



January 14, 2026

In everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. - 1 Thessalonians 5:18

How often do we put this verse into practice? It's easy to remember to give God thanks for the big things in our lives or when He answers an urgent prayer need. But this verse doesn't say that it is God's will for us to give thanks for the big things, but for everything. This includes the little things and even the things that don't seem so great.

Often, when I get frustrated by a car part that won't go back on correctly, or I can't find something I need, I'll stop and pray about it. It's a simple prayer consisting of acknowledging that God can handle this situation and to please give me what I need in the moment. Multiple times, the part has slipped right into place, or I quickly find what was misplaced. Now, did God perform a miracle, or did that prayer calm my frustrations and allow me to complete the task? I don't know the answer, but I know that I'm supposed to give thanks.

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

Church Directory: Last Chance for Church Directory Photos – This Sunday (1/18)

This Sunday is the final scheduled opportunity to have your picture taken for our **free online church directory**.

Where:

Hallway behind the choir area in the sanctuary.

Please enter through the side doors on the parking lot side of the building, opposite the piano.

Times:

- 9:15–10:00 am
- After the service until 12:30 pm

Be sure to look in **next week's newsletter** for instructions on how to access the directory.

SAREPTA Commissioning Service: All church members are invited to attend.



The flyer has a dark blue background with a yellow torn-edge border at the bottom. At the top, the text "YOU'RE INVITED!" is in yellow, followed by "Commissioning SERVICE" in a large, stylized blue and white font. Below this, "New Associational Missions Strategist Pastor Chad Rising" is written in yellow. A central text box contains an invitation to all Sarepta church members, mentioning Pastor Chad, God's work in Sarepta's 227-year history, and the mission of 68 local Baptist churches. To the right is a portrait of Pastor Chad Rising, a man with grey hair and a beard, wearing a dark blue polo shirt with a "225 SAREPTA" logo. At the bottom, the date and time "JANUARY 25, 4 PM" are listed, along with the location "GREEN ACRES BAPTIST" and "REFRESHMENTS FOLLOWING SERVICE 5:15 PM". The SAREPTA logo and the slogan "Better Together - One Body, One Mission" are at the bottom left.

YOU'RE INVITED!

Commissioning
SERVICE

**New Associational Missions Strategist
Pastor Chad Rising**

All Sarepta church members are invited to participate in a service welcoming Pastor Chad, thanking God for what He has done in Sarepta's 227 year history and what He will do in our future together. As 68 local Baptist churches, we are indeed better together, with one body and one mission.

Please join us!

JANUARY 25, 4 PM
GREEN ACRES BAPTIST
REFRESHMENTS FOLLOWING SERVICE 5:15 PM

SAREPTA  **Better Together - One Body, One Mission**



FBC Jefferson Shirts and tumblers are for sale:



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, January 14th:

- 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, January 15th:

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

Sunday, January 18th:

- 10:00 am – Sunday School
- 11:00 am – Worship Service
- 5:00 pm – Deacons Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
- 5:30 pm – Student Gathering

Wednesday, January 21st:

- 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: 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: January 2026: Extra-Ordinary! - Inventors take ordinary objects and transform them into extraordinary innovations with some creativity and a lot of tinkering. But Jesus didn't need tools, blueprints, or a workshop to make extraordinary things happen. On the outside, Jesus may have seemed ordinary, but his life, actions, and love regularly defied expectations. He transformed ordinary people and situations, showing us what an extraordinary God can do.

Kids will learn: Jesus is one of a kind, Jesus is humble, Jesus trusted God, and Jesus calls us to follow.

MEMORY VERSE: "Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name." — Philippians 2:9 (NIV)

January 18, 2026: Jesus trusted God. (Jesus in the Wilderness: Luke 4:1–13; Psalm 40:1–4)

This week, kids learn how Jesus stayed true to God in the most extra-ordinary way in the wilderness. A new invention is pretty great, but it needs lots of testing and use before we're willing to completely trust it. This week, we'll see how Jesus was tested in the wilderness and stayed true to God despite all of the temptations around him. Even when his relationship with God was under pressure, Jesus trusted God, and he showed us that we can, too.



January Children in Action: Andrew Mann is the founding director of Graffiti 2 Community Ministries, a Send

Relief Center in New York. He is also the pastor of Graffiti 2 Baptist Church. Andrew and his wife, JoAnn minister to the community of Mott have, New York City, along with their team at Graffiti 2 Community Ministries.

Live Action Project: We will collect new **Gloves and Hats** for unhoused people in our community.

Badge: **Warm Hearts, Warm Hands**

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!



TOTAL RAISED AS OF DECEMBER 30, 2025: \$82,241.01

Help us reach our goal!



Make your additional contributions towards the bus fund today!



STILL NEEDED TO MEET OUR GOAL OF \$130,000: \$47,758.99

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:

January 14th – 6:00 pm – Adult II SS Classroom
January 21st – 6:00 pm – Adult II SS Classroom
January 28th – 6:00 pm – Adult II SS Classroom
February 4th – 6:00 pm – Adult II SS Classroom
February 11th – 6:00 pm – Adult II SS Classroom
February 18th – 6:00 pm – Adult II SS Classroom

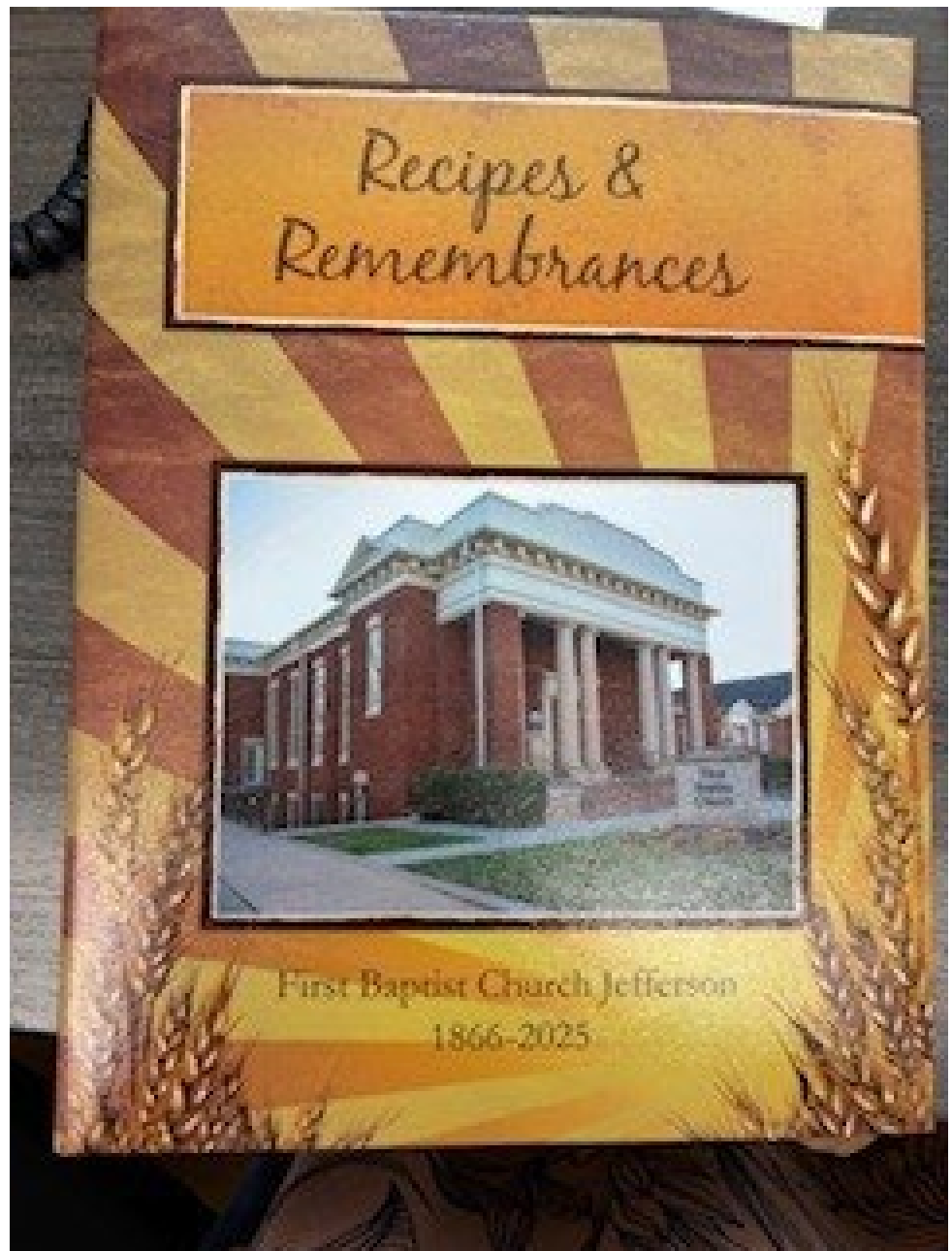
Get your name on the Connect Run/Walk Group email list – contact Barbara Gooch by email (bgooch02@yahoo.com).

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 to pick up your copy today. All proceeds of the cookbook go towards the church bus fund.

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.

Meals on Wheels: If you would like to help deliver on January 28th or any Wednesday in February, please let the church office or Barbara Gooch know! We are desperately looking for folks to help deliver in February!



Preschool:



YOU'RE INVITED! FBCJ PRESCHOOL TOUR DAY!

First Baptist Jefferson Preschool's half-day program has been a vital part of the community for over 45 years. Step inside our classrooms to see where young minds grow and flourish in God's love.

 **Date : Thursday, January 22nd**

 **Time : 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM**

 **Location: 246 Washington Street, Jefferson**
Entrance is located at the back of the church

- ✓ Meet our friendly teachers & directors
- ✓ Tour our classrooms & play areas
- ✓ View our Christian-based curriculum
- ✓ Connect with other families



 Questions? Contact us:
preschool@fbcjefferson.org
706-367-5226



ENROLLMENT FOR 2026/2027:

ONLINE ONLY- will open at 9:00 AM
JANUARY 27TH: CURRENT FAMILIES & FBCJ MEMBERS
FEBRUARY 3RD: NEW FAMILIES IN THE COMMUNITY

PROGRAM FEATURES:

- ✓ Half day program from 8:30–12:00 (Aug–May)
- ✓ Classes for 2.5 years - Prek5
- ✓ Abeka Christian curriculum
- ✓ Academic and play based learning
- ✓ Experienced teachers and staff

COMING SOON!

MORE INFORMATION:
<https://www.fbcjefferson.org/preschool/>
706-367-5226
preschool@fbcjefferson.org

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: MENU FOR JANUARY 14, 2026: Loaded Potato Soup, Club Wraps, 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.

Winter Coat Drive:



WINTER

Coat Drive

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. Receptacles are located around the church campus, including the church office.



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 January 11, 2026: Christopher Howard and Steve Ross

Week of January 18, 2026: Fred Gurley and Ken Hall

Opening and Closing: Melvin Porter

Greeters and Ushers: Jimmy & Barbara Gooch

NUMBERS FOR SUNDAY, JANUARY 11, 2026

- Sunday School Attendance: 105
- Worship Attendance: 153
- Nursery Attendance: 15
- WORSHIP TOTAL: 168
- Offering: \$

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.





January 14, 2026

Ongoing Prayer Concerns

Dean Andrews
Keith Ariail
Thomas Durrence
Jerry Elliott
Tom Fore
Harold Harbin
Vernell Hix

Ezra King
Jane Kinney
Joe & Donna Martin
Jimmy Mock
Diane Oliver
Connie Peebles
Bill Smith

Homebound, Assisted Living, Etc.

Dianne Brooks
Glenn Bullock
Dan Edgar
Fred Glass
Helen Gunnels
Tim Harris

Raye Dean Jackson
Eudene Johnson
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 & Leasie 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