



People's to People

*The Newsletter of the People's Church of Dover
United Church of Christ*

46 South Bradford Street,
Dover, Delaware, 19904

(302) 674-4177 - Office (302) 674-3423 - FAX

Email address: office@peopleschurchofdover.org

Webpage: peopleschurchofdover.org

Under the Bell Tower

AUGUST 2016

Dear Friends,

Most of you have heard about the sudden death of our Central Atlantic Conference Minister Rev. Dr. John Deckenback. At the age of 69 John passed from this life to the next while working in his office in the early evening of July 19. There were two meetings scheduled for that evening, so John was discovered unresponsive at his desk shortly after 6 p.m. CPR was begun, the ambulance arrived, to no avail. I arrived at the Conference Office for a meeting of the Church and Ministry Committee shortly after John was found.

Such a shock. Such an enormous loss for his family, his friends, this Conference, the United Church of Christ and various world partnerships where John worked tirelessly to make plain the realm of God among us.

The Evangelical Reformed Church UCC in Frederick, Maryland was packed on Monday, July 25 as we gathered to remember John and commend John's soul to God's care. I traveled there with Suzanne Schwarz, a new member of our congregation and student at Lancaster Theological Seminary. In the coming years Suzanne will be ordained as a minister in the UCC. Along the way, we picked up retired pastor Rev. Dr. Hugh Nash. The three of us represented part of the breadth of John's engagement with all of us in the CAC: M.Div. Student, Pastor, Retired Pastor. I currently serve on the CAC Board of Directors. Hugh is a past president of the Board. Suzanne will be on our board or the board of another conference one day, I'm sure. Each one of us was known well by John. He would probably tell you stories about us if you asked. And that's part of why John was such a good conference minister: He was interested in each person as a human being first. He wanted to know about you, how you were doing. We were reminded in the eulogies about John's "Hey, there" phone calls—Hey, there: I'm in my car/just off the

plane/about to board/driving home and I wanted to check in on you, and I wanted to share some information I just learned that might be of help to you.

Since I moved from New York to New Jersey in 2001, John Deckenback made it his business to know me, learn my interests and gifts, and raise my name when both matched a job that needed to be done in the Association or Conference. As a board member for the past 4 years I've gotten to know John and admire his energy and his love for God. John's oldest son told us his father had two speeds: Full speed ahead and Off. So true.

John has now gone full speed into the arms of God. If you have John Deckenback stories, please share them with me. He was really something! As his wife, Carolyn said: John was smart, stubborn and passionate. He sure was all those things.

As Chair of the Operations and Personnel Committee for the CAC Board of Directors, I am involved with helping the Board to find first an Acting Conference Minister to step in until the Board has appointed a search committee to find an Interim Conference Minister. Please keep us in your prayers as we work diligently and prayerfully to find the right people to fill the gap, help us grieve, and lead us forward.

Grace and Peace

Pastor Ellen

STEWARDSHIP REPORT THROUGH –JULY 31, 2016				
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Annual Church Budgeted Income	\$217,950	Budgeted	Actual	Difference
Income Weekly		4,191		
Income Received				
Income members		70,346.76	67,617.76	- 2,729.00
Transferred from Invest. Savings		48,000.00	45,000.00	- 3,000.00
Expenses to Date		<u>-123,034.48</u>	<u>- 101,504.07</u>	<u>+21,530.41</u>
Net Difference		-4,687.72	- 11,113.69	-15,801.41

ATTENDANCE FOR JULY 2016

	<u>07/2015</u>		<u>07/2016</u>	<u>Offerings</u>
07/05	67	07/03	52	2,141.00
07/12	55	07/10	47	2,406.00
07/19	57	07/17	53	825.46
07/26	57	07/24	43	1,211.96
08/02	<u>52</u>	<u>07/31</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>2,422.83</u>
	288		250	9,007.25

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS 2016

08/02	Art LEWIS Jr.	08/03	Terry JAYWORK
08/04	Kristin Warfield HANNAH	08/04	Debra WOODRUFF
08/08	Paul HANE BUTT Jr.	08/08	Wyatt HOTCHKISS
08/11	Rebecca BROOKS	08/13	William , READ III,
08/14	Laurie BIDDLE	08/14	Paula HASTINGS
08/14	Richard YURGA	08/16	Linda PARADEE
08/19	Nancy GUTH	08/22	Lyn Arnold
08/22	Lauren CAULK	08/22	Jennifer WITTE
08/27	Jeff HASTINGS	08/28	Jane DODD
08/29	Billie BOEHMER	08/31	Michelle CAULK
08/31	Connor RUMBLEY		

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

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

Virginia Bason – new address %Kathy Bason, 717 Bicentennial Blvd., Dover, DE 19904

Maisha Britt - checking out some medical problems

Cawood Cosden –

Louise Ferguson – new address, % Gwen Gibbons, 425 Ruth Road, Arnold, MD
21012-1237, phone # 410-544-7124

Daisy Hill—at home cared for by son Rick Hill recovering from a fall

Amanda Middleton - recovering from medical procedures
Krystle Muntz – suffering from an infection
Jackie Niehorster – home after knee surgery
Jeff Reed – recovering from heart problems
Mary Reed – Westminster Village Assisted Living, room 242
Rose Mary Ressel – at Westminster Village Assisted Living, Apt. 243
Betty Tomlinson – Westminster Health Center
Adolf Weissenfluh – home, dealing with advancing Parkinson’s disease
Gertrude Weissenfluh – in recovering from stay in Hospital

PRAYERS FOR FAMILY MEMBERS

Margaret Foyle – Ruth Gallihue’s sister in New Jersey, recovering from a stroke
Verna James – The Hufnal’s aunt: reoccurrence of Breast Cancer and other health issues due to aging
Chris Lambertson – son of Kasey Stokes, friends of the Deckers, just diagnosed with ALS decease
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
George Sawyer – brother-in-law of Brenda Polasko, recovering from a stroke
Gene Simmens – friend of Dave & BJ, still in hospital recovering from heart surgery of four weeks ago. No visitors please.
Kayla Storr – friend of Chip & Ginny Stewart, with many health problems

PRAYERS FOR CANCER PATIENTS

Judy Hudson – friend of BJ & Dave VanKavelaar
Willard Irwin – Lyn Arnold’s colleague
Pat Morrison – friend of John Downs, Jr.
Diana Oswell – Vicky Healey’s sister
Jeff Sheppard – Sarah Wood’s partner Andy’s father
Donald Tatman – friend of Kathi Thomas
Kelly Schmidt – Terry Warfield’s niece
Uncle Pete – Pastor Ellen’s uncle

SYMPATHY

The church’s sympathy is expressed to the family and friends in the death of Connie Biddle who passed on July 31st. Services are Saturday, September 17th at 2:00 PM.

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

VOLUNTEERS

Flowers

08/07 Suzanne Schwarz
08/14 Sandy McNinch
08/21 Virginia & Charles Stewart
08/28 Sandra & Richard Yurga

Liturgist

08/07 Jeff Reed
08/14 Glenn Hitchens
08/21 Phyllis Tarburton
08/28 Lyn Arnold

Sunday Lessons

August 07: Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Holy Communion

Luke 12:32-40

August 14: Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Luke 12:49-56

August 21: Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

Luke 13:10-17

August 28: Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost

Luke 14:1, 7-14

Ushers

08/07 Phyllis Simpkins

08/14 Cheryl Goldsmith
Phyllis Simpkins

08/21

08/28 Cheryl Goldsmith

USHERS NEEDED

We are in need of friends to donate just a few minutes on Sunday mornings to usher. Please find it in your heart and schedule to volunteer once a month or every other month, or volunteer for the whole summer. Pick an open slot on the sign-up sheets in the rear of the sanctuary, or call the church office.

BOARD OF DIACONATE

The Diaconate Fund

which is used to provide assistance to our neighbors encountering emergency needs, was used heavily during the bitter winter months. As a result the fund has been reduced to just a couple hundred dollars. Please prayerfully consider contributing to the fund so that we can have ample resources as we move into the summer months. You may prepare a check to Peoples Church with "Diaconate Fund" on the memo line. Thank you for your generosity!

"Hey! Are you plugged in to the internet at home? Well Peoples Church has not only had a great website for years: peopleschurchofdover.org (maintained religiously by Elinor Baker), it now has it's own Face Book (FB) page (administered fastidiously by Sally Childears. Both sites have a trove of useful of information about Peoples and with FB, members can interact instantaneously. And if you happen to miss church because you are busy squishing beach sand between your toes? Videos of the Sunday sermons are now being posted on the FB page. So come join the congregation online. Post a photo or comment of interest to your fellow members, post a prayer or word of praise to the Lord, or just come and see what everyone else is up to.

The Diaconate"

We are in need of friends to donate just a few minutes on Sunday mornings to usher. Please find it in your heart and schedule to volunteer once a month or every other month, or volunteer for the whole summer. Pick an open slot on the sign-up sheets in the rear of the sanctuary, or call the church office.

CHURCH VAN MINISTRY

**** We are in current need of someone to help with our Sunday morning Transport Ministry. Please call or email the office if you are able to help fellow members enjoy worship . ****

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

Pastor Relations Committee (PRC)

" While Pastor Ellen encourages and, in fact, prefers open and direct communications with all, the Diaconate's 2016 Pastor Relations Committee (PRC) was impaneled this past month and is here for you. Please feel free to contact any member if you have a question or concern you would like passed on. However, in order to be fair, comments will not be forwarded anonymously. In meetings, if having a member or members of the PRC

present will make for a more comfortable conversation with the Pastor, a member(s) will make themselves available. Members of the committee are Bob Hawkins, Jean Hitchens, Jerry Rice (ricege@comcast.net/302-943-8871), and Rev. Judy Zingaro. -- Diaconate"

Our Church's Website

Have you looked at our church's website lately? www.peopleschurchofdover.org Special thanks to Elinor Baker for all the work she puts into her job as our webmaster.

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Vacation Bible School was a great success. We had nine children join us for a fun week of exploring Jesus' love!

My gratitude to all who helped prepare for VBS by clearing out the classrooms and those who came afterwards to take down the decorations. I was floored by the amount of help we received!

Thank you to my station leaders and crew leader, without them VBS would be impossible: Pastor Ellen, Phyllis Tarburton, Maria Myer, Jean Hitchens, Cheryl Goldsmith and Mary Beth Goldsmith.

Thank you to Sally Childears, our VBS decorator, audio-visual tech and creator of the personal fall stopper.

Sunday School will begin September 11th for children 4 through 12. Children will be dismissed during service after Time with Young Disciples. If you are interested in teaching Sunday School, please let a Board member or Pastor Ellen know. If we have enough, the commitment will be one class a month for each teacher.

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to Jennifer Childears, via email jenniferchildears@yahoo.com or by text at 302-535-2988.

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

Git R Done Saturday

The Git-R-Done Saturday will not be until September.

"Board of Management is waiting on the final report from the engineering firm. If anyone from the congregation has any information regarding the building that they feel needs reviewed please mention to any members of the Board of Management."

BOARD OF MISSION & OUTREACH

FOOD BANK

We collected 97 food items and \$20.00 for the Holy Cross Food Bank for July. Next month we will be collecting for the First Baptist Food Bank. Items needed are saltine crackers, cereal, baked beans, canned tomatoes, tuna, beef stew and other canned goods. Checks can be made payable to Peoples Church. Thanks.

DOVER INTERFAITH MEN'S HOMELESS SHELTER

People's Church will supply the meal for the Dover Interfaith Men's Homeless Shelter on the last Sunday of the month which would be August 28 this month. If you, your Board, or committee would like to volunteer, please contact Sue Harris. Thanks to the Board of Diaconate for preparing the July 31 dinner.

Women's Fellowship

Our next gathering will be our welcome back luncheon on Sunday, September 11, after church. We will be hosting this covered-dish event with the Board of Trustees, Board of Finance and the Choir. Sounds like a lot of good eating!!

Have a wonderful summer; be safe!!

Caring Hearts Helping Hands (phone 698-1900)

Doing a little spring cleaning??!! We are accepting new and/or clean gently used 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. Items can be left in the box marked for Caring Hearts Helping Hands at the back of the sanctuary.

We are gathering school supplies for our "Heart and Sole" program where each school-age child of our approved families will receive a fully-packed, grade-appropriate book bag and a gift card for a new pair of shoes. We will be packing the book bags on Tuesday August 9th (10am-2pm) if anyone wants to some help.

We have been doing a lot of up-grading at the warehouse. Hope some of you will come by to see our facility. 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 \$150,000 in receipts and received checks for over \$1,500 which helps provide Christmas gifts for the children of low-income working families here in Kent County who have not been sponsored by a wish-grantor.

We are also a named charity for Amazon-Smile. If you shop Amazon, look to name us as your charity and Amazon will donate .5% of qualified purchases to Caring Hearts Helping Hands.

And if you donate to United Way, our code # is #12803.

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.

Thanks again for all your support.

BJ Van Kavelaar
Secretary/Director

AUGUST 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE 07:00 PM-NA	2 07:00 PM-AA	3 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE	4 12:00 PM - F.A.I.R. MEETING	5 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE 07:00 PM-AA	6 1:00 PM- C. O. D. A.
7 10:00 am – worship HOLY COMMUNION 11:00 am - coffee	8 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE 07:00 PM-NA	9 07:00 PM-AA	10 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE	11 12:00 PM - F.A.I.R. MEETING	12 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE 07:00 PM-AA	13 01:00 PM- C. O. D. A.
14 10:00 AM – Worship 11:00 am – Coffee	15 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE 07:00 PM-NA Rev. Witko Vacation	16 07:00 PM-AA Rev. Witko Vacation	17 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE Rev. Witko Vacation	18 12:00 PM - F.A.I.R. MEETING Rev. Witko Vacation	19 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE 07:00 PM-AA	20 01:00 PM- C. O. D. A.
21 10:00 AM-Worship 10:00 AM-Rev. Caldwell, preaching 11:00 am - Coffee	22 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE 07:00 PM-NA	23 07:00 PM-AA	24 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE	25 12:00 PM - F.A.I.R. MEETING	26 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE 07:00 PM-AA	27 01:00 PM- C. O. D. A.
28 10:00 am - Worship 11:15 AM-Coffee 11:15 - Board of Christian Ed meeting	29 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE 07:00 PM-NA	30 07:00 PM-AA	31 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE	SEPT. 		
				1 12:00 PM - F.A.I.R. MEETING	2 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE 07:00 PM-AA	3 01:00 PM- C. O. D. A.
4 10:00 AM Worship COMMUNION 11:00 AM	5 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE	6 07:00 PM-AA	7 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE HOPE	8 12:00 PM-F.A.I.R. Meeting	9 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF	10 01:00 pm C.O.D.A

HE 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, hours Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 NOON

Email address: office@peopleschurchofdover.org Rev. Witko pastor@peopleschurchofdover.org

WebPage: peopleschurchofdover.org

Worship Service 10:00 AM

Philip S. Betts Assist Organist

Kathy Hanebutt Organist

Robin Hinderer Treasurer

Cynthia Hotchkiss Adm. Assist.

Dr. Paul Hanebutt

Randal Revay

R. Jefferson Reed

Choir Director

Sexton

Head Usher

Board Chairpersons

R. Jefferson Reed - Moderator

Gerald Rice - Diaconate

Robin Hinderer - Management

Sue Harris-Hunt - Mission and Outreach

Jennifer Childears - Christian Education

Lyn Arnold - Finance

****DEADLINE FOR SEPTEMBER 2016 NEWSLETTER IS AUGUST 20, 2016****