



Outer Banks Presbyterian Church

September 2017

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Outer Banks Presbyterian Church
**Down to the
RIVER
to
PRAY**

Outdoor Worship Service & Church Picnic

Sunday, September 10th 10:30 am
Soundside Park Point Harbor, NC

BBQ | Fried Chicken | Fixin's
Sign Up in the Gathering Space

An illustration of a picnic spread on a red and white checkered tablecloth. It includes a plate with a fried chicken drumstick, a hamburger, and french fries; a bowl of soup with tortilla chips; and a bowl of fresh salad with tomatoes, onions, and olives. A bottle of ketchup is also visible.

Outer Banks Presbyterian Church

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Email: office@outerbankspresbyterian.org

Prayer Concerns

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

- Jack Abernethy
- Kathy Ballard
- Marc Basnight
- Lou Batzler
- Don & Nancy Bierwerth
- Gwen Engleright
- Lori Gallagher
- June Harris
- Ansley Johnson
- Karen Lurie
- Mickey Meekins
- Etta Parrott
- Richard Pfersick
- Bud Sheets
- Jane Smith
- Tim Tiller
- Nancy Worsley
- The Family of Al Grimm
- The Family of Gary Martie
- The Family of Lori O'Neil
- Those Serving our Country

Down to the River to Pray!

An exciting day of worship and fellowship for OBPC will happen on Sunday, September 10th at 10:30 am (yes, that's right 10:30 am). We will hold our second Worship Service/Church Anniversary Picnic outdoors! The Worship and Fellowship Committees have been hard at work the past few months to coordinate this event. It all takes place just over the bridge in Currituck County at the Sound Park in Point Harbor. The park is located on your right just after passing Parker's Landing and the BP Gas Station on your right. Darrell's Restaurant will cater the delicious B-B-Q, Fried Chicken lunch afterwards. We hope to offset the \$15.00 charge per person by voluntary contributions in baskets provided at lunch. This Sunday, we are sure, will bring back fond memories you have of other gatherings and family reunions in summers past. Please mark your calendars and plan to be with us as "We Go Down to the River to Pray". Shannah Boone will provide special music and the youth group will share about their trip to Montreat.. There is a sign up sheet in the Gathering Space where you can check bus/carpool if you need a ride.

We are Thankful for our Willing Volunteers

Coffee Hour Schedule

September 3.....Helmkamp/Berg
 September 10..... (No Coffee Hour)
 September 17..... Basnight/Boyd
 September 24..... Evangelism

Flower Schedule

September 3..... Available
 September 10.....(Picnic – No flowers)
 September 17..... Hollie & Jody Lewis
 September 24..... Available

Liturgist Schedule

September 3..... Jean Basnight
 September 10Kevin Sheets
 September 17 Brenda Brown
 September 24 Nonie Booth

Children's Church Schedule

September 3Hardy/Davis
 September 10 (No Children's Church)
 September 17 Ben & Melanie Cahoon
 September 24Braymiller/Wood

We are grateful to Helen & Fred Gauvreau for supplying the elements for the Sacrament of Holy Communion on September 3.

September Birthdays

Brenda Feury..... 1
 Judy Bear 2
 Taylor Lewis 3
 John Rickers..... 3
 Al Schalk..... 5
 Karen Hastings 6
 Sharon Moore..... 7
 Nancy Worsley 8
 Paul Munson..... 9
 Trish Thomas..... 9
 Forrest Seal 10
 James Jackson..... 12
 Gwen Engleright..... 13

Nancy Bierwerth..... 14
 Liz Hamley 14
 Judy Whittle 14
 Glenn Baum 17
 Becky DeSanto 20
 Linda McGee..... 20
 Lynda Wood..... 22
 Trish Blackmon 23
 Anita Bennett 24
 Carol Trotman 27
 Margaret Hartman..... 30

September Anniversaries

Mr. & Mrs. Glen Baum 9
 Mr. & Mrs. Buzz Boyd 10
 Mr. & Mrs. Merrill Hastings 12
 Mr. & Mrs. Doug Helmkamp 12
 Mr. & Mrs. Al Ihrig 16
 Mr. & Mrs. Matt Lowcher 22
 Mr. & Mrs. Dan Harris 24
 Mr. & Mrs. Phil Moore 27
 Mr. & Mrs. Bobby Gentry 28

Note: The cover art for the "Down to the River to Pray" Sunday was done by the late Leah Williamson in the summer of 2016.

A Word from our Pastor



I'm delighted that we have a strong group of new members planning to join the church on September 3rd, which is Labor Day weekend. God continues to bring new people among us who bless us with their energy, interests, and perspectives. I want to thank the Evangelism Committee, which hosted a new and prospective member luncheon in August. During that luncheon, many of the potential new members had an opportunity to meet each other and share their stories. Our church's motto is "Faith, Family, and Friends;" I appreciate the many ways that we live out that motto by being a supportive community as friends and as brothers and sisters in Christ, united in our common faith in the triune God.

September is a month of anniversaries here at Outer Banks Presbyterian Church. September marks my sixth anniversary as your pastor and September is also the 38th anniversary of the founding of Outer Banks Presbyterian Church on September 23, 1979. For the second consecutive year, to mark our church's anniversary, we are going "Down to the River to Pray." I hope that you will join us for a worship service and picnic catered by Darrell's 2 at Sound Park on Sunday, September 10th at 10:30 am. Last year's picnic was a wonderful time of fellowship and many of you expressed that we needed to make sure we made these picnics an annual event.

I am excited that our Youth Group will be participating in the worship service on September 10th. They will be sharing their experiences from the Montreat Youth Conference during the first week of August. I enjoyed spending part of the week with our youth group and was very impressed with the way that they were fully participating in the conference. I was touched by the ways that our youth are maturing in their faith and was proud of how they spoke about what God means to their lives. I believe you will also be proud of our youth when you hear them in worship on September 10th.

For ten days in September, I will be completing the final portion of my sabbatical to travel to the Holy Land. I will be going to Israel with a tour group that includes a number of other Presbyterians. I am really looking forward to seeing with my own eyes the holy places that are described in the Bible. I can't wait to share the pictures and stories with you when I return and I also am planning to incorporate the lessons I learn in future sermons and classes I teach.

On October 1st, the Session has called a congregational meeting to receive a report from the Nominating Committee on the individuals to serve on the Session's class of 2020. I want to thank the Nominating Committee who has been meeting and faithfully considering who might respond to God's call to serve on the Session.

Peace in Christ,

Jody Moore

Sermon Series for September 2017

Sermon Series on Taking Summer's Insights with Us The Rev. Jody Moore

In September we leave behind our summer schedule and many of us move back into our normal fall routine. Throughout the month of September, Rev. Jody Moore will be reflecting on lessons that he learned this summer and he hopes that we can carry these lessons with us throughout the year. Join us for worship in September to hear the spiritual insights that will sustain us through our daily lives.

September 3, 2017

Matthew 14:13-14 and 22-23a and 26:36-44

Throughout the Gospels, Jesus regularly took time away from the crowds and his disciples to seek out his Father in prayer. We will read three instances of Jesus' attention to his personal prayer life, which serves as an example for each of us to follow. The Bible tells us that we are called to take Sabbath time each week, where we stop focusing on work and being productive to relish in God's presence. What does it look like for us to experience Sabbath and rest in the Lord in our busy 21st century lives? We will receive new members during the morning worship service.

September 10, 2017

John 21:1-17

Worship will at Sound Park as we have our second annual "We Went Down to the River to Pray" worship service and picnic. During this worship service, we will hear about our youth group's experiences at the Montreat Youth Conference. In John 21, the resurrected Christ meets the disciples by their fishing boat. He joins them on the water and has breakfast with them. What does it look like for us to meet Christ by the water as we break bread together?

September 17, 2017

Matthew 18:21-35

Peter asks Jesus how often we should forgive one another; Peter wonders if forgiving another person seven times is enough. Jesus responds that we should forgive seventy-seven times and goes onto to tell a parable about forgiveness. The parable reveals how God has been merciful to us and so we are expected to show mercy and grace to one another.

500th Anniversary of the Reformation!

The Pastor will lead a Study of the Reformation on Tuesdays, October 3, 10, 17, and 24 and on Monday, October 30 at 5:15 pm, celebrating its 500th Anniversary.



A special offering for peacemaking and global witness will be taken on Sunday, October 1st. Twenty-five percent of our special offering will be given to Hotline, our community's local shelter for battered women. The remainder goes to the larger church for peacemaking and witness projects throughout the world.

South Sudan is a nation riddled with conflict. Violence levels are extreme, but mission workers operating alongside RECONCILE Peace Institute are training leaders to become peace builders in their communities.

An issue that affects peace and justice in Colombia, causing struggle for many of the nation's citizens is land grabbing, whether by the government, wealthy land owners, or the cocaine industry. Peasant farmers are run off, harassed, or even murdered. Colombia mission workers volunteer with the Colombia Accompaniment Program which allows Presbyterians to stand in solidarity against violence in the face of intimidation. The Presbyterian Peace Fellowship and the Presbyterian Church of Colombia collaborate with this program in order to help those affected by land grabbing.

In 2016, 13.5 million people required humanitarian assistance, having fled their homes to escape the continued violence and civil war in Syria. Your gift to the Peace and Global Witness Offering will help initiatives like those in Syria, South Sudan and Colombia provide support for those affected by violence and injustice around the globe as well as here in Dare County.

Words of thanks

My family and I want to thank everyone for their words of encouragement, the food, the assistance -- the overall thoughtfulness -- that the OBP church family gave to us these past months. It has been a truly difficult and sad time. I appreciate hearing stories about their relationship with Gary. I have the best church family ever, and words cannot express how great that is!

Love,
Jeanne Martie

We would like to thank everyone, especially Jody and John, for their love and support during the last year and a half. The memorial service and reception was a beautiful tribute to Albert.

Love,
Shirley Grimm and Family

Prospective New Member Luncheon



The evangelism committee hosted a luncheon on Sunday, August 13th after the church service. There were eleven potential new people who attended plus a number of committee members. It was a time to share information and for the new people to ask questions about our church. They learned about the process of becoming a new member. On September 3rd we will welcome new members joining our church. If you were unable to attend the luncheon but would like to affiliate with the church please call the church office at 252 - 441-5897 and speak with Donna, the church secretary or Jody, the pastor. We are so happy to have new people join our church to share in the Christian fellowship.



Sunday School: 9:00 am Worship: 10:00 am

September 2017

Elder of the Month: Jim Goes / Jeanne Martie

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>Note: There are sessions of A.A. that meet here Monday through Friday at 7:30 am and 10:00 am.</i></p>					1 8:00 am: Men's Study	2
3 The Sacrament of Holy Communion & Reception of New Members 5:00 pm: Youth Group	4 Labor Day  Church offices Closed	5 5:00 pm: Ruthie's Kitchen	6 6:00 pm: Sanctuary Choir 6:30 pm: Adult Study	7	8 8:00 am: Men's Study	9
10 Down to the River to Pray Worship / Picnic Soundside Park, Point Harbor 10:30 am 5:00: Youth Group	11 6:30 pm: Cub Scouts	12 10:00 am: Faith Knitters 6:30 pm: Boy Scouts 6:30 pm: Stated Session	13 6:00 pm: Sanctuary Choir 6:30 pm: Adult Study	14 5:30 pm: Presbyterian Women Fall Gathering	15 8:00 am: Men's Study	16
17 11: 15 am: Healing Service 5:00 pm: Youth Group	18 6:30 pm: Cub Scouts	19 6:30 pm: Boy Scouts	20 6:00 pm: Sanctuary Choir 6:30 pm: Adult Study	21	22 8:00 am: Men's Study	23
24 Guest Choir from Wendell, NC 5:00 pm: Youth Group	25 6:30 pm: Cub Scouts	26 10:00 am: Faith Knitters 6:30 pm: Boy Scouts	27 6:00 pm: Sanctuary Choir 6:30 pm: Adult Study	28	29 8:00 am: Men's Study	30



The Music Ministry of Outer Banks Presbyterian Church is excited to offer several entertaining musical events this fall! Please check them out, mark you calendars and invite your friends and neighbors!

**Covenant Presbyterian, Wendell, NC
Choir to Present Mini-Musical!**

Sunday, Sept. 24

10:00 am

The sanctuary choir from Covenant Presbyterian Church in Wendell, NC will present a mini-musical during the morning worship service on Sept. 24. From the beginning, God's plan included living the life of faith and worshipping in the context of community. The covenant made with Abraham was for him and his people. The story of faith passed down through the generations of Israel's history is the story of a nation of people. On the night before Jesus was crucified, our Lord prayed that His disciples and all who would follow would be one in their faith. First-century Christians were nurtured in communities of faith. At times, the church has failed in its commitment to present a united message to a divided world. But the challenge still remains and the goal still stands before us. This dynamic and brief work, entitled, "The Church's One Foundation", is a celebration of the church. It is a call to renew the challenge and fulfill the prayer of our Lord that God's people might be one so that the world will know of Jesus and His love.

Covenant Presbyterian Church, as well as their choir, is comprised of people from across the United States and from other countries. Annually, they go on choir tour – a weekend during which they go to another town, spend time with each other, and lead worship in another church. The goal is for both the choir and the congregation to draw closer to God through the message of the music. This year marks twenty-one years of tour. Their very first tour was here at Outer Banks Presbyterian in 1997, and they are delighted to worship with you again.

Conductor, Wanda Ramm has been with Covenant for twenty-four years. She holds a bachelor's degree in English with a minor in vocal performance from North Carolina State University, where she also studied choral conducting. In addition, Wanda holds a master's degree in creative writing from NCSU. Her first book, *Images of America: Knightdale*, was published in 2014. She has

been singing professionally for forty-three years. Wanda sings with the North Carolina Master Chorale Chamber Choir and teaches English at NCSU.

Accompanist, Jeff Bottoms is a scientist with Syngenta Corporation. He holds a bachelor's degree in horticulture from North Carolina State University. Jeff has been with Covenant for twenty-three years.

**World Renowned Pianist,
Teresa Walters, in Concert**

Sunday, Oct. 1

4:00 pm



The Music Ministry of Outer Banks Presbyterian Church is proud to present world renowned pianist, Teresa Walters, in concert. Teresa will present a concert in celebration of the 500th anniversary of the reformation. Her impressive career has taken her to perform on six of the continents and in almost all of the fifty states. Teresa, a minister's wife, grew up in the Midwest and earned her doctorate degree from Peabody Conservatory. She has lived most of her adult life in New York City. For more information on this concert, please contact Jason Evans at the church at (252) 441-5897, ext. 203. Stay tuned for more information!



Saturday, Oct. 14

7:00 pm

We are excited to offer the opportunity for you to see a great show titled, "Cotton Patch Gospel"! This show is made up of a cast of 7 performers. It is a full length (90 min) musical drama with bluegrass music by the late Harry Chapin. It's a re-telling of the Gospel of Matthew set in the rural south (Georgia) in the recent past. It is hilarious, yet moving and inspirational. The cast is directed by Curtis Campbell, who is no stranger to OBPC. He was a former minister at Kitty Hawk Methodist and has sung in our past programs.

In Loving Memory



We express our sympathy to the family of Al Grimm who passed away on July 26, 2017 at his home in Nags Head. A Service of Witness to the Resurrection was held here at Outer Banks Presbyterian Church on Thursday, August 10, 2017 at 2:00 pm. Please keep the family in your thoughts and prayers in the days ahead.



We express our sympathy to the family of Gary Martie who passed away on August 5, 2017 at his home in Colington. A Service of Witness to the Resurrection was held here at Outer Banks Presbyterian Church on Thursday, August 14, 2017 at 2:00 pm. Please keep the family in your thoughts and prayers in the days ahead.

Ruthie's Kitchen

The Outer Banks Presbyterian Church will again serve Ruthie's Kitchen on **Tuesday, September 5, 2017.**

Healing Service

Our monthly Healing Service is held on the third Sunday of each month following the morning worship service. The next Healing Service will be held on Sunday, October 15, 2017 at 11:15 am.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion



Join us on Sunday, September 3, 2017 as we observe the Sacrament of Holy Communion during our morning worship service.

This Sacrament is a true reminder of God's sacrificial love for us by dying on a cross to save us of our sins and resurrecting that we might spend eternity with him.

Back to School Challenge Time!

Most parents will agree that when it is back to school time, there are challenges to be faced. We will be concerned about making sure they have the right school supplies, maybe some new clothing. Perhaps we'll be worried about our child's new teacher, or a different mix of kids in the class. All of these are self-focused worries!

I'd like to offer this thought as a new school year dawns: Our most important concern is how we—both students and parents—will impact the people around us. From the sermon on Mount to The Great Commission, the followers of Christ were to be focused outwardly. This year, make an impact on others!

Remember your EXAMPLE. We tend to focus on self at this time of year, but Romans 14:7 reminds us that none of us lives to himself, and no one dies to himself. Our lives have an effect on others! We need to be careful not to be hypocritical (Rom. 2:17-24). Must be positive with our responsibilities (Phil. 2:14-16). And above all, we should shine for Christ (Matt. 5:16)!

Remember your MISSION. If we are in Christ, we are a new creation (2 Cor. 5:17-20). That new creation has a job to do! Paul said he was an ambassador for Christ, and we have a responsibility to be the same (1 Cor. 11:1). Students, youth is no excuse not to be about our Father's business (Jer. 1:4-7). If Jesus is your Savior, then He is your Lord too (2 Peter 3:18). Act like it!

Remember your PRIORITIES. If you are a Christian, then your priority is the kingdom of God (Matt. 6:33). There will never be a convenient time to put God first and yourself last (Matt. 16:24), so start now! Remember the heroes of the faith from past days (Heb. 11:13-16) and seek that heavenly city!

Starting a new grade brings new possibilities, new opportunities, and a new beginning. But don't forget you can impact the life of someone else forever!

Remember your **EXAMPLE**, your **PRIORITIES**, and your **MISSION**!



Presbyterian Women are gearing up for a busy year! They will begin on Thursday, September 14 at 5:30 with a dinner and program. Each one is asked to bring a salad to share for dinner which will be followed by the first lesson in the Horizons Bible

study. Each one is asked to bring a salad to share for dinner which will be followed by the first lesson in the Horizons Bible Study Cloud of Witnesses: The Community of Christ in Hebrews. This lesson as well as the installation of new leaders will be presented by Janice Smith of Rocky Mount, a former moderator of PW in the Presbytery of New Hope. The new leaders are as follows:

- Moderator: Brenda Brown
- Vice Moderator: Becky DeSanto
- Secretary: Jean Basnight
- Treasurer: Carol Moore
- Historian: Helen Gauvreau

On Saturday, October 14, the Outer Banks PW will host other PW from Area 7 as well as Areas 8 and 9 for their annual Fall Gathering. The keynote speaker for that event is Dr Catrelia Steele Hunter, former moderator of the Churchwide Coordinating Team and retired interim president of Livingstone College in Salisbury, NC. More information about this event will be forthcoming. Please mark this big event on your calendar and plan to attend.

That's not all that PW will be doing in October!! We will be "retreating" the last weekend in October up in Southern Shores. Beginning Saturday morning the 28th at 9:00 until Sunday morning the 29th after breakfast, the Outer Banks PW will be enjoying the "Sweet Life Cafe". This will be a time of fellowship, discussions led by six different leaders, relaxation and renewal! Staying overnight is optional and the total cost for all meals and study booklet is \$40. Any woman who is 18 and older who attends a Presbyterian Church is a Presbyterian Woman! You do **not** have to be a member of a circle, but hopefully you will want to join one. Come, join in the fun for a great time away from the world and an opportunity to spend quality time with God, something we find hard to do in our busy lives. Please make time for this one weekend!!!



Please note the new mailing address for Dan and June Harris.

Mr. & Mrs. Dan Harris
14424 Megan Way
Laurel, DE 19956

Faith Knitters



The Faith Knitters visited Sentara Nursing Center in Barco, NC on May 23rd and delivered 60 prayer shawls to the residents there. It's a very rewarding ministry to visit with the residents and they are so appreciative of the shawls. Those pictured who were able to make the rounds at Barco are Lynn Miller, Karen O'Brien, Judy Swanson Barbara Nock, Gail Goetschius and Janet Kott. Member of the Faith Knitters who had made prayer shawls but were unable to attend are Paula Stensvaag, Anne Cramer, Barbara Nowland, Susan Smith and Karen Corbett. After the visit at Barco the group had a time of fellowship at Simply Southern Restaurant where we all enjoyed a delicious lunch.

The Faith Knitters will start the 2017-2018 session on September 12th at 10:00. We meet at the home of Bill Pratt, 100 Mill Point Road in Martins Point on the second and fourth Tuesdays each month, September through May. Anyone interested in joining our group who either knits or crochets is very, very welcome. If you want to learn to knit or crochet we have excellent teachers. This is the kind of group that you come when you can with no reservations required. We have beginners to experts. The group makes prayer shawls for the area nursing homes, Cancer oncology group, dialysis group, Veterans hospital and any others who would benefit from knowing that God cares for them and can help them recover from whatever illness they may be experiencing. If you would be interested in more information about this meaningful mission of love and caring please give Barbara Nock a call at (252) 255-5979 or contact her by email at nocktwice@embarqmail.com.

News from the August Session Meeting

At a Called meeting on August 6, 2017, Session approved:

1. The recommendations from Administration Committee that:
 - a. Hollie, the Director of the Children, Youth and Young Family Ministries, be granted 12 weeks of maternity leave with pay through October 20, 2017;
 - b. Jody Lewis's offer to cover the duties as Interim Director of these ministries with no pay until Hollie returns; and
 - c. Use of the church building on August 23, 2017, 1-3 pm, by the Philanthropy Education Organization (PEO), be at no charge.
2. The date for the Called Congregational Meeting to elect three elders to the Class of 2020 will be Sunday, October 1, 2017, immediately after worship.

The Session will meet at 9:30 am on Sunday morning, September 3, 2017, to receive new members. If you are interested in joining our church family, please contact the Pastor.

News from Congregational Care

The Rite Aid Pharmacy will be sponsoring a flu-shot clinic at the OBPC on October 15, 2017, immediately after worship. Mark your calendars and bring your insurance cards.

The Committee thanks the twelve church members who have served as Nursery Volunteers for the last two years. Spending a Sunday morning with Ethan, Kylie, Ella, Joseph, Anna, and any little visitors in our Nursery is a pleasure. If you are willing to help, please contact the church office at 252-441-5897. It's not hard duty!

News from Christian Education

Jody Lewis reported that about 40 children attended Vacation Bible School this year.

Thirteen students and 4 adults participated in the week at Montreat. Everyone was exuberant with the experience and with the contributions of the OBPC youth.

When the youth group from the Wilson PCUSA church came on July 23, 2017, twelve of the OBPC youth and 2 adults hosted them at Jeanette's Pier that Sunday evening.

Jody Lewis expressed confidence that the Youth Program will be self-sufficient to continue activities on Sunday evenings at 5:30 pm.

- Jody and Hollie Lewis are developing a discussion series on "change".
- The Youth who attended Montreat will participate in the Worship Service/Picnic on September 10.
- They are planning a Sunday night Pancake Supper/Fundraiser in October.



Sacrament of Holy Communion Observed & The Reception of New Members

Sunday, September 3, 2017
10:00 am

Morning Worship & Luncheon at Sound Park, Point Harbor

Sunday, September 10, 2017
10:30 am

Presbyterian Women Fall Gathering

Thursday, September 14, 2017
5:30 pm

Covenant Presbyterian Mini-Cantata

Sunday, September 24, 2017
10:00 am

Pianist, Teresa Walters, in Concert

Sunday, October 1, 2017
4:00 pm

Cotton Patch Gospel, the Musical

Saturday, October 14, 2017
7:00 pm

Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service

Sunday, November 19, 2017
4:00 pm

Christmas at Outer Banks Presbyterian

Saturday & Sunday, December 2-3, 2017
5:00 pm

Christmas Eve Service

Sunday, December 24, 2017
5:00 pm

Youth News

On a very rainy Saturday at the end of July, 15 of our youth and chaperones loaded the church bus and spent the day traveling to Montreat for the Youth Conference, "The Missing Peace." We arrived in Montreat late that evening, exhausted but excited to discover the same great rental house as last year, milder temperatures, and a life-changing conference. This year's conference encouraged our youth to seek and to work for peace in their families, communities, the church and in the world. Each day, we were inspired by relevant keynote addresses and sermons by Bruce Reyes-Chow, former moderator of General Assembly that addressed topics such as our families and how young people can serve their churches. In addition to keynote addresses each youth was assigned to a small group made up of young people from other churches who met morning and afternoons for discussions. Brenda Brown was an adult volunteer for one of the small groups. The youth enjoyed recreation events such as a peace night, a glow in the dark dance, a competition similar to The Hunger Games, and a variety show. The final evening had a late worship service concluding with a candlelight service around Lake Susan. Many were moved to tears as they bid farewell to new friends and to Montreat. In their free time, they went rock-hopping, ate lots of ice cream at the Huck, and enjoyed a trip to Black Mountain and the Folk Arts Museum on the Blue Ridge Parkway. Our rental house was equipped with a game room that included a ping pong table, foosball table, and plenty of puzzles and board games to keep the kids occupied with old-fashioned fun. Throughout the week, we enjoyed delicious meals prepared by Karen Lurie with help from kids and Jennifer Kovaks.

Perhaps the most meaningful part of the week was watching our OBPC Youth transition from "attending" worship to "participating" in worship. Our youth were genuinely involved the youth leadership of worship and keynote. Three of our youth Ronnie, Chloe and Kristen applied and were accepted into the Jeremiah Project, a special small group for mature youth who may even be sensing a call into ministry. They served as liturgists and led dramatic interpretations all week long.

Additionally, many of our other youth volunteered to assist with worship: Joseph, Hopelyn, Cailin and Grace sang in choir. Michael was a member of the work crew. It was uplifting to see our youth take their worship to a new level, interacting with the conference leadership and taking such an active role in the worship services. All of these roles required the youth to give up a portion of their free time, coming to rehearsals during mealtimes or early in the morning, and they did so with a joyful heart. Their spiritual maturity genuinely shone through, and they set a great example for some of our newer youth.

As always, Montreat would not be possible without the prayerful support of so many in our church. Thank you to everyone who contributed financially to make this trip possible. Thanks to those who donated items for the various mission projects we participated in at Montreat.

And, from the bottom of my heart, a huge heartfelt thank you goes out to our adult chaperones: Jennifer Kovaks who served as Leader in Hollie's absence, Karen Lurie best chef and bus driver EVER, Pastor Jody and Brenda Brown. "And a great time was had by all"!!

Photos from the Montreat Youth Conference!





A MISSING
PEACE
2017 Montreat Youth Conference

Outer Banks Presbyterian Church
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Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948

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