

## Calendar of Ministries

### ✝ Friday, November 13

Morning Prayers at 8

### ✝ Saturday, November 14

Evening Prayers at 8

### ✝ Sunday, November 15

Sunday School at 9:45

Morning Worship at 11

Teens meet Millboro Elementary at 5

### ✝ Monday, November 16

Morning Prayers at 8

Men's Bible Study with supper at 6:30

### ✝ Tuesday, November 17

Morning Prayers at 8

Food Truck at Windy Cove around 11

Women's Bible Study at 7 p.m.

### ✝ Wednesday, November 18

Morning Prayers at 8

Bible Club at the High School at 8:08

Choir at 7 p.m.

### ✝ Thursday, November 19

Morning Prayers at 8

### ✝ Friday, November 20

Morning Prayers at 8

### ✝ Saturday, November 21

Evening Prayers at 8

### ✝ Sunday, November 22

Sunday School at 9:45

Morning Worship at 11

Community Thanksgiving Service at Calvary Baptist Church at 7:30 p.m.



# The Weekly Word

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

## What about Abortion?

As part of a continuing series on moral issues, the Windy Cove Congregation addressed the topic of abortion on Sunday, November 8. As with other parts of this series, the consideration was not designed to address directly the political, social, or legal issues related to abortion in the United States. Rather, the emphasis was on developing a Christian viewpoint on abortion.

As was the case with suicide, Mr. Sherrard began the message with some preliminary matters with regard to abortion. These matters included the fact that abortion is not the unforgiveable sin mentioned in the Bible. Instead, abortion is an area in which forgiveness must overflow. If God forgives, so should Christians.

However, a further issue with abortion is the fact that Christians who have had abortions often find it difficult to forgive themselves. On the one hand, they understand intellectually that God can forgive them. On the other hand, they find it hard to release the burden of grief and guilt they feel. That burden, though, can be left at the cross along with all others that truly repentant folks bring to Jesus at the cross.

The statistics related to abortion in the United States indicate the enormity of this issue. Since abortion became generally legal in the United States in 1973, more than 57 million abortions have been performed in this country. Of course, it is impossible to tell how many of those mothers were Christians or became Christians at some time after the procedure. However, considering such large numbers and the general acceptance of abortion as a legal right, one would conclude that significant numbers of Christian women have faced the moral issue of abortion.

As was the case with suicide, Christians should begin their moral reasoning by remembering God's

*(Continued Inside)*

### **Take Note!**

#### **Sunday, November 15**

Teens meet at Millboro Elementary at 5

#### **Monday, November 16**

Men's Bible Study concludes; supper begins at 6:30.

#### **Tuesday, November 17**

Food Truck at Windy Cove around 11 a.m.  
Women's Bible Study at 7 p.m.

Windy Cove Pres. Church  
102 Windy Cove Road  
Millboro, VA 24460  
Address Service  
Requested

U. S. Postage  
Non-profit Org.  
Permit # 2  
Millboro, VA 24460

Pastor: Rob Sherrard  
Phone: 540-997-5395  
Email: wcpccp@cfw.com

## **Abortion (Cont.)**

predisposition toward life. From the creation story, we know that God created everything that exists. God left behind nothingness and chaos in favor of order and life.

The New Testament confirms God's bias toward life. In John 1 we read that Jesus was the agent of creation: All things were created through the Word of God. Additionally, John says that Jesus brought life into the world and that his life gave light for people to live by. Later on in the Gospel, Jesus declares that he came that people might have "abundant life." That phrase refers to life as it was meant to be lived as a true human being under God's care.

When we think about the moral implications of abortion, an additional factor is that we are dealing with the taking of an innocent or defenseless life. Again, the Bible indicates God's special concern for those who need exceptional care: widows, orphans, and the weak and defenseless. God's additional concern for those in such positions applies particularly to babies in the womb.

Having said all these things about life, there are still some very difficult cases with respect to abortion. Figures indicate that less than 5% of all abortions deal with cases of rape, incest, or a serious threat to the mother's health. However, these decisions are very difficult ones even when approached from a Christian point of view.

Even more difficult are cases where a significant birth defect indicates that a developing child has little chance of being born alive. For Christians these cases are cause for terrible anguish and deep, soul searching thought and prayer. Not only is the life of the child at stake, but the very life of a marriage and family may be at stake. While Christians may firmly believe that God can perform a creative miracle in womb, Christians also realize that such miracles do not always occur. In that context of decision making, Christians do in fact wrestle with God and with themselves while seeking to do the right thing.

The comfort that Christians do have in the midst of such agony is knowing that God is with them. Jesus himself went through excruciating mental and physical pain to show the depth of love and commitment that God has for us. Folks facing these difficult moral decisions can be certain that God does walk with them and even goes before them to prepare the way.

## **Coffee, Tea, Sausage, Sweet Rolls, Hash Browns . . .**

Windy Covians enjoyed a delightful breakfast together before Sunday School on November 8. There were two long tables of all sorts of breakfast goodies, and there were a goodly number of folks there to enjoy the fare.

We were especially indebted to the seventh grade class at Millboro Elementary School. The seventh

graders sent along some food that they had bought originally to serve at a school event. We made good use of the food and will send a nice offering along to support the kids for their seventh grade trip.

## **Community Thanksgiving**

Arrangements have been made for the Millboro Community Thanksgiving Worship. We will gather at Calvary Baptist Church on Sunday, November 22, at 7:30 p.m. Pastor John Haney of the Parish of the Pastors will bring our Thanksgiving message that evening.

This service has brought Christians in the area together for worship for more than thirty years. The service rotates between the churches and chapels in the Millboro area as do the preaching responsibilities.

We hope that all of our readers will take this opportunity to join with other Christians to give thanks to God.

## **Bible Studies Near Conclusion**

Our current men's and women's Bible studies are both nearing conclusion of their fall semesters. Each study has one more session before taking a break until sometime in the spring.

The women have been using a series of video presentations centered on hope. These videos come from the online resources of Bethel Church in Redding, CA. Each video

has featured different presenters speaking about an aspect of hope.

Hope is one of the key features of the Christian life. Hope is the part of our lives that brings the future back into the present and helps us to look with confident expectation for what is coming. Many social scientists believe that life without hope is nearly impossible. On the other hand, people can endure some horrendous circumstances if they still have hope for a future. And, Christians base their lives on the sure and certain hope of eternal life in Jesus.

Meanwhile, the men have been studying spiritual leadership. Last Monday evening the men looked carefully at some of the key components of leadership. The feature that received the most attention was character or integrity. One definition of integrity says, "Integrity means being consistent in one's behavior under every circumstance, including unguarded moments in life." On Monday the men discussed how integrity is grounded in honesty, in kindness, in treating others well, and in the consistency of such behavior.

The men also discussed the preparation they had received for leadership. One item that was consistent in that preparation was the experience that they had gained from others with whom they had worked. We heard names from the past like Jim Tennant, Ed Clark, Captain James McCardle and others who had been important mentors for some of these men.