

## Calendar of Ministries

✝ **Friday, April 8**

Morning Prayers at 8

✝ **Saturday, April 9**

The Sherrards plan to be in Washington, D.C. for a prayer meeting of pastors at the Lincoln Memorial

Evening Prayers at 8

✝ **Sunday, April 10**

Sunday School at 9:45

Morning Worship at 11 with a message on the Cloud of Witnesses

✝ **Monday, April 11**

Morning Prayers at 8

✝ **Tuesday, April 12**

Morning Prayers at 8

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

✝ **Wednesday, April 13**

Morning Prayers at 8

Bible Club at the High School at 8:08

Choir at 7 p.m.

✝ **Thursday, April 14**

Morning Prayers at 8

✝ **Friday, April 15**

Tax Day! Have you filed your return?

Morning Prayers at 8

✝ **Saturday, April 16**

Evening Prayers at 8

✝ **Sunday, April 17**

Sunday School at 9:45

Morning Worship at 11

Teens meet at 5 at Millboro Elementary



# The Weekly Word

Windy Cove Presbyterian Church

April 7, 2016

## Inspiring Holy Week and Easter

Windy Covians and the Christian community in the Millboro area celebrated an inspiring Holy Week and Easter at the end of March. On Maundy Thursday the congregation observed the traditional Communion worship celebrating Jesus' last earthly supper with his disciples. His steadfast commitment to them in this table fellowship stands in stark contrast to their lack of faith and commitment to him. Judas betrays Jesus; Peter denies him; and James and John along with Peter sleep in the Gethsemane while Jesus agonizes.

In spite of such insults, Jesus maintains his course of following the will of the Father. Jesus becomes the willing sacrifice that will forgive and redeem such faithless disciples. Just so, Jesus continues to share fellowship with us and strengthen us even when we lapse in our commitment to him.

On Friday evening, Piney Grove Baptist Church in Hot Springs was filled to capacity with worshipers from all over Bath County. This year was the 17<sup>th</sup> year that Piney Grove has hosted a Good Friday Service focused on the Words of Jesus from the

Cross. Pastor Mansfield and his deacons invite seven different preachers to highlight these words for the gathered congregation. He usually tells each participant to take about 10 minutes, but you can imagine how often that limit is overrun by a group of exuberant preachers!

Mr. Sherrard had the sixth word, "It is finished," from John 19. Since it was his first time to participate in the Good Friday Service, he had some fun at the beginning. Mr. Sherrard mentioned that since he's been at Windy Cove for quite a few years and since Piney Grove had already had the service for sixteen years, he had a "vision" of Mr. Mansfield with the deacons thinking about inviting him

*(Continued Inside)*

### Take Note!

The featured item for Food Pantry this month is peanut butter. Bring your contributions to the box in the vestibule.

Also, we will receive your pennies and other offerings on Sunday, April 10, to supply our Food Pantry.

Mr. Sherrard will begin a new series on the Great Cloud of Witnesses. We'll be looking at men and women of faith who shaped the history of Christianity.

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## Holy Week & Easter (Cont.)

in previous years. Yet, always someone would say, "He's not ready; he's not ready." In the 17<sup>th</sup> year, they finally thought that he was up to the challenge of the Good Friday Service.

After that bit of humor, Mr. Sherrard did get down to the business of preaching the gospel of Jesus. If "It" is finished, what exactly is "it"? John makes clear that Jesus had a mission. His mission had several aspects to it, but Mr. Sherrard focused on two of these: revealing the very character of God to people and paying the debt for everyone's sin.

Many folks are confused about who God really is. They have some idea of God in their minds, but often it is not an accurate one. However, Jesus readily says in many ways, "Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father." Yet, in order to reveal God to human beings, Jesus had to become a real human being which he did. He willingly left the glory of heaven, became a real person, and only returned to heaven when his mission had been finished.

Another part of that mission was to offer himself as a once and forever sacrifice to make amends for human sin. A human being had to do this job, but that human being had to be eternal and infinite to take the totality of human sin upon himself. Only Jesus was

qualified for this mission. Finally, on the cross, Jesus had completed the task: "It is finished."

About fifty people were atop the hill on Windy Cove Farm for the Easter Sunrise Worship. Jeffrey Archer of Calvary Baptist Church offered an Easter Prayer, and Mr. Sherrard preached on Jesus as the Light of the World.

That light of Jesus is like the brightness of the sun coming up each new day. (However, Easter morning was cloudy in Millboro Springs.) Jesus encourages us as his disciples to let his light shine through us so that others may see and give glory to God. So, Mr. Sherrard asked the worshipers to consider what kind of light they were.

He suggested that some were like lasers, totally focused on one aspect of life like taking care of their children. Some were perhaps like small night lights which appear tiny but shed much light when the night is dark. Still others may be steady with the light of Jesus like the bulb in Livermore, California that has been burning since 1901. We all have the opportunity to shine the light of Christ.

At Morning Worship on Easter, the Windy Cove Choir carried the service along with their music. First, they recalled Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem with "Blessed Is He Who Comes in the Name of the Lord." Then, soloist

Paul Lancaster led us to Friday's crucifixion with "At the Cross." At this point in the service, the congregation heard the good news of the resurrection from the Gospel of Matthew. Then, the congregation joined the celebration singing "The Day of Resurrection." After Mr. Sherrard's message on Why We Need Jesus to Have Eternal Life, the Choir said, "Amen," with their anthem, "Hallelujah! Resurrection Day."

During the celebration of Communion, the Choir invited people to the Table with "Captured by His Grace." The worship concluded with the Benediction and Congregational Response, "I Need Jesus." Hallelujah, what a day!

## People and Prayers

We were very thankful for the fine breakfast and warm fellowship provided by Calvary Baptist Church following Easter Sunrise Worship. The Calvary folks furnished such a nice atmosphere and such good food that many people lingered long to enjoy the moment. Windy Cove and Calvary have had a wonderful relationship through the years.

We have been praying intensely for Nancy Peery and her family since she received the shocking news of her mother's death last Sunday. After worship and our fellowship meal, Nancy stopped at Fran Hobbs' home to pick up one of those small scooters that Pete Hobbs had used.

Nancy was anticipating surgery on her ankle this week. After loading the scooter and driving to the end of Fran's lane, Nancy answered her cell phone. Her sister was calling from Minnesota to say that their mother had died in a car accident.

Nancy realized she could not drive and returned to Fran's. Fran called the Sherrards who came quickly to be with Nancy while she waited for her husband, Johnny, to arrive from Hot Springs. There was much weeping and prayer as Christian friends tried to absorb the shock together.

Nancy later learned that her father had turned out into traffic while leaving church. Her mother was in the passenger's seat. The impact of the other car was to the driver's side front wheel, but the jolt caused the air bags to deploy. Nancy's mother did not receive any serious injuries, but seemingly the trauma of the accident and air bags precipitated a heart attack. The first person immediately on the scene said that Nancy's mom was already gone when she arrived at the car. Nancy's father was not seriously injured.

Johnny and Nancy and their children, Ashley, Emily, and Logan drove to Minnesota to be with family and make arrangements for the funeral. While stunned by the news, the Peerys rejoice in knowing that Nancy's Mom was a strong Christian and that she had just been to church and received Communion before being welcomed in her heavenly home.