

Calendar of Ministries

✚ Saturday, September 23, 2017

Evening Prayers at 7:30

✚ Sunday, September 24

Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.

Morning Worship at 11

Session meets after worship for lunch

✚ Monday, September 25

Morning Prayers at 8

✚ Tuesday, September 26

Morning Prayers at 8

College Teaching for Mr. Sherrard at 10 and 1

✚ Wednesday, September 27

Morning Prayers at 8

Choir at 7 p.m.

✚ Thursday, September 28

Morning Prayers at 8

College Teaching for Mr. Sherrard at 10 and 1

✚ Friday, September 29

Morning Prayers at 8

Negotiating Team meets with Presbytery representatives at 4:30

✚ Saturday, September 30

Evening Prayers at 7:30

✚ Sunday, October 1

World Communion Sunday

Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.

Morning Worship at 11 including a celebration of the Lord's Supper

Sunday School is an excellent way to learn more about your faith and to grow a deeper relationship with those in the church. If you have not been to Sunday School for a while, now is a good time to check it out again.



The Weekly Word

**Windy Cove Presbyterian Church
September 21, 2017**

Highland County Youth Retreat

Teens from Bath County spent the weekend of September 16 and 17 in retreat at Headwaters Lodge in Highland County. For twenty years this retreat has served as a rally at the beginning of the school year for local teens involved with Bible Club at Bath County High School. In recent years, Bible Club has been part of the local chapter of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

Last weekend saw a dozen teens and eight adult advisors gather for this year's retreat at Headwaters Lodge. The young people and their advisors left Windy Cove around 9 on Saturday morning to travel to the Lodge. Headwaters Lodge is located on Route 614 about 5 miles north of its intersection with U. S. 250 but south of Sugar Grove, WV. From Windy Cove it takes about an hour to travel to the Lodge via Williamsville and McDowell.

After a brief orientation, the teens separated into two groups, males and females, for a silent Prayer Walk. This Walk has been a focus of the retreat for many years. For an hour, an adult

leader guides the kids through the beautiful mountains with 11 prayer stops along the way. At each stop the group has an emphasis for prayer: 1. Awareness of their surroundings and the presence of God, 2. Those going with them on the walk and their journey through life, 3. The faithfulness of a loving God, 4. The peace and assurance of belonging to God in Christ, 5. Our country and its leaders, 6. Their school with its leaders, teachers, and staff, 7. Their families, 8. Their friends, 9. Themselves and their needs, 10. Their purpose and destiny in life, 11. Their blessings in life. During this walk,

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Take Note

Windy Cove has resumed its normal fall schedule with Sunday School at 9:45 and Morning Worship at 11 each Sunday. Usually there is opportunity for fellowship and refreshments prior to the beginning of Sunday School. Come and see!

Our Adult Bible Class is studying Genesis. Mike Grist usually teaches the class, but Mike will be away for a few Sundays in September and October. Jo Ann Shanks will lead the class on Sept. 24.

<p>Windy Cove Pres. Church 102 Windy Cove Road Millboro, VA 24460 Address Service Requested</p>	<p>U. S. Postage Non-profit Org. Permit # 2 Millboro, VA 24460</p>
<p>Pastor: Rob Sherrard Email: wpcpcp@cfw.com Phone: 540-997-5395</p>	

Retreat (Cont.)

everyone is encouraged to remain silent in their prayers and to enjoy the beauty, grandeur, and peace of God's creation. At the end of the Prayer Walk, each group debriefs the insights they have gained during the last hour.

Lunch is then served by the staff at Headwaters Lodge. The Lodge is an outreach of Youth Development Incorporated which is affiliated with Calvary Chapel churches throughout the United States. Many staff members come from these churches or have originally come to the camp as children and eventually come back to serve as members of the staff.

After lunch, the kids began activities on the high ropes course with the high swing and the short zip line. Each of the activities encourages participants to trust others, to overcome natural or perceived fears, and to develop courage in the face of adversity. Participants in all the activities are harnessed for maximum safety and monitored during the activity.

For example, on the high swing participants don a shoulder and a waist harness. Then, they are hooked by a carabiner to two steel cables to form a

swing. Using a lead rope, participants are pulled upward until they are nearly parallel to the ground. They jerk a rip cord which releases the tension on the cables allowing them to swing freely in an arc about thirty feet high. It's just like your ordinary backyard swing, only much higher from the ground with a bigger arc!

Additional activities of this nature in the two-day retreat included two different zip lines, one shorter and lower than the other, the trapeze swing, and the tire swing on the lower ropes course. In this last activity, the kids are challenged to move from one tire swing to another down a row of six such tire swings. It presents a challenge of strength, agility, and ingenuity to complete the run.

After supper on Saturday, the teens had their first meeting with Bible leader Ian Bell. Ian works construction as a day job and works with young people at a church in Roanoke in his off hours. This year was his third with the Bath County kids at Headwaters Lodge. He spoke about the progression of faith from being one without faith to experiencing more of God's fullness and gifts, to realizing the kingdom aspects of God's work to an even deeper sense of the continued presence of the Lord.

Ian followed up this message on Sunday morning by helping the teens to develop the prophetic gift of encouraging others. Under Sharon Sherrard's leadership, they also practiced the Christian activity of "soaking." Using music and a peaceful posture, Sharon encourages the young people to soak in the Lord's presence and let that presence saturate their lives.

All the teens and adults returned home late Sunday afternoon tired but filled up with a good sense of their relationship to Jesus and the presence of the Holy Spirit in their lives. As one young person expressed it to two adult leaders, "I really want to thank you for this weekend. I heard God speak to me: on the Walk and in the meeting."

Directory Follow-Up

Even though the pictures have been taken for our new church directory, we still have some follow-up to make the directory as useful as possible. First, we would like to get pictures of those who were not photographed by the professional photographers. We can submit up to ten of these supplied pictures without any added expense to the directories. So, you may receive a call in the weeks to come from one of us at church wanting to take your picture or have you send us one

of your choosing.

Secondly, we need to do a better job of listing telephone numbers and email addresses. As the pictures were being taken, we became aware that the information that we were filling out on the cards for the photographers would not be available for us to make a list for the directory. So, we will need to confirm the telephone numbers and email addresses that you would like to have in the directory.

For several Sundays, we will send around a list asking you for this information which will make the directory much more helpful to everyone.

Update on the Windy Cove Negotiating Team

The Negotiating Team was supposed to meet with the Chair of Presbytery's Administrative and Presbytery's lawyer on Friday, September 15. That meeting was postponed due to the illness of the Administrative Commission Chair. The meeting has been rescheduled for Friday, September 29, at 4:30 p.m.

The Windy Cove Negotiating Team continues to work toward a settlement with the Presbytery by which Windy Cove may be dismissed to the Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians. Please continue your prayers.