



January 2025 Newsletter

Pinopolis Community Church

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Pinopolis, SC 29469

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Dear brothers, sisters & friends:



Pastor Jeff Roper

The Year—New Opportunities—New Gift of Life...

As I write this, I am writing of all the busyness of the Advent Season. How we are tempted to feel overwhelmed or stressed with all the gatherings, shopping, wrapping, and our trying to make everything go just right for Christmas!

I saw a post one from one of my Facebook friends--a photo of a dead raccoon along the roadside onto the front paw of which someone had tied a helium balloon which read, "Get Well Soon!" I doubt that unfortunate raccoon will get well at all, much less get well soon. The creature was clearly dead.

When the precious little baby whose birth 2000 years ago we celebrate, was crucified, he was as dead as the raccoon in that photo. Many were witnesses to that fact. But God our Heavenly Father raised Christ from the dead and Jesus did get well soon! And because of Jesus, we all can get well forever!

We may anticipate the astonishment of children when they see the gifts and tree on Christmas morning, but can only imagine the astonishment when, on that morning of the third day, the women came to the tomb of Jesus and found it empty. He had risen! In other words, he was ALIVE! He is still alive today! God's great gift to us. Christmas and Easter are connected. One can not separate the birth and the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ.

Through faith in Him we have the promise and assurance we too shall live forever in his presence when he brings his Kingdom full on the earth. Reason to rejoice!

How and why could God love us so much he would be willing to send Christ to die to save us? We are so unworthy of salvation, so unworthy of his love. The answer is that His love is pure and divine. He is the author of love and each of us is personally important to and loved by God.

Looking again at the picture, one might wonder if the raccoon with the get-well balloon on its wrist is really dead, I must wonder about us as the Church. Admittedly, we might know our Lord is risen and alive, but my question is, "Does Jesus know that we are alive?" I feel confident He does and blesses all we undertake in His name.

Let us show him daily in 2025! Read your Bible, Pray, invite others to church, reach out to serve others in Jesus' name. Do all this in Christian love. By this God knows we are alive.

May God bless us with a wonderful New Year, --Jeff

JANUARY 2025

BLAST NEWS



A sadness comes over me at the end of the year when Christmas time is over. The lights go away and the tree gets put up. The stockings go away and at the end my spirit begins to feel a little like my house looks...empty.

That shouldn't be our spirit though! Christ doesn't have just one time of year. He is the center of every day. As the New Year is upon us, let's remember to be full of spirit and continue to have the light that we had during Christmas time. Most importantly let's remember to celebrate the gifts God brings us every day and be thankful to the One who provides.

We will resume our BLAST meetings with Wonderful Wednesdays on January 8, 2025. We have a covered dish dinner at 5:30 then BLAST will follow at 6:00 p.m. We hope to see everyone there for a great time of fellowship!

We are always in need of volunteers! If you are interested in helping with the BLAST groups on Wednesday nights, please reach out to Jaclyn Gatlin. We would greatly appreciate the help!

Upcoming Dates:

1/8/2025: Wednesday night meetings resume

Youth Needs:

Volunteers for events and Wednesday Nights! Please call or text Jaclyn for more information!

Contact Info:
Youth Director- Jaclyn Gatlin
(843) 749-2137
blastyouth.pcc@gmail.com

OUR MISSION: TO GROW YOUNG LIVES IN CHRIST; GUIDING THEM TO DISCIPLESHIP, EVANGELISM, AND FULFILLING GOD'S PURPOSE.



Announcements for January

WEDNESDAY WOMEN

The Wednesday Women will meet on Saturday, Jan. 4, at 9 am in the Fellowship Hall.

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY

Wonderful Wednesdays will begin again on January 8. Please bring a covered dish to share for the meal at 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Bible study and BLAST begin at 6 pm. Choir Practice begins at 7 pm in the Choir Room.

PC WOMEN

The Pinopolis Christian Women will meet on Tuesday, Jan. 14 at 10 am in the Fellowship Hall.

TRUSTEES

The Trustees will meet on Tuesday, Jan. 14 at 6:30 pm in the Viv Ingle Classroom

PCC MEN

PCC Men meet on Tuesday, Jan. 21 at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline to submit information in the February newsletter is Thursday, Jan. 23.

CRUNCH BUNCH

Crunch Bunch will meet on Jan. 30 at Noon in the Fellowship Hall.

BLOOD DRIVE

Our first Red Cross Blood Drive of 2025 is scheduled for Sunday, February 2 from 11:30 until 4:30 in the Fellowship Hall. Please mark your calendar and sign up soon to support the Red Cross with your donation. You may donate a Whole Blood Unit at any other location until December 7, 2024 and still be eligible for this Blood Drive. If you have donated a Power Red Unit since October 12, you will not be eligible. You may schedule your appointment by going online to redcross.org or call Robin Austin (843) 761-4730.

UPPER ROOM

Copies of the January/February *The Upper Room* in both regular and large print are available in the Fellowship Hall. Past issues are available in the library. If you need a copy mailed to you, please contact the church office at (843) 761-8477.



- 1 Pastor Jeff Roper
- 3 Antionette Cambron
- 5 Hubert Harrell
- 6 Abbey Mills
- 7 Ryan Millwood
- 11 Lynn Smith
- 22 Michelle Roper
- 23 Jenny Hoffman
- 25 Davey Hare
- 26 Mary Darling
John Woods
- 29 Audrey Kennedy
- 30 Shellia Grady

Trustee of the Month:

Donna Cabrera

(786) 339-4019

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 <i>New Year's Day</i>	2	3	4 9 am: WW (FH)
5 9 am: SS 10 am: Worship	6 6:30 pm: Cub Scouts 7 pm: Boy Scouts	7	8 5:30 pm: Won. Wednesday 6 pm: Bible Study & BLAST 7 pm: Choir	9	10	11
12 9 am: Sunday School 10 am: Worship	13 6:30 pm: Cub Scouts 7 pm: Boy Scouts	14 10 am: PC Women (FH) 6 pm: Girl Scouts (Seekers) 6:30 pm: Trustees (VI)	15 5:30 pm: Won. Wednesday 6 pm: Bible Study & BLAST 7 pm: Choir	16	17	18
19 9 am: Sunday School 10 am: Worship	20 <i>MLK Birthday</i> 6:30 pm: Cub Scouts 7 pm: Boy Scouts	21 6:30 pm: PCC Men (FH)	22 5:30 pm: Won. Wednesday 6 pm: Bible Study & BLAST 7 pm: Choir	23 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	24	25
26 9 am: Sunday School 10 am: Worship (FH)	27 6:30 pm: Cub Scouts 7 pm: Boy Scouts	28 6 pm: Girl Scouts (Seekers)	29 5:30 pm: Won. Wednesday 6 pm: Bible Study & BLAST 7 pm: Choir	30 Noon Crunch Bunch (FH)	31	