We see God’s sense of humor in the way that the schedule for Lent turned out on this year’s liturgical calendar. Ash Wednesday is the most solemn day of the church year. It is a day when we recognize our human frailty, our sin, and our need for a redeemer. It is also a day to remember that all of us are mortal and that we all end up “ashes to ashes and dust to dust.” This year, Ash Wednesday happens to fall on February 14th, which of course is Valentine’s Day. The themes of Valentine’s Day, which focus on human love and especially romantic love, are quite different from the meaning and purpose of Ash Wednesday. Even though they have different meanings, on both Valentine’s Day and Ash Wednesday we can celebrate God’s eternal and perfect love for us that never fails.

Then, Easter Sunday this year happens to be on April 1st, which is April Fool’s Day. In a sense, Easter is God’s great April Fool’s act against the forces of evil and death. Jesus’ resurrection seemed too good to be true, like an idle tale. Even though Jesus repeatedly told his disciples that he must die so that he could be raised again on the third day, many of them did not believe it when people who had seen the resurrected Christ told them about what they had witnessed. This Easter we celebrate that Jesus was not telling an April Fool’s joke when he was talking about his resurrection. Jesus really meant it when he said that he is the way, the truth, and the life!

The purpose of Lent is to prepare ourselves for the holy season of Easter, when we celebrate Jesus’ victory over death through his resurrection. Throughout Lent, I hope that you will join us for worship on Sunday mornings and on Wednesdays at noon for our Lenten Worship Services and luncheons sponsored by the North Dare Ministerial Association. A complete schedule of the preachers and lunches for the Lenten Worship services are provided on page 4 of this newsletter.

On Super Bowl Sunday, February 4th, 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. February 4th will also be Scout Sunday as we recognize the important connection our church has with the Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts.

Peace in Christ,

Jody Moore
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
Anne Cramer
Tom Charlton
Dennis Dutt
Gwen Engleright
Lori Gallagher
Sarah Garvin
Cindy Goes
June Harris
Ansley Johnson
Karen Lurie
Barbara Morgan
Mickey Meekins
Etta Parrott
Richard Pfersick
Lawrence Rust
Bud Sheets
Jane Smith
Russell Taylor
Tim Tiller
Nancy Worsley
Those Serving our Country

Lenten Devotional

The devotion is “Practicing Love” – Family Devotions for Lent written by Leah and Robyn Perrault. As Christians, we strive to live and love as Jesus did. In order to love well, we need to practice. And practicing as a family helps everyone to grow in their faith together each day. During Lent, we more sharply reflect upon the Word of God and upon modeling our behaviors after those of our Savior. This booklet is filled with reflections and activities that gently invite the whole family to practice love for Lent, even though love never goes out of season. These are available in the Gathering Space.

For the children, there will be an Alleluia! Puzzle Magnet which includes 7 magnets. The children can play with the Easter magnet scene and arrange it any way they wish on their refrigerator at home. These will be distributed in Children’s Church.

We are Thankful for our Willing Volunteers

Coffee Hour Schedule
Feb. 4 .............................................. Lydia Circle
Feb. 11 ............................................. Mogowski/Gentry
Feb. 18 ............................................. Finance
Feb. 25 ............................................. Goes/Nowland

Flower Schedule
Feb. 4 ................................. Fred & Susan Smith
Feb. 11 ................................. Barbara Nock
Feb. 18 ................................. Available
Feb. 25 ................................. Available

Liturgist Schedule
Feb. 4 ................................. Barbara Hardy
Feb. 11 ................................. Nonie Booth
Feb. 18 ................................. Ben Cahoon
Feb. 25 ................................. Jeanne Martie

Children’s Church
Feb. 4 ................................. Braymiller / Wood
Feb. 11 ................................. Hardy / Davis
Feb. 18 ................................. Hollie & Jody Lewis
Feb. 25 ................................. Jeanne Thomson / TBA

February Birthdays
Pogie Worsley ........................................ 4
Grace Wright ...................................... 4
Martin Booth ...................................... 5
Nancy Mathews .................................... 5
Linda Campbell .................................... 6
Carol Moore ...................................... 6
Mary Shannon ..................................... 9
Janet Michler ...................................... 9
Kathryn Lamb ..................................... 10
J.R. Mathews ...................................... 11
Bette Kraemer .................................... 14
Jesse DeSanto ................................... 15
Carl Lilieberg .................................... 15
Shirley Garrett ................................... 18
Michael Siefferman ................................ 18
Ann Broadhead .................................. 19
Karol Browder ................................... 20
Cailin Lewis ...................................... 20
Joseph Lewis .................................... 20
Kim Braswell .................................... 20
Ann Patterson .................................... 22
Blair Siefferman .................................. 22
Meghan McIver .................................. 23

February Anniversaries
Dr. & Mrs. Jody Moore ......................... 4
Mr. & Mrs. Norm Sparks ....................... 6
Mr. & Mrs. Jorge Diaz ........................... 14
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Munson ...................... 22
Sermons for February 2018
Outer Banks Presbyterian Church
The Rev. Dr. Jody Moore

February 4
1st Corinthians 9:16-27. Paul discusses the ways that he changes and tailors his message to his specific audience. Communicating and sharing the Gospel requires us to be flexible and to address people’s situation where they are coming from without judging them. It will also be Scout Sunday, as we celebrate our church’s connection with the Boy Scouts.

Lenten Sermon Series on Covenant
February 18-March 25, 2018

Many of us are familiar with signing contracts whether we are borrowing money, buying a car, or agreeing to a new job. Contracts are legally binding agreements based on the idea that we have to have something in writing so that both sides will keep up their end of the bargain. Unlike a contract, healthy relationships are built on trust and a willingness to be honest and vulnerable. In the Bible, however, God uses covenant, not contract, as a way to establish genuine relationships with us. We will explore the covenants that God has made with us throughout this Lenten series and the meaning of those covenants for our identity and our lives.

February 18, 2018

Genesis 9:8-17. After the tragedy of the great flood, God makes a new covenant with Noah. The rainbow becomes a sign for God’s promise of a new day. After the destruction of the flood, God provides the promise of a new beginning. When we say goodbye to things from our past, we also have the opportunity to embrace the new things God is bringing forth.

February 25, 2018

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-19. Sometimes it is hard to trust in God’s promises. God makes a covenant to bless Abram with unexpected gifts. God even gives Abram a new name: Abraham. God asks Abraham to trust in Yahweh’s goodness. God is prepared to offer us surprising blessings as well. Will we put our faith in God?

February 28, 2018 (Wednesday)

Genesis 4:1-16. For the Wednesday Lenten service, we will hear the story of sibling rivalry between Cain and Abel. They are brothers who are bound together by blood, but yet when jealousy and envy arises, Cain spills his brother’s blood. When God comes to Cain asking where Abel is, Cain responds, “Am I my brother’s keeper?” The answer to God’s question is that we are supposed to be each other’s keeper, caring for one another, even though we often fall short of that calling as Cain does.

The Beach Food Pantry
Extends Client Hours

This year the Beach Food Pantry has extended its service hours for our clients. In addition to our usual 2:00-4:00 PM, 5 days a week, we will also be open from 4:00-6:00 PM on Monday and Friday evenings. The primary purpose of these extended hours is to be sure we are making the best use of the perishables we receive from the local grocery stores. The pantry collects this food over the weekends and throughout the week. The additional Monday hours will help us get all that fresh food to people and the Friday hours will help empty the fridges before more comes in over the weekend. Thus we will be sure our clients get as much of this healthy food as possible before it gets to a point where we must pass it along to local farmers.

Our new schedule calls for more volunteers since we will need the usual number to work the 2-4 PM slots and additional people to work from 4-6 PM. This will test us. We need to be reaching out to all the extra people we can to fill these hours as well as the 2-4 hours throughout the week. Churches smaller than ours have met the challenge so I’m hoping we can as well.

It is estimated that 13.5% of Dare County residents are food insecure and that over 1600 of these residents are children. Please join us in helping put food on their tables for their families. Contact Susan Smith at spsobx@gmail.com or 255-4855 if you or your friends would like to volunteer.

A Warm Thank You

A great big thank you to my “Church Family” for all the help and support that I had during my “House Arrest” while I recovered from my back surgery.

Your prayers, your cards, the meals, the visits and especially the baby sitting that I received when I first came home from the hospital were very much appreciated. I could not have done this without your help. This church is a loving family of caring Christians and I am so grateful to be part of it. Thank you my friends.

Barbara Nock
“Second” Thursday Lunch: Feb. 8

OK – let’s try this ONE MORE TIME and hope that Mother Nature takes a nap!!! We’ll be having the “Second” Thursday lunch at the Restaurant at Coinjock Marina on Waterlily Road, off Rt. 158 in Coinjock. You will see the billboard on Rt. 158 pointing the way to the marina. If you end up in Barco, you’ve gone too far north! The date is Thursday, February 8 (in honor of a second attempt) at noon.

The sign-up sheet has been wiped clean. So no matter what you told Jeanne for the previous attempt, let her know if you would like to attend this time.

We are going to use the church bus for this outing. We are allowed to take 14 passengers – so make your reservation with Jeanne to hold a spot for you. We will have 2 pick-up points. If you want to get on at the church, be on the bus ready to leave no later than 10:50 a.m. If you wish to board the bus at the Marketplace/Southern Shores Food Lion, plan to be on the bus and ready to leave no later than 11:10 a.m. If you want to ride the bus, contact Jeanne. It will be first come, first seated!! If we have more than 14 people requesting rides, we will arrange for carpools. Of course, you will be able to drive directly to the restaurant. The restaurant is about 40-50 minutes from the church.

Please let Jeanne Martie (441-8608 or jlmartie@charter.net) know by Sunday, February 4 if you will be at the Coinjock Marina. All members and visitors are welcome to join us!!

2018 Offering Envelopes

2018 envelope boxes are in the Gathering Space waiting to be picked up. If you still have some 2017 envelopes remaining, please throw them away. Accounts are renumbered each new year. If you need envelopes, please contact Barb Nowland at (252) 480-0423.

What is Lent?

Lent is the period of 40 days prior to Easter, the celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the grave. The word “lent” comes from the Latin word for "lengthen," because the days of Lent occur during the springtime of the year, when the daylight hours increase. The period consists of 40 days because the number 40 has special biblical significance: Moses and the people of Israel were in the wilderness for 40 years; Jesus was tempted in the desert for 40 days.

Since the days of the early church, in the decades and centuries after the death and Resurrection of Christ, Christians have regarded the period of Lent as a time for repentance and reflection. It is invariably marked by fasting (going without food and/or water for a period of time), by giving up something during Lent (sweets; the sports page), and by taking on such habits that will increase one’s devotion to Christ.

Wednesday Lenten Worship Service Schedule

Outer Banks Presbyterian has proudly hosted community Lenten Service sponsored by the Dare County Ministerial Association for many years. The services begin on Ash Wednesday, February 14 at 12:00 noon and will continue through March 28. There is a service in the sanctuary followed by a light lunch in the fellowship hall. The cost of the lunch is $5.00 and the proceeds go to the Beach Food Pantry. All are invited to these services of music and reflection. The schedule for the 2018 Lenten season is as follows:

February 14
The Rev. Tom Wilson, Speaker
from All Saints’ Episcopal Church
All Saints’ Episcopal Church, Luncheon

February 21
The Rev. Nick Hodsdon, Speaker
from Unitarian Universalist Congregation
Dare County Ministerial Association, Luncheon

February 28
The Rev. Dr. Jody Moore, Speaker
from Outer Banks Presbyterian Church
Presbyterian Women, Luncheon

March 7
Chaplain Cherri Wheeler, Speaker
from Kitty Hawk Baptist Church
Kitty Hawk Baptist Church, Luncheon

March 14
The Rev. Keith Dey, Speaker
from Emmanuel Lutheran Church
St. Andrews’ Episcopal Church, Luncheon

March 21
The Rev. Charles Daly, Speaker
from Mt. Carmel United Methodist Church
Mt. Carmel United Methodist Church, Luncheon

March 28
The Rev. Spottswood Graves, Speaker
from Calvary Presbyterian, Swan Quarter
Holy Redeemer Catholic Church, Luncheon
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<td><strong>Souper Bowl of Caring, Scout Sunday &amp; Holy Communion</strong></td>
<td>5:30 pm: Youth Group</td>
<td>1:30 pm: Outreach &amp; Witness Committee</td>
<td>6:00 pm: Choir</td>
<td>6:30 pm: Adult Study</td>
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<td>8:00 am: Men's Study</td>
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<td>6:30 pm: Boy Scouts</td>
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<td>2:30 pm: Stamp Club</td>
<td>10:00 am: Faith Knitters</td>
<td>12:00 N: Ash Wednesday Service</td>
<td>12:00 N: Lenten Service</td>
<td>8:00 pm: Choir</td>
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<td>Presbyterian Women's Luncheon at Duck Woods</td>
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<td>4:00 pm: Sanctuary Choir</td>
<td>6:30 pm: Boy Scouts</td>
<td>6:30 pm: Cub Scouts</td>
<td>2:00 pm: Cong. Care</td>
<td>6:00 pm: Choir</td>
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<td>5:30 pm: Youth Group</td>
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<td>11:15 am: Healing Service</td>
<td><strong>President's Day Church Offices Closed</strong></td>
<td>6:30 pm: Stated Session</td>
<td>12:00 N: Lenten Service</td>
<td>8:00 am: Men's Study</td>
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<td>Presbytery Meeting First Presbyterian Raleigh, NC</td>
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<td>4:00 pm: Sanctuary Choir</td>
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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 2020

Bobby Gentry

Susi and I are both originally from Virginia Beach, Virginia where we have two daughters, three grandsons and a granddaughter. We are also blessed with two fantastic son-in-laws. I have been an investment advisor and financial planner for over 28 years beginning in Virginia Beach and still continue to practice with an office in Kill Devil Hills. Susi and I bought our first house in Nags Head in 1997 and then built a second house in 2002.

Susi had a horrific auto accident when she was T-boned by a beer truck in 2007. Shortly after that we moved into our home in Nags Head.

We are pretty much lifetime Presbyterians and started at Outer Banks Presbyterian Church in 2008 when Nonie recruited us for the choir. Since then the church has become our family. We love everyone here! Our Pastor, ministries and especially the music program make us proud to be members and part of such a church filled with the Holy Spirit. We love serving as we are able and Susie overdoes it at times and has to take a break.

I am active in the community and part of First Flight Rotary Club our community watch and served as an alternate on the town of Nags Head Board of adjustments committee. We return to Virginia Beach frequently to see family.

Barbara Nowland

I was born and raised in Central Pennsylvania, and graduated from Bucknell University. I have two children and five grandchildren. I have worked as a tax auditor, and as a systems analyst/programmer.

My late husband Bob and I moved to the Outer Banks in July 2005. Our decision was based on liking this lovely place and avoiding nasty winters. We felt welcomed from our first visit to the Outer Banks Presbyterian Church. We joined the church in January 2006.

I have been active in the church in many ways. I belong to Presbyterian Women, and have been its Treasurer and Moderator of Lydia Circle. I am a part of the Outreach Committee including being its Moderator, and continue to volunteer at the Beach Food Pantry and Ruthie’s Kitchen. I have helped at Vacation Bible School for a number of years. And I love being part of the choir.

I am a lifelong Presbyterian and value OBPC as a part of my life. The people are so loving, warm and welcoming. I especially appreciated the caring I received when Bob died. I feel honored to have been chosen to become an Elder and thus becoming more involved in the life of this church.

Bob Messinger

After high school graduation, Bob joined the Marine Corps and served as a Radar Technician. He married his high school sweetheart and he and Nancy have been married for 62 years, have two children, one granddaughter and two great grandchildren. In 1955, Bob joined the Masonic Order in Philadelphia and is currently a member of Manteo Lodge #521. While serving in the Marines, Bob furthered his education in the Marine Corps Institute and upon discharge after 8 years of service, attended Penn State night school and worked as a Design Engineer (with patents) for 38 years for a fork lift manufacturer.

Bob and Nancy moved to the Outer Banks in 2003 and became members of the Outer Banks Presbyterian Church in 2005. Bob served as Christian Education chairman and assisted in projects with the Grounds Committee, and designed, created, installed and donated a stained glass window in the Gathering Space. He named it the Window of Salvation.

In the community, Bob joined the Coast Guard Auxiliary as Coxswain, working with the Coast Guard to promote boating safety and victim rescue. Bob became a charter member of the Marine Corps League in the Outer Banks and served as its first Paymaster. He has also served as chairman of the Toys for Tots program.

Bob is always ready to lend a helping hand to a neighbor in need, whether it is a lawn mower, or a boat that won’t start. Just call him, he’ll be there.
February will be a very busy and interesting month for Presbyterian Women. On Saturday, February 17 we will gather at noon for our winter luncheon/meeting at Duck Woods. A delicious meal will be served; we’ll have a brief business meeting, and be entertained by a guest speaker. The cost is $16 inclusive. Be sure you sign up with your individual circles. Please plan to attend this fun and important luncheon as we will also be signing up to bring soups, sandwiches or desserts for the Lenten Luncheon which we will host on Wednesday, February 28 at OBPC.

News from Building & Grounds

The recent weather has challenged the facilities, equipment and grounds of our church. The water heater failed January 16-17 and leaked water into the hall and women’s bathroom. Thankfully, Jason was immediately available and he cut off the water to the building. Several members helped clean up the water and no damage occurred. Phil Moore and Tom Williamson delivered a new water heater and installed it, so there was no interruption to church activities.

Building and Grounds Committee wants to inform everyone that the main water line cutoff is located in the closet just outside the south hallway.

B&G asks that everyone continue to be observant with the facilities. Winkey Roberts, Tommy Smith, Tom Williamson, and all the B&G members are available for your concerns, especially during emergencies. Thank you B&G Committee, clean-up helpers, and Jason!

Outreach & Witness News

The Outreach and Witness Committee will hold a meeting on Tuesday, February 6 at 1:30 pm, at the church. Everyone who has an interest in helping others in our community is welcome to attend the meeting.

Some highlights of what members of the committee did in 2017 are: volunteer at the Beach Food Pantry, prepare and serve meals at Ruthie’s Kitchen, help prepare and serve meals for Room in the Inn, make prayer shawls with Faith Knitters, collect personal care items for the Veterans Hospital, oversee the special offerings for PCUSA, collect “pennies” for hunger and donations for disaster relief.

If you are interested in helping with Ruthie’s Kitchen, we are scheduled to prepare and serve Mar. 13, June 5, Sep. 4, and Dec. 4.

If you have any questions, please contact Jeanne Martie at 441-8608 or Jeanne_martie@yahoo.com.

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!!

Easter Musical 2018

If you don’t want to commit to sing the whole choir year, but still like to sing, you are welcome to join us by singing in one of our concerts. We will begin rehearsing for our Easter musical on Sat. February 3 at 10:00 am in the sanctuary. Music will be distributed as well as rehearsal schedules. Let Nonie or Jason know if you are interested.

New Dates for Easter Musical

The Easter Musical will be one week earlier this year than usual. Guest Conductor, Ken Clifton will return to direct the concert this year. The concerts will be:

- Saturday, March 17 | 5 pm
- Sunday, March 18 | 5 pm
Youth Group News

On Sunday evening, January 21, the halls of Outer Banks Presbyterian were filled with lots of joy and plenty of pizza. Following their meal, the youth participated in their annual gift exchange!

Youth Group Meets on
Sunday’s at 5 pm!
Please join us!!

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 4 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 352 pounds of food and $632 to the Beach Food Pantry.

On February 4, our youth 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.

Congregational Care News

The Congregational Care Committee is seeking volunteers to help take meals to members who are not well and to drive people to and from doctors’ appointments. If you can help with this type of service, it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Jim Goes, Linda Helmkamp or Bev Jones.
NEW BUSINESS:

The Pastor welcomed the three newly elected Ruling Elders, Class of 2020, Bobby Gentry, Bob Messinger and Barb Nowland, to the meeting, and recognized the dedicated work of Nonie Booth and Kathryn Lamb as Ruling Elders from 2015 - 2017.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. The Elder Care Lists are being updated. The goal is to have a personal contact for every member and friend who attends the OBPC regularly. For now, please call the church office or the clerk of Session if you need help or church information.

B. Session approved the Agenda for the Annual Congregational Meeting on Jan. 28, 2018: Distribution of the 2017 Annual OBPC Report; Presentation of the 2017 Actual Budget Report and 2018 Proposed Budget; Approval of Changes to the 2018 Pastor’s Terms of Call; and Election of the 2018 Nominating Committee members from the congregation.

C. 2018 positions are still open for Stewardship Committee Moderator and Usher Captain (Worship Committee).

D. Tom Smith and Jeanne Martie will serve as Moderator and Co-Moderator of the 2018 Nominating Committee.

PASTOR’S REFLECTIONS:

A. Jody will be attending a Continuing Education Program at Columbia Theological Seminary in February.

B. The OBPC will again host the Community-wide Lenten Worship and Luncheons from February 14 through March 28, 2018; OBPC will host on Feb. 28.

REPORTS:

Room at the Inn – Mollie reported that our church served 7 lunches and 5 dinners at Roanoke Island Presbyterian Church, when it provided the overnight lodging.