

## Calendar of Ministries

### ✚ Saturday, April 7, 2018

Evening Prayers at 7:30

### ✚ Sunday, April 8

Lenten Study at 9:45

Morning Worship at 11 with a Haitian flavor

Haiti Mission Team meets for lunch and orientation

### ✚ Monday through Friday, 9<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>

Mr. Sherrard ordinarily begins his day around 8 with Morning Prayers.

### ✚ Tuesday, April 10

Morning Prayers at 8

Mr. Sherrard teaches his college classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays

Food Pantry meets from 1:30 to 4

### ✚ Wednesday, April 11

Morning Prayers at 8

Bible Club at the High School at 8:08

Lenten Discussion at 6 p.m.

Choir at 7 p.m.

### ✚ Saturday, April 14

Evening Prayers at 7:30

### ✚ Sunday, April 15

Lenten Study at 9:45

Morning Worship at 11 with emphasis on our Core Values

Teens at Millboro Elementary at 5

**At press time we have no details, but we are praying for the Shanks' family in the death of Marie Shanks on Tuesday, April 3. May the Holy Spirit grant comfort and strength and peace to all the family.**



# The Weekly Word

Windy Cove Presbyterian Church

April 5, 2018

## Haiti Focus on April 8

On Sunday, April 8, the Windy Cove Congregation will focus on its Haiti ministry during worship. We expect to have one of our Haitian friends, Franz Saintilme, join us for worship. The day will also include the first meeting of the 2018 Haiti Mission Team as they meet for lunch and orientation following worship.

Windy Cove has had an active ministry in Haiti since 1984. That first team had ten members including Charolette Clark, Donna Ingram, Ray Cobb, Fran Hobbs, Helen Hutton, Chris Linkenhoker, and Pastor Rob Sherrard from our area. Out of town members Kay Goodman, Dawkins Hodges, and Paul Harris rounded out that very first team. The team began a partnership with Hospital Sainte Croix in Leogane, Haiti. That partnership lasted until 2001.

This first team also started our warm and rewarding relationship with Father Jean-Wilfrid Albert. Father Albert was an Episcopal priest who served as Chaplain at the hospital. Our friendship with Father Albert continued until his death in 2005. Many who joined

our trips to Haiti have said that their friendship with Father Albert was one of the most significant aspects of the Haiti experience and of their lives.

In 1989 the Episcopal Bishop of Haiti transferred Father Albert from the hospital to Saint Mathias Parish in the southern mountains of Haiti. When Windy Cove teams were working at the hospital, they would still spend a day or so in the mountains with Father Albert.

It was through Father Albert that Windy Covians also became friends with Frances Landers. Frances was a Presbyterian elder

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### **Take Note**

Sunday, April 8

Lenten Study begins at 9:45

Morning Worship at 11 with an emphasis on our Haiti ministry

Haiti Mission Team meets for lunch and for training.

On April 15 Mr. Sherrard will begin a new series of messages focused on the Core Values of the Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians

<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: <a href="mailto:wcpqp@cfw.com">wcpqp@cfw.com</a> Phone: 540-997-5395</p>	

## Haiti (Cont.)

from El Dorado, Arkansas. She had originally accompanied her husband, Dr. Gardner Landers to Hospital Sainte Croix on his mission trips to treat eye disease in Haiti.

However, Father Albert enlisted her to help build a school in the small community of Mercery. Frances began her own ministry of telling the story of Haitian children and their need for education. In the early years, Frances worked from her kitchen table in El Dorado; but her influence spread across the United States. She and Father Albert made a formidable pair as they did the Lord's work with passion and energy. Their partnership resulted eventually in the formation of the Haiti Education Foundation (HEF).

Windy Cove's work in Haiti in recent years has been in support of HEF. Windy Cove has sponsored a school in the mountains of Haiti which educates and feeds about 100 children during the school year.

Our friendship with Franz Saintilme began in the mid-1990s when he was a teenager. Franz and cousin, Lucson Celestine, made friends with the young people on our mission teams. Katy Sherrard and Jason Lancaster were two team members at that time.

On Sunday afternoon, our present Haiti Mission Team will hold their first orientation. Team members include Debbie Darcus, Bonnie Lee, Skylynn Lee, April Miller, Aaron Newmarker, Jay Newmarker, Tracey Spangler, Zoe Spangler, and Russ Woodzell. Elder Fran Hobbs and Pastor Rob Sherrard will help orient the team for the trip, but they will not make the trip themselves. At the meeting, team members will begin to develop their relationship with each other and will begin putting together the nuts and bolts of such a trip.

We hope to see many of you in worship on Sunday to support this long-standing ministry of Windy Cove.

## Easter Review

Windy Covians completed a meaningful Lenten and Easter season during Holy Week from Sunday, March 25 through Sunday, April 1. On the 25<sup>th</sup> worshipers were joyously waving palm branches in the service while the Choir sang "Hosanna, Hosanna." This praise echoed that of the crowds who welcomed Jesus to Jerusalem a week before his resurrection.

In Thursday evening's Communion Worship, the mood was more subdued. With a video presentation depicting events from the Gospel of Matthew, the

congregation joined Jesus and his disciples in the Upper Room. Communicants received the bread and juice as Jesus' disciples had at that last Passover meal. By the video, worshipers made the journey to witness Jesus' agony in the Garden of Gethsemane, to see his arrest by the authorities, and to observe his trial before Pontius Pilate, the Roman governor of Judea. Finally, Thursday's worship concluded with Jesus' suffering and death on the cross at Golgotha.

Several folks from Windy Cove were also present at Piney Grove Baptist Church on Good Friday for the service focused on Jesus' Seven Last Words from the cross. Mr. Sherrard's assignment was the First Word, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." Among other things, he emphasized the unique quality of this prayer of Jesus. For God to answer that prayer, Jesus had to die. Jesus was, in effect, praying for his own death.

The only path to forgiveness lay in Jesus' willingly offering himself as the once-and-forever sacrifice of atonement between human beings and God. Only Jesus could make this sacrifice since it had to be infinite to cover the sins of all human beings. The sacrifice had to be perfect and offered by a real person. Jesus was the only one

who was human and lived a sinless life. So, he had to be the one offered as the sacrifice.

Saturday was a day of reflection before the congregation came back together for the Easter Sunrise Service. In leading that worship on Windy Cove Farm, Mr. Sherrard noted that Easter had never previously fallen on April 1 in his 37 years at Windy Cove. He used that fact to introduce the idea of an April Fool's trick.

One early understanding of the meaning of the resurrection was that God had played a trick on the devil. In Jesus' death the devil believed that he had defeated the goodness and justice of God. The devil had arranged to kill the only truly righteous person, Jesus. However, God used Jesus' death to pardon all people who accept Jesus' sacrifice on their behalf. The resurrection proves that Jesus' death was God's victory not a defeat.

The sanctuary was comfortably filled for Easter's Morning Worship. Worshipers considered the ample evidence of Jesus' resurrection and celebrated their joy with the Lord's Supper. The Choir added to that atmosphere with their special, "Weep No More" for he has risen. Worshipers left with a renewed conviction that their faith in Jesus is not and will not be in vain.