

# Ocean Views

OCEAN VIEW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FEBRUARY 2022



## From the Pastor: Terry Dougherty

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

We are almost all of a certain age, one which lets me dare to ask, “Remember Andy Rooney”? He was known for his pithy, and rather acerbic, quotes; here’s one: *“I’d be more willing to accept religion, even if I didn’t believe it, if I thought it made people nicer to each other – but I don’t think it does”*.

Did you know, as those of us who have a Presbyterian Planning Calendar do, that today (February 1<sup>st</sup>) is the first day of World Interfaith Harmony Week? It was first proposed by H.M. King Abdullah II of Jordan in September of 2010, and was unanimously adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on October 10<sup>th</sup>, that same year. The point, from its inception as the Common World Initiative, was to urge interfaith dialogue between Christians and Muslims in the Middle East, working on principles those two religions (and Judaism, the first Abrahamic faith) share: Love of God, and Love of the Neighbor. None of their other beliefs or tenets were addressed. The formula is extended in World Interfaith Harmony Week, to be “Love of the Good, and love of the Neighbor”, a principle that includes those of other faiths, and those of no particular faith. A scoche more GA language: the point is:

*Recognizing the imperative need for dialogue among different faiths and religions in enhancing mutual understanding, harmony and cooperation among people.*

*Recognizing that the moral imperatives of all religions, convictions and beliefs call for peace, tolerance and mutual understanding.*

Something we occasionally talk about in Bible Study is the question of the universality of Christian faith, and whether it is possible to be saved outside Christian faith. Yours truly believes it is indeed possible, while recognizing that is a challenging and difficult position for Christians, especially in light of Jesus’ declaration *I am the Way, and the Truth, and the Light; no-one comes to the Father except through me* -- which yours truly also believes. Along with many religious, I believe God is larger than the box we put God in; and that that box is cultural, real, and certainly not a justification for abuse or harm. We are culturally Christian; however we might try to change that is subject to all that we have absorbed consciously or unconsciously that leads us to know the one God the way we do; and that is Good!

We know God, because we know God in Christ, in the Trinity, in the revealed Word of our Bible, our Scriptures. Others, in other parts of the world, do not. Here is a pretty compelling view of religion from Frederick Buechner, from his book *The Alphabet of Grace* (pp. 75-76, edited for length and gender): “Religion as a word points essentially, I think, to that area of human experience where in one way or another people happen upon mystery as a summons to pilgrimage, a come-all-ye; where they are led to suspect the reality of splendors they cannot name; where they sense meanings no less overwhelming because they can only be hinted at ... where in great laughter perhaps, and certain silences they glimpse a destination they can never know fully until they reach it...Only then, we tend to go on as though nothing has happened. To go on as though something *has* happened... is to enter that dimension of life that religion is a word for”.

Richard Niebuhr has it like this, in *The Meaning of Revelation*: “When the creator is revealed it is no longer necessary to defend mankind’s place...The mind is freed to pursue its knowledge of the external world disinterestedly not by the conviction that nothing matters, but by the faith that nothing God has made is mean or unclean” (p. 91) *and* “The self we loved is not the self God loves, the neighbors we did not prize are God’s treasures, the truth we ignored is the truth God maintains, the justice we sought because it was our own is not the justice that God’s love desires” (p. 99).

To try and become an adherent of another religion is, perhaps, a noble project – but I would say it’s more likely a frustrating project, at least 99% of the time (my generation tried a lot, and failed a lot). On the other hand, to become respectful of another religion, and other religions, is a necessary project and, I would argue, is both life-affirming and consciousness expanding. It’s very hard to hate those whom you have learned to respect; it’s very hard to denigrate morality so in tune with your own, arrived at differently. Far too often, the approach of Christianity toward other religions has been “Rescue! Conversion!” instead of mutuality and acceptance, grace and understanding, love and service. Here in World Interfaith Harmony Week, why not stretch ourselves just a bit, and learn – respectfully! – a little about another tradition? Trust me, it will enliven our respect and love for our own, with its expectation of love for our neighbors.

In Christ,

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

Judy Reich  
(Clerk of Session)

Deacons  
Gloria Bartholomew  
Joni Keller  
Charlie O’Neill  
Pam Price  
Mike Quinn  
Sue Sigvardson

**Newsletter Editors**  
Lorie and Jim Hartsig

# Session Report

Judy Reich

The Session met on Monday January 10<sup>th</sup> via Zoom. Marti Sommer opened with prayer and a devotional at 7:10pm.

Barbara MacFie from New Castle Presbytery, the Commission on Ministry and Congregations, met with Session. She explored the many Mission projects we support and the challenges with COVID. Her evaluation was very positive and she expressed her appreciation for the way we were operating from a faith basis.

Motions were made and passed to approve the Finance Committee and Treasurer's job descriptions.

A motion was made and passed to approve the Financial Procedures and the Dec. 2021 Financial Reports.

Contribution envelopes can be picked up in the vestibule of Memorial Hall, on the bench under the coat rack.

A motion was made and passed to name Marlene Quinn temporary Clerk for the February Session Meeting.

Training Event scheduled for January 22nd was postponed to March 19<sup>th</sup> and will include all the church officers and the Committee Chairpersons. Participants will be getting information from Pastor as to the time and the agenda.

The church will be hosting the South East Ministerium meeting on February 3<sup>rd</sup>.

A motion was made and passed that we will not accept any anonymous items in any of our church publications or any committee work, including the newsletter.

A motion was made and passed to have Arctic Heating and Air install a REME Halo air purifier system in the ducts of our HVAC systems in the Sanctuary at a cost of \$4000.00. It will greatly reduce the presence of COVID, FLU and other viruses and help to eliminate surface bacteria in the sanctuary. We hope to have this installed soon.

Because of the high positivity rate of the COVID virus in Delaware (especially in Sussex county where it is 31%), our return to the Sanctuary is still in the planning stage.

Bob Wolf and Don Bailey are getting the Sanctuary ready so when that day comes, the move will be efficient and swift.

The Cemetery Committee is seeking bids for cleaning and leveling 140 gravestones and will be applying for a grant from the Delaware Cemetery Board.

Christian Ed will be letting us know of programs for Jan and Feb. As reported previously, the Harriett Tubman program will be scheduled at a later date.

We closed the meeting with prayer at 9:55pm.

Respectfully Submitted

# Deacons

Pam Price

## 2021 Minute for Mission Donations

<u>Month</u>	<u>2021 Minute for Mission</u>	<u>Announce Date</u>	<u>Amount Collected</u>
January	Gift of Time, Jan and Feb are combined	1/3/21	
February	Souperbowl Sunday	1/31/21	\$550.00
March	One Great Hour of Sharing	2/28/21	\$1,465.00
April	Crisis House	3/28/21	\$1,195.00
May	Pentecost Offering(DACA \$634.80)	4/25/21	\$1,587.00
June	La Esperanza	5/30/21	\$920.00
July	VFW Veterans' Relief Fund	6/27/21	\$1,170.00
August	Pyle Center Emergency Fund	7/25/21	\$925.00
September	Selbyville Middle School Gift Cards	8/29/21	\$1,380.00
October	Peacemaking & Global Witness	9/26/21	\$1,240.00
November	So. Delaware Ed. Foundation	10/31/21	\$1,380.00
December	Joy Offering *	11/28/21	\$1,460.00
Approved by Session 11/16/2020			\$13,272.00
*In the event Operation Seas the Day will not be held the alternate mission will be -			
VFW Post 7234, Ocean View, DE "Veterans Relief Fund"			

\* Deacons Minute for Mission in December was the Joy Offering. 50% goes to leadership development in Presbyterian schools and colleges; and 50% goes to the Board of Pensions to assist pastors and staff who are in need of funds to address emergency/unexpected expenses. We're so thankful that \$1,460 was raised and will be sent to PCUSA for distribution.

It's not too late to complete your Time and Talents survey! We all can work side-by-side to make a positive impact on each other, our church, our local area all the way thru to people overseas. Volunteer for a few activities so we can see your talents in person! Please drop it off in the offering plate or in the church office.



## Deacons

### Gloria Bartholomew

### Souper Bowl of Caring Mission

Known to us as just “The Pyle Center” we support the Edward W Pyle State Service Center’s community food closet and mobile pantries in Frankford. All during the month of February we’ll have a container in the back of the Sanctuary, so our members and visitors can drop off soup or other non-perishable foods as they come to worship.

You may remember that last year The Pyle Center was closed due to COVID, so we collected monetary contributions. Any of these are accepted with our appreciation for your generosity. For more information, contact Charlie O’Neill.

Also don’t forget to wear your football team jerseys – whether they be local or in the Super Bowl – on Sunday, February 13th.

### Tomorrow

There will be sun, scalloped by clouds, ushered in by a waterfall of birdsong.

It will be a temperate seventy-five, low humidity. For twenty- four hours,  
all politicians will be silent. Reality programs will vanish from TV, replaced  
by the “snow” that used to decorate

our screens when reception wasn’t working. Soldiers will toss their weapons  
in the grass. The oceans will stop  
their inexorable rise. No one  
will have to sit on a committee.

When twilight falls, the aurora borealis will cut off cell phones, scramble the internet.  
We’ll play flashlight tag, hide and seek, decorate our hair with fireflies, spin  
until we’re dizzy, collapse  
on the dew-decked lawn and look up, perhaps for the first time, to read the long lines  
of cold code written in the stars...

Barbara Crooker



Jennifer Read	Feb. 6
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

**"IN SEED TIME LEARN, IN HARVEST TEACH, IN WINTER ENJOY."**

**WILLIAM BLAKE**

YARN meets on February 7th at  
10 am in Fellowship Center.



# Womens Sewing Circle

Lorie Hartsig

SHAPED BY GOD, WE LOVE and SERVE

The Women's Sewing Circle of Ocean View Presbyterian Church met Wednesday, January 12, 2022 by way of zoom.

There were fourteen members present and a brief time of fellowship was shared.

Ellen Neumann called the meeting to order and opened with prayer.

Terry shared two stories and one prayer. A memorable quote: "Better for each other because of the worst."

Marlene Quinn led the installation of new officers, Moderator Ellen Neumann and Secretary Lorie Hartsig and we read together the PW Purpose.

January Birthdays include Jane Bonbright, Elaine Jackson who is turning 90 and Ellen Neumann.

## REPORTS

**Secretary's Report** of the December meeting was approved as sent electronically.

**Treasurer's Report** was approved as read. All Circle Mission donations for the year 2021 have been acknowledged by their recipients.

The balance on hand is \$2149.44. The Sharing Pantry balance is \$1141.67.

It was noted that the Deacons made a contribution to the Sharing Pantry on 12/30-/2021 of \$351.25. \$2/person per capita dues is due to Marti now.

The Treasurer's report is filed for audit.

**OVPC Mission Committee** did not meet but it was noted that a check for \$2100 was sent for disaster relief to the community of Samburg, TN.

**Session Update**-a thank you to the congregation for its patience toward getting back into the Sanctuary for worship even as Session explores ways to make it safer to be worshipping there.

**Sunshine**- Marie has sent a new two-page letter to six people this month. She included verse and quotes.

**Correspondence**- Kathy Sheetz reported a thank you letter from Lord Baltimore Elementary School for gifts delivered there by Kathy. These gifts made a big difference in the Christmas the recipients had this year and were very much appreciated. Judy Reich also sent a thank you letter for prayers received.

## OLD BUSINESS

**Sharing Pantry**- During Joys and Concerns during worship on January 23, thank you for donations to The Way Home, Blessing Bags and the Sharing Pantry will be expressed. Further, a reminder will be given that the Sharing Pantry needs monetary donations to meet the increasing demand. Ellen spoke to Pam Culley from NCPW about their 2022 service project grant. She

has applied for money to be used for the Sharing Pantry. Pam believes there is \$250-500 available. A reminder was given to be aware of items prone to freezing before placing in the Pantry.

**Coffee Hour**-will continue to be a Grab and Go on the breezeway consisting of bottled water and juice and packaged snacks. It will be scheduled for the second Sunday of the month depending on the weather. Sue Rizer and Bev Bailey will try to offer this on Sunday, weather permitting. Pam and Marie have offered to host in March. Please tell Ellen if you wish to volunteer for future coffee hours.

**JUMBLE**-is still planned for May 14th with set-up on the 13th.

### NEW BUSINESS

**Souper Bowl Sunday**- wear your team jersey and bring cans of soup to church on FEBRUARY 13th.

The soup will go into the Sharing Pantry and Progresso or any kind of chunky soup that can provide a meal in itself is recommended.

**Lent**- After discussion about the wisdom of providing a meal for the Ministerium population on March 16th at OVPC, it was decided that in the interest of Covid precautions and the safety of all involved, Women's Circle will report to Session its decision to decline the preparation of this meal.

This motion was made by Ellen and seconded by Marti and was unanimous in its passing.

**Ash Wednesday**- Again, after discussion and consideration of the safety of preparing a meal on site while Covid is still an issue, it was decided unanimously to offer Love Soup in a jar and delivered to members wishing delivery. The soup will be delivered before ASH WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2nd and available with meat or without. This is what was done last year and was a successful ministry. Forty-eight pint-sized jars will be purchased and volunteers from the group will be responsible for the preparation of the soup with instructions attached. Others volunteered for the delivery of the jars of dried soup. Lorie will prepare an article for the newsletter and bulletin with this information. Those interested will notify Ellen.

The meeting adjourned and our Bible study, Lesson 4: RUTH and REDEMPTION was led by Bev Bailey.

The meeting ended with the sharing of the Mitzvah.

**Hope smiles from the threshold of the year to come,  
Whispering, "It will be happier."  
offered by Marie Waehler**

## ASH WEDNESDAY

### "LOVE SOUP"



As was done last year, the Women's Sewing Circle is again offering Love Soup to be delivered for eating on Ash Wednesday, March 2nd. The soup will come in a pint jar with directions on how to reconstitute and be available with meat or meatless. Delivery will be to your door before Ash Wednesday. To order the jar of dried soup ingredients (enough to feed six people)

Please contact Ellen Neumann, 302-537-1347 [ellenneu86@gmail.com](mailto:ellenneu86@gmail.com).



**Southeast Sussex Ministerium** - 12 local churches pool their resources in serving the needs of the community, especially those most affected by the pandemic.

*From Bethany Beach Land Owners Association - Beach News (Vol 1 -January 2022)*



Photo by Lorie Hartsig

## Per Capita

### Rev. Dr. Jan Edmiston

### Presbytery of Charlotte

### Co-moderator of 223rd General Assembly

I remember telling friends – when I first started a denominational position after 27 years as a parish pastor – that they might throw up a little in their mouths when they hear about my new ministry. I was not A Denominational Person. I was all about the local congregation. My “connectional denomination” sometimes didn’t feel very connected.

But then a couple things happened along the way and it looks like I gulped down every drop of Kool Aid. Maybe I did. And . . .

I still believe that the local congregation is best suited to addressing what breaks God’s heart in the neighborhood and creating spiritual community. And yet I also believe that a connectional denomination makes that happen more efficiently if – *a big if* – **the denomination is focused on the message and ministry of Jesus.**

Before Christmas, our Presbytery staff became aware of a need in one of our smallest congregations. The small congregation had been meeting virtually but they wanted to “come back” to in-person worship for Christmas Eve for the first time in over a year. When they did an extensive clean up of their sanctuary to prepare, it was discovered that they needed thousands of dollars for some construction repairs. There would be no in-person gathering without those repairs.

At the suggestion of a colleague, I phoned another pastor in the Presbytery and shared the situation and – without creating a committee, without setting up a series of hoops to jump through – he agreed that his congregation could cover the cost of the repair needs for the other congregation.

This is why denominations exist.

Because of our denomination – people are fed, doctor bills are paid, bail is covered, affordable housing is constructed, children are tutored, and God’s will is done in ways that would never happen without a lot of congregations working together. Because of our denomination there are countless opportunities to learn, worship, serve, and create community that could never happen in isolation.

Andrew Kukla wrote this recently on a PCUSA Leaders page on Facebook about making contributions to denominations. He was talking about per capita giving. (Thanks Andrew.)

*I was one of those get rid of per capita people. As a “discipleship over membership” person (once upon a time – I mean, I still am, just more nuanced than that ) I used to dislike the per capita thing... in my mind in those days it forced the counting of membership which I considered a category of dubious import (and with any narrow definition it still is).*

“Per capita” is the boring word that means – in my denomination – the price your church pays per each member for the privilege of being on the rolls of a congregation in our denomination. In these days when membership of all kinds is dramatically less important than it was decades ago, please remember that “membership” is not about having your name in a directory or perpetuating an institution.

For followers of Jesus, it's about making a public statement about what we believe and how we pledge to live out what we believe. It's about publically being part of a community committed to making earth more like heaven in the name of Jesus. That's my definition at least.

**Being part of a denomination is saying “yes” to global ministry alongside local ministry.**

Thriving denominations rebuild schools damaged in war and create medical facilities in underserved rural areas and stick around long after The Red Cross and FEMA leave disaster sites. No single congregation can manage the breadth of this ministry.

**Being part of a denomination involves participating in the “*gift of being a part of a larger community than just our community of faith*”** – in the words of Andrew Kukla. Yes, being part of a denomination is a gift.

If you like giving gifts:

Consider whatever it costs to be a member of your congregation in your denomination. Let's say it's \$50 per member.

What if today you sent a check to your congregation for the purpose of being part of The Wider Church for \$50 as a New Year gift of hope for what God can do. Or consider giving \$50 in the name of a member who has nurtured your faith. Or give \$50 in the name of someone who cannot share that gift right now. Or give \$50 in the name of a youth member who is important to you. Or give \$10. Or \$100.

**It's like secret Santa for those of us who know that Christmas is about more than Santa.**

You might be rolling your eyes about now thinking, *“Of course Jan wants to support our denomination because that's how she gets paid.”* This is true and if you don't believe that our Presbytery staff is worth what we are paid in terms of keeping all the parts of ministry moving, then please don't contribute to the ministry of our Presbytery. But if you see that God's will is being carried out in terms of the bigger picture, I hope you'll embrace the gift of being part of a connectional Church.

We could also call it supporting The Church Universal. (It's really hard to be The Church Universal alone.)

**OVPC per capita is \$29.80 per person**



# The Childrens Bible in a Nutshell

Submitted by Elsie Young

In the beginning, which occurred near the start, there was nothing but God, darkness, and some gas. The Bible says, 'The Lord thy God is one,' but I think He must be a lot older than that. Anyway, God said, 'Give me a light!' and someone did. Then God made the world. He split the Adam and made Eve. Adam and Eve were naked, but they weren't embarrassed because mirrors hadn't been invented yet. Adam and Eve disobeyed God by eating one bad apple, so they were driven from the Garden of Eden . . . Not sure what they were driven in though, because they didn't have cars. Adam and Eve had a son Cain, who hated his brother as long as he was Able. Pretty soon all of the early people died off, except for Methuselah, who lived to be like a million or something. One of the next important people was Noah, who was a good guy, but one of his kids was kind of a Ham. Noah built a large boat and put his family and some animals on it. He asked some other people to join him, but they said they would have to take a rain check. After Noah came Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Jacob was more famous than his brother, Esau because Esau sold Jacob hie birthmark in exchange for some pot roast. Jacob had a son named Joseph who wore a really loud sport coat. Another important Bible guy is Moses, whose real name was Charlton Heston. Moses led the Israel Lights out of Egypt and away from the evil Pharaoh after God sent ten plagues on Pharaoh's people. these plagues included frogs, mice, lice, bowels, and not cable.

God fed the Israel Lights every day with manicotti. Then he gave His Top Ten Commandments. These include: don't lie, cheat, smoke, dance. or covet your neighbor's stuff. Oh, yeah, I just thought of one more: Humor they father and the mother. One of Moses' best helpers was Joshua who was the first Bible guy to use spies. Joshua fought the battle of Geritol and the fence fell over the town. After Joshua come David. He got to be king by killing a giant with a slingshot. He and a son named Solomon there were a bunch of major league prophets. One of these was Jonah, who was swallowed by a big whale and then barfed up on the shore. There are also some minor league prophets, but I guess we don't have to worry about them. After the Old Testament came the New testament. Jesus is the star of the New testament. He was born in Bethlehem in a barn. (I wish I had been born in a barn too, because my mom is always saying to me, 'Close the door! Were you born in a barn?' It would be nice to say, "As a matter of fact, I was.") During His life, Jesus had many arguments with sinners like the Pharisees and the Democrats. Jesus also had twelve opossums. The worst one was Judas Asparagus. Judas was so evil they named a terrible vegetable after him. Jesus was a great man. He healed many leopards and even preached to some Germans on the Mount. But the Democrats and all those guys put Jesus on trial before Pontius the Pilot. Pilot didn't stick up for Jesus. He died for our sins, then came back to life again. He went up to Heaven but will be back at the end of the Aluminum. His return is foretold in the book of Revolution.



# From the Desk of Tom Bentz

## The Heavens by Hank Hudepohl

Watching the night sky for the Pleiades meteor shower from the back porch, nothing above but clouds and airplanes,

bug bites at our ankles, a sudden track of headlights against the house, pet eyes peering out a window.

“Not a meteor in sight,” I say aloud to my daughters and the nothingness above us, both of them standing on the picnic table leaning back into me like two armfuls of warm laundry, asking me about the night, wondering what do stars look like up close? where does the sky begin? how long does it take to get there? while I hold them next to me in a patch of backyard in America, my wristwatch illuminating the hour, my thoughts lost in the gap of time between this night and forever, the wonders beyond, the heavens so near, questions so simple, and the answers so far beyond my knowing.

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[www.achillesportfolio.com](http://www.achillesportfolio.com)



**SCAM  
ALERT**

## How to spot a scam

### I received the following email:

Dear Valuable Member;

← **This email never says what company sent this email.**

Thank you for placing an order with us.

You Sent a Payment of \$446.00 USD to BTC Exchange.

← **Did you ever hear of BCT Exchange?**

It may take a few moments for this transaction to appear in your account statement.

Invoice No.: INV1642510314MAN

← **Weird invoice number format**

Invoice Date: 18-01-2022

Exchange through: Paypal

← **Do you use PayPal?**

### Order Summary

#### ITEM NAME:

Your order at bitcoin

exchange (INV1642510314MAN)

← **Do you use bitcoins?**

Quantity 1

Total

\$446.00 USD

Sub-total

\$446.00 USD

Discount

00.00

Total

\$446.00 USD

If you require urgent assistance or cancellation of order, please call our support team for refund and settlement issue on +1 – ( 858 ) – ( 252 ) – 3109

← **Here is the catch - they want you to call so they can extract more information from you like a credit card or bank account number.**

--

Kind Regards,  
**Billing Dept.**

← **This format of the phone number is not common in the US.**

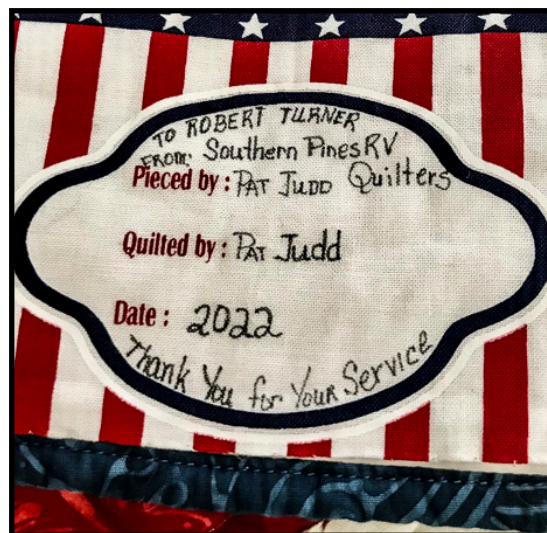




Tree hugging.



Today I was super surprised by the Quilter Ladies of Southern Pines who presented me with this Honor Quilt







Jen and Mike Read have updated the outside sign board for over ten years now. Volunteers are needed now to take their place. Thank you, Jen and Mike.

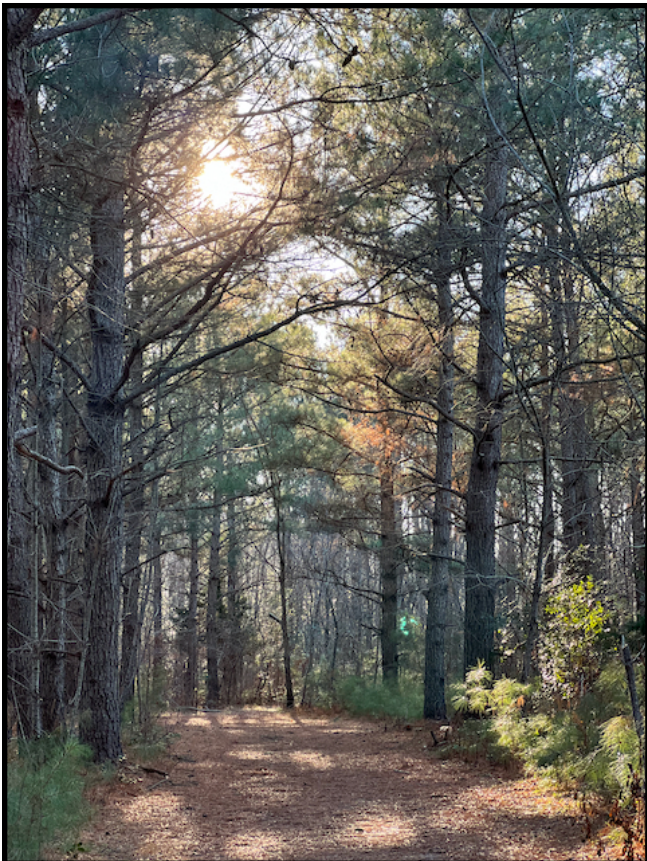
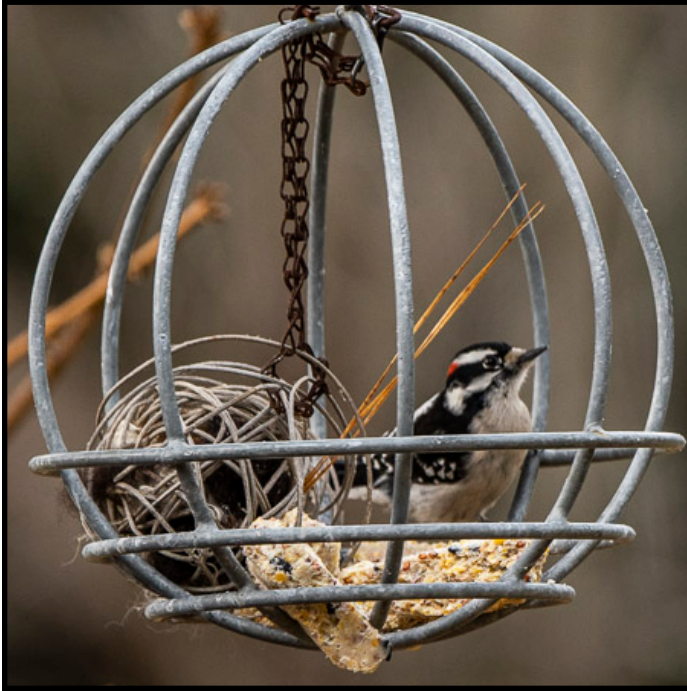


Laying on of hands during Sue Sigvardson's induction as Deacon.



# Photogenic

Lorie and Jim Hartsig





Join us for dinner and a movie on Friday February 4th at the Wolf's house – We will enjoy fellowship and a meal starting at 5:30 featuring 'cheesy goulash'... and we'll get the movie going around 7:00. If you would like to bring something to share that's great but don't

worry if you can't – you are still more than welcome!

Have you ever heard of Mary Thompson Fisher? No? – How about Te Ata? No? Well you will get to know her through the 2016 film '**Te Ata**'; the true story of an American Indian woman breaking social and racial barriers of the 1920's and 30's, while following her dreams to be a Broadway actress and finding her true calling along the way.

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  
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