



OCEAN *Views*

OCEAN VIEW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MAY 2021



FROM THE PASTOR: TERRY DOUGHERTY

Family and Friends of OVPC, fellow members of the Body of Christ, grace and peace to you in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

You have come to know me over time, so you know I would like nothing better than to write something breezy, or something wonky, or something “overly academic” to you just about now (and I thank you that you always give grace for these tendencies of mine). You also know that I love public worship with you, events with you, the outdoors and the Spring time. Nonetheless, right now I am going to be “that guy”.

From the Penn Foundation newsletter: “We can’t expect to immediately get back to the same social situations we experienced prior to the pandemic. Give yourself grace and commit to starting small. Easing into social situations will help you gain confidence.” For some of us, this advice makes no sense at all; we only know the eagerness to re-engage with friends, favorite pursuits and ministries, indoor and outdoor places we have dearly missed. For others, it must feel like permission to feel the uncertainty we feel, permission to test the waters – or not. For all of us, this should be at the forefront of our minds: we are going to react differentially, and that says nothing about the quality of our love or our friendship or our dedication. There must be grace, grace all round and grace abiding. The impetuous person knows in their heart they are right; the cautious person knows in their heart they are right: they both are right, but inside a wider swath of reactions that ALL bear components of rightness and wrongness. COVID is both still out there, and evolving, and being driven back by successes in virology and vaccination. Many of us – a favored group, the fortunate! – are fully vaccinated; the belief we all are is unfounded by evidence. We not only “can’t”, but we shouldn’t expect to simply return to the same social situations we knew before the pandemic. We should be wiser than that; we should recognize for a long time to come the fragility of those and every social situation, therefore cherishing each other and social situations in ways that protect both. Please do not judge your friends who stay in, or who go out. Instead, guided by grace, find ways to understand that are mutual and kind.

Anxiety going in to a store, a stadium or our own sanctuary are to be expected; we have forgotten how crowded our common life can be (and Summer is already here, in many ways, as our annual visitors seek harder to escape crowds). This anxiety is not unfounded; unlike many societies, ours does not bind us to a whole lot of shared standards – sometimes to our detriment. Out there in the world, many people will, voluntarily or not, be unvaccinated and unmasked; we can no longer assess that in the same way. Now, some unmasked people may be so because they are vaccinated and don’t accept they should still mask, while others just never agreed in the first

place. OVPC, as you see elsewhere in this newsletter and in our bulletins, is going to resolve this issue by requiring masking. Same for distancing, and for congregating, and for sanitizing. You will know what to expect, and we will assume your agreement for the sake of the whole community.

Emotions, yours and those of others, will be high. We have been repressed, restrained, refused, whatever words suit how you feel: we creatures designed by our God for relationship have done without full relationship for over a year. That has consequences, and as we release all our pent-up feelings of sorrow suppressed, and of joy unexpressed, we will need as much as we ever have to understand and love each other through it. People we have not seen in over a year may feel like strangers; give that time to work through. Saddest of all, there are people we didn't see whom we will never see again – and that is true throughout society, throughout the world. We must fully sympathize with the variety of ways we will react to this, and incorporate it into our understanding of the world. OVPC is dedicated to honoring these losses, and to observing and noting all the ways our world has changed. We will publicly note, dedicate, memorialize, and all else that we discern we must do. You are all part of that, too; help us not to miss anything amongst the welter of many things.

Dear friends, what I am saying can be summed up simply: have mercy! As our God is merciful, so we must be merciful. As our God forgives, so we must forgive. As our God loves, so we must love – friend and stranger alike. Let's find our bearings, and re-commit to the love that defines us, together; abiding with each other graciously, giving room to the expression of every feeling, whether of joy or grief or fear. Let us seek first to understand, not so much to be understood. Let us be instruments of God's peace.

In that peace, and in Christ.

**"The world's favorite season is the spring.
All things seem possible in May."**

Edwin Way Teale

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

IN CHURCH WORSHIP TO START (WITH LIMITATIONS)

Terry Dougherty and the Session

Dear Members and Friends,

We are extremely pleased to announce that we are once again welcoming you back to OVPC for public worship. Our first public service will be Sunday, May 2, 2021 and will be held in Memorial Hall.

We will be following the same protocols that were in place in the fall when we were last able to meet together. Namely:

- A limited number of people will be allowed in Memorial Hall based on social distancing and government guidelines.
- Masks must be worn throughout the service
- Social distancing will be practiced
- We ask that you call the church office between 9am and noon Monday thru Thursday to let us know you will be attending worship.
- Your temperature will be checked at the door
- You will be asked to sign in at the door

We will continue to live stream our service so we ask that everyone be seated by 9:20. Unfortunately, we are still not allowed to sing so please refrain from joining in as Kathy plays for us. For those of us that miss our time in the Sanctuary, we will also be holding the Thursday evening self-guided meditation time on Thursdays from 6:00 to 6:30pm. Again, all previous safety protocols will be followed.

The members of Session and all of your church leaders are very excited that we can once again take this step forward and we will be studying our options for opening up further to our committees and to our outside groups who use our facilities. We all want to get back to a sense of normalcy and it is our desire to do so as quickly as possible but as always, the health of our congregation and visitors will remain our highest priority in any decisions made. Please direct any questions you may have to Pastor Terry or any member of Session.

“We delight in the beauty of the butterfly, but rarely admit the changes it has gone through to achieve that beauty.

Maya Angelou

FROM YOUR USHERS IN PERSON SERVICES TO START (WITH RESTRICTIONS)



From Your Ushers:

We are all thrilled that we are getting back to live worship on May 2nd. Even though many of us have been vaccinated and we desperately want to loosen mitigation recommendations, we must make it as safe as possible for you and for us.

Please be sure to make your reservation for attending service. There will be 36 seats available. If you arrive without a prior reservation and the 36 seats have been reserved, you will be asked to wait until the reserved seats are filled, to avoid taking the place of someone who made a reservation.

Your offering is to be placed in the offering plate on the table as you enter. Any appropriate handouts will be left for you on your chair.

Mitigation measures, including temperature check, signing in, and distancing, will be observed. Again, you will be asked to seat from the front so there is less incidences of inadequate social distancing. As you leave, please pay attention to the usher who is dismissing your row and move quickly to the outside, so we do not create pockets of several people.

Remembering that the service will be recorded beginning at 9:20, please plan to arrive a little early so you can take your seat and the room can be sufficiently quiet for the microphones.

We appreciate all you are doing to protect your ushers and to make this opening as safe as possible. We all want to return to socializing and giving our friends the hugs we have missed so much.

God willing, it will be soon.



ALTAR FLOWERS

You may know that our sister Cindy Benjamin had a lovely personal ministry of taking any ordered (but unwanted for later) altar flowers and distributing them to those who were sick or shut-in or recovering. As she recovers, Gloria Bartholomew has been temporarily filling in for Cindy. So, please be sure to pick up your flowers as soon as possible after services. If you do not want them, please contact Gloria (410-446-2354 rghbart@verizon.net), so she can distribute them. We want our congregation to continue to be blessed by this beautiful ministry.



SESSION REPORT

Karen Colwill, Clerk of Session

The **Session of OVPC** met on Monday, April 12, 2021, via ZOOM.

Rev. Terry Dougherty, Moderator, opened with prayer and devotions at 7:05 PM.

Session reviewed and debated returning to public worship and are pleased to announce **our return to public worship (all worship services and prayer services) on May 2, 2021**. We will follow established Covid-19 protocols as stated for opening last Fall. We will practice :

1. Social distancing and properly worn masks while in the building and parking lot.
2. Temperature checks and on-site registration are required.
3. Sunday Worship Attendance will be limited to 36 worshipers and 10 presenters.
4. Reservations will be available through the church office during office hours, 9-12, Monday – Thursday.
5. An email blast with details will be sent the week of April 19th. Information will be in upcoming bulletins and the newsletter.
6. Session is excited to convene public worship but reserves the right to close if the best interest of our worshipers is compromised.
7. **Our campus is still closed except for worship and prayer services.**

Orders of the Day:

We welcomed, **Don Bailey, Buildings Committee Chair**, to our meeting. Don recapped the 'Covid-19' year 2020. The church facilities have been vacant to outside groups for the last year, the garage roof was replaced, the roof to Fellowship Center needs to be replaced. Don reviewed the repairs for 2021. Session thanks Don and the Building Committee for maintaining our facilities.

We also welcomed, **Ray Keeney, Grounds Committee Chair**, to our meeting. Ray reports that the Grounds Committee has been busy maintaining our campus. The committee would like to designate the first Saturday of each month as 'Clean-Up Day'. Ray will document the jobs that need to be done and publicize the monthly event. More information will be in the newsletter. Session thanks the Grounds Committee for all their efforts to keep our campus looking well-kept and beautiful.

MOTION passed to approve the minutes of the **March 8, 2021**.

MOTION passed to approve the **March 2021 Finance Reports**.

Finance Committee update:

Nominating Committee **MOTION** made and approved to elect Bob Clark, Chair of the Finance Committee, replacing Bob Wolf who is stepping down now that Elaine is the OVPC Treasurer. Session authorizes all financial accounts to be administered by the Treasurer, Elaine Wolf, Finance Committee Chair, Bob Clark, and the President of the Corporation, Martha Sommer.

The Cares Act Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) 2020 loan in the amount of \$15,400.00 has been forgiven ! Session thanks **Don Bailey** for managing and tracking this program for OVPC.

We continue to limit our expenses.

Thank You to OVPC members and friends for your continued financial commitment !

Pastor Terry's report was received.

The **Monthly Committee Reports** were received.

Deacon's Pentecost local offering (40%) will be designated to the Delaware DACA Students at Delaware State University. This was an NCP Matthew 25 Action Committee recommendation.

Session has approved the **Mission Committee's** request to establish a **Special Project** to support the Syria/Lebanon partnership with Westminster Wilmington. **MOTION** made and approved the Mission Committee and Christian Education Committee efforts to strengthen the Syria/Lebanon partnership with Westminster Wilmington by conducting an initial fundraiser appeal, provisioning livestock to needy families, on May 2nd and May 9th , Mother's Day , and additional dates as approved. **This is Special Project #3/2021.**

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: **May 10th Session Meeting - reports are due May 5th**

The meeting was adjourned and closed with prayer at 9:48 PM



DEACONS

Gloria Bartholomew

May Mission – Pentecost Offering Delaware State University DACA Students

The Mathew 25 Action Committee (MAC) of New Castle Presbytery, is encouraging continued support for 137 DACA students at Delaware State University. (DACA stands for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals and students are often referred to as DREAMers.) Upon OVPC's recent Session meeting, we will be donating its portion of the Pentecost Offering to these State students.

You may recall that these students were brought to this country some time ago as young children and are currently permitted to stay. However, they are not permitted to access any loans for their college education. They have been either declared out-of-state students (with much higher tuition costs) or ineligible by some states' laws prohibiting their enrollment at state colleges or universities. Some private/corporate funding has picked up their tuition, but they are faced with additional fees that are hard to meet.

Some of the additional fees are: DACA 2-year renewal fees=\$495; Books= range between \$200-\$1,000; Access Codes (needed to complete homework, quizzes, & tests online)= range between \$100-\$300; and/or Graduate Program Tests= range between \$200-\$1,000.

Delaware State and Eastern Connecticut State were the first two universities to offer the Opportunity Scholarship Program for DREAMers. The first class finished their freshman year with a group cumulative GPA of 3.7 and are now in their sophomore year. The newest class of 47 students began their studies this year.

These full-time students often hold 1-2 jobs but are still unable to make ends meet. Many receive little or no support from their families who live outside of the US. They work hard and want to succeed, so your generous monetary donations will help them live their DREAMs. While the Pentecost offering supports New Castle Presbytery's programs, a separate check can be made out to OVPC with DACA Students in the memo line. (Please call the office if you are dropping off.) For more information about these students, please visit www.desu.edu/student-life/dreamers.





Phil Hamilton	May 5th
Tim Smith	May 5th
Marjorie Egger	May 6th
Marlene Quinn	May 13th
Terry Dougherty	May 15th
Bill Wivel	May 21st
Elaine Wolf	May 23rd
Sue Dick	May 26th
Bob Doherty	May 26th

Kathy and Herb Sheetz	May 6th
Karen and Bill Colwill	May 20th
Cindy and Steve Szlasa	May 22nd
Cindy and Don Benjamin	May 26th



DRIVE-IN WORSHIP
Wednesday March 31st.
St. Georges United Methodist Church

Sandy F. Pierce, St. Matthew's by the Sea
 Pastor Blair Hall, St. George's
 Rev. Eloise Henry Gordy, Zoar
 Pastor Terry Dougherty, OVPC
 Sister Loretta Primus, St. Ann's
 Rev. Jeanel Starling, Union Wesleyan



Photos by Bob Turner

FROM THE DESK OF TOM BENTZ

It Is Enough to Enter

BY TODD BOSS

the templar
halls of museums, for

example, or
the chambers of churches,

and admire
no more than the beauty

there, or
remember the graveness

of stone, or
whatever. You don't

have to do any
better. You don't have to

understand
the liturgy or know history

to feel holy
in a gallery or presbytery.

It is enough
to have come just so far.

You need
not be opened any more

than does
a door, standing ajar.

Agony and Accessories

Agony,
Ageless agitator since before Samson
rose
Amid his adversaries
And disposed the palace of the
Palestinians,
Applies to
Another or more
Assassinated
As casualties of war over seas
And of casual or causal tickets,
bullets or knees from
A peace officer or enforcer in the u/
us of
A.

Thomas Bentz

My heart was lifted today not only by my cardiologist, but by stars and corporate heads, as Apple CEO Tim Cooked me back to Selma and us and the U.S. ahead:

"Today's verdict was just, but as Dr. King wrote: "Justice for Black people will not flow into society merely from court decisions nor from fountains of political oratory...Justice for Black people cannot be achieved without radical changes in the structure of our society."

SEWING CIRCLE

Amy Peoples

The Sewing Circle of Ocean View Presbyterian Church met Wednesday, April 14, 2021 by way of Zoom. We met at 12:45 PM for social hour. We were especially happy to have Flora Beaver with us.

There were 13 in attendance.

Moderator Elaine Smith called the meeting to order at 1:00PM.

Pastor Terry read a poem by Wendell Berry, "The Lilies" and followed it with a prayer.

Elaine read a prayer "A Prayer for a Meeting".

Elaine read the OVPC Vision statement; Shaped by God, we love and serve.

April birthdays; Sue Baer, 4/4, Sue Rizer 4/4, Sandy White, 4/10, Cindy Benjamin 4/15, Pam Dougherty 4/20

We were told that Cindy Benjamin is still in Dover in rehab but working very hard to recover. She hopes to be home soon. Our prayers continue for her.

REPORTS;

Secretary's Minutes;

Sue Baer made a motion, seconded by Ellen Neumann that we accept the minutes of the March 10, 2021 meeting as sent electronically. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report;

Marti reported that the balance on hand \$3310.82. This money includes \$1723.00 for the Sharing Pantry. We were happy to report that we received a \$1000.00 donation from the Haaga family for the Sharing Pantry.

Lorie will look in to the check for \$500.00 that was sent to the Dreamer's last year that was not cashed.

Circle Mission Committee; No Report at this time

OVPC Mission Committee;

Marlene encouraged us to look at the shadow box outside of Memorial Hall for a rendering of the proposed Labyrinth.

Lord Baltimore School is need of mentors. If you would like to participate, please contact Jen Read. She has the applications.

OVPC and Westminster Presbyterian Church, Wilmington have teamed up to do a project similar to the Heifer Project. Two ladies from Westminster will do a Zoom meeting to explain this project Sunday, May 2. There are special gift cards available.

Session Report;

Marlene reported that Elaine Wolf will be the new church treasurer and Bob Clark will be heading Finance Committee..

Circle meets with Session in May.

She also reported that we will once again return to public worship on May 2, 2021. We will follow protocol we had previously with limited participants and we will need to call church office for needed reservations in week preceding. There will be an email blast and letters written to members by mail about the opening.

Ray Keeney met with Session and asked them to consider having the first Saturday of the month be church clean-up day instead of one day in spring and fall. Instead of lunch the Circle suggested that we provide water for the workers, since the church is in the process of planning on meeting in person and in- person lunch would not be possible at this time.

Sunshine;

Marie reported that she sent out Easter cards to those who are home bound or away from OVPC.

Amy wanted the group to know that the Jacksons especially appreciated being remembered by Circle members.

Correspondence;

Amy read notes from the Worship Committee thanking the Circle for delivering palms to church members before Palm Sunday. Also a lovely note was received from Carol Kratch, who was an active Circle member before she moved to VA. She and Dave are doing well and are glad to be remembered by OVPC Circle.

Old Business;

Since the generous check was received from the Haaga family for the Sharing Pantry, it was thought we would not put articles in church bulletin asking for goods for awhile. The Sharing Pantry is being used by the community.

The Gifts of Women Sunday is Mother's Day, May 9. Reverend Doctor Tracy Keenan will be our special speaker that day. She and Pastor Terry have been in contact planning the service. Don Bailey and Bob Wolf have plans for an outside Mother's Day Coffee hour for that day. More information will follow.

Marlene made a motion, seconded by Lorie that we postpone the Heavenly Luncheon for another year, Motion carried. The Cottage Tour is to be virtual and we do not know what the plans for

opening the church campus will be at this time. The luncheon takes much planning so we thought it best to not do again this year. It is hoped that we can have a big Jumble in the fall.

Elaine will check with Ray about providing water for work days.

Marie brought us a mission idea for collecting needed personal items, such as, combs, washcloths, tooth paste and putting in gallon bags for the Way Home, called Blessing Bags. These are men who have just been released from prison. She called The Way Home in Georgetown and they were very happy to receive them. After discussion it was decided that Marie will put her proposal in May newsletter, list of needs will be put in bulletin, a bin will be provided in Memorial Hall for filled bags to be placed by May 31, the bags will be taken to Georgetown. We will assess after we see the response .we receive by OVPC members

Our business meeting adjourned and we went to our Bible Study, Chapter 8,"God Laments" led by Marti.

After the Bible Study we closed with the Mizpah at 3:00PM

Our next Circle meeting will be May 12, 2021. The Bible lesson will be Chapter 9 led by Be Bailey

Respectfully submitted by Amy Peoples, Secretary

A REMINDER FROM Jen Read

Governor Carney has expressed concern about the many Delaware students who will finish this school year far from ready to go on to the next grade. He is encouraging schools to collaborate with parents and communities to provide these students with mentoring and tutoring as soon as possible, through the summer, and possibly into the 2021-2022 school year to get them caught up with the curriculum they missed.

Pamela Webb, Principal at Lord Baltimore Elementary School, is setting up such a program. It will begin as soon as the district determines that it will be safe for tutors and students to work together in pairs and small groups at the school. Several of our OVPC members have already worked with students at the school in their Read-aloud Program, and when our Mission Committee reached out to Principal Webb to offer help, she was enthusiastic about having us on her campus.

If you are interested in being a tutor/mentor to a Lord Baltimore student for a few hours each week, please contact me and I will get an application to you.



BLESSING BAGS

Marie Cook Waehler

I receive daily emails from a knitting and crochet forum titled Knitting Paradise. Late last fall members wrote about charity needlework -- making hats, scarves, and socks for people in need. Others wrote about filling one-gallon Ziploc bags with personal items to give to the homeless or to shelters adding their hand knit or crocheted items to the bags. I felt a tug on my heart to follow their lead.

So, I used some of their ideas as well as my own and began my project. I called The Way Home in Georgetown to see if they would be interested in these bags for the people they help when they are released from prison, people who often leave with only the clothes on their backs and nowhere to go. I received an enthusiastic YES!

I recently presented this idea to the OVPC Mission Committee. It was well received and Dale Smith suggested that the Deacons and Women's Circle also learn about it and decide whether or not this could be adopted as a church-wide ministry since we are now officially a Matthew 25 church and prison ministry is included in this initiative.

I checked with Dolores Clark at The Way Home to ask if they would be interested in receiving even more of these "Blessing Bags." She gave me another enthusiastic YES!

Dale acknowledged that this is one of my personal ministries, but he asked me if I would be a "resource person" if this initiative is adopted. I said that I would.

At the April Women's Sewing Circle Meeting, discussion ensued regarding spearheading this new ministry. They decided to begin with a one-month trial from May 2-31 and discuss the results at the June meeting to decide if we will continue. I will place a bin inside the door of Memorial Hall (near the church office entrance) for your donations of filled gallon bags. The bin will have a sign on the lid for identification. (List of suggested items follows.)

If you have questions, I'd be happy to entertain them; please call me at 302-541-5002, and thank you for your consideration of this mission.

LIST OF ITEMS FOR BLESSING BAGS FOR THE WAY HOME

Almost all items were purchased at Dollar Tree stores in Rehoboth and in Millsboro – personal-size items. Remember that at Dollar Tree, everything is one dollar. That's not true for the Dollar General or Family Dollar stores.

Items in my bags include:

Inside each washcloth, I tuck a \$1 bill; not necessary, but it could buy a hot cup of coffee.

1. Comb
2. Toothpaste, toothbrush, and holder
3. Washcloth (As a personal touch, I crochet the ones I put into the bags.)
4. Bar of soap, or body wash (I prefer body wash, but not all Dollar Trees carry the small containers of it. Bar soap could be messy after first use.)
5. Shampoo
6. A few adhesive bandages
7. Socks
8. Disposable mask
9. Deodorant
10. Hand sanitizer
11. Hand lotion and a couple of emery boards
12. A couple granola bars or peanut butter or cheese crackers, or cans of tuna or chicken, or Vienna Sausages with pop-top lids and plastic utensils
13. Package of tissues
14. A ballpoint pen and small note pad
15. Small bottle of water or juice

At Giant and Hocker's, I purchase the new plastic 100% recyclable bags with handles for 10 cents each in which to put the gallon bags, but if you shop at Walmart, they now provide those for free when you check out. They're not as large as the ones sold at Giant/Hocker's, but they're large enough to house these gallon bags. They're easy to carry and won't draw attention to the person carrying them. Plus, they can add other items to the bag.

If the soap or other items are scented, I suggest that you put the crackers/granola bars into the gallon bag in a separate sandwich bag to keep them from picking up the scent from other items like the soap.

Many other items, some seasonal, were suggested by the women on the forum such as lightweight emergency blankets, small flashlights, crocheted or knitted hats, mittens, or scarves, nail clippers, sunscreen, and cheap plastic rain ponchos.

I search the ads every week for sale items like the granola bars and peanut butter or cheese crackers and stock up. They have a long shelf life. And when I'm in Walmart, I check to see if packages of socks are on sale and buy those, too.

Dollar Tree in Millsboro just north of BJ's also sells socks and granola bars. That Dollar Tree is large and very well stocked with almost all the items I need for these Blessing Bags.

The cost for putting together a bag is about \$10-15, depending on how generous you want to be. Some of the items purchased, like combs, come in packages of up to 12, and granola bars and peanut butter crackers are in packages of 6 or 8, so you really get your money's worth, even factoring in the purchase of Zip-Loc bags and the recyclable bags from the grocery stores.



2021 GROUNDS MAINTENANCE PLAN

Ray Keeney

In past years we have had 2 clean up days a year at the Church: one day in the spring, and one day in the fall. Not all the required maintenance was done in those 2 days. Last year we tried doing one day a week but never were able to agree on a particular day during the week.

This year the Grounds Committee has designated the **1st Saturday of each month** as a work day.

Starting Saturday May 1, we invite all who could help us out, to join us from 9 AM to 12 noon with their knee pads, gardening gloves, and paint brushes.

All of the following areas require weeding:

- Corner of West Ave & Church Ave (bed around the 2 Crepe Myrtles)
- Iris bed around the old well
- Bed outside the Church Office
- Columbarium
- Flag pole
- Historic Sign in front of Church
- Front of Memorial Hall (parking lot side)
- Rear of Memorial Hall (along 6 Crepe Myrtles)

The following require Painting:

- The 2 posts holding up the shed roof over the pedestrian door to the garage
- The base trim around the bottom of the posts supporting the roof of the breezeway between MH & FC
- Two park benches in front of the Church Office.
- The railing along the HC ramp leading to the double doors to the Fellowship Center
- Trim around most of the exterior doors of all of the buildings

Miscellaneous:

- Remove the sign in front of the Church Office, from the 4x4 post, and attach it to the new lamp post
- Replace 3 split rail fence posts
- Cut down the new tree sprouts that are growing along all of the Split Rail fencing around the property

We will update the list each month.

Contact Ray with comments, or questions. Phone: 410 409 3324 Email: rek5bison@gmail.com



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Bev Bailey

May will be an exciting month for Christian Education Classes on Sunday morning. There will be 3 different classes held in May.

May 2—The partnership between Westminster Presbyterian in Wilmington and OVPC will present “The Syrian Livelihood Revival Project”. In our ongoing relationship to assist families in Syria, projects leaders Mary Vane and Michelle Butler, as well as Roseangela Jarjour, our contact in Lebanon and Syria, will present the project and give us information on what is currently happening in Syria. Members from WPC will join our class and Dale Smith will moderate the class so that may be recorded. (Both before and after the class there will be opportunities to donate to the Revival Project: to “buy” a goat \$25, a sheep \$40, or a beehive \$50; or all three for \$100. In return you may receive a handmade card to give as a gift.) on zoom

May 16—“So We’re now a Matthew 25 Church: What’s Next?” Learn more and join the discussion with Dale Smith and the Mission Committee. On zoom...

May 23—“A Visit with Karla Koll”. The Rev. Dr. Koll will talk with us from her home in San Jose, Costa Rica. She will talk to us about what she has been doing during the Pandemic, and what is happening at the University.

The CE Committee is planning some socially distanced summer events. Watch for more information in the June Newsletter!!

SYRIAN LIVELIHOOD REVIVAL PROJECT

LOOKING FOR THE PERFECT GIFT FOR MOTHER'S DAY, FATHER'S DAY OR A BIRTHDAY?
WHY NOT A GOAT, LAMB, BEES OR ALL THREE?"

In Syria, 10 years of war have caused:

- 1/2 of the population displaced from homes
- Collapsed economy and restrictive sanctions
- Properties and infrastructure destroyed
- Severe shortages of food
- 80% of people live in poverty

HOPE

Our project helps farmers return to their lands and restart their businesses by supplying:

- Goats, sheep, or beehives
- Food/water for livestock
- Vet services for livestock
- Beekeeping supplies and bees

HOME

SLRP is a hand up, not a hand out:

- Addresses causes of poverty and promotes independence
- Creates new food source; stimulates local economy
- Returns Syrians to previous livelihoods
- Restores hope, dignity to families
- Promotes peaceful co-existence in multi-faith villages
- Includes local stakeholders and oversight

With a donation, receive a lovingly handcrafted gift card to give to your loved one. Available for \$25, \$40, \$50 and \$100.

SEND YOUR CHECK TO OCEAN VIEW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (SYRIA IN MEMO LINE)
67 CENTRAL AVE., OCEAN VIEW, DE 19970



*Rev. Dr. Karla Ann Koll
Serving in San Jose, Costa Rica
Latin American Biblical
University
Presbyterian Church (USA)
Mission Co-worker*

Dear Siblings in Christ,

Grace and peace to you in this Eastertide.

I apologize for my lack of communication in recent months. Here at the Latin American Biblical University we are at the end of our first academic term of the year. I am so grateful for your ongoing prayers and support, even when I do not find the time to write.

Every morning I climb the stairs to my office here in our house. Portia, my cat, usually gets to my worktable before I do. She spends most of the day beside my laptop. She loves Zoom meetings where she shows off her bushy tail. In the late afternoon or early evening, I turn my computer off and go downstairs to spend a little time with my husband, Javier. Over the past four months, I have taught four courses, guided one bachelor's thesis, facilitated innumerable meetings, and made two public presentations. Though the pandemic continues to cause difficulties for many of our students in various countries, I am grateful to be able to accompany them as they probe their faith and deepen their capacity for theological reflection.

Costa Rica is currently experiencing a third wave of COVID-19 infections, so I seldom leave the house. Costa Rica has a strong public healthcare system and the government is committed to vaccinating everyone in the country. However, it is unclear when enough vaccines will be available. Javier and I have registered at the local health clinic and we are waiting along with our neighbors for the phone call that will tell us that our turn has come.

In a recent newsletter, I shared about what we learned and how we grew here at the Latin American Biblical University during 2020. Follow the link below to learn how women and men have turned to theological studies to find a path forward.

I am so grateful for the technology that allows connections across distances. Please let me know if you would like me to be a part of a Sunday worship service, an adult Sunday school class or a mission committee meeting. I look forward to hearing from you.

In resurrection hope.

Chickens have been delivered!

As you eat the rest of your Easter eggs (chocolate or real), we wanted to share some exciting news. Not only did we raise enough funds to provide each of the 530 women of the Association with a set of three egg-laying chickens, but all 1,590 chickens have now been delivered!

This large-scale project was quite an undertaking given such a short timeframe, and the staff and Board of the Association, along with livestock expert and consultant Carlos, worked with efficiency and speed to meet the urgent needs of food insecurity in their communities.

Prior to delivery day, Carlos made many trips up into the mountains to visit groups of women in several aldeas (villages). He provided critical training and made sure that each woman had an appropriate coop built and ready. Carlos ordered the chickens from a trusted provider and helped oversee the deliveries. New Castle Presbytery has underwritten continued training and monitoring by Carlos to ensure that the chickens are thriving and producing.

To that end, we are delighted to report that the chickens seem to be happy and healthy - with many producing eggs at 100% capacity. It often takes chickens a few weeks to reach full production, and Carlos is on-hand to troubleshoot any issues (such as parasites) that may cause a chicken to lay fewer eggs. The women also received a month's supply of special chicken feed that will help maximize egg production.

None of this would have been possible without your generous support during our Advent campaign. Many of you bought chickens as Christmas gifts for loved ones - and your gift keeps on giving. To see this program in action, be sure to watch the video on our website.

This is just one of the many programs the Guatemala Partnership of New Castle Presbytery supports. Additional projects, such as fuel-efficient stoves, revolving funds program, empowerment training, family vegetable gardens, and reforestation are ongoing. We hope you will continue to lift up these incredible women as they work to provide for their families and strengthen their communities. Undesignated gifts can be made here, and allow us to direct funds where they are needed most at any given time. Thank you again for your continued interest and support.



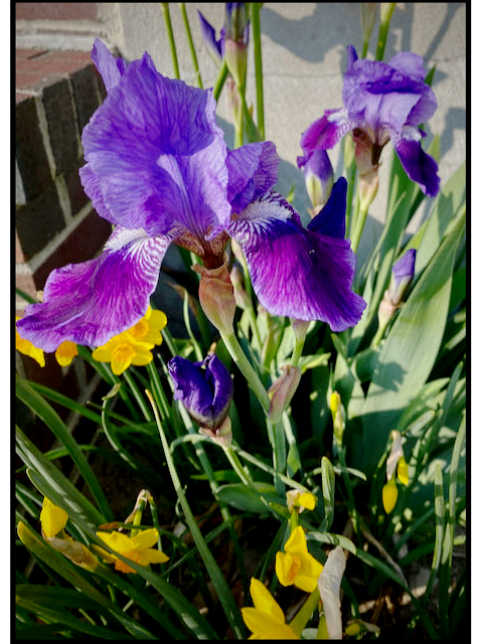
PHOTOGENIC

Lorie and Jim Hartsig



Easter Sunday

In Elsie Young's garden



**"Then my heart with pleasure fills
And dances with the daffodils."
William Wordsworth**

PHOTOGENIC

Lorie and Jim Hartsig



Bringing home dinner.



Osprey in tree.

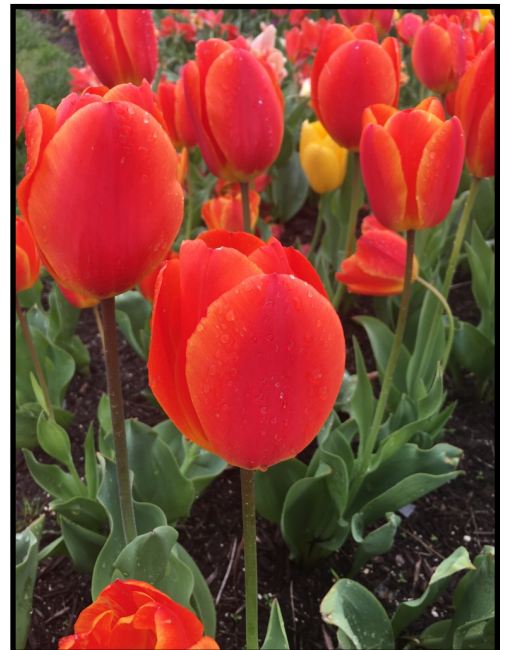


"Splish splash I was taking a bath...."



**Wherever life can grow, it will. It will
sprout out, and do the best it can.**

Gwendolyn Brooks



today, look for the good.
today, see the wonder.
today, care for others.
today, love fiercely.
today, give back.
today, be kind.

original words by rachel marie martin
findingjoy.net
the brave art of motherhood

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