

Ocean Views

OCEAN VIEW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 2023



From the Pastor: Terry Dougherty

This is a simple but amazing truth: something and nothing are not the same.

What is nothing cannot receive something from something; you are nothing in yourself, but in God you are something, and that somethingness is perfect - in and through the nothingness that is God.

So why stay sheltered in your little something-self, full of fear and anxiety? Why not forget yourself in your no - thing - ness, and open yourself to knowing that God's ground and your ground are one? What more is there to desire or know than some measure of this allness?

Meister Eckhart

Grace and peace to you, friends, in our Lord Jesus, and welcome back!

It is with joy that I welcome you home, from wherever and whenever you have been away; home to this loving, giving and caring community. I hope you enjoyed some of the things we did, said, shared and showed throughout the Summer here at OVPC. I also want to encourage you, in the coming year, to share in our life together just as much as you can, in loving, in caring, and in leadership if

you can see your way to that; we need you for all these things!

Frankly, there has been some conflict in our church home; this is not surprising, given the anxieties we face. We are worried about our size, about our budget, about finding enough people to do what we do, and to try new things. On top of that, we daily face the anxieties and divisions in our society, too many to name - and the conflict inherent in how we identify differently in society, yet seek to be family here. It is easy for me, or anyone, to say these anxieties should not consume us, because we are one in God. But that truth, and the peace it can and does bring, is not always evident or in the front of our minds, day to day.

Feelings are the glue that connect the mind and the body, persons, and entire systems (Hunsiger and Latini, Transforming Church Conflict, p. 166, quoting Siegel). Anxiety is a particularly strong connector in us, between us, and within groups... We may be conscious or unconscious of the anxiety that fuels our choices and behaviors... We attempt to subdue our anxiety either through aggressive speech and action, through withdrawal, or through indecision.

So it is, that it is from that peace we know we can feel, because we are one in God, that we can address problems – our own and those of our neighbors, who also belong to God and therefore to us. We can, and do, focus too much on ourselves, feeding anxiety. Facing, and acting, outward will reduce anxiety, replacing it with purpose, and renewed admiration and love for one another. It is in this spirit that our Session has chosen to engage in the two year project of participating in *Vital Congregations*, through we will face our current situation, and seek to transform it into healthy congregational expression of love, both inward and outward. All your members of the current Session, Grace Nelson, Ellen Neumann, Ollie Robling, and myself, have committed to the program; our facilitator is long-time friend of this church and trained coach Julius Jackson, from New Castle Presbytery and Community Church. Watch for our commissioning soon! Please feel free to approach any of us with questions or issues; please don't expect us to share everything we deal with in meetings; some of that deserves privacy, as the work can get personal at many levels.

Because we – all of us! – are a small church, we need to think creatively; but even more, we need to think cohesively, and sacrificially, sometimes foregoing our preferences for the greater good and goal. We need, as Paul writes in *Philippians*, to be of one mind – and that mind, the one that is in Christ Jesus. We need to stay humble, focusing on others, loving the whole, wounded body of Christ.

Join us, friends; join us, help us, support us, pray for us. This loving community is greater than any one of us, or any group of us, and is in fact *great*! Shaped by God, we love and serve. In God, we live and move and have our being. Here's to our new year, in Christ!

Peace, Pastor Terry

Ps: Song to go with photo: *Monsters of Folk; Whole Lotta Losin'*



Ocean View Presbyterian Church

67 Central Avenue
Ocean View, DE
19970

Service

Sunday, 9:30 A.M.

Pastor

Terry Dougherty

Church Office

302-539-3455
Diane Brown

Website

ovpc.org

Session

Susan Baer
Bev Bailey
Ray Keeney
Marlene Quinn
Jake Stavinga
Bob Wolf

(Clerk of Session)
Ollie Robling

Deacons

Gloria Bartholomew
Jim Berrie
Charlie O'Neill
Sue Sigvardson
Jan Stavinga
Kristina Taylor

Session Report

Shaped by God We Love and Serve

Monday, July 10, 2023

Attending: Rev. Terry Dougherty (Moderator), Susan Baer, Bob Wolf, Ray Keeney, Bev Bailey, Marlene Quinn, Ollie Robling (Clerk of Session), Elaine Wolf (Treasurer), and Bob Clark (Chair of the Finance Committee). Jake Stavinga attended via ZOOM.

The meeting was opened by moderator Pastor Terry Dougherty at 7:03pm with devotion and prayer.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Session interview of Rich and Lene Kuhblank for membership. It was a very good question and answer exchange and to put it mildly they are quite the world travelers. Motion was made and passed to accept them into membership and they were warmly welcomed to OVPC. The actual induction date TBD.

Bob Clark presented the mid year budget review. No changes need to be made to the Budget, but we are not gaining ground on the \$30,000 annual deficit. Bob Clark will be sending a Budget Report to the OVPC office for inclusion in the next Worship Bulletin and Newsletter.

Motion to approve the purchase of \$5,500 of campus security items was approved with the following stipulations: (1) co-ordinate with the Building Committee regarding the installation of the items, (2) re-evaluate two of the recommended items for revision.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Elaine Wolf submitted her written report and there were no questions.

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

CLERK'S REPORT

MOTION passed to approve the docket for this meeting as revised.

MOTION passed to approve the Session minutes of the June 10, 2023 meeting.

In June an e-mail Motion was passed to replace the Memorial Hall water heater for a cost of \$3600. The water heater has now been installed and is working properly.

Correspondence received since last meeting: 22 e-mails from Donna Scully, NCP, PC(USA) Store and Cindy Kohlmann.

Liturgists for August: Ray Keeney and Jake Stavinga: with communion to be served on August 6.

Next Session Meeting: August 14, 2023 at 7:00 PM in Fellowship Center

Next Vital Congregations meeting July 27th.

Changes to the Roll in June:

Gain/Loss of Members: none
Year to Date Membership: 80

MOTION passed to approve the Clerk's Report.

PASTOR'S REPORT

A written report was received from Pastor Terry. Terry informed Session that on November 11 there will be Covenant Conversations meeting from 9:00 to 4:00 at Dover Presbyterian Church. Also, there will be an on-line Worship Design Studios Retreat scheduled for August 13 thru 16 presented by Marcia McFee.

MOTION passed to approve the Pastor's Report.

NEW BUSINESS

The Peoples have offered a gift of a car from their son. Marlene Quinn will contact Kevin Gilmore of Habitat for Humanity to see how they handle this kind of a gift. Also, Pastor Terry will find out the year, model, mileage and condition of the car.

OLD BUSINESS

The Facilities Committee submitted a list of Rental Criteria and Use Guidelines for the rental of church facilities. Slight modifications were made and then a Motion passed to accept this list. Facilities can now proceed with rental of space to "for profit" organizations.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Special Project - Mission -The Labyrinth - There will be one last Labyrinth meeting to make a final decision on the land dedication sign. This will be funded by donations.

Special Project - Com/Tech - no update

Special Project - Grounds - Paving Parking Lot - a letter was received from the Town of Ocean View and it seems this project is becoming more complicated than originally thought.

Meeting was adjourned and closed with prayer at 9:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ollie Robling, Clerk of Session

Session Report

Shaped by God We Love and Serve

Monday, August 14, 2023

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

The meeting was opened by moderator Pastor Terry Dougherty at 7:04pm with devotion and prayer.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

TREASURER'S REPORT

Elaine Wolf reported that everything was reconciled through the end of July and there was nothing more to report. She did mention that it looks like in the second half of this year we will begin falling into an operating deficit.

MOTION passed to accept the August Treasurers Report.

Bob Wolf(Communications Committee) reported that there has not been a lot of activity so far this year. He said that they have been battling Mediacom Sunday mornings regarding problems broadcasting. He also stated that they are looking to simplify how they do things, especially the start up procedure. They are looking at a new streaming service that we can broadcast to and then they will send it out to Facebook and You Tube. Also, they would then be able to stream to our website.

CLERK'S REPORT

MOTION passed to approve the docket for this meeting.

MOTION passed to approve the Session minutes of the July 10, 2023 meeting as corrected.

The new Pastoral Evaluation form was distributed and discussed. All Session members and Pastor Terry were asked to review this form and mark it up with their suggested changes/modifications which will be discussed at the September meeting for finalization. We also said that we would distribute the Pastor job description along with the review forms this year. It was also discussed that the congregation should be asked in September (via Newsletter and Sunday Bulletin) to submit letters of their feedback regarding Terry's performance as Pastor.

Correspondence received since last meeting: 17 e-mails from Donna Scully, NCP, PC(USA) Store and Cindy Kohlmann.

Liturgists for September: Bob Wolf and Bev Bailey, with communion to be served on September 3
Next Vital Congregations meeting August 24th at 6:30

Next Session Meeting: Sept 11, 2023 at 7:00 PM in Fellowship Center. Jake Stavinga will be in Alaska for this meeting.

Changes to the Roll in July:

Deaths: none

Funerals: none

Baptisms: none

Marriages: none

Gain/Loss of Members: none

Year to Date Membership: 80

MOTION passed to approve the Clerk's Report.

PASTOR'S REPORT

A written report was received from Pastor Terry and there were no questions.

MOTION passed to approve the Pastor's Report.

NEW BUSINESS

none

OLD BUSINESS

none

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Special Project - Mission -The Labyrinth - a sign will be placed next to the Labyrinth regarding the original Native American owners of that land. I will be made of gray granite, will cost \$3325 and take about 7 months to receive. There are several anonymous donors who have expressed willingness to pay for it.

Special Project - Com/Tech - see Bob Wolf's report above.

Special Project - Grounds - Paving Parking Lot - the engineer gave us another drawing and

apparently there are property issues that are creating problems with moving forward.

Special Project - Campus Safety - AEDs have been installed in all buildings plus other needed safety equipment. The Task Force is now working on a Safety and Security Manual. Jake Stavinga distributed a new protocol for the Night Security Teams that check the buildings. We also asked Jake to discuss the concern about not finding interior issues (leaks, fire hazards, etc) if the security person/people do not enter the buildings. This list had 2 items that appeared to be in conflict so Jake was asked to take it back to the Task Force for revision. The Safety Task Force is also recommending placing peep holes in several doors and this was discussed

in length. The conclusion was to place one in the Sanctuary side door, one in the Fellowship Center side door, one in the FC back door and one in the Memorial Hall back door by Terry's office.

Next Session Meeting: 9/11/23 @ 7:00pm in Fellowship Center

Meeting was adjourned and closed with prayer at 9:31pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ollie Robling, Clerk of Session

Quarterly Financial Report

Jan. 01 to Jun. 30, 2023

Bob Clark

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

	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter
Income:	\$76,589	\$122,174
Salaries and Expenses Paid:	\$53,168	\$102,071
Deficit or Surplus:	\$23,451	\$20,103
Money on hand at the end of the period:	\$31,523	\$27,273

NOTE: Income and Salaries and Expenses Paid categories are cumulative balances.

REMINDER: Second quarter Income is still over stated because of annual contributions by several members. Balance on hand should be \$2,273, it is overstated by \$25,000 because of the annual contributions. The Finance Committee continues to feel, indications are we will still be short about \$30,000 at the end of the year. The Committee would like to encourage you think about your financial situation and give as generously to the General Fund as you can.



Nancy Turner
Herb Sheetz
Mike Read
Mike Quinn
Glenn Taylor
Cathy Yantz
Carol Kester
Earlene DeFazio

Sep. 3rd
Sep. 6th
Sep. 8th
Sep. 19th
Sep. 19th
Sep. 22nd
Sep. 28th
Sep. 29th

Jane and Bob Clark
Ruth and George Schafer
Lorie and Jim Hartsig
Rita and Bob Doherty

Sep. 2nd
Sep. 3rd
Sep. 10th
Sep. 16th



YARN resumes on September 11th b/c of Labor Day, though we usually meet on the first Monday of each month in Fellowship Center between 10-1 pm. Bring your lunch and any questions you may have about how and why we make prayer shawls. We will teach you how to knit or crochet if you have questions and we have lots of yarn and needles to share. We are a fun group of ladies and invite you to join us!

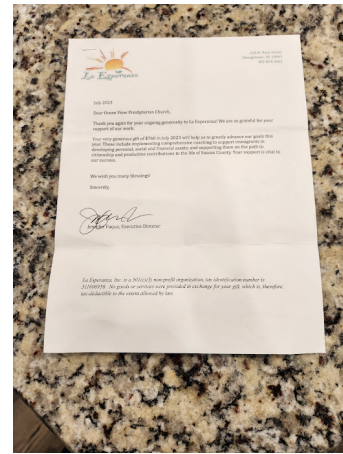
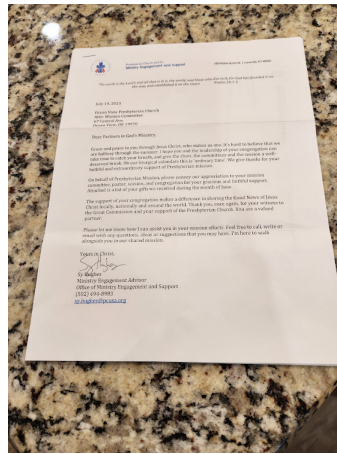
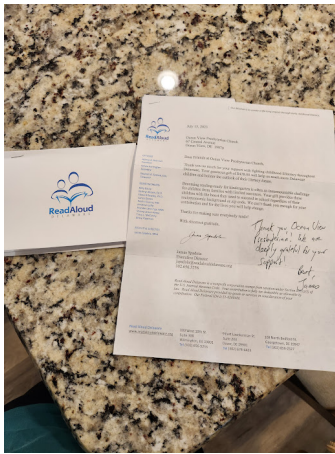
Deacon Committee

Kristina Taylor

One of the great frustrations for grandparents is sending birthday and Christmas gifts to their grandchildren and never getting a thank-you note. "Didn't their parents ever teach them manners?" the grandparents may grouse.

Well, someone taught good manners to the operators of several of the missions supported

by the Deacons Fund. In the past few days, the Deacons mailbox has been inundated with thank-you notes for our donations from several of them, including PCUSA regarding the Pentecost Fund, Read ALoud, DE, and La Esperanza. It's good to know that our gifts are appreciated. They could teach those ungrateful grandchildren a lesson!



Selbyville Middle School

Sue Sigvardson

There is a continuous struggle with meeting monthly bills, as well as being able to put food on the tables for some of our neighbor families in Selbyville.

Guidance Counselor, Patricia Jennings, once again is graciously accepting our help this September in the form of Food Lion Gift Cards (make sure they are "white" cards, which restrict purchases to food items).

Just put "Selbyville Middle School" in the Memo line of your check and place in the collection basket during the month of September.

Thank you so much for helping others in their time of daily need.

For further information, please contact Deacon Sue Sigvardson at suesig77@gmail.com.

Personnel Committee

Marlene Quinn

We will soon be having our annual review with our Administrative Assistant Diane Brown and our Music Director Shannon Flynn. If you have any comments you would like to share with us for consideration please email them to me at mquinnx2@verizon.net or leave a note in the

office with my name on it. Any comments regarding Diane or Shannon would need to be signed to be considered. We would like to hear from you no later than Monday, Sept. 25. Thank you for sharing your thoughts with our committee.

Safety and Security Task Force Update

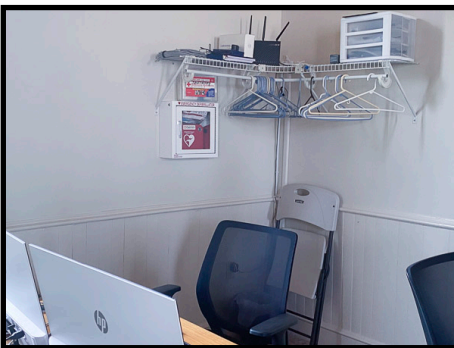
Jim Waehler gave a report on the progress of the task force at the August 13th worship service. As promised, the congregation will be kept abreast of the work of this energetic body of members including Marie and Jim Waehler who lead and record our times together, Ray Keeney, Ray and Joni Keller, Jake Stavinga, Randy Bartholomew, Jen and Mike Read and Lorie and Jim Hartsig.

We have installed AEDs (automated external defibrillators) in all three buildings, one additional fire extinguisher, one new first aid kit and the other kits updated. All of these are in places where you can see them. (See photos). New, safer door latches are on order for Fellowship Center; a locksmith will install them as soon as they arrive.

Our task force is implementing a Safety and Security Manual to be placed in all buildings. Importantly, training for the use of the AED and an updated CPR session will be offered.

Our Sunday security teams have greeted and welcomed late arrivers to our worship services who have expressed gratitude in being given entry, bulletins and help with seating.

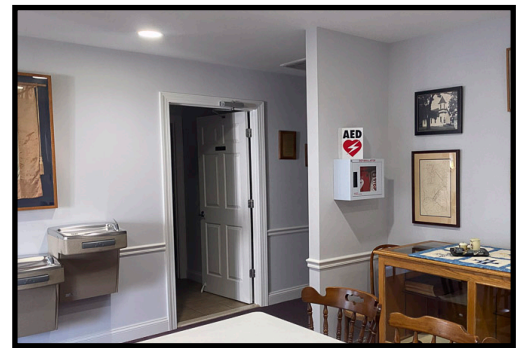
We continue meeting monthly to complete our list of tasks to provide a safer and more secure environment for the OVPC campus, our members and our visitors.



Sanctuary



Fellowship Center



Memorial Hall

Advent

The Season of Hope and Expectation

AUGUST...Time to be thinking about the ADVENT DEVOTIONAL....I thought you might like to read some feedback!

"Thank you so much for sending the Advent Booklet - looking forward to reading it every day"

"Thank you for asking me to write again. I truly enjoy this activity and always look forward to reading the Advent Devotional and seeing what others have written as well as Elaine's artwork. I think this is such a meaningful part of my Advent journey each year "



OVPC Has Joined The Vital Congregations' Initiative

So What?

Bob Wolf

We have heard it before – right? Church leadership has voted to join with our brothers and sisters in other churches in the denomination to do something new – or do something we have always done in new ways. We have already identified Ocean View as a Matthew 25 church and one focus of this is to 'build congregational vitality' – so what is so different about this?

We all recognize that church isn't what it used to be – the pews aren't as full, the finances are a struggle, volunteerism is down – and yet we continue to do wonderful things for each other and for the stranger – so let's start looking at what our church can be. This initiative is nationwide because we are not alone – and there is a vision that we can renew our churches and ourselves by engaging in a time of assessment and evaluation of our church. So we are working towards not just a vital congregation but a *revitalized* congregation.

OVPC leadership did not enter this initiative lightly; it is recognized that there are conflicts in our church and some folks that are just plain not very happy, and we want more than anything to heal the wounds, lessen the anxiety and bring a sense of joy back to our congregation. Each team member entered into a signed covenant agreement with the Presbytery to commit for a minimum of 2 years and honestly it is a bit of a scary proposition. The team will be looking at OVPC'S past - both recent and distant, what is happening now and

looking toward our future. We know that this will require having difficult discussions that will necessitate us all to put our ego aside, lower our defenses, and be willing to let go of some things we may hold dear or accept some truths that we really don't want to face.

This work won't be done in a vacuum – after all, it is being done in large part for you, the congregation, and you will be asked for your input at various times throughout the process – in fact, your comments are always welcome. It is preferred that your comments be in writing (email is fine) and can be sent to the entire team and will remain confidential. While some of the conversations that will take place cannot be shared and must remain private, the team will provide regular updates in the newsletter and from the pulpit when appropriate.

Your team consists of Sue Baer, Bev Bailey, Ray Keeney, Grace Nelson, Ellen Neumann, Marlene Quinn, Ollie Robling, Jake Stavinga, Bob Wolf, Pastor Terry and our facilitator representing New Castle Presbytery is Julius Jackson. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out. We are just getting started with only 2 meetings under our belts and are excited about the possibilities that lie ahead!



FALL JUMBLE

Ocean View Presbyterian Church

67 Central Avenue...Just North of Route 26

Saturday, September 30, 2023

8:30 am until 12 noon

Books



Jewelry



Baked Goods



White Elephant



To Donate Items, Please Contact:

Church Office: 302-539-3455

ALL PROCEEDS SUPPORT MISSIONS



The Sewing Circle needs your donations of the following items: Glassware, small household items, kitchen miscellaneous, linens, jewelry, pictures, knick-knacks, children's toys, books and any other nearly new items. We also are looking for donations of baked goods.

PLEASE: NO CDs, DVDs, cassettes, clothing, shoes, used purses or anything broken or soiled, or computer equipment.

Please bring donations to OVPC Memorial Hall beginning Sunday, September 24 and place in center of room. Please contact Diane at the church office to drop off items Monday through Thursday during church office business hours. All donations must be dropped off before 12 Noon on Friday, September 29, 2023.

Recently . . .



Edna Ewing celebrating her 91st birthday.



Heavenly Luncheon



Meet Our New Members:

Lene and Rich Kuhblank



Retired to Ocean View 25 years ago, after roaming around the world.

Rich, who is originally from Washington State, met Lene in Germany and in 1963 they were married in Denmark, where she is from.

As Rich served 24 years in the US Army, they moved often and lived in every part of the United States, in addition to spending six tours overseas. Rich was a Colonel when he retired from the Army and he then worked 15 years for the State Department, doing overseas construction. He worked in 62 countries during his two careers.

Their son Christopher and grandchildren Ryann and Bo live in Northern Virginia, which was where Rich and Lene lived, prior to coming to Delaware.

They were both raised Lutheran, became Methodist after moving to Ocean View and they are now thankful to be Presbyterian and happy to be part of the kind and loving OVPC family.





Guatemala Partnership
of New Castle Presbytery

55 Families Receive New Stoves

The kitchen is the heart of the home. It is a place where families gather to prepare a meal and share stories of their day. But for many rural Guatemalans, the kitchen is also a room filled with smoke, unsafe conditions, and piles of expensive firewood. To address this, the Association launched a [fuel-efficient stove project](#) several years ago which continues to be extremely popular today.

Just last week, our manufacturing partners of [AJPU](#) delivered 30 stoves to women of the [Association](#) and will be delivering a second order of 25 to another community next month. Funds for the first 30 stoves came from a family at [Trinity Presbyterian Church](#) (Wilmington, DE) who made a generous donation in memory of their son. The second batch of 25 stoves has been funded by our other in-country partner, [CEDEPCA](#). Thanks to these gifts, 55 families will now be able to cook their daily meals on new stoves that use less wood, save money, vent smoke outside, and provide heat for the home. This project also provides employment for five people and supports the local economy.

Each stove costs \$250. The recipient family must invest \$50 of their own money toward this cost (with donors covering the remaining \$200). Because they spend so much less on firewood, women recoup their \$50 investment in just five months. To date, nearly 500 stoves have been delivered to Association members and there continues to be a waiting list of women who have saved up their share of the cost and are waiting for a stove.



Photogenic

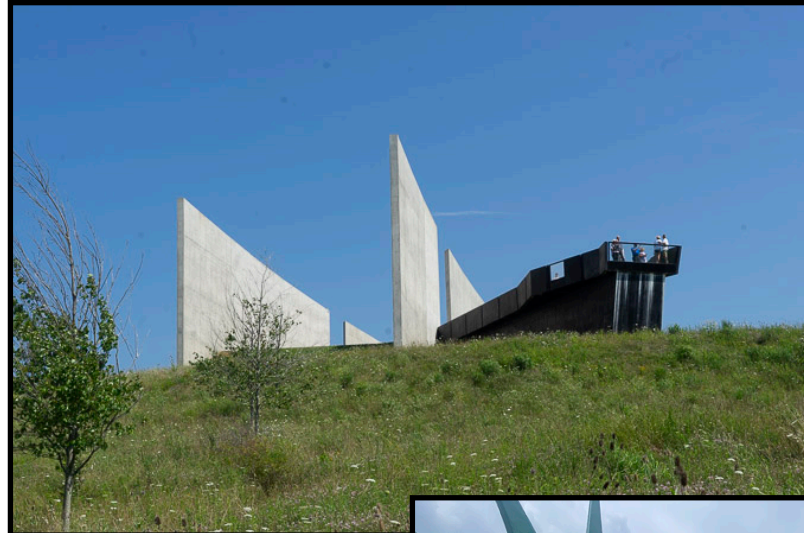
Lorie and Jim Hartsig and Elsie Young



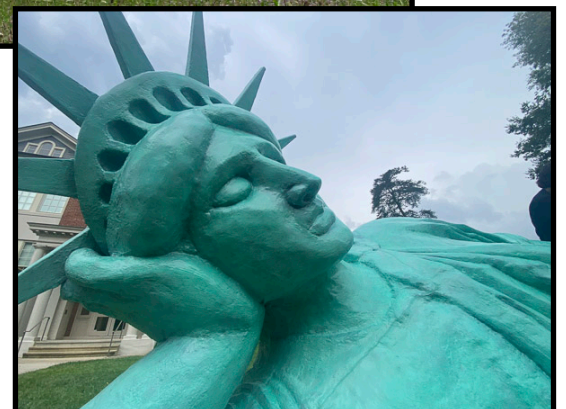
Elsie's crepe myrtle.



Frank Lloyd Wright's
Fallingwater



Flight 93 Memorial.



Statue in Arlington, VA



Join us for dinner and a movie on **Friday September 1st** at Wolf's house. We will enjoy fellowship and a potluck meal featuring at 5:30. 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!

This month's feature, the 2023 film '**Jesus Revolution**' starring Kelsey Grammer and Jonathon Roumie is based on "the true story of a national spiritual awakening in the early 1970s and its origins within a community of teenage hippies in Southern California."
(imdb.com).

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

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!

Thanks to Herb and his assistants, Randy and Jim for our new coffee pot stands with drip catchers.

OCEAN VIEW
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
67 Central Ave
Ocean View, DE 19970

