

Calendar of Ministries

- ✚ **Saturday, December 9, 2017**
Evening Prayers at 7:30
- ✚ **Sunday, December 10**
Second Sunday of Advent
Sunday School at 9:45 with refreshments around 9:30
Morning Worship at 11
- ✚ **Monday, December 11**
Morning Prayers at 8
- ✚ **Tuesday, December 12**
Morning Prayers at 8
Food Pantry, 1:30 to 4 p.m.
Mr. Sherrard has exams on Tuesday and Thursday of this week.
- ✚ **Wednesday, December 13**
Morning Prayers at 8
Bible Club at the High School at 8:08
Choir at 7 p.m.

- ✚ **Thursday, December 14**
Morning Prayers at 8
Exam day for Mr. Sherrard
- ✚ **Friday, December 15**
Morning Prayers at 8
- ✚ **Saturday, December 16**
Evening Prayers at 7:30
- ✚ **Sunday, December 17**
Third Sunday of Advent
Sunday School at 9:45 with refreshments around 9:30
Morning Worship at 11
Teens at Millboro Elementary at 5
- Poinsettia offerings are a good way to honor or remember someone special.**
- Visit our Angel Tree in the vestibule this Sunday. Lots of opportunities are left.**



The Weekly Word

**Windy Cove Presbyterian Church
December 7, 2017**

Advent Begins at Windy Cove

The Christian celebration of Advent started with lots of activity at Windy Cove on Sunday, December 3. The Communion Table had been rearranged with a wreath encircling four Advent Candles along with a Christ Candle. Midway through Morning Worship, Pastor Rob Sherrard highlighted the prophet Jeremiah.

Jeremiah has often been called the Reluctant Prophet. Jeremiah's title originates from his initial reluctance to respond to the call of the Lord to speak the Word of God and from the very stormy relationship that Jeremiah had with God throughout his prophetic ministry.

Nevertheless, Jeremiah always realized that his personal relationship with the Lord was the most important part of his life. Indeed, in Jeremiah 20, Jeremiah recounts that he tried not to prophesy God's message. However, he says that the Word of God became such a fire in his bones that he had to speak forth, releasing that Word for its intended purpose.

After this brief introduction, the congregation sang "Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus." As the congregation sang, Mr. Sherrard lit the first Advent Candle.

Later in worship, Jeremiah 31:31-34 became the subject of the congregation's consideration. This passage speaks of a new covenant that the Lord would institute with the people of God. The new feature of that covenant was not the substance of the covenant with God, but rather its administration.

From the time of Abraham, God's covenant has been a covenant of grace. Along the way,

(Continued Inside)

Take Note

December 10, 2017

Sunday School at 9:45

Morning Worship at 11:00 celebrating the Second Sunday of Advent focusing on Isaiah, the Willing Prophet

Don't forget to check the Angel Tree in the vestibule. We still have lots of angels worthy of your consideration.

We are taking offerings for the Redemption Fund. Total is now about \$80,000.

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Requested

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Permit # 2
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Advent (Cont.)

that covenant has been manifested or administered in different ways. For example, at the time of the Exodus, God's grace was made evident in the people's deliverance from Egypt and in the giving of the Mosaic law at Mount Sinai. In the time of David, the covenant was evident through the kingly ruler who could represent God's presence to the people.

In Jeremiah's time, God indicated that he wanted the covenant of grace to be a personal relationship with all those who were part of the covenant community. The fulfillment of that personal relationship between God and his people would be revealed in the presence and ministry of Jesus, the Messiah.

When Jesus came in history, he was Emmanuel meaning God with us. Jesus offers that personal relationship to the people of God. Even though he was God, Jesus came as a real human being. His very presence captivated people, drawing them into that personal relationship. He spent three years or so mentoring his disciples personally. When he returned triumphantly to heaven, Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to continue that close, personal relationship with people.

Congregational Meeting

At a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 3, the Windy Cove congregation affirmed two of its present trustees and elected one new trustee to serve as the board of the newly incorporated Windy Cove Presbyterian Church, Inc. This corporate body has been created according to the laws of Virginia to be the legal non-profit entity which holds title to the church's property. Otherwise, the functions of the church remain as they have been in the past. The Session elected by the congregation guides the direction of the church. The congregation with the help of the presbytery calls the pastor and provides for his compensation.

At the meeting on Sunday, the following system was adopted by the congregation. Trustees for the corporation will serve a three-year term with one trustee being elected each year. To start this new system, the congregation approved the following trustees:

Leo Shanks, Class of 2018

Sam Hepler, Class of 2019

Jon Eaton, Class of 2020.

The first duty of these trustees will be to aid the settlement with Shenandoah Presbytery.

Fellowship and Decorating

Besides worshipping God on Sunday, Windy Covians enjoyed sweet fellowship with each other at lunch. There were many kinds of soup and a variety of sandwiches and desserts.

During and after lunch, folks had the opportunity to wish Kim and Paul Lancaster Godspeed as they move from Bath County to the Lynchburg area. Kim and Paul have both retired from the Bath County School system. Their home in Millboro Springs sold rather quickly, and they needed to move by the end of November. They promise to visit us after things get settled in their new location.

After lunch many folks joined in decorating the church for Christmas. Wreaths were hung in the sanctuary as well as outside on windows and doors. A Christmas tree appeared in the Fellowship Hall and was lighted and decorated by an enthusiastic group.

Traci Herscher had a team of strong people rearranging platforms at the front of the sanctuary to receive the stand for a poinsettia tree. The tree will be completed when the Christmas flowers arrive at the church.

All in all, it was a very good day at Windy Cove.

Feeding the Children

(We continue last week's reprint from the Trinity-Hope newsletter about the Haitian mother and her children.)

"When I send my children to school, I am not afraid because I know they will receive something to eat at school. When they come back home, I don't have anything to give them to eat."

Wow. And to think we can provide this kind of impact on families for just \$0.25 per meal!

. . . Every dollar Trinity-Hope receives feeds a hungry child for almost an entire week. With your support, Trinity-Hope is making a difference and changing the lives of entire families in Haiti. We hear stories like this all the time and we give God the glory for continuing to bless the important work we do. We also give you our most sincere thanks for continuing to support these children, both financially and with your prayers.

. . . Over the last 18 years, Trinity-Hope has served over 30,000,000 meals to hungry children, teachers, and cooks in Christian schools throughout Haiti. We know God has plans for us to serve millions and millions more. . . God's continued blessings on the wonderful work we're doing together.