

Calendar of Ministries

✚ Saturday, February 17, 2018

Evening Prayers at 7:30

✚ Sunday, February 18

Fellowship Breakfast at 9

Video Presentation at 9:45

Morning Worship at 11 looking at entering the Kingdom of God

Teens at Millboro Elementary at 5

✚ Tuesday, February 20

Morning Prayers at 8

Mr. Sherrard meets his classes today.

Food Truck arrives around 9:30 with distribution around 11

✚ Wednesday, February 21

Morning Prayers at 8

Bible Club at the High School at 8:08

Choir at 7 p.m.



✚ Thursday, February 22

Morning Prayers at 8

Mr. Sherrard meets his classes today.

✚ Saturday, February 24

Evening Prayers at 7:30

✚ Sunday, February 25

Food and Fellowship at 9:30

Video Presentation at 10

Morning Worship at 11

Teen ski trip after worship

Session meets for lunch

The Windy Cove Session is searching for a member to act as secretary/clerk for the Session. The ministry includes keeping minutes of meetings and some record keeping of the rolls of the church. Free lunch once a month included!



The Weekly Word

Windy Cove Presbyterian Church

February 15, 2018

Preparation and Celebration of Lent

Luke 9:51 declares, “Not long before it was time for Jesus to be taken up to heaven, he made up his mind to go to Jerusalem.” In Luke’s presentation of the good news of Jesus, this verse heralds the beginning of the end of Jesus’ earthly ministry. From this time on in Jesus’ ministry, his goal is to go to Jerusalem to conclude the earthly messianic mission that God had entrusted to him.

In like manner, Lent provides a season when Christians can make up their minds to draw closer to Jesus as their Savior, risen Lord, and King. For those worshipping at Windy Cove, that journey began last Sunday, February 11. In worship the congregation considered the story of the Pharisee Nicodemus from John 3. Nicodemus is interested in Jesus’ teaching but wants to know more about God’s Kingdom.

Jesus tells Nicodemus that to enter the Kingdom of God one must be born “again.” The Greek word translated “again,” can also mean “anew” or “from above.” This overlap of meaning is a literary device that the Gospel-writer,

John, often uses to further explain Jesus and his ministry. So, the context of this meeting shows that Jesus is saying that a person must be born from above by the Spirit of God to enter the Kingdom of God. Nicodemus thinks about physical birth and can’t understand how a person can reenter the womb and be born a second time. The misunderstanding allows Jesus to guide the discussion to entry into God’s Kingdom by a rebirth of one’s spirit.

This focus on Nicodemus led the congregation to a reflection on other descriptions of how a person enters the Kingdom of

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Take Note

On Sunday, February 18
Fellowship Breakfast at 9
Video Presentation at 9:45
Morning Worship at 11

Teens at Millboro Elementary at 5
Food Truck

The third Tuesday is coming up on February 20. Food Truck arrives around 9:30 with distribution around 11 or so.

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Preparation (Cont.)

God. For example, in Acts 16 the Philippian jailer asks Paul and Silas, "What must I do to be saved?" They replied, "Have faith in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved!" The jailer was not dealing simply with metaphorical language. He was ready to kill himself because he believed his prisoners had escaped. "Being saved" was clearly on his mind, and Paul applies that idea to his entry into the Kingdom.

In order, the congregation then looked at the ideas of being justified, being redeemed, and being delivered. Each of these concepts has a different connotation which can help different individuals understand what it means to become part of God's Kingdom. Of course, these different descriptions all depend on the one way. Remember, Jesus says, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No comes to the Father except through me."

Windy Covians will continue this journey on February 18 as they look at the images of being washed, gaining rest, becoming a new creature, and being reconciled to God.

Ash Wednesday

Another part of the Lenten journey for the Windy Cove Congregation was the Ash Wednesday evening service February 14.

At that service the spotlight was on the idea of repentance. Repentance is a consistent, but often misunderstood, part of the gospel message. John the Baptist preaches a "baptism of **repentance** for the forgiveness of sins." Jesus comes into Galilee proclaiming the good news of God, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; **repent** and believe in the gospel." Jesus sends out his disciples to proclaim that people should **repent**. On the day of Pentecost at the coming of the Holy Spirit in power, people asked, "What shall we do?" Peter replied, "**Repent** and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

This consistent theme is often misunderstood. Modern people hear the words "repent" or "repentance," and they think of feeling sorry for something they have done. At times, that feeling might very well be part of repentance, but the core idea of repentance is a change of mind and heart. Repentance is a reorientation of life away from whatever keeps a person separated from God and a turning toward God. Repentance represents a transformation of thinking; and, because of that transformation of thinking, a transformation of

living. As Paul puts it in Romans 12, "Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think."

Video Series

Our video series, *Seeking Allah, Finding Jesus*, will also be an important part of our Lenten journey in 2018. We will kick off the series with a Fellowship Breakfast on Sunday, February 18. Breakfast begins at 9 with the Lenten study to start around 9:45. This study catalogues the spiritual journey of Nabeel Qureshi from being a practicing Muslim to being a committed Christian speaking his Christian faith to other Muslims. Along with the video study, each family will receive Qureshi's book which journals his journey of faith. The study will present attendees with the opportunity to learn more about the practice of Islam and to examine their own faith in Jesus as the Messiah.

Other Things to Look Forward to

The teens and Sharon Sherrard were disappointed on February 11 as the warm rain that moved into the Virginia/West Virginia area forced cancellation of the ski trip to Snowshoe. However, the teens will hold their regular meeting at Millboro Elementary

School on Sunday, February 18 at 5 p.m. The next ski trip is also planned for February 25 pending some cold weather and snow pack at Snowshoe.

The Session meets on Sunday, February 25. Our elders will still be working on the transition to the Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians (ECO). Session teams are also working on their ministry plans for 2018. One pressing need in Discipleship is for a Bible School Director. Mr. Sherrard and Elder Nancy Peery are ready to help train and get the Director started. Bible School week is June 18-22 with the program on Sunday, June 24.

The Session is also working toward the ordination/installation of two new classes of elders elected by the congregation. That service should take place in March.

The 2018 Haiti team has been organized and purchased their tickets for the trip in June/July. We have 9 members this year. They will have their first official orientation with Mr. Sherrard after Easter on April 8.

Speaking of Easter, the day this year is Sunday, April 1. We'll have our Maundy Thursday Communion on March 29. Mr. Sherrard has also been invited back to the Good Friday service at Piney Grove Baptist Church. And, Easter Sunrise is on the hill.