a columbarium will be raised to \$2000 and include all engraving. Currently only the initial engrave is included. The current cost of engraving the niche cover is \$350. The cost to add just a death date later is \$300 which the family is responsible for. With the new cost for a niche it includes all engraving.

Purchase your cemetery plot or columbarium niche before the prices increase on April 1st, 2023. Cemetery plots are \$500 and columbarium niches are \$1300



Making The House Ready for The Lord

Mary Oliver

Dear Lord, I have swept and I have washed but still nothing is as shining as it should be for you. Under the sink, for example, is an uproar of mice – it is the season of their many children. What shall I do?

And under the eaves and through the walls the squirrels have gnawed their ragged entrances – but it is the season when they need shelter, so what shall I do?

And the raccoon limps into the kitchen and opens the cupboard while the dog snores, the cat hugs the pillow; what shall I do?

Beautiful is the new snow falling in the yard and the fox who is staring boldly up the path, to the door. And still I believe you will come, Lord: you will, when I speak to the fox, the sparrow, the lost dog, the shivering sea-goose, know that really I am speaking to you whenever I say, as I do all morning and afternoon: Come in, Come in.



Jim Hartsig

I received a message from our doctor's office about a scam:

"Please do not call the office in response to this message. It has been brought to our attention that our patient's are getting spam calls with our phone number and name showing on their caller ID. These calls are not coming from our office. The people making these calls are trying to get your personal and medical insurance information. Do not provide any information to the caller."

The caller will identify themselves as calling from the doctor's office and need to verify personal information. **DO NOT** give out your personal information (Medicare number, credit card number, social security number and drivers license number) in response to a phone call or email.



Souper Sunday - February 12th

Wear your team jersey and bring cans of soup for the Sharing Pantry.

Ash Wednesday - February 22nd at 6pm

Soup and Salad Supper



Bob Wolf

Join us for dinner and a movie on Friday January 6th at the Wolf's house - We will enjoy fellowship and a potluck meal starting at 5:30 and we'll get the movie going around 7:00. Not sure what our main course will be yet; 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's feature will be the 2022 Academy Awards winner of Best Motion Picture of the Year - 'CODA' starring Emilia Jones, Marlee Matlin, and Troy Kotsur. As a CODA (Child of Deaf Adults) Ruby is the only hearing person in her deaf family. When the family's fishing business is threatened, Ruby finds herself torn between pursuing her passion at Berklee College of Music and her fear of abandoning her parents. ([imdb.com](https://www.imdb.com))

SEE A CLIP OF THE MOVIE HERE: https://www.imdb.com/title/tt10366460/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

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!

Photogenic

Lorie and Jim Hartsig



