



## What's Growing?

Recently at the store, my 9-year-old asked if I would buy him some packets of seeds without knowing what they were. He wanted to surprise me when they grew. I agreed (hopefully they will grow!), then waited while he consulted with his grandad for advice on seed selection and planting. I managed to avert my eyes while he scanned three seed packets and quickly deposited them in the bag before I checked out. Later, he asked me if I was excited to see what would grow from his seeds.

Those who garden typically know what kind of plants to expect, but sometimes, the earth surprises us. Sometimes, something grows that we didn't know was there – a discarded or forgotten seed, or one planted as a surprise.

The season of Lent coincides with the beginning of Spring. This year, our worship theme is **Tell Me Something Good: Grounding Ourselves in the Good News this Lent** from A Sanctified Art. Throughout the season, we will be reminded of the Good News, which is the core of our Christian faith. We probably think we know what is meant by "Good News" – Jesus is born! Jesus is alive! But the Good News goes deeper, spreads further, and even surprises us.

The creators at A Sanctified Art write, "If we're being honest, we can easily distort or sanitize Jesus' teachings. Following Jesus leads to a richer, more expansive life, but it's not necessarily comfortable. We often describe Jesus' ministry as 'radical' which comes from the Latin word 'radicalis,' meaning 'root' or 'ground.' Therefore, the good news should bring us back to our roots, back to what grounds us: loving our neighbor, caring for the vulnerable, pursuing justice and mercy, and resting in God's unending grace."

What is growing in your spiritual life during this season of Lent? This is a season of tending the soil, nurturing new growth, and preparing for the good news to take root and flourish.

Throughout the Lenten journey, may we be grounded in and inspired by the Good News.

2/18	Ash Wednesday	The good news is...all are invited.
2/22	1st Sunday of Lent	The good news is...so good it catches us by surprise.
3/1	2nd Sunday of Lent	The good news is...great love for God and neighbor.
3/8	3rd Sunday of Lent	The good news is...together, the impossible is possible.
3/15	4th Sunday of Lent	The good news is...protection and care for the vulnerable.
3/22	5th Sunday of Lent	The good news is...rooted in justice, mercy, and faithfulness.
3/29	Palm Sunday	The good news is...inspiring us to act.
4/2	Maundy Thursday	The good news is...even Judas gets his feet washed.
4/3	Good Friday	The good news is...revealed through nonviolence.
4/5	Easter Sunday	The good news is...alive in the world.

Blessings on this Lenten journey!

**Pastor Jennifer Rygg**  
2/17/2026



## Lenten Devotionals

Packets of daily devotional cards are available on the table outside the church office. If you would like to use these cards during the season of Lent but are not able to come by and pick up set of cards, please call the office and let us know; we will be sure that you receive one.

## Lenten Lunch

The **Alliance of Pendleton Area Churches (APAC)** coordinates **Community Lenten Lunches** on Wednesdays of Lent, starting with Ash Wednesday on Feb 18 at Pendleton Presbyterian Church. All lunches are scheduled from 12-1. The host church provides a soup and sandwich lunch and a devotional.

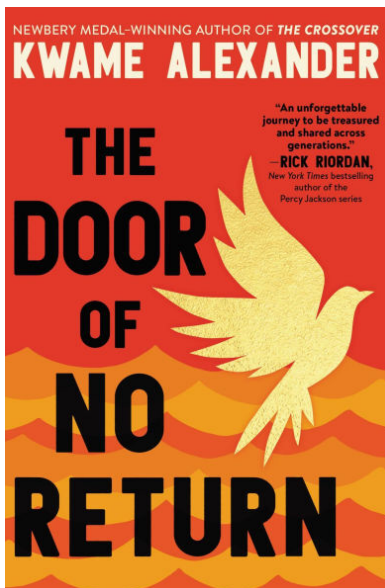
First Baptist Church of Pendleton will host the APAC Lenten Lunch on **Wednesday, March 4 at noon**. We need multiple volunteers to provide a Crockpot or other container of ready-to-serve **Soup** (enough for 15-20 people), 12 to 15 **Sandwiches** (cut in half), **Dessert** to serve at least 12 - 15, **Cornbread, Crackers, or Bread**. In addition, help will be needed for both setup before lunch and cleanup afterwards.

Please sign-up using the sheet on the table outside the church office, or use the Google Form on the church website (look for the "Lenten Lunch Help Needed" post), or contact the church office or **Cheryl Patterson** ([cherylpatterson235@gmail.com](mailto:cherylpatterson235@gmail.com) or 864-654-4249) by Friday, February 27 to let us know what food item you will provide or if you are available to assist with setup or cleanup. Thanks.



**Alliance of Pendleton Area Churches**  
**Community Lenten Lunches | 2026**  
Wednesdays 12-1 pm | soup & sandwich lunch | Lenten devotional

- February 18 - **Pendleton Presbyterian**  
(603 S. Mechanic St.)
- February 25 - **King's Chapel AME**  
(135 Vance St.)
- March 4 - **First Baptist Pendleton**  
(351 S. Broad St.)
- March 11 - **Pendleton Methodist Church**  
(217 S. Broad St.)
- March 18 - **Mt. Zion Presbyterian**  
(1501 Sandy Springs Rd, Sandy Springs)
- March 25 - **Zion United Methodist Church**  
(5708 Hwy 187, Anderson)



## African-American Read-In

**February is Black History Month.** We will be hosting an event planned by the Pendleton Area Advocates for Intellectual Freedom on **Thursday, Feb 26 at 7 pm** in the **Fellowship Hall**.

**Cassie Owens Moore** will lead a discussion on the book, *The Door of No Return* by Kwame Alexander. This is part of the **National African-American Read-In**, an event to encourage communities to read together, celebrating African-American books and authors. Email questions to [new.paaif@gmail.com](mailto:new.paaif@gmail.com).

## Senior Adult Ministry

"You can't go wrong with The Gypsy Sallies" was one of the many wonderful compliments I received after our February 12 Senior Adult Ministry meeting. It was a most delightful morning.

Join us on Thursday, February 26, from 9:30 - 12:00 as our office manager, Joe Reed, presents the second lecture in his series about the architecture of Frank Lloyd Wright. This engaging session will continue exploring Wright's distinctive style, innovative designs, and lasting



Your Name Belongs Here!

influence of American architecture. Whether you attended the first lecture or are joining for the first time, you'll enjoy the thoughtful and informative morning together. We hope to see you there.

Please consider being a part of our February Fundraiser "Give From Your Heart" to grow this community outreach. We will accept donations online or in the church office. It is imperative you designate your fundraiser donation to the **Senior Adult Ministry designated budget account.**

Jane Huss · Lead Volunteer

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

1 Thessalonians 5:11



## Helping Our International Neighbors

A volunteer opportunity fair is being held at Mitchell Rd Presbyterian Church in Greenville on **Saturday, Mar 7 from 10 am - 2 pm**. This event offers the opportunity to explore community connections with immigrant advocacy and ESL programming. There will also be a screening of the film, **Across: When Headlines Cross Borders and Strangers Become Neighbors**. If you are interested in attending or would like more information, please contact the church office.





**First Baptist Church of Pendleton**  
 351 South Broad Street  
 PO Box 187  
 Pendleton, SC 29670

fbcpendleton.org  
 (864) 646-3913

**FBCP Hosts Lenten Lunch  
 Wednesday, Mar 4 · Noon**



**Deacons for the 2025-2026 Church Year**

Flock 01: A - Bl	Warren Willoughby	(864) 940-5471
Flock 02: Bo - Cha	Hayden Maxey	(843) 246-4858
Flock 03: Che - Da	Heather Mullinax	(864) 221-7651
Flock 04: Do - Hen	Cindy Still	(864) 324-6203
Flock 05: Her - McCo	Jan McCracken	(864) 934-4574
Flock 06: McCr - Pa	Shelby Quattlebaum	(864) 934-6086
Flock 07: Pe - Ta	Barbara Blackmon	(864) 903-3739
Flock 08: Th - Z	Jane Reynolds Huss	(864) 979-2281
Deacons & Spouses	Suzanne Morse	(864) 643-9909

**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**

The Newsletter  
 Published semimonthly.  
 ©2026 First Baptist Church of Pendleton

**CHURCH STAFF**

**Rev. Jennifer McClung Rygg** · jennifer@fbcpendleton.org · (864) 760-7135  
**Rev. Chris Cottingham** · chris@fbcpendleton.org · mobile (864) 420-6221  
**Kiley Daniel** · children@fbcpendleton.org · mobile (317) 627-0257  
**Richard Reynolds Huss** · organist@fbcpendleton.org · (864) 646-3913  
**Church Office / Joseph Reed** · office@fbcpendleton.org · (864) 646-3913  
**Becky Westmoreland** · accounting@fbcpendleton.org · (864) 646-3913

**CHURCH OFFICE**  
 (864) 646-3913