

Calendar of Ministries

✝ **Friday, May 27**

Morning Prayers at 8

✝ **Saturday, May 28**

Evening Prayers at 8

Haiti Mission Team meets at 5:30

✝ **Sunday, May 29**

Sunday School at 9:45

Morning Worship at 11 with a message on the Apostle Paul

After Worship, the Sherrards will begin a week of vacation to ride bikes on the C and O Canal Trail.

✝ **Monday, May 30**

Remember the sacrifice of our Veterans on this Memorial Day.

Morning Prayers at 8

✝ **Tuesday, May 31**

Morning Prayers at 8

✝ **Wednesday, June 1**

Morning Prayers at 8

Choir at 7 p.m.

✝ **Thursday, June 2**

Morning Prayers at 8

✝ **Friday, June 3**

Morning Prayers at 8

✝ **Saturday, June 4**

Evening Prayers at 8

✝ **Sunday, June 5**

Sunday School at 9:45

Morning Worship at 11 with Elder Jon Eaton leading worship

Bible School is fast approaching. June 20 is less than a month away. When you receive a call, be prepared to help with Cave Quest: Following Jesus the Light of the World.



The Weekly Word

Windy Cove Presbyterian Church

May 26, 2016

Are You a Good Role Model?

In 1993 Charles Barclay filmed a commercial for Nike basketball shoes in which he proclaims that he is not a role model. The commercial came as a result of a controversy in which Barclay had been asked about his responsibility to be a role model to kids who saw him playing for the Philadelphia 76ers in the National Basketball Association. (If you weren't present on Sunday, May 22, you can easily find the commercial on YouTube.)

Mr. Sherrard used that commercial last Sunday to get Windy Covians thinking about what kind of role models they might be for those who look up to them. The idea of being a role model is embedded in the current series on the Great Cloud of Witnesses from Hebrews 12:1-2. The writer of Hebrews has a long list of faithful Old Testament people that Christians can look to as role models. In the beginning of this series, worship has focused on several of those mentioned in the list. Now, we have moved on to look at others not mentioned in the list because they belong in the New Testament era.

On Pentecost Sunday the focus was on Peter. Last Sunday, May 22, after

the introduction of the Barclay commercial, the congregation considered the Apostle Paul. Paul himself actually asks the Christians in Philippi to look to him as a role model. He says in Philippians 4, "And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise. Keep putting into practice all you learned and received from me--everything you heard from me and saw me doing. Then the God of peace will be with you."

With Paul's list in front of them, worshipers contemplated the items that Paul encourages them to think

(Continued Inside)

Take Note

The Cloud of Witnesses will continue in worship on May 29 as the congregation takes a second look at the example of the Apostle Paul.

On June 5, Elder Jon Eaton will fill the pulpit at Windy Cove. The Sherrards will be on a week of vacation beginning after worship on May 29.

The *Weekly Word* will not be published on June 2 but will return for a summer issue on June 9.

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Role Model (Cont.)

about and ultimately to put into practice in their own lives. In a commentary on this passage, Warren Wiersbe notes the importance of good thinking in this fashion, "Sow a thought, reap an action. Sow an action, reap a habit. Sow a habit, reap a character. Sow a character, reap a destiny!" To a large extent, people become or are deeply influenced by the things that they think about.

Of course, experience teaches us that we cannot keep some unworthy thoughts from coming into our minds. Outside stimuli and our own internal thought processes bring such ideas to our minds. However, we do have control over whether or not we will dwell on these unwholesome or unworthy thoughts. To use a Biblical word, we do not have to "meditate" on those things that are unworthy of our consideration.

Instead we can shift our attention to "what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable." Much of Mr. Sherrard's message on Sunday was a further explanation of several of these ideas. For example, truth should be at the center of life. Education and science concern seeking the truth about various subjects and the universe itself. Good relationships depend on being truthful with other people. Understanding ourselves demands that we not deceive ourselves about who we are, what our motives are, and how we act. Jesus

proclaims to his disciples, "I am the way, the truth, and the life." Getting as close to the truth as we possibly can in all areas of our lives is essential to growing into the people that God wants us to be.

In each case the congregation also looked at the opposite of the ideas that Paul commends. For example, things that are lovely are attractive to others; they call forth a response of genuine appreciation and love. The opposite of lovely are those things which call forth bitterness or anger or revenge from others.

Paul is not simply talking about ideas or things that people would call religious. He says, "Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise." The Greek word that is translated "excellent" can refer to any area of life in which something is noble, exceptional, or worthy of praise.

Paul reminds his readers in Philippi that such things are those that they heard or saw in his ministry with them. Paul always had a warm relationship with these Christians. They were ready to receive his advice to think of him as a role model.

Perhaps like Charles Barclay we don't think of ourselves as role models, but we are. People look to us daily to see what we say and how we act. It may be our children, our grandchildren, the store clerk, or a co-worker, but we are role models for good or ill. Take Paul's advice; be a good role model for others.

Haiti: Second Orientation

The 2016 Haiti Mission Team will hold its second orientation meeting on Saturday, May 28, at Windy Cove. The team will meet for supper at 5:30 and continue their meeting into the evening.

At this second orientation, the team will get better acquainted with each other for the purpose of helping them to become more effective in their ministry in Haiti. The team will also begin extensive planning for the four one-day Bible Schools that they will lead while in Haiti. They will travel to four different schools presenting a Bible story, singing with the children in Creole and in English, helping the children with a craft, and forging new relationships with their Haitian friends. In addition to these Bible Schools, the team will present each school with a suitcase full of school supplies for the coming year.

As in the past few years, the Haiti Mission Team will stay in the mountain village of Cherident about 45 miles from the capital city of Port-au-Prince. Their journey will begin on July 18 when they fly from Washington, D.C. to Fort Lauderdale, FL before going on to Haiti the next day. After a week of ministry in Haiti, the team will fly home on Tuesday, July 26, arriving back to Bath County in the early morning hours on Wednesday.

A final orientation meeting will be held in late June prior to the trip.

People and Prayers

We received news prior to worship last Sunday of the unexpected death of Jean Plecker in Roanoke. Jean had been living with her daughter Missy. Missy was visiting a friend in the hospital and came home to find that her mother had gone to be with the Lord. Jean had grown up in Bath County. Her family owned the property at Coursey Springs where the fish hatchery is now. Her husband, Paul Plecker, died very suddenly as well in 2014.

Paul and Jean raised two daughters, Missy and Jill, and were devoted to them and to their extended family of grandchildren and nieces and nephews. While Paul worked for the railroad, Jean worked in health care as a nurse. At her retirement, she was working for a home health care company. She loved visiting with the people in their homes and checking on their progress.

As she wished, Jean was cremated. Folks gathered for a memorial service on Wednesday, May 25, at Windy Cove. Part of her ashes were interred at Woodland Cemetery beside those of her husband Paul. Another part of the ashes will be spread at the beach where she loved to vacation with her family.

At Windy Cove Jean served in various ministries including as a Ruling Elder. She once attended Presbytery with Mr. Sherrard, but they stopped on the way home to check on one of her home-health patients.