



# PATHFINDER

Weekly newsletter of First Baptist Church Jefferson

**January 31, 2024**

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## **PASTOR'S MOMENT:**

*When you fast... Matthew 6:16A*

Using when instead of if makes an awfully big difference. Fasting is a spiritual discipline that Jesus expects of us but is often the least observed. The purpose of fasting is to give up food or something else that is important and time-consuming and replace it with a focus on bettering our relationship with Christ. We often think of food, but there are many things that we can take a break from.

While there is no biblical mandate for a time or length of a fast, the season of Lent has traditionally served as a pattern for many branches of Christianity. The Lenten season begins on Ash Wednesday and lasts for roughly 40 days. The 40 days coincides with the length of Jesus's fast before he was tempted by Satan. I encourage you to think and pray about something that you can do without for 40 days take that extra time, and work on strengthening your relationship with Christ.

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

**Wednesday Night Meal Menu for tonight (January 31, 2024):** Chicken strips, mac & cheese, green beans, bread, 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 [admin@fbcjefferson.org](mailto:admin@fbcjefferson.org) – or you can text them to her. THANKS!

## THIS WEEK IN THE CHURCH:

### Wednesday, January 31<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 Classroom)

### Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup>:

- 10:00 am – Sunday School
- 11:00 am - Combined Church Service
- 5:30 PM – Youth (Student Center)

### Monday, February 5<sup>th</sup>:

- 9:00 am – Morning Glories Circle
- 7:00 pm – Mary Martha Circle (Fellowship Hall)

### Tuesday, February 6<sup>th</sup>:

- 7:30 am – Preschool Registration (Fellowship Hall)

### Wednesday, February 7<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 [here](#).

## 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 are looking for volunteers!** We will have a Children's Ministry Volunteer meeting on Sunday, February 18<sup>th</sup> immediately after worship in the Fellowship Hall. If you are a current volunteer, or you'd like to become one, please attend this important meeting. Lunch will be provided! Please contact Teresa Wood by **Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>** (by text at 706-424-6957, or email by email, [children@fbcjefferson.org](mailto:children@fbcjefferson.org)) if you plan to attend so there will be plenty of food for everyone!



All children ages 3yrs to 5th grade are welcome to join us each Wednesday evening at 6pm for our Children in Action program. There will be volunteers to care for Nursery and Toddler aged children. If you plan to join us for dinner at 5:30pm in the fellowship hall, please let Karen in the church office know

by Monday at **noon**. Please contact Teresa Wood if you have any questions or would like to volunteer to help on Wednesdays – by email at [children@fbcjefferson.org](mailto:children@fbcjefferson.org); by cell- 706-424-6957; or directly to my office - 706-387-8605.

**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. We will meet January 31<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 pm the Adult II SS Classroom.

***Upcoming events:***

**February 7<sup>th</sup>:** 6:30 pm - Adult II SS Classroom

**February 14<sup>th</sup>:** TBA (Ash Wednesday)

**February 21<sup>st</sup>:** 6:30 pm - Adult II SS Classroom

**M&M's:** The M&M's (Mature and Maturing) Senior Adults will not meet in January, but please join us for lunch and entertainment by The Bridgeman Duo! We will meet on **Tuesday, February 20, 2024**, at 11:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. The cost for lunch is \$8.00. Call Karen in the church office to put your name on the list for our February gathering no later than Friday, February 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Meals on Wheels:** We need volunteers to help deliver Meals on Wheels in February! If you or your Sunday School Class, women's circle, or civic organization would like to help deliver on Wednesdays in February (February 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, or 28<sup>th</sup>), please contact Barbara Gooch at 706-654-7731, or email her at [bgooch02@yahoo.com](mailto:bgooch02@yahoo.com). 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!

**Preschool Registration:** Registration for 2024-2025 is almost here! See the flyer below for more details. Prices are per month. Additional information can be found at <https://www.fbcjefferson.org/preschool-registration/>. For more information, email [preschool@fbcjefferson.org](mailto:preschool@fbcjefferson.org) with questions.

**Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal: Menu for tonight (January 24, 2024):** Soup, Salad, Bread, 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! Please go to our website ([fbcjefferson.org](http://fbcjefferson.org)) to sign up or call the church office to reserve your student's place to go with us! HURRY – Registration ends on Friday, February 16, 2024!



**Deacons of the Week:**

**Week of January 28, 2024:** Kevin Charles and Brian Maxwell

**Week of February 4, 2024:** Melvin Porter and Jim Smith

**Opening and Closing:** Sandra Beeco

**Greeters and Ushers:** Jim and Barbara Gooch

## NUMBERS FOR SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, 2024

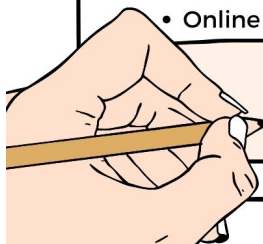
- Sunday School Attendance: 119
- Worship Attendance: 120
- Nursery Attendance: 15
- WORSHIP TOTAL: 135
- Offering: \$29,915.25

### IN CASE YOU MISSED IT:

- Previous services can be viewed [here](#).
- You can live stream Sunday Combined Service here: [11:00am](#)

### SIX EASY WAYS TO GIVE TITHES & OFFERINGS:

- Mail a check to FBCJ
- Drop a check by the FBCJ Office
- Drop your tithe in the offering plate on Sunday morning.
- Drop your tithe/offering into the offering box in the vestibule.
- Online at [www.pushpay.com](http://www.pushpay.com)
- Online at [fbcjefferson.org](http://fbcjefferson.org)



Malachi 3:10 NIV

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.



First Baptist Church  
**JEFFERSON**  
It's all about relationships

PEACE PLACE PRESENTS

# FOLIAGE FEST



SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 2024

REGISTER  
ONLINE  
BY  
MARCH 13TH

127 MEMORIAL DRIVE,  
JEFFERSON, GA 30549

LAST DAY TO REGISTER ONLINE IS WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13TH. \$35 (NOT GUARANTEED A 5K T-SHIRT). WALK UPS WELCOME THE DAY OF! CHECK IN STARTS AT 8:00 AM. RACE STARTS AT 9:00 AM.

**RUNNERS & WALKERS WELCOME!!**

Register at [www.runsignup.com](http://www.runsignup.com).


Peace Place Foliage Fest 5K ([runsignup.com](http://runsignup.com)).

Pre-registration participants are guaranteed a t-shirt.

Follow our social media for information and updates.



 [www.facebook.com/PeacePlaceInc](http://www.facebook.com/PeacePlaceInc)

 [@peaceplaceinc](https://www.instagram.com/peaceplaceinc)

Please contact Traci with any questions  
at 770-307-3633 or  
[tbledsoe@peaceplaceinc.org](mailto:tbledsoe@peaceplaceinc.org).

**HELP US END DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

# FBCJ PRESCHOOL 2024-2025 REGISTRATION



## Dates:

February 6th - Current students, siblings & church members

February 8th - Open to the community for new students

## Time:

8:00 am

## Location:

Fellowship Hall

Registration Fee: \$200 (non refundable)

## Tuition Rates:

2 day classes: \$225

3 day classes: \$250

4 day classes: \$275

5 day classes: \$295

Scan the QR code  
for more details



## Sibling discounts:

\$50 off registration fee for younger siblings

\$10 off monthly tuition for younger siblings

First come, first served. Spaces are limited.



First Baptist Church  
**JEFFERSON**  
It's all about relationships

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

The Mary Martha WMU Circle

# WINTER COAT DRIVE

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







Are you  
loving well?

FIRST BAPTIST  
CHURCH  
JEFFERSON  
WOMEN



*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*