

## Missions *Update on Send Relief*

Last November we took up a special offering to help those in Israel that were addressing the needs of the initial fallout of the attack by Hamas on Israel. The SBC agency, Send Relief has shared several testimonies of how our money is being used including this one.

We are working through the local congregation to meet the needs of local communities. We want to strengthen the local body of believers and encourage them to look outward to the needs of people around them. We're able to do this through food vouchers and food bags. While we cannot meet every need, we can lessen some stressors from loss of employment.

When Jewish and Arab evacuees started to come from other cities to Nazareth, one local pastor and his congregation immediately started to try to meet these needs. Still, they were overwhelmed by the magnitude of help needed. He called a fellow pastor in Jerusalem and said, "Pastor, we have Jewish families here in need of help. Can you help us?" The Jerusalem pastor responded, "Yes! But we don't just want to help the Jewish families. We will send you resources to meet the needs of the Jewish and Arab people."

The collaboration between the two pastors to help all people leads to unique opportunities to share the gospel cross-culturally. In a time when all we hear about is division between the two peoples, the gospel message brings unity to the body of Christ.

*April 21, 2024*

## Church of the Week

*Piney Ridge Methodist Church*  
Pamplin, VA

## Shut-in of the Month

*Aelese Cobb* (mailing)  
164 Walnut Circle  
Appomattox, VA 24522

## Military Member Prayer

*ETN3 Hodge, Austin*  
101 NNPTC Circle  
Apt TT-3  
Goose Creek, SC 29445

## Prayer Concerns from the Congregation

## Government

Pray for the U.S. Department of the Interior, that God would guide their decisions and policies and that His creation would be cared for equitably and sustainably. Pray the Secretary of the Interior, and the other leaders in this Department would come to see God's eternal power and divine nature through His creation which they manage. (Romans 1:20).

## Church Leadership

*Archie Tolley* Deacon, Ordinance Team

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*Introduction to 1 Peter*

*1 Peter 1:1-11*

*Christians throughout the Roman empire are being ostracized and scattered and many of them are questioning whether God has abandoned them. In this letter Peter will remind them of God's unfailing grace. We see that God's grace had transformed Peter and it is God's grace that upholds the believer through these various trials.*

**The Setting**

**The Author**

**The Call to Remember**

*When pain and suffering strike, the little things we thought were so important become pushed to the side and we only see the problem.*

*The Apostle Peter teaches us why trials are not only critical to the deepening of our faith, but also to the deepening of our joy. As we live for Christ this week, no matter the circumstance, may we be described as people of true love and inexpressible joy.*

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