



People's to People
The Newsletter of the People's Church of Dover
United Church of Christ
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JUNE 2011

Under the Bell Tower

A Trip to Port Mahon

Back in mid-May I took my new camera and drove over to Port Mahon, east of Little Creek. I've taken up photography as a hobby, and ... well ... I like taking pictures. When I got to the Little Creek Wildlife Area where the paved road ends and the sandy track begins, I was shocked. The late spring storms had done bad things to the track. The Delaware Bay's high tides and rough waters had pushed large stones up onto the track, the sand was rutted from vehicles that had been there before me—I thought my car's undercarriage would scrape as I drove through the first bit. Even those short paved portions of the track were heavily sanded, and turning around looked treacherous.

I knew that a hundred yards or so along the bay side there would be a wide space to turn around, so I kept going, but my apprehension was growing. Before I got there I spotted what I was looking for—a lot of birds, different kinds of birds. I eased over as far as I dared and parked my car, trying to leave enough room for someone else to pass me. I took about 40 pictures—herring gulls, willets, ruddy turnstones, laughing gulls. (I looked them up in my bird book when I got home.)

I thought horseshoe crabs were just a little bigger than my fist. Wow, was I surprised to see horseshoe crabs eight and ten times that size. Some were roiling in the water near the shore. Some had made it onto the shore where the birds made a feast of them. This was a precious sight. In the past couple of decades watermen have taken so many horseshoe crabs to cut up and sell as bait, that the birds migrating north to upper Canada or south to Chile and who stop off here to regain their strength on horseshoe crabs—those birds have been dwindling in numbers. Especially the herring gulls—I saw only three or four along that stretch of shore; but one of them was a young one.

A van passed by and got mired in the sand fifty yards ahead of me. The driver's struggle to get the van turned around to head back out renewed my discomfort with the situation; so I drove forward until I found a wide, paved space where I could at least keep my front tires on pavement. Heading back toward the entrance I passed several photographers concentrating their efforts on another stretch of shore. One had his tripod out and a really big camera, and he was working patiently to get probably several hundred shots; so I looked to see what the attraction was.

On the mud flat there were maybe a thousand little birds running around, flapping their wings, pecking into the mud for food. I took several pictures and drove on: semipalmated sandpipers.

The world we live in is wonderful, beautiful, tragic, powerful, exciting, sad and joyous all at the same time. I hope you will take some time this summer to get away from the television, the internet, the cellphone—to go somewhere you can see the real world. And give thanks to God that some of it is still here. What a blessing!

-Dan

**STEWARDSHIP REPORT THROUGH
MAY 31, 2011**

Annual Church Budgeted Income	\$201,208	Budgeted	Actual	Difference
Income Weekly	3,869			
Income Received				
Income members		60,815.30	57,355.39	-3,459.91
Transferred from Investment savings		20,000.00	30,000.00	10,000.00
Expenses to Date		-80,602.00	-92,787.37	-12,185.37
Net Difference		213.30	-5,431.98	-5,645.28

ATTENDANCE FOR MAY

2010		2011		offerings
05/02	122	05/01	111	2,643.50
05/09	144	05/08	102	2,850.50
05/16	54	05/15	63	1,998.25
05/23	111	05/22	95	12,456.50
05/30	75	05/29	76	1,730.50
	506		447	\$21,679.25

June Birthdays

06/01	Maria MYER	06/13	Maddox DOWNS
06/02	Tom MERCER	06/13	MacKenzie DOWNS
06/03	Robert COOKE	06/17	David VAN KAVELAAR
06/04	Laurie Mayan SHRADER	06/19	James WOODRUFF
06/06	Clifton BIDDLE	06/20	David CONARD
06/06	Phillips GRAVES	06/22	Megan DEMPSEY
06/07	Richard MERRIWETHER	06/23	Gertrude WEISSENFLUH
06/08	Sophia RUDIS	06/25	Sarah HASTINGS
06/10	Shirley BLUHM	06/27	Daniel GROVE
06/10	David PETROSKY	06/27	Kelly JAYWORK
06/10	Frankie WILDERMUTH	06/27	Melissa K. STURTZ
06/13	Kaitlyn Beth CLENDANIEL	06/28	Daisy W. HILL
		06/30	Jackson PARADEE

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

May God Bless You on Your Birthday.

VOLUNTEERS

Flowers

06/05 Betsy Stewart
06/12 Virginia Stewart
06/19 Louise Ferguson
06/26 John & Linda Paradee

Liturgist

06/05
06/12
06/19
06/26

Greeters

06/05 Elaine Ewing, Barbara VanSant
06/12 Cynthia Hotchkiss
06/19 Robin Hinderer
06/26 Jo Ellen Smith

Ushers

06/05 Phyllis Simpkins
Phyllis Tarburton
Jean Hitchens
Glenn Hitchens

Ushers

<u>Sermons & Scriptures</u>		
06/05 "The Real World Order" Daniel 7:9-14; Matthew 28:16-20 Holy Communion	06/12	Jean Hitchens Glenn Hitchens Keith Kreisher Jerry Rice
06/12 "The Well of Salvation" Isaiah 12:1-6; John 7:37-39	06/19	Sandy McNinch Phyllis Simpkins Jerry Rice Bill Hufnal
06/19 "The Inner Witness" Jeremiah 31:31-34; John 16:7-14	06/26	Phyllis Tarburton Sandy McNinch Keith Kreisher Jerry Rice
06/26 "My Rock" Psalm 27:1-5; Matthew 7:24:29		



The Prayer List for Members & Friends of the Church

OUR PRAYER LISTS

PRAYERS FOR MEMBERS

Dorothy Biddle – fell going out her back door broke her arm in three places.

Jane Dodd – dealing with gall bladder problems.

Harriet Griggs – recuperating at home after complications from foot surgery.

Nancy Guth – back in the hospital after falling at home.

Jim Miller – has finished his radiation and chemotherapy, waiting for test results.

Bill Muntz – in treatment for severe leg pain.

Joanne Rhodes – recuperating at home after extensive spinal surgery.

Phyllis Simpkins—abdominal surgery scheduled for July 7 at Johns Hopkins Univ. Hospital.

Betsy Stewart – at her daughter's home in Newark recuperating from a broken ankle.

PRAYERS FOR FRIENDS

Drexel Biddle – Cliff's nephew in GA, heart and lung problems.

Sharon Cordill – friend of the Rice's, viral meningitis.

Mary Drain – Cleah Muntz's aunt, hospitalized with blood loss.

Dawn Elliot—friend of Lyn Arnold, going through difficult times just now.

Gretchen Goulet – friend of Jane Dodd, has Lupus and a bone disease of the spine.

Keith Nicolls – Fred Hotchkiss' uncle: kidney failure.

Jean Tilley—Billie Boehmer's mother in PA: Parkinson's Disease and increasing Dementia.

Debbie Yates – friend of Pat Thompson.

PRAYERS FOR CANCER PATIENTS

John Belian – the Hanebutts' neighbor: bladder cancer.
Sean Carhart – Jennifer Childears' nephew in New Jersey.
Tom Ciampa – friend of Bill Hufnal.
Mrs. Terry Craig – friend of Kathy Hanebutt
Mary Ford – friend of Betsy Stewart
Melanie Giangrant -- friend of Judy Reed.
Howard Killian – Angela Downs' father.
Shirley Long – friend of Jackie Niehorster.
Gordon Minner – friend of Jeff and Judy Reed.
Donna Salazar – home after successful surgery, doing well.
Lillian Schrantz – Cleah Muntz's sister-in-law.
Jean Lenox Toddie—Jim Miller's aunt: terminal lung cancer.
Michael Williams – 12-year-old grandson of Pat Thompson's friend.

PRAYERS FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL

Andrew Dennison – Marine deployed to Afghanistan, Joyce Warrington's nephew.
Tom Opalecky – Air Force, deployed to Afghanistan, Zingaros' son-in-law.

SYMPATHY

The church's sympathy is expressed to the family of Frances Boyette, our church secretary in the 1960's, who died last week at age 82

Rev. Griggs will be away from June 19 through June 25 for continuing education, required for his ministerial standing. He will be taking Summer Academy courses at Lancaster Theological Seminary in Pennsylvania—one of our denomination's seminaries. If you have a pastoral need during his absence, you may contact the church office. The Rev. Courtney Mys will preach on Sunday June 26.

“Welcome Back” to the Institute of Reading Development of Delaware University. They conducted their summer program in our church last summer and will be here again on Saturdays, Sundays and Mondays. If you are in the church building when they are present, say “Hello.”

THE FIRST RESTORED STAIN GLASS WINDOW

is now in place on the west wall of the Fellowship Room, and the restoration artist has the second window to restore. The congregational approval to restore and display these hundred-year-old windows included the invitation for anyone who would like to make all or a portion of a window into a memorial for loved ones. For further information about this, please see Fred Hotchkiss, who is overseeing this project.

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 began on November 21, so everything is in place to respond to your call.

BOARD OF DIACONATE

YOUR CHURCH NEEDS YOU!

We are in desperate need of friends to donate just a few minutes on Sunday mornings greeting fellow congregants and/or ushering. It really doesn't require coming to church much earlier than you normally would and, while this service is priceless to God and your Peoples Family, it costs you nothing. Please find it in your heart and schedule to volunteer. Pick an open slot on the sign-up sheets in the rear of the sanctuary, call the church office, or contact Sandy McNinch.

Peoples Thanks You and God Bless You!

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

The Adult Opportunity Class hosted Peter Oldziej and his wife, Judy, on May 22. They shared their faith, Baha'i, with about 22 members of our church, in a format that included a power point presentation, personal comments, and a question and answer segment. Fred Hotchkiss served delicious soup and salad. This class has proved to be a popular way to fellowship with one another, while expanding our faith and other beliefs. We will begin again in October and would welcome suggestions for topics.

Our Sunday School staff and youth leader were recognized and thanked in May. Sunday School will resume in September, with youth events beginning at that time as well. Listed below are the adults who make our Christian Education program successful:

Tiffany Rumbley, nursery coordinator (often aided by husband, Chris)

Cleah Muntz, primary grades

Annamay Decker, primary grade helper

Cheryl Goldsmith, elementary grades

Debra Cole, elementary grades

Craig Lindsey, junior and senior high

Jennifer Childears, youth group leader

We thank these committed leaders wholeheartedly.

Vacation Bible School will be a cooperative effort between People's and Wesley United Methodist Church this year. It will be held from June 26 through June 30, at Wesley. We expect about 70-80 children, and I hope that at least 20 of those students will represent People's. There are pre-registration forms in the church office as well as in this newsletter and [online](#). Please encourage your children and grandchildren to join in the fun!

The board of Christian Education will meet again on June 5, host an all-church coffee on June 12, and finalize planning for 2011-2012, on August 28, a covered dish barbecue, 4:00 P.M., at the home of Jean Hitchens.

Jean Hitchens, chairperson

Youth Group 2011 -- Children Ages 6-11

Purpose: **To create a group that not only teaches children about Jesus, but also involves them in community service and social activities that reinforce His teachings.**

Mission Statement: **Teach children to incorporate the lessons of Jesus into their own lives through community service and social activities.**

May 23, 2011

Dear Parents/Grandparents/Guardians:

I hope the end of the school year finds you excited for summer and new opportunities. I am planning two events for the youth of the church that I wanted to put on your radar. I hope that you will find a way to allow your child(ren) to attend if they wish.

Killen's Pond Water Park- Ages 6 and up

I would like to take the kids to Killen's Pond Water Park Tuesday, July 19th. The group time is 9:00 to 11:30 am. We would take the Church van (leaving church at 8:15 am) and stop for lunch on the way home (back to church around 12:30 pm). I have to reserve two weeks in advance so I will need to know how many children would be attending. They are welcome to bring a friend to this event. The minimum amount for the group time is 15 people. If I don't have 15 people going, I can still take the kids that want to attend, we would just leave church at 11:00 and return at 5:00 pm. I will need additional help, depending on the amount of children going, as the rule is one adult per 6 children. Please consider joining us. You must respond **June 30th**. The price should not exceed \$15 each (that includes the stop for lunch).

Blue Rocks Baseball Game- Ages 6 and up

The Blue Rocks are a minor league team that play in Wilmington. The date for this event will be either Friday night (with fireworks), Aug 12th (leave church at 5:30 and return about 11:00 pm) or Saturday night, Aug 13th (leave church at 4:30 and return about 10:00 pm). If your child(ren) can make either date, please let me know. I will pick the date that has the most yes responses. We will take the church van and of course, parents are welcome to attend this event. The cost will be determined later but I do not expect it to exceed \$25 per child (including food and drinks during the game). You must respond by **July 22nd**.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter and respond on behalf of your child. You may contact me by email, jenniferchildears@yahoo.com, by phone at 302-734-5107 or see me at Sunday service.

Jennifer Childears, Youth Group Director, People's Church

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

The board recently accepted bids for replacement of the Women's Fellowship room floor. We approved a bid and are waiting for final determination of floor pattern. The schedule for replacement has not yet been determined. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact a board member. The next board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 18th at 7pm.

BOARD OF MISSION & OUTREACH

Our Wider Mission Opportunities

Peoples' Church has always been consistently faithful in supporting our local missions as well as our UCC Wider Mission and our UCC Special Missions.

An explanation of how your help is used can be found on the UCC website, www.UCC.org.

One of the special mission opportunities is the "Strengthen the Church" program which we will be receiving on Pentecost Sunday, June 12th.

Although summer is a more relaxed time for many of us, the necessary work of the church continues. If you cannot be here on the 12th, you can send your contribution in to the church office by mail. Just mark the check that it is for the "Strengthen the Church" fund.

Board of Mission and Outreach
Mary Johns and Sue Hunt



Food Bank Sunday is June 5th. The items needed this month include **Beef Stew, Spam, Applesauce (cans), Jello, small boxes, and any other non-perishable items.** All donations will go to **First Baptist Church Food Bank.** Thank you for your kind donations, they are greatly appreciated. People's Church is asking that all checks be made payable to the **People's Church of Dover**, so that one check can be given to the designated Food Bank for that month. Thank you for all your generous donations.

There are folders provided in each **pew hymnal rack containing Food Bank envelopes.** Your donation can be put in the collection plate on any Sunday. Thank you for your kind donations to the **Holy Cross Samaritans Food Bank** for the month of February. There were 60 food items donated and \$20.00 collected. All gifts were given to the **Holy Cross Samaritans Food Bank** for the month of February. Your generous offerings are greatly appreciated.

Sue Hunt and Mary Johns -- Board of Mission & Outreach

Women's Fellowship

The emergency phone tree has been established through the Board of Trustees. We set a date of Sunday, 9/18 for the "slice is nice" sale of pies and cakes.

The following meeting will be in September for our welcome back covered dish luncheon.

Caring Hearts Helping Hands (698-1900)

We are accepting gently used and new spring and summer children's clothes; 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. No adult clothes please. Two men and a truck have volunteered to pick up and deliver large furniture items for our client families.

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. We are always looking for volunteers to help sort and hang gently used donations that come into our warehouse next to Jonathan Landing Golf Club house. Please feel free to come by any time.

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.

Fran Clinton and BJ Van Kavelaar

Dear Friends, Sisters and Brothers of the United Church of Christ:

We begin the Memorial Day weekend this year with a keen awareness that many in our nation are reeling in the aftermath of several massive tornados and flooding that have caused loss of life and destruction of homes and businesses leaving many homeless and unemployed.

As we look on from distant places seeing the images of the fury of the storms and the destroyed homes and lives left in their wake, we cannot avoid feelings of concern and compassion. . . . I am sure that in our private moments and as we gather in worship this Sunday, we the people of the United Church of Christ will hold all who have suffered as a result of the tornados in our prayers.

Beyond our prayers we know that we can be helpful through our giving and serving to aid in recovery efforts that are sure to begin soon. I want to share the following information from our Wider Church Ministries Executive for Disaster Response Ministries, Florence Coppola:

- The UCC has issued a \$250,000 Spring Storms Appeal to assist with long-term recovery efforts, but much more will be needed. Please give generously.
- The UCC is not a first responder. However, our local churches that are in areas impacted are providing needed relief to their community. UCC churches have sustained no damage to their facilities, except for our South Joplin church. **One Great Hour of Sharing** has sent a total of 10,000 to our churches in these areas to assist with this local effort.
- An important partner in disaster response is **Church World Service**. CWS has sent thousands of clean up buckets and hygiene kits to areas impacted. While all these materials are donated, shipping is not free...the UCC is sending \$5,000 from OGHS to support these efforts. Your congregation is encouraged to assist with preparing clean-up kits.
- As long term recovery committees form in local communities, the UCC will work ecumenically and with not-for-profit local partners to pool dollars for materials and tools to repair homes.
- Support also will be needed for construction coordinators and volunteer coordinators. The UCC with local partners will be looking for **Disaster Recovery Volunteers**, as work groups, to come and help to repair homes. When communities are ready for this next stage, information will be posted on the UCC web site on how to participate. (www.ucc.org).
- First responders will leave when their initial role is complete, but the UCC is committed to having a presence in these communities for the long haul.

In the face of the hopelessness and helplessness that disasters like this often cause, let us be reminded that God has called us into the church to be servants in the service of the whole human family. God also promises the presence

of the Holy Spirit in trial and in rejoicing. As we contemplate the devastation caused by this set of tornados, as well as our faith-filled responses, let us continue to personify hope and trust in our living, Still Speaking God made known to us through Jesus the Christ.

I am sure that our prayers, our generosity of treasure and time, will serve as a reminder to those who suffer now, that they have not been forgotten and that they are not alone in these difficult days. Indeed we are with them and more importantly, God is with them.

Peace and blessings,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Geoffrey A. Black".

The Rev. Geoffrey A. Black
General Minister and President
United Church of Christ

continuing testament ... extravagant welcome ... changing lives

CHURCH CALENDAR FOR JUNE 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 DE Music School NA & AA meetings	2 Ascension Day	3	4 1 PM C.O.D.A.
5 Holy Communion 11:15 Diaconate 11:15 Xian Ed	6 DE Music School NA & AA meetings	7 DE Music Sch AA meeting	8 DE Music School NA & AA meetings	9	10 NA & AA meetings Annual Meeting In Newark	11 1 PM C.O.D.A. Of Conference DE
12 11:15 Coffee Hour 4:00 Bible Study	13 De Music School NA & AA meetings	14 DE Music Sch AA meeting	15 DE Music School NA & AA meetings	16	17 NA & AA meetings	18 1 PM C.O.D.A. Reading Prog
19 Reading Prog -----	20 Music School NA & AA meet Reading Prog Rev. Griggs will	21 DE Music Sch AA meeting be away this --	22 DE Music School NA & AA meetings week for continu----	23 ing education	24 NA & AA meetings -----	25 1 PM C.O.D.A. Reading Prog -----
26 Guest Preacher 11:30 Board of Management 4 Bible Study Reading Prog -----	27 DE Music School NA & AA meetings Reading Prog -----	28 DE Music Sch AA meeting -----	29 DE Music School NA & AA meetings -----	30 -----		Vacation Bible School Week ←-----
				JULY ↓→	1 Church Office Closed NA & AA meetings	2 1 PM C.O.D.A. Reading Prog
3 Holy Communion Reading Prog	4 Church Office Closed	5 DE Music Sch AA meeting	6 DE Music School NA & AA meetings	7	8 NA & AA meetings	9 1 PM C.O.D.A.

Rev. Griggs will be away for continuing education June 19 -26

Joint **Vacation Bible School** begins June 26 at Wesley United Methodist Church (here next year)