

Calendar of Ministries

✠ Friday, February 13

Morning Prayers at 8

✠ Saturday, February 14

Happy Valentine's Day!

Shenandoah Presbytery meets at Westminster Church in Waynesboro

Evening Prayers at 8

✠ Sunday, February 15

Sunday School at 9:45 with an informal gathering for discussion

Morning Worship at 11

Teens at Millboro Elementary at 5 p.m.

✠ Monday, February 16

Morning Prayers at 8

✠ Tuesday, February 17

Morning Prayers at 8

Millboro Presbyterian is sponsoring a pancake supper, 4-7 with donations to go to Relay for Life

✠ Wednesday, February 18

Morning Prayers at 8

Bible Club at the High School at 8:08

Choir at 7 p.m. followed at 7:30 by Ash Wednesday Worship

✠ Thursday, February 19

Morning Prayers at 8

✠ Friday, February 20

Morning Prayers at 8

✠ Saturday, February 21

Evening Prayers at 8

✠ Sunday, February 22

Sunday School at 9:45 with an informal gathering for discussion

Morning Worship at 11

Teen Ski Trip after worship

Session meets for lunch and then with the Presbytery Listening Response Team at 1:30



The Weekly Word

**Windy Cove Presbyterian Church
February 12, 2015**

Good Advice

On Sunday, February 8, worshipers at Windy Cove began a two-Sunday study of Paul's advice to Timothy found in 2 Timothy 3:10-17. Paul wrote this letter of advice and encouragement to his young assistant, Timothy. Timothy was facing significant challenges as he ministered to the Christians in Ephesus.

These challenges originated both from inside the church as well as from outside the community of faith. As Paul well knew, Christians were being blamed by Roman authorities for missteps by their Emperor Nero. Around 66 AD Paul himself had been returned to prison in Rome after having been released from an earlier period of house arrest there.

At the same time inside the emerging Christian church, there were the beginnings of a challenge to accepted apostolic teaching and authority. This early challenge to the teaching of the apostles later became a fully developed heresy called Gnosticism. In numerous places in the New Testament, we see warnings about this early form of false teaching.

In 2 Timothy 3 Paul reminds Timothy of the witness Paul has given in living the life of a committed follower

of Jesus following Paul's conversion. Paul especially emphasizes how his life has shown that commitment even under the strain of persecution. Paul reminds Timothy that he was steadfast in faith even when times were very hard.

Paul goes on to tell Timothy that the faith in Jesus Christ that he is living out is not some new teaching but rather is solidly grounded in the Holy Scriptures (the Hebrew Bible and the developing writings of the apostles). Paul says that these authoritative witnesses to Jesus were inspired by God himself. God breathed life into these writings as he called people to record God's own activity and counsel with the people he claimed as his own.

(Continued Inside)

Take Note!

Feb 15—first of the informal gatherings in Sunday School to discuss denominational issues and the process for discernment begins at 9:45

Feb 17—Millboro Presbyterian Church sponsors a pancake supper from 4 to 7 with donations to benefit Relay for Life

Feb 18—Evening worship at 7:30, Prayer and Penitence on Ash Wednesday

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Advice (Cont.)

This message of Paul on the authority and utility of the written Word of God has been passed down in our Presbyterian Church through its historic confessions. The congregation reviewed a sample of these confessions on Sunday including:

The Scots Confession

As we believe and confess the Scriptures of God sufficient to instruct and make perfect the man of God, so do we affirm and avow their authority to be from God, and not to depend on men or angels.

The Westminster Confession of Faith

After naming the 66 books of the Old and New Testaments:

All which are given by inspiration of God, to be the rule of faith and life.

The Supreme Judge, by which all controversies of religion are to be determined, and all decrees of councils, opinion of ancient writers, doctrines of men, and private spirits, are to be examined, and in whose sentence we are to rest, can be no other but the Holy Spirit speaking in the Scripture.

The Theological Declaration of Barmen

If you find that we are speaking contrary to Scripture, then do not listen to us! But if you find that we are taking our stand upon Scripture, then let no fear or temptation keep you from treading with us the path

of faith and obedience to the Word of God, in order that God's people be of one mind upon earth and that we in faith experience what he himself has said: "I will never leave you, nor forsake you."

We reject the false doctrine, as though the church were permitted to abandon the form of its message and order to its own pleasure or to changes in prevailing ideological and political convictions.

As further illustration, Mr. Sherrard highlighted the vow he had taken when first ordained as a Ruling Elder at Peace Covenant Presbyterian Church in Key West, FL:

Do you believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God, the only infallible rule of faith and practice?

In effect Paul was reminding Timothy that Christians should not be carried about by the latest theological trend or by pressure from secular authorities. Instead, Paul admonished Timothy to stand firm in the accepted faith passed down from generation to generation and embodied in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

On Sunday, February 15, worship will highlight the concluding part of Paul's advice to Timothy, "Everything in the Scriptures is God's Word. All of it is useful for teaching and helping people and for correcting them and showing them how to live. The Scriptures train God's servants to do all kinds of good deeds."

Season of Lent

Although the celebration of Advent and Christmas seems just to have passed, it is true that the season of Lent begins next week on Ash Wednesday, February 18. Of course, the beginning of Lent varies from year to year with the variation in the date for celebrating Easter.

Church history reveals that long ago the western part of the Christian Church decided to celebrate Easter on the first Sunday after the first full moon following the spring equinox. Since the equinox comes each year on March 21/22, Easter is determined by the next full moon and its following Sunday. Then, we count 40 days back from Easter (not including Sundays) to find the start of Lent.

We will begin our observance of Lent with an evening service of Prayer and Penitence on Wednesday, the 18th, at 7:30. Our theme for the seven weeks of Lent will be the Majesty of the Son Jesus. Each time that we meet for worship during Lent, we will examine a descriptive phrase from Hebrews 1:1-3. Each of these phrases describes in some way the majesty of Jesus. Ash Wednesday's emphasis will include a reflection on the first part of our passage:

Long ago God spoke many times and in many ways to our ancestors through the prophets. And now in these final days, He has spoken to us through His Son.

Since God has spoken, what did Jesus say?

On February 17, our sister church, Millboro Presbyterian will offer a traditional pancake supper in support of the local Relay for Life cancer event. Supper will be served from 4 until 7 that evening, and take-out is also available. All donations will go toward Relay for Life.

Haiti Mission Team

After seeking team members for a month, the 2015 Haiti Mission Team remains small in number. Pastor Rob Sherrard indicates that at present the team consists of 5 people. This number includes 2 women and 3 men. Our teams usually have 10 to 12 members. So, there are plenty of places to be filled on the team.

The dates for the mission adventure are July 6 through July 14. The proposed schedule includes flying from Washington, D.C. through Miami to Port-au-Prince, Haiti. The team will spend the first five days at Grande Colline in the mountains of Haiti. Team members will build school benches, conduct a mini-Bible School at Notre Dame School, and renew friendships with the folks we work with in Haiti. The last two days will be spent at the Moulin Sur Mer retreat center reflecting on our trip.

If you hear a call to join this ministry, get in touch with Rob Sherrard right away. Airline tickets are always the most expensive part of the trip, and the sooner they are ordered the less expensive they will be. So, pray about your involvement and make the call when the Lord prompts you!