

FROM OUR INTERIM PASTOR

This past Sunday I felt so blessed that we had a wonderful facility in which to worship while our auditorium is under construction. Our folk did an excellent job setting up the room to accommodate us for worship. We are blessed to have a great audio/visual team. I know it makes a lot of additional work for our sound crew and musicians but they proved to be up to the challenge. Thanks to all of you who had a hand in making that work so well.

This Sunday, October 24, I will be preaching from Mark 2. It is one of my favorite stories in Mark’s gospel. It teaches us so many valuable lessons that are incredibly applicable in the times in which we are living. The Church’s effort to reach the lost, especially in the last 50 years, has often been misguided and ineffective. In my opinion, never more so than today.

In the 50’s and 60’s the Church relied on what has been labeled “Mass Evangelism.” It was a strategy that seemed to many to be a “quick” fix to spreading the gospel. We endeavored to herd as many lost people into a packed stadium or church as we possibly could and then have the best preacher available take a shot at convincing them they needed Christ. There is no question that God used our efforts to bring many into the kingdom, but the Great Commission calls for evangelism of the masses by the masses. It should be a community (church) effort, whereby all of us are involved.

Mark gives us a story that is indicative of all the elements necessary for a church to reach it’s community for Christ. I hope you will be here Sunday to consider what role you might play in bringing Pickens to Christ. I look forward to seeing you this Sunday.

Ralph

First Focus

A Weekly Newsletter for the Family and Friends of Pickens First Baptist

- All Church Members.....Ministers
- Ralph Carter, Jr.Interim Pastor
- Bryan Hester (704-4802).....Worship & Associate Pastor
- Jeff Rafferty (607-8306).....Discipleship & Missions Pastor
- Colton Ashley (420-6454).....Interim Youth Minister
- Jennifer Hendrix (449-5381).....Preschool Director
- Katie Freeman.....Financial Secretary
- Tricia McJunkin.....Church Secretary

Church Phone: 864-878-6564 Website: www.fbcpickens.org
 Office Hours: 8:30 AM – 5 PM, Monday – Thursday
 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM, Friday

Discipleship and Missions News from Jeff

Praying for Revival

We would like to invite you to join us on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. in room E200 for our weekly Prayer Meeting. As we see the events in our nation and world unfolding there is little doubt that we desperately need the Lord to bring a revival in our nation. We will be starting a new study entitled "Returning to Holiness" as we seek the Lord and pray that He will bring a revival in our individual lives, our church, and our nation.

Church Outreach Opportunities

I want to thank everyone who has come out on Sundays and helped us to reach out to our Awana families. As an ongoing outreach ministry, we will meet on the first Sunday of each month at 4:00 p.m. at the Welcome Center to go out visiting. These visits will consist of contacting new Awana families, guests to our services, and new moves to the area. We would love to have you join us the next time we go out on November 7th. If you have any questions, please contact Jeff at either 878-6564 ext. 105 or Jeff@fbcpickens.org.



Operation Christmas Child

Why \$9 a box?

Many people want to know why OCC asks for a \$9 donation for each shoebox. A great deal comes from that \$9:

1. All transportation for the box from the Charlotte processing plant to the receiving country is paid for by those funds.... That includes planes, boats (and some boxes travel for weeks by boat), and anything else it takes to get the box into a child's hands.
2. Each shoebox gets a beautiful booklet called "The Greatest Gift" printed in the child's native language. The \$9 helps pay for translating and printing costs.
3. Every time OCC has a shoebox distribution, the Gospel is presented beautifully with a written script and large pictures, all funded through the \$9. Also, the expense of training those who present the Gospel comes from the \$9.
4. If there are customs charges for boxes coming into receiving countries, it is covered by the \$9.

When you consider how much is done with the donation, \$9 doesn't seem like that much!! If you would like to donate funds to cover these items, please see Judy Edwards. Thank you!!

Opportunity to Volunteer for Operation Christmas Child Processing Center

We have reservations to volunteer at the Operation Christmas Child Processing Center in Charlotte on Monday, December 6th, and Tuesday, December 7th. If you would like to participate you can go on either day or both days. For those working both days, we will spend the night. If interested e-mail Jeff at Jeff@fbcpickens.org to reserve your spot or with questions.

Parents' Night Out



Our Preschool and Children's ministries would like to offer our parents of children ages birth through 5th grade a night out! We will be providing childcare on Friday, November 12th from 5:30 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. Children will play games, watch a movie, do a craft, have a bible lesson, and have pizza. There will be a limited number of spaces so if interested, you must register. You can sign up in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday mornings or call the church office at 878-6564 ext. 105. Please see Jeff Rafferty if you have any questions.



On Sunday, October 31, PFBC will host a Trunk-or-Treat at Legacy Square from 6:00 pm -8:00 pm to share the Gospel and give out information on our church. We need **AT LEAST 25** vehicles to participate. If you are interested in helping, please sign up in the vestibule. We are asking folks to keep the "scare" decorations to an absolute minimum, as this event is meant for outreach...please no demons, ghosts, monsters, etc.

We are also asking our church family to help supply candy. You can donate candy by leaving it in the cardboard boxes located in the vestibule. See Bryan if you have any questions.



Bryan's Notes

Look at these upcoming events for the Fall:



- **November 8: Lunch and Singing in the Fellowship Hall: 11:30 am - Cost \$5.00 for Lunch plus bring a bag of can goods for United Christian Ministries** 
- **December 2-4: Trip to Myrtle Beach for 2 Christmas Shows (Call me (Bryan) for more information)** 
- **December 13: *We Will Not Be going to the Dillard House. Please Note the Change: Monday, December 13th: We will go to the Hare and Hound Restaurant in Landrum.** We will leave at 10:00 am and the cost is \$10.00 per person. We will eat Lunch at the Hare and Hound and then take some time to roam around Landrum. Please bring cash for lunch when you come. **Deadline to Sign Up: Sunday, December 12th.** The sign up sheet is located outside the Adult IV Sunday School Area

*Please Contact me (Bryan) for more information: bryan@fbcpickens.org; 864-704-4802 (my cell)

Preschool Worship Volunteers, 10:30 a.m. Service

October 24: Babies & 1's, Jeff & Kelly Turner
Older Preschoolers, Jennifer Hendrix & Natalie Turner

October 31: Babies & 1's, Milledge & Linda Cassell
Older Preschoolers, Doug & Jeanine Hayes

Safety Team Rotation Assignment

The Month Of October

- 3rd** - Team D
- 10th** - Team A
- 17th** - Team B
- 24th** - Team C
- 31st** - Team D

Student Ministry News from Colton



THE JOURNEY—BECOMING A DISCIPLE

Last Wednesday night, we started a sermon series titled, "The Journey—Becoming a Disciple." During this series, we will focus on how to act more like Jesus through prayer, actions, words. Last Wednesday, we focused on prayer. This week, we will look at what the Bible says about the impact of our actions on our ability to witness.

SERVING OUR CHURCH

Ready or not, fall is here. Our youth at PFBC love to be together and love to have a reason to get together. If you know of someone who needs some help taking care of the TONS of leaves that are about to fall, please let me know. The youth would be happy to come help out. You can reach me at 864-420-6454 or colton@fbcpickens.org.



IMPORTANT DATES



- October 26 - Youth Committee and Sunday School Teacher Meeting
- October 31 - Trunk or Treat. We are going to give out candy, hot chocolate and cider.
- November 3 - Shoebox Packing in the Xchange
- November 10 - Shut-in Visitation
- November 14 - Church-wide Shoebox Collection Sunday
- December 18 - *Possible* Trip to Operation Christmas Child processing center in Charlotte.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Colton - 864-420-6454 or colton@fbcpickens.org
Lauren - 803-420-4835

IN BRIEF

Thank you for your continued prayers alongside us during this season. We have seen and felt the Lord move through your prayers. We are so appreciative beyond words at your specific prayers and praises that you have prayed and will continue to pray as a church. We love you!

The Crenshaws (Seth and Allie)

2 Corinthians 9:11 We are thankful for you!



**Please visit the church library
(Room E260)
for free books!**

**Any books remaining in the library
after October 31, will be donated.**

Pickens First Baptist Church Schedule

Sunday, October 24

8:00 a.m. - 1st Worship Service
9:15 a.m. - Sunday School
10:30 a.m. - 2nd Worship Service

Wednesday, October 27

6:15 p.m. - Orchestra Rehearsal
6:30 p.m. - Adult Bible Study & Prayer Service,
FH; Preschool, Awana, and Youth Activities;
Adult Choir & Small Groups Rehearsal, Sanc.

Tuesday, October 26

9:00 a.m. - Ladies' Bible Study,
Room E250

Thursday, October 28

10:00 a.m. - WMU Meeting with Pennie Hundley

Online Commitment Giving

To have your online gift count towards to your Commitment Pledge, please remember to select **Building Fund** in the drop down list of available funds. Any notes you wish to add in the memo field will show on your contribution statement.

FACTS & FIGURES

October 17, 2021

Sunday School - 191
Offering - \$15,418.73
Offering to Date - \$868,381.14
Goal to Date - \$917,156.52

Building Fund: \$617,021.74

Janie Chapman Offering for State Missions -

Goal: \$3,500.00; Given To Date: \$1,840.00

CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

	fbcpickens.org/youtube
	fbcpickens.org/facebook
	fbcpickens.org/instagram
	fbcpickens.org/twitter

Thank you for worshipping with us Today!

Please complete, tear off, and place in offering plate.



Connect with Us Here at PFBC!

Name
Email
Phone Number

I would like to know more about becoming a Christian.

I would like to know more about Pickens First Baptist Church.

Welcome to Pickens First Baptist Church

October 24, 2021

Opening Song

Jesus, Son of God..... Small Group Ensemble (8:00 a.m.)

AWANA Puggles and Cubbies Preschool Singers (10:30 a.m.)

Cubbies Theme Song

Hallelu, Hallelujah

Jesus, Son of God.....Choir and Orchestra (10:30 a.m.)

Congregational Songs

Open Up The Heavens

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

AWANA Sparks and TnT Children's Singers (10:30 a.m.)

Great Things

Prayer and Welcome

Message In Song *In The Garden*Richard Painter

Message From God's Word.....Dr. Ralph Carter

Song of Commitment

Just As I Am

Closing Prayer

8:00 a.m. - Colton Ashley

10:30 a.m.- Zander Clarkson

Closing Song

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Pickens First Baptist Church exists to be a Worshiping, Evangelizing, Learning, and Loving (W.E.L.L.) family of faith to the glory of God. (Mt. 28:18-20; Acts 2:42-47; 1 Cor. 10:31).

Online Worship Service Available

* On YouTube: On your smart TV, smartphone, iPad, or computer go to:

fbcpickens.org/youtube

* On Pickens FBC Website: On your smartphone, iPad, or computer,

go to: www.fbcpickens.org