

Old Dutch Church Steeple Chimes

February 2018

From the Pastor's Desk...

It feels like only yesterday that we were celebrating Christmas—the incarnation of God in the person of Jesus. “The Word became flesh and dwelt among us” we read in John’s gospel. God came to us, in a body to share our life and show us the fullness of divine love. Now we are in the season of Epiphany. The season of Light. The season of God’s revealing. The season in which we watch the unfolding of God’s life and love in the person, the body of Jesus.

In baptism, Jesus receives the Holy Spirit and is revealed to the world as God’s Beloved who has come to embody and announce that God’s reign has come with good news for all people. Jesus is possessed by Holy Spirit. And he calls people to follow him, to go with him, to watch and listen and learn what it looks like to live fully in, with, and through the Spirit of God. What Jesus’ followers see is physical, emotional, and spiritual healing. What they see is the restoration of relationships and community. What they hear is the good news of God’s new creation breaking into their midst to bring peace, justice, and wholeness to all people.

God comes to us in the person, in the body of Jesus the Christ. Then through his ministry Jesus calls people together, blesses and forms them to be his Body on this earth. Jesus *takes* a body. Then Jesus *makes* a Body out of us. Through his life, death, and resurrection we are reborn to live in, with, and through the Holy Spirit.

I am feeling grateful this morning for all of the ways that we are living into our communal being as the Body of Christ together. This week, I have been seeing us be the Body—caring for one another, praying for one another, reaching out to one another to offer support and concrete love. I am giving thanks for all of who have volunteered to be the Body and care for our neighbors by serving at People’s Place, and visiting those in prison, and supporting women and children who have experienced domestic violence. We are not a huge Body in terms of numbers. But we are powerful Body because we have received the Spirit and she is laboring in us. She is birthing in us a spirit of love and generosity and service. In us and through us, the Spirit is able to do far more than we could ever ask or imagine. Blessed Epiphany to you! Thanks be to God for coming to us in a body, for revealing the immensity of divine love in Jesus the Christ, and for forming us to be a Body, living and growing and serving in love.

Peace,
Pastor Renee



Josh & Erica Bode, with their children Gabriel (age 9), Ruby (age 7) and Alex (age 3)

Meet Our Newest Global Missionary

The Consistory of the Old Dutch Church has committed our support to the Rev. Joshua Bode who has been called to serve the Protestant Church in Oman. Josh currently serves the Woodstock Reformed Church where he has been the minister for 12 years, and will soon move to Oman with his family.

The Reformed Church in America (RCA) has supported a mission to the people of Oman since



1893. Through its sustained ministry of service and healing, it has earned enormous and unique trust with the royal family, government, and people of Oman, an Arab nation located on the eastern coast of the Arabian Peninsula. Oman is situated strategically at the crossroads of Asian, Middle Eastern and African cultures. Omanis are a peaceful people in a fraught region.

The Protestant Church in Oman (PCO) was founded by the RCA. Under Omani law, the PCO is the single institution responsible for stewardship of all Protestant Christianity in the country. The PCO's relationship with the government and people of Oman is an example that other countries in the Middle East are watching as a model of how Christians and Muslims can worship and live as neighbors.

Old Dutch Church also provides financial support to the Al Amana Centre in Oman—an educational institution with a mission to achieve mutual understanding between Christians and Muslims and provide people opportunities to work together towards sustainable peace. The Centre works with people in the region, and also welcomes people from across the globe for long- and short-term study and engagement. Through our partnership with Josh Bode and the Centre, we have opportunity to learn and grow in our commitment to create mutual understanding and work for peace and justice in the midst of the religious and spiritual diversity of our own community.

In Thanksgiving for the Rev. Paul Benes

On January 30, the Rev. Paul Benes, completed his sojourn on this earth and entered his eternal rest. Rev. Benes served as the Minister of the Old Dutch Church from May 1978 through December 1998. During his time at Old Dutch, the Church celebrated its 350th anniversary, and he wrote a brief and helpful history of the Church. Rev. Benes touched many lives with his ministry, and we give thanks to God for his life and faithful witness. We pray that his wife Marilyn, his daughters and grandchildren will know the peace and comfort of the Holy Spirit, and live in the sure hope of resurrection.



Old Dutch Church has a new website and logo! The website was launched the end of January and provides a fuller sense of who we are and what we are committed to. The site is alive with photographs and provides easy access to our history, genealogical resources, current meetings and events calendar, and information about our ministry, mission, and partnerships. Weekly sermons are also posted here as text and/or audio. In the future the site will include audio and video recordings of concerts and other special events. The website was developed by Katy Dwyer Designs in consultation with members of the Consistory. Our special thanks to Beth Bengtson, a member of the Old Dutch Community and social media specialist, who volunteered countless hours to help us develop the new website. Check it out at www.olddutchchurch.org!



A Feast for the Innocents: Honoring Native Americans Lost in the 1643 Pavonia Massacre

February 25th, 2018, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., the Old Dutch Church will host a memorial feast for all non-combatant Native American victims of the Pavonia Massacre, and a teach-in with native author and historian Evan Pritchard. Sally Bermanzohn, pioneer in the Truth and Reconciliation movement in the United States, will also present. Central to the lecture and discussion will be the Tappan, a nation of the Lenape Delaware, who were the hardest hit by the Pavonia massacre of February 25th and 26th, 1643. Also known as the "Slaughter of the Innocents, 110 or more Native Americans were killed in the massacre—a great number of them Christian, many of them in their sleep.

The program will begin with a Native American feast for the dead—a meal which is shared by everyone, and includes ceremonial eating with the deceased ancestors. Following the lecture and discussion there will be a brief ceremony of condolence and repentance for this and other massacres. The event is free. To provide a headcount for the feast, please RSVP to info@olddutchchurch.org, or call 845-338-6759.

Calendar of Recurring meetings @ Old Dutch Church

Music - Mendelssohn Club, Mon. - 6:30 pm; Community Chorus, Wed. - 1 pm
Fine Arts Recitals, Thurs. - 12:15 pm (Spring & Fall); Old Dutch Choir, Thurs. - 7 pm

Support/12 Step Groups -

AA - Tues. & Thurs. - 9 am; Thurs. - 7 pm
Al-Anon - Tues. - 7:15 pm
Clutterers' Anonymous - 2nd & 4th Tues. - 10 am (currently suspended)
Debtors' Anonymous - Mon. - 6:30 pm (BDA); Wed. - 6:30 pm (DA)
GRASP (Autism Support Group) - 4th Sat. - 12 noon
Peer to Peer - Thurs. - 5:30 pm
SLAA - Fri. - 7 pm; 1st Friday - 5:30 pm

God's Word - Worship & Sunday School, Sun. - 10:30 am; Bible Study, Tues. - 7:00 pm;
Healing Services, 4th Wed. - 7:00 pm (October - June)

Crafts & Other - *Sew Happy!*, Thurs. - 5 pm; Prayer Shawl Ministry - 2nd Sun. - 12pm;
Crafts on Wall Street - 1st & 3rd Sat. - 9 am (June through mid-November)
Winter Farmers' Market - Alternate Saturdays, (December - April) - 10:00 am

Saturday, February 3 ♦ 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Consistory Retreat

Sundays, February 4, 18, 25 ♦ 12-1:30 p.m. **Gatherings for New Comers to ODC**

Tuesday, February 13 ♦ 9-11 a.m.

Pancake Breakfast @ Clinton Ave. United Methodist

Church. Suggested donation of \$5. Funds to support The Caring Hands Food Ministry

Wednesday, February 14 ♦ 7-8 p.m.

Ash Wednesday Service

Saturday, February 24 ♦ 1-2:30 p.m.

Training to Serve @ People's Place

Sunday, February 25 ♦ 1-3 p.m.

"A Feast for the Innocents" Event (details above)

Wednesday, February 28 ♦ 7 p.m.

Healing Service

Looking ahead to March...

Sunday, March 11 ♦ 11:30 a.m.

Lunch & Annual Congregational Meeting

FOR EVERYONE who is a part of this Church and cares about its mission and ministry

Wednesdays, March 7, 14, 21 & 28 ♦ 6-7:30 p.m.

Lenten Suppers & Program "Words in the Dark" (details to come....)

Thursday, March 29 ♦ 6-7:30 p.m.

**Maundy Thursday Passover & Lord's Supper
Remembrance Meal**

Friday, March 30 ♦ 1-2:30 p.m.

Stations of the Cross in Uptown

Friday, March 30 ♦ 7 p.m.

**St. Matthews Passion presented by Dzieci
Theatre Company**

Prayer Corner

Hospitalized - **Austen Hearn** (Kim Hearn's 2 y/o nephew), **Ah Tua Teo** (Deirdre Ourso), **Giada Pettengill** (2 y/o with cancer), **Thelma Lucas** (Betty Williams)

Nursing Homes/Assisted Living - **Mary Markle, Audrey Hornbeck, Edna Atkins, Dorothea Clearwater, Harry Anderson, Maida Blankschen, Donald Bell, Aletha Takken** (Pastor Renee's mother)

At Home – **Carol Werner, Galen Kelly, Joel Brink, Ed Ford, Howard Hopkins, the Milczarzyk Family - Dee, Mary Ann, Anthony, Annie; Sylvia Van Etten, Tom Pape, Marion Ostrander, Liam Lezniak** (Matt Hall), **Linda Ferraro, Hannah Little, Lynda Thaisz** (Pat Allen), **Ellen Fine** (Deirdre Ourso), **Jessica** (Deirdre Ourso's sister), **Jennifer Potter** (Karen Van Kleeck's sister), **Michael Fisher** (Gene Hall), **Peter Rosier** (son of Henk & Barbara), **Solon De Usoz** (Deirdre Ourso's nephew), **Paul Vinett** (Pat Hall), **Tory Lowe** (friend of Jane Hansell), **Karen Schiffman** (3rd cancer recurrence; Luci Windsong-Rain), **Scott DiMicco**

Missionaries - **Rev. Aaro Rytkonen/Al Amana Center** (Oman), **Josh & Erica Bode** (preparing for Oman)

Military Service - **James Bonestell** (son of Ken & Rebecca Rosier)

Incarcerated - **Herbert (Junior) Hill, Jeremiah**

We were saddened to learn of the death of Mary Loughran-Shults, former member of Old Dutch shortly before Christmas.

We were also saddened to learn of the death of former member, Ann Kirkpatrick. Ann was living in Indiana at the time of her death.

Please remember in prayer the family of 10 month old Anthony Dancy on his death in January. He is survived by parents, Sarah Schatzel & Anthony Dancy, Sr., brother, Ezra Cafaldo, and extended family.

Please remember in prayer the family of 14 year old Yvonne Rotella on her sudden death in January. Yvonne was a niece of Dee Milczarzyk.

Please remember in prayer Rick & Kathi Dunn and family on the death of their son, Rick, in a motorcycle accident in California recently. Rick is also survived by his sister, Xandi and her husband, Rudy. The Dunn Family are members of our sister congregation at Fair Street.

Please hold in prayer Galen & Liz Kelly as they have relocated to Ecuador at the end of January to take up residence in Salinas for the coming year. We pray for God's presence and blessings as they adapt to their new surroundings and the separation from family and friends.

Please pray for the Senior Citizens living at Gov. Clinton and Yosman Tower apartments as their buildings are being sold and they face an uncertain future.

Our prayers and sympathy go to Marilyn Benes and their family and friends on the passing Jan. 30th of Rev. Paul Benes. Pastor Benes was the minister of Old Dutch Church for 20+ years.

Receiving Baptism on Christmas Eve morning were Leily and Kieran O'Sullivan, children of Janet Nunez and Jeremiah O'Sullivan.

Receiving Baptism on January 7th was Simon Aurelius Livecchi-Gatzke, son of Andrea Gatzke & Chris Livecchi.

Church Life Committee of Classis encourages us to pray for one another. This month we are asked to pray for First Reformed Church, Cary, NC, 2/4; School for Christian Living & Serving, 2/11; Rural & Migrant Ministries, 2/18; Warwick Conference Center, 2/25.