



January 1, 2023

“...anyone can start from now and make a brand-new ending”

Carl Bard once observed that, “Although no one can go back and make a brand-new start, anyone can start from now and make a brand-new ending.” I love the possibility in that. With the assurance of Psalm 121, that God keeps a particular vigilant watch at our times of “going out and coming in,” our times of ending and beginning, we can launch with confidence into this new year.

Still, transitions are crazy-making times-- whether of the calendar or in the seasons of our lives. They can be confusing and exhilarating; chaotic and creative. That certainly has been true of our Conference life as we discern merging four Pennsylvania Conferences. That’s true of our congregational lives where all of us worship in “the church that has been” feeling anxious about “the church that will be.” And it’s true of our personal lives where change (those we make happen and those that happen to us) is the only constant.

But that is NOT the only constant. When everything else may seem up for grabs or in flux, one thing is not: God's abiding light and love. “I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. When you search for me, you will find me...”

This I know to be true. And it is my prayer for you and all our brothers and sisters in Christ that we move confidently into this New Year holding fast to that which has been good and ready to receive what is going to be even better.

God bless your New Year with the Light of this Epiphany Season,
 Rev. Bill Worley, PSE Conference Minister

**From the Addiction & Recovery Taskforce:
 Breathing Under Water**

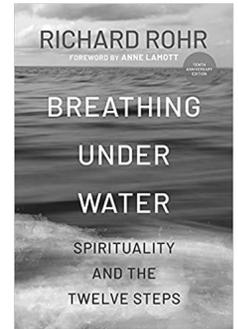
During this busy holiday season most of us could take the advice to keep breathing. We are about much: services, fellowship, shopping, visits, and so much more. Once all that is over and we collapse into 2023, the Addiction and Recovery taskforce invites you to slow down and take some time to reacquaint yourself with yourself.

In January we start a book study of Richard Rohr’s *Breathing Under Water* which is a wonderful book on spirituality and the twelve steps. It is a valuable journey for those of us in recovery from substances and also for those of us who just need to recover ourselves.

Please join us on Tuesday, January 10 at 7:30 on Zoom for the first session .

Note: Participants will need to purchase book themselves before the first session.

Go to psec.org and click January 10th on the calendar (under the Event & News tab) for more information and to complete the free registration!



Happy New Year!



PSEC 2022 Giving Cut-Off

Books of the PSEC will close Jan. 16. All OCWM contributions for 2022 must be in our office by that date or they will be counted towards 2023 contributions. **Please mail your contributions as soon as possible due to possible mail delays.**