

Calendar of Ministries

✠ Saturday, March 15

Evening Prayers at 8

✠ Sunday, March 16

Sunday School at 9:45

Morning Worship at 11

Teens meet at 5 at Millboro Elementary

✠ Monday, March 17

Morning Prayers at 8

Stepping Up Men's Study with supper at 6:30 and study to follow

✠ Tuesday, March 18

Morning Prayers at 8

✠ Wednesday, March 19

Morning Prayers at 8

Bible Club at the High School, 8:08

Choir at 7 p.m.

✠ Thursday, March 20

Morning Prayers at 8

✠ Friday, March 21

Morning Prayers at 8

✠ Saturday, March 22

Evening Prayers at 8

✠ Sunday, March 23

Sunday School at 9:45

Morning Worship at 11

Session meets for lunch after worship

Elder Sharon Sherrard has been available at the church on Saturday evenings for prayer from 8 until 9. If you need prayer or know someone who does, come pray with Sharon or contact her by email so that she can lift up your concerns before the Lord.

Healing prayer is also offered each Sunday in the sanctuary immediately after worship.



The Weekly Word

Windy Cove Presbyterian Church

March 13, 2014

Lent Begins in Earnest at Windy Cove

Lent began in earnest at Windy Cove on Ash Wednesday, March 5. A goodly portion of the congregation turned out for the evening service of repentance and forgiveness.

Worship began with the traditional evening hymn, "Day is Dying in the West." After a review of the history of Lent, the congregation focused on the Lenten theme: Like Sheep without a Shepherd. This theme arises from Luke 9:36, "Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he had compassion for them because they were troubled and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd." Mr. Sherrard's brief message emphasized the truth that all are in need of the compassion of the shepherd. And Jesus, as the Good Shepherd, has the power to bring physical, emotional, and spiritual health to his flock. To impress this message on their lives, the worshipers sang "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us."

The congregation then turned to penitent prayer using a Litany of Penitence to focus their prayers. After each petition, those praying paused to consider their own lives in light of that particular petition. After praying

together in this fashion, the people sang three verses of "Just as I Am without One Plea." While pianist Tammy Lindsay kept playing quietly, worshipers came forward to hear words of forgiveness and to receive the sign of the cross in ashes on the back of the hand.

The service concluded with the last verse of "Just as I Am" followed by the Doxology and the Benediction from Hebrews 13:20 which highlights Jesus' ministry as "the great shepherd of the sheep."

Lent continued at Windy Cove with the First Sunday of Lent on March 9. A new order of service that day included the Sounding of the Hour with three strikes on our church bell. Each

(Continued Inside)

Take Note!

March 16: Second Sunday of Lent with our theme, Like Sheep without a Shepherd. We will look at the Second Beatitude from Matthew 5: Blessed are those who mourn for they shall be comforted.

March 16: Teen Group at Millboro Elementary at 5 p.m.

March 17: Stepping Up Men's Bible Study will meet for supper and fellowship at 6:30 with Bible study to follow

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Lent (Cont.)

strike called to mind one person of the Trinity: God our Father, Jesus our Savior, and the Holy Spirit our Counselor. This unusual Call to Worship was followed by the traditional Trinitarian hymn, “Holy, Holy, Holy.”

Worship tied together the Lenten theme (Like Sheep without a Shepherd) with Jesus’ instructions from the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5-7. Our focus on Sunday was the first beatitude: Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessing or blessedness or beatitude is a Biblical concept that is somewhat difficult to get into English. To be “blessed” means to live a meaningful and fulfilling life the way that God intended for human beings to live. Blessing is a joyful embracing of God and the life that God has provided. Blessing includes a deep sense of satisfaction that a person’s life has meaning and is well lived.

In this first beatitude, Jesus says that the “poor in spirit” have such a blessing as part of the Kingdom of Heaven (or Kingdom of God). Again, “poor in spirit” is often misunderstood. That phrase indicates those who are conscious of a desperate need for God and turn to God for the help that he has to offer. The problem with many folks is not that they do not know about God or even know God casually; the problem is that they do not realize how badly they really need God. Those who do

recognize such a need are the ones Jesus says are truly blessed.

Our Lenten focus will continue on Sunday, March 16, as we consider the Second Beatitude: Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Eagle Scout Project

After Morning Worship on March 9, Alex Cambata gave the congregation an overview of his Eagle Scout Project. Alex’s project had been to map and record the information on the tombstones of the old Windy Cove Cemetery adjacent to the church. Alex made his record both in digital and paper format.

Each stone was numbered and photographed and plotted on aerial and longitudinal pictures of the cemetery. These pictures were then linked to the recordable information taken from the stones and placed in a small database. Eventually, this information will be made available online for people who may be searching for ancestors who once resided and may be buried in our area.

Alex must next present his project for approval to the governing scout council who will decide its worth. This council has the power then to grant Alex the honor of becoming an Eagle Scout. When Alex receives the council’s approval, an official ceremony will be held to recognize that he has reached this highest level of scout rank.

Scout Master, Dr. Jim Reddington, was present on Sunday to commend Alex for his work and to thank the congregation for their involvement. Mr. Sherrard also thanked Alex for his project which should prove very useful for those who often do contact the church seeking information about family members.

Soup and Sandwiches

Sunday, March 9, also included a fellowship lunch after worship. The Fellowship Hall was filled with more than 50 folks who enjoyed the wide variety of soups and sandwiches that had been prepared. One noticeable feature of the meal was the crowded dessert table, crowded both with the number of desserts and crowded with the number of people sampling those desserts!

This fellowship meal was part of the ongoing ministry of the Session’s Fellowship and Service Ministry Team. That Team aims to provide at least one opportunity each month for the congregation to get together in a more informal atmosphere.

Stepping Up

The men’s Bible study, Stepping Up, resumed on Monday evening, March 10, following the postponement on March 3 because of snow. There are eleven men now enrolled in the study team. So far the men have been studying what it means to be a man and how men can live courageous Christian lives.

Much of the study comes through video presentations followed by individual and group reflection and discussion. The variety of men on the study team has made for interesting insight into the process of becoming a fully engaged adult man.

Last week, for example, the men talked about today’s familiar occurrence of delayed adolescence. It once was the case in our culture that young people growing up had a good sense of who they were and where they were going by the time they reached the ages of 18 to 20. Now as one person put it on a video presentation, “We have a lot of grown up boys masquerading as men.”

The study team members also talked about courage. They thought through the question, “What is the most courageous thing that you have ever done?” After thinking about their own answers to that question, the men had the opportunity to hear some suggested answers from a video presentation.

One pastor likened courage to stepping out on a ledge while climbing a mountain. He then gave some scenarios in a normal person’s life where courage might be required. For example, suppose a boss suggests doing something unethical or illegal. Suppose a company offers a promotion that will cause damage to family life. Suppose a spouse suggests praying together. Courage may be required!