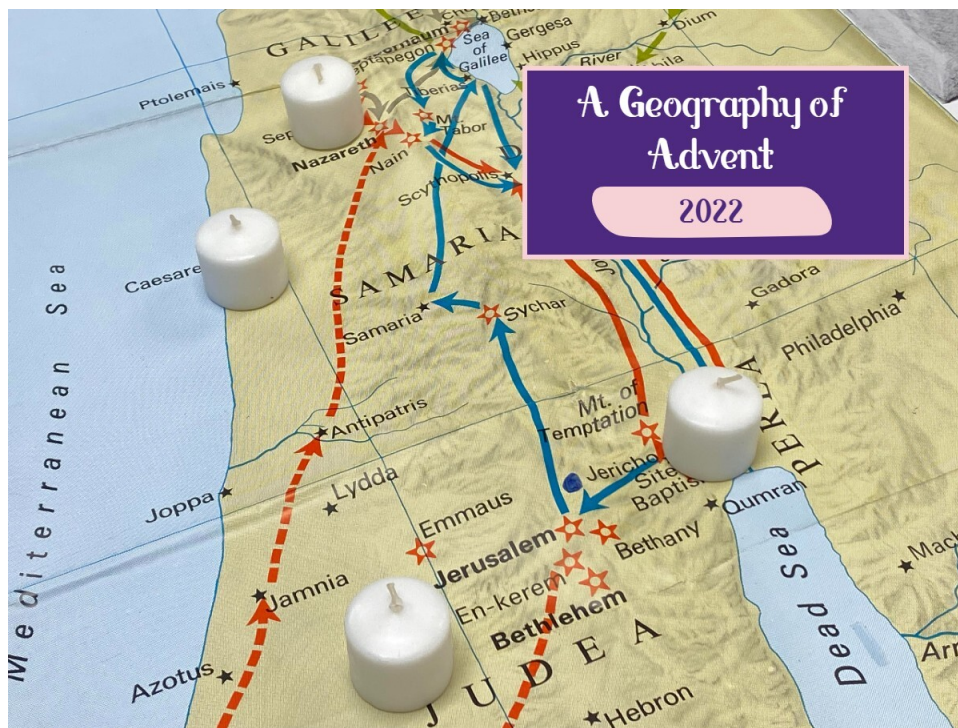


A Geography of Advent

If you have recently traveled to a new place (or for some of us who are more directionally challenged, perhaps even to a frequently visited place!) you likely used your phone or another GPS device as a navigational tool. If you are among those who prefer more “traditional” methods, you may have even



unfolded a paper map. These tools provide us with information about the area we are traveling. Which road will take us to our destination? Where might we find a gas station or restaurant? Which path is likely to be have more traffic? Some of this information can only be gathered by personal experience.

In the coming weeks, we will be taking a different sort of journey – a journey through the season of Advent. The word Advent means “coming.” During the season of Advent, we await the coming birth of Jesus. Many of the Scriptures we often use during this season refer to places - holy places, hard places, and pathways in between. This year, our Advent

worship theme is called A Geography of Advent. The Scriptures, hymns, and symbols of the season offer us a sort of “map” of the heights and depths our good God will go to come near to us.

The National Geographic Society offers this simple definition of geography: “the study of places and the relationships between people and their environments.” The story of Jesus being born on earth is a story of God coming near to real people living real lives with real challenges, dangers, hopes, dreams, and opportunities.

The good news of Jesus is delivered to a young woman from Nazareth, to her hesitant but devoted partner, to shepherds on the hillside, to a king in the city, and to magi from afar. A Geography of Advent takes us through some of the highs and lows, joys and fears encountered by God’s people in Scripture.

We can worship God on a mountaintop, but God can also be found in a manger. Wherever we are, God comes near. Whatever we face, God goes with us.

Advent & Christmas at FBC Pendleton 2022

A Geography of Advent

Dec 4 · 2nd Sunday of Advent

The Candle of Peace
Isaiah 2:1-5, Psalm 122

Dec 11 · 3rd Sunday of Advent

The Candle of Joy
Isaiah 35:1-10

Dec 18 · 4th Sunday of Advent

The Candle of Love
Isaiah 7:10-16, Matthew 1:18-25
The Sanctuary choir, youth, and children will present special music in celebration of Christmas.

Saturday, Dec 24 · Christmas Eve

5:00 pm Christmas Eve Worship with communion and candlelight
The Christ Candle
Luke 2:1-20

Sunday, Dec 25 · Christmas Day

10:45 am Worship
Luke 2:1-20
We will have worship only (no coffee hour or Sunday School) on Christmas Day to allow families a bit more time at home together on Christmas morning. Children are welcome to wear pajamas to worship.

Church office will be closed Dec 26-28.

Sunday, Jan 1 · New Year's Day

10:45 am Worship
Matthew 2:13-23
We will follow the same schedule as Christmas Day, with worship only (no coffee hour or Sunday School)

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

Adult Bible Study will gather on Nov 30, Dec 7, and Dec 14 for a time of prayer and Advent reflection. We will have no Wednesday night activities on Dec 21 or Dec 28. Our regular Wednesday night schedule will resume Jan 4.

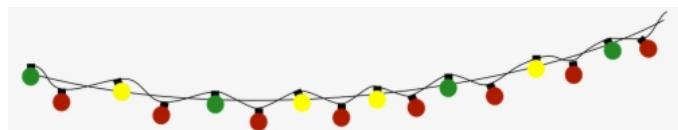
COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

- **MAGI program** – please return wrapped gifts by Dec 4*
- **Collins Children's Home Meat Offering** – contribute by Dec 11 to help stock the freezers*
- **Clemson Community Care Holiday Food Drive** will need lots of turkeys and other staples!*
- **Riverside Middle School Choral Concert** (Chris Cottingham, accompanist) Tuesday, Dec 13 at 6:30 pm at Pendleton High School
- **Wreaths Across America** service in honor of veterans Saturday, Dec 17 at noon at Old Stone Church

*see the Nov 15 Newsletter for more details about these opportunities to share with our community

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SENIOR ADULTS

- **Wednesday, Dec 7, 9:30 am** "Sounds of the Season" Concert at Pendleton High School for senior adults in the community (please let the church office know by Dec 1 if you plan to attend)
- **Monday, Dec 12, 10:30 am** Keenagers Christmas program with music by Joe Reed, Chris Cottingham, and Richard Huss. Please contact **Evelyn Simpson** (864-364-4670) if you will be attending so enough food is ordered for lunch.



Welcome, New Members!

Whitney Bishop joined the church on October 30, 2022 by a statement of faith. She lives at 210 Kirk Ln, Apt 2-2, Pendleton, SC 29670 and can be reached via email at wlbishop1968@gmail.com or by phone at 864-526-9170.

Welcome, Whitney!



Jeff and Kiley Daniel joined the church on November 20, 2022 by a statement of faith, along with their children, **Aurelia** (6) and **Isaiah** (2). They live at 255 Stone Pond Way, Seneca, SC 29678. Jeff can be emailed at jeffrey.daniel@gmail.com or reached by phone at 864-650-3868. Kiley can be reached via email at kileymk@gmail.com or by phone at 864-627-0257.

Welcome Jeff, Kiley, Aurelia, and Isaiah!

Always Giving Thanks

Senior Fellowship participants made Thanksgiving trees, writing on the leaves blessings for which they are thankful. Even though Thanksgiving day has passed, may we continue to look for opportunities to express gratitude.

**Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.
His love endures forever.**

– Psalm 136:1





First Baptist Church of Pendleton
 351 South Broad Street
 PO Box 187
 Pendleton, SC 29670

fbcpendleton.org
 (864) 646-3913

Worship
Christmas Eve · 5:00 pm
Christmas Day · 10:45 am



Deacons for the 2022-2023 Church Year

Flock 01: A - Bo	Wayne Patterson	(864) 710-8239
Flock 02: Br - Ca	Bruce Blackmon	(864) 653-0228
Flock 03: Ch - Dob	Randy Strickland	(864) 360-6071
Flock 04: Dov - Ha	Anna Leavitt	(864) 430-1814
Flock 05: He - Ke	Rick Massey	(864) 940-3515
Flock 06: Ko - Mi	Suzanne Morse	(864) 643-9909
Flock 07: Mo - Ro	Jim Davis	(864) 207-0656
Flock 08: Ry - Ta	Pam Willoughby	(864) 940-5470
Flock 09: Th - W	Dave Alverson	(864) 617-2449
Deacons & Spouses	Kim Burgess	(864) 940-6902

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 aren't able to attend in person, you can worship on Facebook through our live streaming system.

visit our website
fbcpendleton.org

PASTORAL EMERGENCY

Pastor Jennifer Rygg
864-760-7135

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CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Jennifer Rygg · jennifer@fbcpendleton.org · mobile (864) 760-7135
Rev. Chris Cottingham · chris@fbcpendleton.org · mobile (864) 420-6221
Rev. Cara Morgan · cara@fbcpendleton.org · mobile (803) 348-7482
Richard Reynolds Huss · organist@fbcpendleton.org · (864) 646-3913
Church Office / Joseph Reed · office@fbcpendleton.org · (864) 646-3913
Becky Westmoreland · accounting@fbcpendleton.org · (864) 646-3913

CHURCH OFFICE
 (864) 646-3913