

Calendar of Ministries

† Saturday, January 19

Evening Prayers at 8

† Sunday, January 20

Sunday School at 9:45

Morning Worship at 11 including the installation of elders

† Monday, January 21

Morning Prayers at 8

† Tuesday, January 22

Morning Prayers at 8

† Wednesday, January 23

Morning Prayers at 8

Bible Club at the High School, 8:08

Choir at 7 p.m.

† Thursday, January 24

Morning Prayers at 8

† Friday, January 25

Morning Prayers at 8

† Saturday, January 26

Evening Prayers at 8

† Sunday, January 27

Sunday School at 9:45

Morning Worship at 11

Session meets at lunch

The Bath County Faith Community Choir held its first practice last Sunday afternoon at Warm Springs. The Choir was organized last year and presented a marvelous concert at the High School. They invite you to join them for this special community ministry. Betty Cauley and Tammy Lindsay are the Choir Leaders. Practices alternate between Warm Spring Presbyterian and Woodland Union Church on Sundays at 3 p.m.



The Weekly Word

**Windy Cove Presbyterian Church
January 17, 2013**

A New Year Begins

Since we last visited with our readers, the old year of 2012 came to a close and the new year of 2013 has begun at Windy Cove. We closed 2012 with two significant worship experiences, one on Christmas Eve and one on New Year's Eve.

On Christmas Eve the sanctuary was comfortably filled with folks eager to experience the presence of the Savior Jesus in their lives. They were not disappointed. Jesus made himself known at Windy Cove as the congregation sang carols, as the Choir beautifully enhanced the worship with their special music, as the congregation heard the Word of God in the story of Jesus' birth, as Mr. Sherrard reminded worshipers of the quiet presence of God in their lives together, as the worshipers shared the bread and juice as testimonies of Jesus' death and resurrection, and as all lifted their candles high as they sang "Silent Night, Holy Night."

A week later on New Year's Eve, a smaller group of worshipers gathered to end the old year with prayer and begin the new year with the joy of their communion with

Jesus and with each other. By technology these worshipers sang with a congregation from California and watched a video from a congregation in Atlanta before closing the old year with prayer together. Then, each one came forward to break a piece from the common loaf to dip in the juice to celebrate the newness of life in Christ. Folks reassembled outside to ring in the New Year with our church bell.

In between these two services, the congregation took time on Sunday, December 30, to reflect on the coming New Year by centering on the new life in Christ. Mr. Sherrard's message that morning focused on the amazing power of

(Continued Inside)

Take Note!

Installation of Elders on Sunday, January 20 at Morning Worship

Session meets for lunch on Sunday, January 27

Next Teen Ski Trip is January 27 providing the weather cooperates

Our next Communion will be on Sunday, February 3 followed closely by Ash Wednesday on February 13

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New Year (Cont.)

God to make all things new including new lives for sinful human beings. Using New Year's Resolutions as a theme, he asked the congregation who they would be trying to please in the New Year: themselves, someone else, or the Lord Jesus. By the grace of God and by the power of the Holy Spirit, Christians do have the opportunity and ability to please God as they live as new creatures in Christ.

This theme of new life in Christ has continued in our worship on subsequent Sundays. On January 6 Windy Covians explored the **new birth** in Jesus. On January 13 the congregation looked at the **new teaching** of Jesus. On January 20 this series of messages will continue as we examine the **new wine** of Jesus' life and teaching.

Church Membership

Since the beginning of the year, the adult Sunday School Class has considered what it means to be a church member. The class began with the basic idea that a church member is first of all a person who is a Christian because of a personal experience with Jesus.

In the Bible there are many words that are used to express this personal relationship with God. This relationship is expressed as being saved, justified, redeemed, delivered, sanctified, washed, born again, part of God's kingdom, recreated, reconciled, made righteous, and forgiven.

At various times in their lives, Christians can identify with one or more of these expressions of what God does in order to change a person from a life of sin to a life in Christ.

In their second Sunday, the class looked at the traditional questions used in Presbyterian Churches for those making a profession of faith in Jesus as Savior and Lord. These questions ask those professing their faith to acknowledge that they are sinners and without hope except in God's mercy; to testify of their dependence on Jesus as the Son of God and Savior of sinners; to promise in reliance upon the Holy Spirit to live as a follower of Christ; to promise to serve Christ in the church; to submit to the government and discipline of the church; and to promote the purity and peace of the church.

On January 20 the class will look at basic beliefs of Christians, Protestant Christians, and Reformed Protestant Christians.

People and Prayers

We need to catch you up on some wonderful answers to prayer in the few weeks that we have not been publishing. First, we had good news last week from Tennessee where Nick and Liz Persinger are expecting their second child. In the middle of December, doctors discovered that baby James's spine had not completely closed. So, on January 9 they operated on him in his mother's womb to repair the opening. The surgery went just as the doctors and

family had hoped. Now, Liz will rest until it is time for the baby to be born. We continue to pray that God will complete this healing.

In early January Mike Grist's father, Dick, suffered a heart attack at home in Harrisonburg. Mrs. Grist called 911 immediately and was coached over the phone to administer CPR. Mr. Grist had some rough days after being rushed to the hospital, but he has now received a pace maker and is recovering well.

Cary Miller's brother, Jack, thought that his cancer had recurred, but last week's surgery at the Cleveland Clinic revealed a benign growth that was removed successfully. Jack was back home in just a few days.

Mary Doug Durham has come home after a lengthy stay in the hospital for the repair and rehab of her broken leg. Mary was admitted to the hospital in the first part of November and only made it home last week. Mary and Alvin's son, Randy, spent most of November with his parents. Then, son Al, who lives in Falling Springs, spent many evenings with his Dad in December and January. Mary Doug did get to go to Al's home to celebrate Christmas before returning to the hospital. During the lengthy stay at Alleghany, Al's wife, Cindy, who works at the hospital also kept watch over Mary.

We also had the recent good news that Debbie King and Richard Chestnut were home to Bath County from UVA Hospital. Both had lengthy

stays in Charlottesville, but they are now recovering well.

We have shared the grief of Clara Tennant and her family in the death of Clara's sister, Pat. Pat's funeral was last Thursday at Lifeline Ministries in Mitchelltown. Also, we grieved along with Polly Rector and her family, including daughters Sharon and Cindy, in the death of Polly's brother, Jerry Ginger. We trust that God will continue to bring tangible comfort to these folks. As Clara said to Mr. Sherrard, "Though the circumstances are difficult, I feel closer to God now than I have for some time." In the midst of grief and as families come close to help one another, Jesus does have the opportunity to minister by the Holy Spirit.

Our faithful attenders from Richmond, Bob and Norma Jean Taylor, were at worship on January 6. However, they were in Greensboro last Sunday to check on Norma Jean's Aunt Frieda Arehart who had surgery to break up a blood clot near her brain. Norma Jean's family has Bath County roots as she was related to Sue Venable and Hunter Hepler. Also, Bob and Norma Jean were married at Windy Cove.

Gift Opportunity

Our Windy Cove Women have some of their items on display in the vestibule: stationery, mugs, cook books, and framed pictures. Any one of these items might be a good way to remember someone on a birthday or Valentine's Day.