

FIRST PRESS

Volume 30, Issue 2

February 2011

First Presbyterian Church www.fpclly.org

Dear John,

What are your plans for Valentine's Day? When I think back, my memories have to do primarily with grade school parties and the punch-out valentines (usually featuring Looney Tunes, Disney, Peanuts, or Hanna-Barbera characters) that were duly signed, placed in their accompanying envelopes, and sealed. A valentine was then placed in each of the hand-decorated sacks or boxes on our classmates' desks. Everybody got a valentine. No exceptions. Even the boys and girls we didn't like. I think that was the rule.

I also remember the hard, heart-shaped candies that were never particularly tasty but, because of the sayings that were printed on them ("Be Mine," "Love Ya," "I Do"), proliferated in the month of February. Necco (the New England Confectionary Company) began manufacturing the "conversation hearts" in Cambridge, Mass. over one hundred years ago. I've read that ninety-two different sayings appear on the candies. I've also read that, as appropriate for a candy that symbolizes love, the different colored hearts are durable . . . lasting. In fact, they have a shelf-life of three to five years! Which may explain a lot about the taste.

All in memory of St. Valentine, a third century priest in Rome. In 270 A.D. when Claudius II ordered Valentine arrested, he refused to recant his faith and was subsequently executed. Legend explains that while Valentine was imprisoned, he met the blind daughter of his jailer. He offered prayers for her healing, and the girl's sight was restored. A friendship was forged. On the night of his death, he wrote the girl a farewell message and signed it, "From your Valentine."

One of the first times the word *love* appears in the Bible is at Genesis 24:67. There we are told that Isaac took Rebekah, she became his wife; "and he loved her." Delilah used it to Samson's regret, sulking, "Samson, you claim to love me, but you don't mean it." Saint Paul has the last word, however: "Love never ends."

Valentine's Day can serve to remind us of what was said about the earliest Christians, "See how they love one another." No exceptions. I think that's the rule.

Your friend, Gus



**FPC COFFEE CAFÉ
OPENS FOR BUSINESS
FEBRUARY 6, 13, AND 27**

**All Sundays except breakfast days –
lower hallway outside fellowship hall
9:30-10:30 A.M.**

**Coffee, tea, hot chocolate,
and pastries**

**We're looking forward to
seeing you there!**





February Food Drive

February is our month to collect food for the

Rivermont Area Emergency Food Pantry. The Food Pantry is housed at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church and fills requests for emergency food for local people referred by area social service agencies. Eight Rivermont area churches and the synagogue support this Food Pantry. These congregations give food donations and money to buy food at a greatly reduced cost from the local food bank. Volunteers from our church fill bags of groceries from noon to 1:00 P.M. Monday through Friday on a rotating 9-week schedule. Please contact Ashley Scholer (384-0434) if you would like to help with this community mission.

During the month of February a grocery cart will be placed in the foyer to collect donations. Canned vegetables, soups, fruits and meats, crackers, cereal, peanut butter and jelly, juices and snacks are always needed. (The Food Pantry does not give out baby food.) Please check expiration dates because expired food cannot be used. Donations of money are also appreciated. Thank you for your help with the Food Pantry.



The Weekday School is opening our **registration to the children of church members on January 31—February 1**. Please contact the school office at 384-0652 to begin the registration process.



CONGRATULATIONS!

William David East,
son of Matt and Brentz East.
December 31, 2010

Stuart Rollow Perry,
son of John and Missy Perry.
January 22, 2011



MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Our meetings for the 2010 – 2011 season will be the **second Wednesday of the month**.

- Feb. 9, 2011 Judge Sam Johnston
Topic: "Why Judges Wear Robes"
- Mar. 9, 2011 Speaker TBA
- April 13, 2011 "

Schedule: 6:00-6:30 P.M., Social
6:30-7:15 P.M., Dinner
7:15-8:15 P.M., Speaker

Good programs, good food, and fellowship—all for only \$10.00.

IN CASE OF BAD WEATHER



The cancellation of FPC worship services and programs due to bad weather will be reported to WSLS (Channel 10), WSET (Channel 13), and our web site www.fpclly.org



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

On **Monday, February 7, 2011**, the Coordinating Team will meet at **10:00 A.M.** in the library.

The Young and Not So Young Circle will meet on **Tuesday, February 1, at 9:30 A.M.** in the library.

The Horizons Circle and the Book Circle will meet on **Monday, February 14, at 9:45 A.M.** for light refreshments in the Officer Room.

The Book Circle will meet **at 10:00 A.M.** in the library. The book to be discussed will be *The Namesake* by Jhumpa Lahiri.

The Evening Circle will meet on the second Tuesday of each month. The next meeting will be **February 8, 7:30 P.M.** at the home of Kathy Anderson, 301 Barkley Ct., Lynchburg.

Vacation Bible School 2011



The curriculum has been ordered and this summer's theme is: "Inside Out & Upside Down on Main Street," and it looks like a lot of fun!

Directors are needed! Deedy Cleland has agreed to help direct again this year, but she is looking for helpers.

If we don't get one or two more people to help Deedy, VBS won't happen this summer!

Don't delay – contact Meggan Farwell or Deedy Cleland if you can help direct. We would like to know by mid-February at the latest so that we can pick a date and start publicizing.

*We mourn
with you*



PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY

are extended to
Marie W. Harris,
in the death of her brother,
Dr. Gordon R. Woody, Jr., DDS,
who died on January 6, 2011.

FINANCIALLY SPEAKING. . . As of December 31, 2010:



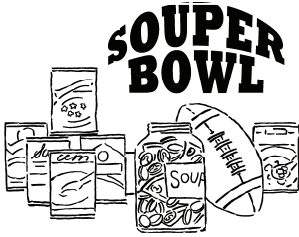
Income Budgeted to date:	\$919,178
Income Actual to date:	\$895,313
Expenses Budgeted to date:	\$967,867
Expenses Actual to date:	\$928,974

In December, our actual expenses exceeded our actual giving, resulting in a deficit of about \$33,600. We appreciate the faithful giving from our members and friends.

The Single Adult Fellowship

will get together for lunch on **Sunday, February 13**. We will meet at **Applebee's Neighborhood Grille & Bar** on Old Forest Road. Meet by 12:30 P.M.





GAME DAY IS SUNDAY FEBRUARY 6

Several years ago, on the Sunday of the SUPER BOWL, a simple pastoral prayer inspired a youth-led movement to help hungry people around the world:

“Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us to be mindful of those who are without even a bowl of soup to eat. Amen.”

This prayer gave birth to an idea. The next year worshipers were asked to give \$1.00 as they left church on the day of the Super Bowl. The money went directly into local hunger-fighting ministries.

The idea spread. It became a national movement in 1993 with an ecumenical board forming in 1997 to help produce promotional materials and promote the idea. All monies collected continue to help with local hunger-fighting ministries. Recipients are chosen by the youth groups collecting the monies.

Thousands of churches participate in the United States and around the world. Our church collected \$289.57 last year.

As you leave worship on February 6, please remember those who are hungry in our community. Our youth will be waiting at the exits with soup pots to receive your contribution.

COFFEE WITH THE PARISH NURSE

Remember 9:30 A.M., Tuesday, February 22, 2011. Sip a hot cup of First Pres coffee while Gail Midkiff discusses such topics as preventing colds and other health issues.



Caregiving and Health

“Bear ye one another’s burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ.” “Love your neighbor as yourself.” These are Bible verses with which we are all familiar and which we embody in a variety of ways. Those who become parents choose caregiving as a way of life for many years. We give care when we reach out to help friends and family in times of trouble. Sometimes caregiving becomes a way of life we might not have chosen or anticipated, such as when a child becomes permanently disabled, a spouse becomes chronically ill, or parents become sick or infirm. It is estimated that forty-four million Americans provide primary care for sick or disabled loved ones. Family members are, after all, our nearest neighbors.

Caregiving, obviously, has a critical function in our lives as human beings. Without caregiving, infants and children would not survive. The sick and infirm would suffer inhumanity. There have been instances in times past when communicable diseases have wiped out whole populations because so many people became sick at one time that there were no well people left to care for the sick. So caregiving is literally essential for the survival of humanity.

The willingness of people to care for each other is one of God’s gifts to us. But caregiving has the potential to be stressful, whether caregiving roles are undertaken as part of parenting or because someone we love has become sick or disabled. How can we use our spiritual resources to find the blessings of caregiving and to deal with the stresses? How can we support those who have undertaken the caregiving role? These questions and others will be explored in the program The Stresses and Blessings of Caregiving offered by the Care and Nurture Committee on January 30th. Please watch for notices with the details about this program and plan to join us.

Gail Midkiff
Parish Nurse



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- | | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 Alfieri, Anne | Reams, Scott | Willis, Charles | 22 Bruce, Meg |
| Cleland, Taylor | Waugh, Bob | 16 Lifsey, Wyatt | Burton, Charlie |
| Mason, Chip | 10 Rhodes, Betsy | 17 Dudley, Libba | Upshur, Tom |
| Nichols, Gay | Winstead, Alex | 18 Baker, Tom | Winstead, Will |
| 2 Holston, Chip | 11 Anderson, Jim | Ferrell, John | 23 Grabeel, Dan |
| 3 McBratney, Chase | Robertson, Elizabeth | Hartman, Leah | Ramsey, George |
| 4 Baldwin, Bernard | Smith Ryan | Libbey, Luke | Williams, Hannah |
| Libbey, Charlotte | Stump, David | 19 Cleland, Jim | 25 Richards, Sarah |
| Shank, Deborah | 12 Adams, Charles | McCraw, Pete | 26 Chapin, Greer |
| 5 Leslie, Bob | Craighill, Corry | Nunn, John | Morgan, Evan |
| Martin, Emma | Reams, Molly Kate | O'Keefe, Ann Stallings | 27 Burnett, Stewart |
| Pflieger, Mike | 13 Ferrell, Ginny | 20 Burger, Hundley | Dillard, Marge |
| 7 Alfieri, John | Moss, Jamie | Cleland, Deedy | Johnson, Richard |
| East, Rosa | Perkins, Ida | Grabell, Victoria | Lasitter, Whitney H. |
| 8 Bruce, Emily | 15 Cleland, Rob | 21 Nowlin, Charles | Middleton, Warren |
| Stone, Ditty | Combs, Shannon | O'Brian, Becky | Whitehouse, Ben |
| 9 Martin, Lindsay | Craighill, Lawton | Wilson, Sandra | 28 Howerton, Elsie |

If your name is not here but should be, please call the church at 384-6231

MEMBERS HELPING MEMBERS IN FEBRUARY

Katy Nunn - 386 - 0011
Becky O'Brian - 384-7382

Thanks to Marilyn Hartman and
Dorothy Niles for serving in January.

REMINDER!!

**Various Community Events are
posted on the bulletin board
opposite the pastor's office.**

Stop by to read about upcoming events.



The Session has called a congregational meeting immediately following the **11:00 A.M. service on February 6, 2011** for the purpose of electing officers for the Class of 2014 and electing members at large for the Nominating Committee, Class of 2011-2012. The Nominating Committee will place in nomination the following:

- Elders:** See insert
- Deacons:** See insert

At Large Nominating Committee Members:

- Maureen Bendall
- Theresa Burton
- Sue Ford
- Emmett Lifsey
- Preston Willson

[Other nominations will be permitted from the floor, but any nominee must have agreed to serve prior to his or her nomination.]



ANGEL OF THE MONTH

Our February Angel of the Month is the very creative **Ida Perkins**.

We all have benefited from her wonderful artistic talent. We have seen her posters for upcoming dinners, breakfasts and health ministries. The table arrangements at fellowship dinners are some of her creations as well. Thank you, Ida, for generously sharing your creativity with our church family.

NEWS FROM MEMBERSHIP/FELLOWSHIP...

January Breakfast: A big thanks to Sally Leslie and her faithful crew of cooks and assistants for a fabulous Country Breakfast – the kind we all love on a winter morning!

Coming in February:

**“Officers’ Treat” CHILI SUPPER
Wednesday, February 2, 6-7:30 P.M.
in the fellowship hall**

We’ll make the chili, and Deacons and Elders will provide the sides and assistance – don’t miss this opportunity to warm up on a cold winter’s night! Please sign up in the narthex to help us plan. Free will offering will be taken.



**CALLING ALL KIDS:
IT’S A VALENTINE’S COOKIE CELEBRATION
Sunday, February 13, 12:15-1:30 P.M.
in the fellowship hall**

All of the church children are invited to bring a parent and come to the fellowship hall after the 11:00 A.M. service for a light lunch and a cookie decorating party. Kitty Bass will be leading - fun for kids of all ages - please sign up in the narthex to help us plan! Please consider a \$2.00 donation to help cover costs.



**“HEART HEALTHY BREAKFAST”
Sunday, February 20, 9:30-10:00 A.M.
in the fellowship hall**

Start clearing out those winter arteries at our annual “Heart Healthy Breakfast” celebrating National Heart Month! Please call Sally Leslie at 384-9062 or e-mail her at cicver@msn.com if you can help or would like to contribute to heart healthy fruits, or breakfast breads for this event.



F.A.I.T.H. Mountain Sunday School

We are in need of a **teacher** for the **Discovery rotation in March and the Art rotation in April**. Please contact Meggan Farwell meggan@fpclcy.org if you are interested in teaching. Thanks and remember the children need you!

Thanks to our **January teachers**: Chip Holston, Betsy Rhodes, Jane Sorenson, and Craig Tiller.

We look forward to another great month with our **teachers for February**: Pete Hatcher, Ken Kowalski, Bill and Carter Paxton, and Amy Thompson.

Youth News

Confirmation

Confirmation is underway (since January 23) and will meet every Sunday in February from 3:00 – 4:30 P.M. and on Saturday, February 19 to complete a class service project.

The students from this year's class (if all requirements are met) will be confirmed on Sunday, March 6 during the 11:00 A.M. service – don't miss it!

As the confirmation class continues to meet, please pray for them on their spiritual journey.

This year's class includes the following youth:

Sam Ailsworth	Lynch Heppner
Rose Baker	Holden Johnsen
Thompy Blankinship	Sam McGuinn
Mary Hannah Bowers	Kate Pittard
Nan Craddock	Sarah Richards
Mercer Craighill	Caroline Riordan
Neal Creasy	Sidney Thomson
Rob Dendy	Chris Tugman

Mission Trip

FPC Youth Mission 2011: "The Pilgrimage" in Washington DC July 30 – Aug 5
For current 8th – 12th graders
For more information check:
<http://www.thepilgrimage.org/>

We still have a few more spots. If you want to go, turn your check into Meggan Farwell ASAP. We need a \$50 deposit made out to the church.

If you have any questions, please contact:
Meggan Farwell meggan@fpclcy.org, 384-6231
Gary Williams (National and World Missions)
gtwilliams@att.net, 384-6147
Chip Holston (Christian Education)
chip.holston@ferguson.com, 386-5518

Youth Group

Sunday, February 6 – 3:00 – 4:30 P.M.– Confirmation

Sunday, February 6 – 5:30 P.M.– Superbowl Party!
 All middle and high school youth are invited to a Superbowl party at the Brammer's house (132 Irvington Springs Rd.). Bring your favorite "heavy appetizer" or dish to share. Drinks and dessert will be provided.
Parents please pick youth up during half-time.
 Don't care for football? **Bring along your favorite board game.**

Friday, February 11 — 7:30 – 10:00 P.M.–Sixth Annual Valentine's Dance!! The dance will take place in the fellowship hall. The DJ will be Herman Petty, and light snacks and drinks will be provided! Invite your friends. **The cost is only \$5.00! Parents we need more help. Contact Meggan Farwell if available!**

Sunday, February 13 – 3:00 - 4:30 P.M.– Confirmation – no MS youth due to dance!

Sunday, February 20 – 3:00 - 4:30 P.M.– Confirmation.

Sunday, February 20 – 4:30 – 6:30 P.M.– Service Project at Westminster Canterbury! This event is for both Middle and High School Youth. Look for a post-card and e-mail about event details. **Bring \$3.00 for dinner.**

Friday, February 25 – Sunday February 27– Retreat at Hat Creek – Only for those youth that have signed up!

Sunday February 27 -- 3:00 – 4:30 P.M.– Confirmation – no HS youth due to retreat!



American Boychoir coming in March

Mark your calendars now for a rare appearance of the American Boychoir in the Lynchburg area. **On Friday, March 25, this outstanding choir will present a concert here at 7:00 PM.** Based in Princeton, New Jersey, this choir of thirty selected boys will present a varied program of musical selections. Plan to attend and invite your friends, neighbors, and bring your young singers. You will not want to miss this outstanding group!

PRESSING NEEDS

As a partner with Interfaith Outreach Association, our church has been asked to help with a pressing need. **They are in need of twin bed frames with or without mattresses and box springs, and twin sheets.** If you can help, please call IOA at 846-6098.

Next Newsletter: March 2011
DEADLINE: Thursday, Feb. 17, 2011

Phone: 434-384-6231
Fax: 434-384-9156
Email: info@fpclly.org

