



Newsletter Volume 49 Number 24

December 19, 2023

## Christmas Eve at FBC Pendleton



This year, Christmas Eve is on a Sunday, giving us several opportunities to worship and fellowship on December 24th.

### 9:30-10:30 am

During the Sunday School hour (9:30-10:30 am), all are invited to gather in the Fellowship Hall for coffee, tea, hot chocolate, juice and biscuits (sausage and plain). We will have some children's activities available and plenty of time for conversation around the table as a church family.

### 10:45 am

Our Sunday morning worship service will observe the 4th Sunday of Advent, lighting the candle of love and answering our Advent theme question, **How does a weary world rejoice?**, with the story of the birth of John (Luke 1:57-66): *We allow ourselves to be amazed.*

### 5:00 pm

We will gather for Carols, Candlelight, and Communion on Christmas Eve, asking once again, **How does a weary world rejoice?** and finding the Christ child as we make room in our hearts and lives for Jesus and for one another.

## Mission Partner Spotlight: MAGI Program

*This is the sixth article in this newsletter series highlighting the mission partners in our general budget.*

Each Christmas, FBC Pendleton participates in the Magi program to help families in Anderson School District 4 who are in need of assistance for the holidays. This year, Magi program sponsors included 12 churches, the high school Beta club, and one school's PTO (parent-teacher organization).



The Magi program began in 2003 with Pendleton United Methodist Church providing gifts to families from Pendleton Elementary. The following year, the program expanded to include LaFrance Elementary and Riverside Middle. In 2005, Townville Elementary and Pendleton High School were added, and in 2007, when Mount Lebanon Elementary opened, they were added as well. (Townville is now served by a local church.) As the program expanded, so did support in the community. In

2020, an anonymous donor contacted the MAGI directors and offered financial assistance to support a summer food program. MAGI began offering groceries in the summer.

This Christmas, 282 children in 95 families each received three gifts: a shirt, a pair of pants, and a toy or other "fun" item such as a gift card. Each family also receives food for a Christmas dinner and faith-based literature (a Christmas storybook, stickers, and family devotional activities.)

In addition to inviting the congregation to contribute gifts, FBCP Pendleton contributes towards the cost of the food and provides the literature for all families. We typically cover these costs from our general mission budget and/or from our designated Hands-On Mission fund. This year, the mission committee applied for and received a grant from the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of South Carolina. We were able to use funds from this grant to cover the cost of literature and to contribute towards the food. Thank you, FBCP, for your ongoing support of this meaningful program for our community!

## Collins Home Meat Offering

Thank you for your extravagant generosity toward the Collins Home Meat Offering. The offering totaled **\$2,505**. Our thanks to **Wayne and Cheryl Patterson**, who dropped off the meat at the Collins Home.



## Christmas Caroling

We went Christmas caroling on Sunday, Dec 17 and visited several homebound members.



## Announcements & Opportunities



### OFFERING FOR GLOBAL MISSIONS

Remember the **Offering for Global Missions** (Cooperative Baptist Fellowship) this Christmas! 100% of your gifts for the Offering will support the long-term presence of CBF field personnel (such as **Rick Burnette**, our encourager church partner) serving in the United States and around the world. This year's offering theme, **Equipping...with every good thing...** is from Hebrews 13:20-21. Give online or in

the offering plate and designate your gift to **CBF Global** to support the Offering for Global Missions.

Year-End Giving: **Keep in mind e-Giving contributions need time to process** – we recommend initiating them no later than **Dec 26** to count for 2023. Any other contributions for 2023 must be in the church office by **NOON on Friday, Dec 29** to make the final deposit of the year (the church office will be closed Dec 25 - 28 in observance of Christmas and for vacation). Thank you for your extravagant generosity.



Help celebrate the **100th birthday of Ruth Burns!** Ruth's family is hosting a drop-in birthday party for her on **Wednesday, Dec 27** from **noon - 2:00 pm** in the **Fellowship Hall**. Finger foods will be served. Let's shower Ruth with cards! All are invited. If you can't attend the party, you can mail a **100th birthday card** for Ruth to **108 Antique Ct, Pendleton, SC 29670**.

**THINK ABOUT WHAT MATTERS MOST TO YOU.** Adults of all ages, married or single, caregivers, and young adults with aging parents are invited to **Live Well / Finish Well: Advance Care Planning**, on Saturday, Jan 13, from 9:00 am - noon at Zion United Methodist Church (5708 Hwy 187 N, Anderson). This gathering will help you to discuss and explore 1) ways to communicate your Life Choices with family, health care professionals, and pastors 2) ways to create Advance Care Planning documents and much more 3) ways to plan a Service of Remembrance, reflecting your faith and values. Presented by **Chaplain Tamara Flinchum**, AnMed Department of Spiritual Care and **Pastor Beverly Crowe Tipton**, Zion United Methodist Church. For more information, call **864-287-9098**. Register now at [www.zionumc.net](http://www.zionumc.net).

### ADVANCE CARE PLANNING

Start the  
Conversation . . .



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**4th Sunday of Advent · 10:45 am**  
**Christmas Eve · 5:00 pm**



**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**  
**864-760-7135**

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