January 2015

Looking Forward, Glancing Backward

Do not remember the former things...
I am about to do a new thing;
Now it springs forth,
Do you not perceive it?
(Isa 43:18-19)

This time of year we hear a lot about new year’s resolutions. However, I really don’t think resolutions are worth the effort! They’re often borne by guilt or regret about what we’d hoped to accomplish—or messed up—in the previous year. So, the new year becomes an exercise in trying to outdo or overcome what should have happened in the old year. In other words, we glance forward but are looking backward. The new year becomes a retrial of the old year, and we’re stuck focusing on the past.

The passage quoted above comes from an unknown prophet we call “Second Isaiah.” He penned these words most likely from Babylon, while Judah lay in ruins. But he saw signs of hope before him and his people. Instead of ruminating about why they had failed so miserably and been defeated, Second Isaiah sounds a hopeful cry for a New Year: stop focusing on what is past. God is about to do something very new. God is going to pave a way into renewal and restoration. Even now there are signs of the new thing God is doing. It is not a call for resolutions to do things better than before. It is an invitation to see what is already different about the new days ahead.

People’s Church is not suffering. It is not languishing in defeat, like the people that Second Isaiah addressed. Nevertheless, his message is just as relevant for us as it was for them. The way forward into the New Year is to look forward at the new thing God is already doing in this church. Things will be different this year! Second Isaiah’s advice is to resist the temptation to constrain what is done in the new year by how well or poorly things have been done in previous years. “Remember not the former things.”

During the past two years of this interim time we have prayerfully and eagerly anticipated what God might be doing and where God might be calling us as a congregation. Like the ticking of a clock or rhythmic beating of the heart, we have heard, “I am about to do a new thing.” A new thing is different from what has been done before! Therefore, it is exciting. It is also unsettling, because new things are unfamiliar and take some getting used to. However, looking forward in faith like this, doesn’t mean that we have no backward glances. Indeed, Second Isaiah’s words recall ancient Israel’s deliverance from Egypt under Moses. God’s new thing is rooted deeply in God’s historical cycle of deliverance, faithfulness, and renewal. Our glances backward are not to gauge what we must do to guarantee our future. Instead, they are in response to the new thing we are looking for as we remember the historical cycle of how God has blessed, renewed, and prospered People’s Church in the past, and has, in the process brought blessing, succor, and solace to its community in Dover.

Peace,
Doug
STEWARDSHIP REPORT THROUGH - DECEMBER 30, 2014

STEWARDSHIP REPORT THROUGH

Annual Church Budgeted Income $208,676  Budgeted  Actual  Difference
Income Weekly  4,013
Income Received
  Income members  153,676.00  116,434.99  37,241.01
  Transferred from Investment savings  55,000.00  86,000.00  -31,000.00
Expenses to Date  -208,676.00  -197,969.37  -10,706.63
Net Difference  0.00  - 4,465.62  - 4,465.62

ATTENDANCE FOR DECEMBER

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<td>593</td>
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JANUARY 2015 Birthdays

01/05  Judith REED 01/05  Ethel SEDULE
01/08  Ruth Ann KEMP 01/08  Arthur S. LEWIS Sr.
01/08  Barbara VAN SANT 01/10  Sarah COLE
01/14  Robert ROOS III 01/15  Phyllis TARBURTON
01/17  Ryan DODD-STERLING 01/18  Clara DOWNES
01/19  Ronald ZINK 01/20  Eileen D. LOCKWOOD
01/20  Tina POTTS 01/21  Walter “Bud” WOREK
01/25  Jennifer GOLDSMITH 01/25  William WHARTON
01/27  William MUNTZ 01/27  Joseph ZINGARO
01/28  Jane KENT 01/28  Nevaeh RUMBLEY
01/29  Sylvia LATOURETTE 01/31  Elinor Lee BAKER

If we missed anyone, please notify the church office to get your name on the list.

*May God Bless You on Your Birthday.*
The Prayer List for Members & Friends of the Church

The list is kept current. For a copy please call the church office: 674-4177; peopleschurchdover@verizon.net

PRAYERS FOR MEMBERS

Louise Ferguson – in Capitol Rehab, room 225-B.
Daisy Hill—at home with son recuperating
Sylvia Latourette – at home being cared for by her daughter
Ann Lewis – at Silver Lake in room #231 for therapy after heart surgery
Thelma Lewis – in the Alzheimer’s unit at State Street, still a happy and welcoming lady
William Muntz – recuperating at home after surgery
Connor Rumbley – recuperating at home after surgery
Betty Tomlinson – Westminster Health Center
Adolf Weissenfluh – home, dealing with advancing Parkinson’s disease

PRAYERS FOR FAMILY MEMBERS

Jacqueline Lenox – Jim Miller’s aunt - broken pelvis, shoulder/neck pain
Samuel Lenox – Jim Miller’s Uncle - extreme back pain
Keith Nicolls – Fred Hotchkiss’ uncle - kidney failure
Alice Smith – Louise Warfield’s mother, numerous health issues, recovering from stroke.
Jean Tilley – Billie Boehmer’s mother in PA - Parkinson’s disease and age dementia
Verna James – The Hufnal's aunt: reoccurrence of Breast Cancer and other health issues due to aging
Donald Olliver - The Hufnal’s uncle has Lateral Sclerosis and Heart concerns.

PRAYERS FOR CANCER PATIENTS

Wanda Bacon – Phyllis Simpkins’ niece - breast cancer
Willard Irwin – Lyn Arnold’s colleague
Carla McNatt – friend of Phyllis Simpkins - Pancreas
Lillian Schrantz – Cleah Muntz’s sister-in-law

Christmas Thank You

Kathy and I would like to thank everyone for their kind gifts, cards, candy and expressions of love during the Christmas season. Thank you, to all those who have been able to participate in the music ministry at People’s Church during 2014. We are truly blessed with so many fine musicians and their passion to “raise a joyful noise to the Lord” week after week. Special thanks to Philip Betts for his continued contributions to our services and the choir. It would not be the same without his masterful skills in the organ pit and at the piano. We wish you all a happy, healthy, peaceful and prosperous new year.

Fondly,
Paul and Kathy Hanebutt

SATURDAY BREAKFAST & WORK-DAY FOR WOMEN & MEN

Will continue on JANUARY 10, 2015
Full service Breakfast at 8 AM – 8:45 AM then get-er-done from 8:45 AM to 11:00 AM. See you there.
CAREGIVERS
The next meeting to coordinate will be January 14th at 10:30 AM at the church. We would love to have others join us.
        Shirley Hawkins

MEN'S BREAKFAST
The next Men's Breakfast will be Tuesday, January 20th at 8 a.m. in the Country Eatery on N State St. Men, if you are reading this announcement you are welcome and encouraged to join us! We enjoy an hour of fellowship and food at the beginning of the day every third Tuesday of the month. Why not mark that on your calendar and plan to join us for a good time?

CHURCH VAN MINISTRY
If you or someone you know is interested in riding to worship and back home each Sunday in the church van, OR if you would like to volunteer as a van driver for this ministry, please call the church office and let us know. The Van Ministry is ready to respond to your call. The list is kept current. For a copy please call the church office: 674-4177; office@peopleschurchofdover.org

WISH LIST
It is getting along to the end of the year and the church is needing a few things to get to the New Year!

- Ice melt
- Copy paper (white or colored)
- Stamps
- Rolls of paper towels
- White plastic folding tables (2)

On Monday, December 29 the Open and Affirming Coalition of the United Church of Christ sent an email to Doug and official contact persons on the ONA Task Force informing us that People’s Church is now officially listed with the Open and Affirming Coalition of the United Church of Christ. The church will receive a certificate of recognition of our ONA status from the Open and Affirming Coalition. Additionally, the church's name and ONA status will soon appear on the ONA map on the Coalition website and in the 'Find a UCC Church' listing on the UCC website. If you are interested in checking these things out go to either http://ucccoalition.org/ona/find/ or http://www.ucc.org/find/. Thanks to everyone for your support through this process. Judy Zingaro, ONA Task Force chairperson

What’s Happening In the Interim Time?
The pastor search committee has been busy reviewing over 20 profiles of candidates interested in becoming our next minister. While we continue receive profiles every week, we have interviewed 2 highly qualified individuals over the phone. We are working together with our conference administrator to schedule face to face interviews in the near future. In the meantime we will be meeting to continue our search process. We will keep you posted as progress develops.
We are in desperate need of friends to donate just a few minutes on Sunday mornings to usher. It really doesn’t require coming to church much earlier than you normally would and while this service is priceless to God and your People’s Family, it costs you nothing. Please find it in your heart and schedule to volunteer once a month or every other month. Pick an open slot on the sign-up sheets in the rear of the sanctuary, call the church office.

**VOLUNTEERS**

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<th>Liturgist</th>
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<tr>
<td>01/04 Charles &amp; Virginia Stewart</td>
<td>01/04 Vicky Healey</td>
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<tr>
<td>01/11 Ruth Ann Kemp</td>
<td>01/11 Jean Hitchens</td>
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<td>01/18 Cheryl Goldsmith</td>
<td>01/18 Jim Caldwell</td>
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<td>01/25 Phyllis Simpkins</td>
<td>01/25 Joe Zingaro</td>
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**Sunday Lessons**

**January 4:** Epiphany Sunday  
**Holy Communion**  
Isaiah 60:1-6; Matthew 2:1-12

**January 11:** Baptism of Christ  
Psalm 29; Mark 1:4-11

**January 18:** Second Sunday after Epiphany  
Palm 139:1-6, 13-18; John 1:43-51

**January 25:** Third Sunday after Epiphany  
Psalms 62:5-12; Mark 1:14-20

**February 1:** Fourth Sunday after Epiphany  
Psalms 11; Mark 1:21-28

**BOARD OF DIACONATE**

"In keeping with a past tradition at Peoples Church anyone who would like to come to the altar rail during the Morning Prayer/Lord's Prayer to offer up their prayer and petition is more than welcome."

**Our Church's Website**

Have you looked at our church's website lately?  [www.peopleschurchofdover.org](http://www.peopleschurchofdover.org)  Special thanks to Elinor Baker for all the work she puts into her job as our webmaster.
As the year comes to a close, we are thankful for a wonderful Advent Season and a blessed Christmas. We received a heartfelt letter of thanks from Church Women United, since Alexis Jones, Alyssa Senato and I baked Christmas cookies for their Cookie Pack, a project which gives Delaware inmates cookies at Christmastime.

We give thanks for the following youth, who participated in the Family Christmas Eve service: Josh Dodd, Alexis Jones, Maria Myer, Morgan Belford, Austin Belford, Cameron Decker, Lucas Decker, Clara Downes, Ryan Dodd-Sterling, Nevaeh Rumbley.

And not to be forgotten, thanks to a great board for their tireless support of all programming. We say "Good-bye" to Laurie Biddle and Jean Hitchens, and welcome Mary Beth Goldsmith, Amanda Middleton, Alexis Jones, and Jennifer Childears.

NEW EVENTS:
January 11, after worship: "Sustainable Energy", a presentation on renewable energy ideas for homes. A light lunch will be served.
   Tony DePrima, Executive Director of Delaware Sustainable Energy Utility will be the speaker for an Adult Education Seminar at 11:30 am on Sunday January 11th, 2015 in the church’s Fellowship Room. The subject will be saving energy in your homes and businesses. With him will be Kerry Hollenbeck an Energy Advisor with the SEU’s Energize Delaware “Home Performance with Energy Star Program” who will be available to answer questions. A light lunch will be served, and a free energy audit will be raffled off.

February 15, after worship, a presentation on "Evolution", by a Lancaster Seminary professor. A light lunch will be served.

The Board of CE will meet on January 4, following worship.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Hitchens, chairperson

We have a few donations for the George Kent Library, they are in the library now:

Sundays In America, A yearlong road trip in search of Christian Faith, by Suzanne Strempek Shea;
It's Not About the Bike, My Journey Back to Life, Lance Armstrong with Sally Jenkins;
I'd rather Do CHEMO Than Clean Out the Garage, Choosing Laughter over Tears, by Fran Di Giacomo;
Real Money, Sane Investing In An Insane World, by Jim Cramer’s
CODE PURPLE needs volunteers.
With the cold weather upon us volunteers are really needed to help out at the Presbyterian Church’s cold weather shelter. Volunteers give what time they can but the more folks we have the lighter the load of providing safe, warm accommodations for our homeless Dover neighbors. Please, read what’s needed below and prayerfully consider donating time, even if it might be only a few evenings this winter:

The People's Church of Dover
United Church of Christ
46 South Bradford Street
Dover, Delaware 19904-7316

The Rev. Dr. Douglas Griffin  office@peopleschurchofdover.org
Interim Minister  302/674-4177

CODE PURPLE emergency cold weather shelter looking for volunteers:
People’s Church has offered to assist the Presbyterian Church of Dover as a Code Purple shelter site, which will host homeless men on Code Purple nights. Volunteers are not restricted to being males, though at least one male will be required for every shift. All Code Purple shelters are open from 5 p.m. until 7 a.m. the next morning. Volunteers are grouped into four teams:

1. those who provide food and don’t necessarily need to be on site except to deliver.
2. a team of two for intake and search - this must include at least one male who’d conduct the search but intake can be a female.
3. a team of two hosts for the evening, include serving meal. both may be female.
4. a team of two for all night oversight. This can also be a couple but at least one male. One must be awake at all times though they can work out sleeping shifts however they prefer.

The Presbyterian church will orient all volunteers to the schedule, responsibilities and procedures for processing and hosting Code Purple guests. The more teams that we can coordinate between the two churches the easier the burden will be, especially if we should face a string of very cold or inclement weather nights.

If you think you can volunteer at the shelter, please write your name and number below, detach and drop in the offering plate. Or, you may notify the office or talk to Sue Harris Hunt.

Name: ______________________  Phone #: ______________

FOOD BANK

Thank you to all for your generosity this Christmas season to our local missions. It was greatly appreciated.
- 128 food items were delivered to the First Baptist Church Food Bank for their Christmas dinner baskets. We will resume our normal collection of food items such as saltine crackers, cereal, beef stew, etc. to be delivered to Holy Cross Food Bank in January.
- Children’s clothing, toys, and cash were delivered to Caring Hearts Helping Hands to help those in need.
- The cookie walk made $259 to be given to Caring Hearts Helping Hands. Thanks to all who baked and bought cookies.

The Wesley Church clothing closet is in need of infant and children's clothing to size 5. We have children to clothe on referral (for free) and people of limited means who shop on Saturdays, many of whom cannot find what they need for their children. Clothing donations may be taken directly to the clothes closet on Monday, Friday, or Saturday morning, or leave them at the Wesley Church.

Thanks

Dover Interfaith Mission for Housing
Summary of 2014

Since the first of the year, DIMH has sheltered and assisted 179 homeless men. It continues to provide stable, long-term housing for three men in the house obtained from the Delaware State Housing Authority and has another nine men in two transition houses.

Renovations on “Walt Bagley Hall” are—at last—nearly complete. A Grand Opening will soon be scheduled and thirty men will move in, many of whom are current shelter residents. In their new single and double rooms, they will pay rent from their own earnings or from disability income, will receive two meals daily, and will have access to shared bathing, laundry, and living areas. The education and training team will continue to assist residents there, along with DIMH case manager. This will ensure their continued success, sound personal financial management, and creation of long-term goals that may include home ownership or individual tenancy in the Dover area.

A double-wide trailer was donated and erected on land adjacent to the shelter. Various improvements were required in order to bring it up to local code. Local Rotary Clubs sought funds from their national foundation and also contributed to the renovation of a new daytime Resource Center in that space. The Resource Center is designed to be a daytime source of information and assistance for the homeless in our community. It will include a place for the homeless to have an address for mail as well as to use shower and laundry facilities. Volunteers will provide a compassionate welcome along with referrals to local services and employment opportunities. Volunteers will receive training and are needed!

Our Education and Training program continues to enable shelter guests to prepare for and secure employment. A new program called The Path Forward helps new, unemployed guest to assess their personal situation and to embark on the steps that will lead to self reliance. One-on-one training and assistance is provided on computer and internet use and on the preparation of resumes and job applications. A flagger-training class was held at the shelter for 15 men, several of whom have worked in this field at least on a part-time basis. As our volunteer base expands, training will be available to users of the Resource Center.

We have been fortunate to receive a three-year grant from the Criminal Justice Council to enable us to shelter and assist homeless men coming from prison. This grant makes it possible for DIMH to employ someone to work with local employers to encourage them to employ ex-offenders.

For a more detailed report of the activities and financial status of the DIMH please visit the church’s website.
The Family Thank bag offering totaled $570. These funds will be dedicated ½ to the Diaconate Fund and the other ½ will be split between Caring Hearts Helping Hands and the Stockley Auxiliary.

The 2015 trifold which included the budget, calendar of events and meetings and the list of officers was distributed in the end of November newsletter and is available at the two entrances to the sanctuary.

Nearly 20 women and spouses attended the annual Women’s Fellowship Christmas covered dish luncheon at the home of Phyllis and Larry Simpkins. Everyone enjoyed the festive decorations and a wonderful meal and fellowship. Thank you to Phyllis and Larry for opening their home.

Thank you; thank you; thank you to all who participated in the Christmas program. We received new children clothing and toys and the cookie drive and individual collections totaled over $400. Two of our church families became wish-grantors and sponsored two families. Caring Hearts Helping Hands provided over 300 children Christmas clothes and toys.

We are accepting gently used and new children’s clothing, furniture, small appliances, kitchen items, linens, toys and board games (with all the pieces included) and always need cleaning supplies, paper products, personal hygiene items, and gifts for teen birthdays.

Our office hours are every Tuesday, 10 am - 2 pm; the first Wednesday evening of each month, 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm and the first and third Saturday of each month, 10 am - 12 pm. Please feel free to come by any time, email us at caringhearts@verizon.net or check out our website: “chhhde.org”.

If you shop at Redner’s and use your “pump perks” card, please send us your grocery receipts as Redner’s gives 1% of those tapes to charities. We have already collected over $40,000 in receipts and received checks for over $400 which pays for Christmas gifts for four children.

If you are interested in helping or know of any teens or college students who need hours of community service, we would be happy to have their help as well. If you like to shop but are not able to sponsor a family for Christmas, we are also looking for shoppers.

Thanks again for all your support. Have a happy and healthy new year.

BJ Van Kavelaar, Secretary/Director
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<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
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| 10:00 am worship  
**Holy Communion**  
Epiphany Sunday  
11:00 Coffee  
11:10 am – Board of  
Management Meeting  
4:00 pm – Praying the Bible in Fellowship Room | 12:15 pm NA & 7:00 pm NA meetings  
7:00 pm AA meeting | 10:30 AM Care Givers meeting  
12:15 pm NA Meeting  
6:45 pm – Search Committee | 10:30 AM Care Givers meeting | 12:30 PM F.A.I.R.  
7:00 PM Choir Practice | 12:15 am NA & 7:00 pm AA meetings  
7:00 pm AA meetings  
10:30 am Caregivers meeting  
7:00 PM Choir Practice | 7:30 AM Breakfast & Work Day  
1 PM C.O.D.A. |
| 4       | 5      | 6       | 7         | 8        | 9      | 10       |
| 11      | 12     | 13      | 14        | 15       | 16     | 17       |
| 10:00 am worship  
11:30 AM Sustainable Energy workshop in Fellowship Room  
4:00 pm – Faith in Life in Fellowship Room | 12:15 pm NA & 7:00 pm NA meetings  
7:00 pm AA meeting  
6:45 pm – Search Committee | 12:15 pm NA Meeting  
10:30 am Caregivers meeting | 12:15 pm NA Meeting  
10:30 am Caregivers meeting | 12:30 PM F.A.I.R.  
7:00 PM Choir Practice | 12:15 pm NA & 7:00 pm AA meetings  
7:00 pm AA meetings  
10:30 am Caregivers meeting  
7:00 PM Choir Practice | 1 PM C.O.D.A. |
| 4       | 5      | 6       | 7         | 8        | 9      | 10       |
| 18      | 19     | 20      | 21        | 22       | 23     | 24       |
| 10:00 worship  
11:00 am coffee  
11:15 Board of Diaconate Meeting | 12:15 pm NA & 7:00 pm NA meetings  
MARTIN LUTHER KING, Jr. DAY Office Closed | 8 to 9 AM Men’s Breakfast Country Eatery  
7:00 pm AA meeting | 12:15 pm NA Meeting | 12:30 PM F.A.I.R.  
7:00 PM Choir Practice | 12:15 pm NA & 7:00 pm AA meetings  
7:00 pm AA meetings  
10:30 am Caregivers meeting  
7:00 PM Choir Practice | 1 PM C.O.D.A. |
| 4       | 5      | 6       | 7         | 8        | 9      | 10       |
| 25      | 26     | 27      | 28        | 29       | 30     | 31       |
| 10:00 am worship - Rev. Judy Zingaro  
11:00 am coffee  
**Rev. Griffin on Study Leave** | 12:15 pm NA & 7:00 pm NA meetings  
Study Leave | 7:00 pm AA meeting  
Study Leave | 12:15 pm NA Meeting  
Study Leave | 1 PM C.O.D.A.  
Study Leave  
Study Leave | 1 PM C.O.D.A.  
Study Leave  
Study Leave |
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<td>10 to 11 AM Worship</td>
<td>12:15 pm NA &amp; 7:00 pm NA meetings</td>
<td>7:00 pm AA meeting</td>
<td>12:15 am NA meeting</td>
<td>12:30 PM F.A.I.R.</td>
<td>12:15 pm NA &amp; 7:00 pm AA meetings</td>
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<td>4:00 p.m. – Praying the Bible</td>
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**THE PURPOSE / MISSION STATEMENT OF THE PEOPLE’S CHURCH OF DOVER**

**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

_The purpose of this church shall be to worship God who embraces all people;_

- to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ as our Revealer, Lord and Savior;
- to celebrate the sacraments; to facilitate spiritual growth;
- to practice Christian fellowship and unity within this church and the Church Universal;
- to proclaim the Bible as the story of our faith and to educate and nourish that faith among all ages;
- to render loving service towards humankind; to be faithful in our stewardship responsibilities with our time, talent and treasures; and to strive for righteousness, justice, and peace.

*Church Office – 302-674-4177, Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.*

*Email address: office@peopleschurchofdover.org*  
*WebPage: peopleschurchofdover.org*

*Rev. Douglas Griffin, Interim Pastor (302) 857-0177, Email: interimpastor@peopleschurchofdover.org*

*office 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 M-Th*

Worship Service 10:00 AM  
Philip S. Betts – Organist  
Kathy Hanebutt – Assist. Organist  
Robin Hinderer – Treasurer  
Cynthia Hotchkiss – Adm. Assist.  

Dr. Paul Hanebutt – Choir Director  
Randal Revay – Sexton  
R. Jefferson Reed – Head Usher

**Board Chairpersons**

- John Downs, Sr. - Moderator  
- Gerald Rice - Diaconate  
- Keith Kreisher & Robin Hinderer - Co-chairs Management  
- John Downs, Jr. - Finance

*DEADLINE FOR FEBRUARY 2015 NEWSLETTER IS JANUARY 20, 2015*