

# February

## February Events

- 5<sup>th</sup> 1:00 PM No Idle Hands
- 17<sup>th</sup> 12:15 PM Church Council
- 19<sup>th</sup> 1:00 PM No Idle Hands
- 24<sup>th</sup> 8:00 AM UMM Breakfast

## Weekly Events

- Sundays:**  
 Sunday School 9:45 AM  
 Worship Service 10:55 AM  
 Stone Soup 4:30 PM
- Wednesdays:**  
 Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM

## Church Office Hours

Monday – Friday  
 9 AM – 12 NOON

## Birthdays:

- 1 – Jeanne Keller
- 7 – Esther Strait
- 8 – Kevin Phillips
- 9 – Virginia Estes
- 11 – Betty Sandlin  
 Sam Brandt
- 12 – Nicole Payne Baker
- 16 – Ben Bushyhead  
 Nell Leatherwood
- 20 – Danny Whatley
- 21 – Ralph Murphy
- 23 – Jeff Myers  
 Florence Posey
- 24 – Bernice Davis  
 Wayne Garland

## Anniversaries:

- 13 – Ron & Wilma Smith
- 14 – Os & Shirley Waters
- 28 – Bill & Linda Dills



## Thoughts about God's Love:

Remember God's love and be thankful. – Feb 13

God loves each of us enough to spend eternity with us. – Feb 15

Don't forget to pick-up your free copy of The Upper Room in the narthex or back hall.

## Thank You!

Dear Church Family,  
 What a wonderful and thoughtful group of friends you are! Bick and I were touched by the surprise anniversary celebration you prepared on our honor. Thank you for the love, the beautiful flowers, and delicious food. We cherish your friendship.  
 With much love,  
 Bick and Lorene Bickerstaff

Bryson City United Methodist Church  
 PO Box 817  
 76 Main Street  
 Bryson City, NC 28713  
 Phone: (828) 488-2680  
 Fax: (828) 488-9062  
 E-Mail: [bcumc@brysoncityumc.org](mailto:bcumc@brysoncityumc.org)  
 Web Site: [www.brysoncityumc.org](http://www.brysoncityumc.org)

# February 2013



## Newsletter



Happy 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary to Bick and Lorene Bickerstaff  
[See More](#) in the online video

Enjoy a few of our favorite photos from **January**  
 Want more photos? [See More](#) online.



# Memo from the Midbar



## Creating Sacred Space

How do you define Sacred Space? Is it in the church sanctuary? Could it possibly be at the altar which was intended specifically to create sacred space? Many consider a mountain top to be sacred space. For others, like me, sacred space may even be found on a river.

Sacred space signifies separateness or distinctness from the ordinary, or the "profane." God is called the "Holy One," a term that denotes His "uncommonness" to all human experience. Time and places in which God appears to people become holy simply by being places of divine encounter.



Sometimes sacred space comes in surprising ways. Jesus

created sacred space around the table for a diverse range of people. It was a place where the marginalized could experience the divine in a very personal way. Stone Soup is just such a place for our community.

Sacred space it seems might be created by God to help us experience the divine in new and significant ways. It may also be created by us in an effort to search for God, to experience the divine on a regular basis.

Have you created Sacred Space for yourself to experience the divine on a daily basis? Maybe it is a special time and/or place for a daily devotional, Bible reading and prayer. If we don't intentionally spend time creating space to experience God's presence, we may find ourselves lost in the wilderness with no hope of seeing the Promised Land.

[Read More](#)

## Church News

### Church Council

As the chair of the Church Council, Catherine plans to familiarize herself with the functions of the various committees and to offer support to the committee chairs and Wayner as needed.

Also, Church Council members please plan to stay after worship on February 17<sup>th</sup> for the monthly meeting as we have several important topics to discuss and vote on. Your input will be important.

### Trustees

At the January meeting, several items were discussed. There are plans to run a new wire to the light in the parking lot when the weather permits. We are going to get some estimates to repair the leak around the bell tower. The trustees would also like to continue with improvements to the Fellowship Hall, including: painting the exterior, complete tear-out of wall and carpet then rewire with new

lighting and drop ceiling, installing a multi-media system, and continued remodeling of present kitchen area.

### Nurture

During this new year, Penny hopes to get a Children's Sunday School Program up and running and is also looking forward to meeting and nurturing our new Intern.

### Missions & Outreach

Stay tuned for info from Steve Maennle about a committee meeting and outreach opportunities.

### Treasurer's Treasures

We have good news for the beginning of 2013. We were able to pay the full amount of our annual apportionments and our big insurance bills through everyone's generosity in December with the Gift to Jesus. We were also able to pay the line of credit loan down to just \$7,600. We are a little behind in giving due to the "snow day" on Feb 3<sup>rd</sup> but should be able to make it up soon.



### [Read & See More](#)

You may have noticed several articles that were followed by [See More](#) or [Read More](#). Beginning with this newsletter, the printed

editions will feature a "concise" version of articles like you see here. In the digital edition you will be taken to a more in-depth version online that includes more details, photos and info from the pastor. All you have to do is click on the [See More](#) or [Read More](#) link in the digital edition to get more!

### Worship

The worship committee will be meeting Sunday, February 10 after the worship service.

### UM Men

The next UMM breakfast will be Sunday, February 24 at 8am in the Fellowship Hall.

### UM Women

The next UMW breakfast will be March 3 at 8:30am in the Fellowship Hall.

### No Idle Hands

If you would like to give a gift to the newborn Charlie Clapsaddle, leave it with Mikki in the church office.

### Special Stone Soups

In January we were delighted to host two special Stone Soup events that were shown in the photos on the cover of the newsletter.

Click the link to see an online photo slideshow. Or you can watch these videos featuring the Encore Dance Team:

[See More](#) (Group video)

[See More](#) (Solo video)

### Pictorial Directory

We are in the process of updating our church directory and will be including a photo with your name and usual info. We will be contacting you soon with more details.