

**FROM OUR INTERIM PASTOR**

Being without a pastor is a little bit unnerving, isn't it? Especially when you've been blessed with such a good one for such a long period of time.

It does, however, afford us a couple of opportunities. It gives us the opportunity to step up to the plate and make sure we haven't allowed ourselves to become observers rather than participants in ministry. People's needs don't vanish in the absence of a pastor. People go right on getting sick, dying, and having problems. Being without a pastor is a good time for Sunday School classes to reassess their plan for managing the care of their members. The responsibility shouldn't just fall on the shoulders of the teacher but should be taken on by all the members of the class.

I like what you have printed on your newsletter, regarding your staff. It lists every member as a minister, and that's how it should be. So who have you ministered to recently? Who have you encouraged? Prayed for? Visited or taken a meal to?

Being without a pastor also affords us an opportunity to ask, "What kind of church do we want to be?" Have you given that any thought lately? This Sunday I will begin a three-part series that focuses on a prayer Paul prayed for the church of Thessalonica that in part answers that question. I hope you will come and be a part of this series. I'll see you Sunday.

Ralph

# Firs 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](http://www.fbcpickens.org)  
 Office Hours: 8:30 AM – 5 PM, Monday – Thursday  
 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM, Friday

**Called Church Conference**  
**Wednesday, November 10 at 6:30pm in Room E200**

The 2022 Church Budget will be presented at 6:30pm in the Adult IV Sunday School classroom E200. The finance committee will be available beforehand at 6:00pm in the Welcome Center classroom E250 to answer any budget questions you may have.

**2022 Church Budget Vote**

The church will vote on the budget Sunday morning, November 14, without discussion.

***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 7<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions, please contact Jeff at either 878-6564 ext. 105 or [Jeff@fbcpickens.org](mailto: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 6<sup>th</sup>, and Tuesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>. 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](mailto: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 5<sup>th</sup> grade a night out! We will be providing childcare on Friday, November 12<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:bryan@fbcpickens.org) or 864-704-4802.

### **Pickens County Literacy Association Fall Book Sale 2021**



**When:**

- Wednesday, November 3rd: 8am-4pm
- Thursday, November 4th: 8am-4pm
- Friday November 5th: 8am-4pm
- Saturday, November 6th: 8am-4pm

**Where:**

Market at the Mill  
225 Pumpkintown Hwy  
Pickens, SC 29671

Set up for the Book Sale will begin on Monday, November 1st and the break down will be the following Monday, November 8th. If you know anyone who would like to volunteer, please bring them. We are also looking for someone that would be able to help with the hauling of the books. If you know anyone with a truck or trailer that would like to help, please contact Bill Shields at [pickensliteracy@yahoo.com](mailto:pickensliteracy@yahoo.com). Thank you!

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

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

**November 7:** Babies & 1's, Frances Stewart & Susan Williams  
Older Preschoolers, Amy Sargent & LeAnne Sargent

### **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 1 - High School Girls Shoebox Shopping (contact Lauren)
- 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. Let Jeff Rafferty know if you are interested. His email address is jeff@fbcpickens.org.



### **TRUNK OR TREAT - YOUTH BOOTH**

The youth will be hosting a trunk or treat station on October 31. We will meet in the Xchange at 3:30 p.m. on 10/31 to carve pumpkins and prep hot chocolate and apple cider. This will be a great time of fellowship!



### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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

### **IN BRIEF**

*Pickens First Baptist,*

*The family of W. Harold McJunkin gratefully acknowledges your contribution to the building fund. Harold and his wife, Mary, loved your church and were blessed to be a part.*

*May God bless your congregation!*

*Nan Boggs*



**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 31

8:00 a.m. - 1st Worship Service  
9:15 a.m. - Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. - 2nd Worship Service  
6:00 p.m. - Trunk or Treat, Legacy Square

### Wednesday, November 3

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, November 2

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

### 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 24, 2021

Sunday School - 217  
Offering - \$21,283.00  
Offering to Date - \$889,664.14  
Goal to Date - \$938,993.58

**Building Fund:** \$617,021.74

#### Janie Chapman Offering for State Missions -

Goal: \$3,500.00; Given To Date: \$2,590.00

### CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

	<a href="https://fbcpickens.org/youtube">fbcpickens.org/youtube</a>
	<a href="https://fbcpickens.org/facebook">fbcpickens.org/facebook</a>
	<a href="https://fbcpickens.org/instagram">fbcpickens.org/instagram</a>
	<a href="https://fbcpickens.org/twitter">fbcpickens.org/twitter</a>

**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 31, 2021

Opening Song

*Holy Water*.....Brett Satterfield, Eddie Allgood, and Brent Cain

Scripture

Psalm 31: 23-24

<sup>23</sup>

Love the Lord, all his faithful people!

The Lord preserves those who are true to him,  
but the proud he pays back in full.

<sup>24</sup>

Be strong and take heart,

all you who hope in the Lord.

Congregational Songs

*The Solid Rock*

*Who You Say I Am*

Prayer and Welcome

Message In Song

*Psalm 23*

Small Group Ensemble (8:00 a.m.)

Adult Choir and Orchestra (10:30 a.m.)

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

Song of Commitment

*Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus*

Closing Prayer

8:00 a.m. - Joe Dunn

10:30 a.m.- Jimmy Dickard

Closing Song

*Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine*

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](http://fbcpickens.org/youtube)

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

go to: [www.fbcpickens.org](http://www.fbcpickens.org)