



People's to People

Newsletter of the People's Church of Dover
United Church of Christ
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June and July 2023

Installation of Dr. Rev. G. Derrick Hodge!



In this moment of laying-on-of hands, Dr. Hodge was installed by God into our pulpit.

Like Jesus who communicated the Holy Spirit by physical touch, everyone present laid hands on our pastor.



Left:
Conference minister
Reverend Freeman
Palmer, Central Atlan-
tic Conference of the
United Church



Right:
Reverends Beverly
Lewis and Brian Murray,
representing the Com-
mittee on Ministry of
the Chesapeake Asso-
ciation of the Central
Atlantic Conference

Below:
Visiting clergy dignitar-
ies





Derrick's own pastor, Rev. Dr. Jamesetta Ferguson, came from Louisville to preach.



Ministers from near and far came to support People's Church revitalization project



We love good reasons to celebrate! We celebrate the installation, and we celebrate the continuing success of our capital campaign!

Peoples Church Capital Campaign
2022-2025

Goal
\$142,700.00

	Dollar	%
Committed Donations Amount to Goal	\$171,402.00	120%
Received Donations	\$125,020.15	87.61%
Anticipated Donations	\$46,839.19	32.82%

Percentage to Plan

- Received Donations
- Anticipated Donations

Updates from the Trustees

Communications - Jennifer Childears

The website is up and running again. There are a few outlying issues but, overall, it's a vast improvement. Tell your friends about it.

I would say that Dover Days was a success, and we had a lot of people stop by and ask about the Community Center. Some were doctors and counselors and teens looking to volunteer. Thank you to all who marched and helped at the tent.

The new YouTube video series started May 8th, and while not getting too much discussion, people are viewing the video. So, it's a start. Will continue through June.

Pride was June 10th. The booth promoted our church with information on the community center also being given out.

Will start promoting the Stewardship Campaign on Facebook in June/July.

Jen and Sally will host a watch party of the series "The Chosen" starting in late June. Limited seating.

Buildings & Grounds—Paul Hanebutt

Many repairs and improvements have been taking place this Spring:

- Fencing has been sanded and painted,
- Bell Tower gates have been refurbished (they look great),
- The marble steps have been replaced
- The Fellowship room has been decluttered, thoroughly cleaned and

- newly furnished as a comfortable place to socialize
- Carpets have been cleaned
- Exterior doors have been replaced at the kitchen and bowling alley area
- The issues with security (locks, cameras) appear to be resolved, but the livestreaming of worship is still problematic.
- We are moving forward on getting Bell Tower leaks fixed

Neighbors in Need - Sue Harris

We will soon move forward with additional basement renovations that are being funded with grant monies. The remainder of the new flooring will be laid, the bowling alley area will be remodeled to create new office space, and a sprinkler system (required by the fire marshal) will be installed. On a related note, the fire marshal has directed us to replace the outdated fire alarm system to link to the sprinklers. The new system will also ensure that exterior doors will automatically unlock in case of an alarm.

Diaconate & Membership Care Ed Middleton

The Diaconate met to review and update the list of members needing care and visits. All agreed to make a concerted effort to provide consistent contacts with these members and to add others to the list as the need arises. Of particular concern are those who are experiencing various degrees of dementia and how to minister to them and their families.

The committee will meet on 5th Sundays to review any needed changes.

Study Group

The study group is working its way through *Celebration of Discipline* and will meet again the 2nd Sunday of July. The topic is *Submission*. Copies of the reading and study guide are available in the office. You may find the book interesting even if you can't attend the group sessions.

Staff Updates, Vacation Time, and Worship Variety

As many are aware by now, Becky Falkowski, our Administrative Assistant, has requested a reduction in hours so she can spend more time with family (especially grandchildren). She'll be in the office Mondays and Wednesdays to focus on everything she has been doing – except financial matters. The bookkeeping work has been turned over to a new staff member, Parth Mehta. He will be in the office Tuesdays and Thursdays. While his focus will be on the church finances, he'll also attend to routine office duties. Stop by and get to know him.

Rev. Ed Middleton celebrated the 50th anniversary of his ordination on June 18th.

Dr. Hodge will attend the UCC General Synod from June 30 thru July 4th. Following that he will be taking a much-deserved vacation. Since he didn't take any vacation time in the Spring, he'll be away for two weeks in July, treating himself and his mother to a trip to Scotland and Ireland. We wish him a wonderful time.

In Dr. Hodge's absence there will be a variety of preachers and worship experiences. As of now, we don't know if worship will be in the sanctuary or the chapel, formal or

informal, traditional or innovative. You can probably expect the unexpected.

We do know that Rev. Judy Zingaro will be leading worship on July 2nd. On July 9th, minister Serena Leister be at the helm. And on July 16th Rev. Doug Griffin will guide our worship time together.

Hebrews 10:25 reminds us: *Do not neglect the gathering of the saints (for ministry, worship, prayer, and fellowship), but encourage one another.*

It is with regret that Alyssa needs to resign from her position on the Trustees and her service as liaison to the ministry with children and youth. We truly appreciate Alyssa's hard work and the contribution she has made to People's Community Center.

We are now looking for someone to continue her work and to serve on the board. Please consider it prayerfully.

De-Cluttering

Once the Fellowship Room was updated for our congregation's enjoyment, we intended to have our recovery groups move into a newly renovated room in the basement. That didn't turn out as we hoped. Several from those groups cannot navigate the steps and they found the space to be too small. Several of the groups have decided to go somewhere else.

The Adventista congregation meets in our chapel and had asked if there were any storage area available for their use. "A Git 'er Done" afternoon for de-cluttering took place Sunday with People's Church volunteers on June 5. The Adventista congregation helped and hauled away items too big for the trash. Thank you to all who helped!

July 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Rev. Hodge at UCC Synod 8:00am Iglesia Getsemani (Chapel) 8:00am St. Mary Coptic Orthodox (Sanctuary)
2 Rev. Hodge at UCC Synod 10:00am Peoples Church of Dover (Sanctuary) 11:30am Victory Church (Sanctuary)	3 Rev. Hodge at UCC Synod	4 Fourth of July Office Closed Rev. Hodge at UCC Synod	5 Rev. Hodge Vacation 6:00pm Iglesia Getsemani	6 Rev. Hodge Vacation	7 Rev. Hodge Vacation	8 Rev. Hodge Vacation 8:00am St. Mary Coptic Orthodox (Sanctuary) 8:00am Iglesia Getsemani (Chapel)
9 Rev. Hodge Vacation 10:00am Peoples Church of Dover (Sanctuary) 11:30am Victory Church (Sanctuary)	10 Rev. Hodge Vacation	11 Rev. Hodge Vacation	12 Rev. Hodge Vacation 10:00am Meditation (Meditation Room) 6:00pm Iglesia Getsemani	13 Rev. Hodge Vacation	14 Rev. Hodge Vacation	15 Rev. Hodge Vacation 8:00am Iglesia Getsemani (Chapel) 8:00am St. Mary Coptic Orthodox (Sanctuary)
16 Rev. Hodge Vacation 10:00am Peoples Church of Dover (Sanctuary) 11:30am Victory Church (Sanctuary)	17 Rev. Hodge Vacation	18 Rev. Hodge Vacation	19 Rev. Hodge Vacation 6:00pm Iglesia Getsemani	20 Rev. Hodge Vacation	21 Rev. Hodge Vacation	22 8:00am St. Mary Coptic Orthodox (Sanctuary) 8:00am Iglesia Getsemani (Chapel)
23 10:00am Peoples Church of Dover (Sanctuary) 11:30am Victory Church (Sanctuary)	24	25	26 6:00pm Iglesia Getsemani	27	28	29 8:00am St. Mary Coptic Orthodox (Sanctuary) 8:00am Iglesia Getsemani (Chapel)
30 10:00am Peoples Church of Dover (Sanctuary) 11:30am Victory Church (Sanctuary)	31					