

*Important Dates*

- Dec 3– Pastor Jim Legendre’s Confirmation during morning service and followed by Dinner on the grounds.
- Dec 7, 14, 21, & 28— Men’s Bible Study at the Barn
- Dec 7— Community Christmas Drop-In at CFBC– Board Elections
- Dec 8, 15, 22, & 29— R.E.A.L. Meal Fridays
- Dec 5, 13, & 19— Food Pantry
- Dec 11- Admin Mtg, WMU & Men’s Brotherhood
- Dec 17– 10:30 Adult Cantata, 6:00 PM Children’s Program and visit from Santa

## Advent Prayer

Prayer is a beautiful way to help cut away from distractions of the season and open your heart to prepare for the joy and hope of Christ's birth. Here is a sample prayer to use during the season to focus your heart and mind on the birth of Jesus Christ.

This Advent, Lord, come to the manger of my heart. Fill me with Your presence from the very start.

As I prepare for the holidays and gifts to be given, Remind me of the gift You gave when You sent Your Son from Heaven.

The first Christmas gift, it was the greatest gift ever.

You came as a baby born in a manger.

Wrapped like the gifts I find under my tree,

Waiting to be opened, to reveal Your love to me.

Restore to me the wonder that came with Jesus' birth, When He left the riches of Heaven and wrapped Himself in rags of earth.

Immanuel, God with us, Your presence came that night.

And angels announced, "Into your darkness, God brings His Light."

"Do not be afraid," they said, to shepherds in the field.

Speak to my heart today, Lord, and help me to yield.

Make me like those shepherd

boys, obedient to Your call.

Setting distractions and worries aside, to You I surrender them all.

Surround me with Your presence, Lord, I long to hear Your voice. Clear my mind of countless concerns and all the holiday noise. Slow me down this Christmas, let me not be in a rush.

In the midst of parties and planning, I want to feel Your hush.

This Christmas, Jesus, come to the manger of my heart.

Invade my soul like Bethlehem, bringing peace to every part.

Dwell within and around me, as I unwrap Your presence each day.

Keep me close to You, Lord. It's in Your wonderful Name I pray.

~Renee Swope, "The Manger of My Heart" from [Proverbs 31 Ministries](#)

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## Missions Update

December comes apace bringing again the opportunity to rejoice in the birth of our Savior. But shouldn't we show our gratitude and love not only during the season of Thanksgiving and Christmas but every day as we

seek to grow in our relationship with Him and serve Him with gladness. Those who've been forgiven much should love much, don't you think? Too often, with the hurly burly and busyness of all the activities, we can lose sight of the whole purpose

for our Christmas joy. Let's intentionally seek to honor the Lord in our words, deeds, and activities this year. May your Christmas season be rich in love, joy, and peace as others see Jesus in you! Continue to be blessed.

-Submitted by Anne Turner

## REAL MEAL Ministry

God continues to bless this ministry providing the funding, the food, the help in preparation, cooking, serving, and delivering while showing us additional needs within the community. The week before Thanksgiving, 80 plates were delivered. Several families were in need of food the day after Thanks-

giving and those needs were met with 18 meals delivered. A real praise is that despite the holiday, there was plenty of help for cooking, serving and delivering. God provides and handles all the details when we are obedient to His Call. How cool is that? We are working to schedule wheelchair ramp builds with Hope Repairs for three families in

our community. Sufficient donations have been made to provide the materials for all three. God is so very gracious!

-Submitted by Anne Turner

### Making It R.E.A.L.



Reflecting Emmanuel's Amazing Love

## Restoration Journey

Wow! The Lord continues to amaze and show Himself in ways that keep up is awe of His power, grace, and provision. We have had 4 deer donated in the last couple of months providing an additional protein source for our families. We've also been blessed too because people have generously brought staple food dona-

tions. This past week, a gentleman came to the food pantry and asked if we would accept a box of food from him and his family. He left the following note:

"This church has helped and blessed me and my family on more than one occasion, I hope this small gesture will help someone in need. God bless each and

everyone of you."

Thank y'all for your continued encouragement and support through prayer, financial donations, food donations, egg cartons and plastic bags—currently we are good with the plastic bags. Y'all continue to be blessed.

-Submitted by Anne Turner

## Men's Ministry

.There is no scheduled meeting for December; however, the January meeting has traditionally been our hosting of the Screven Association Men's ministry with a BBQ dinner. Joe will be talking with the men to plan for the dinner. Our ladies will

be asked to help with baking cakes and serving. Be praying about how you can help. This is also an opportunity to invite men who've not attended or whom you know.

Joe is planning a general men's meeting soon to dis-

cuss various mission action opportunities within our community to make a difference in the lives of families by filling an assortment of needs. Be on the lookout for further information while prayerfully considering your involvement.

-Submitted by Anne Turner

## Women on Mission

December is our focus on the Lottie Moon missions offering for international mission support. All monies donated go directly to the missionaries for ministry needs. The week of prayer for International Missions is December 3-7. Prayer guides will be in the bulletin. The missions offering will be collected throughout the month of December. Seek the Lord's leading on your participation.

There are several mission activities available including the following:

Volunteer to help with REAL meals prep, serving and/or delivering. (Contact Pam Gaskins for more info.)

Help keep the blessing box stocked. (It is obvious there is need as it is often depleted within a day or two of stocking.)

Volunteer/assist with Restoration Journey food pantry. All food donations are welcome. Also,

we are in need of egg cartons as several of our members are donating eggs but need additional cartons. (Contact Anne Turner for more info.)

Assist with Children's ministry activities on Wed. evenings. Additional adult help with serving meals/clean up, assisting the teachers, and an opportunity to share Jesus' love with our children/youth. (Contact Donna Garvin or Melanie Lott for more info)

-Submitted by Anne Turner

## 50+ Ministry

We had 13 go to Mepkin Abbey this month. The creche were very pretty and the hot chocolate and cookies were good too. In December, we plan to have dinner together

then go to the Santee Cooper Christmas Lights. We will share the date and time once confirmed. Please join us for one or both events,

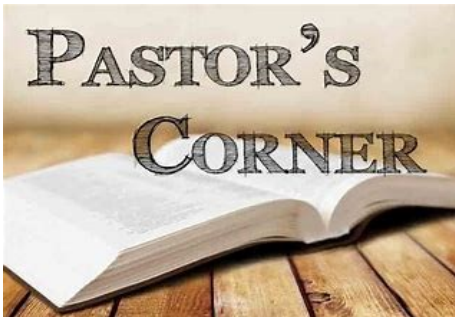
-Submitted by Helen Joy

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**Pastor Jim Legendre**

**[pastor@cordesvillefbc.org](mailto:pastor@cordesvillefbc.org)**

Pastor Jim and Johnna are busy getting moved and settled into the parsonage. On Sunday, Dec 3rd, we will have dinner after morning services. Please bring a covered dish and join us in sharing a meal in celebration of our new pastor and his wife, Johnna.