

OCEAN Views

OCEAN VIEW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FEBRUARY 2021



FROM THE PASTOR: TERRY DOUGHERTY

Dear Friends in Christ,

The church year is – by default, I suppose – such an odd duck: it begins in waiting; waiting for all things to begin! Advent is no longer observed as a truly penitential season by we Presbyterians, but it remains a quiet season, with its own specialized vocabularies in music and liturgy. Then, once the grand overture of Christmas has been heard, we enter another quiet season (the one we are winding up in the couple of weeks after I write this), Epiphany.

I think you have all come to understand that I have a non-musician's love of jazz; this morning, to my delight, Pam put on Dave Brubeck's collection **Love Songs**. While listening to the tune *What is this Thing Called Love*, which features a lot of Brubeck's signature variations, I had my own little epiphany (sorry...).

Jazz began in classical music; specifically in the wider chordal and chromatic (musicians, forgive my vocabulary!) explorations of major themes that jazz soloists and bands used to pull out nuances that deserve a closer look, even a more loving look. I think our life of faith is much like that; if that is true, Epiphany the season feels like the quieting, reflective, remembering diminuendos that great jazz musicians engage after a particularly powerful solo. That is to say, a meditative winding down of what has been "seen", during which we understand how to hold on to the crescendos, and the work which built up to them – since we cannot keep them for examination in isolation; all music is thematic. Implacably, in music and life, while we may explore all the implications, we return to the theme.

So, if you're willing to follow me on this, Epiphany is in a way the closing of a year; the time we reflect on what we have seen and learned, catching the bright echoes off the peaks we have climbed. Now, though, it's February, and the beginning of Lent is upon us, and we recognize the wisdom of the Benedictine saying, "always we begin again". We return to the source, to the beginning -- and both Jesus and John the Baptist have taught us what is most important, with their first advice: "REPENT"!

Oh, we say, --right---. It is vital, in our journey on the Way, that we do start – over and over – from repentance. We are not perfect, we are not necessarily careful and attentive to what we say and do, in all our relationships. Nor will we ever be perfect, until the full arrival of the Kingdom of God in all our lives. So, in Lent, we practice our repentance of all the ways we have not been who God means us, always, to be. More exactly, we practice our *metanoia*, which is more accurately a

turning, a turning back or turning aside: a change of mind, and a change of heart.

I want to say our turning away, our turning aside, also consists a turning *into*, and a turning *onto*. This is a determined movement, by each of us, into a deeper and deeper life of faith, into another examination of the great themes of our faith. That starts with Easter, and the theme of Jesus' magnificent sacrifice.

Like Brubeck does on that tune I mentioned, we will begin by setting up our themes, and then, through the year, we will explore them in our own idiosyncratic ways, called back to the main theme over and over. The explorations, the "noodling" and "doodling", have infinite, Kingdom value: they are, over time, the realization of our becoming the unique individual God created us to be, manifesting God's image in yet another facet of God's totality. As Gerard Manley Hopkins had it (and sorry, the language is late 19th century, and sexist by default) in *As Kingfishers Catch Fire*:

I say more: the just man justices;

Keeps grace: that keeps all his goings graces,

Acts in God's eye what in God's eye he is –

Christ. For Christ plays in ten thousand places,

Lovely in limbs, and lovely in eyes not His

To the Father through the features of men's faces.

Here's to the journey, friends; let's go it together.

In Christ's love,

"We will make it to the other side."

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

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

The **Session of OVPC** met on Monday, January 11, 2021, via ZOOM.

Rev. Terry Dougherty, Moderator, opened with prayer and devotions at 7:02 PM.

Orders of the Day:

The Finance Committee Chair, Bob Wolf – presented the OVPC 2021 Budget for review and approval. **MOTION** made and passed to approve the 2021 budget as presented. The budget will be presented to the congregation to be received at the Annual Congregation Meeting on February 7, 2021. Session thanks the Finance Committee for their time managing the OVPC finances and in preparing the 2021 Budget. The Finance Committee will start reporting income and expense numbers monthly in the bulletin and in the newsletter.

Our bookkeeper will be on vacation through the beginning of March. Elaine Wolf will act as bookkeeper during this time: paying bills, posting transactions and processing payroll. Audit reports will be reviewed.

MOTION passed to approve the minutes of the **December 14, 2020 Session Meeting**.

MOTION passed to approve the **Clerk's Job Description**.

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

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 gathering compliance information for PNC Bank to complete the process to turn the loan into a grant.
- **Thank You to OVPC members and friends for your continued financial commitment !**

Pastor Terry's report was received.

The **Monthly Committee Reports** were received.

- **Board of Deacons 2021 Moderator** is Pam Price and the secretary is Joni Keller.
- Monies received for the Deacon's monthly missions for January (Time/Talents) and February (Souper Bowl) will be directed to the Ocean View Cheer Center – Meals on Wheels.

Officer Training Event for Session, Deacons and Committee Chairs will be held Saturday, January 23, 2021 from 9-4 via ZOOM. Focus will be on the PCUSA Matthew 25 Initiative.

OVPC Annual Report preparation is in the final stages. The Annual Report will be sent electronically with hardcopy upon request to the office. More information in the bulletin next week.

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 prior to the Session Meeting: **February 8th Session Meeting - reports are due February 3rd .**

The meeting was adjourned and closed with prayer at 8:47 PM

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Mike Quinn

Sunday February 7 will be the NFL Super Bowl Sunday. On that day Ocean View Presbyterian Church will have their own Souper Bowl Sunday. Since we are unable to meet together we ask everyone to bring a can of soup to the church and leave it in the container marked Pyle Center. This soup will be distributed between the Pyle Center and the Frankford thrift shop to feed the hungry.

If you wish to make a monetary donation please make your check to Ocean View Presbyterian Church and on the line for your information write "Souper Bowl Sunday" Mission. Cash donations for all of February will go to the Ocean View Cheer Center Meals on Wheels. Thank you and have a wonderful Souper Bowl Sunday.



ASH WEDNESDAY "LOVE SOUP"

Bev Bailey

At their monthly meeting in January, The Women's Sewing Circle was going over their calendar and mentioned that they wouldn't be offering the Ash Wednesday Soup and Salad Supper before the services that night. The Coronavirus has taken away another of our lovely suppers.....someone said. Then an idea started percolating. What if we offer soup in a mason jar??? After much talk about how nice it would be if the congregation were eating the same soup on Ash Wednesday, it was decided that the women would provide OVPC "Love Soup" starter mix (instructions included/just add water) to each family in the church. A trio of women searched and found the perfect mix and have been preparing the mix in mason jars for each family. The hearty soup mixture serves 6 and includes lentils, barley, macaroni; so we might all have "leftovers".



Anyone interested in getting a jar of the OVPC Love Soup starter mix with instructions, please contact **Ellen Neumann at 302 537-1347 or elleneu86@gmail.com by Monday, February 8.** The soup mix will be delivered to you before Ash Wednesday, February 17. Then we all can enjoy our soup and watch the service.



Jennifer Read	Feb. 6
Sherry Parker	Feb. 7
Ray Keeney	Feb. 8
Mary Reed	Feb. 13
Jim Hartsig	Feb. 17
Dale Smith	Feb. 26
Don Bailey	Feb. 27
Cate Read	Feb. 28

Elaine and Bob Wolf Feb. 10

Jennifer and Mike Read Feb. 14



"If apples were pears
And peaches were plums
And the rose had a different name.
If tigers were bears
And fingers were thumbs
I'd love you just the same."

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Bev Bailey

February Offerings for Christian Education

Ash Wednesday is on February 17 this year, followed by six weeks of Lent, ending with Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and Easter Services on April 4. The CE Committee is offering a Four week Bible Study called "Meeting God in Paul: Reflecting on the Season of Lent. If you'd like to purchase the book by the same name, the cost is \$10.95 and can be found at www.christianbook.com or www.barnes&noble.com. However, Pastor Terry says that you do not have to buy the book to enjoy the classes. Everything you need will be provided for you. **The 4 week study will be taught by Pastor Terry, Marie Waehler, and Bob Wolf; and will be held on February 21 and 28; and March 7 and 21 after Worship on Zoom at 10:30.**

The CE Committee hopes you'll take advantage of this timely study of Paul during the Lenten Season.

SEWING CIRCLE

Amy Peoples

The Sewing Circle of OVPC met via Zoom on Thursday, January 13, 2021 at 12:45 PM.

About 14 attending.

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 by Moderator Elaine Smith.

Pastor Terry led us in prayer.

Elaine read part of a meditation written by Reverend Doctor Tracy Keenan.

January Birthdays, Ellen 1/19.

Secretary's minutes of the December 9, 2020 meeting were accepted as sent electronically.

Treasure's Report: Balance on hand: \$2232.23 CD: \$3359.46

The kitchen ministry account has been closed. They were able to give 10 bags of food at Christmas from the fund.

Marti is also managing the Pantry Funds. There is \$650 in the fund.

The Treasurer's Report was filed for audit.

Marti has retained the funds for Reverend Doctor Tracy Kennan, our speaker for Gifts of Women Sunday, in May. Marti will contact her to make sure she will be with us either in person or virtually on Mother's Day, May 9, 2021. The gratuity will be discussed later. Marti will offer to have her stay at her home if she stays overnight.

No report from Circle Mission Committee at this time

No report from OVPC Mission Committee at this time.

Session: Karen reported that Session approved the budget submitted by the Finance Committee. It will be voted on by the congregation at the Congregational Meeting, February 2, 2021. The Mission of the Deacons for January is Time and Talents. The items given for "Souper Bowl" Sunday will go to the Pyle Center or the Frankford Thrift Shop to feed the hungry. Monetary donations received will go to the Ocean View Cheer Center, Meals on Wheels. Saturday January 23, 2021 from 9-4 the Officer's Training meeting will be held by Zoom. The Annual Reports will be sent out electronically and by mail where needed.

Sunshine Committee: Marie reported that she has sent cards out for this month and has purchased Valentines to send in February.

Correspondence: Amy received a thank you from Stefanie McElhinny, Lord Baltimore Elementary School for the holiday gifts that were given from Circle. They were very appreciated. Amy also mentioned that Bob and Elaine Jackson really appreciated all the cards they received from their friends at OVPC.

A thank you was received from the Lighthouse for Broken Wings for our donation.

Sharing Pantry: Kathy reported that there is a new listing for volunteers, updates are being done for shopping for more food as needed. New lights are being installed at the pantry. Ten surprise bags of food were found beside the cupboard. These bags were given to Meals on Wheels recipients in December, people in the community have brought items for the pantry. One lady hopes to join us when we can be together.

For our information: Ash Wednesday is February 17, 2021.

A group of members, Ellen, Marti, Lorie and Bev are working on a plan for the virtual Lenten Luncheon, "Soup in a Mason Jar". Various food items are put in a mason jar in layers, to make soup at our homes, i.e. barley, peas, rice, lentils, and macaroni etc. They will give us recipe directions and soup in a jar and we will make and eat at home and all of OVPC who wishes to can eat same recipe on Ash Wednesday. More information will follow as plans are formed.

Bev made a motion, seconded by Lorie that we proceed in making plans for "Soup in a Jar" for Ash Wednesday, February 17, 2021. Motion carried.

New Business:

Gifts fo Women will be held Mother's Day, May 9, 2021 either in person or virtually. Marti will contact our speaker, Reverend Doctor Tracy Keenan for firm up plans.

The New Castle Presbyterian Women's Annual Retreat has probably been canceled. Marti is trying to find out for sure.

The New Castle Presbyterian Retreat is being held at the Hyatt Regency, Cambridge, Maryland on March 5-6, 2021. You can get more information from Midweek Musings of New Castle Presbytery.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, February 10, 2021.

After our business meeting we proceeded to have our Bible Study. Chapter 5 "Lamenting Life" led by Bev.

Our meeting closed at 2:45 after closing with the Mitzpah.

**"Away in a meadow all covered with snow
The little old groundhog looks for his shadow
The clouds in the sky determine our fate
If winter will leave us all early or late."**

Don Halley



By affirmation of the Session, OVPC participated in the National Remembrance of the 400,00 Americans who have lost their lives to COVID-19.



Lighting the light and ringing the bell.



New light pole installed by Ray Keeney and Bob Doherty.

Sharing Pantry

Please help our Sharing Pantry with continued success!

Items needed:

- Individual Applesauce Cups
- Individual Pudding Packs
- Canned Vegetables
- Stovetop Stuffing
- Canned Chicken and Ham

All items can be dropped off in Memorial Hallway on Monday 9 am - Thursday 12 pm, or please call the church office for arrangements. Thank you for all your support!





We lived in England 1994 to 1996 and were adopted by an extended family in Henley-in-Arden, a small town just north of Stratford-upon-Avon. We visited one Christmas, resulting in this photo that reminds us of the loving care we enjoyed then and still do today.
Elaine & Dale Smith



This is my cactus gift from sweet Betsy. I placed it in my kitchen where it greets me every day.
Lorie





Next step: **Citizenship!** The Dabaj family receives their Green Cards so now they can apply for citizenship.



Chalking of the Door: An Epiphany Tradition.

FROM THE DESK OF TOM BENTZ

To Facing Janus (January 1, 2021)

Two-faced deus
(or bogus eyeway of us),
Janus,
wary,
some of us
distrust
our rear mirror view
of where you or we
were or are
(images may appear nearer than
they are)
in the nearsighted focus
on the fearsighted chaos
without a farsighted vision
beyond the here blighted
division.

Thomas Bentz

Ex-Post Toasties (2020-)

exposed or
expedited to
expel the paper ghosts
of the Washington Post,
posting the washing out hosts
of the passing ghastly year,
we here hereby
toss the dried kindling
of the dead past year
into the fire
to ignite cheer
that might endear
a brighter new here.

Thomas Bentz



January 1 as New Year's Day comes from the feast of the Roman god **Janus**, the god of gates, transitions, time, duality, doorways, passages, frames, and endings. Janus had two faces, one looked back to the past, the other forward to the future, and the Romans then sent cheers and made new year's resolutions to Janus.

So now I look back with thanks for you and all we have seen, done and been, and look ahead with you and Janus, without virus, with promise and hope for us.

PHOTOGENIC

Lorie and Jim Hartsig



The new dawn blooms as we free it
For there is always light,
If only we're brave enough to see it
If only we're brave enough to be
it....

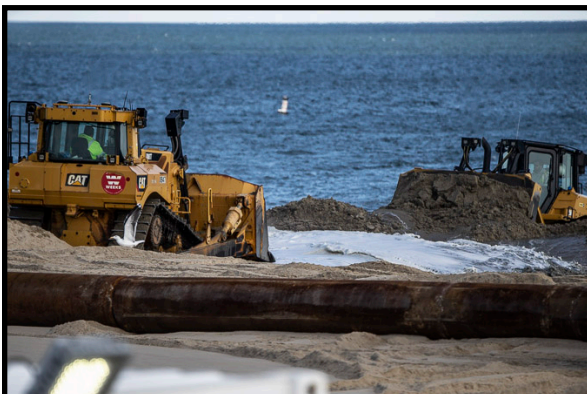
Amanda Gorman



Return of the snow geese.



Bethany Beach beach
replenishment under way.



"Creator God, as i prepare to go into the world, help me see the sacramental nature of wearing this cloth. Let it be a tangible and visible way of living love for my neighbors, as I love myself. Jesus Christ, since my lips will be covered, uncover my heart, that people would see my smile in the crinkles around my eyes. Since my voice will be muffled, help me speak clearly, not only with my words, but with my actions. Holy Spirit, as the elastic touches my ears, remind me to listen carefully and caringly to all those I meet."

Reverend Richard Bott, Presbyterian Church of Canada

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