

Calendar of Ministries

- ✚ **Saturday, November 12**
Evening Prayers at 8
- ✚ **Sunday, November 13**
Sunday School at 9:45
Morning Worship at 11
- ✚ **Monday, November 14**
Morning Prayers at 8
- ✚ **Tuesday, November 15**
Morning Prayers at 8
Clothes Closet will be open today.
Food Truck, 10:30 to 1 p.m.
- ✚ **Wednesday, November 16**
Morning Prayers at 8
Bible Club at the High School at 8:08
Choir at 7 p.m.
- ✚ **Thursday, November 17**
Morning Prayers at 8

- ✚ **Friday, November 18**
Morning Prayers at 8
- ✚ **Saturday, November 19**
Evening Prayers at 8
- ✚ **Sunday, November 20**
Sunday School at 9:45
Morning Worship at 11
Teens meet at Millboro Elementary at 5
Community Thanksgiving Worship at
Woodland Church at 7:30
- We will have our regular issue of the *Weekly Word* next week. Then, we will take a week off for the Thanksgiving holiday.
- Our celebration of Advent and Christmas will begin on Sunday, November 27. Christmas Day falls on Sunday this year. We'll worship at 11, but not have Sunday School on Christmas.



The Weekly Word

Windy Cove Presbyterian Church
November 10, 2016

Don't Take Offense, Forgive

The presidential election is over, but what effect the election will have remains to be seen. Those results will be worked out over the next days, weeks, months, and years of a new presidency. In the immediate aftermath of such a tumultuous campaign and surprising election result, one caution for Christians (and for others open to it) is to not take offense at the outcome of the election.

When so much time and energy has been invested, when emotions are running high, when deep disappointment overwhelms, it is easy to take offense. Offense is the response that people often have when they have suffered a wrong or hurt inflicted by another person or by the circumstances of life. Offense includes the desire to get some measure of revenge or justice for the wrong suffered. The problem with offense is that it can and often does lead to a downward spiral of sin. That spiral of sin includes anger, bitterness, resentment, hatred, violence, and even murder. It's not a pretty picture.

The Christian quality of forgiveness can break this downward spiral. Forgiveness begins with an honest appraisal that one has suffered a hurt or

wrong. It requires one to identify and probe the wound that has been suffered. Such probing is painful.

Then, forgiveness requires a person to voluntarily give up the right to retaliate against the person or circumstances that have caused the hurt. Forgiveness includes not extracting the justice that is due for the hurt caused. Instead, as Christians, we are called upon to love that person with the love of Jesus.

However, forgiveness is very difficult. Besides the hurt itself, it's hard to give up the right of justice we think that we deserve. Yet, forgiveness is very powerful. It can lead to deep healing and reconciliation. Those are qualities our country surely needs.

Take Note

Some upcoming events include:

Food Truck on Tuesday, Nov 15 Clothes Closet will most likely be open that day as well.

Community Thanksgiving Worship, Nov 20 at Woodland Church at 7:30 with Mr. Sherrard preaching

Fellowship Lunch and Decorating Day, Nov 27 after worship. After lunch we'll help our Worship Ministry decorate.

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Resurrection Messages

After considering the fact of the resurrection of Jesus as the foundation of the Christian faith, Windy Covians on November 6 built on that foundation as they reflected on five messages of the resurrection. The question was this: What difference does the resurrection of Jesus make for our lives?

Here are five answers to that question. First and most basic, Jesus' resurrection confirms that there is life after death. Most Christians take this idea for granted. But, many around the world do not. Jesus' resurrection proves that there is life after death. It's not speculation; it's a fact.

Secondly, Jesus' resurrection testifies that God has forgiven people their sins and that reconciliation with God is possible through faith in Jesus. In 2 Corinthians 5 Paul says, "For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ." A corollary of this message is that, as Christians, we can and ought to forgive others who have wronged us. (Remember our lead article on the front page today?)

Thirdly, Jesus' resurrection confirms the triumph of good over evil in our world. Not many would deny that we live in a world that contains much evil, that there is a struggle between good and evil. Jesus' resurrection says that the

war has been won even if there are substantial battles still to be fought. In Jesus' death, the appearance was that evil had conquered good. The only perfectly righteous person had been put to death unjustly. At Jesus' resurrection, we learn that his very death was the way evil was defeated. People were set free to worship God; and though evil still has some power, evil has been defeated. In the words of the old hymn, "There's victory in Jesus."

Next, Jesus' resurrection confirms that Jesus was teaching and living the true way of life. His life is the way God has ordained true life to be. Jesus taught much about how a person should live: to love even your enemies, to be kind and generous, to practice hospitality, and many other things. Jesus' death called these teachings into question, but his resurrection confirmed them as the true way to live.

Finally, Jesus' resurrection establishes that God's plan for history is being worked out even when we can't accurately discern it. In one resurrection appearance to two disciples on the road to Emmaus, Jesus shows them from the Jewish Bible (the Old Testament) all the things concerning himself. He explains to them how all these things have worked out to fulfill God's plan for his life and the world. God's purposes for history are being worked out, and Jesus' death and resurrection are the central

events in that plan.

On Sunday, November 13, the congregation will focus on Jesus the Messiah as the foundation and cornerstone of a person's life.

Praying in Washington

On Monday, November 7, the day before the election, Traci Herscher, Sharon Sherrard, and Pastor Rob Sherrard spent the day in Washington, D.C. worshiping, praying, and proclaiming God's word over the city. These three drove to the Metro Station at Vienna, VA and took the Metro downtown. Traci took a slight detour to have lunch with her son, Gates, who lives in the D.C. area. Just after lunch she reunited with the Sherrards at David's Tent.

The Tent is now located in Constitution Gardens just west of the Washington Monument and just north of the World War 2 memorial. They spent about four hours in and around the tent where worship is non-stop. In fact, shortly after their arrival, the gatekeeper at the Tent asked Mr. Sherrard if he were the leader of the next praise team to help with worship. As tempting as the offer was, Rob declined to step up on the platform and seize the lead microphone.

Another highlight at the Tent was the arrival of a group of cowboys from the southwest part of the United States. These cowboys were Riding for Revival. They had journeyed from Texas, Arkansas, and

Louisiana to Washington on horseback. However, that same morning they had not been allowed to ride their horses across the bridge into the District. Nevertheless, they got to the Tent for a concluding service for their journey.

Traci, Sharon, and Rob also read from Ezra's Platform. As it happened, the readings were from the Gospels of Mark and Luke. Rob finished Mark and later read a substantial portion of Luke.

At twilight, the trio walked to Capitol Hill to the Upper Senate Park for a prayer rally sponsored by the Jefferson Gathering, a ministry of Skyline Wesleyan Church of San Diego, CA. The Gathering meets every Wednesday in the Capitol Building for worship and prayer and includes members of Congress, staffers, and others working on Capitol Hill. For Sunday—Tuesday of election week, the group sponsored nightly rallies across from the Capitol inviting folks to come and pray for the nation, our leaders, and the election.

Arriving early to the site, our Windy Cove trio helped set of the sound equipment for the meeting. Then, with others they worshiped and prayed together for an hour and a half. The event was streamed live across the nation and recorded for the Christian Broadcasting Network news. Our Windy Cove Prayer Warriors appeared in the news on Tuesday's CBN broadcast. After a full day, they arrived home at 12:45 a.m.