



January 2026

Dear First Pres Friends,

Happy New Year! This season has been a busy and joyous one for our church and for Jenny and me! We celebrated a Christmas Pageant, a community wide Cantata, our Christmas Eve celebrations and a Lessons and Carols Sunday! Such a special time in the life of our church and so will be this upcoming month as well! As we look ahead this month, I have a few announcements about upcoming events that I would like to bring to your attention.

First, right around the corner are a few special services in the life of our church that celebrate our upcoming Stewardship Campaign: *Faith in Every Gift*! Each Sunday from January 11th through February 1st, we will have different members from the Giving Ministry team come up and talk about our Stewardship Campaign and how we can be faithful stewards in our giving. Also, keep an eye out for registration for our Mission Trip. This year we will be going to Asheville for our Mission Trip and working with the great folks over at Asheville Youth Mission. However, don't be fooled by the name because this registration is open to everyone! If you are interested in taking a few days to a week to see, learn and get involved and help those that need help, then I can assure you this is a wonderful way to do so! Each year we learn new ways that we can help others, bring back what we learn, and plug it into our own community. We will assist with the elderly, help serve meals to those in need, and assist in farms that give back to the community as well as so much more! If you are interested, please feel free to reach out to either myself or the Mission Committee to sign up. Forms will be in the office!

Lastly, while this is a special time in the life of our church, let us also remember those on our prayer list as it continues to grow. This season can be difficult for many of us, so if there is ever a need, please feel free to reach out to me and let me know! My door is always open and I am more than happy to talk with you!

Blessings,

Rev. Maxwell Michaels



## Sunday School Classes



**Parlor Class**—This month the Parlor Class will continue studying the *Feasting on the Word* series. Adults will identify lights they follow that lead toward the God revealed through Jesus. Be sure to join them each Sunday at 10 a.m. in the parlor!

**Fellowship Class**—Join us in January as we study scriptures in John 1; Matthew 2; Matthew 3; and 1 Corinthians 1. The Fellowship Class meets each Sunday at 10:00 a.m. It is a relaxed class with lots of discussion. Please think about joining us for coffee & fellowship.

**Youth Class**—Our Youth Class will continue studying *Feasting on the Word*. This month, they will explore Epiphany and what it means to seek God's guidance & journey in faith. All 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders are welcome!

**Children's Class**—Our Children's class, ages K-5th grade, will continue studying *Feasting on the Word*. This month they will explore the season of Epiphany and what it means to 'Follow the Light.' Stay tuned for some new improvements we are making to the classroom!

**Preschool Class**—(ages 3-4) will meet downstairs in the Louise Carpenter room and will also be studying *Feasting on the Word*. This month they will follow the story of the wisemen and practice ways to share the light of Christ.

**Nursery always available (downstairs)**





## Christian Education & Music Ministry Schedule

- \* **Sunday, Jan 11** –Chancel Choir 6 pm.
- \* **Wednesday, Jan. 14**—Fun Program & Chancel Choir Resume





## My New Year's Prayer to each of you (and me too)---

*Dear Heavenly Father,*

*In this new year, renew our hearts & minds. Help us to be more grateful, giving thanks for all we hold dear and in the little things too. Take away our grudges, pain, & suffering, and help us to trust You more. Remind us to walk by faith and not by sight-- and to release and let You take control. Help us to live each day in the most loving ways, showing the light of Christ to everyone, regardless of our feelings or circumstances.*

*Present ways in which we can serve unconditionally to all who are in need-- regardless of what others can do for us in return. Help us to take the path that leads up. Let us be gentle warriors for Christ, unafraid & unashamed. Unify our congregation, strengthening our church family by eliminating any negativity; help us to uplift one another more. Give us patience and understanding. Give us rest when we are weary, and help us to work smarter, not harder.*

*Guide our purpose so that whatever we do glorifies you, because we know You have endowed every creature and person with a unique gift. Fill us with compassion so that we can approach each other with tenderness & mercy—the same mercy You show us. Remind us to think before we speak and to be better listeners. Guide our speech in helpful, loving ways. Give us strength to love and forgive the way You do and speak to ourselves the way we would speak to those we love. Equip us to readily apologize when we have wronged others and easily forgive when we have been wronged. Show us your way, not ours. Reveal our blind spots so that we may have a more acute sense of self-awareness.*

*Give us rest when we are weary, Lord. When we are overwhelmed, overworked, and exhausted, give us rest and restoration. Shower Your blessings upon us and bestow better health, peace, & prosperity. May our worship be greater than our worries, and may the grace and peace of Christ bless us now and in the days ahead. It's in Your son's holy name we pray, Amen.*

**Happy New Year!**



# Presbyterian Women News

## Duties:

### Communion

**January 4-** Karen Tillman and Becky Childers

**February 1-** Kristin Miller and Lindsay Bennett

**March 1-** Kelli and Cam Beck

### Youth Supper

**January 18-** Kathie and Steve Cook and Jean Page Watson

**February 15-** Mary and Douglas Anderson

**March 15-** Kim Brabham and Lindsay Bennett

### Circle Meeting

**January 7-** Regular Meeting- Ladies Parlor at 10:00 a.m.

**February 4-** Regular Meeting- Ladies Parlor at 10:00 a.m.

**March 4-** Pie Party and Regular Circle Meeting at 10:00 a.m. in Fellowship Building (Everyone brings their favorite pie to share)

If you haven't been able to come to Circle in the past but have the time now.

Please join us!







## *Prayer Changes Things*

Gerry Rogers

Bea Sloop

Benny Moore

Bobbie Jones

For those suffering from chronic mental and emotional illnesses

B.J. Moore

Louise Carpenter

Shirley Brock

Edward Tinsley

Ruth Jackson

Marion Murphy

Nadia Harris

Clytie Roddy

Stasa Petros

Rebecca Harris Ott

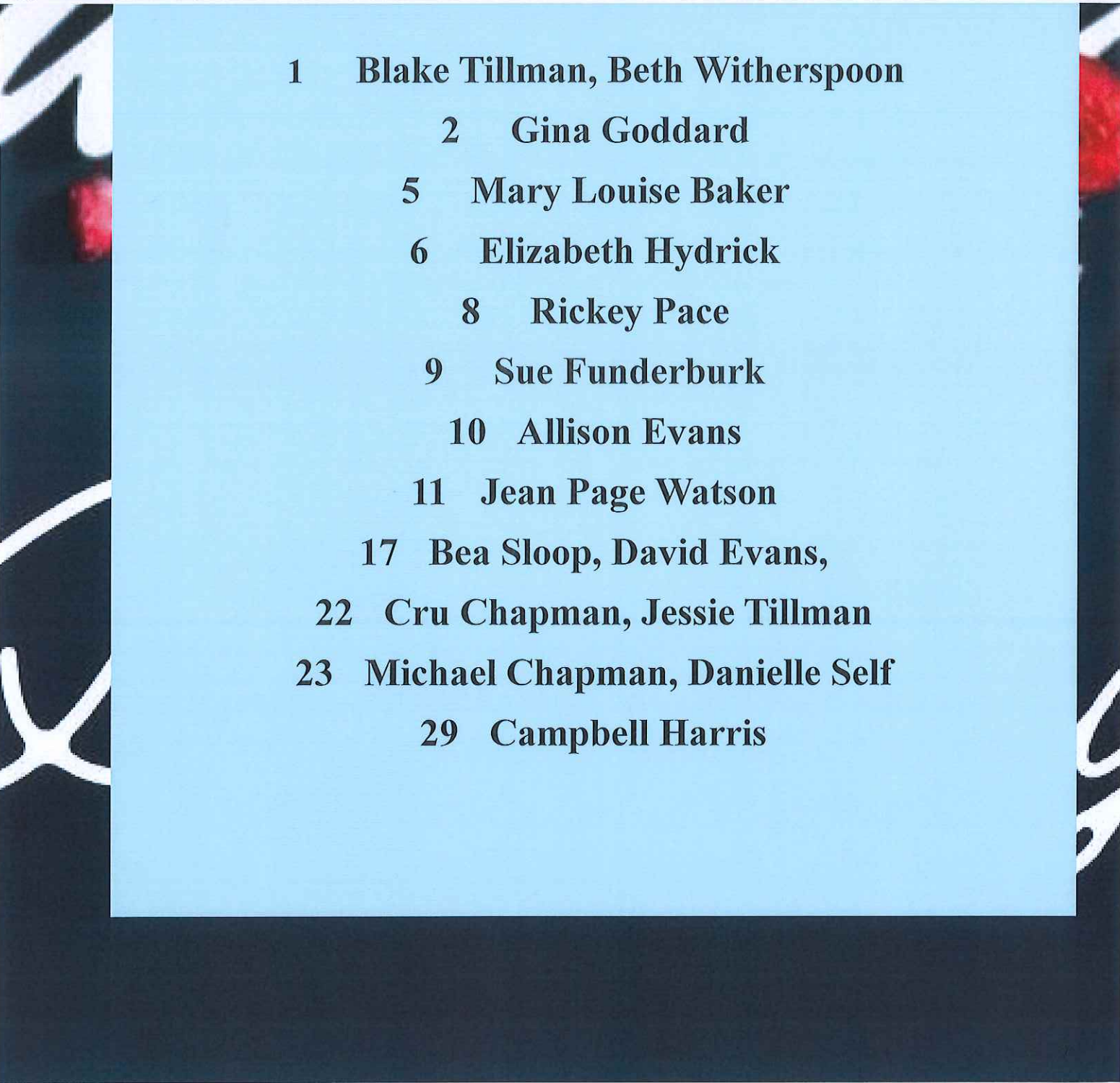
Lesley Jean Watson

Wyatt Smith



The header features a dark blue background adorned with several carnations in shades of red and pink. The text "Celebrating" is written in a small, white, cursive font at the top. Below it, the word "January" is written in a large, elegant, white cursive script. Underneath "January", the word "Birthdays" is written in a similar white cursive font, separated by a thin horizontal line.

# *Celebrating January Birthdays*

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- The central list is flanked by decorative borders on both sides. The left border consists of a dark blue background with white, stylized, abstract shapes that resemble the letters 'A', 'X', and 'K'. The right border is a solid dark blue strip.
- 1 Blake Tillman, Beth Witherspoon**
  - 2 Gina Goddard**
  - 5 Mary Louise Baker**
  - 6 Elizabeth Hydrick**
  - 8 Rickey Pace**
  - 9 Sue Funderburk**
  - 10 Allison Evans**
  - 11 Jean Page Watson**
  - 17 Bea Sloop, David Evans,**
  - 22 Cru Chapman, Jessie Tillman**
  - 23 Michael Chapman, Danielle Self**
  - 29 Campbell Harris**





# 2026



## JANUARY

### *Calendar of Events*

- |    |                                       |                   |
|----|---------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1  | Church Office Closed– Happy New Year! |                   |
| 4  | 10:00 am                              | Sunday School     |
|    | 11:00 am                              | Worship           |
| 5  | 8:30 am                               | MMO               |
| 7  | 8:30 am                               | MMO               |
|    | 10:00 am                              | PW Circle Meeting |
| 11 | 10:00 am                              | Sunday School     |
|    | 11:00 am                              | Worship           |
| 12 | 8:30 am                               | MMO               |
| 14 | 8:30 am                               | MMO               |
|    | 3:15 pm                               | Fun Program       |
|    | 6:00 pm                               | Chancel Choir     |
| 18 | 10:00 am                              | Sunday School     |
|    | 11:00 am                              | Worship           |
| 19 | 8:30 am                               | MMO               |
| 21 | 8:30 am                               | MMO               |
|    | 3:15 pm                               | Fun Program       |
|    | 6:00 pm                               | Chancel Choir     |
| 25 | 10:00 am                              | Sunday School     |
|    | 11:00 am                              | Worship           |





**6-John Folger**

**8-Melanie Flynn , Ashley Cauthen**

**9-Susan Snow**

**12- Katelyn Evans**

**15-Barbara Dickson, Thomas Gullledge, Michael Flynn**

**16-Susan Malloy, Harold Watson**

**17-Michael Hammer**

**18-Campbell Streater**

**20-Laura K. Folger**

**23-Cam Beck**

**25-Tom Hammer**

**27-Bill Malloy**