

Weekly newsletter of First Baptist Church Jefferson

#### February 21, 2024

#### **PASTOR'S MOMENT:**

When the days were approaching for His ascension, He was determined to go to Jerusalem. (Luke 9:51)

It is often hard to think of the needs or difficulties of others while dealing with the struggles of our own lives. We sometimes get so preoccupied with our own busyness that we miss opportunities that God places right in front of us. Life will probably not get less busy or less hectic for most of us, so we must learn to focus on our priorities.

Jesus provides us with a great example of how to accomplish this. In Luke 9:51, Jesus begins His journey to the cross. Jesus knew exactly what awaited Him upon His arrival in Jerusalem. It is hard to imagine the emotional and mental stress that He must have been under. But all throughout this journey Jesus is ministering to others. Even though the cross was awaiting Him, the needs and eternal fate of others remained His priority.

In His Service,

Matt

#### SPOTLIGHT:

**Committee Chairs:** Please remember to reserve rooms for meetings with Karen in the church office.

#### **Church Office hours:**

- 8:30 am 5:00 pm Mondays through Thursday
- 8:30 am 12:30 pm Friday

**Discover FBCJ Luncheon:** A Discover FBCJ Luncheon will be held on March 10th after the morning service for new/prospective church members. Staff and ministry leaders will explain the church structure, ministries, and service opportunities. Childcare will be provided. Please email or call the church office (706-367-8332; admin@fbcjefferson.org) if you plan to attend.

**Preschool Hours:** Please remember that our preschool is in session from 8:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Monday through Friday during the school year. Please do not enter the preschool facility (upstairs or downstairs) during their operating hours. If you have an urgent need, please ring the doorbell under the portico and ask for Katie Fulcher (director). She will meet you at the door and will gladly escort you to your destination. Katie's presence with you will indicate to the staff and students that it is ok for you to be in the building for a short time. Thank you so much for helping keep our preschool safe and honoring our preschool protocol.

Wednesday Night Meal Menu for tonight (February 21, 2024): Tacos, Taco Salad, Dessert.



WE NEED PICTURES: We are looking for photos of the AWESOME things happening at FBC Jefferson to include on the front of bulletins. We'd love to have enough to change the photos weekly! Almost everyone carries a cellphone with a camera these days – pull out that phone and take pics at your gatherings! Then send them to Karen at <u>admin@fbcjefferson.org</u> – or you can text them to her. THANKS!

#### THIS WEEK IN THE CHURCH:

#### Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>:

- 10:15 am Faithful Followers Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)
- 5:30 pm Fellowship Meal (Fellowship Hall)
- 6:00 pm Bible Study (Fellowship Hall); Choir (Choir Room); Youth (Student Center); Children in Action (CIA) (Educational Building)
- 6:30 pm Connect Run/Walk (Adult II SS Classroom)

#### Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>:

• 4:00 pm – Students leave for Winter Jam

#### Saturday, February 24<sup>th</sup>:

• 6:00 pm – Men's Ministry Bonfire

#### Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup>:

- 10:00 am Sunday School
- 11:00 am Combined Church Service
- 5:30 PM Youth (Student Center)
- 7:00 pm Beach Week Parent Meeting (Student Center)

#### Monday, February 26<sup>th</sup>:

• 10:00 am – Sewing Circle (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Student Center)

#### Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>:

- 10:15 am Faithful Followers Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)
- 5:30 pm Fellowship Meal (Fellowship Hall)
- 6:00 pm Bible Study (Fellowship Hall); Choir (Choir Room); Youth (Student Center); Children in Action (CIA) (Educational Building)
- 6:30 pm Connect Run/Walk (Adult II SS Classroom)

#### **PRAYER CONCERNS:**

The ongoing prayer concerns of the church may be found <u>here</u>.

#### **MINISTRY & MISSION OPPORTUNITIES:**

**Adult Choir:** The Adult Choir rehearses each Wednesday in the choir room across from the Children's Suite at 6:00 pm to prepare for each Sunday's anthem. If you enjoy singing, please join us.

**Children's Ministries:** We need donations of candy filled Easter Eggs for our upcoming egg hunt on Sunday March 24th. Please drop off your donations to the church office or in the church vestibule.



**Connect Run/Walk Group:** Connect is for anyone interested in running/walking with others to grow and improve spiritually and physically, and to follow the teachings of the Lord. Join us and bring a friend for our Christian fellowship. Water, Gatorade, & fruit will be provided after our run/walk. We will support you physically, mentally, and most of all spiritually while walking, running, or sometimes trotting. Everyone in our church and community is invited. We will have a small devotion, prayer concerns and praises. We are open to suggestions of different routes or changes needed. Just let us know. *Upcoming events:* 

February 21<sup>st</sup>: 6:30 pm - Adult II SS Classroom February 28<sup>th</sup>: 6:30 pm - Adult II SS Classroom March 6<sup>th</sup>: 6:30 pm - TBA March 13<sup>th</sup>: 6:30 pm - TBA **Flowers:** The Decorations Committee is seeking volunteers to place fresh flowers in our sanctuary on March 17<sup>th</sup>, April 21<sup>st</sup>, as well as dates later this year. If you have interest in placing flowers in memory or honor of loved ones – you can do it once or on a yearly basis - please contact Vickie Rees at (706) 654-6698.

**Meals on Wheels:** We need volunteers to help deliver Meals on Wheels on February 28<sup>th</sup>. If you or your Sunday School Class, women's circle, or civic organization would like to help deliver on Wednesdays in February, please contact Barbara Gooch at 706-654-7731, or email her at <u>bgooch02@yahoo.com</u>. The Jackson County Senior Center depends on our help to deliver to the seniors in our community who are in need on Wednesdays, so please, if you can deliver one of these dates, please let Barbara know!

#### Men's Ministry:



**Sewing Circle:** The Sewing Circle will meet Next Monday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 am on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Student Center.

#### Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal: Menu for tonight (February 21, 2024): Tacos, Taco Salad, Dessert.

The church gathers each Wednesday to share fellowship over a meal, address the church's prayer concerns and study the Bible. If you are interested in participating in the meal, please note the following:

• The cost for each meal is \$9.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children (11 years old and younger). The cost for families is capped at \$25.00.

- If you are not on the permanent list and plan to eat, please call Karen in the church office by each Monday by noon.
- If you are on the permanent list and can't make it this Wednesday, please call Karen in the church office for your name to be struck for the week and the church does not incur unnecessary costs.



Winter Coat Drive: Over the next couple of months, the Mary Martha Circle is asking for new or gently used and clean coats, sweaters, scarves, hats, and gloves to be distributed to those in need in our community. Look for collection receptacles around the campus or bring them to the church office.



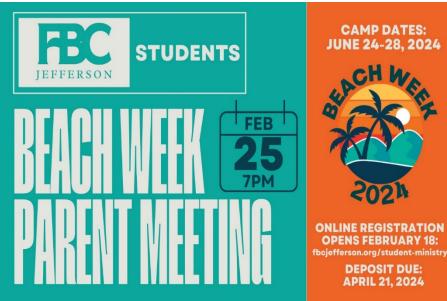
**WMU Meetings:** If you are not a member of a WMU (Women's Mission Union) group and would like to join us, please contact DeMaris Gurley at 706-540-0866. She will direct you to the WMU group that best fits your schedule.

**WMU Women's Loving Well Retreat:** Are you loving well? Please join the FBCJ WMU for their "Loving Well Retreat", Friday and Saturday, March 1 & 2, 2024! We will be hearing from Beth Moore through video to learn how to love well during a fun-filled weekend! Come see old friends, make new friends, and enjoy fellowship, laughter, and tears with other participants. Sessions will be on Friday evening from 6:00-9:00 pm with dinner provided, and Saturday from 8:00 am – 2:00 pm with both breakfast and lunch provided. Cost is \$25 per person, and there is a limit of 60 participants, so sign up soon to reserve your spot! Registration forms are available in the Church Office, in Sunday School Classrooms, and in the church vestibule.

With the Women's Retreat coming up, the retreat committee is asking our church family to pray that this retreat reaches those who need it most and replenishes the spirit of those who attend. We will be making specific prayer requests as the event gets closer. It would be especially meaningful if, as a Sunday School class or WMU group, you could all choose a day of the week to lift up the Women's Retreat. For the next few weeks, we ask specifically that you pray for guidance from the Lord in the planning that is currently going on. We want this to be His retreat, not our retreat.

Youth Ministries: FBC Jefferson students will be leaving to go to Winter Jam at 4:00 pm on Friday, February 23, 2024, at Bon Secours Wellness Arena in Greenville, SC!





Deacons of the Week:

Week of February 18, 2024: Kristy Eubanks and Charles Oliver

Week of February 25, 2024: Phil Thurmond and Philip Thompson

**Opening and Closing:** Sandra Beeco

Greeters and Ushers: Jim and Barbara Gooch

#### NUMBERS FOR SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2024

- Sunday School Attendance: 116
- Worship Attendance: 119
- Nursery Attendance: 23
- WORSHIP TOTAL: 142
- Offering: \$8,045.80

#### IN CASE YOU MISSED IT:

- Previous services can be viewed <u>here</u>.
- You can live stream Sunday Combined Service here:



Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.



11:00am





246 Washington Street PO Box 395 Jefferson, Georgia 30549 office 706.367.8332

# The Mary Martha WMU Circle WINTER **COAT DRIVE**

It's all about relationships

Help families in need with new or gently used coats, hats, gloves, scarves, and more

**Donation Deadline:** March 31, 2024

**Drop Off Location: FBC Jefferson Church** Office **81 Institute Avenue** Jefferson, Georgia

Call 706-367-8332 for more information



Please join us for a fun-filled weekend as we learn how to love well!

## "Loving Well Retreat" with Beth Moore

We will hear from Beth Moore through video, enjoy fun and fellowship with other women, laugh a lot, shed a few tears, eat, make new friends and enjoy old friends.

### Friday, March 1st & Saturday, March 2nd, 2024 Friday: 6:00 - 9:00 pm (Registration 4:30 - 5:30 pm) Saturday: 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

First Baptist Church Jefferson Fellowship Hall Cost: \$25 / Limited to 60 Participants Meals provided: Friday - dinner | Saturday - breakfast & lunch

Please Register to Attend - Registration forms are available in the Church Office, Sunday School Classrooms and Church Vestibule