

Calendar of Ministries

✝ **Friday, February 27**

Morning Prayers at 8

✝ **Saturday, February 28**

Evening Prayers at 8

✝ **Sunday, March 1**

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

Morning Worship at 11 with The Majesty of the Son Jesus

Session meets for lunch after worship

Teens meet at Millboro Elementary at 5

✝ **Monday, March 2**

Morning Prayers at 8

✝ **Tuesday, March 3**

Morning Prayers at 8

✝ **Wednesday, March 4**

Morning Prayers at 8

Bible Club at the High School at 8:08

Choir at 7 p.m.

✝ **Thursday, March 5**

Morning Prayers at 8

✝ **Friday, March 6**

Morning Prayers at 8

✝ **Saturday, March 7**

Evening Prayers at 8

✝ **Sunday, March 8**

Sunday School at 9:45

Morning Worship at 11

Teens ski at Snowshoe?

Devotional books for Lent and Easter will be in the vestibule on March 1. Pick up your copy to enhance your experience with God during this special season of the year.



The Weekly Word

**Windy Cove Presbyterian Church
February 26, 2015**

So Beautiful, Yet . . .

While it was falling so gently from the sky, the snow of this past weekend was so beautiful. Yet, because we are used to getting out and going and because some things in our lives don't stop just because it snows, the snow caused a few problems in tranquil Millboro Springs.

Let's first remember some of the beauty. Since the temperature hovered in the mid-teens most of Saturday, the snow had a crystalline quality to it. At times, it was like tiny, sparkling diamonds floating down to the ground. With a little wind blowing, these snow diamonds flitted here and there before finding a resting place on the earth.

The little bit of wind also made for some elegant banks of snow on the ground. As the individual flakes settled in, the graceful peaks and slopes and curves built up on cars and fences, and window sills. This architecture of God had a heavenly beauty to it.

Although it did certainly snow hard at times, there was still a peaceful calm in the midst of the storm. It was as if the quiet of God had descended for a day saying again, "Be still and know that I am God."

For those who were out early on Sunday morning, there was the blessing of the bright sun and beautiful blue sky accompanied by the reflection off the snow which had covered most everything in sight. Yes, it was beautiful indeed!

On the other hand, there was **a lot of snow** that fell on Millboro Springs. Snow totals always depend on location, but here in Millboro Springs we had around 15 inches of accumulation. That total includes the icy crust on the snow which resulted from the little bit of rainy sleet that fell as the storm departed our area.

Such an amount made for an interesting Sunday morning. Our VDOT workers and contract snow removers
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Take Note!

Mar 1—second of the informal gatherings in Sunday School to discuss denominational issues and the process for discernment begins at 9:45

Mar 1—Lenten worship centers on The Majesty of the Son Jesus, read Hebrews 1:1-3 to prepare

Mar 1—Session meets for lunch and with the Listening Response Team at 1:30

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Beautiful (Cont.)

had been working through the night just to keep the main roads somewhat drivable. On Sunday morning they had yet to plow many of the side roads including the circle through Windy Cove Road. Although we had our walks cleared and the church warm and the preacher prepared, there was no vehicle access to the church and no place to park on Mountain Valley or Indian Draft Roads.

However, we did have a few folks stop by to survey the conditions. Vicki and Mike Grist brought the refreshments that were meant for our informal gathering in Sunday School (We put those in the freezer to use on Sunday, March 1.) Justin Shanks picked up Sharon Sherrard at the bottom of the manse driveway to bring her to church. Justin came to check on the walks at church. Later, Kim and Paul Lancaster tried to break through the barrier of snow on Windy Cove Road, got stuck, shoveled out, and returned home. Paul sent an email later saying his intentions were good. In the end, Rob and Sharon worshiped for themselves and on behalf of the entire congregation. They walked home together around 11:30.

Now, just as things are returning to a more normal state of affairs, the forecasters are calling for the possibility of some snow on Wednesday night into Thursday morning. Another beautiful blessing, right?!

Rescheduling

Schedule for Lent

Because of the interruption of the snow, we are doing some substantial rescheduling. First, our entire Lenten journey will be moved back one week. In the next seven weeks, we will present our Lenten theme, The Majesty of the Son Jesus:

Mar 1: Jesus is heir of all things.

Mar 8: Jesus is the agent of creation.

Mar 15: Jesus radiates God's glory.

Mar 22: Jesus expresses the character of God.

Mar 29: Jesus sustains all things.

Apr 2: Jesus cleanses our sin. (Part 1)

Apr 5: Jesus cleanses our sin. (Part 2)

Apr 12: Jesus sits at the right hand of God.

On March 1 our worshipers will also be able to pick up Lenten devotional booklets to use at home. These daily devotions for Lent and Easter will help folks to explore the theme of God's Gift of Forgiveness.

Informal Gatherings

Since we were snowed out on Sunday, February 22, the second of our informal gatherings during Sunday School has been rescheduled for Sunday, March 1. These informal gatherings will give the congregation a chance to understand and ask questions about the process of dis-

cernment that Windy Cove has undertaken with the help of Shenandoah Presbytery. As we reported last week, the Presbytery has appointed a Listening Response Team (LRT) to help us work through some of the challenges being faced by individuals and churches within our denomination, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The visit of the LRT with the Windy Cove Session was also postponed from February 22 to March 1. The LRT's visit will be part of the regular meeting of the Session at lunch on March 1.

One of the challenges facing the denomination has been how to deal with the issue of same-gender marriage. A proposed amendment to our Presbyterian Book of Order which would allow but not compel pastors and churches to participate in same-gender marriages passed by our General Assembly in 2014.

This proposed amendment has been submitted to the 171 presbyteries for their approval or rejection. Our local presbytery, Shenandoah Presbytery, voted "yes" on this amendment on February 14. The totals in Shenandoah were 99 in favor and 79 opposed to the amendment. As of February 23, the current vote in the presbyteries as a whole is 61 in favor of the amendment while 23 have opposed it. A majority of 86 presbyteries is necessary to pass such an amendment.

You can stay informed about these developments by attending the informal gathering on March 1.

People and Prayers

Keith and Tammy Lindsay have made several trips to Richmond in recent weeks to care for their college friends, the Gentrys. Mark Gentry is a patient at the Medical College of Virginia. He has been very sick with a failing heart. The doctors have been using an artificial pump to help the circulation of blood. Last Friday Mark was able to breathe on his own for a while without the aid of a ventilator. He was also able to communicate by pointing to letters on a board. His medical situation remains tenuous so continue your prayers for the Gentrys as well as the Lindsays who are trying to be good friends.

Mr. Sherrard has a student in one of his classes at Dabney S. Lancaster Community College who is currently having cancer treatments. The treatments themselves are a challenge as well as trying to keep up with the school schedule. Pray that this young person will receive healing and maintain strength.

Two folks from other churches in Shenandoah Presbytery have recently indicated an interest in joining the Haiti Mission Team. If these two folks work out the details, their participation would return the number on the team to six after two members had been forced to quit the team because of conflicts with their summer schedule. Continue your prayers that those whom the Lord has appointed for this year's team will soon be identified.