

OCEAN VIEW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MARCH 2021

FROM THE PASTOR: TERRY DOUGHERTY

It is March, and the Irish Postman Checks In

'Tis true that a great deal more words and prayers are attributed to Patrick of Ireland than ever he had time or wit to say or write; 'tis also true that this is the right measure of his lasting influence in that land of priests and poets. I'll open with one, a paraphrase, in your own Book of Common Worship:

Lord, be with us this day -

Within us to purify us;

Above us to draw us up;

Beneath us to sustain us;

Before us to lead us;

Behind us to restrain us;

Around us to protect us. Amen.

Now, the man himself was not educated in any standard way, as well you might know: a fieldhand in Britain, he was kidnapped as many were, to be a fieldhand in Ireland instead – and that is where, by his telling, God got hold of him:

"the Spirit testifies 'even rustic work was ordained by the Most High'. Thence I, the genuine rustic, a refugee, untaught, doubtless 'who does not know how to provide for the future', but that 'I do know most surely', that indeed 'BEFORE I WAS HUMBLED' I was like a stone lying in 'deep mire'. And he 'who is mighty' came and 'in his mercy' lifted me up; and more than that, truly raised me aloft and placed me on the highest wall. And therefore I ought to cry out aloud in order to make some return to the Lord...whence moreover be astonished therefore, 'you great and small who fear God', and you, lords, clever rhetoricians, hear therefore and consider: who was it that stirred me up, a fool, from the midst of those who seemed to be wise and learned in law and 'powerful in speech' and everything?" (from Patrick's Apologia; translation by Maire B. de Paor, in Patrick, the Pilgrim Apostle of Ireland, p. 229).

Sure, there and right there is the nub of it; many a one in many a land has felt the terrible sting of underestimation only because of where they're from or what they look like or how they speak;

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and great catalogues of wisdom and science and profitable use of God's gifts have been set aside by the "wise" who recognize little beyond their noses and are satisfied with only that! Persons of color, and indigenous persons around the world, and yes rustics, and persons with conditions mental and physical no fault of their own, with brilliant minds hidden only by the failure to seek them out, with talent and inventiveness and kindness and leadership unsought only because they do not meet the most artificial of standards, with beauties and graces to give would the ungrateful and uncaring only receive! I could go on, but then perhaps you'd say, "O these Irish, with their gift o' the gab!"

So yes, we Irish do in more or less degree reverence Patrick the holy man, but also Patrick who rose from ridiculous odds to become famous, and regarded, known for wisdom both pastoral and worldly. He had known unprotection, vulnerability, scorn and judgment at the hands of those both more physically and more legally talented. And having escaped, he put himself back into the hands of both, meeting success against fierce opposition and gaining respect against long odds.

Do think, next time, won't you – and every time, really – about the person you dismiss. You in fact have no idea where they've been, what they've gone through and what they are going through even now. Consideration, kindness and patience cost nothing. Support and advocacy? They cost something indeed, personally and professionally – but consider the good they may do. The Irish poet and musician Phil Coulter wrote the lovely *Scorn Not His simplicity* about his own son; it bears a hearing. Here's something very biblical Patrick had to say about grandeur:

The sun is that which we see rising daily at His [God's] command, but it will never reign, nor will its splendor last forever. And all those who worship it will be subject to grievous punishment. We, however, worship the true Son, Christ, who will never perish. Nor will those who do His bidding, but they will continue forever just as Christ will continue forever, He who reigns with God the Father Almighty and with the Holy Spirit before time and now and in eternity. (Liam de Paor, Saint Patrick's World, p. 108)

"Saint Patrick's Breastplate", also in your Book of Common Worship, and which I hope I'll be invited to read in the Wednesday Meditation on St. Patrick's Day, is of a variety of early Irish poetry called a Lorica; less like a prayer than an incantation. It refers to a piece of leather armor that sat right above the heart – I hope for obvious reasons! The poem's proper title, which I must transliterate since this computer is not up to Irish ancient or modern! – is Fead Fiatha – The Cry of the Deer (and those deer are plural, as you'd know if you

Ocean View Presbyterian Church

67 Central Avenue Ocean View, DE 19970

Service Sunday, 9:30 A.M.

<u>Pastor</u> Terry Dougherty

Church Office 302-539-3455

Website ovpc.org

<u>Session</u>

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 wrote or spoke Irish, but is not clear in those translations of the poem that title it this way). Like the poet, the deer knows danger each and every day, from any unexpected or unseen quarter. God is the only true and lasting refuge, too often against our own! So, God our breastplate; giving us, this day, our daily bread. And thus, since alas!, I am at great length despite best intentions, the other of Patrick's poems I'll share today from the BCW:

May the strength of God pilot us. May the power of God preserve us. May the wisdom of God instruct us. May the hand of God protect us. May the way of God direct us. May the shield of God defend us. May the host of God guard us against the snares of evil, and the temptations of the world. May Christ be with us, Christ before us, Christ in us, Christ over us. May your salvation, O Lord, be always ours this day and forevermore. Amen.

Beannachtai le dia anseo (blessings of this day),

The Irish Postman

Sunday March 14th



Rivers do not drink their own water; the trees do not eat their own fruit; the sun does not shine on itself and flowers do not spread their fragrance for themselves. Living for others is a rule of nature. We are all born to help each other. No matter how difficult it is . . . Life is good when you are happy; but much better when others are happy because of you.

Pope Francis

SESSION REPORT

Karen Colwill, Clerk of Session

The **Session of OVPC** met on Monday, February 8, 2021, via ZOOM.

Rev. Terry Dougherty, Moderator, opened with prayer and devotions at 7:10 PM.

Orders of the Day:

We welcomed, **The Board of Deacons**, **Pam Price Moderator**, and **Earlene DeFazio**, **Past Moderator to our meeting** – Pam reviewed the Deacon's report. We reviewed the Deacon's Monthly Missions schedule. **MOTION** approved to change the September mission from MHDC (at their request) to Selbyville Middle School Gift Cards. **MOTION** approved to present Mariner's Bethel Hope Center a \$500 gift card to buy sporting equipment. Session thanks the Deacons for their nurturing of our congregation and friends.

MOTION passed to approve the minutes of the January 11, 2021 Session Meeting.

MOTION passed to approve the OVPC PCUSA 2020 Statistics.

MOTION passed to approve the January 2021 Finance Reports.

MOTION passed to accepted the February 2^{nd} , 2021 resignation letter from Liz Hobler, relinquishing her position as OVPC Treasurer. Session will temporarily fulfill the duties of the Treasurer and work to fill the position. **Thank you, Liz for your devoted service to OVPC.**

Finance Committee update:

Session reminds members to pay their Per Capita, \$29.80, at your earliest convenience.

Continue to limit our expenses (based on limited projected income) by taking actions until our income is adequate:

- o all committee allocation/requests are frozen
- CARES Act Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) all funds have been used. We have gathered compliance information, to complete the process to turn the loan into a grant, and submitted to PNC Bank for review on January 29, 2021.
- Thank You to OVPC members and friends for your continued financial commitment!

Pastor Terry's report was received.

MOTION approved to conduct a private family Memorial Service honoring George Young on Saturday, February 20, 2021. We will comply with all COVID-19 Protocols.

MOTION approved for Pastor Terry to lead a pre-recorded Ash Wednesday Service at noon on February 17, 2021. An outdoor service of the consecration of ashes will be led by Pastor Terry at 3:00 pm, weather permitting. We will comply with all COVID-19 Protocols.

The **Monthly Committee Reports** were received.

Facilities Committee **MOTION** approved to purchase a new door mat for the main entrance doors for Memorial Hall at a cost of \$119.00.

Subsequent to our Session meeting on February 7th, Lori LaPointe resigned as our Administrative Assistant, effective February 8th, 2021. Please respect her decision. The Personnel Committee is working to seek a replacement, and will keep us all apprised.

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: March 8th Session Meeting - reports are due March 3rd.

The meeting was adjourned and closed with prayer at 9:32 PM

Respectfully submitted, Karen B. Colwill, Clerk of Session

Thank you, LIZ

The entire congregation joins with the Session in extending our sincere appreciation for all your hard work over 6 years as Treasurer of OVPC.

As Treasurer you have: counted our weekly deposits, paid our bills, directed the bookkeeper, reviewed the finances with Session every month, and been an integral member of the Finance Committee. Your unwavering dedication to this work has been remarkable.

Liz, we all celebrate your years as Treasurer! Thank You!







A LITTLE ZOOM HINT

(From your Communications/Technology Friends)

We all know how annoying it can be if we are on a zoom call and all of the sudden someone's phone rings or you hear their televisions in the background. And we are all pretty good about muting ourselves when we are not actively participating... at least at first... but then we unmute to say our piece and forget to mute ourselves again --- or we really

want to say something and can't figure out how to get off mute! Well, if you are on your laptop (or desktop computer) all you have to do to unmute yourself temporarily is to hold down the spacebar. When you are done speaking, just let go and presto – you are back on mute!



OVPC has always been keenly aware of our responsibility to share with those outside of our walls and to live out our faith by engaging in mission to others - as our new vision statement so clearly states: 'Shaped by God, We Love and Serve'. Over the past several months we, as a church, have been examining through our Mission Committee and Christian Education offerings what the PC(USA) Matthew 25 initiative is and what it means to us as disciples of Jesus Christ. After several meetings, research, prayerful discernment and looking at our own rich history of mission, the Session of OVPC has unanimously voted to become a Matthew 25 church. We will be sharing much more about this exciting announcement in a letter arriving in your mailbox very soon.

DEACONS

Joni Keller

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

One Great Hour of Sharing is received during the Lenten season and is OVPC's March Minute for Mission. The monies received help to improve the lives of people, around the world, who are in challenging situations. There are millions of people, globally, that lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education and opportunity. There are 3 programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing.

- 1. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (32% allocation) This program is the emergency and refugee program. It allows us to witness the healing love of Christ through caring for communities adversely affected by crisis and catastrophic events. 2020 has proven to be a challenging year to be able to respond in person to disasters. Because of Covid 19, some responses are being done virtually and others, where possible, have local community commuter volunteers that travel to the work site and return home daily. This is all in an effort to reduce the spread of infection. In the first half of 2020, more than half of the grant monies went to Covid 19 response. This total was \$2.5 million.
- 2. Presbyterian Hunger Program (36% allocation) This program works to alleviate hunger and eliminate the root causes. In 2019, 94 grants totaling over \$1 million were awarded.
- 3. Self-development of People (32% allocation) This program works with low-income communities, nationally and internationally, to overcome oppression and injustice. The projects focus on advocacy, youth-led initiatives, skills development, farming, worker's rights, immigration/refugee issues and capacity building.

All of these programs work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance and hope. Our gifts are directly supporting people experiencing hunger, homelessness, thirst, imprisonment, sickness and deprivation, as well as welcoming the stranger. One Great Hour of Sharing is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world.

"St. Patrick's Day is here, you see.
We'll pick some shamrocks, one, two, three.
We'll count the leaves and look them over,
And maybe find a four-leafed clover.
I'll sew green buttons on my vest,
Green for St. Patrick is the best.
I'll wear a green hat, very high,
And dance a jig--at least I'll try!"
- Author Unknown









Marie and Jim Waehler Mar. 3rd Sue and Ken Sigvardson Mar. 21st Barbara and Jim Dietsch Mar. 28th

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Bev Bailey

The CE Committee is offering a Lenten Bible Study for February and March. Called "Meeting God in Paul: Reflecting on the Seasons of Lent", the classes will be held on

March 7: Week 3, "The New Creation," led by Bev Bailey

March 21: Week 4, "Summary," led by Pastor Terry

The CE Committee would love to have any of you who love learning more about your faith join us in our monthly meetings. We meet the 3rd Monday of each month at 5 pm, on Zoom. We also would love to hear your ideas. Just let any of the current members (Bruce Hobler, Ellen Neumann, Marie Waehler, Bob Wolf, Elaine Smith, Pastor Terry, or Chair Bev Bailey) know what you would like to see as a CE offering.



REMEMBERING GEORGE YOUNG

August 28, 1932 - February 6, 2021

George A. Young completed his earthly journey February 6th, 2021, in the emergency room of Beebe Hospital, Lewes, Delaware. He was born August 28, 1932 in Johnstown, Pennsylvania, the son of George F. and Bertha B. Young.

George was active in community activities and was always available to help where needed. He served two years in the U. S. Army during the Korean Conflict, stationed in Germany. He served as Master of the Masonic Lodge; was a member of the Lord Baltimore Lions, and was both a Deacon and an Elder in the Presbyterian Church.

George loved the outdoors, and had many interests: golfing, fishing, gardening and hunting. As a member of the Indiana Bear Club, where he hunted deer, he helped maintain the camp, and enjoyed fellowship with the guys.



Caning furniture was a favorite hobby.

George was employed by A.T. & T.; when he retired, travel was high on his list of joys.

George is survived by Elsie, his wife of 62 years; his son David and wife Katie; two grandsons, Taylor and Rob; a brother Bill and wife Judy, and by nieces and nephews.

A family service was held at the Ocean View Presbyterian Church on February 20, 2021.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial contributions to Ocean View Presbyterian Church or to the Indiana Bear Club Tree Fund.

Note from a friend

Dave.

I just heard from Craig on the passing of your dad. My heart is heavy as I type this. George was a huge influence in my life as a young man. I admired him for his passion for hunting and I watched and learned from him. His work hard, play hard philosophy is one that I embraced at camp and in life. George is one of my heroes and I will be forever grateful for having him in my life. I have missed him dearly, The Young family is in my thoughts and prayers.

Mike Stanyard, a family friend from the hunting camp.

SEWING CIRCLE

Amy Peoples

The Sewing Circle of Ocean View Presbyterian Church met Wednesday, February 10, 2021 at 12:45 by way of Zoom

There were 14 in attendance.

We had time before the start of the meeting to chat as people joined the meeting. Moderator Elaine Smith called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM. Pastor Terry read us a poem written by Marianne Barnard and then led us in prayer. Elaine read the love passage from Corinthians as an opening prayer for Valentine's Day, Blaine recited the OVPC vision, "Shaped by God, we love and serve."

February birthday: Jen Read, Feb. 6th.

Reports

Minutes: The January 13, 2021 were approved as mailed electronically.

Treasure's Report: Balance on hand: \$2232.33

Balance on hand in Sharing Pantry fund: \$650

The per capita to the New Castle Presbyterian Women has been paid. That is \$2.00 per member. Circle members can leave \$2.00 in the church office for their dues when possible for Marti to pick up.

The first quarter payment for Mission pledge has been paid to Presbyterian Women. The report was filed for audit.

OVPC Mission Committee Update

\$1200 was sent to Dr. Karla to for the Costa Rican Mission.

Session Report

Karen reported the Session accepted the resignation of Liz Hobler as church Treasurer and Lori LaPointe resigned as Administrative Assistant. Members have stepped in to help in the office until the position can be filled.

The Deacons have changed their giving for September. They will no longer give to Milford Housing. Herb Sheetz spoke to Session and at this time funds are not needed. This September the Deacon's Minute for Mission will be Selbyville Middle School instead.

The PCUSA Statistics report will be submitted tomorrow. It is a report that asks a variety of question each year, such as, how many women, men, hearing impaired, etc are in the congregation.

Ash Wednesday Lenten Soup Supper has been cancelled.

Karen thanked those who did reports for the Annual report for doing their jobs in such a timely manner. The Congregational meeting was held Sunday February 7, 2021 via zoom and many attended.

There is a new floor mat in Memorial Hall.

The family of George Young will have a family memorial service for George on Saturday, February 20, 2021.

Session will once again address opening church at its May meeting.

Sunshine: Marie reported that she has sent Valentines to people on the Sunshine list. She included in Bob and Elaine Jackson's card a recipe for Bob to try.

Correspondence

Amy reported on a thank you note from Lighthouse for Broken Wings for our donation. It was appreciated as they fight homelessness in the area.

Old Business

The Sharing Pantry is doing very well and is well stocked. Neighbors are bring food to put in the pantry and it is being used. Seems like canned meat and spaghetti sauce are in demand. If things are given that could freeze, soda, water, etc. they are given to those in need at Selbyville Middle School.

Ash Wednesday is Feb 17, 2021. Some of the ladies from the Circle have made Love Soup and it will be delivered to those who asked for it. There were 35 mason jars filled with soup ingredients with recipe for each family and we will all have Ash Wednesday Lenten Soup in our individual homes. A good percentage of the church participated in this project. It is wonderful way to interact when we cannot meet in person. Good team work was needed since this was done in a short length of time. Bev, Gloria, Lorie, and Marlene will pick up Love soup at the church and deliver it to those who asked for it.

Gifts of Women Sunday will be Mother's Day, May 9, 2021. Reverend Dr. Tracy Keenan will be our speaker during the worship hour. We would like to have something special after the service, perhaps an outside Coffee hour, weather permitting, drive by brunch; many ideas were mentioned. We could have an event that would be special to mark the day. We need to speak to Session before we proceed.

The New Castle Presbyterian Bay Retreat in Cambridge, MD, March 5-6 will be held virtually only.

New Business

The Mission Pledge this year will be \$350 instead of \$700 because of COVID. Marti sent a note with our pledge saying that if we were able to have a fundraiser etc. during the year we will increase pledge if possible.

The next meeting will be Wednesday March 10, 2021.

We then to our Bible Study, Lesson #6, "Lament over the City" led by Marti Sommers. After the Bible Study we closed the meeting with the MIZPAH.



Home Delivery of Palms

Elaine Smith

Although we won't be physically together this year on Palm Sunday, we want to keep the spirit of this important day alive. Volunteers from the Women's Circle will deliver palms to your door during the week before Palm Sunday. Of course, the women will be masked and remain socially distanced, but look forward to seeing you even for a brief visit.

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

Submitted by Amy Peoples

- *Lost Words From Our Childhood*
- *Mergatroyd!* Do you remember that word? Would you believe the spell-checker did not recognize the word Mergatroyd? Heavens to Mergatroyd!
- *The other day a not so elderly (I say 75) lady said something to her son about driving a* *Jalopy;* *and he looked at her quizzically and said, "What the heck is a Jalopy?" He had never heard of the word jalopy! She knew she was old ... But not that old.*
- *Well, I hope you are* *Hunky Dory* *after you read this and chuckle.*
- *About a month ago, I illuminated some old expressions that have become obsolete because of the inexorable march of technology. These phrases included:* *Don't touch that dial, Carbon copy, You sound like a broken record, and Hung out to dry.*
- *Back in the olden days we had a lot of **moxie* *. We'd put on **our best bib and tucker **, ** *to ** *straighten up and fly right. *
- *Heavens to Betsy!* *Gee whillikers!*
- *We were* *in like Flynn* *and* *living the life of Riley* *; and even a regular guy couldn't accuse us of being a* *knucklehead, a nincompoop or a pill.* *Not for all the tea in China!*
- *Back in the olden days, life used to be* *swell,* *but when's the last time anything was swell?* *Swell has gone the way of beehives, pageboys and the D.A.; of spats, knickers, fedoras, poodle skirts,* *saddle shoes, and pedal pushers.*
- *Oh, my aching back!* *Kilroy was here,* *but he isn't anymore.*
- *We wake up from what surely has been just a short nap, and before we can say,* *"Well, I'll be a monkey's uncle!"**Or,* *"This is a fine kettle of fish!"* *We discover that the words we grew up with, the words that seemed omnipresent, as oxygen, have vanished with scarcely a notice from our tongues and our pens and our keyboards.*
- *Poof,* *go the words of our youth, the words we've left behind. We blink, and they're gone. Where have all those great phrases gone?*

PRAYER SHAWLSLorie Hartsig





Marie Waehler



Sue Sigvardson



Our Stephen Ministers have continued to gather twice a month to support one another in this caring ministry. We have used resources from Stephen Ministries St. Louis to guide our discussions over these many months.

Please raise up the following prayer:

Stephen Ministry Prayer

Gracious Comforter, you come into the midst of our pain and lovingly dwell with us. During this pandemic, we ask that you strengthen and comfort those who are lonely, grieving, anxious, and overburdened. Grant them the recognition and courage to seek help from Stephen Ministers who can walk alongside them in their struggles, facing the trials of this time together.

We also ask for your blessings and guidance for our Stephen Ministry program so that your people may receive the care of your presence. Use this ministry to bind us together as one body as we continue walking in faith toward you.

In the name of your Son we pray, Amen.

SUPPORT FOR REV. DR. KARLA KOLL

As you know, OVPC has had a long-standing relationship with Rev. Dr. Karla Koll, a PC(USA) Mission Co-worker in Costa Rica.

We have committed to a multi-year objective of raising \$1200 for Rev. Koll's ministry. This support aligns us with Presbytery objectives of having its member churches sponsor at least one Mission Co-worker. This also aligns us with the Matthew25 Initiative objectives of having missional impact in international areas.



Rev. Koll will be joining us (via zoom) for a Christian Ed session in May.

In your donation checks, please annotate "Rev. Koll Mission Ministry" so that the funds can be directed appropriately.

THANK YOU

Nouha Zarif

"Dear friends, I pray that all of you are doing well and staying safe during these unprecedented times. The decision came out in our favor and we have been accepted to be part of this great nation!

Ever since we arrived to this country we have been welcomed by our second family of OVPC with open arms. Helping us with the English language, getting adjusted to the American culture, and even just being a friend for us to lean on have meant so much to us. You made us feel so welcomed and loved, and we consider all of you our big family, not just friends. Now, more grateful than ever, and more blessed than ever, we want to thank you from the bottom of our hearts for all the thoughts and prayers. You showed us how kind American people are, and all the good morals they stand for. It's our honor to be accepted into such a loving community, and I pray my kids will live up to the expectations and return the favor to this generous country... Thank you so much, love for all."



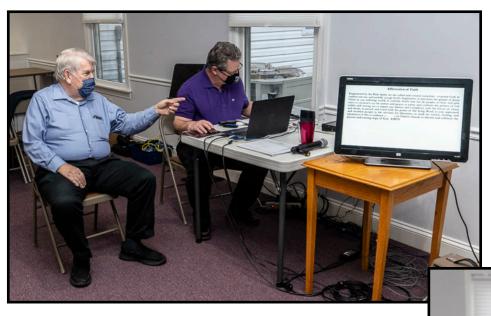
FROM THE DESK OF TOM BENTZ

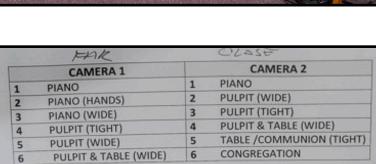
RCA - Radio Call Around the world:
Weary of the same old sound?
Tap this map of every radio station and signal on the planet
and get tuned in
from America
to the Arctic to . . .
(I got a kick
from clicking
in on point Barrow on the Arctic Ocean
where I once midnight summer sunned with the
Inuit
(where it now is -31 in the sun):

The snow blows
in a nor'easter,
Punxsutawney Phil
snores and yawns
as the shadow knows
and shows
weather winter goes
or will go on till Easter.
(from hibernating Tommy Bear in
Delaware)

http://radio.garden/live/toulouse/radiopresence









Preparing and producing the Sunday worship service.

PHOTOGENIC

Lorie Hartsig

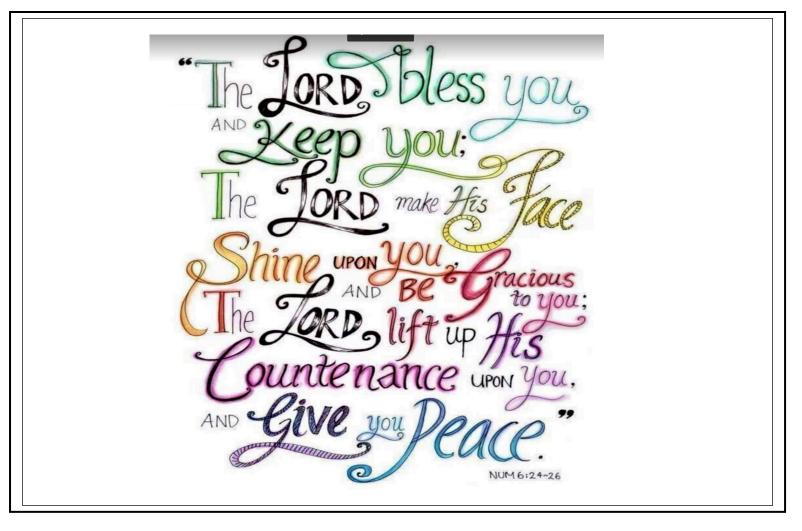
In the Snow











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