

Calendar of Ministries

† Saturday, November 16

Game Night at 6:30 p.m.
Evening Prayers at 8 p.m.

† Sunday, November 17

Sunday School at 9:45
Morning Worship at 11
Teen Group meets at 5 p.m. at Millboro Elementary

† Monday, November 18

Morning Prayers at 8

† Tuesday, November 19

Morning Prayers at 8
Women's Bible Study at 6:45 p.m.

† Wednesday, November 20

Morning Prayers at 8
Bible Club at the High School, 8:08
Super Pantry Nutrition Program, 11 to 1
Choir at 7 p.m.

† Thursday, November 21

Morning Prayers at 8
Men's Group Meeting at 7 p.m.

† Friday, November 22

Morning Prayers at 8

† Saturday, November 23

Evening Prayers at 8

† Sunday, November 24

Sunday School at 9:45
Morning Worship at 11
Session meets at lunch
Community Thanksgiving Service at Millboro Presbyterian at 7:30 p.m.

Things to Come

Advent Celebration begins on Sunday, December 1. Our theme for this year will be the Carols of Christmas.



The Weekly Word

Windy Cove Presbyterian Church
November 14, 2013

Elders Ordained and Installed

Sunday, November 10, was a rich day of worship at Windy Cove. Morning Worship included the ordination of Justin Shanks as an elder and the installation of Justin along with Sharon Madison, Johnny Peery, and Sonny Clark on the Windy Cove Session.

The Choir began the service on a perfect note with their special music, "Jesus, Jesus, How I Trust Him." Prior to their singing, Mr. Sherrard had apologized to the Choir for having omitted that number from the week before. To their credit, the Choir was not upset with their pastor and used the music to remind all our worshipers of just how faithful God is.

The message focused on the appointing of elders which Paul and Barnabas had done on their first missionary journey (Acts 14) and on Paul's ministry to the Ephesian elders (Acts 20). The title of the message was Elder Care. The Biblical passages spoke of how elders were to care for the congregations that God had entrusted to them. At the same time, Paul's prayer for the Ephesian elders indicates how God cares for elders and how the congregation should care for them as well. In fact one of the questions answered by the con-

gregation on Sunday indicates this latter aspect of elder care: *Do you agree to encourage these elders, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church?*

After the model of the early church, the Session ordained Justin Shanks with prayer and the laying on of hands. Besides current Session members, other elders from the congregation came forward to participate. An especially meaningful part of that ceremony was to witness Justin's grandfather, Leo Shanks, and his sister, Julie Wagoner, participate in the laying on of hands. Of course, both Leo and Julie had previously been ordained as elders.

(Continued Inside)

Take Note!

Game Night at Windy Cove on Saturday, November 16 at 6:30 p.m. Bring a dessert or snack to share and a willing spirit of fun.

Session meets on Sunday, November 24, at lunch

Community Thanksgiving Worship at Millboro Presbyterian on Sunday, Nov 24 at 7:30 p.m. Darren Keithley of Calvary Baptist will preach the message.

Windy Cove Pres. Church
102 Windy Cove Road
Millboro, VA 24460
Address Service
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U. S. Postage
Non-profit Org.
Permit # 2
Millboro, VA 24460

Pastor: Rob Sherrard
Phone: 540-997-5395 Email: wcpccp@cfw.com

Elders (Cont.)

In addition to the ordination and installation, Windy Cove worshipers remembered and honored veterans during the service on Sunday. Brothers Clayton and Camden Wagner sang a patriotic song to focus the congregation's attention, and Mr. Sherrard led a prayer for the nation.

Next Sunday, November 17, the congregation will resume traveling with Paul on his second missionary journey. You can begin preparing for the trip by reading Acts 15:36-16:10.

An Interesting Comparison

Our *Weekly Word* staff recently took notice of one of those internet stories that was making the rounds. We thought that you might get a chuckle out of the story and possibly some solid food for thought.

As the story goes, a football fan was describing to his neighbor why he no longer attended football games. Here are his 12 reasons.

1. The coach never came to visit me.
2. Every time I went, they asked for money.
3. The people sitting in my row didn't seem very friendly.
4. The seats were very hard.
5. The referees made a decision I didn't agree with.
6. I was sitting with hypocrites—they only came to see what others were wearing!

7. Some games went into overtime, and I was late getting home.
8. The band played some songs I had never heard before.
9. The games are scheduled on my only day to sleep in and run errands.
10. My parents took me to too many games when I was growing up.
11. Since I read a book on sports, I feel that I know more than the coaches anyway.
12. I don't want to take my children because I want them to choose for themselves what sport they like best.

We realize that the analogy between sporting events and church is not perfect, but . . . !

Presbytery Installs New General Presbyter

At its meeting on Tuesday, November 12, Shenandoah Presbytery installed Dr. Roy Martin as its new General Presbyter. Dr. Martin has been a pastor for thirty years. His last ministry before coming to Shenandoah Presbytery was at First Presbyterian Church in Lake City, FL where he served for over 14 years.

Dr. Martin grew up in Fredericksburg, VA, and he attended Camp Massanetta near Harrisonburg during that time. Later, during his seminary days, he worked two summers as the Director of Camp Massanetta.

A special part of Dr. Martin's call to Shenandoah Presbytery includes the work of helping the Presbytery during a time of transition. Our culture is currently questioning the role of religious belief and Christian belief in particular. Our denomination has experienced turmoil in recent years and has consistently lost membership for thirty years. Our Shenandoah Presbytery is primarily a presbytery of small churches. Forty-four of our 109 churches have 75 or fewer members. These challenges are some that Dr. Martin will face in his new position.

Dr. Martin says that his first priority will be to get to know the people and churches of Shenandoah Presbytery. He began that task with Windy Cove in a Mission Community meeting with some of our elders and with a meeting with Mr. Sherrard about some Presbytery work. Dr. Martin has placed the Windy Cove Homecoming of next September on his calendar as well.

As part of Dr. Martin's installation, Pastor Charles Reed of Warm Springs preached the message at the Presbytery meeting. With courage and conviction, Pastor Reed exhorted the Teaching and Ruling Elders present to focus on the mission of the church: to seek and to save the lost. He also thanked the presbyters for their care and concern during his family's trials with their son Caleb's heart condition. Charles was glad to report that Caleb is doing well following his most recent surgery.

Thanksgiving

In his famous commentary on the Psalms, Charles H. Spurgeon speaks of the necessity of thanksgiving. Verse 4 of Psalm 100 in the King James Version reads, "Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name."

On this passage, Spurgeon writes, "So long as we are receivers of mercy we must be givers of thanks." This sentence, though oft quoted, is not as often applied in our Christian lives. We do **celebrate** Thanksgiving. We prepare for the holiday; we enjoy getting together with family; we remember the Pilgrims of Plymouth; we are glad that we have enough food and shelter; but do we truly pause to give thanks to God for God's mercy which stands as the foundation of our lives?

As Christians, we tend to forget God when things are going well. Then, when life goes against us, we cry out to God for help, not in thanksgiving. Perhaps hard times are when we need to be truly thankful for God's presence in our lives. Another commentator, Matthew Henry, once expressed thanksgiving in his diary after he was robbed. He wrote, "Let me be thankful first, because I was never robbed before; second, because, although they took my purse, they did not take my life; third, because, although they took my all, it was not much; and fourth, because it was I who was robbed, not I who robbed." Give thanks!