



**August 27, 2025**

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**PASTOR'S MOMENT:**

"Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of your time, because the days are evil."

With football season kicking off all around us, I'm reminded of an event that shows just how important simple details can be. During the 2018 AFC Championship Game, the Kansas City Chiefs had just intercepted a Tom Brady pass that should have sent them to the Super Bowl. The problem was that defensive end Dee Ford lined up offsides. His penalty negated the interception, and the New England Patriots went on to win the game. Dee Ford's simple lapse in paying attention cost the team a trip to the Super Bowl.

Just as details are important in the game of football, they are also important to our Christian walk. Often, it's the tiny, overlooked detail that makes the difference in drawing someone to or pushing someone away from Christ. Let us strive to be careful in how we walk so that we make the best of our time on earth for the glory of God's kingdom.

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 pm – 12:30 pm Fridays

**Preschool Hours:** **School is back in session!** The FBCJ Preschool will be in session **from 8:00 am - 1:00 pm each day** for older students beginning this 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.

**Spark Conference:** Spark Conference is a total church-equipping event that provides training for nearly every ministry area of the church. This is great training for anyone who wants training in a particular ministry field. This link provides every breakout session that will be available:

<https://www.thesparkconference.com/breakouts-2025>

The Spark Conference will be held at Hebron Baptist Church in Dacula on Sunday, September 14th from 4:00 - 8:15 pm. Registration is \$15 with dinner included. Call the church office to register.



**Sample Ballot:** A sample of the Deacon Selection Ballot for 2025 is attached to the end of this newsletter. All resident members over 16 years of age will have the opportunity to vote on Sunday, September 7, 2025. Please use the sample ballot as an opportunity to learn more about the eight Deacon candidates.

**Town Hall Meeting:** There will be a Town Hall meeting to discuss the purchase of a church bus tonight at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

**WE NEED PICTURES:** We are looking for photos of the AWESOME things happening at FBC Jefferson to include on the front of each week's bulletin. 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.

## THIS WEEK IN THE CHURCH:

### Wednesday, August 27<sup>th</sup>:

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

### Sunday, August 31<sup>st</sup>:

- 10:00 am – Sunday School
- 11:00 am – Worship Service
- 5:30 pm – Student Gathering

### Monday, September 1<sup>st</sup> – Labor Day – Church Closed

### Wednesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>:

- 10:00 am – Faithful Followers Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)
- 5:30 pm – Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal (Fellowship Hall)

- 6:00 pm – Wednesday Night Bible Study (Fellowship Hall); Choir Practice (Choir Room); Connect Run/Walk (Adult II SS Classroom); Children in Action (CiA) (Educational Building); Student Ministry Bible Study (Student Center)

**PRAYER CONCERNS:** The list of prayer concerns can be found at the end of this newsletter.

**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 Ministry: Wednesdays in August:**

**August 27<sup>th</sup>: Children in Action Kick-Off**



**CHILDREN IN ACTION  
KICK-OFF!**

**Wednesday August 27<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.**

**Our focus this year is all about being ready. **READY** for what? **Ready** to Share about Jesus with Others!**

**We will **READY** our kids by working as a team and using their interests/gifts to **SET** monthly mission projects to **GO** share the Good News while others to God's Glory.**

September: Ready, Set, Aloha Maui: Erik and Danni Naylor  
October: On the Go in Eastern Europe-Harrison Martin  
November: Loving Senior Adults in Maine-David & Sherrill Carey



***"We cared for you. We loved you so much. So we were happy to share with you God's good news. We were also happy to share our lives with you."***  
***1 Thessalonians 2:8***

**THIS WEEK IS 5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AND THERE IS NO CHILDREN'S CHURCH FOR K-5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE. I WILL HAVE ACTIVITY PACKS FOR THE KIDS DURING WORSHIP. *The Nursery, Toddler and Preschool class will follow the normal schedule.***

**August Sunday School: BIG IDEA: God is with us at all times.**

**BIBLE: Ezekiel the Prophet: Ezekiel 37:1–14; Hebrews 13:6–8**

**ABOUT THIS WEEK:** This week, kids learn about God's message to the prophet Ezekiel at the valley of dry bones. If you could time-travel, wouldn't you be tempted to jump ahead and catch a glimpse of your future? This week, we'll hear about how Ezekiel's vision of a valley filled with dry bones helped him understand God's incredible power and presence. Through this vision, God reminded Ezekiel—and us—that we don't need to see the future to face difficult moments because God is with us at all times.

**College/Young Adults (CYA):** Our college and young adult ministry meets weekly in a home group format, open to all 18–25-year-olds. For more information, please contact Ben at (803)341-7191 or [bhall@fbcjefferson.org](mailto:bhall@fbcjefferson.org).



**Connect Run/Walk Group:** Connect Run/Walk Group meets on Wednesday evenings at 6:00pm. 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. We will have a small devotion, prayer concerns, and praises. Join us and run/walk with others, bring a friend for our Christian fellowship. We will support you physically, mentally, and spiritually while walking, running, and sometimes trotting. We will run/walk the rolling scenic hills of Jefferson on different routes. Bring a friend. We have water and Gatorade waiting for you afterwards.

**Connect Run/Walk Upcoming events:**

August 27<sup>th</sup> - 6:00 pm – Adult II SS Classroom

September 3<sup>rd</sup> - 6:00 pm – Adult II SS Classroom

September 10<sup>th</sup> - TBA

**Get your name on the Connect Run/Walk Group email list – contact Barbara Gooch by email ([bgooch02@yahoo.com](mailto:bgooch02@yahoo.com)).**

**Cookbook Project Update: An exciting update – THE COOKBOOK HAS BEEN RELEASED TO THE PUBLISHER!** - This has been a long process, but these efforts will hopefully be enjoyed for many years to come. Our new cookbook combines both present contributors, ladies and gentlemen, as well as some of the precious memories from those who have passed from our body physically. Thank you to everyone who has helped to make this project a success.

It is now time to begin the process of taking your order for the finished product. Complete instructions will be included in the announcement time on Sunday morning, but here are a few of the highlights:

1. The cost of the books, a 3-ring binder with our church pictured on the cover - \$25.00
2. An order form will be included in Sunday's bulletin. Order forms can also be found in the church office and the vestibule.
3. You may pay with cash or check **AT THE TIME YOU ORDER.**
4. All orders will be handled and recorded through Karen in the church office. **ORDER THROUGH KAREN ONLY.**

A special "thank you" to everyone who has contributed and assembled this project. Remember all proceeds will go directly toward the purchase of a new church vehicle – SO MAKE YOUR CHRISTMAS LIST AND GIFT THE COOKBOOK TO ALL YOUR SPECIAL FRIENDS AND FAMILY!

**Faithful Followers Bible Study:** Faithful Followers Bible Study meets each Wednesday at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. If you can join us or know of a friend or family member who would like to experience this journey and engage in great Christian fellowship, please contact Mary Ann Brooks, 615-643-4880, [mabstitches@yahoo.com](mailto:mabstitches@yahoo.com).

**Mary Martha Circle:** Mary Martha Circle is meeting on a new day and time each month! The circle will meet on the first Tuesday of each month at 3:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

**Meals on Wheels:** We need volunteers to help deliver Meals on Wheels November 2025 – February 2026! If you or your Sunday School Class, women's circle, or civic organization would like to help deliver on Wednesdays in November through February, 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!

### **Men's Ministry Fall**

**Cookout:** The Men's Ministry is planning a cookout for all men of the church on Sunday, September 28<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm at the home of Keith & Diane Ariail, 3385 Lyle Field Rd, Jefferson. Men, we look forward to seeing you there!





**Student Ministry:** Our student ministry meets on Sunday mornings at 10:00 am and Sunday afternoons from 5:30-7:00 pm, open to all 6th-12th graders. For more information, please contact Ben at (803)341-7191 or [bhall@fbcjefferson.org](mailto:bhall@fbcjefferson.org).



**Student Ministry Restoration**

**Weekend** is 9/19-9/20, registration is open online and will be open until September 8<sup>th</sup>. RW is a D-Now style weekend where students will grow and worship together on Friday night and Saturday here on our own campus. The cost for this event is \$25.



**Wednesday Night Meal: Menu for August 27<sup>th</sup>:** Sub Sandwiches, Pasta Salad, Chips, Dessert, Drinks.

**Menu for September 3<sup>rd</sup>:** Baked Ziti, Salad, Garlic Bread, Desserts, Drinks.

Call Karen in the church office to add your family's name to the weekly list!

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.

**WMU Meetings:** If you are not a member of a WMU 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 Salad Supper:** Our Salad Supper is scheduled for Monday, September 15th at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Iris George will be our guest speaker.

Food assignments for our 3 circles:

**Mary Martha** - desserts

**Morning Glory** - salads (meat, pasta, egg, vegetable, etc.)

**Salt and Light** - 1 large fruit bowl and 2 desserts

Please send a notice to your circle members ASAP so they can reserve the date and prepare for their food assignment. WMU will sponsor the event **BUT ALL ladies** of our church are invited and encouraged to attend!

**Deacons of the Week:**

**Week of August 24, 2025:** Philip Thompson and Phil Thurmond

**Week of August 31, 2025:** Brian Ferguson and Christopher Howard

**Opening and Closing:** Ken Hall

**Greeters and Ushers:** Greg Keith and Joey Blackstock

## **NUMBERS FOR SUNDAY, AUGUST 24, 2025**

- Sunday School Attendance: 111
- Worship Attendance: 169
- Nursery Attendance: 12
- WORSHIP TOTAL: 181
- Offering: \$ 9,906.55

## **IN CASE YOU MISSED IT:**

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



**FBC**  
JEFFERSON



## 5 WAYS TO TITHE

Online at [www.pushpay.com](http://www.pushpay.com)



Online at [www.fbcjefferson.com](http://www.fbcjefferson.com)



Mail/drop by a check to the FBCJ office



Drop into the offering plate on Sunday



Drop your tithe/offering into the offering  
box in the vestibule.



*Everyone is invited!*



Please join us for a

# *Wedding Shower*

Honoring

TERESA WOOD

&

STACY FLEMING

September

14

Sunday

12:00 PM

2025

FBC JEFFERSON FELLOWSHIP HALL

246 WASHINGTON STREET JEFFERSON

Gift suggestions: Cash, Gift Cards, Amazon Gift Registry

Please bring your gift for Teresa & Stacy unwrapped

*Everyone is invited!*

*Teresa  
and Stacy*

invite you to celebrate their marriage on

09.20.25  
2 PM

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH JEFFERSON  
246 WASHINGTON ST.  
JEFFERSON, GA

*Reception to follow*



**August 27, 2025**

## **Ongoing Prayer Concerns**

Thomas Durrence  
Jerry Elliott  
Fred Glass  
Harold Harbin  
Vernell Hix  
Ezra King

Jane Kinney  
Donna Martin  
Merle Milburn  
Jimmy Mock  
Phil Thurmond  
Vicki White

## **Homebound, Assisted Living, Etc.**

Dianne Brooks  
Glenn Bullock  
Dan Edgar  
Helen Gunnels  
Tim Harris  
Raye Dean Jackson

Eudene Johnson  
Connie Peebles (Rehab in Athens – NO visitors)  
Jack Purcell  
Raynelle Sims  
Helen Whitlock

## **Friends & Family**

Alex Farmer (Sandra Farmer's son)  
Barry Farmer (Sandra Farmer's husband)  
Dominic Haines (broken neck at the state wrestling  
tournament)

Joseph Martin (Joe & Donna Martins' son)  
Matt Pugh (Local man with cancer)  
Anne Ross (Tim Coogler's mom)  
Tyler Truelove (Diane and Keith Ariails' son)

## **Additional Requests**

Our Ministry Team and Their Families  
Our Church-sponsored Missionaries  
Our Local Veterans  
Our Church Leadership & Staff  
Texas Flood Victims and Their Families

**First Baptist Church  
Jefferson  
Board of Deacons**

**Term Ending 2025**

Charles Oliver  
Melvin Porter  
Jim Smith  
Phil Thurmond

**Term Ending 2026**

Kevin Charles  
Brian Ferguson  
Christopher Howard  
Philip Thompson

**Term Ending 2027**

Tom Emory  
Fred Gurley  
Steven Hix  
Steve Ross

246 Washington St.  
Jefferson, Georgia 30549  
706.367.8332



**Sample  
Ballot**

**September 7, 2025**


**Deacon Selection  
2025/2026**

The Deacon Nominating Committee proposes these members as candidates for selection as deacons to serve for the term through 2028. Those selected will begin their three-year term in October 2025.


Each person voting must be a resident member of First Baptist Church Jefferson, age 16 and older.

**Please mark the box beside  
the four (4) nominees of your  
choices.**




 **Jordie Crow** (Age 34) was baptized when he was 13 years old at Bethlehem Baptist Church. He is a member of the Adult I Sunday School class. He is a deacon associate and is a nursery volunteer. He is a pharmacist and is married to Jessi and they have two children, Aubrey and TJ.



 **Kristy Eubanks** (age 54) was baptized at FBCJ when she was 10. She is a member of the 24:15 Sunday School Class. She has previously served as Chair of Deacons, a Sunday School teacher and has been on the Administrative Board, Cabinet, Finance Committee, Co-Chair of the Pageant. She has been on a previous pastor search committee. Kristy also served as a deacon at Union Christian Church in Watkinsville. She works with EPA and is married to Clay Eubanks and they have two children, McKay Dickens and Jack Eubanks.



 **Phillip Ferguson** (age 73) was baptized at the age of 12 in Bethel Baptist Church in Barrow County. He was ordained as a deacon in FBCJ in 1984 and has served as an active deacon nine times. Phillip has been the Chair of Deacons, on the Administrative Board, and is one of the Adult II Sunday School Class teachers. Phillip helps with the Food Bank and currently serves on the Food Bank Committee. He is a retired probation officer and is married to Ann. They have two adult children, Michael and Brian as well as six grandchildren.




 **Ken Hall** (age 43) was baptized when he was 12 years old at Hebron Baptist Church and again at First Baptist Church of Jefferson. He is a member of Adult I Sunday School Class. He is on the Opening/Closing Committee and is a Deacon Associate. He owns and operates several Friends Restaurants and is married to Kyanna and they have three children: Piper, Zeplyn, and Coupe.



 **Greg Keith** (age (Age 70) was baptized at the First Baptist Church of Gainesville when he was 10 years old. He was ordained as a deacon by FBCJ in 1989. He has been deacon chair three times, church treasurer multiple years, several search committees, chair of personnel, and on multiple capital fund drives. He chaired the pastor search committee. He is a member of the Adult II Sunday School class. Greg is retired from Jackson EMC and is married to Jackie and they have two grown daughters, Ashley and Lauren.




 **Tim Peacock** (age 43) was baptized when he was 11 years old at Watkinsville First Baptist Church. He is a deacon associate. He is a member of The Adult I Sunday School class and is one of their teachers. He is a lawyer and is married to Jill and they have a daughter, Lizzie.



 **David Rees** (Age 36) was baptized when he was 12 years old at First Baptist Church Jefferson. He is a deacon associate and is a member of the Adult I Sunday School Class. He has served on the Property Committee. He is a marine mechanic. He is married to Kristie and they have three children—Emily, Harrison, and Tanner.



 **John White** (age 73) was baptized in the First Baptist Church of Roswell, GA when he was 13 years old. He is a member and teacher in the Adult II Sunday School Class. John was ordained about 28 years ago at FBCJ. He has been an active deacon six times and served as SS Superintendent for six years. He has been Vice Chair of Deacons (3 times), as well as other deacon officer positions. John is in the Adult Choir. He has been on Pastor Search Committee, Personnel Committee, and numerous others. John is in marketing and is married to Martha and they have two children, Michael and Newton, as well as 4 grandchildren.