

Calendar of Ministries

✠ Saturday, February 1

Evening Prayers at 8

✠ Sunday, February 2

Sunday School at 9:45

Morning Worship at 11 celebrating the Lord's Supper

Community Teen Super Bowl Party at 6 p.m.

✠ Monday, February 3

Morning Prayers at 8

✠ Tuesday, February 4

Morning Prayers at 8

✠ Wednesday, February 5

Morning Prayers at 8

Bible Club at the High School, 8:08

Super Pantry at 11 at Windy Cove

Choir at 7 p.m.

✠ Thursday, February 6

Morning Prayers at 8

✠ Friday, February 7

Morning Prayers at 8

✠ Saturday, February 8

Movie Night at Windy Cove starts at

6:30, popcorn and drinks provided

Evening Prayers at 8

✠ Sunday, February 9

Sunday School at 9:45

Morning Worship at 11 as we continue our journey with the Apostle Paul

Teen Ski Trip to Snowshoe after Morning Worship

Some folks have wondered about our Super Pantry. Actually, it's a program sponsored by the Virginia Extension Service, not strictly by Windy Cove. Folks from the community are invited to a cooking class which emphasizes good nutrition. They fix a meal, eat together, and take home some extra food to share with their families.



The Weekly Word

Windy Cove Presbyterian Church

January 30, 2014

Congregation Rejoins Paul on Second Journey

After an interlude in worship for the season of Advent and Christmas, the Windy Cove Congregation rejoined the Apostle Paul on his Second Missionary Journey. When Barnabas and Paul returned from their first journey to Cypress and to several cities in Asia Minor (the modern nation of Turkey), they attended in Jerusalem the first general counsel of the Christian Church.

The leaders of the Church decided that those folks who were not Jewish but who heard and responded to the gospel would not have to become Jews before becoming Christians. Rather, the leaders sent a letter along with the missionaries encouraging new believers to refrain from idolatry and sexual immorality as they accepted God's grace and were welcomed into the Church. After this decision had been made, the local church in Antioch in Syria prepared to send out Barnabas and Paul on a second missionary journey.

However, Paul and Barnabas had a sharp disagreement about whether John Mark should go with them. Paul was against taking the young man since he had not completed the first

journey with them. So, Barnabas and John Mark set out for Cypress again while Paul and Silas went to Syria and Cilicia.

In Sunday's lesson the congregation used the Visual Bible to see how Paul encouraged Timothy to join the team when they passed through Lystra. After bringing Timothy onto the team, Paul intended to go into the province of Asia and then into Bithynia. In both cases, however, the Holy Spirit nudged Paul through the region of Mysia and on to the town of Troas. Troas sat on the coast of the Aegean Sea. So, Paul and his companions were faced with a decision: either go back the way they had come or cross over to Macedonia.

(Continued Inside)

Take Note!

February 2: Celebrating the Lord's Supper at Morning Worship

Teen Super Bowl Party at 6 p.m.

February 5: Super Pantry at 11 a.m. The Virginia Extension Service offers help with nutrition and healthy cooking.

February 8: Movie Night at the church begins at 6:30 with popcorn and drinks

February 9: Teen Ski Trip to Snowshoe following Morning Worship

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Paul (Cont.)

Two important things happened in Troas. First, Paul received a vision of the Man from Macedonia (either Philip II of Macedon or his son Alexander the Great) beckoning Paul to come to Macedonia. This vision convinced Paul that the Holy Spirit was calling the team forward to preach the gospel in Europe. Secondly, although not mentioned by name, the text in Acts 16:8-10 indicates that Luke joined Paul's missionary team there at Troas.

On Sunday, January 26, Mr. Sherard's message highlighted three aspects of this part of Paul's ministry. First, Paul was being led by the Holy Spirit. Before his conversion, Paul was led by his own understanding of who Jesus was and how dangerous Jesus was. After his conversion on the road to Damascus, Paul was filled with the Holy Spirit of Jesus. So, we see that, under the influence of the Spirit, Paul bypassed Asia and Bithynia and moved on to Troas and Macedonia. That picture of Paul gives us an outline of how our lives should be directed by the Holy Spirit. When we ask the Lord for direction through the Spirit's leading, he will answer our query.

Secondly, the addition of Luke to Paul's team has had enormous consequences for the history of Christianity. Luke wrote the two-volume work of Luke and Acts. Without Luke's record of the gospel, we would have missed so much of what

we now take for granted. For example, Luke alone records the visit of the shepherds to Bethlehem at Jesus' birth. Luke alone records the parables of the Good Samaritan and the Prodigal Son. Luke alone records the story of the penitent thief on the cross next to Jesus. In addition, the chronicles of Paul's missionary journeys are recorded only in Acts. The Church should be eternally grateful for Luke's contribution to the faith.

Finally, as Paul entered Europe in the area of Macedonia, he preached in Philippi. In Acts 16 we have the story of Lydia's response to the gospel. This story shows that Paul was not dismissive of women as some have claimed. Indeed, as with the ministry of Jesus, women played an important part in Paul's gospel ministry. Lydia, a business woman, plays a prominent role as Paul's first convert in Europe; and her home became Paul's base of operations in Philippi.

On Sunday, February 2, we will celebrate the Lord's Supper and consider another story from Philippi, that of the Philippian jailer.

Your Pennies Add Up!

It is amazing how pennies and other loose change as well as some dollar bills along with a few larger denominations can add up! On Sunday, January 26, we received our Four Cents a Meal Hunger Offering. We usually have the offering once a month, but generally we skip this

special offering in December because of other ministries that are going on at that time. So, Sunday's offering was perhaps two months' worth. Or more? Or maybe the Lord multiplied the offering. Regardless of the explanation, our Four Cents Offering last Sunday was \$261.50.

This money goes directly to support the monthly Food Pantry at Windy Cove. Food Pantry in one form or another has been a ministry of the church for more than 20 years. It's a partnership with the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank located in Verona where we get most of the food distributed at our local pantry.

To belong to the Food Bank, we pay an annual membership fee of \$50 and between 12 cents to 18 cents a pound for most of the food that we receive. Think about that figure a moment. If we get 100 pounds of potatoes one month, it only costs us about \$15. Or, perhaps we get 50 pounds of frozen turkey breasts for about \$7.50.

Actually, some items are free to the church because they come from the United States Department of Agriculture food program. These USDA commodities include such things as rice, oatmeal, orange juice, macaroni, spaghetti, and some canned vegetables. Sometimes even fresh fruit or vegetables are available. Once last year we got a bunch of watermelons!

The actual delivery of the food to our neighbors in Bath County usually occurs on the second Tuesday of each month at our Windy Cove Food Pantry. For many years the ministry was quite modest serving about 20 to 30 households each month. However, the ministry began to change about four years ago. The number of households that we serve has moved steadily upward to 40 to 60 and even beyond that number. Part of this increase can be attributed to the down turn in the economy. Another part is probably due to the fact that we have expanded our outreach to include all of Bath County.

For the past nine months or so, we have averaged 63 households per month which takes in an average of 140 people of all ages. One part of this ministry that we did not anticipate at the beginning was the number of elderly folks that we are able to serve. Our highest number of households and people came in December of 2013 when we had 76 households which included 192 people.

Besides your pennies (and dollars), we also have wonderful support for the Food Pantry from other area churches and folks not attending Windy Cove. We appreciate all of this support very much. In addition to monetary offerings, we also receive offerings in kind of household items other than food like soap, toothpaste, laundry detergent, etc.

(More on the Pantry next week)