February is the month that Valentine’s Day is celebrated. While this holiday focuses on romantic love, it made me think about how we understand love as Christians. Love can mean so many things to so many different people. You may have heard before that in Greek (the language of the New Testament), there are four completely different words for love. When we say that God loves us, it is different from the love that we, as humans, have for each other. The Greek word for divine love is agape, which refers to an unconditional, all-consuming love. God’s love is not dependent on our response; even when we are unfaithful, God loves us still. God longs to be in relationship with us, to connect with us.

Henry Drummond, in his book Love: The Greatest Thing in the World, describes for us how love is relevant to God’s purpose for our lives (41-42). Drummond writes, “The real business of our lives is to have love’s virtues molded into our characters. That is the supreme work we need to strive to accomplish in this world: to learn love. Life is full of opportunities for learning love. Every man and woman, every day, has a thousand of them. The world is not a playground; it is a classroom. Life is not a holiday, but an education, and the one eternal lesson for us all is how to love better. What makes someone a good ballplayer? Practice. What makes someone a good artist, a good sculptor, a good musician? Practice. What makes someone a good person? Practice. Nothing else. There is nothing capricious about religion. We do not develop the soul in different ways, under different laws, from those in which we develop the body and the mind. If you don’t exercise your arm, you won’t develop your biceps; and if you don’t exercise your soul, you won’t develop the strength of character, vigor of moral fiber, or beauty of spiritual growth. Love is not a thing of enthusiastic emotion. It is a rich, vigorous expression of the whole Christian character—the Christlike nature in its fullest development. And the constituents of this great character can only be built up by ceaseless practice.”

On Super Bowl Sunday, February 5th, our youth will once again lead us in participating in the Souper Bowl of Caring offering to help fight hunger in our community. Please bring non-perishable foods with you to church and the youth will also take up a collection of monies that will be given to Beach Food Pantry. I am grateful for the many ways that our youth are engaged in mission projects and helping us to make a difference in the community.

The Bible Study that I have been teaching in January will continue each Tuesday in February. We will meet at 5:15 pm on February 7, 14, 21, and 28 as we will study Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount together. I look forward to seeing you for meaningful conversation at our Tuesday Bible Study this month.

Peace in Christ,
Jody Moore
Prayer Concerns

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

Jack Abernethy
Marc Basnight
Morris Bennett
Don & Nancy Bierwerth
Shawn Bowman
Warren Davis
Ruth Dutt
Gwen Engleright
Karen Foard
Al Grimm
Shirley Grimm
Patsy Keeler
Karen Lurie
Gary Martie
Lisa Martinez
Mickey Meekins
Lynn Miller
Landon Moore
Brantley Rogers
Jane Smith
Norm Sparks
Max Strange
Terry VanderMyde
Jan VanEe
Those Serving our Country

Welcome New Members

On Sunday, January 15, Outer Banks Presbyterian Church was pleased to have Joe and Barbara Morgan unite with our fellowship. Joe joined by reaffirmation of faith and Barbara joined by transfer of letter from Roanoke Island Presbyterian Church. Be sure to give the Morgans a warm OBPC welcome.

Joe & Barbara Morgan
553 Parkwood Drive
Manteo, NC 27954
Phone: (252) 480-1470
Email: jermmorgan@yahoo.com

We are Thankful for our Willing Volunteers

Coffee Hour Schedule
Feb. 5 ............................................ Lydia Circle
Feb. 12 ....................................... Booth/Lamb
Feb. 19 ....................................... Martie/Booth
Feb. 26 ....................................... Helmkamp/Berg

Flower Schedule
Feb. 5 .............................................. Barbara Nock
Feb. 12 ........................................... Available
Feb. 19 ........................................... Available
Feb. 26 ........................................... Available

Liturgist Schedule
Feb. 5 .............................................. Brenda Brown
Feb. 12 ........................................ Jean Basnight
Feb. 19 ........................................ Nonie Booth
Feb. 26 ........................................ Susan Harman-Scott

Children’s Church
Feb. 5 ........................................ Bev Jones
Feb. 12 .................................. Hardy / Davis
Feb. 19 .................................. Braymiller / Wood
Feb. 26 .................................. Hollie & Jody Lewis

February Birthdays

Pogie Worsley .................................. 4
Martin Booth ................................... 5
Nancy Mathews ................................. 5
Carol Moore ................................... 6
Mary Shannon .................................. 9
Kathryn Lamb .................................. 10
Ramona Mozingo-Webb ...................... 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 2017
Outer Banks Presbyterian Church
The Rev. Dr. Jody Moore

Perhaps Jesus’ most famous sermon of all was his Sermon on the Mount, which he preached in the fifth, sixth, and seventh chapters of Matthew. Throughout the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus challenged the prevailing religious teachings and helped his followers understand God’s kingdom in new and enlightening ways. We will listen to Jesus’ insightful teachings to help guide our lives today.

February 5, 2017
Turning the Other Cheek
Matthew 5:38-48

Jesus teaches us about loving all people, not just those who are kind to us. Jesus especially points out our obligation to love our enemies. The love that Jesus requires of us is not an emotion; it is a choice we make to act lovingly toward others, no matter what they may have done to us.

February 12, 2017
Avoiding Worry
Matthew 6:24-34

Jesus tells us to not worry about our material possessions because God will provide for us what we need. Jesus asks us to consider the lilies of the field and other simple joys of life. We will explore what it means to have faith in God in the present and to trust in God’s providence for our future.

February 19, 2017
Not Judging Others
Matthew 7:1-5

Christians are unfortunately often known for the ways that we judge others, instead of the ways that we extend the Good News of the Gospel. Jesus encourages us to show compassion to others and not to judge other people more harshly than we would want to be treated ourselves. When our hearts are filled with harsh judgment, how can we claim Christ’s mercy and grace?

February 26, 2017
A Solid Foundation
Matthew 7:24-29

Jesus explains that all of us have a foundation that we build our lives upon. We are invited to rely on the solid foundation of faith in Christ. We are instructed to not only hear Christ’s words, but to follow them in our daily lives. Jesus is the source of our hope and gives us a sense of purpose.

Calling all Singers

If you’ve ever thought about singing in the choir - now is the time. We would love to have you come to a practice and see if you would like to join us. You may have noticed a few empty spots recently – especially in the tenor/bass section. We have lost some members for various reasons and would love to fill those spots and more! We practice on Wednesday evenings in the choir room starting at 6 pm. And then on Sunday morning we gather at 9:15 am in the choir loft and briefly go over the worship service music for the morning.

There are no audition requirements or other such requirements – just a love of singing, fellowship with one another, a love of the Lord and the joy of singing His praises. And one of the best things about singing in the choir......you don’t have to worry about finding someone to sit with in the sanctuary.

If you have any questions just give Jason Evans (255-5042) or Nonie Booth (261-6058) a call. Just try us – you’ll like us!!

The Sanctuary Choir
Third Thursday Lunch: Feb. 16

Winter is almost over, well, at least in my mind! Our next Third Thursday lunch will be at the Jolly Roger (on Beach Road, behind K-Mart). The lunch will be on Thursday, February 16 at noon.

Everyone -- members AND friends -- is invited to come. You will select what you want to eat from their menu, and pay your own bill. Please contact Jeanne Martie by Sunday evening, February 12, if you are interested in attending -- 441-8608 or jlmartie@charter.net. It's important that I have a headcount to give to the restaurant so that we aren't scrambling for more chairs when we arrive. Thanks!

Jeanne

With Gratitude

Dear OBPC,

Just a note to let you know how much Ken and I appreciate the members and friends of OBPC who helped to host our Room in the Inn guests at Roanoke Island Presbyterian Church in January! A number of folks from your congregation participated in preparing, serving, and cleaning up dinners on four evenings as well as providing lunch fixin's throughout the week. It was especially pleasing to note that some of those helping out were relatively new to our community and also to your church! Thanks especially go to Mollie Bass for checking in throughout the week to be sure there were ample supplies. Please pass on to Mollie, Kevin, Dorothy, Matt, Melinda, Rose, Tom, Sharon, and Barb, as well as their friends Linda, Ron, Veronica, and Brenda who also helped, how much their contribution of time, talent, treasure, and most of all compassion are appreciated. Guy, Russ, Scott, Cliff, Chris, Bert, Tyler and Walter expressed their gratitude for the hospitality shared many times over and were especially thankful during this past weekend of wintry weather. May you and your congregation be blessed as you are a blessing!

Sincerely,
Nancy Griffin

With Gratitude

Dear OBPC Volunteers,

Volunteers from our church prepared four evening meals during the first week of January for homeless clients who were hosted by Roanoke Island Presbyterian Church. We also provided all the food for lunches all week. Many thanks to those who helped. They were Melinda Mogowski, Dorothy and Matt George and their daughter, Rosalyn Pugh, Linda Campbell, Veronica Reich, Tom Williamson, Sharon Aldridge, Barb Nowland, Warren Davis, Frank and Carol Moore, Nonie Booth, and Kevin Sheets.

Mollie Bass

PROGRESSIVE DINNER

All church members and friends are invited to participate in a Progressive Dinner and White Elephant Gift Exchange. The event will take place on Saturday, February 25. The evening will consist of everyone meeting at the Lurie home for appetizers and beverages. Everyone will then be split up into groups of 6 or so people, and go to various homes for dinner. For the finale, we will all meet again at church (or someone's home if anyone volunteers) for dessert and coffee, and the gift exchange. What a fun way to spend a winter night!!

What is a White Elephant Gift Exchange? Every participant (couples bring two gifts) can wrap up something they have bought (no more than $10) or wrap up something from their house as a tasteful joke! All presents will be unmarked, and we take turns picking a present from the gift table, OR can steal from someone who has already gotten a gift.

So the first thing we'd like you to do is mark your calendar for February 25. The second thing we'd like you to do is consider if you want to host a small dinner group or the dessert/gift exchange. Don't worry if you can't host something. We still want you to come!

A sign-up sheet is in the church's gathering space, starting in January. If you have any questions, please contact Karen Lurie (karenlurierncm@gmail.com or 255-1866) or Jeanne Martie (jlmartie@charter.net or 441-8608).

Bus Drivers Needed for GEM

The GEM organization, which provides care and support for those with memory issues, is in need of more bus drivers on the first Saturday of each month to chauffeur them to an activity. For more information, please contact Karen Lurie at (252) 619-6144.
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Note: There are sessions of AA that meet Monday-Saturday at 7:30 am & 10:00 am in the fellowship hall. OEA= Over Eaters Anonymous.
Welcome Elder Class of 2019

Jean Basnight was born in Norfolk, VA. She attended Camellia Baptist Church where she sat on various committees, taught Sunday School and was a member of the choir and was also the church secretary/office administrator. She later moved with her family to Virginia Beach where Jim and Jean raised their two children. They attended St. Andrews United Methodist Church. There she served on various committees as well as church treasurer. She moved to Kill Devil Hills in 2001 and found a wonderful "home" at Outer Banks Presbyterian Church. She presently serves on various committees, sings in the choir, is an ordained Elder. Jean's hobbies include playing golf and Mah Jong.

Mollie Bass became a member of Outer Banks Presbyterian Church in October of 1996 by letter of transfer from Franklin Presbyterian Church in Franklin, Virginia. She has served three previous terms on Session and has been moderator of the Outreach and Witness Committee, Church Expansion Committee, and others. She is an active member of the Lydia Circle of Presbyterian Women and often teaches their Bible Study.

Family situations, geography and availability have dictated Jim Goes' family's church attendance and affiliation over the years. He was baptized and confirmed in a small New Jersey Episcopal church that five generations of his family had attended.

During WWII Jim attended a Dutch Reformed Church then they moved to a dairy farm where they attended a Lutheran church. Following Navy and Army service during the Korean War his first job took them to Virginia where they attended a Lutheran Church.

They moved north to New York where they attended an Episcopal Church until he moved to Mexico to build a pharmaceutical factory in Monterrey. While in Mexico they became active in the Union Church of Monterrey, a non-denominational, bi-lingual protestant church. Both Jim and his wife taught Sunday School and for two years he was chairman of the Congregational Board.

When they returned to the U.S. they came to North Carolina where they attended a Methodist Church because of its strong youth program. He retired early and moved to the Outer Banks (their 13th move) where he became active in the International Executive Service Corps, a Peace Corps type of organization for business and technical executives to improve industry in the third world. The assignments were usually for four months. Jim went on four assignments to Egypt, Indonesia and Zambia in Southern Africa.

Jim’s wife died suddenly and he attended the All Saints’ Episcopal Church where he was elected to the vestry. After some health problems, Jim started to attend Outer Banks Presbyterian where he found the religious and personal support that he needed. Jim says he feels honored to be selected to be an Elder and will devote his best efforts to merit your trust in him.
Presbyterian Women

All three (3) circles will meet together on Saturday, Feb. 11 at 12:00 noon at Duck Woods Country Club. The guest speaker will be Anne Graham from Outer Banks Hospital and she will be speaking on Women’s Health Issues. Mollie Bass will lead the Bible study. Lunch reservations are due by Feb. 4 and must be made through your individual circle leader.

Outreach Thank-You

The Outreach Committee would like to thank everyone who donated to our Veterans Drive. The Webbs filled their car and took 12 bags of items to Hampton, VA for distribution to the Veterans on Christmas. A special thank you to the Faith Knitters for all their hard work. The red, white and blue shawls were wonderful. Thank you for making Christmas special for some of our Veterans.

May God Bless you all!

Evelyn and John Webb

Our local Food Pantry is in most need of the following items. We encourage you to donate to the Food Pantry as you feel led.

- Canned Chicken
- Canned Tuna
- Canned Soup
- Canned Fruit
- Pancake Mix (32 oz.) & Syrup
- Instant Oatmeal (variety pack)
- Canned Pasta Sauce (24 oz.)
- Canned Diced Tomatoes
- Mayonnaise (15 oz.)
- Salad Dressing
- Seasoning Packets
- Hamburger/Chicken/Tuna Helper
- Vegetable Oil (16 oz.)
- Feminine Products
- Toilet Paper (4-pack)

Please note – The Beach Food Pantry is unable to take perishable food items, expired food, prepared food, homemade foods, items without ingredients listed, or open containers.

The Beach Food Pantry is located in Kitty Hawk at Milepost 4 on the East side of the bypass. Their physical address is 4007 N. Croatan Highway, Kitty Hawk, NC 27949. The Beach Food Pantry is open on Monday-Friday from 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm.

Congregational Care News

The CCC met on January 18, 2017 and agreed that the most important business of this committee is to be ready to respond to whatever need arises among the members and friends of our church family.

If you and your family have a need, or if you know of anyone who is in the hospital, facing surgery or rehabilitation, lonely, or hurting in any way, the committee urges you to contact them. The CCC members that provide points of contact are

- Jim Goes, the 2017 Committee Moderator;
- Rev. John Calvin Rickers, Pastor Volunteer;
- Linda Helmkamp and Susi Gentry, CCC Visitor Team

Thanks for your help and may God Bless our OBPC Church Family in 2017.
Youth Group News

The youth of our church participated in the morning worship service on January 22. They assisted with ushering, music, liturgy and a wonderful skit about The Beatitudes. Enjoy some great pictures from the day!

Souper Bowl of Caring

Did you know?

- Nearly 50 million Americans live in poverty?
- 1 in 6 Americans face hunger every day?
- More than 630,000 people in the United States are homeless?
- 23% of those struggling went to college?
- Or that 16 million children live in food insecure households?

On Sunday, **February 5** our youth will once again lead our church as we participate in the Souper Bowl of Caring. Started in 1990 by a Presbyterian pastor, Souper Bowl of Caring uses the energy of Super Bowl Sunday to tackle hunger in our own communities and beyond. Youth across the country collect food and money which is donated to local charities which feed hungry people. Last year, Souper Bowl of Caring generated over 8 million dollars with OBPC donating 197 pounds of food and $691 to the Beach Food Pantry.

On February 5, our youth will participate in the worship service assisting with music, skits, and more. Prior to the worship service, they will collect non-perishable foods and following the service, they will be stationed at the exits with pots and pans to collect money. All of our donations will stay local at the Beach Food Pantry, where the youth will weigh and stock the food when they deliver it. We hope you will participate in this mission project and join us as we TACKLE HUNGER.

Update on Procedures for Cancellation of a Worship Service or Activity

The Outer Banks recently had a weather event that brought dangerous rain, ice, snow and winds. Every effort was made to contact members and friends of the OBPC for cancellation of a Sunday service, but not everyone was reached. We learned that many of the phone numbers and email addresses are no longer accurate.

In January, the 2017 Session Elders received individual lists of members, for whom they personally provide a point of contact to the church. If you do not receive a call, email, or visit from an elder in the next few weeks, please notify the session clerk, 254-913-9648, or the church office, 252-441-5897. Also, be on the lookout for a bulletin insert for EVERY member to fill out to update our records. Thanks for keeping our records up-to-date!
NEW MEMBERS

Joe and Barbara Morgan were received by the Session into Active Membership of the OBPC at a called meeting on January 15, 2017. Barbara is transferring membership from Roanoke Island Presbyterian Church, and Joe is joining by reaffirmation of faith. Please meet and welcome our newest members!

JANUARY STATED SESSION AND CORPORATION TRUSTEES MEETING

Welcome and Thanks:

The Pastor welcomed the three newly elected Ruling Elders, Class of 2019, Jean Basnight, Mollie Bass, and Jim Goes, to the meeting, and recognized the dedicated work of Melanie Cahoon, Jim Perry, and Judy Whittle as Ruling Elders from 2014 to 2016.

SESSION APPROVED:

A. Salvation Army’s request to use the church building to disburse funds to needy individuals on Thursdays, January 19, February 9, and March 16, 2017.

B. The 2017 OBPC Proposed Budget as presented by Jeff Aldridge, Moderator of the Finance Committee. Jeff noted a shortfall in pledges received this fall, but after Stewardship Committee sent a second request for pledges, church members responded, enabling Finance to develop a balanced budget for 2017. Thank You to all who give faithfully to the work of this church.

C. Session elected Mollie Bass and Jean Basnight as Commissioners to attend the Presbytery of New Hope (NHP) meeting at Cary Presbyterian Church on February 25, 2017.

D. Finance Committee recommended that funds to pay $3,012 for upgrade to the sound system in the sanctuary be used as follows: $2,000 from the Undesignated Memorial Fund and $1,012 from in-hand commitments; the Session moved, seconded and unanimously approved the funding plan.

E. Based on the recent experience of cancelling a Worship Service due to dangerous roads and weather, Session reviewed modifications to the Procedure for Cancellation of Worship; the modified plan was approved and information is elsewhere in this newsletter.

F. Every Actively Ruling Elder received a list of OBPC members, whom they will contact and be available to serve as the individual connection point to this church for information, caring, prayers, and whatever is needed. The clerk will contact those who are Local Friends of the church.

If any member or friend of this congregation does not get contacted, please call the church office at 252-441-5897 or any member of the Session.

PASTOR’S REFLECTIONS

A. Jody has developed plans for his 10-week sabbatical in 2017. The dates include:
   - 8-weeks from May 3 – June 28, 2017;
   - Ten days for a trip to Israel from September 18–27, 2017; and
   - Three days to attend a Presbyterian Conference from March 12–15, 2017.

B. To accommodate the sabbatical, the Stated Session Meeting dates in April, May and June will change from third Tuesdays to April 25 and July 11, 2017.

C. Evangelism Committee is planning to schedule an opportunity for people who may want to become members of this church to meet with the Pastor, Session and Committee soon. Please let Jody or the church office know if you are interested in attending.

D. Session approved a donation of $100 towards the MLK Celebration in Manteo.

IMPORTANT DATES

Next Stated Session Meeting: Feb. 21 at 6:30 pm

Next Presbytery Meeting: Feb. 25 at 9:00 am
Cary Presbyterian Church
Return Service Requested