

# OUR CHURCH NEWS



Bryson City Presbyterian Church



Delia Watkins	3rd
Ann Howard	3rd
Janis Wright	5th
Daniel Starling	11th
Bob Claxton	14th
Brandi Claxton	17th
Iris Waters	20th
Lloyd Randall	22nd
Rachel Lackey	24th
Sandy Wayman	24th
Percivle Bennett	25th
Amber Claxton Freshour	25th

## Happy Anniversary

Gail & Stephen Findly	8th
Dick & Carol Schaddelee	18th
Joe Atzenhoffer	
Jessie Greyer	27th

We will be having a Valentine's Day party and "potluck" Wednesday the 16<sup>th</sup>. Bring a dish to pass and a valentine for your sweetheart.

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### *"Small is Mighty"*

"Small is mighty," that is what my mother use to tell me when I was a teenager and mom thought I was "too big for my britches." She would look up at me with her less than five feet frame and dare me to cross her. I never did!

Now I find myself wanting to remind our church, "Small is mighty" to encourage us. Let's face it, 2010 was a tough year. Bad weather kept people from getting to church and our income comes from the plate more than pledges. Not to mention, it is hard to find new leadership when you have less than a hundred to choose from and everyone is so busy. And it is hard to grow a church when there are so many church options out there. How do you compete?

As the other ministers in my community tell me, "You don't compete. We can't be all things to all people. We can only be faithful to what God calls *US* to do."

So who are we and what is God calling us to do in 2011? What can we celebrate as we go into a new year that looks to be even more challenging than the last?

God is calling us to do what the church has always been called to do-share the good news of life in Jesus Christ. We can celebrate being small. For who introduced you to your faith? Most of us were introduced to and nurtured in our faith through a small group of people. Like the New Testament church, small groups sharing a meal, reading the scriptures, praying and praising the Lord together, and reaching out to others to draw them in is what being a church means. We can do that!

It is true that we need to grow, not only to survive, but to keep things new and fresh. But the beauty of a small church is that we don't need to grow too big that we don't know people's names. It is a gift to be a part of a community of faith that knows your name.

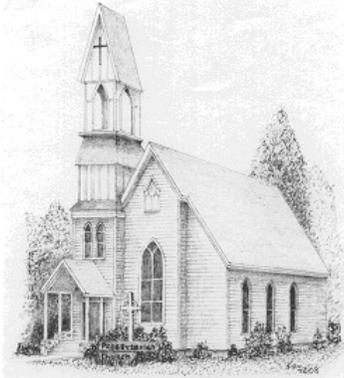
In this new year, may we celebrate who we are and the ministry we've been given. May we connect to one another in fellowship and worship and share our gifts as we continue to encourage one another. For we may be small but through God we can be mighty!

*"Let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another."*  
(Hebrews 10: 24-25)

*Pastor Terry Hanna*

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## "Presbyterian Women"

**Ruth Circle-** meets in the hut first Thursday night at 6:30 PM.

**Afternoon Circle-** meets at Jean Douthit's home at 1:00 PM on second Thursday.

**Women of the well-** meets in the parlor at 5:30 PM before our fellowship supper on the third Wednesday

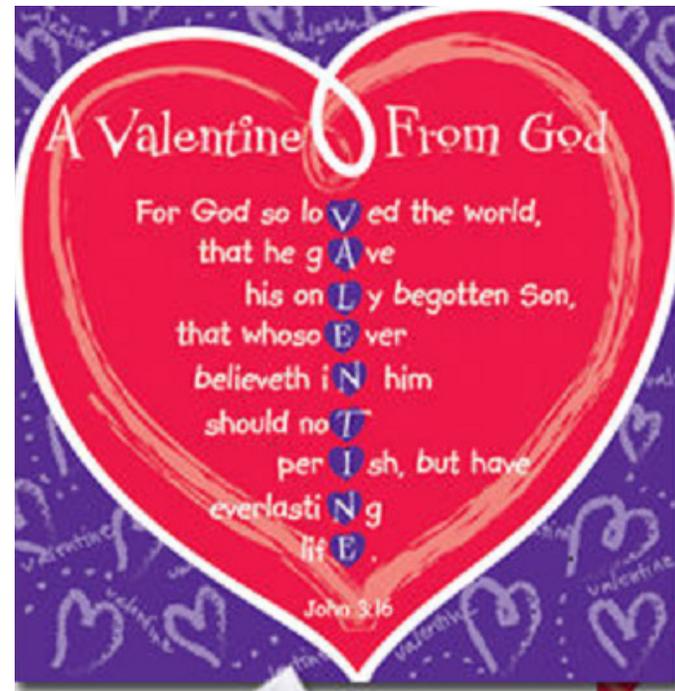
## "Community Events"

**Woman's Club** will have their annual breakfast at our church-Saturday morning, February 5<sup>th</sup> 7:30-11:30.

**Friends of the Library-**will have their Chocolate cook-off on Saturday, February 12<sup>th</sup> 2 to 4 here at our church. Contact Gail Findlay for more info.



**Big Brothers-Big Sisters** will have their "**Bowling for Kids**" event on Saturday, February 19<sup>th</sup>, contact Jim Strickland or Rachel Lackey if you would like to put together a team.



**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Luncheon Menu**  
Feb 27th



Chicken or Tempeh, Stuffed Baked Potatoes, Salad  
Homemade Bread, dessert, Tea, Water, Coffee

Tickets can be bought in our church office, other local churches, the United Community Bank, and the St. Joseph's Thrift Shop. "

### 2010 Financial Report

Income \$123,310  
Expenses \$116,307  
Difference \$7,003

As of 12/31/2010

## "Worship News"

Drew and Susi Campbell and George Moon playing guitars and Psalter on Sunday, February 20<sup>th</sup>.

Byrson City Dulcimers will be here on February 27<sup>th</sup>.

**"Kerygma Bible study"** meets in parlor every Wednesday except for the third Wednesday. The study times are 10 am or 7 pm. In February we will continue our study of the New Testament come join us.