

January Newsletter

2024, Issue 1

January 10, 2024

Important Dates

- Jan 4, 11, 18 & 25— Men’s Bible Study at the Barn
- Jan 5, 12, 19, & 26— R.E.A.L. Meal Fridays
- Jan 8— Admin Council Meeting
- Jan 9 @ 6PM REAL Meals Planning Mtg
- Jan 9, 16, 23, & 30— Food Pantry
- Jan 18 Community Meeting @ 6PM
- Jan 20— Men’s Ministry Breakfast
- Jan 20— Pastor’s Brunch at 10 AM.

Community & Missions Update

By tradition and the aftermath (let down) after the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays, January is the beginning of a New Year. With it comes the renewed opportunities to make resolutions, which are often broken or forgotten before the month is over, or to consider and reflect on our lives, our walk with the Lord and spiritual growth. We say we love God and love our Savior but is that seen in our actions and service, or is it simply lip service? Do we really walk the talk or piously act the part an hour or two a week or when it suits us? We’ve been so loved and blessed that in gratitude, shouldn’t we strive to love others as we’ve been loved? We’ve been given superb opportunities to grow in service within and without our community, church, denomination, state, nation, and world. Prayerfully consider your service and commitment to the Lord, is He asking you to move into new areas, continue serving where He’s placed you, wanting you to grow closer to Him. Mission activity opportunities include some of the following—

5. Volunteering with Changed Lives ministries
 6. Providing a respite for a neighbor, church member or community member for a couple of hours so they can run errands, etc.
 7. Volunteering to assist with providing transportation to doctor, grocery store, etc.
 8. Helping build/grow bus ministry for Sunday School
 9. Volunteering at Bonner Elementary or Macedonia Middle School to help children and teachers as needed.
 10. Support disaster relief efforts either financially or becoming trained.
 11. Consider knitting or crocheting stocking caps for the International Seamen’s ministry through the Charleston Baptists.
 12. Volunteering to visit in the various nursing homes. Many of the patients don’t have any visitors. Check with the nursing staff, you may be able to provide company for the patients and small assistance—helping with feeding, playing games, just being there sharing yourself.
 13. Be alert to divine appointments as you walk through your day loving those with whom you come in contact.
- Submitted by Anne Turner

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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 and meet needs with food donations, cooks, servers, and delivery route drivers. Sometimes there seems to be some wondering how it is going to come together on a particular week, but God graciously provides each time. During the holiday season with everyone having family plans/outings, it presented challenges, but our God is faithful!

Thanksgiving weekend, 18

families said they'd need meals, and the need was met! On a "regular" week, 80 meals are served with families sometimes calling to say that they don't have need. We are fostering relationships within the community, providing socialization, wellness checks and most of all, prayer, and spiritual support with the meal deliveries.

God has blessed with generous food donations from Food Lion and this week a small chest

freezer was donated, just when we needed the additional freezer space. We also receive a generous donation from our local Farm Bureau insurance office—we appreciate the community support!

-Submitted by Anne Turner

Making It R.E.A.L.



Reflecting Emmanuel's Amazing Love

Women on Mission



January has been Sanctity of Human life month for the past 40 years. Although, the abortion issue is still a hot topic, all human life is sacred to the Lord. We need to pray and support those reaching out to meet needs in this area

whether it is combating human trafficking, elder abuse and neglect, children in foster care, adoption, children with special needs, adults too.

-Submitted by Anne Turner

Men's Ministry

January 6th has been scheduled for a men's breakfast. Joe shared Sunday that the meeting include planning for January 22, Men's meeting and those able/interested/available will be working on kitchen renovations. Men, please plan on attend-

ing as a new year of growth and service is begun.

January 22 is the Screven Association men's meeting traditionally held at Cordesville. There has always been a good turnout as the BBQ served is exceptional and anticipated. La-

dies are requested to assist in baking cakes and serving. Please sign up so we know we have the number of cakes needed and the assistance, too.

-Submitted by Anne Turner

Restoration Journey

God continues to bless this ministry each week! We are seeing more families, some of whom have not been by in more than 5 years. Some families are new having been referred by other organizations. It is disheartening to hear that these families have been turned away from other food pantries for various reasons, usually related to the day of the week or lack of available food. Those who live outside the

Cordesville geographic parameters are not turned away. We provide them with food for the family for several days but also share with them the resources available to them closer to where they live. It is good stewardship on both their part and ours. God has graciously provided funds, and food donations so we've never turned anyone away for lack of food--- maybe not a large selection but always enough. We just love to see "loaves and fish-

es" in our time thanking God for His provision, always. This week, our last before closing for holidays, we had one new local family who needed food and expressed interest in becoming involved in church activities since they have recently moved to the area and family circumstances have changed. We also were blessed with a generous cash donation from a supporter out of state.

-Submitted by Anne Turner

50+ Ministry

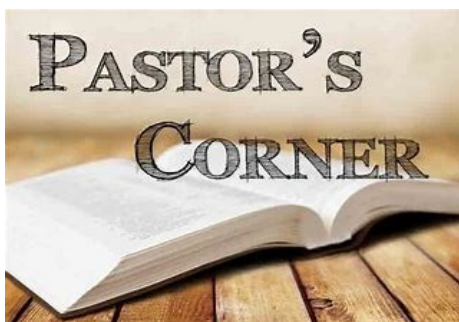
Look for updates here next month!

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Greetings in Christ:

Yesterday, we drove up to Pleasant Hill to pick up the last of our stuff. The house was pretty much all empty, the shed in the backyard was sold, and all that remained was an ice chest, empty gas cans, and odds and ends. Then we were done. This was the sixth church we had served, four of which were in South Carolina. Lots of good memories and lessons learned which

has created a good foundation for the future.

The trip back to Cordesville seemed to take less time, the anticipation growing with each passing mile. Soon, we were home and stuff was unloaded. Here is a brand new opportunity. Here is a new adventure. Here the Holy Spirit quickens my heart with the possibilities that are ahead of us. As the old year comes to an end this weekend let's reflect on all

that God has done with us and thru us but also as Paul said let us be found "reaching forth unto those things which are before" us. Let us "press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." (Phil 3:13-14) Let us trust God that bigger and better things await us.

Looking forward to all that God will do thru us together!

In Him,
Jim