



Mission Partner Spotlight: Baptist Joint Committee

This is the third article in this newsletter series highlighting the mission partners included in our general budget.

Religious freedom is a foundational belief of Baptists, dating back to the earliest Baptists.

Thomas Helwys, a 17th century founder of the Baptist movement, called for religious freedom for all people:

"For men's religion to God is between God and themselves. The king shall not answer for it. Let them be heretics, Turks, Jews, or whatsoever, it appertains not to the earthly power to punish them in the least measure."

(A Short Declaration of the Mystery of Iniquity, 1612)

A few decades later, Roger Williams helped establish the colony of Rhode Island and the first Baptist Church in America. Williams introduced the language of a "wall of separation between the garden of the church and the wilderness of the world," which later influenced the writers of the U.S. Constitution.

Today, the Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty continues to advocate for religious liberty. Who is the BJC?

"We are attorneys, Capitol Hill insiders, ministers, mobilizers and scholars. We file briefs in pivotal Supreme Court cases, advocate for and against legislation, testify in Congress and unite with others across faiths to ensure that all Americans have, and will always have, the right to follow their spiritual beliefs. Founded in 1936, we bring our uniquely Baptist perspective of "soul freedom" to protecting religious liberty for all and defending the separation of church and state. BJC is the only faith-based group working on the national level with this singular focus.

Why? Religious freedom is a pillar of American life, written into the U.S. Constitution and spelled out in the first 16 words of the First Amendment: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof." As bold as those words are, however, it's not always obvious how to apply them in our modern society."

(Who We Are, About BJC, bjconline.org/mission-history)

Our church supports the work of the Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Freedom because religious freedom has always been a foundational belief of Baptists. The BJC provides resources and insight regarding important issues in our ever-changing world. By supporting the BJC, we help support religious liberty.



Children and Families Fall Event



Children and Families - save the date for our Fall Event on **Sunday, Nov 12**. Plan to stay after worship for lunch and fall-themed activities! More details to come...

Children's Ministry volunteers will set up the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, Nov 11.

All Saints Sunday



For our All Saints Day observance on Sunday, Nov 5, we will remember five people from our church family who have joined our "great cloud of witnesses." (Hebrews 12:1)

Margaret Calcutt
Carolyn Holbrooks
George Mehaffey
Richard Quattlebaum
Gary Rowell



Join us for worship as we give thanks for God's grace in the lives of these saints and in our own lives.

Senior Fellowship and Keenagers



Halloween Gathering

Thursday, October 26

9:30 - noon

Wear a costume

Fun, Fellowship, and Bingo

Lunch - Skip and Cindy Still

All Seniors are invited to attend!



Trunk or Treat



First Baptist Church of Pendleton participated with Project Hope to host a Trunk or Treat in the FBCP parking lot on Tuesday, Oct 17.

(pictured L-R: Barbara Blackmon, Rev. Chris Cottingham, Kim Burgess, Esther Davis, Pam Willoughby, Warren Willoughby, Rev. Jennifer McClung Rygg.

Quarterly Church Conference & Lunch

We hope you are planning to attend our next Quarterly Church Conference and Lunch on **Sunday, Oct 29**. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall after worship. The church will provide chicken and beverages; please bring a side or dessert to share. Quarterly Church Conference is a great opportunity to fellowship with other church members and stay up to date on church business.



More Trunk or Treat!

Trunk or Treat on the Square in Pendleton is **Sunday, Oct 29** from 5-6 pm. This event is hosted by Pendleton United Methodist Church and open to the community. FBCP youth will be helping with this event, and adult volunteers are welcome as well! If you'd like to **help** or **donate candy**, please contact **Chris Cottingham** (chris@fbcpendleton.org or 864-420-6221).

Blood Drive · Nov 1



First Baptist Church of Pendleton will host a **Blood Drive** on **Wednesday, Nov 1**. The Blood Connection will have a **bloodmobile** in the parking lot from **4:00 – 8:00 pm** to accept whole blood donations. Walk in or make an appointment by using the post on the church website. Save a life — there is no substitute for blood.

We have also scheduled quarterly blood drives in 2024 — mark your calendar for the following Wednesdays: Feb 7, May 1, Aug 7, Nov 6.



First Baptist Church of Pendleton
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Quarterly Church Conference & Lunch
Sunday, Oct 29 · following worship



Deacons for the 2023-2024 Church Year

Flock 01: A - Bra	Kim Burgess	(864) 940-6902
Flock 02: Bre - Cl	Bruce Blackmon	(864) 653-0228
Flock 03: Co - Fa	Randy Strickland	(864) 360-6071
Flock 04: Fi - Ho	Dave Alverson	(864) 617-2449
Flock 05: Hu - Mc	Rick Massey	(864) 940-3515
Flock 06: Me - Pe	Jan McCracken	(864) 934-4574
Flock 07: Po - Tab	Shelby Quattlebaum	(864) 934-6086
Flock 08: Tay - Z	Warren Willoughby	(864) 940-5471
Deacons & Spouses	Wayne Patterson	(864) 710-8239

**As we aspire to keep Jesus at the center of our lives,
 we are Rooted in Faith, and Growing in Love.
 We endeavor to be a welcoming and affirming
 community of grace for all people, loving our
 neighbors because God first loved us.**

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.
 find worship posts on our website
fbcpendleton.org

PASTORAL EMERGENCY
Rev. Jennifer McClung Rygg
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