



People's to People

The Newsletter of the People's Church of Dover

United Church of Christ

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Under the Bell Tower

MARCH 2017

Dear Friends,

The essay below arrived in my inbox. I thought it would be a good way to begin my letter to you this month:

The Experience of Church by John Wimberly

Howard Schultz, CEO of Starbucks Coffee, believes the key to the company's success is not the coffee but "the Starbucks experience." A visit to Starbucks is a sensory event filled with smells, sights, and sounds—from the aroma of fresh ground beans to the greetings from the staff, from the names of drinks and sizes of drinks to the fast, free Wi-Fi. Customers expect good coffee, but without the full Starbucks experience, coffee is just coffee.

As I thought about Schultz's profound and profitable insight, I wondered, What was the experience people had when they walked in our congregations? What did they smell, see, hear, and touch that stimulated their senses? Did their sensory experiences enhance or take away from the spiritual quest to connect with God?

As a Protestant in the Reformed tradition, I was taught from a very early age to focus on the Word. Church is, I was told, an intellectual adventure. Words and the Word matter. I am very grateful for that foundational teaching, and I still believe it to be true. But words aren't the beginning or the end of our religious experience.

As Friedrich Schleiermacher taught, religion is as much a matter of the heart as of the head. The heart is moved by what we see, hear, touch and smell.

Schleiermacher believed, and I agree, that religion starts with "essentially an intuition and a feeling." The heart is certainly touched by words. But it is also engaged by feelings planted in us through our senses.

A congregation without the sound of children running through its halls or babies crying in worship is missing something precious. A congregation without the smell of a coffee pot where members gather after worship is missing something life-giving. A congregation without the sacred sounds of music, prayer and liturgy is missing a crucial element in the journey toward God. A congregation where you enter and leave without being touched by the welcoming hand of a greeter is somehow off-putting.

As a result of my reflections on Schultz's insight and its ramifications for congregational life, I now urge my congregational clients to do a sensory inventory of what visitors and members experience from the moment they get out of their cars to their entrance into the building, their time in worship, and their walk back to the car or home. The more I hear leaders reflect on these inventories, the more important I realize they are.

Wouldn't it be interesting if we did a sensory inventory here at People's Church? Which sights, sounds and smells draw you here to this congregation in this place and time, and why? Which do you find off-putting and why?

I know that in recent months I have enjoyed hearing the sounds of children laughing, shouting in excitement and the pounding of their feet on my office ceiling as they run across our gym floor. This is all thanks to Tracey Williams' idea to get the neighborhood kids together at People's Church in an after school program which now meets three days a week. Volunteers include Tracey's friend, Shavonne, Jacqui Sedmont, Rico Bonilla, and Glenn and Jean Hitchens. I'll be joining in on Wednesdays from 4-5 pm during Lent.

Lent, by the way, begins Wednesday, March 1 with an Ash Wednesday Service in our sanctuary at 7 pm. This will be a joint service with the Presbyterian Church of Dover. Both choirs will sing and Rev. Dr. Doug Griffin will lead worship alongside me.

On Wednesday, March 8, at 6 pm we begin our Lenten Dinner and Discussion Group. We'll be talking about Kathleen Norris' book, *Amazing Grace: A Vocabulary of Faith*. I have copies in the office available for \$12. The book is readily available from Amazon and Barnes & Noble. Also available on Kindle and Nook.

And one thing that I really enjoyed last month was welcoming 10 adults and 3 children into our fold as New Members! Please be sure to get to know them better: Virgil and Vickie Hogue, Warren and Brenda Bouton, Katelyn and Tommy McNally (and Cassidy and Brycen), Jacqui Sedmont (and Jimmy), Su Frey and Doug Griffin, and Serena Leiser. Welcome All!

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Ellen

STEWARDSHIP REPORT THROUGH – FEBRUARY 31, 2017

| Annual Church Budgeted Income | \$155,906 | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|
| | Budgeted | Actual | Difference | Comment |
| Income Weekly Budgeted | \$4,167 | | | |
| Income Received | | | | |
| Income members | \$18,473.66 | \$ 13,253.28 | -\$5,220.38 | Under donated |
| Transfer from Invest. Savings | \$30,000.00 | \$30,000.00 | 0.00 | taken |
| Expenses to Date | \$35,921.64 | \$29,555.96 | -\$6,365.68 | overspent |
| Net Difference | \$ 12,552.02 | \$13,697.32 | -\$1,145.30 | Under spent |

| ATTENDANCE FOR FEBRUARY 2017 | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------|----------------|------------|--------------------|
| 02/2016 | | 02/2017 | | Offerings |
| 02/07 | 86 | 02/05 | 51 | \$2830.46 |
| 02/14 | 49 | 02/12 | 75 | 2154.00 |
| 02/21 | 66 | 02/19 | 61 | \$2,190.46 |
| 02/28 | 75 | 02/26 | 47 | \$,706.00 |
| | | 02/28 | Savings | \$15,000.00 |
| | 276 | | 244 | \$22,880.92 |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| AVERAGE | 69 | | 59 | \$1,970.23 |
| BUDGETED | | | | \$43,250.86 |
| UNDER BUDGETED INCOME | | | | -\$3,783.70 |

MARCH BIRTHDAYS 2017

| | | | |
|-------|-----------------------|-------|------------------------|
| 03/04 | Ruth GALLIHUE | 03/04 | Amanda DOWNES |
| 03/05 | Mary WILSON | 03/06 | Elaine EWING |
| 03/06 | Judy ZINGARO | 03/07 | Glenn HITCHENS |
| 03/08 | Rod THOMPSON | 03/13 | Helaine JONES |
| 03/14 | Sage COLE | 03/15 | Sandra COSDEN |
| 03/15 | Charles DEMPSEY, Jr. | 03/16 | Robert HAWKINS |
| 03/19 | Courtlyn WITTE | 03/23 | Sue DODD |
| 03/24 | Jim CALDWELL | 03/24 | Rosamond PIERCE |
| 03/27 | Philip S. BETTS | 03/27 | Cody LLOYD |
| 03/27 | Bette Jo VAN KAVELAAR | 03/27 | Ethan ZINGARO OPALECKY |
| 03/28 | Shirley HAWKINS | 03/30 | Judith DOWNS |
| 03/30 | John C. (Jack) LEWIS | | |

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

Cawood Cosden – Courtland Manor

Jane Dodd – is at home recuperating

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

Mary Johns - Westminster Village Health Center, room #107
Amanda Middleton- recovering from medical procedures
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
Sarah Woods – recovering from surgery

PRAYERS FOR FAMILY MEMBERS

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 disease
Jacqueline Lenox – Jim Miller’s aunt - broken pelvis, shoulder/neck pain
Brenda Leister – Cleah Muntz’s sister, knee surgery
Kayla Storr – friend of Chip & Ginny Stewart, with many health problems
Chloe Sharp – an 8 year old friend of Sally Childears, receiving chemo treatment and has been very sick

PRAYERS FOR CANCER PATIENTS

Warren Hoover – friend of Ginny and Chip Stewart
Willard Irwin – Lyn Arnold’s colleague
Pat Morrison - friend of John Downs, Jr.
Diana Oswell – Vicky Healey’s sister
Kelly Schmidt – Terry Warfield’s niece
Uncle Pete – Pastor Ellen’s Uncle

VOLUNTEERS

Flowers

03/05 Cheryl Goldsmith
 03/12 Linda Paradee
 03/19 Fred & Cynthia Hotchkiss
 03/26 Cheryl Goldsmith

Liturgist

03/05 Suzanne Schwarz-Green
 03/12 Margaret “Peg” Schwarz-Green
 03/19 Alexis Jones
 03/26 William Hufnal

Sunday Lessons

March 05 FIRST SUNDAY in LENT
Holy Communion
 Matthew 4:1-11

March 12 SECOND SUNDAY in LENT
 Matthew 17:1-9

March 19 THIRD SUNDAY in LENT
 John 4:5 - 42

March 26 FOURTH SUNDAY in LENT
 John 9:1 - 41

Ushers

03/05 Heliane Jones
 Alexis Jones

03/12

03/19 Heliane Jones

03/26

We are in NEED of friends to donate just a few minutes on Sunday mornings to USHER. Please choose an open slot on the sign-up sheets in the rear of the sanctuary, or call the church office.

BOARD OF DIACONATE

The Diaconate is already off and running this year. We ask for your support as we continue to work together with other boards and with you to make People's Church all God is calling us to be.

Please prayerfully consider continuing your contributions to the "Diaconate Fund", since there are always those less fortunate than we are. You may prepare a check to Peoples Church with "Diaconate Fund" on the memo line. Thank you for your generosity!

Videos of the Sunday sermons are 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 or just come and see what everyone else is up to.

CHURCH VAN MINISTRY

We continue to need someone to help with our Sunday morning Transportation Ministry. Please call or email the office if you are able to help fellow members enjoy worship or know of someone in need of a ride. 302-674-4177 or office@peopleschurchofdover.org.

Thanks to all who have begun wearing your name tags in worship and during fellowship time. It makes getting to know one another a lot easier. If you have other ideas about how to make our worship more meaningful please feel free to contact someone on the Diaconate or complete one of the index cards in the pews and drop in the collection plate.

Our next meeting is March 26 after worship.

Peace,
Judy Zingaro, Chairperson

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Sunday School classes in March will show the love of Jesus to others and his disciples as we go into the Easter Season. Classes will be March 12, 19 and 26. Any child age 4-12 is welcome to join us. Our last Sunday School class before summer break will be April 30th.

Our Sunday School Teachers are: Mary Beth Andrews, Jennifer Childears, Jean Hitchens, Gwen Senato, Suzanne Schwarz-Green, Cheryl Goldsmith, Tracy Williams and Judy Zingaro with Peg Schwarz-Green and John Downs as substitutes.

SAVE THE DATE AND GATHER THE KIDS

Vacation Bible School is coming! July 9-13, 2017 Maker's Fun Factory

Mary Beth Andrews will be directing this year's fun-filled week of learning about God and the amazing love He has for us! Children 4-12 are encouraged to join us.

If you have any
Jennifer Childears,
text at 302-535-



questions or concerns, please reach out to
via email jenniferchildears@yahoo.com or by
2988.

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

Git – R – Done. April 1, 2017

(work done around church)

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

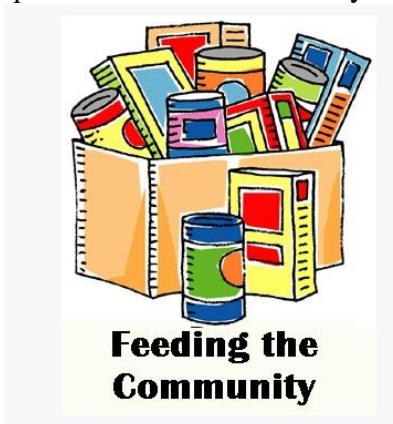
Coffee & Donuts

Please bring: rakes, shovels, wheelbarrows, leaf blowers(battery operated)

BOARD OF MISSION & OUTREACH

FOOD BANK

We delivered 17 food items and \$10.00 to First Baptist Church Food Bank. We will collect for Holy Cross Food Bank in March. Items needed are canned goods, oatmeal, powdered milk, jelly, peanut butter, canned beef stew and chili and saltine crackers. Monetary funds can be put in the Food Bank envelopes found in the hymnal rack. Please make checks payable to People's Church. Thanks for your continued support; it is greatly needed.



Code Purple Ongoing Shelter Needs

Peoples Church will be hosting about 20 men for Code Purple for several weeks during the winter. Please help with the following shelter needs during the winter. They can be placed in the Food Bank bins. Thank you for your caring and kindness. We could also use volunteers. See Sue to discuss these rewarding opportunities.

Clothing

Athletic socks & Underwear
Boots & Gloves
Warm clothing and coats

Food

Bottled water
Cans of coffee
Containers of iced tea mix
Containers of lemonade mix
Cereal & Snacks (hopefully some that are nutritious)

Other

Hand warmers

Toiletry bags: travel size toothpaste, tooth brush, disposable razor, shaving cream, soap, wash cloth, small hand towel, deodorant, foot powder/spray

Cleaning supplies

Toilet bowel cleaner

Pine sol & Lysol spray

Bathroom cleaner & Toilet paper

Large black plastic garbage bags

Thank you for your contributions to date for Code Purple. They are truly appreciated. Items we seem to need a never-ending supply of are – **socks, paper dinner plates and bowls, plastic cutlery, cereal, coffee, and breakfast bars.** Thanks again for caring.

Women's Fellowship

Suzanne Schwarz-Green presented a program about Haiti, where she visited last year, with her class from Lancaster Seminary. It was interesting and inspirational and captured the "soul" of the Haitian people.

After the program, Ruth Gallihue conducted a brief meeting, with Sandy Yurga doing a short devotional presentation.

It was also decided to donate \$1000 to the church for operational expenses, higher during the winter months.

On March 12, the program will be a presentation by the director of the Modern Maturity Center. All are welcome to attend this worthwhile program after worship.

Jean Hitchens, secretary

Caring Hearts Helping Hands (phone 698-1900)

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.

Thanks again for all your support.

EASTER LILIES




If you would like to donate a Easter Lily "in memory" or "in honor" of someone for the church services of March 27th, please call the office, drop in offering plate or mail your order. The Lilies will all be the same size, color, and pot size (6 1/2). The office would like to have your orders by March 20th.

No.

Amount

In memory or honor of _____

MARCH 2017

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|
| | | | 1 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE 7:00 pm – Ash Wednesday Service | 2 12:05 PM – Lenten Organ Series – K. Hanebutt 12:00 PM - F.A.I.R. MEETING 7:00 PM - Choir Practice | 3 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE 07:00 PM-AA | 4 1:00 PM- C. O. D. A. |
| 5 10:00 am – Worship 11:00 am – coffee hour 11:10 am – Trustees meeting 11:15 am – Board of Christian Ed meeting 4:00 pm – Board of Management meeting | 6 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE 07:00 PM-NA | 7 07:00 PM-AA | 8 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE 6:00 pm – Lenten Study | 9 12:05 PM – Lenten Organ Series – D. Wilkins 12:00 PM - F.A.I.R. MEETING 7:00 PM - Choir Practice | 10 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE 07:00 PM-AA | 11 01:00 PM- C. O. D. A. |
| 12 10:00 AM – Worship 10:15 am – Sunday School Hour 11:00 am – Coffee 12:00 pm – Board of Diaconate meeting | 13 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE 07:00 PM-NA | 14 10:00 AM – Caregivers 07:00 PM-AA | 15 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE 6:00 pm – Lenten Study | 16 12:05 PM – Lenten Organ Series – J. Rania 12:00 PM - F.A.I.R. MEETING 7:00 PM - Choir Practice | 17 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE 07:00 PM-AA | 18 09:30 am – 3:30 pm – Women’s Retreat 01:00 PM- C. O. D. A. |
| 19 10:00 AM-Worship 10:15 am – Sunday School 11:00 am - Coffee | 20 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE 07:00 PM-NA | 21 07:00 PM-AA | 22 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE 6:00 pm – Lenten Study | 23 12:05 PM – Lenten Organ Series – E. Harbeson 12:00 PM - F.A.I.R. MEETING 7:00 PM - Choir Practice | 24 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE 07:00 PM-AA | 25 01:00 PM- C. O. D. A. |
| 26 10:00 am - Worship 10:15 am – Sunday School 11:15 AM-Coffee 11:15 AM – Board of Diaconate | 27 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE 07:00 PM-NA | 28 07:00 PM-AA | 29 6:00 pm – Lenten Study | 30 12:05 PM – Lenten Organ Series – M. Leinbach | 31 | APRIL  |
| | | | | | | 1 01:00 PM- C. O. D. A. |
| 2 10:00 am – worship HOLY COMMUNION 11:00 am – coffee 11:10 am – Board of Christian Ed | 3 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE 07:00 PM-NA | 4 07:00 PM-AA | 5 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE 6:00 pm – Lenten Study | 6 12:05 PM – Lenten Organ Series – R. Givens 12:00 PM - F.A.I.R. MEETING | 7 12:15 PM-NA - MESSAGE OF HOPE 07:00 PM-AA | 8 01:00 pm C.O.D.A. |

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, hours Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 P.M.

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

WebPage: peopleschurchofdover.org

Worship Service 10:00 AM

Philip S. Betts 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

Joseph Zingaro - Moderator

Rev. Judy Zingaro - Diaconate

Robin Hinderer - Management

Sue Harris-Hunt - Mission and Outreach

Jennifer Childears - Christian Education

Lyn Arnold - Finance

****DEADLINE FOR APRIL 2017 NEWSLETTER IS MARCH 20, 2017****