

Calendar of Ministries

✠ Saturday, March 22

Evening Prayers at 8

✠ Sunday, March 23

Sunday School at 9:45

Morning Worship at 11

Session meets for lunch

Movie Night in Waynesboro at 7

✠ Monday, March 24

Morning Prayers at 8

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

✠ Tuesday, March 25

Morning Prayers at 8

✠ Wednesday, March 26

Morning Prayers at 8

Bible Club at the High School, 8:08

Choir at 7 p.m.

✠ Thursday, March 27

Morning Prayers at 8

✠ Friday, March 28

Morning Prayers at 8

✠ Saturday, March 29

Evening Prayers at 8

✠ Sunday, March 30

Sunday School at 9:45

Morning Worship at 11

Haiti Team Meeting at 5 p.m.

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 20, 2014

Why Was Jesus Crying?

On the second Sunday of Lent, the Windy Cove Congregation considered Jesus' beatitude, "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted." This blessing comes from Matthew 5:4 at the beginning of Jesus' famous Sermon on the Mount.

The congregation examined this truth of God's word by looking at the two scenes where the Bible says that Jesus wept. In John 11:35 Jesus cried outside the tomb of Lazarus, the brother of Mary and Martha. On another occasion, as Jesus looked out upon the city of Jerusalem, Luke tells us that Jesus wept for those in the city. Finding out just why Jesus was crying can help people understand Jesus' blessing of those who mourn.

First, Jesus weeps **for us** as human beings. In his compassion for people, Jesus realizes that they are "troubled and helpless" (Matthew 9:36); and he grieves because of their human condition. Beside an open grave or outside a tomb, people are touched by the frailty of human life as Jesus was. Truly our lives are fragile at best. We can flourish one day and be cast down or even be gone the next. It is that characteristic of human life that Jesus grieves over.

However, Jesus weeps for us in another sense. The Bible makes clear that Jesus takes our place in order to give us the opportunity to be reconciled to God. Jesus takes upon himself the shame, guilt, grief, and punishment that we should rightly bear because of our human sinfulness. In Biblical terms Jesus becomes the sacrifice for our sins. So, he weeps for us.

Secondly, when Jesus cries, he cries **with us**. The Bible is very clear that Jesus was truly God but also truly human. Jesus came as Emmanuel, that is, God with us. Hebrews elaborates on this idea by saying, "Jesus understands every weakness of ours, because he was tempted in every way

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Take Note!

March 23: Third Sunday of Lent with our theme, Like Sheep without a Shepherd. We will look at the Third Beatitude from Matthew 5: Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

March 23: Movie Night in Waynesboro, caravan leaves the church at 4:30

March 24: 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.)

that we are. But he did not sin!" So, by the presence of God's Holy Spirit, Jesus continues to stand with us in the midst of our grief. We can count on Jesus to bring us comfort as he weeps with us.

Though it seems strange that Jesus would pronounce blessing upon those who are mourning, that blessing arises from Jesus' place as the one who is both for us and with us in the midst of our suffering.

On Sunday, March 23, the congregation will continue with Jesus' blessings as they look at the Third Beatitude: Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

God Is Not Dead

More than 20 people from Windy Cove have signed up to go to the movies together on Sunday evening, March 23. The movie is a new release called God Is Not Dead. Some of these Windy Covians will have supper together before arriving at the theater in Waynesboro prior to the 7 o'clock showing of the film.

God Is Not Dead is another indication that Hollywood and other movie producers have taken note that there is a strong audience for healthy, clean, even Christian-oriented movies. Another film, Son of God, has also shown surprising strength at the box office. Maybe these films are also a testimony to the faithful prayers of Christians.

Website Improvements

Sharon Sherrard has spent time in recent weeks upgrading and updating our Windy Cove Website. Sharon has changed some of the format and updated the calendar. She also did the work in the background which will allow the church to post all editions of our *Weekly Word* in the PDF format.

Mr. Sherrard has been systematically entering issues of the *Weekly Word* beginning with current ones and working backwards. He says it's a slow process because he likes to stop at each issue and read what was going on! Check it all out at www.windycovechurch.org.

Haiti 2014

The Windy Cove Mission Team for 2014 has set Sunday, March 30, as the date for their first orientation meeting. This 2014 Team consists of eleven people from a variety of backgrounds and ages. Members include Russ and Ryan Woodzell, Greg, Carol, and Emily Martin, A. J. Boguess, Jackson Retzlaff, Gary Nair, Mikayla Miller, and team leaders April Miller and Rob Sherrard.

Those returning to Haiti include Russ, Ryan, Gary, Mikayla, April, and Rob. First-time folks are Greg, Carol, A. J., and Jackson. Emily Martin joins the Windy Cove Team for the first time. However, Emily has spent the last year teaching school in Haiti. She is the daughter of Greg and Carol Martin. Emily will be in Haiti at

the time of our summer mission trip, and she will join the team when they arrive at the airport in Port-au-Prince. Emily's parents have been neighbors for years to Windy Covians Tammy and Keith Lindsay. Carol has often attended special services at Windy Cove to support Tammy and the Windy Cove Choir.

A. J. Boguess represents the Warm Springs Presbyterian Church which has been helpful with the Haiti Ministry for several years. Jackson Retzlaff is a senior at Bath County High School and joins fellow seniors, Mikayla Miller and Ryan Woodzell on the team. April and Rob are delighted to have such a variety of experience on the 2014 Team.

The team will fly from Washington to Miami on Monday, July 7, and travel on to Haiti the following morning. Most of the team will return on Tuesday, July 15. However, April and Mikayla will spend an extra week in Haiti helping to orient a new team from Connections Community Church from Inwood, WV. Members of Connections were part of Windy Cove's 2012 Mission Team, and Rob Sherrard's cousin is a lay pastor at Connections.

Our Windy Cove Mission Team will again work through the Haiti Education Foundation with Notre Dame School. We will continue to raise scholarships for the children to stay in school. We will also hold a mini-Bible School at Notre Dame and build school benches for Notre

Dame and other schools supported by the Haiti Education Foundation.

During 2013 Windy Cove also raised offerings for a feeding program at Notre Dame. Through the Haiti Education Foundation, that feeding program is now being implemented at the school. It should be in place for the last part of this school year and will be ready for the next school year which begins in September.

People and Prayers

We have seen some recent answers to our prayers at Windy Cove. Our Windy Cove Choir prayed for member Betty Haddix one Wednesday, and she testified the next Sunday that the pain in her neck was completely gone. Mary Durham is at the Springs Nursing Center, hoping to rejoin Alvin. We had an excellent report last Sunday that Jerry Bradley had spent part of a day at home following his extended stay in critical condition at UVA Hospital and in rehab at the Brian Center. Mr. Bradley's day at home was a trial run looking toward a time when he can return home for good.

Several weeks ago Mr. Sherrard spoke to Jerry's brother Terry who thanked him for the prayers at Windy Cove. As Terry put it, "When the chief heart specialist at UVA says a person is not going to make it, and then he does. You know that there is something going on." We are grateful to the Lord for this special care and for the opportunity to pray.