



# Patton Presbyterian Church Celebrating 100 Years of Faith! 1912-2012

## The History of the Patton Church (Part 1)

1st Edition

One Hundred years ago on April 17, 1912 the Presbytery of Blairsville received a petition asking for the organization of a church in Patton. The request was granted and a committee on organization was appointed.

Rev. Dr. Austin Jolly, Moderator of the Presbytery appointed Mr. Ralph Good as chairman for the purpose of organization in the community.

On May 14, 1912 an organization meeting was held with 54 charter members. Representing the Presbytery were: Rev. C.C. Hays, Chairman, F.H. Barker and Henry Taylor of Cresson. The meeting was held at the Swedish Lutheran Church in Patton.

The congregation then elected the following to the office of elder: E.C. Brown, William Ross, Thomas S. Whiteford, W.E. Copp, Ralph Good, and Frank McClure, Clerk of Session.

A Board of Trustees was elected with members: W.A. Blair, President, Jesse Starrett, Treasurer, J. Fred Blankenhorn, Secretary, J.R. Cornelius, Cecil Mitchell, John A. Gunn, Mel Gardner, and John Kuhnley, and George Good.

The first services were held in the Grange Bank Hall and then in the Swedish Lutheran Church.

The First minister of the church was Rev. Samuel Banson. During his pastorate a lot costing \$1500 was pur-

chased from James Mellon. On July 1, 1913 the cornerstone of the Presbyterian Church was laid.

The first meetings of the board of trustees were held in the Heist Barber Shop. A Sunday School was organized in 1913 with a total of \$6.05 in expenses the first year.

The first service of worship and Session meeting were held in the new sanctuary on January 25, 1914. The church was built at a cost of \$7000. The pipe organ was installed in 1917 at a cost of \$1500 by the Loller Pipe Organ Co.

In 1919, the pastor's salary was \$1250.22. The janitor's salary was \$60 and the organist was paid \$86. Organizations of the Church included The Ladies Aid Missionary Society, The Westminster Guild and the Sunday School.

Three memorial windows were given to the congregation. The "Good Shepherd" at the street side of the church was given by Mr. Ralph Good in memory of George Smith Good. The second was given by the Sunday School primary class in memory of Katherine Starrett. The third was by Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Good in memory of their daughter, Elea-

nor, in 1928.

A manse was purchased for the pastor in 1924 from W.J. Starrett on Beech Avenue at a cost of \$4800. This manse was later sold in 1983 for \$20,000.

The congregation became a member of the Greater Parish of Northern Cambria County in 1958 with churches at St. Benedict, Spangler, Barnesboro, and Marstellar. The churches shared pastor services until 1966.

### The Session

The session is a group of elected members of the congregation who handle the church finances, assist in watching over the maintenance of the building, and plan worship and other events. People are elected to a 3 year term and can serve a maximum of 2 consecutive terms (6 years).

**The current session members are:** Sandy Morgan, Tony Sunseri, Janet Merrill, Linda Link, Cheryl Kepshire, David O'Hara, and Nancy Finkle.

## Dates to Remember:

### April 1st (Palm Sunday)

We will recognize all Sunday School Teachers

### April 5th

Maundy Thursday Service 7pm

### April 6th

Good Friday Service 2pm

### April 8th

Orders due for 100th Anniversary Tshirt/Sweatsher being sold by the Youth Group



### April 15th

Sunday worship will be in the church basement with coffee and doughnuts served prior to the service.

### May 6th

Renewal of Baptismal Vows & Release of 100 Gold Balloons to commemorate our 100 years.

### May 10th—13th

Bowery Mission Trip.

### June 3rd

Our Sunday Service will be held at 11am with honored guests attending to commemorate our 100 years. After the service, a lunch will be served for everyone at La Ferme Rouge additional information is forthcoming but please mark the date.

## Vacation Bible School June 24-28



This year Vacation Bible School will be held June 24th through June 28th. Students in grades 6 through pre-k are invited to attend. Older students are needed along with adults to work as group leaders and/or help with one of the different stations. See Sedona O'Hara to sign up to help.



### Pastor Search

The session has started the paperwork for a pastor search. We have several hoops to go through before we are ready to start accepting applications and interviewing. Please be patient.

## Help Build

### Our Web Presence.

- \* First of all, Visit our website at: [www.pattonpresby.org](http://www.pattonpresby.org) and Email us suggestions of things you want posted on our website.
- \* If you have experience with Facebook, maybe you can help us create and maintain a Facebook(Fan) page for the church.
- \* Send suggestions and/or volunteer to help by emailing [pattonpresby@gmail.com](mailto:pattonpresby@gmail.com)

## Church Activities

To grow as a church family, the session knows that it takes more time together than just seeing each other on Sunday morning. If you have an idea for an activity that we could maybe do as a group, talk to a session member. We would be glad to assist you with the planning of anything that will provide fellowship time for the congregation. Maybe you would like to plan a camping trip to Glendale, a canoeing trip somewhere, a game night, or maybe you have seen a movie that you feel would be something that the whole congregation should see. Working together we make our church family even stronger.