Happy New Year! I am writing this newsletter article during the week leading up to Christmas. I want to thank everyone, including the staff, music program, the Worship Committee, advent candle lighters, and so many more people from this church who have helped make this Advent and Christmas season a joyous occasion as we have celebrated the birth of our Savior.

It seems hard to believe that 2016 has passed by us and 2017 is upon us. The New Year is a good time to take stock of our lives: to think back on the year that has past and to look forward to the year to come. I enjoy the optimism of a new year. Many of us have a sense that things can and will change; we have hope that the upcoming year can be a better one for us. At the beginning of a New Year, many of us will make New Year’s resolutions. Some will resolve to get more exercise. Others will resolve to read their Bible more often or will try to start a new diet. While we may not keep all of those resolutions, I believe it is a positive step to try to have some goals and to work toward them.

As we move into 2017, I encourage us as a church family to resolve to pray regularly for our church and for our community. Pray for those in our congregation who are sick and hurting. Pray for your friends in the church and for those individuals with whom you have difficulty getting along. Pray for our church staff, our children and youth, our shut-in members, the Boy Scouts, and the people who attend one of the many AA meetings at our church. Pray that God’s Holy Spirit will guide us as a church family in all our decisions and in our daily lives.

We will be ordaining and installing our new group of elders on Sunday, January 15th. I want to say a word of thanks to Melanie Cahoon, Jim Perry, and Judy Whittle, who are wrapping up three years of faithful service on the Session. Jean Basnight, Mollie Bass, and Jim Goes will be installed as ruling elders in the class of 2019. I hope that you will be present in worship on January 15th as we lay on hands and pray for these elders, which is an important sign of our support for these individuals as they lead our congregation.

On January 22nd, I will be starting a six-week sermon series on the Sermon on the Mount, which is based on Jesus’ message from Matthew 5-7. To supplement this sermon series, I will be teaching a six-week Bible study to help us understand Jesus’ important lessons from the Sermon on the Mount. The Bible Study will begin on January 24 and will conclude on February 28. We will meet each Tuesday at 5:15 pm in the fellowship hall. As we have done in the past, we will be studying the same Scripture passage that I will be preaching on the following Sunday. Whenever we gather for Bible Study, I appreciate the ways that the Holy Spirit guides our discussion and helps us learn new insights about God’s Word. I hope to see you on Tuesdays this winter for Bible Study!

Peace in Christ,

Jody Moore

Church Staff

The Rev. Dr. Jody G. Moore
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revjody.moore@gmail.com

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Heather Day
Nursery Caregiver

Brenda Feury
Sexton
Prayer Concerns

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

Jack Abernethy
Marc Basnight
The family of Richard Batzler
Morris Bennett
Don & Nancy Bierwerth
Shawn Bowman
Warren Davis
Ruth Dutt
Gwen Engleright
Karen Foard
Al Grimm
Shirley Grimm
Bev Jones and family
Family of Warren Judge
Patsy Keeler
Karen Lurie
Gary Martie
Mickey Meekins
Lynn Miller
Landon Moore
Brantley Rogers
Jane Smith
Max Strange
Jan VanEe
Judy Whittle

In Loving Memory.....

The Rev. Dr. L. Richard Batzler
1922 –2016

Dr. Batzler passed away on Nov. 29, 2016 at his home. Dr. Batzler was well known on the Outer Banks and a friend to many. He has preached at many churches including Outer Banks Presbyterian where he called his home church. A Service of Witness to the Resurrection will be held Outer Banks Presbyterian Church on Saturday, January 7, 2017 at 1:00 pm in the sanctuary. A reception will follow the service. Burial will take place in Frederick, Maryland.

We are Thankful for our Willing Volunteers

Coffee Hour Schedule
Jan. 1 ....................... Building & Grounds
Jan. 8 ......................... Administration
Jan. 15 ...................... Congregational Care
Jan. 22 ............ Tom Smith / Jeanne Martie
Jan. 29 ....................... Finance

Flower Schedule
Jan. 1 ...................... Gary & Linda McGee
Jan. 8 ....................... Available
Jan. 15 ...................... Available
Jan. 22 ...................... Available
Jan. 29 ...................... Available

Liturgist Schedule
Jan. 1 ....................... Mollie Bass
Jan. 8 ......................... Jean Basnight
Jan. 15 ...................... Brenda Brown
Jan. 22 ...................... Nonie Booth
Jan. 29 ...................... Margaret Brown

Children’s Church
Jan. 1 ...................... Hollie & Jody Lewis
Jan. 8 ....................... Bev Jones
Jan. 15 ...................... Andrea Braymiller
Jan. 22 ...................... Barbara Hardy
Jan. 29 ...................... Hollie & Jody Lewis

January Birthdays
Larry Langdale ......................... 4
Glynn Powell .......................... 7
Catherine Hammill ................... 8
Oscar Northen ......................... 8
Dan Haynes ............................ 14
Rosalyn Pugh .......................... 15
Ron Baker .............................. 15
James Seal ............................. 15
Carla Hardy ........................... 16
Howard Miller ......................... 19

January Anniversaries
Dr. & Mrs. Andrew Horne ............ 7
Mr. & Mrs. Oscar VanEe ............ 14
Gary Martie ............................ 23
Jorge Diaz .............................. 24
Mark Martin ............................ 24
James Cahoon .......................... 26
Shirley Grimm .......................... 27
Kyle Lewis ............................. 27
Sharon Aldridge ....................... 28
Rose Dugger ............................ 28
Laura Worsley ......................... 28
Evelyn Webb ........................... 31
Sermons for January 2017
Outer Banks Presbyterian Church
The Rev. Dr. Jody Moore

January 8, 2017

Acts 8:26-40. An angel of the Lord tells Philip, one of the leaders in the early church, to go into the wilderness. On his way, he meets an Ethiopian eunuch, who is a Gentile and an outsider to the faith. This story communicates that the Good News is available to outsiders. Philip tells this man that he belongs to God’s family and the eunuch receives baptism as a mark of his inclusion. We will discuss the nature and importance of baptism on this Baptism of the Lord Sunday.

January 15, 2017

Lamentations 1:1-6 and 3:19-26. Lamentations contains prayers of lament for the destruction of Jerusalem at the hands of the Babylonians. These texts offer some of the most honest and poignant laments in the entire Bible. There are times in life that we have heavy hearts and Lamentations helps express those spiritual longings. As people of faith, we cry out to the Lord for healing and reconciliation. We will be ordaining and installing the elders from the Class of 2019 during worship.

Sermon Series on the Sermon on the Mount
January and February 2017

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.

January 22, 2017

The Strange Blessings of God/Beatiudes. Matthew 5:1-16. Jesus offers nine Beatitudes, ways that we are spiritually blessed when we face difficulties or adversities. What does it mean for us to be blessed by God? How can we as a church and as individuals be blessings to others? We will have our annual congregational meeting following the worship service.

January 29, 2017

The Spirit of the Law. Matthew 5:17-30. Jesus teaches us about God’s law. The Old Testament was filled with over 600 laws. Jesus reveals that God’s law is a gift. The law points us in the right direction and shows us how to discover the freedom that Christ offers for us to live up to our God-given potential.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Dare County Celebration
Saturday, January 14, 2017
11:00 am

The annual celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King’s life will be held on Saturday, January 14, 2017 at 11:00 am. This year’s festivities will be held in the Manteo High School Auditorium located at 829 Wingina Street in Manteo, NC.

Following the celebration of Dr. King’s life, a free fellowship meal will be held. During this meal, you are invited to mingle and dine with folk of other races, denominations and walks of life.

For more information regarding this event, you may contact Mrs. Ruth Lewis at (252) 473-3151 or (252) 305-1934 and by email at Clarence.lewis@aol.com. All are invited to attend!

A Thank-You from
Jody & Jeanne Moore

Thank you to the members of Outer Banks Presbyterian Church for the many ways that you support Jeanne and me. We are grateful for all of the Christmas cards you sent us and for your prayers. We are also appreciative of the generous donations that you made to the Pastor’s Purse. Thank you so much for your kindness!

Jody & Jeanne Moore
Third Thursday Lunch: Jan. 19

Happy New Year Everyone!

Hope you all had a great holiday. We will be going to a new place (new for many of us) this month. We will be going to Steamers in Southern Shores. It is located in the Southern Shores Crossing shopping center, just as you start going north to Duck.

Everyone -- church members and friends -- is invited. Each person will pay for their own meal.

The date will be Thursday, January 19 at noon. Please let Jeanne Martie (441-8608 or jlmartie@charter.net) know by Sunday, January 15, if you will be at Steamers.

Jeanne

Stewardship Committee News

“The Stewardship and Finance Committees wish to express their gratitude to all of those who made pledges to the 2017 Stewardship Campaign on Consecration Sunday and the weeks since. Your financial gifts further the work of God through our church and your pledge commitment enables OBPC to establish an annual budget. Our church’s budget is prepared by the Finance Committee, adopted by the Session, and is managed very carefully.

Some members and families have increased their pledges and others continue to pledge at the same rate as for 2016. However some have not yet pledged and the pledge total is now approximately $14,000.00 less than last year. This shortfall promises to affect the maintenance of our facilities, our service to the community, and our programs.

The Outer Banks Presbyterian Church offers a spiritual dwelling and a nurturing place for those who call it home and who seek shelter in difficult times, strong roots for our personal and collective faith, and seeds of hope for the future. Like a living tree our church also needs care and support to thrive–it requires us to be good stewards. If you have not yet made a pledge, please prayerfully complete your pledge card and return it to the church office or place it in the collection plate any Sunday morning. It is important for all of us to participate.”

Bus Drivers Needed for GEM

The GEM organization, which provides care and support for those with memory issues, is in need for 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.

With Gratitude

To the special people in OBPC,

I deeply thank you for your caring and generous support following the recent death of my husband, Spencer. It is a privilege to be a part of this church family.

My love to you all,

Bev Jones

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 one 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 another home for dessert and coffee, and the gift exchange. What a fun way to endure 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 the appetizer get-together, 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 will be in the church’s gathering space, starting in January. If you have any questions, please contact Karen Lurie (karenluriennccm@gmail.com or 255-1866) or Jeanne Martie (jlmartie@charter.net or 441-8608).
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<td>6:30 pm: Cub Scouts</td>
<td>6:00 pm: Choir</td>
<td>9:30 am: Dorcas Circle</td>
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<td>Funeral Service for Dr. Richard Batzler 1:00 pm</td>
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<td>5:30 pm: Hope, Faith &amp; Love Circle</td>
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Elder of the Month: Jeanne Martie / Kathryn Lamb
The Music Ministry of Outer Banks Presbyterian Church held their annual Christmas Musical on Saturday and Sunday, December 3-4. The concert consisted of the Sanctuary Choir and orchestra who sang and played to over 535 people over the course of two evenings!

The Music Ministry of Outer Banks Presbyterian Church begins their new year on Wed., Jan. 4. We would love to have you join us in the choir. Our rehearsals are:

Sanctuary Choir:
Wednesday Evenings
6:00 pm – 7:15 pm

Contact Jason Evans for more information!
Presbyterian Women

The monthly circle meetings for the Presbyterian Women of Outer Banks Presbyterian Church will be held as follows:

**DORCAS CIRCLE**
Thursday, January 5  |  9:30 am
This meeting will be held at the home of Susan Smith.

**FAITH, HOPE AND LOVE CIRCLE**
Thursday, January 12  |  5:30 pm
This meeting will be held at the church.

**LYDIA CIRCLE**
Wednesday, January 11  |  9:30 am
This meeting will be held at the home of Carol Jackson.

**Angel Tree**
The Presbyterian Women wish to thank everyone who participated in the Angel Tree and helped to make Christmas happier for 10 children. Your generosity has been overwhelming and much appreciated. Thanks to the Boy Scouts for providing some of the gifts. A special thank you to John and Evelyn Webb, who again this year, stored all the gifts, separated them and delivered them to the Baum Center.

**Save the Date!**
**Presbyterian Women Luncheon**
Saturday, Feb. 11, 2017
Duck Woods Country Club
Reservations required. Details will be given at individual January Circle Meetings!

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.
Youth Group News

Youth ringing the bell for the Salvation Army at the K-Mart in Kill Devil Hills, NC

Youth Christmas Party at the home of Jody and Hollie Lewis

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.
INFANT BAPTISM
Session met with Eric and Hillary Stautzenberger on Sunday, December 11, 2016, and approved the baptism of their son, Robert Lee. He was baptized and welcomed by the congregation during the worship service immediately following.

CALLED MEETING
On December 11, 2016, Session received a presentation from the Finance Committee for an OBPC Capital Improvement Plan in 2017. The written proposal for the project, the estimated costs, and the financing method included:

1. Replacement of the building roof $32,500
2. Replacement of the parking lot $107,500
3. Replacement of the north wall $10,000

The total cost of $150,000 would be funded by Operating and Capital Reserves, and a generous gift from an Anonymous Donor that would be payable over seven years. Session approved the proposal as presented.

Session also moved that the Capital Improvement Plan include the update of the sound system in 2017 at a cost of $7,737.98 plus tax.

STATED MEETING
SESSION APPROVED IN OMNIBUS MOTION:
A. Jeanne Martie to provide payroll services for 2017;
B. Becky DeSanto and Barbara Nowland to serve as Receiving Treasurers for 2017;
C. Jeanne Martie to serve as Disbursing Treasurer for 2017;
D. Bev Jones to serve as Clerk of Session for 2017;
E. The Youth Group to take up a special offering for the Souper Bowl of Caring on February 5, 2017, with the proceeds going to the Beach Food Pantry.

NEW BUSINESS:
B. Session approved January 22, 2017 for the Annual Congregational Meeting. The agenda will be: Distribution of the 2016 Annual Report, Explanation of the 2017 Budget, Approval of the Pastor’s Terms of Call, and Election of the 2017 Congregational Nominating Committee members.

Session Liaisons and Committee Moderators are asked to submit their reports for the 2016 Annual Report to the office by Jan. 10, 2017.

C. Session approved the Finance Committee’s recommendation that the church move the OBPC banking from PNC Bank to Towne Bank effective January 1, 2017.

OLD BUSINESS
A. Session approved the 2017 Committee Moderators as follows:
   a. Administration and Personnel – Gary McGee
   b. Building and Grounds – Morris Bennett and Winkey Roberts
   c. Christian Education – Susan Harman-Scott
   d. Congregational Care – Jim Goes
   e. Evangelism – Barbara Nock
   f. Fellowship – Brenda Brown
   g. Finance – Jeff Aldridge
   h. Outreach and Witness – Kevin Sheets
   i. Stewardship – Vacant
   j. Transportation – Karen Lurie/Sharon Moore
   k. Worship – Nonie Booth

B. Session approved the 2017 Assignment of Session Liaisons as follows:
   a. Administration and Personnel – Melinda
   b. Building and Grounds – Buzz
   c. Christian Education – Mollie
   d. Congregational Care – Jim
   e. Evangelism – Tom
   f. Fellowship – Nonie
   g. Finance – Mollie
   h. Outreach and Witness – Jeanne
   i. Stewardship – Kathryn
   j. Transportation – Jeanne
   k. Worship – Jean

C. Session reiterated the importance of updating the sound system and approved a motion requesting that the Finance Committee present a payment method if it cannot be included in the $150,000 Capital Improvement Project.

D. Session approved the motion that the Christmas Eve offering be designated for “Community Benevolences”.

PASTOR’S REFLECTIONS
A. Jody discussed plans for his 10-week sabbatical, currently anticipated for mid-May through mid-July 2017. The timing may be altered, pending housing for Rev. Walt Hunting, who is willing to cover those weeks as OBPC pastor.

B. Session approved Jody’s proposal to lead a Bible study on consecutive Tuesday evenings at 5:15 pm, January 24 – February 27, 2017.