

Calendar of Ministries

✚ Friday, September 23

Morning Prayers at 8

✚ Saturday, September 24

Evening Prayers at 8

✚ Sunday, September 25

Sunday School at 9:45

Morning Worship at 11 beginning The Advent of the Messiah.

Bring your 4 Cents Hunger Offering
Session meets for lunch after worship.

✚ Monday, September 26

Morning Prayers at 8

✚ Tuesday, September 27

Morning Prayers at 8

Mr. Sherrard teaches his college classes today at 10 and 1.

✚ Wednesday, September 28

Morning Prayers at 8

See You at the Pole at the High School
Choir at 7 p.m.

✚ Thursday, September 29

Morning Prayers at 8

Mr. Sherrard teaches his college classes today at 10 and 1.

✚ Friday, September 30

Morning Prayers at 8

✚ Saturday, October 1

Evening Prayers at 8

✚ Sunday, October 2

Sunday School at 9:45

Morning Worship at 11 with Communion celebrating World Communion Day

Teens meet at Millboro Elementary at 5



The Weekly Word

Windy Cove Presbyterian Church

September 22, 2016

New Series to Begin on Sunday

On Sunday, September 25, Morning Worship will include the beginning of a new series of messages. The title for this series will be The Advent of the Messiah. As currently projected, the series will continue through Sunday, December 25, Christmas Day.

The focus of the series will be on Jesus, especially his role as Messiah. Messiah is one of those words that people often use in the church without really thinking through its meaning. Messiah derives from the Hebrew word which means “the anointed one.”

Messiah refers to the Jewish hope and prophecy throughout the Old Testament that God would send a person expressly anointed by God to deliver God’s people and usher in the Kingdom of God in fullness. Reactions to the ministry of Jesus make clear that this hope for or understanding of the Messiah took different forms. Thus, people did not agree on what the Messiah would do, and they certainly did not agree that Jesus was the Messiah.

Another linguistic complication for modern believers is the fact that the English word “Christ” actually means

“Messiah.” Messiah is derived from a Hebrew word while Christ is derived from a Greek word. The way Christ is used today in the phrase “Jesus Christ” makes Christ sound like Jesus’ last name when actually Christ is a title naming Jesus as the anointed one.

Why is it important to understand Jesus’ role as the Messiah? A clearer understanding of Jesus as the Messiah will help us to understand God’s intention for human beings and the world. Additionally, this understanding will help us focus our attention on who God truly is rather than on some mistaken notion of God.

Recently, Andy Stanley (the son of Charles Stanley, the prominent Baptist pastor in Atlanta) began a series

(Continued Inside)

Take Note

Windy Cove continues its regular fall and winter Sunday schedule this week.

Sunday School begins at 9:45 with gathering and refreshments in the Fellowship Hall.

Morning Worship follows at 11 a.m.

On the **fourth Sunday** of each month our **Session** meets for lunch after worship. (September 25 is the fourth Sunday.)

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New Series (Cont.)

in his parish of churches focused on the God Who Doesn't Exist. What Stanley meant is that we all have an idea of who God is, and our ideas sometimes do not represent the God who is proclaimed in the Bible and who is revealed in the person and work of Jesus.

For example, some people think that God is there to protect them from any difficult situation or get them out of any trouble they get into. Neither our experience nor does the Bible picture God in this way. Was Jesus himself delivered from the torture of crucifixion? In Gethsemane Jesus prayed that the cup of suffering might be taken away. However, he concluded, "Yet not what I will, but what you will."

Another mistaken view of God may be contained in the oft-quoted phrase, "God helps those who help themselves." The Bible reveals God as one who most often helps those who **cannot** help themselves. Many other examples of mistaken or inadequate views of God could be cited. So, one goal of The Advent of the Messiah series will be to bring us closer to the God who actually does exist and to truly understand who that God is.

The series will begin this week with Understanding Jesus as the Messiah. The Bible lesson comes from Matthew 16:13-23, the familiar story of Peter's profession of Jesus as the Messiah and Jesus' reaction.

What a Blessing!

What a blessing Mike Tennant was to his fellow Windy Covians last Sunday. Mike's sincere and honest testimony of his personal struggles and faith in God struck a responsive chord with those present for worship. Even our visitors who had not known Mike personally mentioned how blessed they were to have been present for such a testimony.

Mike recounted for the congregation his upbringing in a Christian home with parents, Jim and Lee Tennant, and with his sister, Linda, and his brother, Jimbo. His later life revealed to him how he had failed to make the best use of this opportunity provided to him to draw close to the Lord.

Mike told the story of several severe setbacks including the loss of his mother, his father's accident which occurred while Mike was in jail, his personal struggle with the overuse and addiction to prescription pain pills, and his stay in jail and in the Virginia prison system.

Mike took the opportunity to thank God for his eventual freedom and for those who had helped him along the way. He was especially grateful to his friend Jason Coleman who had helped him during his first jail time, to Ruth Cauley who sent him a bulletin and a note nearly every week that he was incarcerated, to Rob Sherrard who had visited him at the Greenville Correctional Center, and to many

others who had given encouragement in the dark days of his journey back to God's light.

Mike has reestablished himself in the community in a lawn care and car detailing business with his friend, Jason Coleman. Jason himself was recently baptized at Windy Cove; and he, his wife, April, and Mike have become regular worshipers.

Unique Opportunity

The Maury River Mission Community that includes Windy Cove is sponsoring a fellowship event at the Young Life Camp on Brattons Run near Goshen. On Sunday afternoon, October 16, the camp will be open for activities at 2:30. Then, there will be a Picnic Supper around 5:00 with hot dogs and hamburgers provided. Folks attending are asked to fill in with side dishes and desserts.

Later in the evening the band called Spiritual Steel will perform. Spiritual Steel is a steel drum band focusing on Christian music. The band includes about 30 members from our southwest Virginia area. You can check them out on their website at <http://spiritualsteel.com>.

4 Cents and Food Pantry

Bring your pennies on Sunday, September 25, for our 4 Cents Hunger Offering. This money goes to support our local Food Pantry. The Food Pantry met on September 13 to serve approximately 50 households. This ministry was followed by

the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank Truck on September 20. The Food Truck often provides fresh produce to our underserved food area.

As we point toward our next Food Pantry on October 11, our extra **items for this month are canned fruit and peanut butter.** We will have the food box in the vestibule between now and October 10 for your extra offerings.

In the Future

Our Teen Retreat at Headwaters Lodge is scheduled for the weekend of October 15 and 16. The teens will journey to the Lodge on Saturday morning and return on Sunday afternoon. If you would like to sponsor a scholarship for a teen, check with Sharon Sherrard.

Mr. Sherrard has made plans to be in Washington on November 7, the day before our national election. The focus of this visit will be to worship and pray for our country at David's Tent prior to the election. He is looking forward to proclaiming the Word of God over our Nation's Capital at Ezra's Platform inside the tent. Several folks have already expressed a desire to join this ministry. Contact Sharon or Rob Sherrard to reserve a spot in their van or to see if we need additional vehicles.

Church folks will be packing Stop Hunger Now food boxes at Lexington Presbyterian Church on Sunday, November 13, at 2:30 p.m. These boxes have helped in disaster areas.