



## Refreshing Generosity

“A generous person will be enriched...the one who gives water will be refreshed.”

Proverbs 11:25

As we begin a new year, I am reminded of many blessings and opportunities we experienced as a church during 2022:

- We welcomed new participants and members, including young people making a profession of faith.
- We added a Sunday School class for older children and a Wednesday night nursery.
- Youth attended Passport camp and children participated in Vacation Bible School and summer field trips.
- We ordered church T-shirts and had a church-wide picnic.
- We are now hosting 3 different Girl Scout groups during the week, and well as monthly NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) meetings.
- We continued two long-standing ministries for senior adults: Senior Fellowship (weekly community ministry) and Keenagers (monthly gathering of FBCP seniors and friends).
- We collected, packed, stored, and transported flood buckets for communities impacted by severe weather.
- We completed the third year of our Encourager Church Partnership with Rick Burnette, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship field personnel (missionary) in Immokalee, Florida.

The challenges of the past several years continue to have an impact on our community, and recently, higher prices certainly impact our budget. Through your generosity and faithfulness, we have continued to engage in meaningful ministry in our church, community, and world.

We have remained rooted in faith, and we have continued to grow in love, as our church covenant proclaims. This past year, we also added a paragraph to our church covenant which includes the sentence “We endeavor to be a welcoming and affirming community of grace for all people.”

I have indeed experienced this church family as a community of grace. Your generosity has refreshed me and has blessed so many in our community and beyond. Thank you for your faithfulness and partnership. May we continue to grow in faith, love, and grace in 2023!

—Rev. Jennifer McClung Rygg, Pastor  
Jan 23, 2023

“When we understand the grace we’ve received,  
we are able to turn outward in gratitude and generosity.”

—Christine D. Pohl

## Seasons of Change for Senior Fellowship

In Ecclesiastes 3, verse 1, the wisdom teacher writes, "To everything there is a season." We know from experience that some seasons of life bring joy, while others bring sadness. Yet, God is with us through the changing of the seasons.

For over 20 years, First Baptist Church of Pendleton has offered a weekly community ministry to senior adults. Senior Fellowship has been a part of the life and faith journey for many senior adults and volunteers in our community. Our church and community has been blessed by Senior Fellowship. Over the years, Senior Fellowship has navigated a number of changes, both in membership and leadership. As with any group of over 20 years, participants have aged and declined in health; some are no longer living. Leaders have retired or moved on to other positions. These changes are often challenging, but as people of faith, we are assured of God's steadfast presence, even through the changing situations of our lives.



This new year will bring a new change for Senior Fellowship. Senior Fellowship will be meeting monthly (instead of weekly) on the 4th Thursday of each month (due to staffing and budget constraints). Senior Fellowship participants are also invited to participate in monthly Keenagers meetings, on the 2nd Monday of each month. While we will miss being able to offer Senior Fellowship as a weekly program, this seems to be a wise use of our church resources at this time.

Senior Fellowship will continue to meet at 9:30 am for a light breakfast, a devotion, activity, and lunch. These 4th Thursday meetings will be coordinated and led by volunteers and other church staff. If you are interested in volunteering to help with Senior Fellowship, please contact the church office. If you are interested in attending Senior Fellowship, please join us on the 4th Thursday of the month at 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall!

## Musica Ecclesia



On Friday, February 17, 2023, the Sanctuary Choir will participate in Musica Ecclesia (Church Music), an ecumenical concert of local church choirs. Hosted by Southern Wesleyan University, the concert will be held in Newton Hobson Auditorium (737 Wesleyan Drive, Central) and will include a love offering for Clemson Community Care.

## Global Missions Offerings

Thank you for giving to our global mission offerings during December. These gifts help make "A Place at the Table" so all may experience the love and grace of Jesus.

December Mission Offerings:  
CBF Global \$635  
SBC International \$150



## Pancake Supper Fundraiser

On February 15, the FBC Pendleton Youth group will host a Pancake Supper for our Wednesday night meal, as a fundraiser to support our summer trip to Passport Missions camp. Your normal Wednesday night fee (and any additional donations you can give) will help kids pay for camp.

Passport this year will be hosted by Converse College in Spartanburg, SC. This six day missions camp experience offers our kids quality Bible study & discipleship, fun camp activities, and several hours each day at a work site, serving the community in partnership with food banks, thrift stores, community centers, and local churches.

Passport is always the highlight of our year. It helps smaller youth groups like ours experience a mission trip and connect with other youth groups. They also help us "camp what we believe" through their emphasis on putting faith into loving action as well as affirming women and men in leadership. It is expensive however – about \$450 per student – so your fundraising support is needed and appreciated!



—Rev. Chris Cottingham

## CBF Connections

Thanks to Lane Riley, CBFSC Associate Coordinator, for preaching at FBCP on January 15.

Save the Date - Friday, April 21 for CBFSC General Assembly at FBC Anderson. All are invited to a day of fellowship, encouragement, learning, missions, and worship. The evening worship service will include a message from Paul Baxley, Executive Coordinator of CBF, as well as the installation of Elizabeth Nance-Coker as Coordinator of CBFSC.



## Amazon Smile Program Ending

First Baptist Church of Pendleton has been a recipient of the Amazon Smile program for many years. The program provides a donation of a small percentage of the purchase price of items purchased on Amazon.com. In 2022, we received \$74.76 from Amazon Smile. However, Amazon has decided the program does not make the impact they hoped for, and the Amazon Smile program will close February 20, 2023. We can still accrue donations up until that date. If you have designated FBCP in the past, we thank you and appreciate it very much. As Amazon will be closing out the program automatically, no action is required on your part.





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**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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