



Oasis -- A Time to Refresh and Connect

I wanted to take a moment to thank this church family for supporting me in going to Oasis in February. Oasis is the biennial retreat of the CBFYMN (Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Youth Ministry Network), held every other year in February at the beautiful Montreat Conference Center, not far from Asheville, NC. It's always one of my favorite events and this time (February 8-11) it was desperately needed.

Oasis began in 2014 as a time for CBF youth ministers to refresh and reconnect – with God, with ourselves, with each other. We worship together. We have topical breakout sessions where we share ideas. We also have time to hike, read, or just renew friendship with like-minded folks who share this strange calling to student ministry, and get both the joys and the struggles of it.

That was especially important this time. The pandemic has been hard on everyone, of course. It's been a special challenge for youth ministry – which is all about relationships, spending time with students – during a pandemic where we're trying to protect our students by having them literally isolate. It was hard and lonely and we all did the best we could and we all made mistakes.

The Youth Ministry Network was an actual godsend during the pandemic. We began doing monthly Zoom meetings to pray, laugh, grieve, and workshop pandemic youth ministry. We shared Zoom activities and games. I did a virtual pizza party with our youth, and a Zoom scavenger hunt, and a Zoom Jackbox game night, all ideas I got from friends in the Network. Those calls were one of my lifelines in 2020.

So it was a joy to finally be able to gather in-person again with the Network (and this year for the first time we included the Children's and College Ministers' Networks, as well). The last time we gathered was February 2020, and we had no idea what was in store. This time we gathered, masks worn and vaccination cards in hand, but we gathered, we worshipped, we grieved mistakes and blessed God for bringing us through. And we found encouragement, new ideas, and new strength.

I think – we ministers in the Network think – that just as the pandemic has changed so many things, it has changed church and Youth ministry. We're all still trying to figure out what has changed, what can go back to normal, what lessons we learned, what normal could or should look like going forward. Oasis was a time to reflect and to lean into God's presence for healing and direction.

Thank you, FBC Pendleton, for seeing the importance of these opportunities and for supporting me in taking that time away. And thank you, always, for your love of God, your care for your ministers, and your partnership in serving our students and our community with the love of Christ.



Week of Prayer for CBF Global Missions

Because Presence Matters

Luke 24:13-35

4 WAYS TO PRAY:

Pray for God to provide financial resources necessary to sustain the long-term presence of CBF Global Missions field personnel around the world.

Pray for God's abundance to be unleashed as churches promote the Offering for Global Missions.

Ask God to use field personnel as witnesses, friends and advocates.

Pray for field personnel around the world as they are attentive, intuitive and seeing of those in their communities of service.

Find additional resources to pray this week at www.cbf.net/OGMpray



Report from Cultivate Abundance

One of the ways FBC Pendleton supports global missions is through our Encourager church partnership with Rick and Ellen Burnette, founders and directors of Cultivate Abundance in Immokalee, FL. Cultivate Abundance increases families' access to healthy foods by growing, collecting, and sharing fresh produce, as well as equipping families to grow food in container gardens. See below for a glimpse of the impact of Cultivate Abundance,

and pray this week for Rick and Ellen and this life sustaining work!

2021 saw Cultivate Abundance continuing to expand our efforts to alleviate food insecurity among the Immokalee farmworker community in the midst of the pandemic. With your support in 2021, we were able to distribute 21 tons of fresh, nutritious produce, a 51% increase of the amount handled in 2020. In partnership with Misión Peniel we have distributed fresh food along with other grocery items each Friday for the benefit of at least 900 people weekly. After spending every week running between dozens of produce donors and several gardens managed by Cultivate Abundance, moving into 2022, we realize that Cultivate Abundance needs to focus our growing efforts into one or two large gardens while continuing to collect donated produce from area small farms, institutions, churches, and home gardens. We will offer expertise and plant material to others interested in growing food for Immokalee and continue to encourage Immokalee families to establish home gardens for growing and sharing produce. At least one acre of land, an air-conditioned delivery van, and one other staff member are needed to expand efforts to meet ongoing needs. We will continue to do everything we can to mitigate local food insecurity through local partners and local solutions. Your support makes this all possible. Thank you. We are grateful for your partnership in ministry and wish you a very blessed 2022.

-- Ellen Burnette
Executive Director

CBFSC General Assembly

In 2021, FBC Pendleton had the opportunity to "host" a virtual general assembly for CBF South Carolina. This year, the gathering is once again taking place in person! On Friday, April 1, CBFSC will gather in North Charleston for worship and celebration centered around the theme "Always Listening." We are celebrating the 20 year anniversary of Metanoia (also one of FBCP's mission partners). The Rev. Dr. Luke Powery, dean of Duke University Chapel, will preach Friday evening. The only cost for the event is for the fellowship dinner on Friday evening. See the full schedule and register at cbfsc.org/ga.

Deacon Nominations

We have four vacancies on the Deacon Council; we need to elect **four** Deacons to serve a **3-year term**. **Deacon Nominations** will be accepted from **March 16 - April 6**. Nominations may be submitted online, dropped in the nomination box on the table outside the church office, or mailed to the church. Please prayerfully consider being a Deacon if asked, or you may nominate yourself.

Young Adult Game Night

Join us for "Young" Adult Game Night on Sunday, Mar 27 from 3-7 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Good Friday

Good Friday Community Worship Service

Alliance of Pendleton Area Churches

Friday, April 15 at 12 pm

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
328 E Queen St

With COVID in our community finally at a low level, the Alliance of Pendleton Area Churches is planning to resume our usual community Good Friday service. Please make plans to join us!



Pendleton Town Clean Up · March 26

The Current Events Sunday School class has prayerfully taken on the initiative of intentionally serving the community of Pendleton. We feel that we are called to give back to the community in which our church is located through volunteering and serving at various community events and projects. We also want to strengthen our relationships with each other through social events, meals, and conversation. Most importantly, we want First Baptist Church of Pendleton to continue to be recognized as a church that shows the love of Christ to our closest neighbors and invites them to be a part of our family. Our next project will be the "Town Wide Clean-Up" on Saturday, March 26.

All are welcome to join us on the Square at 8:30 am.

-- Richard Huss

LET'S KEEP PENDLETON BEAUTIFUL!

MARCH 26, 2022

8:30 am - 11:30 am
Starting at Village Green

#meetmeonthesquare



Town Wide Clean-Up



**Pendleton
Garden Club**





First Baptist Church of Pendleton

351 South Broad Street
 PO Box 187
 Pendleton, SC 29670

fbcpendleton.org
 (864) 646-3913

**MAUNDY THURSDAY
 SERVICE**
 Thu, Apr 14 · 7:00 pm
 Sanctuary



DEACONS FLOCKS
 for 2021 - 2022

Flock 01: A - Be	Wayne Patterson	(864) 710-8239
Flock 02: Bo - Cal	Bruce Blackmon	(864) 653-0228
Flock 03: Cap - Da	Randy Strickland	(864) 360-6071
Flock 04: De - Fa	Anna Leavitt	(864) 430-1814
Flock 05: Fi - Ha	Jane Massey	(864) 940-3156
Flock 06: He - J	Kim Burgess	(864) 940-6902
Flock 07: K - Me	Jan McCracken	(864) 934-4574
Flock 08: Mi - N	Jim Davis	(864) 207-0656
Flock 09: P - R	Pam Willoughby	(864) 940-5470
Flock 10: S - Ta	Skip Still	(864) 903-1576
Flock 11: Th - Y	Max Loyd	(864) 654-2399
Deacons & Spouses	Suzanne Morse	(864) 643-9909

SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE

9:00 am Coffee, Tea, & Conversation in the Fellowship Hall
9:30 am Sunday School
10:45 am Worship in the Sanctuary and on Facebook Live

We hope you can join us for in-person worship, but if you can't come or aren't ready to attend in person, worship will also be on Facebook Live using our live streaming system.

visit our website
fbcpendleton.org

PASTORAL EMERGENCY

Pastor Jennifer Rygg
864-760-7135

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