



## Pride Month at FBCP

This month FBCP posted a Facebook message with a modified version of our church logo. The logo showed a tree in rainbow colors and the words “Rooted in faith. Growing in love. Affirming to all.” The post was ‘Happy Pride Month from FBC Pendleton.’

We often post in support of groups and causes, such as last week’s post supporting BWIM (Baptist Women in Ministry) and our promotion of Mental Health Awareness Month in May. But we’ve never previously recognized Pride Month! So Jennifer invited me to share with the church family some of my thoughts about what this step means to many LGBTQ+ persons like myself.

I have a LOT to say here, but it won’t all fit in this newsletter. So let me first address a concern I’ve often heard (though not here): that pride is a vice, not a virtue. It’s true that Scripture warns against the sin of pride. James 4:6 tells us “God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.” Proverbs 16:18 says “Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall.” We’re encouraged to seek humility, not pride.

But in Galatians 6:4: we’re told “All must test their own work; then that work, rather than their neighbor’s work, will become a cause for pride.” Here we’re encouraged to do good work and to take pride in that.

Because, as we know when we think about it, there’s more than one kind of pride. Most Christians I know have no issue saying they are proud of their loved ones. We celebrate them and their accomplishments. Friends that I’ve heard call pride a sin have no problem singing with gusto “And I’m proud to be an American, where at least I know I’m free...” There’s more than one kind of pride.

Matt Nightingale, an LGBTQ+ Christian pastor, musician, and writer, puts it so well: “When LGBTQIA+ people celebrate Pride, we’re not celebrating the pride that is harmful. **Our pride is not the opposite of humility, but rather the opposite of shame.**”

Unfortunately it is still true that most LGBTQ+ people like me grow up ashamed. We constantly hear that who and what we are is wrong, gross, Other, “abomination” (like pride, another badly understood translation). Shame sinks deep roots into most of us and it causes real harm. Tragically, for some it leads to suicide. In my case, it’s at the root of my weight and body issues. Like haughty pride, shame also can lead to destruction.

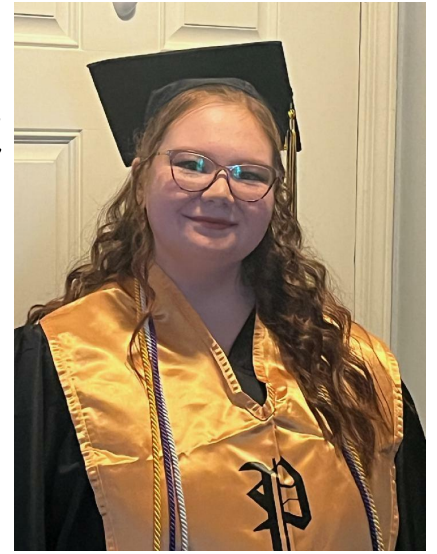
Pride Month is a rejection of that kind of shame. It’s embracing the message that we are beloved and beautiful children of God, just as God made us. Pride Month helps me hear that voice a little better.



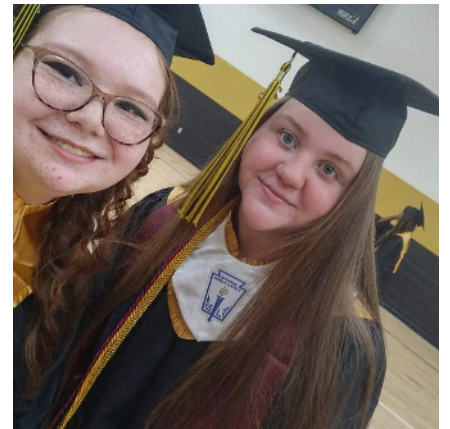
# Graduate Recognition

Four students in our extended church family graduated from high school in May, and were celebrated in our May 19 worship service.

**Beth Brewer** graduated from Pendleton High School. Beth currently works at Zaxby's. She will go to Tri-County Technical College in the fall to study Medical Lab technology. Eventually she plans to transfer to Clemson for a degree in Microbiology.



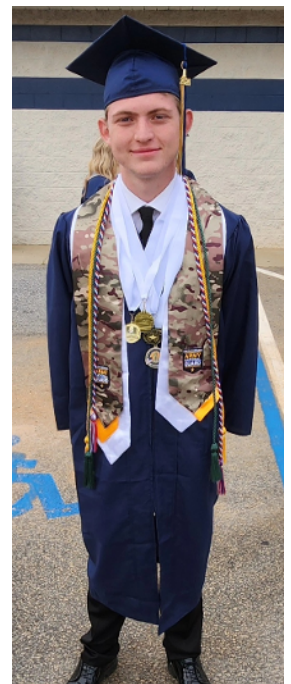
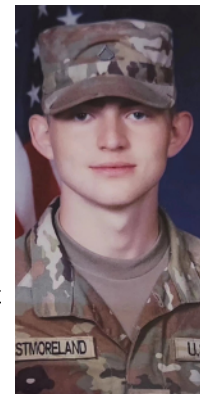
**Cheyenne Posey** graduated from Pendleton High School. Cheyenne works part time at Mac Smith's Country Store and is currently looking for additional work and work hours! She plans to attend Tri-County in the fall for their nursing program.



**Brady Taylor** graduated from Pendleton High School. Brady is currently working at BoJangles and plans to go to Tri-County this fall.



**Drew Westmoreland** graduated from Seneca High School. Drew joined the Army National Guard during his Junior year and graduated basic training last summer. He is currently attending AIT training at Fort Gregg-Adams in Virginia.



Congratulations again Beth, Cheyenne, Brady, and Drew, to you and your proud families! All our love and prayers for each of you.

# Senior Adult Ministry

Jane Huss, Lead Volunteer

Senior Adult Ministry will meet **Thursday, Jun 27 at 9:30** in the **Fellowship Hall** with a program from the **Electric City Shag Club** with what we hope will be a multi-generational time of food, fun, and fellowship as we enjoy music and our South Carolina State Dance led by a former FBCP youth group member, **Lisa Myers Caveny**.



Senior Adult Ministry met on Thursday, Jun 6 and thoroughly enjoyed a program of Chair Massage and Relaxation Techniques presented by **Patrick and Sheila Fant**. **Tammy Garland** lead the devotion, and **Betty Pickens** and **Donna Blanding** inspired us with songs. Everyone enjoyed Sheila's lunch -- just look at the desserts! -- and most importantly, enjoyed the fellowship with each other and visiting with Patrick and Sheila.



Senior Adult Ministry meets the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month and is open to anyone in the community. Volunteers are also welcome from the community. **Jane Huss** is the lead volunteer and can be reached at [janereynoldshuss@gmail.com](mailto:janereynoldshuss@gmail.com) or mobile 864-979-2281.





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**Saturday, Aug 10 · Supper at the Park  
 with King's Chapel AME**



**Deacons for the 2024-2025 Church Year**

Flock 01: A - Bl	Jim Davis	(864) 207-0656
Flock 02: Bo - Cha	Anna Leavitt	(864) 430-1814
Flock 03: Che - Fi	Barbara Blackmon	(864) 903-3739
Flock 04: Fo - H	Suzanne Morse	(864) 643-9909
Flock 05: J - Me	Rick Massey	(864) 940-3515
Flock 06: Mi - Ra	Jan McCracken	(864) 934-4574
Flock 07: Re - Ta	Shelby Quattlebaum	(864) 934-6086
Flock 08: Th - Z	Warren Willoughby	(864) 940-5471
Deacons & Spouses	Dave Alverson	(864) 617-2449

**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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