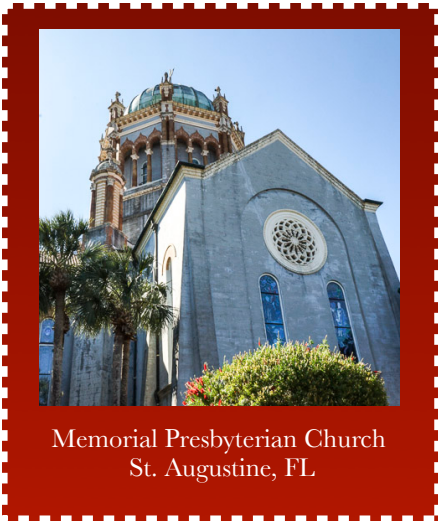




OCEAN VIEW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

APRIL 2014



Memorial Presbyterian Church
St. Augustine, FL

✧ Reflections ✧ Kerry Shull

The Chaplain for the Buxton Campus, University of Derby, England, Dr. Sandra Fach, in an article on worship, reflected on the practice of her mother.

Prayer as a specific activity, something we stop or—more likely—pause to do, is certainly a form of prayer. The prayer of thankfulness my mother uttered each morning was, indeed, such a form of prayer. But such a ‘set’ or ‘formed’ ritual, if you will, was part of her general pattern of life. On occasions when I would bemoan my own frustrations over prayer, my mother often said to me, ‘Sandra, I think I pray all the time.’ She certainly didn’t mean that she sat in the corner all day in quiet contemplation. . . .

In uttering a prayer of thanksgiving first thing each morning, my mother was on her way to becoming a good Jew, for her ritual was in line with the Jewish Berakhot, or prayers of blessing of which there are 100, the first being uttered upon waking. Can you imagine? 100 things. Such a practice might seem the luxury for those who have chosen the life of monastic discipline. On reflection, however, I’d like to think there is something profoundly practical underlying the number 100, a number to be reached by everyone, not just those of monastic persuasion. If we are going to reach 100 and actually get on with the daily grind, those prayers will have to be interwoven into our day, into an attitude of thanksgiving, in a way of life of which we, too, may say, ‘I think I pray all the time.’ In this way, and in this vision of worship as thanksgiving, we are truly making an offering of life. (Sandra Fach, “Worship as Thanksgiving,” *Theology in Scotland*, St. Mary’s College, University of St. Andrews, 2011, Volume XVI – Special Issue, pages 48-49)

Fach is reflecting an understanding of life presented by Alexander Schmemmann (*For the Life of the World: Sacraments and Orthodoxy*, 1973), an Eastern Orthodox Priest. Schmemmann presents his thoughts with such clarity—albeit with uncomfortably sexist language—that I thought it best just to quote him. Bouncing off Feuerbach’s statement, “Man is what he eats,” Schmemmann fully agreed.

Man must eat in order to live; he must take the world into his body and transform it into himself, into bread and blood. He is indeed what he eats, and the whole world is presented as one all-embracing banquet table for man. And this image of the banquet remains, throughout the whole Bible, the central image of life. It is the image of life at its creation and also the image of life at its end and

Reflections (Cont.)

fulfillment: “. . . that you eat and drink at my table in the Kingdom.” (*Ibid.*, page 11; Luke 22:30)

He rejects our Western dichotomy between the “sacred” and the “profane.”

In the Bible the food that man eats, the world of which he must partake in order to live, is given to him by God, and it is given as *communion with God*. . . . All that exists is God’s gift to man, and it all exists to make God known to man, to make man’s life communion with God. It is divine love made food, made life for man. God *blesses* everything He creates, and, in biblical language, this means that He makes all creation the sign and means of His presence and wisdom, love and revelation: “O taste and see that the Lord is good.”

Man is a hungry being. But he is hungry for God. Behind all the hunger of our life is God. All desire is finally a desire for Him. . . . But the unique position of man in the universe is that he alone is to *bless* God for the food and the life he receives from Him. He alone is to respond to God’s blessing with his blessing. (*Ibid.*, pages 14-15; Psalm 34:8)

This leads Schmemmann to an important understanding of our fundamental nature and purpose.

The first, the basic definition of man is that he is *the priest*. He stands in the center of the world and unifies it in his act of blessing God, of both receiving the world from God and offering it to God—and by filling the world with this eucharist [thanksgiving], he transforms his life, the one that he receives from the world, into life in God, into communion with Him.

(*Ibid.*, page 15)

Something has happened in history, however, that resulted in the loss of this identity and purpose.

. . . the “original” sin is not primarily that man has “disobeyed” God; the sin is that he ceased to be hungry for Him and for Him alone, ceased to see his whole life depending on the whole world as a sacrament of communion with God. The sin was not that man neglected his religious duties. The sin was that he thought of God in terms of religion, i.e., opposing Him to life. The only real fall of man is his noneucharistic life in a noneucharistic world. The fall is not that he preferred world to God, distorted the balance between the spiritual and material, but that he made the world material, whereas he was to have transformed it into “life in God,” filled with meaning and spirit. (*Ibid.*, page 18)

It is from this perspective that we see God’s purpose in Christ.

In this scene of radical unfulfillment God acted decisively: into the darkness where man was groping toward Paradise, He sent light. He did so not as a rescue operation, to recover lost man: it was rather for the completing of what He had undertaken from the beginning. God acted so that man might understand who He really was and where his hunger had been driving him. (*Ibid.*, pages 18-19)

It is in worship, and particularly the Eucharist, that we again receive life as a gift from God and offer it back to God. We render God the thanksgiving that we were created to give. Perhaps we can begin, as Sandra’s mother, the first thing in the morning.

Ocean View Presbyterian Church

67 Central Avenue
Ocean View, DE 19970

Service
Sunday, 9:30 A.M.

Pastor
Kerry Shull

Church Office
302-539-3455

Website
ovpc.org

Session
Carole Trent
Karen Colwill
Don Bailey
Bob Wolf
Jennifer Read
Herb Sheetz

Deacons
Mike Read
Jane Sergison
Jim Hartsig
Bill Colwill
Amy Peoples
Ollie Robling

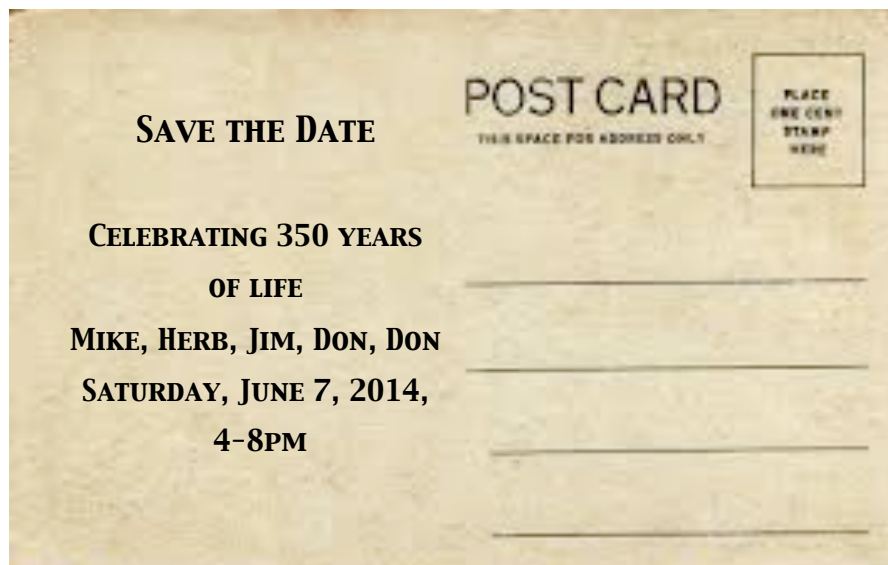
Newsletter Editors
Lorie and Jim Hartsig
Send submissions to:
newsletter@ovpc.org

....From The Editors
Lorie and Jim Hartsig



**Awake, thou wintry earth -
Fling off thy sadness!
Fair vernal flowers, laugh forth
Your ancient gladness!**

**Thomas Blackburn
“An Easter Hymn”**



Christian Education

The Christian Education Committee has planned three educational events to offer the congregation during the coming year. During Lent Beverly Bailey will lead four sessions after church called "An Invitation to Prayer" on March 9, 16, 23, and April 6. In October we will have guest speakers after church from EMS, Hospice, Melson Funeral Home, and the patient advocate from Beebe Hospital. They will lead after church-sessions called "Are You Ready?". During the winter of 2015, a DVD series by Walter Wangerin, jr will be hosted in members' homes. This five-session series called "Confronting Death" will be offered in the day and in the evening on Wednesdays January 14, 21, 28, February 4, and 11, 2015. Thanks to the always-upbeat CE Committee.



Easter Flower Order Form

We will be ordering our Easter flowers from Bethany Florist. The flowers have 3 blooms in 6" pots. The price is \$9.00 for Lilies, Tulips and Daffodils. Orders must be turned in by Sunday, April 13th. Please place you order form along with the money in the collection plate or give you order to Kathy Sheetz or Kaye in the office.

Checks payable to **Bethany Florist**

Name: _____ Phone Number _____

	# of Plants	Total Cost
Tulip:	\$9.00@_____	\$_____
Lilies:	\$9.00@_____	\$_____
Daffodils:	\$9.00@_____	\$_____

Total # of Plants _____ Total amount Due _____

Checks Payable to **Bethany Florist**

Session Report

Eariene DeFazio, Clerk of Session

The Session met on March 10, 2014.

We met with Cathy Yantz, Representative of the Worship Committee. The search committee is still seeking a qualified candidate to fill the position of Choir Director. The committee's main focus right now is Lent, Holy Week and Easter Sunday. Possible projects under consideration for the upcoming year are: A storage closet/cabinet to keep all the banners, paraments, and table linens together in one location, to purchase a piano dolly for the piano in Memorial Hall and to create a white banner for festival days other than Easter.

Kaye Kellam met with the Elders to announce her retirement as secretary and financial secretary effective December 31, 2014. Kaye started as a volunteer approximately 15 years ago. She stepped in at a time Kerry was overwhelmed with clerical/administrative duties and over the years accepted additional responsibilities. A MOTION was made, seconded and passed to accept Kaye Kellam's request to retire as secretary and financial secretary effective December 31, 2014.

Session received a request to baptize Hannah and Ethan Bailey, grandchildren of Bev and Don Bailey on Easter Sunday. A MOTION was made, seconded and passed to approve the baptism of Hannah and Ethan Bailey on Sunday, April 20, 2014.

A MOTION was made, seconded and passed to call a special congregational meeting to be held after worship on March 23rd, 2014. This meeting is two-fold; first, the congregation will be asked to "approve the request from Kerry Shull to dissolve the pastoral relationship with Ocean View Presbyterian Church effective June 15, 2014" and secondly the process of calling a new pastor will be outlined.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer at 8:40 p.m.

April is a promise that May is bound to keep. Hal Borland

Deacon's Report

Mike Read

At our January meeting, the Deacons heard a presentation from Eul Lee from the Alzheimer's unit at Renaissance Center. She invited our church members to come to the center one Sunday afternoon every month to sing old-time hymns and visit with the patients. The Deacons elected to support this mission project of community service and inform church members.

The response from our church has been fantastic. On February 23 there were 18 members from Ocean View Presbyterian Church on hand to lead in singing and fellowship. On March 23 eleven members were present. We are proud and gratified we can always count upon church members to step up and support worthwhile mission projects such as this.

All members are invited to participate in this event. OVPC has committed to this every fourth Sunday of the month. Transportation is provided from the church, and you will leave with a good feeling in your heart, so come join the fun! If you have questions, please ask any Deacon.

★HAPPY★
BIRTHDAY!

Sue Baer	April 4
Jim Dietsch	April 6
Bill Colwill	April 23
Amy Hiner	April 25
Marge Schaefer	April 28

Happy
Anniversary

Mickie and Bob Stamp April 26

Building and Grounds

Buzz Henifin

No, No, No, more snow. We have had enough. The storms of March have proven that the snow blower and ice melt have not kept Mother Nature at bay. The early March storm, I don't like the names of storms that the weather channel uses, was a light and puffy storm. The blower did a great job. If the operator of the blower the day after the storm had been a little more careful he would not of gotten a head and neck full of the puffy snow. I guess the lessoned learned would be to know the direction of the wind and what direction the blower discharge was pointing.

The last snow and may it be the LAST was a wet and heavy snow but fortunately it melted and disappeared before shoveling and blowing had to take place. Didn't even have to use the ice melt.

There was a State Health Department this month also. The Memorial Hall kitchen passed with flying colors but there was a glitch. Part of the inspection is to check the condition of the dish washers sanitary solution. The first test indicated we had a problem. The rinse water was not indicating that the sanitary level was correct. It turned out that the bottle had been left open and the solution lost strength. A new bottle was placed in service and the dish washer passed. Need to change the posted instruction to reflect that the three bottles of solutions for detergent, sanitary and rinse are capped after each use unless the washer will be use in a couple of days.

Again, anyone that would like to checked out as a dishwasher operator please contact Buzz for a check out.



water4 WELL PROJECT

On Sunday, March 23, coinciding with UNICEF's World Water Day, the Women's Sewing Circle launched its three year commitment to water4. Water4 builds wells in under developed countries and trains locals in the drilling and maintenance of these wells. The occasion was marked by the ribbon cutting of a wishing well which will be the receptacle for donations. Many thanks to Herb Sheetz who designed and built the well with assistance from Mike Quinn and Jim Hartsig.



Easter Story Cookies

(to be made on Holy Saturday night)

Ingredients:

1 cup whole pecans	zipped baggie
1 tsp vinegar	wooden spoon
3 egg whites	tape
pinch of salt	Bible
1 cup sugar	

Preheat oven to 300 degrees.

Place pecans in zipped baggie and let children beat them with wooden spoon to break them into small pieces. Explain that after Jesus was arrested, he was beaten by Roman soldiers. *(Read John 19:1-3)*

Let each child smell the vinegar. Put 1 tsp of vinegar into a mixing bowl. When Jesus was thirsty on the Cross, he was given vinegar to drink. *(Read John 19:28-30)*

Add egg whites to vinegar. Eggs represent life. Explain that Jesus gave His life to give us life. *(Read John 10:10-11)*

Sprinkle a little salt into each child's hand. Let them taste it and brush the rest into the bowl. Salt represents the salty tears shed by Jesus' followers and the bitterness of our tears. *(Read Luke 23:27)*

So far the ingredients are not very appetizing. Add 1 cup sugar. Explain that the sweetest part of the story is that Jesus died because He loves us. He wants us to know Him and belong to Him. *(Read Psalm 34:8 and John 3:16)*

Beat mixture with a mixer at high speed for 12-15 minutes until stiff peaks are formed. Explain that the color white represents the purity of those whose sins have been cleansed by Jesus. *(Isaiah 1:18 and John 3:1-3)*

Fold in broken nuts. Drop by teaspoons onto wax paper-covered cookie sheet. Each mound represents the rocky tomb where Jesus' body was laid. *(Matthew 27:57-60)*

Put the cookie sheet in the oven, close the door, and turn the oven OFF. Give each child a piece of tape and seal the oven door. Explain that Jesus' tomb was sealed. *(Read Matthew 27:60)*

GO TO BED! The children may feel sad to leave the cookies in the oven overnight. Jesus' followers were in despair when the tomb was sealed. *(Read John 16:20 and 22)*

On Easter morning, open the oven and give everyone a cookie. Notice the cracked surface, and take a bite. The cookies are hollow! On the first Easter, Jesus' followers were amazed to find the tomb open and empty. *(Matthew 28:1-9)*

Submitted by Elsie Young

Women's Sewing Circle

Amy Peoples

Let's hope that the first day of spring means the snow storms are over and we can enjoy warmer weather. The weather has not stopped the Sewing Circle from doing all its' activities and we have a new venture coming up that should really excite each of us. Read on to participate. Also you will want to attend the many Circle and Easter activities throughout April.

In the past few years some of our Circle members have become aware of a great need in the world. It is need for water in Africa. We take water for granted here but in other countries this is not the case. One out of 5 deaths worldwide is due to water related disease in children under 5 years of age. Half of the hospital beds in the world are occupied by patients suffering from diseases associated with lack of access to safe drinking water.

With these sad notes in mind the Sewing Circle voted to begin a three year project of digging at least one well in Africa. We have pledged \$1500.00 for next three years. Water 4 has developed a highly effective manual drilling system capable of reaching the previously unreachable and this is the group we will support. What is very important, I think is that this will be a teaching mission too. The people will not just be given the wells but will learn how to drill them and it becomes a continuous process though out the various towns and soon those without clean water will be helped.

You will notice a beautiful "Wishing Well" with a locked box in Memorial Hall with a place to put your coins and bills as you pass by . It is hoped that people from organizations using our facilities and though out the community will also be given as they visit. Our Sewing Circle thanks Herb Sheetz for building the Wishing Well. It is super!

On April 9, our Circle will meet. Bring your sandwich or salad and refreshments will be furnished by Alice Woodruff, Cookie Woodhouse, and Edna Ewing. Bev Bailey will lead the Bible Study, Chapter 8, "Temptations Along the Way".

On April 13, Palm Sunday, the Coffee Hour will be hosted by Alice Woodruff and Edna Ewing. Be sure to look at church calendar for all the services being held during the Easter season.

Dates to Remember:

April 2, Ecumenical Lenten Supper, St. Martha's Episcopal Church 6 PM

Wednesday, April 9, Ecumenical Lenten Supper at St. Ann's Catholic Church, 6 PM

Wednesday, April 9, Sewing Circle, 12 noon

Palm Sunday, April 13, Coffee Hour after church

Thursday, April 17, Passover Seder

Friday, April 18, Good Friday

Easter Sunday, April 20



Traffic Alert

Route 26 Project will require the closure of Central Avenue for Sewer relocation

Ocean View -- The Delaware Department of Transportation's (DelDOT) contractor, George & Lynch will be closing Central Avenue between Fred Hudson Road and Cedar Drive for the relocation of the sewer force main.

The closure will begin at 9 a.m. on Monday, March 31 until 5 p.m. on Friday, May 9, pending weather.

Detours for Central Avenue

Central Avenue closed to through traffic south of Route 26/Atlantic Avenue to Cedar Drive and between Route 26/Atlantic Avenue and Fred Hudson Road.

Local detour routes to access Central Avenue north of Route 26/Central Avenue: Utilize Fred Hudson Road

From Route 1 heading south to Central Avenue

- o Turn right onto Fred Hudson Road
- o Turn left onto Central Avenue

From Route 1 heading north to Central Avenue

- Turn left onto Fred Hudson Road
- Turn left onto Central Avenue

From Central Avenue south of Route 26

- Head northbound on Central Avenue towards Route 26
- Turn left onto Cedar Drive Turn right onto Route 26 eastbound
- Turn left onto Route 1 northbound
- Turn left onto Fred Hudson
- Turn left onto Central Avenue

From Millville heading east

- Continue east past Central Avenue
- Turn left onto Route 1 northbound
- Turn left onto Fred Hudson Road
- Turn left onto Central Avenue

Local detour routes to access Central Avenue south of Route 26: Utilize Cedar Drive

From Route 1

- Turn onto Route 26 westbound
- Turn left onto Cedar Drive
- Turn right onto Central Avenue

From Central Avenue north of Route 26

- Turn onto Fred Hudson Road eastbound
- Turn right onto Route 1
- Turn right onto Route 26
- Turn left onto Cedar Drive
- Turn right onto Central Avenue

From Millville heading eastbound towards Central Avenue

- Turn right onto Cedar Drive
- Turn right onto Central Avenue

For more information, contact DelDOT Public Relations. 800.652.5600, 302.760.2080, or email: dotpr@state.de.us



ELSIE R. (CONRAD) NUSS

Our condolences to Herb and Kathy Sheetz on the passing of her mother, Elsie R. (Conrad) Nuss on March 6, 2014 in Allentown, PA. She was 97 years old.

Born in Washington Twp., she was the daughter of the late Elmer E. and Ida (Reidenauer) Conrad. Elsie was a member of St. John Hill U.C.C., where she taught Sunday school, was a member of the women's guild, and sang in the choir. She was a clerk at the Washington Twp. Board of Elections and served as Tax Enumerator for Washington Twp. Elsie was also a member of the American Bible Society and a member of Woodmen of the World Life Insurance Society.

Pastoral Transition

The congregation met on March 23, 2014 after worship and unanimously approved Kerry's request to retire effective June 15, 2014. The official motion made, seconded, and passed was to "approve the request from Kerry Shull to dissolve the pastoral relationship with Ocean View Presbyterian Church effective June 15, 2014". We were pleased to have Reid Beveridge, Graison Wainwright, and Pam Ruarke in attendance. Pam and Graison will be our representatives from the Committee on Ministry to help us on our journey as we call a new pastor.

We will be developing a 'frequently asked questions' forum so that as questions arise about the processes we are about to undertake, we can have a process in place by which to forward the question to the appropriate resource and document the response. If anyone has suggestions as to how this may be developed please see any member of session.

Remember that Kerry's last Sunday in the pulpit is May 4th. Arrangements have been made to fill the pulpit on the Sundays from then until his official retirement date of June 15th.

- | | |
|-----------|----------------|
| ❖ May 11 | Reid Beveridge |
| ❖ May 18 | Peter Maurer |
| ❖ May 25 | Sarah Colwill |
| ❖ June 1 | Jackie Taylor |
| ❖ June 8 | Jerry Egger |
| ❖ June 15 | Gary Baer |

Photogenic - Ecumenical Soup and Salad Supper

Photos by Jim Hartsig



A Tasty Friday Night At The Movies



Join us on Friday April 4th when Karen and Bill Colwill invite us into their home for a pot luck supper at 5:30 followed by dessert at 6:30 and the movie at 7:00. Please bring your favorite dish or dessert to share or simply come and enjoy the movie. For more information please contact Bill or Karen directly.

Our movie this month is 'by request' – the classic 1963 film 'Lilies of the Field' starring Sidney Poitier as a traveling handyman who finds himself on a farm run by a group of Catholic nuns when his car breaks down. He thinks he is only there to get water for his overheated engine but the Reverend Mother is convinced that he has been sent by God to build a church.

If you have a special request for a movie, please let Bob Wolf know and we will do our best to obtain it.