A Word from our Pastor

Lent begins earlier than it normally does this year. Ash Wednesday is February 10\textsuperscript{th}. Lent is a period of forty days plus six Sundays which commemorate the forty days that Jesus spent in the wilderness. The purpose of Lent is to prepare ourselves for the holy season of Easter, where we celebrate Jesus’ victory over death through his resurrection. I hope to see you in worship on Sunday mornings and for our weekly Wednesday Lenten services throughout this holy season! A complete list of the schedule for the Wednesday worship services is on page three of this newsletter.

Many Christians give something up for Lent. That practice of giving something up originates from the recognition that on Good Friday, Jesus died for our sins. When we give something up for Lent, it is a way for us to remember and honor the fact that Jesus gave up everything, including his own life, for our sake.

The ultimate goal is for us to use what we have given up during Lent as an impetus for us to grow closer to God. But over the years, I have experienced and others have shared with me how it does not always work that way. Is there an alternative to giving something up for Lent? There has been a new movement in Christian circles to focus instead of taking things on that will help us grow closer to God during this holy season. The idea is to add things that will help us focus on our relationship with the Lord. After all, Lent is not only about taking away the negative from our lives; it is also a chance for us to seek the pleasure of God’s presence.

What are some examples of things that we can add into our lives during Lent? If you don’t already have a time each day dedicated for spending time with God, it may be a good time for you to plan to have a devotional each day. Our church provides Lenten devotionals. Light a candle, take a few minutes out of your busy day, and be still with God. Another option may be to spend time enjoying God’s creation outdoors. We live in a beautiful area in the Outer Banks. Take some time to appreciate God’s beauty and give thanks to our Creator. Or perhaps you might consider intentionally reaching out to people in need during Lent: by volunteering your time to help someone else or it may be as simple as reaching out to a friend who needs a listening ear. Another thing we may add is praying more often over the little things of our lives, even the most minor details, including the trip to the grocery store, the to-do list, the lunch visit with a friend, or the lost cell phone. Others consider such prayers as irrelevant, but I believe it strengthens our relationship with God to come continually to our Lord throughout our days, seeking God’s guidance and presence. I hope that some of you will consider joining me in adding something to your lives this Lent.

Peace in Christ,
Jody Moore
Prayer Concerns

“God is able to make all grace abound toward you...” II Corinthians 9:8

Jack Abernethy
Charles Anderson
Marc Basnight
The Rev. Dr. Richard Batzler
Don & Nancy Bierwerth
Greg Browder
Shawn Bowman
Nancy Clemmons
Kristen Daughtrey
Ruth Dutt
Karen Foard
Wray Grumiaux
Charles Hicks
Joanne Hoelterling
Karen Lurie
Mickey Meekins
Landon Moore
Anna & Joseph Moore
Jody & Jeanne Moore
Jane Smith
Max & Jackie Strange
Nancy Worsley
Those Serving our Country

Calling All United States Military Veterans

In anticipation of a special service of recognition of all our OBPC Veterans in November 2016, we are asking everyone to help us identify members, spouses, or friends of the church, who have served honorably in the US military. Please help us develop a complete list of our veterans by April 1.

Send names and stories to:
- Evelyn Webb at 540-829-3515 or twohoofans@gmail.com or
- Bev Jones at 254-913-9648 or beverlykoops@yahoo.com

Watch for more details on this project in future bulletins and newsletters!

We are Thankful for our Willing Volunteers

Coffee Hour Schedule
Feb. 7 ............................................ Lydia Circle
Feb. 14 ................................. Nonie Booth/Kathryn Lamb
Feb. 21 .............................. Jeanne Martie/Buzz Boyd
Feb. 28 .......................... Vera Berg/Linda Helmkamp

Flower Schedule
Feb. 7 ............................................ Barbara Nock
Feb. 14 ................................. Jorge & Judy Diaz
Feb. 21 .............................. Available
Feb. 28 ................................. Judy Dempsey

Liturgist Schedule
Feb. 7 ................................. Dr. Moore/Youth
Feb. 14 ................................. Ben Cahoon
Feb. 21 .............................. Nonie Booth
Feb. 28 .............................. Margaret Brown

Children’s Church
Feb. 7 ......... Barbara Hardy/Warren Davis
Feb. 14 ................................ Bev Jones/Jorge Diaz
Feb. 21 ................................ Ben & Melanie Cahoon
Feb. 28 ................................ Jean & Jim Sias

February Birthdays
Pogie Worsley ................................. 4
Martin Booth ................................ 5
Nancy Mathews .............................. 5
Carol Moore ................................ 6
Mary Shannon ............................... 9
Kathryn Lamb ................................ 10
Ramona Mozingo-Webb .................. 10
Lauren Tillet ................................ 10
J.R. Mathews ............................... 11
Bette Kraemer ................................ 14
Jesse DeSanto .............................. 15
Shirley Garrett ................................ 18
Michael Siefferman ........................ 18
Karol Browder .............................. 20
Cailin Lewis ................................. 20
Joseph Lewis ............................... 20
Kim Braswell ............................... 22
Jarod Manolas .............................. 22
Ann Patterson .............................. 22
Blair Siefferman ........................... 22
Meghan McIver ........................... 23
Dick Blackmon ............................ 26
Jake Maestas .............................. 29

February Anniversaries
Mr. & Mrs. Albert Grimm .............. 2
Mr. & Mrs. Brian McIver .............. 2
Dr. & Mrs. Jody Moore .................. 4
Mr. & Mrs. Norm Sparks .............. 6
Mr. & Mrs. Jorge Diaz ................. 14
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Lee King .......... 14
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Munson ............. 22
Sermons for February 2016

Sunday, February 7

Rev. Ted Churn, the Executive Presbyter of New Hope Presbytery, will be our guest preacher. It will be an important Sunday as we will celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion, recognize Scout Sunday and our youth group will lead us in the Souper Bowl of Caring. This project collects food and raises money to support the Beach Food Pantry.

If There’s Hope for These Sinners, Then There’s Hope for Us Too!
Lenten Sermon Series 2016

Lent is a holy season of preparation for the church. Lent recognizes that life is full of temptations and that we too often succumb to sin and distance ourselves from God’s will. Traditionally, Lent is a time for us to pay attention to our own sins and to confess those transgressions to God.

When we turn to the Bible, it is full of stories of imperfect people and sinners. What lessons can we learn from these biblical characters? The good news is that God does not give up even on these people whose lives seem to be a mess. If there is hope for the flawed biblical characters we will hear about during this sermon series, it means that there is hope for all of us as well! God’s mercy leads us to the title of our Lenten Sermon Series: “If There's Hope for These Sinners, Then There’s Hope for Us Too.”

Ash Wednesday: Feb. 10
Psalm 51:1-17

The psalmist asks for God’s mercy because of his sin. This psalm gives a personal testimony on the nature of sin and our reliance upon God to wash us clean. The psalmist asks for forgiveness, not so that he can sin again, but instead asks for God to create a new heart in him. What does it mean for us to not only receive God’s forgiveness, but also to let God transform our lives, our attitudes, and our behavior?

Sunday, February 14

Temptation is a part of life. Even Jesus was tempted while he was in the wilderness for forty days, so Jesus can sympathize with us when we are tested. Even though we will give into temptation at times, we have hope because Jesus lived a perfect life without sin. Through Christ’s righteousness we can find our own redemption!

February 21
Genesis 12:10-20 & 16:1-13

Abram and Sarai, who become Abraham and Sarah, make some huge mistakes. Abram’s lies and Sarai’s jealousy get both of them into trouble. We will explore how our merciful Lord responds to Abram and Sarai.

Sunday, February 28

Abraham and Sarah receive divine visitors, who bring them good news that Sarah will bear a son. Sarah laughs to herself because she doubts these men. Despite Sarah’s lack of faith, God gives them a son and builds a great nation from Abraham and Sarah’s family. Despite our own shortcomings, God is able to accomplish great things!

Sunday, March 6
Luke 15:11-32

Jesus tells us the well-known parable of the Prodigal Son and his Older Brother. The younger brother wastes away his life and squanders his inheritance making poor decisions. The older brother is unable to open his heart and show compassion to his brother. Both brothers have sinned. The father, who represents God, still loves and embraces both brothers with open arms. Even when our sin distances ourselves from God, our Lord always welcomes us back home and offers us grace!

Wednesday Lenten Services

Outer Banks Presbyterian Church will be hosting the Wednesday Lenten Services and Luncheons beginning with Ash Wednesday, February 10! These services are offered to the community and sponsored by the North Dare Ministerial Association. Join us each week at noon for a service in our sanctuary followed by a light lunch in the fellowship hall.

The schedule of speakers for each week is as follows:

Feb. 10: Speaker: The Rev. Dr. Jody Moore
Lunch: Outer Banks Presbyterian Women

Feb. 17: Speaker: The Rev. Cherri Wheeler
Lunch: Kitty Hawk Baptist Church

Feb. 24: Speaker: The Rev. Phil Glick
Lunch: St. Andrew’s by the Sea Episcopal

Mar. 2: Speaker: The Rev. Tom Wilson
Lunch: All Saints’ Episcopal Church

Mar. 9: Speaker: The Rev. Steve Siegrist
Lunch: Ocean View Baptist Church

Mar. 16: Speaker: The Rev. Keith Dey
Lunch: To be announced

Mar. 23: Speaker: The Revs. Craig & Fran Peel
Lunch: To be announced
Third Thursday Lunch: Feb. 18

Our Third Thursday lunch will be on February 18 at noon at the Black Pelican. It is located in Kitty Hawk on Beach Road, behind the Kitty Hawk Post Office.

Let me know by Sunday, Feb. 14 ( jlmartie@charter.net or 441-8608 ) if you plan to come. As always, if you are a “maybe,” or your plans change last minute, that is fine. I just like to let the restaurant know approximately how many to expect.

You will order off their menu, and pay for your own lunch. Hope to see you there!

--Jeanne Martie

Presbyterian Women

Presbyterian Women will provide lunch for the first Lenten Luncheon on February 10. Several of the circles have already signed up but if you haven’t, please let your Group leader or Carol Moore know what you will be able to contribute.

Mollie Bass has been arranging food for the Homeless (Room in the Inn) for the week of January 31- February 7. Please call Mollie at 480-0858 or the church office at 441-5897.

The semi-annual women’s gathering will take place at Duck Woods on February 6. The cost is $17.50, please pay E.J. Markwood. The lunch choices are: (1) Pork Loin with Apple Demi Glaze and chef’s vegetable (2) Chicken Marsala with whipped Potatoes, chef’s vegetable or (3) Vegetable Pasta with Roasted Red Pepper Sauce, Rolls, Butter, and a Dessert of Mini Apple Pie Tarts will also be available. All orders must be in seven days earlier. Please let Karen, Carol Moore, or your Group leader know what your choice is so they can make the deadline.

Hotline bags will be discussed at the February meeting.

The amount collected from the two sales for the Retreat was $1,205.00. This is to provide scholarships for women to attend the Spring Retreat in Columbia.

Submitted by Judy Dempsey

We have just completed our first “tour of duty” in the new pantry. Fourteen Outer Banks Presbyterian volunteers participated in the new operations of the pantry. We have adopted a shopping model for our clients so that they can shop for the food they need rather than have pre-bagged food placed in a cart, food that can’t or don’t like to eat. We had a very busy 4 days serving 44 families which amounted to 116 individuals. The clients’ responses were very positive! They like to be able to pick out their own food and were amazed at the selection. One man found some fudge sauce on the miscellaneous shelf and exclaimed, “Can I take that? I haven’t had chocolate milk in years.” Another commented on how wonderful it was to be able to pick out her favorite fruits and vegetables. (Clients can take as much of those as they like.) Several were so overwhelmed that they gave their volunteer a hug. What could be more rewarding than that?

The new system means we are unable to restock and organize the pantry as we serve our clients. Consequently, the pantry needs people to work an hour or two in the mornings, 1-2 days a week, to help restock shelves, keep the freezers organized and rotate the breads and vegetables for freshness. We also are always in need of people willing to pick up food from the local food stores and bring them to the pantry. If you are interested in helping, please contact Susan Smith at 252-255-4855 or smifobx@live.com or Theresa at the Pantry 252-261-2756 to schedule a work time.

News from the Congregational Care Committee (CCC)

The CCC is pleased to sponsor the Senior Seminars for our own church family and the entire Outer Banks community. We welcome your participation and look forward to your feedback.

- Wednesday, February 24, 2016, 1:30 p.m. - Attorneys Susan Harman-Scott and Letha McDowell presenting on Legal Issues facing seniors
- April 2016: 1:30 p.m. – Gail Sonnesso will lead a seminar on Memory Issues.
- May 16, 2016: 1:30 p.m. – Rev. Dr. Jody Moore will lead a seminar on Spiritual Issues.
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<td>3:00 pm: Stamp Club</td>
<td>President’s Day - Church office Closed</td>
<td>6:30 pm: Stated Session</td>
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**Sunday School:** 9:00 am  **Worship:** 10:00 am  **Elder of the Month:** Kathryn Lamb
Youth Group News

It is hard to believe January has come and gone! Our youth kicked off the new year with a Bible Study that focused on celebrating Christmas...Christ coming to this earth for us, and our ability to be His hands and feet as His spirit shines through each of our lives...all year long. During the week of Martin Luther King, Jr. day, our youth had a movie night and watched the film "Woodlawn." It is based on true story of a high school football team in Alabama who overcame racial tension and segregation by uniting as one in the name of Jesus Christ. Finally, the youth enjoyed a game night where we spent several hours interacting over board games, ping pong, cards, and even "pie in the face."

February is an exciting month for our youth group. First, we will lead our church’s participation in Souper Bowl of Caring, a national movement to tackle hunger in our community. We will collect non-perishable food items and money which will be donated to the Beach Food Pantry. The youth will lead worship that morning with songs and skits. That evening, we will celebrate with our annual Super Bowl Party at the Lewis’s house. Later in the month, we will spend an evening working at the Beach Food Pantry weighing, sorting, and stocking all our donated food items. Our youth are also assisting with the American Cancer Society’s Service of Hope which will be held at our church this month. Finally, our youth will close out February with our annual trip to Winter JAM in Norfolk. Winter JAM is a national tour of contemporary Christian singers, rock bands, and speakers and our youth will join thousands of others teens for a night of praise and worship. As you can see, our youth will be very busy "letting their lights shine" this month!

In His Grip,
Hollie

Photos from Game Night!

A new small group for moms with children in any phase of life...

Interested in joining us? Contact Hollie Writtenberry-Lewis for details!

252-489-0089
HollieWrittenberry@gmail.com
January Session Highlights

Buzz Boyd, Jeanne Martie, and Tom Smith have agreed to serve as your new elders for the next three years. Please let them, and all your elders know that you support them in prayer.

SESSION APPROVED:

- Noon Lenten Services to begin on Ash Wednesday, February 10 and continue on Wednesdays through March 23, 2016
- The Easter Musical to be held on Saturday, March 19 at 7 pm and on Sunday, March 20, 2016 at 4 pm
- Maundy Thursday to be observed on March 24, 2016 at 6 pm
- The Souper Bowl of Caring Offering on February 7, 2016 for the Beach Food Pantry, along with collection of canned food by the Youth Group
- The Christmas Eve offering be for the Beach Food Pantry Capital Fund
- $400 be given to the Fellowship of Christian Athletes
- $200 be given to Room in the Inn program to purchase shoes for homeless individuals as recommended by Outreach Committee
- Funds be approved to replace and refurbish the church sign
- That church office hours on Fridays be changed from 9 am–1 pm to 8 am–noon

NEW BUSINESS

- After review by Jeff Aldridge, Moderator of the Finance Committee, Session approved the Year End 2015 Budget Report, the 2016 Proposed Budget, and that the Minister’s 2016 Compensation Package be presented for approval at the Annual Congregational Meeting on January 31, 2016.
- Session elected Jim Perry as chair and Melanie Cahoon as Session Members for the 2016 Elder Nominating Committee.
- Session approved the Assignment of the 2016 Committee Moderators, who will lead the on-going work of the OBPC.

PASTOR’S REFLECTIONS

- The Session Retreat is set for Saturday, February 13, 2016 at the church.
- Ted Churn, executive Presbyter of the Presbytery of New Hope will visit the OBPC, deliver the sermon, and assist with communion on February 7, 2016.
- A combined meeting of Session and Committee Moderators will be held on March 8, 2016 at 6:30 pm.
- Our pastor will participate in the Presbyterian Continuing Education Conference, “Creed”, in April.

Service of Hope
Sunday, February 21, 2016
4:00 pm

On Sunday, February 21, 2016, a “Service of Hope” will be celebrated at 4:00 p.m. in the sanctuary of Outer Banks Presbyterian Church as part of the American Cancer Society’s annual Relay for Life. Relay for Life is a celebration of HOPE in the fight against cancer. As part of the “Service of Hope” luminaries (bags with glow sticks) bearing the name of a person touched by cancer will be displayed. You will be given the opportunity to purchase a luminary for $10.00 prior to the service “In Honor Of” or “In Memory Of” a loved one.

The service will be led by area ministers as well as a combined community choir under the direction of Steve Blackstock and accompanist, Jason Evans. Please email Carol Moore at kdhcarol@yahoo.com if you have any questions.
Dear OBPC Family,

We miss you!! Greetings for the new year! After a heart attack and stroke, Don was located to Brookdale Memorial Senior Living and I moved in with him. A wonderful room, great service and delicious meals. Don is doing very well now. We are cozy, comfortable and grateful for all our blessings.

We especially appreciate the Prayer Shawls we received from the Faith Knitters. They are great when we go for walks outside. We have not found a church yet. We appreciate getting the newsletter and staying in touch with what is going on at Outer Banks Presbyterian!

In His name,

Don and Nancy Bierwerth