

Calendar of Ministries

✚ Saturday, March 18, 2017

Evening Prayers at 7:30

✚ Sunday, March 19

Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.

Congregation meets at 11 to elect members to our Nominating Committee

Morning Worship follows the congregational meeting.

Teens meet at Millboro Elementary at 5

✚ Monday, March 20

Morning Prayers at 8

Men's Bible Study with supper at 5:45 and study at 6:30. Pizza is still on the menu since we postponed last week.

✚ Tuesday, March 21

Morning Prayers at 8

Food Truck, Delivery around 10 with distribution around 11:30

✚ Wednesday, March 22

Morning Prayers at 8

Bible Club at the High School, 8:08

Choir at 7 p.m.

✚ Saturday, March 25

Clean Up Day starts at 9 with lunch around noon.

Evening Prayers at 7:30

✚ Sunday, March 26

Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.

Morning Worship at 11

Session meets for lunch.

We received news last week of the death of Christie Hardbarger's mother, Mrs. Conner. We pray God's comfort for Christie and her sister, Tammy. May God's peace overshadow the family as they adjust to this loss.



The Weekly Word

Windy Cove Presbyterian Church

March 16, 2017

Pack the Pews

Linda Tennant Weiss has issued a fun challenge and reward to correspond with our Lenten journey toward Easter. She's calling on Windy Covians to Pack the Pews on the three Sundays prior to Easter: March 26, April 2, and April 9.

Linda noticed the sometimes-obvious difference between the number of people who sit on one side of the sanctuary rather than the other. It's not always the same side that is more populated, but the difference is often noticeable. So, she is challenging the folks who regularly sit on one side or the other to fill up their side for the next three Sundays.

As an incentive, Linda will prepare lots of desserts for the congregation to share after worship on Sunday, April 9. Here's the reward! The side with the most total worshippers for the three Sundays will have first choice of the desserts. Of course, we will figure a way to split up the choir and the "under-the-clock" folks to make things even between the sides. In addition to picking your

basketball brackets in March and early April, pick your pews.

For those who may be practicing some discipline and self-denial with desserts during Lent, remember that traditional feast days including Sundays are not normally included in Lent. So, look forward to your dessert and Pack the Pews during Lent.

We are always grateful for those who do fill the pews whenever they choose to sit. Worship is the most characteristic activity of the people of God. People have gathered for worship along the banks of the Cowpasture River since the early 1740s. We treasure that same opportunity.

Take Note

Sunday, March 19, 2017

Sunday School, 9:45; Congregational Meeting at 11; Worship will follow.

Mr. Sherrard will return to the pulpit and continue his Lenten series focused on hope and the future.

Saturday, March 25

Clean-up Day at the Church begins at 9 a.m. to get things in shape for Easter. Lunch provided around noon.

Windy Cove Pres. Church
102 Windy Cove Road
Millboro, VA 24460
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Prophecy

In one of his classes at Dabney S. Lancaster Community College, Mr. Sherrard has recently been reviewing with his students the Bible stories of the kings and prophets. They have looked at Samuel and King Saul, Nathan and King David, Elijah and King Ahab, as well as Elisha, Amos, Hosea, and Isaiah. This study along with some video presentations from the Prophetic Conference at Bethel Church in Redding, CA has stimulated his thinking about prophetic pronouncements.

When most people hear the word "prophecy" today, they are usually thinking of predictions about the future. Biblical prophets often did talk about the future, but their real mission was to proclaim God's word whether about the past, the present, or the future. The most characteristic phrase in the Bible from the prophets is, "This is what the Lord says," followed by God's word on some part of God's relationship with the people. When that word was spoken, it sent forth a powerful movement in the history of individuals or nations. Isaiah 55 declares that God's word **will** accomplish the purpose for which it has been sent forth.

Several questions that occur in contemplation of this process deserve attention. First, do

these prophetic words always transpire just as they are pronounced? And, how do these prophecies interact with human free will? In other words, how do these prophecies truly work out in the course of history?

For example, God promised Abraham that he and his descendants would inhabit the land of Canaan. However, by the time of Abraham's death, the only property he owned in Canaan was a burial cave. The future fulfillment of this promise was many generations off. Indeed, it was not fully realized until the extended kingdoms of David and Solomon.

On several occasions, Abraham tried to interpret this prophecy or promise of God and missed the mark. When he and Sarah continued childless, Abraham decided that he must use Sarah's servant Hagar as a surrogate mother to aid God's promise. Ishmael was born of this union, but God told Abraham that Ishmael would not be the child of the promise.

In the next few Sundays, Mr. Sherrard will be reflecting on these questions while thinking about Windy Cove's past, present, and future. One thing Christians do know for certain: God is a God of hope. God's message of hope brings God's bright future back into the present as inspiration for people.

From Babes and Infants

Folks who attended Mary Doug Durham's funeral last Wednesday were privileged to experience one of those unexpected God moments. As a transition from the Old Testament readings to the readings from the New Testament, Mr. Sherrard had selected the simple song "Jesus Loves Me."

As the pianist, Mrs. Bruffey, began to play, two of Mary's great grandchildren began to sing, "Jesus loves me; this I know, for the Bible tells me so." They continued on through the chorus, "Yes, Jesus love me. Yes, Jesus loves me. . ." In the very still chapel at Nicely Funeral Home, these children gave excellent testimony of God's care.

Mr. Sherrard commented later that he had rarely used "Jesus Loves Me" in funeral services. Yet, in his preparation, that song came immediately to mind; and he included it. In reacting to the moment during the funeral, he thought of the words from Jesus, "From the mouths of babes and infants, you have obtained perfect praise."

Mary Doug always kept up with her family. She was extremely proud of her boys, her grandchildren, and her great grandchildren. She could always recount for you what various ones were doing and where they were headed. So, we know that she would have been very pleased to hear this beautiful testimony from the little ones.

Clean Up Day for Easter

The Session has scheduled a general Clean Up Day at the church for Saturday, March 25. That's the day when we will get our building and grounds shaped up for Easter which arrives on April 16. Outside work will include picking up any trash around the church road, trimming bushes, raking leaves and sticks, cleaning and repairing the gutters, washing windows, and other jobs. Inside work will include general cleaning and straightening up of the church. It's a day when more hands will make for lighter work. Make plans to pitch in.

Speaking of Easter, it's Windy Cove's turn to host the Easter Breakfast following the Easter Sunrise Service. It looks as if we can start our Sunrise Service around 6:30 this year because of the time change and late date for Easter.

According to an internet article from Time Magazine, the very first Easter Sunrise Service in America was held by Moravian Christians in Winston-Salem, NC in 1773. Moravians were part of the Protestant Reformation in central Europe. The tradition of a Moravian Sunrise Service started in Germany in 1732.

Windy Covians have joined with their Christian sisters and brothers from Calvary Baptist Church to continue this tradition atop the hill on Windy Cove Farm and then to enjoy breakfast together at one of the churches in Millboro Springs.