



October 22, 2025

You've probably heard this statement, "How do you eat an elephant?... One bite at a time." It's simple, but it packs a profound truth. This statement applies to everyday life, reminding us that we accomplish big things by taking small steps. This is also true in our spiritual life. Nobody transitions from being lost to living like a saint overnight. We sometimes feel guilty about not being spiritual enough. We don't read our Bibles, pray, worship, or resist temptation as well as others. It is easy to get discouraged and just go back to living a sinful lifestyle.

It is vital to remember that Christianity is a lifelong journey. It is exactly like eating an elephant. Living like a Christian may feel like an impossible task at first. With the help and encouragement of other Christians, you can set goals and create habits. Start small and grow in your faith and devotion. Instead of thinking, I must spend an hour every day in prayer or read twenty chapters of the Bible, just start with five minutes. Take a step, celebrate that step, and then take another.

Who can you look up to and ask for help to strengthen your walk with Christ? Who can you encourage and help take the next step?

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

All Saints' Remembrance Sunday—It has been the tradition of our church to honor those members who have passed on to the Kingdom of Heaven within the last year on or around November 1st (All Saints Day). This year we will observe this remembrance in our worship service on Sunday, November 2nd.

Names of those members to be honored have been collected by the church office. We will start the day with a ceremony at the monument in the parking lot at 9:30 am. We will also have a time of

remembrance during the worship service at 11:00 am. Please make plans to attend these very touching services.

A Note of Thanks: Dear Church Family,

Words can't express the gratitude we have for the prayers, calls, visits, texts and meals while Jimmy was in the hospital and rehabilitation center. Thanks to the dedicated men for constructing the wheelchair ramp in time for his homecoming. We appreciate all the love shown during the two months he was away from home. Thank you church family from the bottom of our hearts.

Jimmy & Sandra Mock and family

Discover FBC:



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.

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 – or you can text them to her.



THIS WEEK IN THE CHURCH:

Wednesday, October 22nd:

- 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)

Thursday, October 23rd:

- 6:30 pm – Cabinet Meeting (Church Office)

Sunday, October 26th:

- 10:00 am – Sunday School
- 11:00 am – Worship Service
- 5:00 PM – Adult II SS Fall Fellowship Meal (Fellowship Hall)
- 5:30 pm – Student Gathering

Wednesday, October 29th:

- 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.

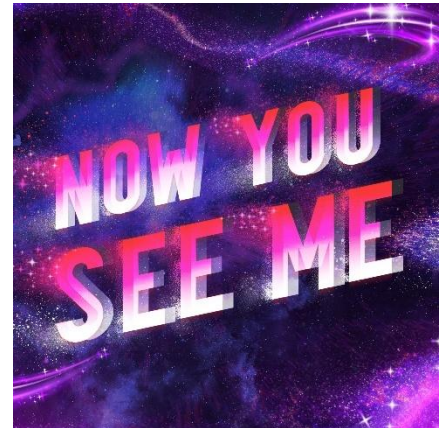
Adult II SS Class Fall Fellowship: Adult II Sunday School Class will have their Fall Fellowship Meal on Sunday, October 26th beginning at 5:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Children's Ministry: We always need volunteers to help in the Children's Ministry! If you'd like to help, please contact Teresa Wood at children@fbcjefferson.org, or call the church office at 706-367-8332.

Sunday School: Big Idea: About this Week:

Our courage can help others see God. (Daniel 6; 2 Timothy 4:6–8, 16–18)

This week, the story of Daniel in the lions' den reveals how to stand up for God. Every illusion takes courage, whether trusting an assistant with a saw or performing in front of a crowd. This week, we'll hear about the time Daniel showed courage by praying to God, even though he knew it would put him in danger. His bravery revealed God's power to the whole kingdom and helps remind us that our courage can help others see God.



Children In Action: CiA will meet at 6:00 pm tonight in the Educational Building!



Harrison Martin

Area Of Service: Eastern Europe

As a Nurse Practitioner, Harrison knows sick people need help-and everyone needs Jesus! He is on the go in Eastern Europe, traveling in a mobile medical clinic with doctors, volunteers, and local church pastors to bring medical care and the good news to people who can't afford a doctor.

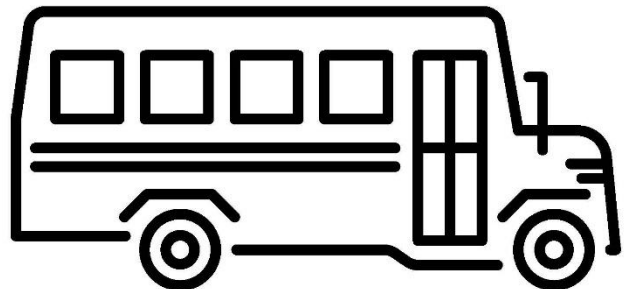
Bible Story and Verse: We will explore the Old Testament story about Naaman, the army commander with a skin disease who learned the obedience is what God desires.

2 Kings 5:14 - "So Naaman went down and dipped himself in the Jordan seven times, according to the command of God. Then his skin was restored and became like the skin of a small boy, and he was clean."

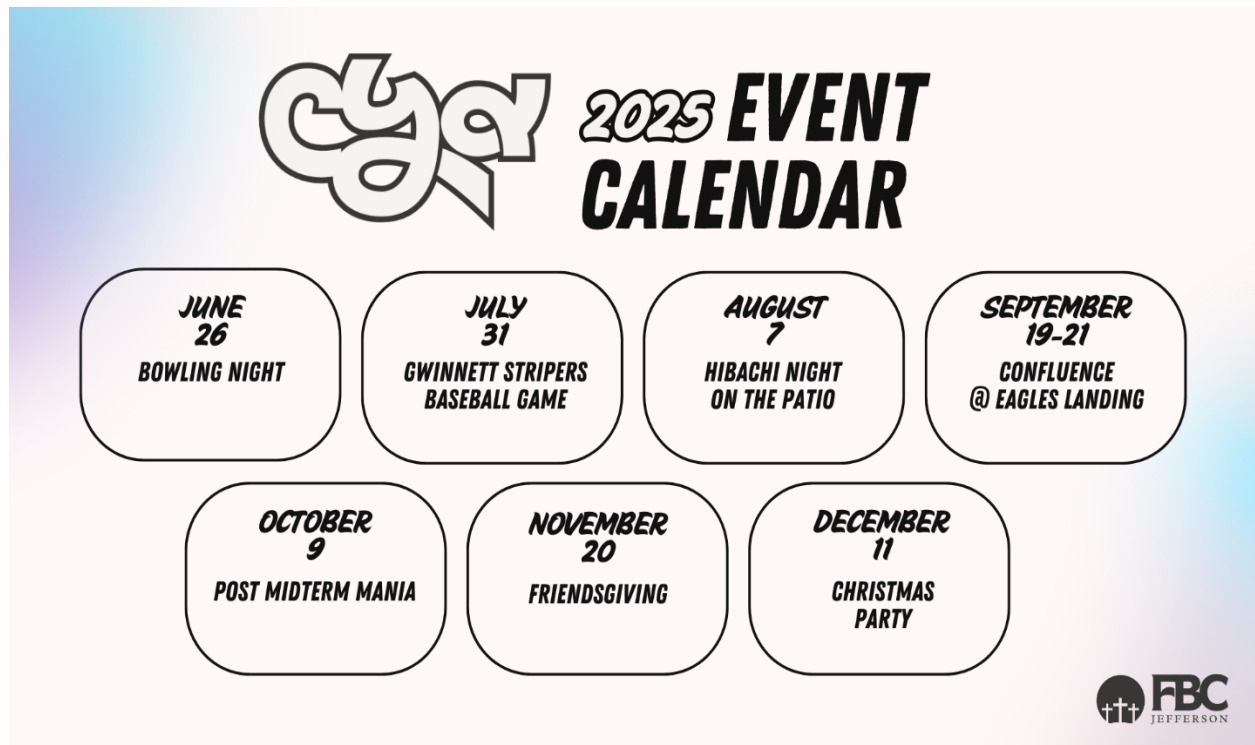
October Mission Project: We will be collecting gently used or new books for our September Missionary, Pastor Erik Naylor of Lahaina Baptist Church Community Library. Pastor Naylor and I spoke by email about ways we could support their church in Hawaii since they no longer needed disaster relief items for the 2023 Maui Wildfires. He actually sent us a video that the children and I watched together last week! Please see the link below:

<https://youtube.com/shorts/9uw5P6CRILY?feature=share>

Church Bus: If your group would like to reserve the church bus, please contact Karen in the church office for availability. All dates to use the church bus must be approved by Matt (since he's the only driver at the moment!).



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.



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:

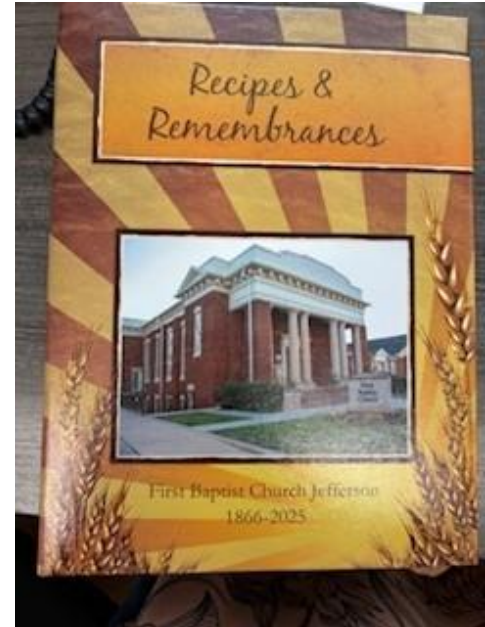
October 22nd – 6:00 pm - Adult II SS Classroom
October 29th – 6:00 pm - Adult II SS Classroom
November 5th – 6:00 pm - Adult II SS Classroom
November 12th – 6:00 pm - Adult II SS Classroom

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

Cookbooks: The FBC Jefferson Cookbook, "Recipes and Remembrances" is still available for purchase in the church office! With over 450 homestyle Southern recipes, this cookbook is a STEAL at \$25.00! Stop by the church office and get your copy today.

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.

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!

Here's 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, and 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.

Live Nativity Scene: FBCJ was asked by the City of Jefferson to have a Live Nativity Scene on Back Barn's property on Friday December 5 from 5-8pm during their Magic in Christmas: Shop by Candlelight event. The city has secured the live animals, and we will provide the program. If you are interested in participating, please let Director of Children and Missions, Teresa Fleming know by calling the church office, email: children@fbcjefferson.org /or text at 706-424-6957. I will contact everyone interested in participating to set a time to meet.

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. 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!

Operation Christmas Child: OCC SHOEBOXES WILL BE AVAILABLE STARTING THIS SUNDAY IN THE VESTIBULE. ALL SHOEBOXES ARE DUE ON SUNDAY NOVEMBER 23RD!

FBC Jefferson is the drop-off location for Jefferson! We need VOLUNTEERS!!! Call Teresa in the church office for more information on volunteer opportunities.

FBCJ Operation Christmas Child DROP-OFF LOCATION CENTER Volunteer Meeting: Sunday Nov 2nd after service in the Tree House Worship Room -Children's Building. Please let Teresa Fleming know if you will be attending by calling the church office, email: children@fbcjefferson.org or text: 706-424-6957.



IT'S ALL ABOUT JESUS!

PACK A SHOEBOX!

NATIONAL
COLLECTION WEEK
**NOV.
17-24**



To learn more, scan the QR code
or visit samaritanspurse.org/occ

 **Samaritan's Purse®**
Helping in Jesus' Name®

Operation Christmas Child® is a project of Samaritan's Purse®.
Franklin Graham, President | samaritanspurse.org
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VIEW SOLICITATION DISCLOSURE INFORMATION FOR SAMARITAN'S PURSE ONLINE AT
SAMARITANSPURSE.ORG/DISCLOSURE.



2025

Operation Christmas Child

DROP-OFF LOCATION



Shoebox Drop Off Dates/Hours

Nov 17: 9-11am
Nov 18: 3-6pm
Nov 19: 9-11am
Nov 20: 3-6pm
Nov 21: 10am-2pm
Nov 22: 9am-12pm
Nov 23: 1pm-4pm
Nov 24: 8am-12pm

**For more information or Volunteer opportunities
please contact**

**Teresa Fleming at children@fbcjefferson.org
706-367-8332 or 706-424-6957**

**246 Washington Street
Jefferson, Georgia**

SAREPTA Senior Adult Luncheon: The SAREPTA Senior Luncheon will be held at FBC Jefferson on Thursday, November 6th at 12:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.



VISION
newsletter
OCTOBER 2025

WE CAN DO MORE TOGETHER

SENIOR ADULT LUNCHEON

November 6th, Noon
FBC Jefferson

Covered dish! Please bring sides or desserts.
The Church provides the meat and the drinks.

Project: We will be collecting PAJAMAS for kids in foster care, ages
birth-18 years old.
Please bring New Winter pajamas in the package that you
purchased.

The speaker will be Sammy Simmons,
from NAMB Send Relief.



Seasons of Grace:



FBCJ Missions Committee warmly invites you to our luncheon

SEASONS OF GRACE

THIS IS A SPECIAL TIME FOR THE
WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS OF FBCJ TO
GATHER, REMEMBER, AND CELEBRATE
TOGETHER.

WE WANT TO HONOR THE MEMORY OF YOUR
SPOUSE WHILE CELEBRATING THE GIFT OF
YOUR LIFE AND PRESENCE WITH US TODAY

YOU'RE WELCOME TO BRING A FRIEND OR
FAMILY MEMBER TO JOIN YOU.

NOVEMBER 9, 2025 12:15PM

Call the church office to RSVP by Monday November 3rd

First Baptist Church Jefferson
Fellowship Hall



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.

FBC
JEFFERSON

STUDENTS

2025

EVENT CALENDAR

JUNE 16-19 MAGNIFIED VBS	JULY 14-18 EST. 1988 STUDENT LIFE CAMP	JULY 27 PROMOTION SUNDAY	AUGUST 6 BACK TO SCHOOL BASH 2025
SEPTEMBER 19-21 FALL RETREAT WEEKEND	OCTOBER 26 GAME NIGHT	NOVEMBER 16 FRIENDSGIVING BONFIRE & MOVIE	DECEMBER 12TH OR 14TH REINDEER GAMES 2025



Turkey Can Run: If you'd like to volunteer to help, contact Keith Ariail at 706-654-7133 or Barbara Gooch at 706-654-7731.



17th Annual

5K Turkey Can Run/Walk

Thanksgiving 2025 (November 27)
at 8am

Start line at First Baptist Church of Jefferson
246 Washington St.

Register Now

SCAN HERE TO REGISTER
AND ADDITIONAL
INFORMATION



ENTRY FEE:
\$15 AND 15
CANNED
GOODS



Wednesday Night Meal: Menu for October 22nd: Country Fried Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Dessert, Drinks.

Menu for October 29th: Pizza, Salad, 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 October 19, 2025: Christopher Howard and Steve Ross

Week of October 26, 2025: Fred Gurley and Kenneth Hall

Opening and Closing: Jim Hix

Greeters and Ushers: David Rees and Dennis Elrod

NUMBERS FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2025

- Sunday School Attendance: 97
- Worship Attendance: 153
- Nursery Attendance: 8
- WORSHIP TOTAL: 161
- Offering: \$7,416.22

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT:

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

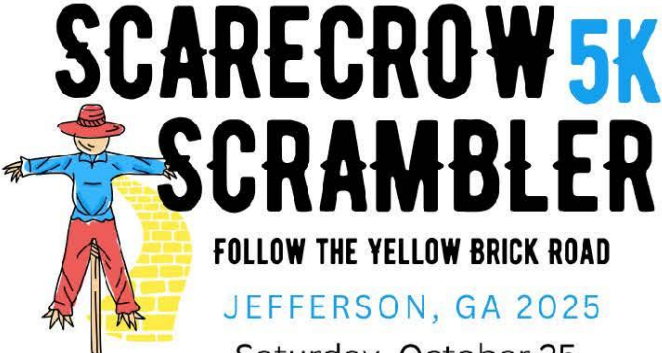
Follow the Yellow Brick Road and get your costumes ready to run the Scarecrow Scrambler 5K in historic Jefferson, Georgia! The race is scheduled for 10/25/2025. This race is a partnership between the Kiwanis Club of Jefferson and Unity Masonic Lodge. It is our annual fundraiser to support our local children's charities.

Prizes are given for Overall Male and Female, Masters Male and Female, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in standard, 5-year age groups 10 and under through 75 and over. This year's theme is the "Wonderful Wizard of Oz." Plus, Best Costume award!

We hope you will join is and follow the Yellow Brick Road!

Follow us on Facebook for updates:

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61550834764282>



SCARECROW 5K SCRAMBLER

FOLLOW THE YELLOW BRICK ROAD
JEFFERSON, GA 2025
Saturday, October 25

Jefferson Civic Center, 65 Kissam Street, Jefferson, GA 30549

Race day registration and packet pickup starts at 7:00AM
5K Race begins at 8:00AM
Awards ceremony begins at 9:00AM

The Wonderful Wizard of Oz costumes are encouraged!

REGISTER HERE → 

  <https://runsignup.com/scarecrowscrambler5k>  

FBC
JEFFERSON



5 WAYS TO TITHE

Online at www.pushpay.com



Online at 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.





October 22, 2025

Ongoing Prayer Concerns

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

Jane Kinney
Joe & Donna Martin
Merle Milburn
Jimmy Mock
Pam Rickman
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 Aldridge (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