

Calendar of Ministries

✠ Saturday, September 9, 2017

Evening Prayers at 7:30

✠ Sunday, September 10

Homecoming Worship at 11

Group Picture following worship

Dinner on the Grounds around 12:30

Photo sessions begin at 1 p.m.

✠ Monday, September 11

Morning Prayers at 8

Photo Sessions resume at 1 p.m.

✠ Tuesday, September 12

Morning Prayers at 8

Food Pantry, 1:30 to 4 p.m.

College Teaching for Mr. Sherrard at 10 and 1

✠ Wednesday, September 13

Morning Prayers at 8

Choir at 7:30 p.m.

✠ Thursday, September 14

Morning Prayers at 8

College Teaching for Mr. Sherrard at 10 and 1

✠ Friday, September 15

Morning Prayers at 8

✠ Saturday, September 16

Teen Retreat at Headwaters Lodge, bus leaves the church at 8:30 a.m.

Evening Prayers at 7:30

✠ Sunday, September 17

Teen Retreat continues at Headwaters Lodge with kids returning to the church around 5 p.m.

Sunday School resumes at Windy Cove at 9:45 a.m.

Morning Worship at 11



The Weekly Word

Windy Cove Presbyterian Church

September 7, 2017

Homecoming: A Picture in Time

On Sunday, September 10, Windy Covians will return to the Windy Cove Sanctuary for their Homecoming Worship at 11. The theme for this year's Homecoming will be A Picture in Time. To flesh out this idea, we will be looking at some of the significant turning points in the history of Windy Cove. With that theme in mind, we want to stimulate your thinking with a brief review of the history of the church since its founding

The records of the earliest preaching along the Cowpasture River indicate that the Reverend John Craig was ordained in 1740 by Donegal Presbytery near Philadelphia to accept a call to what would become Tinkling Spring Presbyterian Church in Fishersville. After consolidating the work around Tinkling Spring, Mr. Craig undertook extensive journeys to outlying areas farther west including preaching to other Scotch-Irish (or Scots-Irish) settlers along the banks of the Cowpasture (now Windy Cove) and Calfpasture (now Rocky Spring near Deerfield).

Following upon these early efforts, the Reverend Alexander Craighead, ordained by Donegal Presbytery in 1736, settled along the Cowpasture in the mid-to-late 1740s and organized Windy Cove by 1749.

The first meeting house of the church was a log structure about one mile south of Millboro Springs. There is a memorial stone that marks the spot, but the information on the stone is not entirely correct. Mr. Craighead remained as the pastor of Windy Cove until 1755 when he moved with many people from the congregation to the Charlotte, NC area.

(Continued Inside)

Take Note

Homecoming Schedule, September 10

Morning Worship at 11 a.m.

Group Picture in front of the Church, immediately following worship

Dinner on the Grounds, around 12:30

Photo Sessions begin at 1 p.m. and continue until 8 p.m.

No Sunday School on Homecoming

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

Pastor: Rob Sherrard

Email: wpcpcp@cfw.com Phone: 540-997-5395

Homecoming (Cont.)

His departure from Virginia was likely caused by the conflict between the European settlers and the native Americans and by his constant friction with Virginia colonial officials. This latter difficulty arose from his unwillingness to accept any restraint by the Episcopal (Established) Church of the Virginia colony. Mr. Craighead died in 1766 and is buried in Charlotte.

Following the departure of Mr. Craighead and many from the congregation, the remaining Christians struggled for a while. They did move their meeting place to another log building located about 100 yards west of the present church on the hill which encloses Blowing Rock Cave. The situation stabilized by 1789 when the Reverend John Montgomery became pastor of Windy Cove and Rocky Spring Churches. His ministry continued for sixteen years which at the time was the longest tenure of any Windy Cove pastor. Mr. Montgomery is buried in the Rocky Spring Cemetery near Deerfield.

In the fall of 1832, the Reverend Samuel Brown was licensed to preach the gospel by Lexington Presbytery. The Windy Cove charge was vacant at the time, and Mr. Brown preached a

year at the church before being ordained as its pastor. His tenure as Windy Cove's pastor lasted from 1832 to 1862 when he resigned due to declining health.

In 1838 the congregation decided to replace the third church building, a wooden structure, which had been erected on the site of the present church. Elder Samuel Crawford superintended the construction of the Sanctuary and Session House which are still in use today.

The Sanctuary was constructed of bricks made and fired on the property. The walls are three bricks thick with Flemish bond on the outer layer and plastered over on the inside. The Session House was re-pointed in 1993 as were the older portions of the church two years later. An old picture which first appeared in our Church History of 1929 to 1949 (p. 4) shows the 1838 church as it existed in its original state.

For 30 years Samuel Brown labored as the pastor of Windy Cove Church. His father had been the pastor at New Providence Church, and his mother, Mary Moore, had in earlier years been carried off as a captive in the Abb's Valley raid. Mr. Brown had a wide-ranging ministry in the frontier area that included Bath County. Up the

Cowpasture River, he preached at Williamsville, McDowell, and Doe Hill. To the west his ministry extended to Warm Springs, the Jackson River, and Back Creek as well as to Monterey, Crab Bottom, and Franklin. To the East, he ministered for 20 years at Lebanon Church near Craigsville.

The approach of the Civil War matched a decline in Christian ministry at Windy Cove. In a letter to a friend, Pastor Brown noted that people did not seem as interested in Christian commitment and service as they once had been. The community also experienced an outbreak of typhoid fever in the summer of 1859. There were many who fell ill and quite a few died including ten in the household of John Bratton who apparently brought the fever back after a visit to Charlottesville.

Thirty years later, eastern Bath County experienced perhaps the greatest Christian revival of its history. Records reveal that 113 persons were added to the church from the spring of 1894 to the spring of 1895. This number included 68 adult baptisms.

At a September 1894 meeting at Windy Cove, "Eighty-four (84) persons made professions of religion, a large majority of whom were admitted to full membership of the Presbyterian

Churches of Windy Cove and Millboro Depot, a small remainder being received by churches of other denominations." Similar meetings at Green Valley and Woodland also added people to God's Kingdom.

(Next week we will continue with our historical recollection and bring things up to date with our 2017 Homecoming.)

Photo Directory

Plans are coming together for a new photo directory for Windy Cove. We have scheduled individual and family photographic sessions for Sunday, September 10, and for Monday, September 11. Folks who sign up and have their pictures taken will receive **free 8 by 10 portraits of their choice**. Professional photographers from Lifetouch Photography will be taking pictures on both days from 1 p.m. until 8 p.m. Appointments are necessary.

As we indicated in the special mailing last week, these photo sessions are open to the public. So, feel free to mention this opportunity to friends in the community. All they need do is call the church at 997-5395 to set up their appointments. Most spaces on Sunday have already been reserved, but there are still plenty of appointments open for Monday, September 11.

Immediately after worship on Homecoming, we will have a group picture taken in front of the church.