



Newsletter Volume 47 Number 2

January 19, 2021

## Encourager Church Update

On January 5, 2020, FBCP signed a covenant to become an Encourager Church for CBF field personnel **Rick Burnette and his wife, Ellen**. For the past year, we have made quarterly contributions from our mission budget to support the Burnette's work, and we have prayed for them and their ministry in the unique challenges of this year. We are now entering our second year as an Encourager Church. We look forward to continued partnership and ministry with Rick and Ellen and are thankful for the good work they are doing.

Due to COVID-19, some of our hopes and plans for partnering with the Burnettes have been placed on hold. For example, we had hoped to have a group from our congregation travel to Florida during 2020. However, our prayers and encouragement are still a valuable gift we can offer Rick and Ellen. If you would like to send them a note of encouragement in celebration of our 1st anniversary of partnering with them as an Encourager Church, their address is **17151 Laurelin Ct, North Fort Myers, FL 33917**.

See below for a recent update from the Burnettes, and be sure to check our weekly prayer list (in the Wednesday email) for updated prayer requests throughout the year.



Rick and Ellen Burnette

A Note from Rick and Ellen:

Greetings from Ft. Myers,

It's hard to believe that it was one year ago that we were in your church. So much has happened over 12 months. We remain busy. Here are our current updates and prayer requests:

- Disaster Response – Continue to pray for the Lake Charles, Louisiana area in the initial phases of recovery from 2020 Hurricanes Laura and Delta and for our local National Baptist Partners, especially during this time of COVID-19.
- Farmworker Ministry – Pray for Luis, a 17-year-old Immokalee resident and son of farmworkers who is currently applying for DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) status.
- Farmworker Ministry – We give thanks that in 2020, along with our small-scale food production partners (e.g., gardeners, churches, small farms), Cultivate Abundance was able to grow, collect, and share approximately 27,500 lbs. of local produce amounting to 73,000 servings with an estimated market value of \$40,000.

Praying for the health of your congregation. Let us know if we can be of assistance.

Rick and Ellen Burnette  
January 2021

## Deacon Flocks

In December 2020, the church voted to approve two new deacons, **James Braswell** and **Max Loyd**. Now that we have a full deacon council with 12 active deacons, we have updated our deacon flocks. You may notice that you are in a different deacon flock. Please see the chart on page 4 of this newsletter to determine your deacon flock.

The role of deacons at FBCP is “to serve as undershepherds of the Church, to concern themselves with the spiritual welfare of the Church, and to serve with the Pastor as co-laborers” (from FBCP ByLaws, Article IV, D, section 1). Each deacon is assigned a flock of active members/participants. Deacons are typically in touch with their flock members from time to time and available if needs arise. Please feel free to contact your deacon if you have a need or if you would simply like to touch base with your deacon. Each month, we will be featuring a “deacon of the month” in the newsletter to help our church family get to know our deacons. Previous deacon features are available in the Newsletter Archive on our website ([www.fbcpendleton.org/newsletter/](http://www.fbcpendleton.org/newsletter/))

December 15, 2020 - **Barbara Blackmon**, Deacon of the Month for December/January

November 17, 2020 - **Jim Davis**, Deacon of the Month for November

October 20, 2020 - **Cheryl Patterson**, Deacon Chair and Deacon of the Month for October

Thank you to our deacons for your willingness to provide leadership, encouragement, and support to our church family!

## Quarterly Church Conference Set for Wednesday, Jan 27 at 6:30 pm on Zoom

Please make plans to attend the Quarterly Church Conference on Wednesday, Jan 27 at 6:30 pm on Zoom video conference. Links will be available in the weekly email. Committee Leaders, please either prepare your written reports and submit them via email or shared doc to [office@fbcpendleton.org](mailto:office@fbcpendleton.org) by **Thursday, Jan 21** so they can be included in the conference packet, or plan to make an oral report during the meeting. Thanks!



## Thank You for your Extravagant Generosity in 2020

Thanks to your faithfulness to our church, we were able to continue meaningful ministry even in the midst of very uncertain times. We ended the year with a deficit of slightly over \$12,400 – which, in a year like 2020, is cause for celebration! As you may recall from our December church conferences, we have adjusted our budget for 2021 and are hopeful for the days ahead. Thank you for your commitment to FBCP and your generosity to God’s work through our church family. Thanks be to God!

## Offering Envelopes for 2021

Offering envelopes for 2021 were sent by mail. If you have not received yours or if you need a replacement set (we have learned that some boxes arrived with water damage) please contact the church office at 864-646-3913 or email Becky Westmoreland at [accounting@fbcpendleton.org](mailto:accounting@fbcpendleton.org).

## Online-only Worship through January 31

Due to the increase in COVID cases in our area (and expected continued increases following the holidays), in-person worship has been suspended January 17, 24, and 31. Church council will meet again the last week of January to re-evaluate. For those three weeks, we will have online worship in a format similar to what we had from March through August, with a YouTube video posted online Sunday morning. You can also hear the sermon by calling **(425) 436-6309**, enter Access Code: **507774#** and Reference Number: #.

While our precautions for in-person worship seem to be effective and we have no known instances of COVID transmission at church, we do have increasing numbers of COVID cases among our church family and in our community. Earlier this month, Anderson County declared a state of emergency. Anderson County hospitals were at 90% capacity. The numbers are alarming. Anything we can do to help reduce the spread has the potential to save lives. **Safety is the priority; God is with us and can be worshiped from wherever we are.**

Thank you for your patience, for your diligence in following precautions, and for your faithfulness to our church in these challenging times. It has indeed been a gift to be able to gather in person for worship for these past few months, and hopefully, we will be able to do so again soon.

## Five Dynamics Every Church Must Address

*Coming in February*

Wednesday, Feb 3 and 10, 6:30-7:30 pm on Zoom

What's actually going on in congregations here in 2021? The unprecedented changes in our world are resulting in an unusual mix of dynamics in most every church. **Mark Tidsworth** from Pinnacle Leadership Associates identifies these five dynamics as

**longing, fear, grief, adaptation, and vitality.**

For the first two Wednesdays of February, we will be spending our Wednesday night Prayer & Bible Study time exploring these dynamics, using a video and discussion resource. This will be an opportunity to reflect on this unusual season in the life of our church and to recognize that we are not alone in these challenges.





**First Baptist Church of Pendleton**

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**DEACONS FLOCKS**

updated January 2021

Flock 01: A - Bl	Glenn Andrews	(704) 523-1414
Flock 02: Bo - Ca	Barbara Blackmon	(864) 903-3739
Flock 03: Ch - Di	James Braswell	(864) 982-2387
Flock 04: Do - F	Anna Leavitt	(864) 430-1814
Flock 05: G - Hend	Jane Massey	(864) 940-3156
Flock 06: Hens - J	Suzanne Morse	(864) 643-9909
Flock 07: K - Mila	Jan McCracken	(864) 934-4574
Flock 08: Mill - Pat, J.	Jim Davis	(864) 207-0656
Flock 09: Pat, P - Simm	Pam Willoughby	(864) 940-5470
Flock 10: Simp - Ta	Skip Still	(864) 903-1576
Flock 11: Th - Y	Max Loyd	(864) 654-2399
Deacons & Spouses	Cheryl Patterson	(864) 710-8238

Can't be here in person? Join Us for Online Worship  
[fbcpendleton.org](http://fbcpendleton.org)

**Worship by Phone** · call **(425) 436-6309**  
 Access Code: **507774#** Reference Number: #  
 Pendleton Community Counseling Center  
**1-888-293-7585**

**PASTORAL EMERGENCY**  
**Pastor Jennifer Rygg**  
**864-760-7135**

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