



**September 17, 2025**

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*Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; (Isaiah 41:10A)*

Often in life, events prompt us to pause and reflect on what is truly important. The events of this past week is one of those times. The senseless acts of violence, a school shooting, the stabbing of an innocent refugee, and the public murder of a high-profile political and Christian figure, Charlie Kirk, shake us to our core. Many today are questioning their beliefs and values. Yet it is in these moments that Christian's faith can shine the brightest.

As people are searching for answers, they will not be found in increased rhetoric, political bickering, or new laws. The problem is sin, and the answer is Jesus Christ. It is our job as believers to resist calls for vitriol, retribution, or violence and extend love, forgiveness, mercy, and grace. We do not turn from God, but grasp more strongly to Him. So I encourage you to keep worship, fellowship, and encouragement with fellow believers a priority. We need the presence of God, and we need the presence of each other. In the darkest moments, our light shines the brightest.

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

**Attendance Emphasis Sunday:** On Sunday September 21<sup>st</sup> we will have an Attendance Emphasis Sunday. The purpose of this day is to encourage everyone who is able to make a special effort to be in attendance on that day. Each Sunday School class is also encouraged to have breakfast that morning just to make the day a little more special. If you know of someone that is not yet involved with a Sunday

School class, please invite them to visit on that day. Please be in prayer for this day that God would spark an extra bit of excitement within us.

**Committee Chairs:** Budget season is fast approaching! The Finance Committee has set a deadline of October 15<sup>th</sup> for all 2026 budget requests. Please email Gail in the church office ([financial@fbcjefferson.org](mailto:financial@fbcjefferson.org)) to see your 2025 YTD spending, or to send your financial requests. The church office will then forward all requests to the Finance Committee.

**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.



**WELCOME!:** Please help us welcome Paola Marquez into membership at FBC Jefferson. Welcome to the FBCJ family, Paola!

**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, September 17<sup>th</sup>:**

- 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)

### **Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup>:**

- 2:00 pm – Teresa Wood & Stacy Fleming Wedding (Sanctuary)

### **Sunday, September 21<sup>st</sup>:**

- 10:00 am – Sunday School
- 11:00 am – Worship Service
- 5:00 pm – Deacons Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

### **Wednesday, September 24<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)

**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: In Season**

**Big Idea:** God hears us no matter the season.

**Bible:** Create in Me a Pure Heart: Psalm 51; 1 Timothy 2:1-7

**About This Week:**

This week, kids can grow by learning that God can make our hearts clean. When the winter snow falls, the world can feel so still and quiet that you feel like you can hear for miles. This week, we'll hear how David wrote a psalm, asking for forgiveness, knowing God was listening. His prayer helps us know that God hears us no matter the season, whether we're asking for forgiveness, giving thanks, or just sharing what's on our minds.



**Children In Action: September 17<sup>th</sup>: Luau Night: Come dressed in your favorite Hawaiian wear. We will learn more about the culture thru food and music.**

**September 24<sup>th</sup>: Game Night**

**SEPTEMBER: READY, SET, ALOHA!**

**MISSIONARY: Erik and Danni Naylor of Maui, Hawaii →→**

**Ready, Set, let's Go... to Hawaii and meet Erik and Dani Naylor, who share and show the love and hope of Jesus in Lahaina, Hawaii, especially following the devastating 2023 Maui Wildfires. Children will also be**



encouraged through the example of Paul and Silas sharing and showing the love and hope of Jesus. While participating in numerous activities, related to both Hawaiian culture and how they share the hope of Jesus with friends.

Mission Project: Disaster Relief Backpacks.... More info to come.

Badge: READY, SET, SHARE

Children will use post cards as an opportunity to tell people about Jesus and invite them to Children in Action or church on Sunday.

**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:**

September 17<sup>th</sup> – 6:00 pm - Adult II SS Classroom

September 24<sup>th</sup> – 6:00 pm - Adult II SS Classroom

October 1<sup>st</sup> – 6:00 pm – TBA

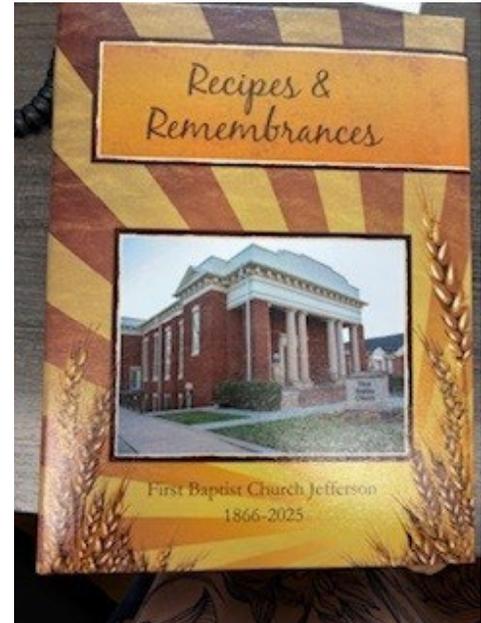
October 8<sup>th</sup> – 6:00 pm - TBA

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 COOKBOOKS HAVE ARRIVED and are available for purchase!**

1. The cost of the books, a 3-ring binder with our church pictured on the cover - \$25.00
2. Order forms can 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).

**Food Drive:** Over the past year, our Food Bank at the church has been very busy. There has been a steady increase in the number of families needing to utilize the Food Bank each month. Because of this, our food bank supply of food decreases much more quickly than in the past.

The Morning Glory Circle of the WMU will be holding a churchwide Food Drive for the remainder of August thru November to collect food items to help fill our food bank shelves until the Turkey Can Run.

There will be marked donation boxes placed around the church campus for donations to be dropped off. Please grab a couple of extra items to donate the next time you are at the store to put in a donation box. All donations are greatly appreciated!

Below is just a short list of some of the items the food bank could use if you are able to help with a donation.

Cereal Instant Grits Fruit Snacks

Ramen Noodles Beefaroni or SpaghettiOs Soup

Vienna Sausages Canned Vegetables Dry Beans

Instant Mashed Potatoes

Thank you so much in advance for any donations. If you have any questions at all, please call Debbie Emory at 813-994-5714.

**Mary Martha Circle:** Mary Martha Circle's next meeting will be on Tuesday, October 7<sup>th</sup> at 3:30pm 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! If you are going to the cookout, please call or text Diane Ariail at 706-654-0472 and let her know – she needs a headcount so there will be enough food. Thanks!



**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).



**Wednesday Night Meal: Menu for Menu for September 17<sup>th</sup>: BBQ Sandwich, Chips, Dessert, Drinks.**

**Menu for September 24<sup>th</sup>: Breakfast Casserole, Fruit, Biscuits, Dessert, 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.

**Deacons of the Week:**

**Week of September 14, 2025:** Jim Smith and Melvin Porter

**Week of September 21, 2025:** Steve Ross and Steven Hix

**Opening and Closing:** Charlene Barber

**Greeters and Ushers:** Steve Ross and Tom Emory

**NUMBERS FOR SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2025**

- Sunday School Attendance: 120
- Worship Attendance: 155
- Nursery Attendance: 10
- WORSHIP TOTAL: 165
- Offering: \$24,268.95

**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!*

*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*



**September 17, 2025**

## **Ongoing Prayer Concerns**

Thomas Durrence  
Jerry Elliott  
Fred Glass  
Martha Gunter  
Harold Harbin  
Vernell Hix

Ezra King  
Jane Kinney  
Donna Martin  
Merle Milburn  
Jimmy Mock  
Phil Thurmond

## **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**

Anni Arlidge (The Hopkins' granddaughter)  
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)  
John Parks  
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