

## Calendar of Ministries

### † Saturday, November 23

Evening Prayers at 8

### † Sunday, November 24

Sunday School at 9:45

Morning Worship at 11 with our Four Cents Offering

Session meets at lunch

Community Thanksgiving Service at Millboro Presbyterian at 7:30 p.m.

### † Monday, November 25

Morning Prayers at 8

### † Tuesday, November 26

Morning Prayers at 8

Women's Bible Study has finished until a new study begins in 2014

### † Wednesday, November 27

Morning Prayers at 8

Bible Club at the High School, 8:08

Choir at 7 p.m.

### † Thursday, November 28

Happy Thanksgiving!

Men's Group will resume meeting after the first of the new year.

### † Friday, November 29

Morning Prayers at 8

### † Saturday, November 30

Evening Prayers at 8

### † Sunday, December 1

Sunday School at 9:45

Morning Worship at 11

Teen Group at 5 at Millboro Elementary

#### Special Part of Worship

On Sunday, November 24, a special part of our worship will be devoted to grieving together and praying for Creigh Deeds and his family. We invite our regular attenders and members of the community to share this time together as we seek God's comfort.



# The Weekly Word

Windy Cove Presbyterian Church  
November 21, 2013

## Tragedy Strikes Bath County

On a clear, bright Tuesday morning deep tragedy struck the life of a family and the entire community of Bath County. Early Tuesday news spread quickly that Virginia State Senator Creigh Deeds had been wounded at his home and that his son, Gus, had apparently committed suicide. That news prompted the close-knit Bath County community to respond to help family and friends cope with the unfolding and nearly unimaginable story that developed during the day.

One of the first responses of many in the community was to pray either individually or in small groups. Throughout the day, a number of folks stopped at Windy Cove to share their shock, grief, and prayers as more details of the event became known. Intense and anguished prayers ascended to God on behalf of Senator Deeds (known by most folks locally simply as Creigh) and the members of his family. Others moved to make themselves available to help with members of the immediate as well as the extended family. This outpouring of support will no doubt continue in the days ahead as the whole community tries to cope with this tragedy together.

This community grief and response come as a result of the deep roots that Creigh Deeds and his family have in Bath County. Creigh spent most of his life growing up in Bath County following several generations of his family here. After law school, he opened a law practice in Warm Springs and eventually became the Commonwealth's Attorney for Bath County. Later, he was elected as a Delegate to the General Assembly from the district which included Bath County before becoming a State Senator. In subsequent campaigns for Attorney General and Governor, Creigh always identified himself as a Bath County boy.

Our community will continue to look for useful ways to help and to heal under God's abiding care.

#### Take Note!

Bring your pennies on Sunday, Nov 24, for our Four Cents Hunger Offering

Session meets on Sunday, November 24, at lunch

Thanksgiving Service at Millboro Presbyterian on Sunday, Nov 24 at 7:30 p.m.

No *Weekly Word* next week, we will resume publication on December 5.

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Millboro, VA 24460  
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Requested

U. S. Postage  
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## Thanksgiving and Advent Approach

As the days of November slip away, the calendar tells us that Thanksgiving and Advent are fast approaching. Our Community Thanksgiving Worship is scheduled for Sunday evening, November 24, at 7:30 at Millboro Presbyterian Church. This community service has been observed in the Millboro area for more than 30 years. It evolved from a similar countywide service sponsored in the early 1980s by the Bath County Ministerial Association.

Advent begins this year on Sunday, December 1. Our theme for Advent is the Carols of Christmas. Each Sunday we will highlight one of the familiar Christmas carols. In addition to singing the carol, we will look in a deeper way at its message and examine where that message resonates with our Bible lesson.

Highlighted carols will include:

Dec 1, "O Little Town of Bethlehem,"

Dec 8, "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks,"

Dec 15, "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Dec 22, "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

Dec 24, "Silent Night, Holy Night" and

Dec 29, "Joy to the World." Along with these highlighted carols, we will have the opportunity to sing more of the familiar Christmas carols.

We will also have our Christmas program during the Advent season

on Sunday, December 15. Children and adults will present the Christmas story in a unique way for us. After worship that day, we will share a light lunch with a cake to celebrate the birthday of Jesus.

### Paul Prepares for Second Missionary Journey

At the end of Acts 15, Luke records Paul's preparation for his Second Missionary Journey. The preparation did not go smoothly. Instead, there was sharp conflict between Paul and Barnabas. Barnabas wanted to take his cousin John Mark with them, but Paul resisted that suggestion because John Mark had left them during their previous missionary journey.

In worship on Sunday, November 17, Windy Covians examined this dispute as they considered how God uses conflict to accomplish God's purposes. For example, as a result of the conflict between Paul and Barnabas, there were now two mission teams setting out from Antioch. One of these was led by Paul and one by Barnabas. Additionally, more people became involved as missionaries including Silas and Timothy. These trusted companions of Paul were crucial to his later ministry. The split of Paul and Barnabas also eventually sent Paul and his team into regions where he had previously not preached the gospel. So, God did use the conflict to further the Kingdom.

This pattern can also be seen throughout church history and in the lives of individual believers. Sunday's review did not answer the question of whether God causes conflict to achieve certain purposes, but it did establish that God does use conflict.

At the end of the lesson, the congregation considered some Biblical guidelines for turning conflict in a positive direction. First, don't pick a fight just to see how God can use the conflict that you create. Secondly, don't escalate the conflict. Remember, "A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger." Thirdly, don't believe that you are always in the right. That's why the Pharisees had so much conflict with Jesus. Even Paul, before his conversion, **knew** that he was right about God's will. Only, he wasn't! Finally, in the midst of conflict check your ideas, motives, and actions against God's Word in the Bible. Make sure that you are aligned with God direction and purposes.

### An Interesting Comparison

*(We thought this comparison was interesting enough to run for a second week just to make sure most of our readers had a chance to laugh before the end of football season, especially after Virginia Tech's up and down season.)*

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 . . . !