

Calendar of Ministries

✠ Thursday, December 4

Morning Prayers at 8

✠ Friday, December 5

Morning Prayers at 8

✠ Saturday, December 6

Evening Prayers at 8

✠ Sunday, December 7, Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday School at 9:45

Session meets before Worship

Morning Worship at 11 focusing on the Wise Men

Teen Group at Millboro Elementary at 5

✠ Monday, December 8

Morning Prayers at 8

✠ Tuesday, December 9

Morning Prayers at 8

Food Pantry, 1:30 to 4 p.m.

✠ Wednesday, December 10

Morning Prayers at 8

Bible Club at the High School at 8:08

Choir at 7 p.m.

✠ Thursday, December 11

Morning Prayers at 8

✠ Friday, December 12

Morning Prayers at 8

✠ Saturday, December 13

Evening Prayers at 8

✠ Sunday, December 14, First Sunday of Advent

Sunday School at 9:45

Morning Worship at 11 focusing on Anna the prophet

Jean Plecker had surgery in Roanoke on December 2 to remove a growth from her back. Pray for healing.



The Weekly Word

**Windy Cove Presbyterian Church
December 4, 2014**

Advent Begins with Isaiah

The season of Advent began at Windy Cove on Sunday, November 30, focused on the prophet Isaiah. The lesson on Isaiah was the first of a series entitled Perspectives on Advent and Christmas which will continue each Sunday until its conclusion at the service on Christmas Eve.

On Sunday the material on Isaiah was presented as a playlet. The first two scenes portrayed a young boy (Camden Wagoner) speaking with the old prophet Isaiah (Rob Sherrard). The youngster encouraged Isaiah to remember when he was young. As Isaiah did so, he regained some of the vigor of his earlier life.

First, Isaiah remembers his call from the Lord found in Isaiah 6. His vision of the glory of the Lord motivated the rest of his ministry over a period of about 40 years in the 700s B.C. Next, at the boy's urging, Isaiah remembers a message that he delivered to King Ahaz in the midst of a crisis in Jerusalem. That message included the familiar prophecy found in Isaiah 7:14 that a virgin would conceive and bear a child who would be a sign to Ahaz. This prophecy found its ultimate fulfillment many years later when Jesus was born to Mary.

As the playlet continued on Sunday, the young boy had to return home leaving Isaiah to his musings. At that point, a young girl (Sarah Eaton) enters carrying a small sheep doll in her arms. She inquires about the prophet's reflections. Isaiah first tells her of the bleak times that Judah had faced during his career. However, he recounts for her the amazing messianic prophecy in Isaiah 9 in which God promised to send an enlightened ruler to his people. This leader would be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, and the Prince of Peace.

In the last scene, Isaiah notices the lamb doll. He tells the little girl that one day, "The wolf will lie down with
(Continued Inside)

Take Note!

Perspectives on Advent and Christmas continue each Sunday in Worship

Dec 7—Elders ordained and installed, Fellowship Lunch after Worship

Dec 9—Monthly Food Pantry at 1:30

Dec 24—Christmas Eve Worship at 7:30

Dec 28—Elder Sonny Clark to lead worship

Dec 31—Watch Night Worship at 10:30

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Advent (Cont.)

the lamb.” She protests that her family has to protect their sheep from the wolves. Isaiah proclaims to her the prophecy found in Isaiah 11 indicating that a whole new order of nature will one day be evident in the Kingdom of God and that a little child would lead even dangerous animals. She exclaims that she would love to see such a day, and Isaiah prays that she will be the one to see that new order of existence.

After the playlet was finished, Mr. Sherrard engaged the congregation in conversation about the impact of waiting. Just as Isaiah faithfully waited for the first coming of Jesus; so do we wait for Jesus’ second coming and for the complete fulfillment of some of the promises that Isaiah proclaimed centuries ago.

On December 7 we will continue Perspectives on Advent and Christmas with a look at one of the Magi or Wise Men. We will again see several scenes played out to recall this part of the story to our minds.

Birthday Celebration

As the football commentators sometimes say, we had a little bit of “trickeration” (or trickery if you prefer) going on the last few weeks at Windy Cove. As you have been reading for several weeks in the *Weekly Word* and the Sunday bulletins, we are having a Fellowship Lunch on Sunday, December 7 following worship. What he didn’t tell you, because it

was a secret until last Sunday, was that we are going to help the Shanks family celebrate Leo Shanks’ 80th birthday at the lunch.

Leo’s family has been planning the surprise for about a month, but they did not want to reveal it until the week before the actual event. So, on Sunday during the announcements, we confessed that we were going to honor a special person at the lunch. In our slides on the wall, we first showed a school picture of Leo. It actually looked quite a bit like Leo’s great-grandsons. For those who still didn’t recognize Leo, we had another picture of a young married couple (Leo and Emma Jean) with children. Finally, we had a more recent picture of Leo with a deer he had bagged.

We hope that you will join Leo, Emma Jean, and their family as we celebrate Leo’s birthday. We are having a potato bar with the trimmings along with birthday cake. So, there is no need to bring anything. Just come for the celebration and fellowship.

Elders to be Ordained

Our new elders for the Class of 2017 will be ordained and installed on Sunday, December 7.

Tammy Lindsay and Bruce Cambata will be ordained as elders. They will then be installed on the Session along with Mary Margaret King and Jon Eaton who have previously been ordained.

Angel Tree and Mailbox

Sharon Madison reports that our Angel Tree Ministry had a wonderful start on Sunday, November 30. Sixteen ornaments were picked off the tree from the wide variety of ministries represented there. There were actually 11 different types of ministry with several categories that needed more than one “angel” to contribute to the success. We do still have two local adults on the tree who would be a blessing for someone who appreciates caring for the needs of a particular person.

In addition, the Christmas mailbox will be available on Sunday, December 7, to receive the cards you plan to send to someone in our worshiping congregation. This ministry of fellowship and service has proved popular over the last several years. Just bring your cards addressed to the person or family that you intend to receive them. If you have them here at church by December 20, we will sort them and distribute them to their recipients on Sunday, December 21. By the way, our postage is free!

Food Pantry and More

We were supposed to have the area Food Truck on December 2, but the visit was postponed by bad weather until December 4 at 11. There is no need to pre-qualify for the Food Truck. It’s simply a helping hand to those who come. Our regular local Food Pantry will meet on December 9 from 1:30 to 4 p.m.

We recently received a reprint of an article from the Washington Post through our area Food Bank. It’s thought-provoking and gives a different perspective on poverty. We believed you might benefit from it, so we will reprint parts over the next few weeks.

This is What Happened When I Drove my Mercedes to Pick Up Food Stamps

By Darlena Cunha

Sara Bareillis played softly through the surround-sound speakers of my husband’s 2003 Mercedes Kompressor as I sat idling at a light. I’d never been to this church before, but I could see it from where I was, across from an old park, abandoned in the chilly September air. The clouds hung low as I pulled the sleek, pewter machine into the lot. But I wasn’t going to pray or attend services. I was picking up food stamps.

Even then, I couldn’t quite believe it. This wasn’t supposed to happen to people like me. I grew up in a white, affluent suburb, where failure seemed harder than success. In college, I studied biology and journalism. I worked for good money at a local hospital, which afforded me the opportunity to network at journalism conferences. That’s how I landed my first news job as an associate producer in Hartford, Conn. I climbed the ladder quickly, free to work any hours in any location for any pay. I moved from market to market, always achieving a better title, a better salary. Succeeding.

[It sounds like an ideal life gone awry. See what happens as we continue Darlena’s story next week.]