

Ocean Views

OCEAN VIEW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH DECEMBER 2022



From the Pastor: Terry Dougherty

Charism and shalom, friends, in the Lord Christ, Son of the living God; Since you know me, you know I tend to ever-explain; that's what I'm doing now: the following is from the 4th century, and the language is patriarchal. Often in speaking, I clean that up; but here in print, I ask you to bear with the text as received –

'I sought the Lord and He heard me' [Psalm 34:4]. If someone has not been heard, it means he has not sought the Lord... When you turn to God, do not seek some favor from Him. Seek the Lord Himself, and He will hear you. He will interrupt your prayer, saying: 'Here I am. Yes, surely, here I am, here. What do you want? What is your request? Everything I can give you is nothing in comparison to the gift of myself. Accept me, find your joy in me, talk with me. Touch me with the hands of your faith and you will be united with me. I will make all your burdens light. So, when your mortal body is clothed with immortality, you will be able to be united with me also in your body. Then you will continually see my face. You will be full of joy, and no-one will take that joy away from you.'

Augustine of Hippo,

On Psalm 33, 9

Here in Advent, begun last Sunday, seeking the Lord is our whole, consuming purpose. Seeking God's love in our lives, inwardly for ourselves and outwardly for others; seeking God's purpose for all life, and for God's own creation; seeking God's will, in order to do it; seeking God's presence, to ourselves and to our world, simply to be in it, because that is good; that is very good.

Advent started out a penitential season, with a relaxed day on the 3rd (*Gaudete*) Sunday; from there it has morphed into more of a season of examination, of our world, of our faith, of ourselves. Do all of those measure up to God's vision, in Genesis and ever since? If not, what is to be done? To me, the sort of self-criticism, and even self-flagellation, once prescribed was not, and is not, the answer. Honesty? Yes. Then just seeking, in our own way, to re-enter the relationship; God will do the repair, God will do the forgiving, God in the Spirit will do the strengthening, so long as we

simply stay *in it!* In touch, in obedience, in love. Sounds simple, but we are not simple people. Seek simplicity, therefore. A walk, a favorite place, a clearing away of all that nags, and deliberately **be** simple. Rich Lambert, in *Prepare the Way* (p. 16) says: “Christianity is one long promise that stretches through the ages. Christians are those who wait for that long promise to be kept”.

Patience, dear friends; we are all in recovery, and recovery is hard. Mercy to yourself, mercy for others; love to yourself, love for others. Love for God. I wish for you a deeply meaningful Advent.

Weeping may last for the night, but a shout of joy comes in the morning!
(Psalm 30: 5)

When shepherds shout, when stars sing, when Mary ponders, may you shout for joy indeed! Joy at this slow but real return to normalcy, joy at being together, joy at seeing and loving your families, joy for all that has been and all that will be; joy in the promise fulfilled! I wish for you a deeply joyful Christmas.

I came so they can have real and eternal life, more and better life than they ever dreamed of! (John 10: 10, The Message)

After all these things (as evangelists are wont to say), we will enter a new year; we'll enter with very real losses, very real gains, and very real hearts. God in Christ is actively making whole, wherever we find ourselves. Turn to family and friends, turn to what lasts, put aside fantasies and embrace your life hidden in Christ. I wish for you a happy, blessed, and healing New Year.

Now may God, your very loving parent, Jesus, your very loving brother, and the Holy spirit, your very loving healer, be with you and remain with you, all the days and all the seasons of your life. Amen.

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

Website
ovpc.org

Session
Bev Bailey
Marlene Quinn
Mike Read
Bob Wolf
Ray Keeney
Ollie Robling
(Clerk of Session)

Deacons
Gloria Bartholomew
Joni Keller
Charlie O'Neill
Mike Quinn
Sue Sigvardson
Kristina Taylor

Newsletter Editors
Lorie and Jim Hartsig

Session Report

Ollie Robling

Monday, November 14, 2022

Shaped by God We Love and Serve

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

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

Pastoral Review: Terry was dismissed from the meeting in order for the elders to conduct the annual pastoral review. The ratings and comments were consolidated and then discussed. Terry was welcomed back into the meeting and the review was presented to him.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Several issues were raised regarding where disbursement checks should be charged – one from Marie Waehler for school supplies and one to SERCAP. Also the expenditures from the Deacons' budget are not being tracked in the system and this needs to be fixed.

MOTION passed to accept the October Financial Report and the Treasurers Report.

CLERK'S REPORT

MOTION passed to approve the docket for this meeting.

MOTION passed to accept the Session minutes of October 10, 2022

Consent agenda: MOTION passed from the Musician Search Committee and the Personnel Committee that we approve the hiring of Shannon Flynn as the new OVPC church musician at a salary of \$18,000 per year with 4 weeks of vacation and 2 weeks of study leave.

Correspondence received so far in October: 31 e-mails from Donna Scully, PC(USA) Store, NCP and Cindy Kohlmann.

Liturgists for December : Bob Wolf and Bev Bailey

Next Session Meeting: December 12, 2022, 7:00 PM at Fellowship Center

Changes to the Roll:

Deaths: Brooks Goldman – October 27, 2022

Funerals: 2

Baptisms: none

Marriages: none

Gain/Loss of Members: one – Brooks Goldman

Year to Date Membership: 91

MOTION passed to approve the Clerk's Report.

PASTOR'S REPORT

A written report was received from Pastor Terry. MOTION for Terry to take a vacation day on December 5 passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Items for 2023 to be addressed in the December meeting:

Elect officers and reps to the Nominating Committee

Appoint Session Liaisons to Committees

Approve Communion schedule

Approve paid holidays and office close dates

Approve any Project requests

Elect Presbytery Commissioner – Bev and Bob said they would serve jointly

Elect Clerk of Session – Ollie said he would serve another year

Elect Treasurer

Approve Deacons' monthly mission schedule

Review of 2023 Budget – to be furnished by Bob Wolf

OLD BUSINESS

None.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Special Project #2-2021 Mission Committee –The Labyrinth Project – Looking to place 4 poly-wood benches on the outside perimeter of the labyrinth at an estimated cost of \$350 to \$500 per bench depending on 4 or 5 foot lengths. Mike McCarthy of McCarthy Stone has agreed to furnish and install a large stone in the center of the labyrinth for people to sit and rest on.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer at 9:22pm by Pastor Terry Dougherty.

Quarterly Financial Report

Bob Clark

Year to date for the period ending 09/30/2022

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

Income:	\$142,727
Salaries and expenses paid:	\$151,850
Deficit or Surplus:	(\$9,123)
Money on hand at the end of the period:	\$15,746

As you can see at the end of September the church had a deficit of \$9,000. At the end of October our deficit is \$13,000. The finance committee would urge you to look at your financial situation and consider making additional contributions so that we can end this year on a better financial footing.



Bob Wolf	Dec. 7th	Beverly Stalnaker and Kerry Shull	Dec. 2nd
Karen Rubin Hamilton	Dec. 15th		
Patrick Read	Dec. 18th		
Kathy Sheetz	Dec. 20th		
Eric Neumann	Dec. 20th		
Ronald Moritz	Dec. 21st		
Ruth Schafer	Dec. 25th		
Pam Price	Dec. 29th		

Brooks Goldman
June 10, 1936 to October 27, 2022



YARN meets on December 5th from 10am-1pm
 in Fellowship Center.

Besides prayer shawls, hats, scarves and lap
 blankets are being made to contribute to Meals
 on Wheels for Christmas deliveries.

Deacons

Gloria Bartholomew

As **James** puts it, “**Every generous act of giving ... is from above.**”

This year's 4th and last PCUSA offering from Deacons is December's Christmas Joy. Your Joy offering opens educational doors of opportunity for the young leaders of tomorrow and supports our Presbyterian folks, ordained or otherwise, who served faithfully beyond their active service and into retirement. Some of our students are “hanging on by a thread” at increasing school costs. And, some of our church leaders are struggling with unexpected bills from medical and home issues. In 2021 OVPC raised just over \$1,400 and it is my prayer that we can top this year's giving. Let's you and I put some of our own Joy in their lives by giving today! For more information contact Gloria Bartholomew.



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12-14-2012

I THINK YOUR LIGHTS MIGHT BE TOO
BRIGHT THIS YEAR

Deacons

Gloria Bartholomew

OVPC Donates Funds to SERCAP to provide small grants to low-income homeowners in Sussex County

On November 22nd Deacons presented a \$4,000 check to Southeast Rural Community Assistance Project, Inc. (SERCAP). The grant will be used to help with home repairs, ramp access, sewer and septic system repairs within Sussex County. It is one of the church's largest donations to date.

After a letter composed by Herb Sheets and Pastor Terry to the Milford Housing Development Corp., funds were returned to OVPC from their Monthly mission donations, as well as from a Presbyterian Trust Fund called the Spear Trust.

Herb filled us in that he'd been working with Group (yes that was their name) when he brought the "repairs" idea to OVPC shortly after joining. Their work started about 15 years ago and resulted in some 20 plus home repairs in our area. During that time volunteers included of course Herb, Don Benjamin, Bob Doherty, Rev. Terry Dougherty, Jim Hartsig, Ed Hiner, Ray Keeney, Eric Neumann, Mike Quinn, Mike Read, Ollie Robling, Rev. Terry Shull, and Doug Witham.

Now in 2022 Deacons began the search for a non-profit organization to distribute funds with the same intent for which they were originally given. We just know God was working to connect us with SERCAP. We invited Beth Pusha, Director of Loan Funds in Roanoke, Virginia to meet with Deacons to discuss their mission. It was nearly a perfect match to what Herb and the volunteers were doing!

Beth said that SERCAP was delighted to be partnering with OVPC. They look forward to providing repair services to our neighbors in Sussex County. Finally she said our donation will make an invaluable contribution to low-income residents and will keep us informed.

Deacons thank all involved in their time/talents/and monetary donations over the years and are looking forward to continuing to serve God on all our behalf's.



Sewing Circle

Lorie Hartsig

SEWING CIRCLE MINUTES

November 9, 2022

SHAPED BY GOD WE LOVE AND SERVE

Terry opened with the reading of a poem, "Music", by Anne Porter and with prayer.

Ellen called the meeting to order and her prayer was about Advent.

Thanks to Sue Baer and Sue Sigvardson for the goodies and to Amy Peoples for her lovely

Thanksgiving table display.

The Purpose was recited and Sandra Gayle, Karen Colwill and Marti Sommer were acknowledged as having birthdays this month.

REPORTS

The **Secretary's Minutes** were approved as corrected.

The **Treasurer's Report** states a closing balance of \$8,653.56.

Circle Mission committee presented its recommendations for donations as follows:

INTERNATIONAL: Rwanda Joy \$400

NATIONAL: Presbyterian Women pledge \$350

Presbyterian Disaster Fund \$500

LOCAL: Meals on Wheels \$350

The Way Home \$500

Lighthouse for Broken Wings \$500

SANTA's Letters \$300

Sharing Pantry \$500

Village Volunteers \$200

2022 TOTAL GIVING: \$3600

Motion made, seconded and unanimously approved to accept.

Correspondence received a lovely note from Judy Reich

OLD BUSINESS

OVPC Christmas dinner with music by the AARP Chorus will be held on Friday, December 2 at 6 pm. Amy will decorate. It has been requested by Ellen to the congregation that attendees stay to help clean up after the dinner.

Bread makers for the Ecumenical Thanksgiving service please bring your breads to the kitchen by 5 pm that day.

NEW BUSINESS

PW Fall Gathering to happen this coming weekend.

Marti presented the 3rd chapter of our Bible study on the Sabbath.
The Mitzvah was recited and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Lorie Hartsig

This month's Women's Circle meeting is our Christmas potluck meeting on Wednesday, December 14th at noon in Memorial Hall. Each person brings a dish and the officers provide the desserts. This is a good time to come to Circle and meet new friends or just enjoy the company of friends you already know. You may wish to stay for a short business meeting and our current Bible study which we are enjoying on the topic of Celebrating Sabbath. We hope to see you there!



OVPC Christmas Potluck Dinner
Friday, December 2nd at 6pm
Entertainment by the AARP Chorus

Christian Education

Bev Bailey

Christian Education Committee needs you!!

Have you enjoyed coming to CE classes at OVPC? Did you go to the Harriett Tubman National Park to hear Syl Woolford speak and wander the museum? Would you be interested in listening to Don Benjamin teach us more about the Bible, and a trip to Wilmington for more facts about Ms. Tubman??

Well, the CE Committee needs your ideas and help. Please consider being a member of this important committee. It won't take that much of your time. We meet about 8 times a year at most to provide educational opportunities for the folks at OVPC. We Need You!! Talk to Bev Bailey if you have a love for learning.....and making sure education is an important facet of OVPC.

Docent Sunday at the Labyrinth

Dale Smith



Ever wondered about walking a labyrinth? Want some coaching or advice about what to do? Come to the labyrinth on the **third Sunday** of the month. A knowledgeable docent will be there, **1-3pm**, to guide you

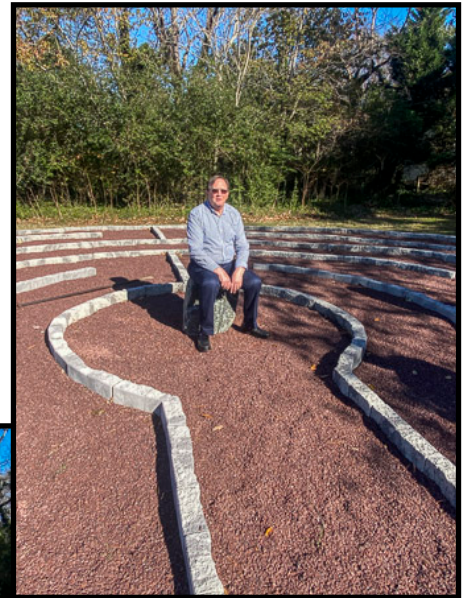


Labyrinth gets a Stone

Thanks and appreciation to Mike McCarthy for his generous donation of our labyrinth stone and its installation.



Bless this rock, O Lord we pray,
Keep users safe here, everyday.
Let people come and sit and stay,
In love that never goes away.
Terry Dougherty



Guatemala Partnership of New Castle Presbytery

It's Weigh-in Day! And we have something to crow about

Nearly three months into this new project and it's time to weigh-in. (Drum roll please)....5.5 pounds! This chicken is almost ready to sell and is living proof that the Association's latest project is a success.

This past summer, the Association launched a new [Chicken Project](#) to address food insecurity and provide women with yet another source of income. These young chickens (mostly male) are raised for meat, not eggs. They grow quickly and are fed corn, grass and special feed to keep their meat tender, making them the preferred bird for typical Guatemalan dishes like *caldo* (chicken vegetable soup) and *pepián* (a rich, flavorful stew)

Here's how it works:

A qualified woman builds an approved coop and attends required training. She then receives 20 chicks and special feed, and fattens the chickens up for three months. When the chickens near their optimal weight of seven pounds, she sells them to others in her community for a profit, keeping a few to feed her family if she chooses. All of the neighbors know these chickens are good quality, so it's an easy sell - and they are happy to have meat for dinner!

Each participant is expected to continue this cycle four times during the year - buying, fattening and selling the chickens. At the end of 12 months, the woman is required to return half of the initial investment (about \$125) to the [Association](#) so it can be passed along to the next woman in line. With her remaining profits, she should be able to continue raising chickens on her own, making this project sustainable.

Back in May, funds were provided to the first 35 women, thanks to the generosity of [Aldersgate United Methodist Church](#) (Durham, NC), [New Castle Presbyterian Church](#) (New Castle, DE), [Westminster Presbyterian Church](#) (Wilmington, DE) and the first graders at [St. Anne's School](#) (Annapolis, MD). Thank you!

And this project is certainly popular! Other women have witnessed the success of their friends and neighbors and asked how they can participate. Right now, there are 82 additional women on the waiting list with more expected. So we have decided to make chickens our Advent project this year. The official campaign will launch on Giving Tuesday (Nov. 29). Be on the lookout for how you can participate. (Hint: chickens make great Christmas gifts, shares are available, and we have beautiful gift cards.)

To learn more about this project (and many more!), please visit www.ncpguatemala.com. Thank you for your continued support!

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Winter Solstice

The winter solstice time is no longer celebrated as it once was, with the understanding that this is a period of descent and rest, of going within our homes, within ourselves and taking in all that we have been through, all that has passed in this full year which is coming to a close... like nature and the animal kingdom around us, this time of hibernation is so necessary for our tired limbs, our burdened minds.

Our modern culture teaches avoidance at a max at this time; alcohol, lights, shopping, overworking, over spending, comfort food and consumerism.

And yet the natural tug to go inwards as nearly all creatures are doing is strong and the weather so bitter that people are left feeling that winter is hard, because for those of us without burning fires and big festive families, it can be lonely and isolating.

Whereas in actual fact winter is kind, she points us in her quiet soft way towards our inner self, towards this annual time of peace and reflection, embracing the darkness and forgiving, accepting and loving embracing goodbye the past year.

"Winter takes away the distractions, the buzz, and presents us with the perfect time to rest and withdraw into a womb like love, bringing fire & light to our hearth".

.. and then, just around the corner the new year will begin again, and like a seed planted deep in the earth, we will all rise with renewed energy once again to dance in the sunlight.

Life is a gift.

a Happy winter to you all...

Written by Bridget Anna McNeil

Artwork by Jessica Boehman



Blessing Bags

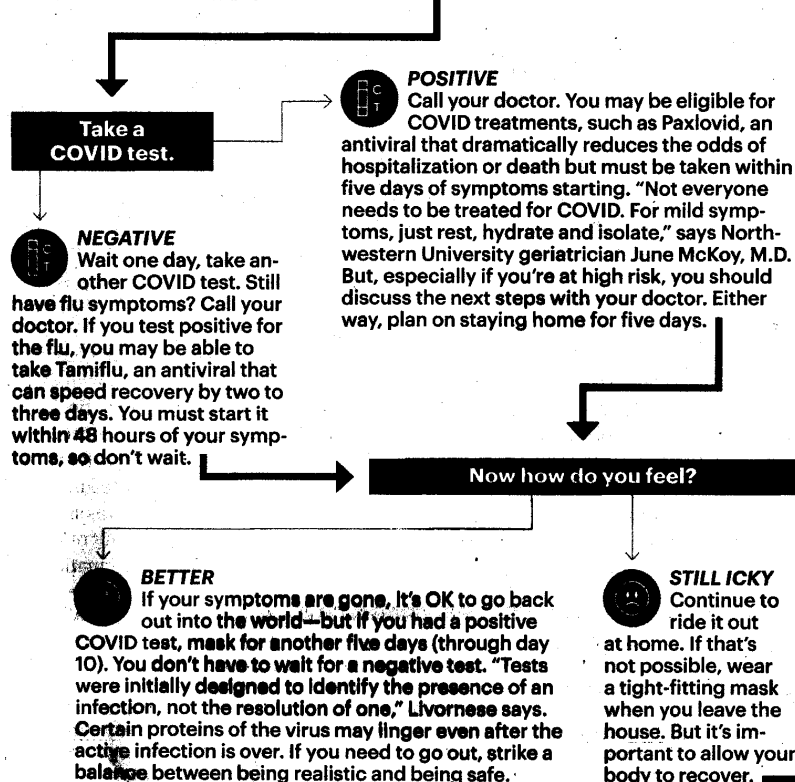
Marie Waehler

I want to give a big shout out to those who gave generous financial donations and to those who gave items listed on the Blessing Bags list for the children at Selbyville Middle School. On November 16th, I delivered a full carload to the school and send another shout out to my three buddies who always unload the car; from left to right: Steve Hudson, Del Cathell, and Zach Morris. They are happy-go-lucky guys and I am grateful for their help. I make a delivery each month, so your ongoing support is greatly appreciated by me and by the staff and children at the school.



With love,
Marie Waehler

SO YOU HAVE FLU-LIKE SYMPTOMS. NOW WHAT?



Did your doctor say you have the flu?



YES

Take care of yourself by watching all the TV you can and sleeping; prioritize drinking fluids. Take a fever reducer like Tylenol. Stay away from others and mask up if you need to go out. Call your doctor right away if you experience red-flag symptoms, such as shortness of breath, unsteadiness on your feet and worsening symptoms, or if you're not urinating—all of which could be signs of pneumonia or other serious complications.



NO

It might be the common cold or any number of other viral illnesses, such as respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), that are circulating. It's not necessary to test to ID what's going on, Livornese says, since these viruses have no direct treatment. Colds can still go south, so if you're coughing up green or brown phlegm or have pain in your chest, call your doctor. This may be a bacterial infection, such as pneumonia, that might require antibiotics, McKoy adds.

Grounds Committee

Ray Keeney

The past three months of the 2nd Saturday of the month Work Day had one cancelled due to a funeral service. On another we spent the day cleaning out the garage and the third, leaves along the buildings adjacent to the parking lot were raked up and moved to the rear of Memorial Hall to act as mulch so no new mulch was required.

The next couple of months will be spent trimming the bushes and trees starting at West Ave & Church Ave and following the fence line along West Ave, the fence line behind the garage, then from the Church Office along the fence to behind the columbarium and on along the fence in front of the new church sign to Central Ave. All those trimmings will then need to be hauled to the recycle center.

Paving of the Parking Lot.

Plitko Engineering has completed their contract to prepare a concept plan to pave a portion of the parking lot in front of the Office, MH and the Sanctuary. That plan next has to be presented to the Town of Ocean View for comments and approval. Once that is determined we will need Plitko Engineering to prepare the construction plans and specifications that will be needed to send out for bids to paving contractors. We will then need to create a budget and figure out how the work will be financed.

Finally, Ray Keller will be taking over as Chairman of the Grounds Committee shortly. I will remain as a member of his committee if he wishes and liaison to the Session.

Nativity Festival

Jen Read

Your Worship Committee sincerely regrets having to make the decision to cancel the Nativity Festival for 2022. There just wasn't enough interest or time within the congregation to put this lovely event together.

2 Corinthians 9:6 tells us: "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver". And this applies to time especially.

We are all aware that time is the only non-renewable resource, and the committee doesn't want any one of us to work on the Nativity Festival reluctantly. For ten years, our members have chosen joyfully and worked with enthusiasm to create a spiritual event for or church and community. For whatever reasons, those feelings aren't here this year, and we don't want anyone giving their time "reluctantly or under compulsion". We want preparing the Nativity Festival to be experienced as the honor and blessing we think it is.

The Worship Committee will explore the possibility of having a Nativity Festival next year if anyone is willing to chair the event.

From the desk of
Tom Bentz

Blood Moon

**Sun set at her back
Terra pulls her cover up
as Luna bleeds out.**

haiku on last week's eclipse



From the desk of Tom Bentz

Stepping Stones

Stepping into the gas chamber
At the Dachau Extermination "Concentration Camp"
Cramped my lungs and chilled my soul
Amid the muffled cries of six million departed souls.

One Aryan artist planted one brass stepping stone -
Ein Stolpersteine -
In front of the home from which one Jew
Was removed and moved to camp
And die at Dachau.

At first the German government tried to stop the man.
Then, as the stepping stones spread at places
And in popularity across the continent,
A reminded nation endorsed and funded them,
Though now there are more Jews in Boston
Than in Germany.

Then will we the free people of the United States
See fit and have the grace
To trace and place
Stepping stones where
Six million slaves had to live here?

Thomas Bentz



Arbeit Macht Frei ("Work Makes Free") survivors at the Dachau gate at liberation.





It's a SCAM

I received the following text:

rev.father1765@gmail.com

Subject: Jim

Greetings,

Is your schedule open? I have a request for you to kindly handle for me. I'll await your response.

Blessings!

Rev. Terry Dougherty.

The Art of Deceit

Scammers use these 7 tactics to get between you and your sense of reason.

1. They establish camaraderie - "So sorry to hear about your loss . . . The trick: Scammers will parrot back the target's religion, political affiliation, military background or life situation to get the target to feel "he's just like me."
2. They play on your aversion to loss - "You've won the sweepstakes! You are now rich! But if you don't act fast . . .
3. They flatter you - "I can tell you know a lot about finance, so you know how much money you can make in cryptocurrency if you manage the risks"
4. They make you feel anxious - "This malware means our bank account has been compromised. Someone could steal from it very easily now" (Never give out account number, login id or passwords to a caller).
5. They create terror - "Grandpa, help! I've been arrested and need money for bail right away!"
6. They seduce you - "I love talking to you. I have not felt so close to someone in so long."
7. They intimidate you - "I'm with the police; you've missed jury duty again. Either pay a \$900 fine now or go to jail." Real Police never call you.

Photogenic

Lorie and Jim Hartsig

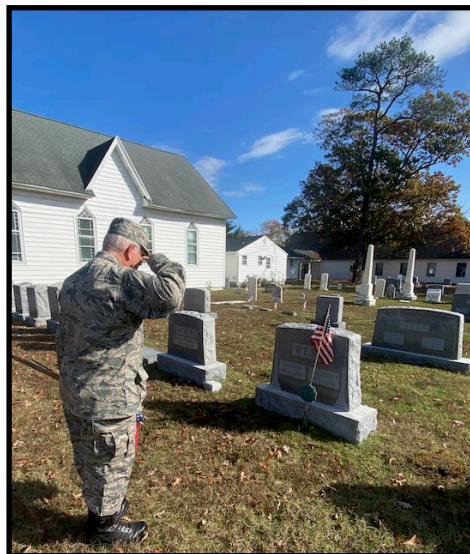


Morning fog.

Veteran's Day



Kerry Shull and Bob Turner at Veterans Day ceremony at the Rehoboth Beach VFW.



A salute to veterans in our cemetery.



Join us for dinner and a movie on **Friday December 9th** 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. Meat will be provided for the meal and 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 Family Man' starring Nicolas Cage, Tea Leone, and Don Cheadle.

A modern-day Frank Capra story. Jack Campbell, a successful and talented businessman, is happily living his single life. He has everything, or so he thinks. Offered the opportunity to see how the other half lives, wakes up to find that his sports car and girlfriend have become a mini-van and wife.

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

We will also be showing the short film 'The Shepherd' written by Dallas Jenkins for his church that soon became the pilot episode for ['The Chosen'](#).

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

