

Calendar of Ministries

✝ **Friday, January 15**

Morning Prayers at 8

✝ **Saturday, January 16**

Evening Prayers at 8

✝ **Sunday, January 17**

Sunday School at 9:45

Morning Worship at 11

Teens meet at Millboro Elementary at 5

✝ **Monday, January 18**

Morning Prayers at 8

✝ **Tuesday, January 19**

Morning Prayers at 8

Mr. Sherrard has resumed his teaching schedule at Dabney S. Lancaster Community College. His schedule includes classes on Tuesdays and Thursday at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

✝ **Wednesday, January 20**

Morning Prayers at 8

Bible Club at the High School at 8:08

Choir at 7 p.m.

✝ **Thursday, January 21**

Morning Prayers at 8

Mr. Sherrard meets his classes today.

✝ **Friday, January 22**

Morning Prayers at 8

✝ **Saturday, January 23**

Evening Prayers at 8

✝ **Sunday, January 24**

Sunday School at 9:45

Morning Worship at 11

Session meets for lunch after worship.



The Weekly Word

**Windy Cove Presbyterian Church
January 14, 2016**

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Windy Covians have had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year since the last publication of the *Weekly Word*. On Christmas Eve the church was adorned like a Christmas card. There were Christmas wreaths on the front doors and on the windows. The vestibule offered a warm greeting to worshipers with the Angel Tree and a beautiful arrangement of red and white poinsettias. The invitation of the vestibule ushered people forward to a splendidly decorated sanctuary.

The windows in the sanctuary were glowing with candles as were the piano and posts on the choir rail. The Communion Table was surrounded by a cascade of more red and white poinsettias. In the center of the floral cascade was a small cradle filled with straw and containing a single red rose. This poignant reminder of Jesus' birth carried attention upward to the Communion Table filled with the elements of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Finally, behind the Choir the red banners of Love, Joy, Peace, and Hope focused the attention of worshipers on the primary sentiments of Jesus and his Christmas birth.

The glorious worship began with a flute prelude by Denise Eaton. Our worship leader, Traci Herscher, followed with a question setting the tone for the evening as she sang, "What Child Is This?" The first answer to that vital question came as the Christ Candle of our Advent Wreath was lit when Traci asked the question for the third time. The congregation responded by rising to sing "O Come All Ye Faithful."

During the main body of worship, the congregation continued to answer Traci's question. There were readings from the Choir interspersed with music highlighting the events of Jesus' birth. Then, worshipers

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Take Note!

Sunday, January 17

Sunday School at 9:45, Worship at 11, Teens meet at Millboro Elementary at 5 p.m.

Sunday, January 24

Sunday School at 9:45, Worship at 11, Session meets for lunch after worship

Sunday, January 31

Sunday School at 9:45, Worship at 11, Teen Ski Trip to Snowshoe following worship

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Portrait (Cont.)

reflected on the Portrait of Jesus that they had discovered from the Gospels during Advent. This Portrait included Jesus' own question, "Who do you say that I am?" along with Jesus' invitation to "repent and believe the Good News." The Choir added mightily to the Portrait with their singular song, "Son of God." Of course, these reflections culminated in the opportunity for worshipers to affirm or reaffirm their allegiance to Jesus and to commit their lives to living in the Kingdom of God by taking Communion together.

Communion led directly to the traditional and inspiring sharing of the Light of Christ and the singing of "Silent Night, Holy Night." Each year as candles are lifted high in the Windy Cove sanctuary, one cannot help but sense the presence of Jesus through the Holy Spirit. That nearly tangible feeling of Jesus' presence gives ample proof that God's plan for the world is moving forward despite any evidence to the contrary.

Worshipers left the sanctuary joyfully singing "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing," while wishing one another a "Merry Christmas."

And a Happy New Year

We appreciate Elder Sonny Clark's leadership in preparing for the New Year as he filled the pulpit on December 27 while Mr. Sherrard was on vacation in Washington, DC.

The official New Year arrived at Windy Cove with a viewing of the hilarious family movie *Moms' Night Out* followed by a half hour of worship and the Lord's Supper. Following Communion at midnight, Sharon Sherrard used the traditional Jewish means of welcoming a New Year with the sounding of the shofar or ram's horn.

Since January 1st, Mr. Sherrard has followed up on the New Year's theme with two messages surrounding the subject of having a Happy New Year. The congregation has considered three aspects of "new."

First, newness is sometimes necessary because something is not working. If a home appliance fails, we often have to get a new one. In a similar way, God has provided in Jesus a new way to fix a world that was broken.

Secondly, desiring something new can simply mean a longing for something better, more complete, or more satisfying. The Holy Spirit given by Jesus provides the opportunity for Christians to deepen the understanding, import, and impact of Jesus on their lives. This opportunity to grow in Christ is an amazing part of God's plan. People can actually become new persons in Christ.

Finally, there is a cosmic dimension to God's New Year. God promises in the Book of Revelation "to make all things new." Jesus said that the fullness of the Kingdom of God would be evident at his Second Coming. The Apostle Paul expressed the

same idea in Romans 8 when he declared that the whole creation is groaning as in childbirth awaiting the consummation of God's purpose for the world.

Mr. Sherrard will conclude the current mini-series on the New Year with a reflection on the Bible in the New Year at worship on January 17. We hope that many of you will join us for this reflection.

Our Beautiful Flowers

As mentioned in our previous article today, we had such lovely flowers this year. We thank Bobbie Jo Roderick of Rock Mountain Florist who furnished the flowers. We are also grateful to Tammy Lindsay and Traci Herscher who coordinated and worked diligently in decorating the church and sanctuary. Betty Haddix was instrumental in maintaining the health of the poinsettias. Betty carefully monitored the moisture level and watered the flowers as needed.

As always, we are grateful for those who gave extra offerings for our Christmas flowers. We are delighted to recognize the following offerings:

To Remember

**Julia Toney
Paul Plecker
Louise Smith
Hilda Hobson
Carl and Della Plecker**
By Ruth Cauley

**Carl and Marie Swope
Clyde and Maude Hively**
By Joyce and Clyde Hively

**Robert and
Gwendolyn Simmons**
*By their daughter,
Eleanor Woods*

Sadie Hepler
By the Hepler Family

Al and Ellen Brueck
By the Lee Family

**Jack and Valeria Sherrard
Harry and Miriam Strickland**
By Sharon and Rob Sherrard

**Betty Cress
Ward and Joy Lancaster**
By Kim and Paul Lancaster

**Wilson Shanks
Charles David and
Betty Jo Armstrong**
By Donna and Rickey Armstrong

To Honor

Tammy Lindsay
By Ruth Cauley

**Dr. William Odom and his wife,
Carol Hepler Odom**
By Norma J. Hepler Taylor

Roy Cress
By Kim and Paul Lancaster

And, many thanks to all who made our Advent and Christmas Season a wonderful expression of our love and devotion to Jesus and to others in our community and around the world. We look forward with hope to the rest of this brand new year!