



## Resurrection Generosity

In the season of Easter, we remember what it means to live as resurrection people. For the early Christians, generosity was a crucial component of the community:

"The believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, to the community, to their shared meals, and to their prayers. All the believers were united and shared everything. Every day, they met together in the temple and ate in their homes. They shared food with gladness and simplicity." (Acts 2:42, 44, 46)

The early church faced persecution and uncertainty with generosity and grace. Two thousand plus years later, followers of Jesus are still called upon to share generously, even in challenging times. Generosity is an important part of what it means to follow Jesus. In the first quarter of 2025, we have practiced generosity in several meaningful ways:

- **January** of this year marked 5 years since we became an Encourager Church for Rick Burnette, CBF Field Personnel in Immokalee, FL. Each quarter, our church sends a contribution to support the ministry of **Cultivate Abundance** as they help provide food for migrant farmworkers and their families. Here is some of what they do:
  - in 2024, 41,000 pounds of produce reached up to 1,000 people each week
  - 102 tons of fresh food grown, collected, and shared since 2018
  - 650,000 servings of food shared since 2018
  - 5 Cultivate Abundance gardens
  - 113 nutritious plant varieties grown
  - 11 institutional partner gardens/farms
  - 204 volunteers
- In **February** of this year, we participated in the Churches for Change initiative of **Collins Home and Family Ministries**. In one week, we collected \$415.10!
- In **March**, we received this urgent request from the **Baptist World Alliance**:

*There has been a rapid deceleration of humanitarian aid around the world that is impacting millions of lives. The BWA is hearing from Baptist groups from Myanmar, from the Democratic Republic of Congo, and more imploring us to send urgent life-saving assistance. We cannot stress how dire the situation is for many across the globe. We cannot replace the millions of aid dollars that have been lost, but as the Church, we also cannot sit on the sidelines. Together, we must hear the voice of Jesus calling us to stand in solidarity with the suffering. Together, we must stand in the gap to help sisters and brothers in desperate need.*

Our mission committee responded by sending \$1500 to help the Baptist World Alliance respond to these humanitarian needs.

**Thank you, FBC Pendleton, for your extravagant generosity!** May we continue to live as Easter people, following the generous example of the early church.

— Pastor Jennifer Rygg, 5/5/25



## CARING FOR CREATION IN 2025

· from Creation Justice Ministries ·

MAY

### Reverent Nature Walk

Go on a walk and try to pay a little more attention than usual to the trees, or the water, and the grass around you. Take time to notice and admire.

Rev. Barbara Brown Taylor speaks to this spiritual practice of paying attention in her book, "An Altar in the World."

### Endangered Species Day

The 3rd Friday in May is endangered species day. Learn more about endangered species, including looking up endangered species in South Carolina, at [www.fws.gov/program/endangered-species](http://www.fws.gov/program/endangered-species).

## Community Outreach Ministry



Members of the Current Events Sunday School Class and the Community Outreach Ministry Council met for food, fellowship, and planning ways in which we can engage with the Pendleton Foundation for Black History and Culture.

## Intergenerational Ministry

Our first intergenerational ministry event at FBCP has received rave reviews and may become an annual event on our church calendar. The idea that our faith is formed within the intergenerational community is found in Deuteronomy 6:7 and this verse is instructing us to "recite God's words to our children. Talk about them when you are sitting around your house and when you are out and about, when you are lying down and when you are getting up." Speaking about who God is and how God is part of your lives is assumed to be an activity all ages do together! Look for a detailed article with photos from the event in our next newsletter on May 20. At this time we want to thank all who played a part in our success:

**Harrison Litzell** from the Baugh Center for Baptist Leadership at Mercer University, **Kiley Daniel**, our Children's Ministry Coordinator, **Jane Huss**, Lead Volunteer of our Senior Adult Ministry, and **Kitty Alverson** and **Jane Massey**, Children's Ministry Co-Chairs. Thanks also to **Hannah and Hayden Maxey**, **Grace Ammons**, **Beth Brewer**, **Tillman Cantrell**, **Ian and Alexandria Coulter**, **Jeff Daniel**, **Heather Mullinax**, **Tony Fusco**, **Amy McCoy**, **Shelby Quattlebaum**, and FBCP staff members **Jennifer Rygg**, **Chris Cottingham**, **Richard Huss**, **Joe Reed**, and **Becky Westmoreland**.

Some thoughts and wording are excerpted from an article in *Shine: Living in God's Light Curriculum*.



## Senior Adult Ministry



We had our annual Kentucky Derby party on Thursday, April 24, and our members were all in full Derby attire!

Cynthia Yates read Psalm 115 for her morning devotional, sharing a timely reminder of giving God first place in one's life: "Not to us, Lord, not to us but to your name be glory, because of your love and faithfulness."

We continued by making a scratch-off Easter favor revealing the three crosses during Jesus' crucifixion as a reminder of the season of Easter. Each piece revealed each participant's individual creativity! Then it was off to see the race. For our group it was watching the 2024 Kentucky Derby race which you may remember was neck and neck at the end. It was as though we were watching the race at Churchill Downs for the first time!

We played BINGO and then enjoyed lunch.

Kim Burgess prepared Derby favorites on beautifully decorated tables. Her specialty for the morning was mint julep punch. It was absolutely deliciously refreshing! We had a good time of food, fun, and fellowship. Thank you to all the volunteers who served at our Thursday gathering.

Our next meeting is Thursday, May 8, at 9:30 in the Fellowship Hall. All Seniors are welcome to join us!

— Jane Huss, Lead Volunteer · (864) 979-2281





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**Senior Adult Ministry**  
**2nd & 4th Thursdays · 9:30 am**

**Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.**

**1 Thessalonians 5:11**



**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](http://fbcpendleton.org)

**PASTORAL EMERGENCY**

**Rev. Jennifer McClung Rygg**  
**864-760-7135**

The Newsletter  
 Published semimonthly.  
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