

Calendar of Ministries

✝ **Friday, May 1**

Morning Prayers at 8

✝ **Saturday, May 2**

Evening Prayers at 8

✝ **Sunday, May 3**

Sunday School at 9:45

Morning Worship at 11 continuing a series on the Holy Spirit

Teens meet at Millboro Elementary at 5

✝ **Monday, May 4**

Morning Prayers at 8

✝ **Tuesday, May 5**

Morning Prayers at 8

✝ **Wednesday, May 6**

Morning Prayers at 8

Bible Club at the High School at 8:08

Choir at 7 p.m.

✝ **Thursday, May 7**

Morning Prayers at 8

Mr. Sherrard's Exams at the college

✝ **Friday, May 8**

Morning Prayers at 8

✝ **Saturday, May 9**

Evening Prayers at 8

✝ **Sunday, May 10**

Mother's Day

Sunday School at 9:45

Morning Worship at 11

We are anticipating several spring and summer weddings this year, and we hope to have an article in a future edition about these couples and their plans. We know that you will want to pray for them and wish them well. So, look for their plans in the weeks to come.



The Weekly Word

Windy Cove Presbyterian Church

April 30, 2015

Full Potential

The message in worship on Sunday, April 26, began with a challenging question: Do you want to reach your full potential as a person and as a Christian? The key to answering this question with a resounding "yes" lies in an open and dynamic relationship with God's Holy Spirit.

According to the New Testament, there are some things you cannot understand, some things you cannot do, and some things you cannot be unless you have such a relationship with Jesus through the Holy Spirit. Consider, for example, what Jesus tells his disciples in the Upper Room in John 13-17. He tells them that the Holy Spirit will guide them into all truth. Without the Holy Spirit, a person cannot really understand all of what life is about.

Again Jesus says, "Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father." These "greater works" are possible, because when Jesus returns to the Father, he sends the Holy Spirit to those who believe in him.

The Apostle Paul reminds the Christians in Galatia that the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23). The clear implication is that people will not reach the full potential of their character development in these areas without the Holy Spirit growing in their lives to produce fruit.

In other words, the Holy Spirit brings power into a person's life to produce results that would be impossible without the Spirit's presence. However, this power of the Spirit is sometimes misconceived. Sometimes, folks conceive of the power of the Spirit as mechanical, like plugging a lamp into power and seeing a bulb

(Continued Inside)

Take Note!

May 3—Adult Class continues its study of The Shack as they listen to author W. P. Young's personal testimony

May 3—Teens at Millboro Elementary at 5

May 10—Mother's Day

May 17—Fellowship Lunch followed by an informal congregational gathering with the Presbytery Listening Resource Team

May 24—Next Session meeting at lunch

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Pentecost (Cont.)

light up. Actually, the Spirit's power is more relational than mechanical. That is, people gain power from the Holy Spirit by the relationship they have with the Spirit. A few human examples of this idea may shed some light.

For example, the basketball player Michael Jordan, won six National Basketball Association championships with the Chicago Bulls. He did not win any on his own! In fact, he was with the Bulls for over five years before he won his first championship. Some commentators say that it was not until Scottie Pippen joined the Bulls that Michael Jordan reached his full potential. It was in his relationship with teammates that Jordan did experience greatness.

In another example from worship on Sunday, Mr. Sherrard played a video clip from the amazing comic skit "Who's on First" featuring Bud Abbott and Lou Costello. The timing and interpersonal relation between these two comedians are what most contributed to the hilarity of this skit. Working together made for a more powerful comedy routine.

So it is with the Holy Spirit's power in a person's life. A personal relationship with God through the Holy Spirit is what increases the power and success of a person's life. Each Christian can have that same power of the Spirit as he or she accepts Jesus and begins to grow in that relationship with the Holy Spirit.

Great Encouragement and Blessing!

As we reported last week, Windy Cove received the remarkable blessing of an offering of \$25,000 from an Easter visitor. At its meeting on April 26, the Windy Cove Session decided on the distribution of this offering.

First, the Session decided to set aside a tithe of the offering to help others in the community. Thus, they will distribute \$1,500 to our Samaritan Fund. The Samaritan Fund is available to help people in the community with emergency needs. Bea Clark coordinates this Fund under the supervision of the Session. Another \$1,000 will be sent to the Bath County Pastors' Fund. This Fund is used to help people in the community pay fuel and electric bills when an emergency arises.

Secondly, the Session directed that \$2,500 be deposited in the regular checking account. That money will act as a floor or reserve for Treasurer Jo Ann Shanks against the irregular cash flow of weekly offerings. As you might expect, weekly offerings vary widely from Sunday to Sunday. In a typical month, one Sunday's offering might be around \$1,000 while another Sunday might be around \$3,500. Over the course of a year, these variations balance out. However, bills need to be paid on time no matter what the offering for a particular Sunday has been. This cushion will help Jo Ann as she does her job as Treasurer.

Finally, the Session put the remaining \$20,000 in our local savings account. The Session anticipates that this money might be used in the future for one or more special projects of the church. We will, of course, let you know when these decisions about the future are made.

Fellowship Lunch and Informal Gathering

Our Fellowship Ministry Team has planned a lunch for Sunday, May 17, following worship. The church will supply fried chicken and a vegetable for the meal while folks are encouraged to fill in with salads and desserts to share. This meal will be our next monthly fellowship event after the Easter breakfast in April.

In addition to the fellowship meal on the 17th, the congregation will have an informal gathering around 1 following lunch. The purpose of this informal gathering is to meet with the four members of the Listening Response Team (LRT) appointed by Shenandoah Presbytery. As our readers will remember, the LRT was appointed in response to Windy Cove Session's request for discussion with the Presbytery concerning issues involving the church, presbytery, and our denomination.

Thus far, the LRT has met with the Session twice listening carefully to their concerns about the denominational policy on ordination of homosexual persons and same-gender marriage as well as the larger issue of Biblical authority. Together, the

Windy Cove Session and the LRT thought that the next step should be for the LRT to hear from the congregation as a whole.

All folks who are members or attendees at Windy are invited to participate in the lunch and also in the informal gathering to follow. This informal gathering will be one opportunity to express your views and concerns about the local church and the larger church represented by our presbytery and denomination.

People and Prayers

Sonny Clark has been experiencing back pain for some time which has prevented him from being as active as he wants to be. Sonny was able to attend worship on Sunday, but he fell sick on Monday, went to Augusta Medical Center, and was transferred on Tuesday to the Medical College of Virginia in Richmond. Sonny and Bea's son, Ron, is the Medical Director at MCV and keeps a close watch on his parents' health here in Bath County. Dr. Clark had already been encouraging his father to get things checked out at MCV.

Mark Gentry, dear friend of Tammy and Keith Lindsay, also remains a patient at MCV. Pray for Mark's patience and perseverance as he continues to face an even longer stay in the hospital with complications from a heart problem. Pray for safe travel for the Lindsays as they make trips to Richmond to support their dear friend and his wife.