

## Calendar of Ministries

✚ **Saturday, December 10**  
Evening Prayers at 8

✚ **Sunday, December 11**  
Sunday School at 9:45  
Morning Worship at 11

✚ **Monday, December 12**  
Morning Prayers at 8

✚ **Tuesday, December 13**  
Morning Prayers at 8  
Food Pantry, 1:30 to 4 p.m.

✚ **Wednesday, December 14**  
Morning Prayers at 8  
Bible Club at the High School at 8:08  
Choir at 7 p.m.

✚ **Thursday, December 15**  
Morning Prayers at 8

✚ **Friday, December 16**  
Morning Prayers at 8

✚ **Saturday, December 17**  
Evening Prayers at 8

✚ **Sunday, December 18**  
Sunday School at 9:45  
Morning Worship at 11  
Teens meet at 5 and Millboro Elementary

**Spread the word about Christmas Eve worship at 7:30 p.m. celebrating the Messiah's birth with Communion. A personal invitation is often what brings people to church and precipitates a closer relationship to God.**

**On Christmas Day, we will have worship at the regular time, but we will not have Sunday School. We dedicate that early morning to family celebrations.**



# The Weekly Word

**Windy Cove Presbyterian Church  
December 8, 2016**

## Sacrifice

On December 8, 1941 President Franklin D. Roosevelt appeared before a joint session of the United States Congress to request a declaration of war against the Empire of Japan. His request was prompted by the unprovoked Japanese attack the previous day, December 7, 1941, on Pearl Harbor in Hawaii. President Roosevelt's speech began with the memorable words:

*Yesterday, December 7, 1941, a date which will live in infamy, the United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked by naval and air forces of the Empire of Japan.*

In World War II, over 400,000 American military men and women sacrificed their lives in service to their country and to the ideals of freedom and justice in the world. Over 1,100 sailors serving on the USS Arizona died during the initial attack at Pearl Harbor. Many of these veterans remain entombed within the ship; and since 1982, more than 30 of their 1941 shipmates have been interred with them at the Arizona Memorial in Pearl Harbor. This year we mark the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the service and sacrifice of those who witnessed first-

hand the fateful events of that "date which will live in infamy."

Providentially, our worship at Windy Cove during advent is focusing on the quality of character that we call "sacrifice." The study of Jesus as the Messiah of God has led us to examine the Suffering Servant passage in Isaiah 52:13 through Isaiah 53:12. On Sunday, December 4, the congregation considered the very nature of sacrifice as applied to Jesus.

The Bible often speaks of sacrifice in terms of animal sacrifice. Many passages speak of different animals being sacrificed for the benefit of human beings. However, the Bible is clear that such animal sacrifices could

*(Continued Inside)*

### **Take Note**

#### **December 11**

Regular Schedule of Sunday School at 9:45 and Worship at 11. Christmas Card Mailbox is ready for your cards.

#### **December 13, Tuesday**

Food Pantry meets from 1:30 to 4 p.m.

#### **December 18**

Regular Schedule of Sunday School at 9:45 and Worship at 11. Teens meet at 5 at Millboro Elementary School.

Windy Cove Pres. Church  
102 Windy Cove Road  
Millboro, VA 24460  
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## **Sacrifice (Cont.)**

never deal completely or permanently with the rupture in the relationship between God and his creation that sin had caused. Besides, it's hard for us as modern people to understand animal sacrifices. It seems like a world so far away from the one we know. However, as indicated by the beginning of this article, we are familiar with sacrifice such as the sacrifice of veterans to keep us safe and free.

There are some other modern examples that may help us understand the nature of sacrifice. For instance, in the grocery store someone may not have quite enough money to pay the bill. Another person may offer to make up the difference—if it's not too costly to pay the deficit. Again, someone at work may agree to trade work days with you so that you can do something necessary or celebrate on a particular day. It's not much of a sacrifice, but it's a little something to make your life go better.

More seriously, some companies have personnel policies that allow employees to donate vacation or sick days to others who need such extra leave time in an emergency. One person is sacrificing his or her time or money for the benefit of another. At an even deeper level, some folks sacrifice body parts to benefit another. Kidney transplants have become much more common in recent years. Often

family members are a close match and are motivated by a desire to help relatives with problems.

We do know that some are willing to sacrifice their own lives to save others. We hear heroic stories of soldiers falling upon a grenade or an improvised explosive device to protect and save others. We read that the unofficial motto of the Secret Service detail that protects the President as being "willing to take a bullet" to save the President's life.

These more modern examples of sacrifice help us understand just how remarkable Jesus' ministry as the Messiah was. The familiar hymn, "Ivory Palaces," reminds us that Jesus' sacrifice was motivated by "his great, eternal love." He gave up the privileges of heaven; he came to earth as a human being; he humbled himself even further by dying as a criminal to pay our penalty as sinners.

Worship closed last Sunday as we sang another reminder, "Jesus Paid It All." Yes, "Jesus paid it all; all to him I owe. Sin had left a crimson stain; he washed it white as snow." What an incredible sacrifice for us.

## **An Answer to Prayer**

In case you missed last Sunday, we wanted you to hear about an amazing testimony of healing that was told at worship. Last week the Sherrards received a note from Faye Simons. Faye lives in Atlanta with her

son Dewey. She requested prayer for her grandson, Michael, who was a patient at Stonewall Jackson Hospital in Lexington. He was scheduled for surgery to remove a blockage in his intestines.

The Sherrards arranged to visit Michael last Saturday evening. When they knocked on the door of his hospital room, Michael's mother, Patti, answered and proclaimed, "We've had a miracle here today." Patti and Michael explained that he had indeed been scheduled for surgery. Michael's surgeon had scheduled the operation following an X-ray that confirmed the blockage.

However, the X-ray technician was our own Traci Herscher. As Traci finished the X-ray, Patti, Michael, and Traci had joined in prayer. Michael reported that he felt something like tingling while Traci was praying. In a short time, Michael told his Mom that he was feeling a little better, not so much pain as before. Then, he made several trips to bathroom passing the blockage in stages.

When the doctor came for a pre-op meeting a little later, Michael said he was feeling much better and did not think surgery was necessary. The doctor was incredulous saying she didn't know how that was possible. Yet, with God all things are possible. By the evening, Michael was feeling so much better that he rejoiced with the Sherrards over God's miracle and confirmed everything as Sharon Sherrard prayed for him.

## **This and That**

We still have opportunities on our Angel Tree. One is for an adult male, and several are for the Comfort Care Women's Center in Lexington. Check those out on Sunday.

Although it was cloudy on Sunday morning, December 4, worship somehow seemed a little brighter. The reason was that Windy Cove had received an early and anonymous Christmas gift of a new projector for showing announcements and hymns on the front wall. Worship helper Sharon Sherrard had tried a new bulb in the old projector, but there was little if any improvement in the quality of the images. On the other hand, the new projector with its improved technology made a tremendous difference in picture quality. Images were both brighter and sharper than before. Thank you, Lord, for this new gift!

Since our decorating day on December 4, some other beautiful appointments have been added to the sanctuary including a unique shadow screen of the nativity and some additional candles. We will soon have our Christmas poinsettias. If you would like to give an extra offering for the Christmas flowers, see Tammy Lindsay, Traci Herscher, or Bruch Cambata. If you desire, you may remember or honor someone with this gift.

Also, Tammy can tell you about the coming Community Choir.