

## Calendar of Ministries

### ✝ Friday, March 4

Morning Prayers at 8

### ✝ Saturday, March 5

Evening Prayers at 8

### ✝ Sunday, March 6

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Sunday School at 9:45

Morning Worship at 11 focusing on

Why I Need Jesus

Teens meet at 6 p.m. at Windy Cove, not at Millboro Elementary

### ✝ Monday, March 7

Morning Prayers at 8

### ✝ Tuesday, March 8

Morning Prayers at 8

Mr. Sherrard meets his classes today.

Food Pantry, 1:30 to 4 p.m.

### ✝ Wednesday, March 9

Morning Prayers at 8

Bible Club at the High School at 8:08

Choir at 7 p.m.

### ✝ Thursday, March 10

Morning Prayers at 8

Mr. Sherrard meets his classes today.

### ✝ Friday, March 11

Morning Prayers at 8

### ✝ Saturday, March 12

Evening Prayers at 8

### ✝ Sunday, March 13

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Sunday School at 9:45

Morning Worship at 11 focusing on

Why I Need Jesus



# The Weekly Word

Windy Cove Presbyterian Church

March 3, 2016

## LRT Visits Windy Cove

On Sunday, February 28, the Listening Response Team (LRT) appointed by Shenandoah Presbytery to work with Windy Cove visited with the congregation after lunch.

The LRT led a brief opening worship which included the familiar hymn, "Open my Eyes that I May See." With a Power Point presentation, the LRT summarized their work with the congregation as part of Shenandoah Presbytery's Policy for Discernment toward Reconciliation or Gracious Separation.

So far, the LRT had met twice with the Session, held a general gathering with the congregation, circulated a survey to members and attenders at Windy Cove, talked by telephone with more than 70 of these members and attenders, and met several times with Pastor Rob Sherrard. In each of these opportunities, the LRT tried to faithfully record the responses they received from folks associated with Windy Cove. Their presentation listed many of the responses and recorded the number of people they had heard from.

In the latter part of their report, the LRT expressed their hope and desire

that Windy Cove could be reconciled to Shenandoah Presbytery and to the Presbyterian Church (USA), the larger denomination to which Windy Cove currently belongs.

The LRT offered what they believe are four Possible Paths to Reconciliation. These included: 1. An openness to the findings of medical science; 2. A humble acceptance of our own sinfulness; 3. An openness to the Holy Spirit to calm our fears and guide us to unity; and 4. A willingness to follow Jesus' example of compassion.

LRT Chair, Martin Stokes, also spoke of his desire to keep theologically more conservative churches within the denomination so their voices could be heard. The meeting

*(Continued Inside)*

### Take Note!

#### **Sunday, March 6**

Teens will have a special meeting **at Windy Cove** at 6 p.m. Refreshments followed by fun and games.

#### **Tuesday, March 8**

Food Pantry at Windy Cove from 1:30 until 4

#### **Sunday, March 13**

Regular schedule of Sunday School and Morning Worship, but Daylight Savings Time begins on this Sunday.

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@dfw.com

## LRT Visit

concluded with prayer and the singing of another hymn.

Following the meeting with the LRT, the Windy Cove Session met briefly to gauge their response to what they had heard. After some discussion the Session decided to formulate an answer to the LRT that will discuss their reaction to the LRT's presentation and will suggest what the Session believes should be the next step in the process of reconciliation or separation. The Session will, of course, share this answer with the congregation when they send it to the LRT.

As a sequel to their visit at Windy Cove, LRT Chair, Martin Stokes, sent the following letter to Mr. Sherrard.

*Hi Rob,*

*Please give our thanks to the folks at Windy Cove for the very loving reception we received Sunday as we made our presentation. Their attention during our report was deeply appreciated. I trust they will give prayerful consideration to choosing the path of reconciliation and then becoming more involved in the decision making levels of our church. As I said, we greatly need the Biblically-based viewpoint and voice as we seek to minister to a hurting world. It is not easy to be in the world but not of the world.*

*I believe God plants us where we can do the most good, or at least have the possibility of doing good. Jesus never avoided the sick, the leper, the demon-possessed, the greedy, the cheaters, the sexual abusers, his own killers, and even the dead. He found ways to minister in every situation, despite what others said, did, or thought. With that kind of example, how can we not follow, even if it costs us our lives?*

*We will continue in prayer and look forward to hearing from WCPC as to which direction they will take. Whatever the decision, I hope we can continue to find ways to worship, learn, serve, and sing together. Our Father is greater than anything in this world and is still capable of bringing about peace in the midst of chaos.*

*May the Spirit strengthen and guide WCPC as they seek to be all they were created to be.*

*/s/ Martin, Deb, Bonny, and Skip  
The Windy Cove LRT*

## What We Really Need Is Jesus

In worship on Sunday, February 28, Windy Covians focused on another reason why we really need Jesus in our lives: to grow in wisdom with a moral compass for our lives.

Several verses in the Bible proclaim, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom." Truly, reverence for God is the **beginning** of wisdom, but it is not the end of wisdom. Christians can surely grow in wisdom. In fact, Luke 2:52 reminds us, "Jesus grew in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and all the people." Even Jesus gained wisdom as he grew up and committed himself to the mission that God had appointed for him.

Our Christian growth in wisdom depends on deepening our relationship with Jesus through the Holy Spirit. Jesus is God's wisdom; and the closer we draw to Jesus, the wiser we become. The Holy Spirit reveals Jesus to us making us wise.

Some practical steps for growing in wisdom include continuous Bible reading and study, listening prayer, obedience to the Holy Spirit, and fellowship with more mature Christians. A person cannot just read the Bible once and think that he or she has garnered all the wisdom of Jesus. The Holy Spirit continues to reveal Jesus throughout a person's lifetime of reading and studying the Bible.

In prayer most of us do a lot more talking than listening. The familiar phrase that Jesus used in his ministry, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear," cautions us to listen more. As the Christian author, Gary Smalley, once put it, "Why do you think God gave you **two** ears but

only **one** mouth?" When we listen to God in prayer, we gain wisdom.

Another key to growing in wisdom is to be obedient to the Holy Spirit. If the Spirit moves us to do something, we should respond. If we do not, the Spirit most likely cannot move us forward without remedial instruction in the area where we have refused to obey.

Finally, true fellowship with more mature Christians can help us grow in wisdom. Through the years many Windy Covians have been touched by their friendship with Father Jean-Wilbert Albert in our Haiti ministry. Father Albert was a very mature Christian who drew others into the wisdom of Jesus.

Our series on what we really need in life will continue on Sunday, March 6, as we move through Lent. Our consideration will include why we need Jesus in order to have peace of mind and heart.

## Encouragement Needed

Frances Manion remains in the hospital in Roanoke following intestinal surgery. Her family wants to lift her spirits during her lengthy stay, and they suggest that positive cards would help. The family recommends that you send encouraging notes and cards to Frances via their home post office box in Millboro (P. O. Box 126). They will make sure that Frances receives the cards at the hospital. And, continue your prayers for God's gracious, healing touch.