

Calendar of Ministries

✠ Thursday, October 2

Morning Prayers at 8
Mr. Sherrard's college classes meet at 11 and at 2

✠ Friday, October 3

Morning Prayers at 8

✠ Saturday, October 4

Evening Prayers at 8

✠ Sunday, October 5

Sunday School at 9:45, special lesson on Islam and Christianity
Morning Worship at 11 celebrating Communion on World Communion Day followed by grave marker dedication in the cemetery
Teen Grad School at 5 p.m. at Millboro Elementary

✠ Monday, October 6

Morning Prayers at 8
Vision Group at 7:30 p.m.

✠ Tuesday, October 7

Morning Prayers at 8
Mr. Sherrard's college classes meet at 11 and at 2

✠ Wednesday, October 8

Bible Club at the High School at 8:08
Morning Prayers at 8
Choir at 7 p.m.

✠ Thursday, October 9

Morning Prayers at 8

✠ Friday, October 10

Morning Prayers at 8

✠ Saturday, October 11

Evening Prayers at 8

✠ Sunday, October 12

Pancake Breakfast at 9
Sunday School at 9:45
Morning Worship at 11



The Weekly Word

Windy Cove Presbyterian Church
October 2, 2014

Sunday School Class Draws a Crowd

For the past two Sundays, our Adult Sunday School Class has had between twenty and thirty participants. Their presence shows the high interest at the present time in learning more about the similarities and differences between Islam and Christianity. The class discussed a number of relevant topics on September 28.

First, the class noted the historical development of the two main groups of Muslims: the Sunnis and Shias. Their separation into different sects of the same religion began in 632 AD at the death of Muhammad, the founder of Islam. Muhammad had not publically designated his successor, and his own sons had not survived to maturity. Two candidates claimed authority as the rightful successor to Muhammad. These two were Ali (Muhammad's cousin and son-in-law) and Abu Bakr (Muhammad's father-in-law).

Eventually, the majority of Muslims followed Abu Bakr, and they became known as Sunni Muslims. Sunnis comprise about 80% of the Muslim community. The minority group followed Ali and became known as Shia Muslims. Shias comprise about 10 to 15% of the contemporary Muslim

community. Much of the current turmoil in the Middle East owes to this historical separation. Shias often view themselves as persecuted by majority Sunnis and place a high value on martyrdom for the faith.

Another issue which the class addressed was that of "jihad." Jihad is the Arabic word for "struggle." This idea is open to many levels of interpretation. The basic idea comes from the main tenet of Islam: that a good Muslim must submit to the will of God. Jihad is this view is the internal struggle to willingly submit to the will of God. Christians might characterize this struggle as the fight to resist temptation and remain true to the teachings of Jesus and the Bible.

(Continued Inside)

Take Note!

October 5

World Communion Day
Dedication of a grave marker after worship, see story inside
Teen Grad School at 5 p.m.

October 12

Pancake Breakfast at 9 a.m.

October 13

Projected start of Men's Bible Study

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Sunday School (Cont.)

However, other levels of meaning for jihad include struggle and violence against people and nations. Some limit such violence to what might be called acceptable rules of war such as responding to an unprovoked attack and protecting women and children during battle. Of course, still others use the term jihad as an excuse for wanton violence of any sort. Interestingly, just in the past several weeks, a number of Muslim leaders have condemned the violence of the group proclaiming itself the Islamic State or ISIS. For example, King Abdullah of Jordan declared on the CBS Evening News that the name of ISIS did not ever belong in the same sentence with Islam. He went on to explain that ISIS adherents were not truly Islamic in any sense of the word.

The class then turned to a discussion of the main practices of Islam. These practices are often called the Five Pillars. They include the daily statement of faith, prayer, fasting, being generous to the poor, and a pilgrimage to Mecca. On Sunday, October 5, we will resume our discussion of these and other aspects of Islam and how it differs from Christianity. Join the crowd of eager learners.

Sunday School begins at 9:45 with a brief opening. Then, students disperse to their classes. We also have some light refreshments to enhance the fellowship of those attending. Hope to see you there next Sunday.

World Communion Day

Morning Worship on October 5 will include a celebration of the Lord's Supper to join Christians around the globe on World Communion Day. This yearly celebration reminds us that all Christians are connected not only to the Lord Jesus but also to each other. Since the congregation has resumed travels with Paul, our Bible lesson on Sunday will come from 1 Corinthians 1:26-31 about God's wisdom.

Last Sunday worshipers looked together at Paul's stay in Ephesus during his Third Missionary Journey. While Paul was in Ephesus, an incredible revival broke out in the city. People began turning to Jesus. God confirmed the gospel with amazing miracles. People repented of past sins even bringing their valuable books of witchcraft to burn in a fire.

However, the passage from Acts 19 reveals that revival also includes a number of things that may disturb the status quo of traditional believers. First, there was much opposition to Paul's preaching of the gospel of Jesus. Secondly, revival inevitably involved change. Paul had to move from the synagogue to a lecture hall to keep on preaching. Also, the revelation of God's awesome power may create an uneasy feeling of alarm or awe or reverence that can be disturbing.

Windy Covians were questioned whether or not they really did want revival to come. What about you?

Windy Cove History

During and after worship on Sunday, October 5, the congregation will be involved with some Windy Cove history. For quite a few years, Windy Covians have watched one of our big maple trees engulf one of the tombstones in our cemetery at the church. Last summer Mr. Sherrard found out that a member of the deceased woman's family had also been watching as the tree encircled the stone.

Steve McDonald made an appointment to meet Mr. Sherrard to review the situation. Steve and Rob had a delightful conversation about the history of the church and the problem with the stone. Steve is the great, great grandson of Harriet Byron Cook McDannald (Notice that one of the "ns" has dropped out of the name over the years.) who is the lady buried beneath our maple tree. Steve has had the idea for some time of placing a new marker on the grave when the current headstone became too difficult to read.

Steve and Rob agreed on a place for the marker last summer; and since that time, Steve has been in contact with Rob about a family celebration at Windy Cove to set the new marker in the ground. So, on Sunday, October 5, Steve and quite a few members of his family will be present for worship at Windy Cove. Following worship we will have a brief ceremony to thank God for the McDonald family and to dedicate the new marker.

Coming Attractions

We are looking forward to a number of exciting opportunities coming soon. Sunday, October 5, will be our first evening for the Teen Grad School to meet. The teens have been gathering at the High School for Bible Club, but Sunday's gathering will be the first of regular Grad School. Teen Grad School meets on the first and third Sundays of the month at Millboro Elementary School at 5 p.m.

On Sunday, October 12, the congregation will fellowship together at breakfast beginning at 9 a.m. Pancakes and sausage are part of the menu of the day. Rob Sherrard will be behind the griddle flipping his family-famous Sunday Morning Buttermilk Pancakes.

Mr. Sherrard is planning a Men's Bible Study to begin around the 13th of October. The study will include supper at 6:30 with Bible Study to follow around 7 p.m. The focus of the study will be passages from the Bible that the men want to explore in a deeper way. If you have a passage that has specifically intrigued you, now is the time to gain some more insight.

On October 25th the Maury River Mission Community will host a leadership training event at New Monmouth Presbyterian Church. Topics relevant to elders, deacons, and other church leaders will be discussed. Mr. Sherrard will lead a unit on essential ministries of the church.