

## Calendar of Ministries

### ✚ Saturday, March 25, 2017

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 after worship.

### ✚ Monday, March 27

Morning Prayers at 8  
Men's Bible Study with supper at 5:45 and study at 6:30. Hamburgers are on the menu for this week.

### ✚ Tuesday, March 28

Morning Prayers at 8

### ✚ Wednesday, March 29

Morning Prayers at 8  
Bible Club at the High School, 8:08

Choir at 7 p.m.

### ✚ Saturday, April 1

Haiti Mission Team meets for supper at 5:30 with first orientation to follow  
Evening Prayers at 7:30

### ✚ Sunday, April 2

Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.  
Morning Worship at 11  
Teens at 5 p.m.

**The congregation held a meeting on March 19 to elect members to a Nominating Committee. The congregation elected Terry King, Paul Lancaster, and Sharon Sherrard to serve on the Committee. These three folks from the congregation will join two members from the Session to compose the Committee. At a later meeting, this Committee will submit nominations for elders to serve on the Session.**



# The Weekly Word

**Windy Cove Presbyterian Church  
March 23, 2017**

## God's Powerful Prophetic Word

On Sunday, March 19, Windy Cove worshipers focused their attention on God's powerful and prophetic word. They began with a reminder from Isaiah 55:10-11:

*For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.*

For the Lord, Isaiah boldly proclaims that when God speaks forth his word, that powerful word will accomplish the purpose for which it has been sent forth.

Several illustrations make this point clear. For example, in creation God said, "Let there be light and there was light." Once the powerful word was spoken, what was spoken came to pass. In the New Testament, Jesus words had the same impact. When Jesus

told the lame man to take up his bed and walk, that's exactly what he did. Jesus himself, as the living word of God, accomplished God's purpose of bringing eternal life to all those who trusted in Jesus. God's word is powerful.

But, there is more to the understanding of God's promises or prophetic words. Although the fulfillment of God's word can be immediate as it was in creation, often there is a process. First, the prophetic word is planted like a seed. Then, there is a period of growth while the word moves toward its fulfillment. Finally, there is a harvest of the promise

*(Continued Inside)*

### Take Note

**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.

**Sunday, March 26, 2017**

Sunday School at 9:45; Worship at 11  
Session meets for lunch after worship.

**Saturday, April 1**

Haiti Mission Team meets for fellowship and orientation at 5:30.

Windy Cove Pres. Church  
102 Windy Cove Road  
Millboro, VA 24460  
Address Service  
Requested

U. S. Postage  
Non-profit Org.  
Permit # 2  
Millboro, VA 24460

## Word (Cont.)

or prophetic word of God. This process of planting, growing, and harvesting may take place over a period of hours, days, years, centuries, or even millennia. Many of the messianic prophecies that appear in the Old Testament saw hundreds of years pass before they were fulfilled in the life of Jesus.

During this intervening time of growth between the planting and the harvesting of the prophetic word, we see in history how various people reacted to that powerful word of God. Some joyfully received the word and responded to it; some rejected God's word and suffered for that rejection; some misunderstood the word; some threatened the word. All these responses are clearly seen throughout the Bible.

Though surprised, Mary joyfully received God's word from the Angel Gabriel. When she was told that she would be the mother of the Messiah, she responded, "Let it be to me according to your word." On the other hand, the Egyptian Pharaoh resisted God's word to "Let my people go," when they were slaves in Egypt.

Abraham and Sarah knew that God had promised them a child; but after years without bearing a child, they took matters into

their own hands by offering Hagar to Abraham as a surrogate mother. However, when Ishmael was born, God proclaimed that Ishmael was not the harvest of the promise of descendants. Sarah and Abraham had misunderstood God's word of promise. Fourteen years later, Abraham and Sarah had Isaac who was the child God has promised.

Here's the question which the congregation faced on Sunday: How do we respond to the prophetic words in our lives? Mr. Sherrard told the personal story of how his Sunday School teachers used to tell him, "Robert, you should be a minister." At the time, he was open to such a word but didn't pay much attention to it. After years of growth, that word was confirmed to him in a time of midnight prayer while he was in the Navy. When he awakened Sharon to tell her about that confirmation, she recalled a prophecy that had been spoken over her as a child, "You will be married to a pastor." In due time, God's word was fulfilled in their lives.

God's words are also spoken into the lives of churches. In the 1740s the Reverend John Craig turned down the call to a settled congregation in Pennsylvania to accept the call to a frontier congregation which became the Tinkling Spring Church in Fishersville. As soon as Craig came to

the area, he preached farther into the wilderness including an outpost on the Cowpasture River. Under Alexander Craighead that outpost became organized as Windy Cove Church. Windy Cove is still growing that prophetic word of harvesting souls for the Lord along the banks of the Cowpasture River.

What about the words God has spoken into your life? Have they been received? Are they in the process of growth? Have some already been fulfilled? Mr. Sherrard will continue this line of thinking on Sunday, March 26, with a reflection on hearing and following the voice of God. We hope you will join us for that consideration.

## Listen Carefully

Mr. Sherrard got a surprise at the door on Sunday as people left the sanctuary. One parishioner mentioned that she had not understood him at first when he told the story of his Sunday School teachers prophesying that he should be a minister. She thought the teachers had said, "Robert, you should be a **menace**."

Now **that** prophecy was actually fulfilled when Mr. Sherrard was in the seventh grade. For about a year of his pre-adolescence, he was a menace to his school teachers and probably some others as well! Fortunately, the Lord later delivered him from the continued destiny of being a menace to those near him.

## Odds and Ends

Don't forget that our Pack the Pews challenge begins on Sunday, March 26. We will be counting the folks sitting on the north and south sides of the sanctuary during Morning Worship. For three Sundays, we'll keep a running total. Then on April 9, we'll have dessert together following worship. The side that has had the highest total of worshipers will get to select their desserts first.

Remember also that Saturday, March 25, is our Clean-Up Day at church. We can really use the help of lots of folks, and we'll have more opportunity for fellowship as well. Inside and outside jobs will be available. After a morning of working, we will share lunch together.

## People and Prayers

We had an encouraging word from Tennessee from Ruth Cauley's daughter, Phyllis Persinger. Phyllis wrote that Ruth is feeling much better and that her doctors are well satisfied with her progress. You will remember that Ruth had a spell at home and was at Roanoke Memorial Hospital about a month ago. Phyllis now reports that she expects Ruth to be back in Bath County around the first of April.

We are grateful to James McCray for cleaning at the church during Ruth's absence. James has been gracious to step in while Ruth is away. Thanks so much, James.