



December 17, 2025

³⁸ And Mary said, "Behold, the bondservant of the Lord; may it be done to me according to your word."
Luke 1:38

One of the most astounding things about the Christmas story is the unwavering faith of Mary. Even though Mary was young she must have understand the weight of the task that she was being asked to undertake. To have a child out of wedlock in first century Galilee was not a great circumstance to be in. To try and explain the mysterious origin of this pregnancy is an even greater struggle. Yet Mary never hesitated. She immediately answered that she was a servant of the Lord. In comparison we are asked to do so little for the kingdom. This Christmas let's be inspired by Mary's selfless devotion and seek out how we may serve God in our lives.

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

2026 Proposed Budget: A copy of the FBCJ Proposed 2026 Budget has been attached to the end of this newsletter. Questions about the budget can be directed to the church office.

FBC Jefferson Shirts and tumblers are for sale:



“Ladies’ cut” shirts available!

FBC Shirts and Tumblers are for sale!

Shirts - \$22

Tumblers - \$10 (white or blue)

Call or email the Church Office to place an order.



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, December 17th:

- 6:00 pm –Connect Run/Walk (Traditions Subdivision)

Thursday, December 18th:

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

Sunday, December 21st:

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

Wednesday, December 24th:

- 6:00 pm – Christmas Eve Service (Sanctuary)

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: 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: Many families hit the road during the Christmas season, whether it's to visit loved ones or take a much-needed break. It's a time-honored tradition—one that might even be traced back to the first Christmas when a bright star dropped a pin on a special location to guide people to the birthplace of the savior. In this 4-week series, kids will learn that God gives people to guide us, God gives hope to guide us, God gives a Savior to guide us, and God gives direction to guide us.



BIG IDEA: God gives a Savior to guide us.

BIBLE: (Jesus Is Born: Luke 2:1–20; Isaiah 7:10–16)

ABOUT THIS WEEK: This week, kids follow the story of how Jesus was born and shepherds were invited to meet the newborn savior. One of the most essential pieces of road trip gear is a map or GPS to guide you toward your final destination. This week, we'll hear how angels guided a group of shepherds to Bethlehem so they could be the first people to

meet Jesus. Their incredible journey was an important sign for everyone that God gives a Savior to guide us.

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!). Also – we are encouraging everyone to help us reach our goal of \$130,000 to pay for the new church bus, so please, consider giving extra contributions to the FBCJ Bus Fund! Use the QR Code in the following graphic to pay online!



Help us reach our goal!



Make your additional contributions towards the bus fund today!



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. Wear warm reflective clothing.

Connect Run/Walk Upcoming events:

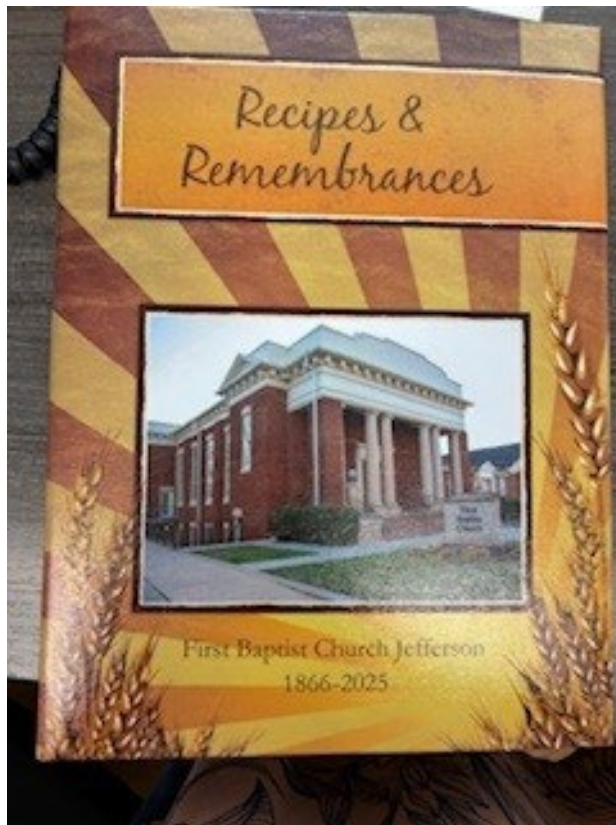
December 17th – 6:00 pm - Traditions Subdivision - meet at their clubhouse parking lot

December 24th - NO Connect Run/Walk – Join us for the FBCJ Christmas Eve Service at 6:00 pm in the Sanctuary

December 31st – NO Connect Run/Walk – HAPPY NEW YEAR!

January 7th – 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 will resume on **Wednesday, January 14, 2026 at 10:00 am**. 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.

Meals on Wheels: We need volunteers to help deliver Meals on Wheels JANUARY 7th! If you would like to help deliver on any Wednesday in January or February 2026, please let the church office or Barbara Gooch know!

Lottie Moon Post Office: It's that time of year when we send Christmas greetings to those we love. Our Lottie Moon Post Office is set up in Fellowship Hall this year. As you remember church family with special Christmas wishes, please use our designated "post office". All you need to do is address the envelope with the name of the person to receive the card and send it through our Lottie Moon Post Office. There is a receptacle there for you to pay for your postage, \$.50 per card, and any additional contributions going toward the Lottie Moon Offering. All of the money goes toward our Lottie Moon Christmas Offering goal. We can all help to reach this goal by simply greeting one another with Christmas messages and sharing in meeting our church goal.

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.

Wednesday Night Meal: No Wednesday Night Meal until January 7, 2026.

White Christmas Offering: Proceeds from this year's White Christmas offering will go towards the church bus fund. The White Christmas Offering will be collected on December 21st!

Winter Coat Drive:



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 December 14, 2025: Brian Ferguson and Tom Emory

Week of December 21, 2025: Steven Hix and Philip Thompson

Opening and Closing: Melvin Porter

Greeters and Ushers: Jack Eubanks

NUMBERS FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2025

- Sunday School Attendance: 88
- Worship Attendance: 134
- Nursery Attendance: 10
- WORSHIP TOTAL: 144
- Offering: \$11,168.50

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



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.



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| First Baptist Church of Jefferson | |
| Proposed Budget 2026 | |
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| | 2026 Proposed Budget |
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| COMPENSATION/EMP EXPENSES/ALLOWANCES | |
| Subtotal: COMPENSATION/EMP EXPENSES/ALLOWANCES | \$ 317,080.00 |
| | |
| ADMINISTRATION | |
| Background checks | \$ - |
| Bank Fees / CC Processing | \$ 4,000.00 |
| Dues & Subscriptions | \$ 1,500.00 |
| Financial Audit | \$ 500.00 |
| Office Equipment Repairs | \$ 1,000.00 |
| Office Supplies | \$ 5,500.00 |
| Other Miscellaneous | \$ 2,000.00 |
| Postage | \$ 1,400.00 |
| Postage Meter Lease | \$ 600.00 |
| Property Taxes | \$ 8,500.00 |
| Software | \$ 1,500.00 |
| Copier Usage | \$ 3,000.00 |
| Office Copier Rental | \$ 2,600.00 |
| Accounting Services | \$ - |
| Financial Admin Services | \$ 24,000.00 |
| Other Professional Services | \$ - |
| Auto Insurance | \$ 709.00 |
| Property Insurance | \$ 27,644.00 |
| Umbrella Insurance | \$ 1,250.00 |
| Workers Comp | \$ 3,424.00 |
| Subtotal: ADMINISTRATION | \$ 89,127.00 |
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| BUILDINGS & FACILITY EXP | |
| Electric | \$ 32,500.00 |
| Garbage | \$ 2,500.00 |
| Natural Gas | \$ 4,400.00 |
| Security | \$ 6,000.00 |
| Telephone | \$ 6,400.00 |
| Water/Sewer | \$ 5,000.00 |
| Adult 2 Class Maintenance | \$ 1,000.00 |
| Cleaning Service | \$ 36,000.00 |
| Grounds Maint | \$ 18,500.00 |
| Heating & Air Maintenance | \$ 6,000.00 |
| Janitorial Supplies | \$ 6,500.00 |
| Missions House Maintenance | \$ 775.00 |
| Office Bldg Maintenance | \$ 4,375.00 |
| Pest Control | \$ 4,200.00 |
| Sanctuary/Edu Bldg Maint | \$ 10,000.00 |
| Student Center Maint | \$ 1,500.00 |
| Termite Maintenance | \$ - |
| Tree Maintenance | \$ 3,000.00 |
| Bus Expense | \$ 3,500.00 |
| Facilities Manager (new position, 1099 employee) | \$ 26,000.00 |
| Subtotal: BUILDINGS & FACILITY EXP | \$ 178,150.00 |
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| DEPARTMENTS / COMMITTEES | |
| Bronze Name Plates | \$ 800.00 |
| Christian Education | \$ - |
| Sunday School | \$ - |
| Sunday School Supplies | \$ 4,000.00 |

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| WMU Literature | \$ - |
| Women's Ministry | \$ 500.00 |
| Children's Ministries | \$ 12,500.00 |
| Faithful Followers Study | \$ 1,000.00 |
| Men's Ministry | \$ 300.00 |
| Nursery Attendant | \$ 4,000.00 |
| Nursery Supplies | \$ - |
| Sr Adult (M&M) | \$ 1,250.00 |
| Youth | \$ 10,000.00 |
| College/Young Adult Ministry | \$ 2,500.00 |
| Music Ministry | \$ 4,000.00 |
| Audio/Video Expense | \$ 6,000.00 |
| Audio/Visual License Fees | \$ 4,000.00 |
| Church App | \$ 4,000.00 |
| Fellowship | \$ 5,500.00 |
| Wed Night Fellowship | \$ - |
| Worship Supplies | \$ - |
| Decorations/Flowers | \$ 500.00 |
| Heritage/Archives Expense | \$ 750.00 |
| Publicity/Marketing | \$ 1,000.00 |
| Subtotal: DEPARTMENTS/COMMITTEES excluding MISSIONS | \$ 62,600.00 |
| MISSIONS | \$ 64,700.00 |
| Baptist Children's Home | |
| Baptist Collegiate Ministry | |
| Bereavement | |
| Boys & Girls Club | |
| Café 1040 | |
| Community Involvement | |
| Counseling Service | |
| Disaster Relief | |
| FCA | |
| Gideons | |
| Global Frontier Missions | |
| Hope Pregnancy Resource | |
| Local Mission/Benevolence | |
| Mission Trip | |
| Missionary Expanding Borders | |
| Peace Place | |
| Samaritan's Purse | |
| Sarepta | |
| SBC Cooperative Fellowship | |
| Sewing Circle | |
| Shut-In Meals | |
| The ARK | |
| Tree House | |
| Missionary 1 | |
| Missionary 2 | |
| Missions Fair | |
| VBS | |
| Subtotal: DEPARTMENTS / COMMITTEES including MISSIONS | \$ 127,300.00 |
| TOTAL BUDGET | \$ 711,657.00 |



December 17, 2025

Ongoing Prayer Concerns

Dean Andrews
Keith Ariail
Thomas Durrence
Jerry Elliott
Teresa Fleming
Fred Glass
Harold Harbin
Vernell Hix

Ezra King
Jane Kinney
Joe & Donna Martin
Shirley Milburn
Jimmy Mock
Diane Oliver
Pam Rickman
Bill Smith

Homebound, Assisted Living, Etc.

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

Eudene Johnson
Connie Peebles
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)
Charles & Leasia Fleming (Teresa Fleming's in-laws)
Jim Shaw

Dominic Haines (broken neck at the state wrestling tournament)
Jeff Key (Katie Fulcher's dad)
Joseph Martin (Joe & Donna Martins' son)
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