



OCEAN *Views*

OCEAN VIEW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH APRIL 2021



FROM THE PASTOR TERRY DOUGHERTY

Greetings in Christ, Sisters and Brothers and Friends of OVPC;

Thanks be to the God and Father of Jesus Christ, and the Author of His resurrection, the re-creation of the world, for the hope that sustains us, and has sustained every Christian throughout the centuries, the hope we do not see but do believe. It is that hope that has brought us, together, through the last year of fear and uncertainty, and that will bring us through all that may be yet to come, and that will bring us at last to joyful celebration and remembrance together in a feast of love and tears.

As Easter is arriving, as we are making our way through this most holy week, who can help thinking of the renewal, and the freshness, that Jesus' sacrifice gave to all the world? Who can help thinking of the Springtime blooming all around us as the portent for all that we have longed for, for so long? I hope the work that has been done by so many, to provide once again a full Holy Week, is proving meaningful in your lives. It is bitter to spend this time apart, but our belief informs us we are being molded in secret, by the God who knit us together in the first place; molded into better, more whole, more free, more kind, more loving and more Spirit-filled versions of ourselves, for the sake of this beautiful world.

I thank all of you for your strength, your dedication, and your support. This has not been an easy time for any of you, nor has it been for me. I hope you have received as much real support and encouragement as I have – if so, you have been fortunate indeed, as I have been.

When you return, you will see much that is different, but a church that is the same, and even more ready for the future than before. Your neighbors and friends in this congregation have stepped up in ways so meaningful to this campus, to this organization, and to our mutual mission that I am humbled. Our grounds, and our buildings, are much improved. Our ability to reach you, and others, with worship and with shared events, is greater than it has ever been. Our finances are solid, and I feel confident will remain so, through the restraint of Session and all our committees and your wonderful generosity, that has persisted and grown even as we cannot meet. Our move to become a Matthew 25 church will be backed up by well-thought initiatives, and by the practices that have always been part of the fabric of OVPC: generosity, insight, willingness to work, love.

When you return, you will also meet Diane Brown (if you haven't already!), our new Administrative Assistant; we are blessed and grateful she has come on board. I know many of you will miss Lori LaPointe, as I do, and will wish her every good in her future endeavors. But always we look ahead, keeping our eye on the prize, and determined to run the race to the end; so I know you will give your full support, and your hearts, to Diane as she makes this job her own.

When you return, you will find a strong Session, a loving and active Board of Deacons, and eager committees, all of whom want your pent-up energy and enthusiasm, all your ideas, and all your God-given gifts, to turn them into real good for the sake of our neighbors.

When you return, above all, you will find each other! I'm so grateful for all the ways you have held that together, as well: the phone calls, the check-ins, the distribution of palms and soups and eucharist; the love that neither fades nor forgets. You have been what my friend from long ago, Argaille DiMatteo, liked to call "walking, talking miracles". You fill my heart, even as you care for and nurse each other's; may God grace you indeed with every good, and with the life eternal whose door Jesus has opened wide!



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

SESSION REPORT

Karen Colwill, Clerk of Session

OVPC Minute from Session – March 8, 2021

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

Rev. Terry Dougherty, Moderator, opened with prayer and devotions at 7:01 PM.

Orders of the Day:

We welcomed, **Jacob and Janice Stavinga**, prospective members on Letter of Transfer from First Presbyterian Church of Ambler, Ambler, PA. Jake and Jan moved to the Ocean View community of Bishop's Landing in 2019. We remember greeting them at worship in Pre-Covid-19 times. We look forward to getting to know them and welcoming them into our OVPC community of faith. **MOTION** approved to welcome Jacob and Janice into membership of OVPC.

We welcomed the **Worship Committee Chair, Eric Neumann**, to our meeting. Eric presented the Worship Committee's Annual Report to Session. Eric reflected on the 'Themes of 2020': **flexibility** with communications and technology setting and sustaining our on-line worship services; **safety** protocols extended to all worshipers and participants; **creativity** to offer new ways to stay in community (Mid-Week Meditation), virtual Nativity Festival; **volunteerism** in abundance from members and friends. Session appreciates and thanks the members of the worship committee for their dedication to making worship meaningful at OVPC.

We have a new **Administrative Assistant, Diane Brown**. She brings a wealth of experience to the job and starts on Monday, March 15th. If you have a reason to be by the office, please take a minute to introduce yourself and welcome Diane to our OVPC community. Thanks to the Personnel Committee for their hard work. **MOTION** approved to hire Diane Brown as the Administrative Assistant.

Marlene Quinn, Presbytery Commissioner, presented the highlights of the virtual 'New Castle Presbyterian Beach Retreat' held March 12 & 13, 2021.

We have a new Treasurer ! **Elaine Wolf** ! **MOTION** approved for Elaine Wolf to be our new Treasurer, effective April 1, 2021. Best Practices states that an internal audit should be performed with the changing of Treasurers. Finance Committee members, Randy Bartholomew and Bob Clark, will perform the internal audit.

MOTION passed to approve the minutes of the **February 8, 2021 Session Meeting** and the **February 22, 2021 Special Session Meeting**.

MOTION passed to approve the February 2021 Finance Reports.

Finance Committee update:

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

We continue to limit our expenses.

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 Betsy Henifin on May 8th, 2021.

The **Monthly Committee Reports** were received.

Sewing Circle members will distribute palms to OVPC members and friends the week before Palm Sunday.

Session has approved the **Mission Committee's** request to establish a **Special Project** to construct a Labyrinth. Please check the shadow box by the entrance to Memorial Hall to see an artist's rendering and information about the Labyrinth.

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: **April 12th Session Meeting - reports are due April 7th .**

The meeting was adjourned and closed with prayer at 9:52 PM

Welcome

It is with great pleasure that we welcome Diane Brown as our Administrative Assistant.

Diane is a graduate of LaSalle University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Human Resources and Accounting. She returns to Delaware for retirement with her family after working in the Philadelphia/Southern New Jersey fuel industry.

Ms. Brown has considerable computer strength, customer relation skills, and has created training manuals of business operations all with attention to detail. She wanted to be involved in a community-oriented organization and chose us.

Please welcome Diane to our Church family and community.





Peter Maurer	April 3rd
Susan Baer	April 4th
Jim Dietsch	April 6th
Sandy White	April 10th
Cindy Benjamin	April 15th
Pam Dougherty	April 20th
Jim Bonbright	April 23rd
Bill Colwill	April 23rd
Jim Ellis	April 26th
Dick Regester	April 26th
George Price	April 27th

Marge and Jerry Egger	April 10th
Ellen and Eric Neumann	April 30th

Congratulations to Elaine Wolf,
new Treasurer of the
congregation.



**“Behold, my friends, the spring is home; the earth
has gladly received the embraces of the sun, and
we shall soon see the results of their love.”**

Sitting Bull

DEACONS

Gloria Bartholomew

Crisis House – April Deacon's Mission

Since 1981 Crisis House served as an emergency shelter for homeless men, women, and children primarily in Sussex County. While formally named Sussex Community Crisis Housing Services Inc.; they still call themselves Crisis House. Their long-time Executive Director is Marie Morole. All their referrals come through the Housing Alliance Centralized Intake system (referrals ph: 833-346-3233).

While the Crisis House shelter can house a total of 20 adults and 5 children, because of the COVID pandemic they have not been able to accept new clients. Currently they have 7-8 clients to allow for spacing restrictions in the original shelter. They have a total of three buildings in Georgetown:

Their original building at 110 N, Railroad Ave, that can house 15 people in 6 bedrooms.

And two other self-sustaining units that include:

The Northport Transitional Apartments, that can house five single-parent families with minor children in separate units, and the one single family home.

Crisis House is a 30-day emergency program with comprehensive cost-free services including three daily meals, counseling, and referral assistance. Workshops, housing, and job search assistance is provided, with the goal of clients achieving independence and self-sufficiency. In this COVID time residents are especially expected to maintain social distancing and contact, respect, and decorum for the staff along with the other residents.

Admission to the House requires:

- Have a negative COVID-19 test
- Be homeless
- Be free of drugs and alcohol while residing at the shelter
- Heads of households are 18 years of age or older
- Not already served within the past 12 months
- And must complete a background check at the Georgetown Police Department (being free of any outstanding warrants, sexual offenses, or violent offenses).

Donations of all sizes are the backbone of Crisis House's work now and as for future needs.

Financial support has been coming in from a Cares Act grant that ends this June. As of this date, they do not know if/how much/when support will come from the state thru the new relief bill. Any welcome donation checks should be made out to OVPC with the memo line saying Crisis House. They can be sent just as you would your regular offering.

If you wish to donate items to help the residents of Crisis House, here is a list of NEW items needed now:

- Coffee
- Tea
- Sugar
- Powdered drink mixes
- Cooking oil
- Spices (salt, pepper, BBQ sauces, garlic powder, onion powder, chili powder – the basics)

There will be a white plastic tub just inside the Memorial Hall door next to the office for any of the above items. Gloria Bartholomew will be glad to deliver them directly to the Crisis House.

Thank you all so much for your generous natures and for helping some of our most needy residents. God has been good to us!

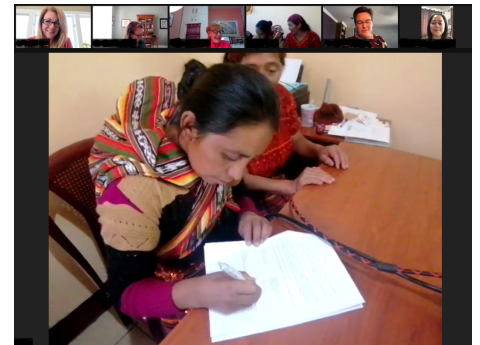


I was recently in a dilemma regarding one of my family members who was in a bad place. I discussed the problem with other family members, discussed it with my female friends who empathized and commiserated with me and who had also experienced similar problems, but all of those discussions lacked

guidance, objectivity, and solutions. So, I reached out to a Stephen Minister and spent a couple hours detailing the problems and concerns and came away with a plan that helped me move forward in approaching that family member. I'm happy to report that things have improved and are moving toward a positive resolution. So, if you, like me, were hesitant to reach out to a Stephen Minister to help with concerns, I encourage you to take advantage of this worthwhile FREE ministry! Marie Waehler

NCP GUATEMALA PARTNERSHIP

Exciting news! The Guatemala Partnership of New Castle Presbytery recently formalized its third, three-year covenant with the Association of Mam Christian Women for Development. Effective through 2023, this agreement is a commitment to continue to pray for one another, mutually support one another through faith, education, and resources, and much more.



For prior events, representatives from NCP had traveled to Guatemala to meet in person with met with the Association. This year, on March 13th, we all met via zoom for prayer, the signing, and a celebratory chocolate tasting.

To learn more about this partnership or how to get involved, visit: ncpguatemala.com/participate/

SEWING CIRCLE

Amy Peoples

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

There were 13 in attendance.

Moderator Elaine opened the meeting at 1:00 PM.

Before Pastor Terry read us two poems and led us in prayer he wanted us to know that he had heard from Bob and Elaine Jackson. They are so appreciative of the notes, recipes and cards that OVPC has sent them. They wanted him to thank everyone.

Pastor Terry then read two timely poems, "Pandemic" and "When This Is Over".

He then led us in prayer.

Elaine read a St Patrick's Day prayer before we started our business meeting.

She read the OVPC Vision statement-Shaped by God, we love and serve.

March Birthdays,

Sylvia Edmanson, 3/8 , Amy Peoples 3/9, and Flora Beaver3/11

REPORTS;

Bev made a motion, seconded by Lorie that we accept the February 10, 2021 minutes as mailed electronically. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report;

Balance on hand..... \$2310.33

The Sharing Pantry Fund \$ 750.00

Circle Mission Activities;

Nothing to report at this time

OVPC Mission Committee Update;

A letter will be forthcoming to the congregation explaining the Matthew 25 Initiative. The main focus at this time will be poverty.

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They are looking for new missions projects for OVPC.

Session;

We were asked to check out the display cabinet outside Memorial Hall. There is an artist's rendering of the proposed labyrinth.

Elaine Wolf will be the new church treasurer. She will be taking over for Liz Hobler who had to resign due to health issues.

There were very good responses to the "love Soup jars" for the start of Lent.

A new church Administrative Assistant, Diane Brown, has been hired and will begin Monday, March 15, 2021. She is retired and has moved back from Pennsylvania to be closer to family in Selbyville. She hopes to be involved and participate in the church community.

The Session will discuss opening church at April Session meeting.

Sunshine Update,

Marie has sent cards out this month with a St. Patrick's Day theme. She has cards ready for Easter.

Marti will email Love soup recipe to Lorie for church newsletter.

Correspondence,

None at this time

Old Business;

The Sharing Pantry is going very well at this time and is being used. Many donations of food have come in from the church family and from people in area. It seems like the usage is mostly in mid -week. Ellen has a schedule for refilling and for those who refill.

Gifts of Women Sunday will be May 9, 2021 and Reverend Dr. Tracy Koll will preach. At this time we are not sure it will be attended in person or streamed. Don Bailey and Bob Wolf have graciously agreed to serve as chairmen of the Mother's Day Brunch following the service. The men of the church will be contacted. Hopefully it can be a gathering outside Memorial Hall keeping the proper distance. The plans in the works.

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New Business;

The Worship Committee and the Circle will take palms to church families the week before Palm Sunday. Those volunteering so far to deliver Palms are, Ellen and Eric, Bob and Nancy, Lorie and Jim, Elaine and Dale, Bev and Don, and Pam and Marti. The Palms will be at the church March 20, 2021 and ready for late afternoon delivery. Ellen is the contact person.

Next meeting April 14, 2021 and which time we will discuss Lesson # 8 with Marti leading the discussion.

Our business meeting adjourned.

We then went to our Bible Study, Chapter 7, "Creation Laments" led by Bev.

After the Bible Study we closed the meeting with the MIZPAH at 2:52 PM

Respectfully submitted by Amy Peoples, Secretary

Note: Amy paraphrased the following from a letter she received from Joe Schaefer's care giver:

Joe Schaefer really appreciated all the cards celebrating his 90th Birthday from his OVPC family. He celebrated by taking a birthday celebration party to Woodlands in Ocean Pines and making others happy. Sounds like him.

SCAM ALERT!

Crooks are using phone messaging to steal your info - and your money.

There is something compelling about the little buzz or ping that alerts you to a new text message on your smartphone. Is it your spouse? Friend? Doctor? Grandchild?

Increasingly, it's a thief.

Scammers are using text messages the same way they use phishing email, "says Mark Fetterhoff of AARP's Fraud Watch Network help line. "It's critical that people recognize the danger of clicking on links from people they don't know who are sending text messages".

Most texting scams use bogus offerings, often from big name brands, to get you to provide your username, password or credit card number.

Keep your phone number to yourself.

Look for red flags like misspellings and spacing issues.

Ask yourself if an offer sounds too good to be true, or are offered free gifts.

"Validate or eliminate". For example: if it looks like a message from your bank, call the number on your bank statement (not the number in the text message) to verify the offer.

Remember, never give out your credit card number, bank info or send money to get money to a caller or texted.

Paraphrased from the AARP

PRAYING WITH THE LABYRINTH

The Labyrinth is a spiritual tool serving as a walk-centered activity for the human heart, mind and soul. Plan at least 20-30 minutes, or longer if desired.

Begin to prepare yourself as you walk toward the labyrinth. walk in calm silence, focusing on your intention for walking and praying the Labyrinth.

A Labyrinth has a single, purposeful path that winds from the edge into the center. The same path leads back out to the edges again. Thus it resembles the indirect path our lives, which leads us sometimes into the center of the human condition, sometimes into the heart and mind of God, sometimes into the very core of illness or pain, and sometime into the focal point of enlightenment or understanding.



**“With the coming of spring, I am calm again”
Gustav Mahler**

COMMUNITY SPIRIT

Three people were recently recognized by Frankford Police Chief Laurence Corrigan for their help in an emergency situation. Corrigan reported at a recent town council meeting that he had found himself having difficulty communicating with a resident who was in distress. He sought help with the language barrier at the Frankford Public Library, and when it became apparent the family was in need of food, a representative of the Frankford Presbyterian Church stepped in to help. Shown at the library are, from left, director Bonnie Elliott, Peggy Shaffer of the **Frankford Presbyterian Church** and Ray Rojas, adult/teen director at the library. (Coastal Point).



The best vitamin for a Christian is B1

Submitted by Elsie Young

LOVE SOUP

People have asked for the recipe of the Love Soup that was distributed for Ash Wednesday. So here it is.

Using a pint size Mason Jar layer the following ingredients:

INGREDIENTS

3 Tablespoons beef flavor bouillon granular (scant)

¼ cup dried minced onion

¼ cup split peas

¼ cup barley

¼ cup split peas

¼ cup alphabet macaroni

¼ cup lentils

1/3 cup tri-colored pasta

Layer dry ingredients in the order listed in pint size jar. Rotate jar as you fill.

ADDITIONAL INGREDIENTS

½ pound Ground Beef (optional)

6 cups Water

Salt, Pepper and preferred seasonings to taste

TO MAKE THE SOUP

Brown ½ pound of Beef if chosen

Bring 6 cups of water to a boil in large pot

Add all ingredients to the boiling water

Cover and simmer for 45 minutes until lentils and peas are soft

LEFTOVERS CAN BE FROZEN



Did you know muffins
spelled backwards is
what you do when you
take them out of the
oven?

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Presentations on April 18 and April 25 - Bruce Hobler, Presenter

Two Sundays in April will focus on education in the American prison system.

April 18, 2021: This segment will include an overview of prison education as it has developed and currently implemented. The role of CEA (Correctional Education Association) will be highlighted as the professional driver for prison education programs and policies. Changes in the American prison system will be emphasized especially as it relates to education and rehabilitation. Successful programs will be highlighted as well as their outcomes.

April 25, 2021: The current practice of prisoner reentry will be emphasized. Such programs help to determine successful transition back into the community. We will address the value of prison education not only to the individuals themselves but also to the communities that they serve. The elements of a model prison program will be discussed and supported by on-going examples. Currently prison education is at a crossroad in terms of where we are and where we go from here. Ending: Time will be available for discussion and questions.

MY QUILT PROJECT

Nancy Turner

Hi loved the news letters as usual. I admire all you ladies that have made prayer shawls. I tried your knitting group a couple of times I like catching up but can't concentrate on hand work. I don't sit well for a long time . Maybe hyper but do well out side. Well enough. I want to tell you that I made a prayer quilt. About 4 years or so ago I purchased a plastic sandwich bag of quilt squAres. They were same design but made by different people?? I put them away. I looked at them and put them away. Again and again. Well last year I took them out and began to work on them. Well it was VERY challenging to say the least. I also like to use what I have sooo I began my challenge. I finished it after many months of trial and error. Well I decided that I had enough quilts so I would give it away. There is a woman down the street with many medical concerns. She has always lived with her mother because these started when she was 8 years old. Her mother said I could give it to her. We are good friends also. I don't feel so guilty now and I know she liked it. I got a very special note! That is my story !! You ladies do a wonderful job. I am including a picture of the quilt.



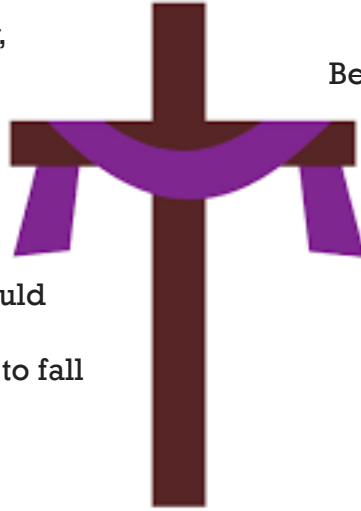
Mandatory Thursday

I first thought that Maundy Thursday
Must be Laundry Thursday,
Even though I knew that Monday
Then was laundry day.

As I and my vocabulary grew
I knew it must be Maudlin Thursday,
Though I knew not why Thursday
Should be more maudlin
And done in
Or done away
Than any other day,
Though it was the day
Or night I recall as the one that I would
keep tally
As the one that took me the longest to fall
asleep.

I awoke in Latin class
(not Latin Mass)
To guess that maundy
Was only the muff by us of mandatus
And the last mandate from Jesus
That each of us must
Love one another.
My sisters and brothers,
Is this a mandate and instruction
Or only a suggestion?

FROM THE DESK OF
TOM BENTZ

**Holey Saturday**

The supper table is cleared,
The upper room emptied,
The savior buried in
The borrowed tomb.

I am now
burrowed in sorrow
Between yesterday's doom and gloom
And an unknown tomorrow.

There is a howling hole in holy,
A gaping sky,
A wholly silent diety,
The total retreat of recent glory.

Here is a heart
Beating but beaten, worn,
Torn and cast out
Like our last supper's stale bread.

Where will I go?
How will I start?
What is the part
I will have
But might not want
To play
On Sunday?

Easter Stirs

Easter stirs
here in the silence of a Saturday night
passing a saturnalian party,
taking a taciturn turn from ambient to
silent flight
in the wake of the blast of Thursday's last
dinner party
and the disheartening Friday departure
of the most loved host
who got hung out to die.

I don't want to die.
I want to feast and party with deity
or at least a fast
if not lasting friend.

So I,
like the last dinner guests of Jesus
and those of us
disposed to follow him
or a dream,
can take this midnight
as what might
be more than a rite
of passage,
maybe a fuselage
and a fuse
to blow open
a tomb
and all time.

FROM THE DESK OF TOM BENTZ

Icemandate

"The Iceman cometh,"
saith playwright Eugene O'Neill in 1939,
before he had to go,
we came into play,
the iceman and iceboxes were gone,
and refrigerators came in and on.

Ice blocks have been replaced by ice cubes
to cool our drinks and thinking.

Ice caps are melting
with the shrinking remains
of a sculpted solid iceman
at the dripping end of his day
on the thawed boardwalk
where
we walk
talk
buy schlock
to restock
our shelves and selves
and reset our locks.

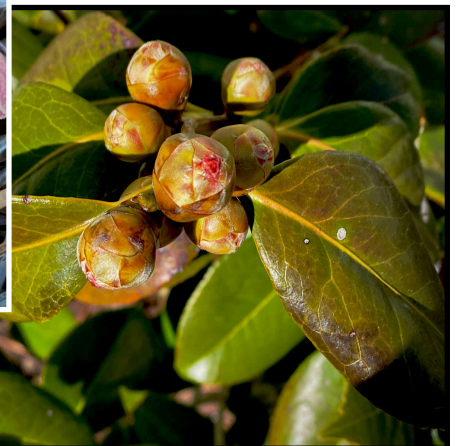
O say we can see
that banner, this country, carved image,
culture, identity steaming
and melting into the used to be
or becoming.

We may stay inside
or wander away like stray sheep,
yet still may have a promise or a dream to
keep
before we are swept or slept away



PHOTOGENIC

Lorie and Jim
Hartsig



The Osprey have
returned.

Be kind. Embrace grace. Forgive mistakes. Carry one another's burdens. Take care of the most vulnerable. This virus will still likely be with us for a long time, but progress is being made, and we will come out of it refined by the fire of its challenge. Trust in God to bring a freshly-formed Church out of this. And may the peace of God, which passes all understanding, guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

*Regathering Guidelines from New Castle Presbytery's
Committee on Coordination (COC) February 2021*

