



August 19, 2026

Sunday School is more than a place to gather before worship. Sunday School is one of the strongest and most important ministries in our church. At its best, it is one of the most important ministries of the church because it brings together two things every Christian needs: Bible study and fellowship.

We need the steady influence of God's Word in our lives. We also need relationships with other believers who know us, encourage us, pray for us, and walk alongside us through the joys and struggles of life. Sunday School provides a setting where both can happen week after week.

But a healthy Sunday School class does not belong only to the teacher. Every member should take ownership of the class as a ministry. That means noticing when someone is absent, welcoming a guest, praying for one another, reaching out during difficult seasons, celebrating together, and looking for people in our community who need the relationships and biblical encouragement our classes can provide.

Our classes are more than gatherings. They are communities of people studying God's Word, caring for one another, and inviting others to experience the love of Christ. Your Sunday School class matters. Take ownership of it. Invest in it. Invite someone into it. Together, let's keep our classes places where people grow in Christ and grow closer to one another.

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



FBC Jefferson Shirts and tumblers sale continues: If you have already ordered a shirt or cup, **they are ready for pickup** in the church office or by contacting Matt. If you would like a shirt but have not yet signed up, please use the link below to fill out the Google Form. There is a picture of the shirt on the form, and a ladies' cut of the shirt is available. The shirts are \$22 and can be paid for in the church office. If you signed up previously, there is no need to complete this form.

NOTE: Tumblers are still available for \$10 each! Call the church office for more information.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScJrNOVApjy0Qz61NnEhK0et3GrJltnJp3Svno2VpokD33ypQ/viewform>

Church Bus Fund Update – We're Almost There!

Praise God for His faithfulness and for the incredible generosity of our church family! Thanks to your faithful giving, we have now replenished more than \$108,600 of the funds used to purchase our church bus. We have less than \$23,000 remaining to reach our goal!

This bus is already making a difference by transporting children, students, and senior adults as they grow in their faith and serve others. Every gift helps us restore these ministry funds so they are available for future opportunities.

Would you prayerfully consider making a special gift to the Bus Fund? Together, we can cross the finish line and celebrate God's provision through the generosity of His people.

Help us reach our goal!



As of August 10, 2026:
\$108,657.63 Raised
ONLY \$22,642.37
needed to reach our
goal!



Make your additional contributions towards the bus fund today!

Amount Remaining to Reach Our Goal: \$22,342.37

Spark Conference:

A promotional poster for the Spark Conference Northeast Region. The background is dark grey with yellow wavy lines on the sides. The word 'SPARK' is in large, bold, white letters, with 'CONFERENCE' in smaller white letters below it. Below that, 'Mark Your Calendar' is written in a yellow script font. Underneath is 'Northeast Region' in a large, bold, white font. At the bottom, 'McConnell Memorial Baptist Church' and 'Hiawassee' are in yellow, followed by 'August 30, 2026' in yellow. A QR code is located on the left side, below the 'Mark Your Calendar' text.

SPARK
CONFERENCE

Mark Your Calendar

Northeast Region

McConnell Memorial Baptist Church
Hiawassee
August 30, 2026

Welcome: We are delighted to welcome David and Martha Keyes to the FBC Jefferson family! David and Martha come to us from Annistown Road Church in Snellville, Georgia. We are thankful God has led them to FBC Jefferson and look forward to worshiping, serving, and growing in faith together. Please join us in giving David and Martha a warm welcome!

WE NEED YOUR PICTURES! We want to showcase all the **AWESOME** things happening at FBC Jefferson on the front of our weekly bulletin—and we need your help! Whether it's a Sunday School class, ministry event, fellowship, mission project, or just a fun moment together, snap a few pictures while you're there! Our goal is to have fresh photos to share each week. Simply send your pictures to Karen at admin@fbcjefferson.org or text them to her. So pull out those phones, start snapping, and help us capture life at FBC Jefferson!



David & Martha Keyes

THIS WEEK IN THE CHURCH:

Wednesday, August 19th:

- 5:30 pm – Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal (Fellowship Hall)
- 6:00 pm – Wednesday Night Bible Study; Connect Run/Walk Group (Adult II SS Classroom); Choir (Choir Room); Summer Fun at the Treehouse (Ed Building); Student Bible Study (Student Center)

Sunday, August 23rd:

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

Tuesday, August 25th:

- 7:00 pm – College Gathering

Wednesday, August 26th:

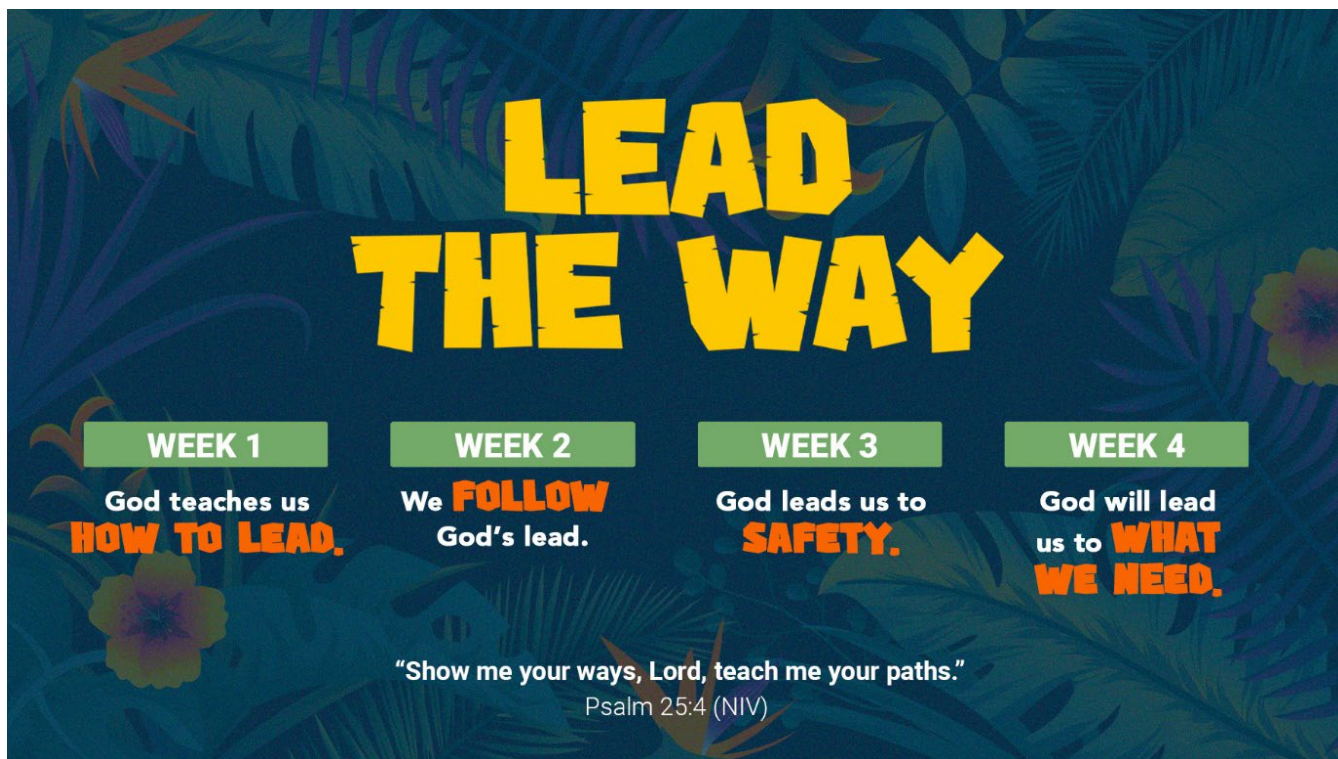
- 5:30 pm – Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal (Fellowship Hall)
- 6:00 pm – Wednesday Night Bible Study; Connect Run/Walk Group (Adult II SS Classroom); Choir (Choir Room); CiA (Children in Action) Kickoff (Ed Building); Student Bible Study (Student Center)

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.



August Sunday School: THEME: *Lead the Way*: In the jungle, every day is an unpredictable adventure! But to safely navigate the vines, animals, and tricky terrain, we'll need a guide to help lead us. This four-week series follows the life of Moses and his journey to leading the Israelites out of Egypt. Through his story, we'll discover how **God teaches us how to lead**, and learn how to **follow God's lead** as **God leads us to safety** and to **what we need**.

BIG IDEA: God will lead us to what we need.

BIBLE: Exodus 15:22-25, 16:1-16; Isaiah 41:17-20



MEMORY VERSE: "Show me your ways, Lord, teach me your paths." Psalm 25:4 (NIV)

THIS WEEK: This week, kids see how God provided food and water for the Israelites in the wilderness. Wandering in the wilderness is no joke—no snacks, no water, and tired feet! This week, the Israelites were hungry and unsure if they'd have what they needed to keep going. But God gave them clean water and bread from the sky. No matter how big or small our needs are, **God will lead us to what we need.**

Summer Fun at the Treehouse – Wednesday, August 19th at 6:00 pm - Make and Take Backpack Blessing Tags

Introducing Our New 2026 Children in Action Theme

MISSIONS EXPEDITIONS: SAFARI ADVENTURE



We are excited about missions discipleship this year as we gear up for an adventure exploring how God has chosen us to be part of His mission. We are especially eager to dig into this year's theme: **Mission Explorers!**

We will be focusing on four big ideas from the theme verse:

- 1 . God chooses us to carry out His mission. (*"I chose you."*)
- 2 . The Holy Spirit helps us look like Jesus. (*"go and produce fruit"*)
- 3 . We can pray boldly, like Jesus. (*"whatever you ask the Father in my name, he will give you."*)
- 4 . We can love like Jesus. (*"Love one another."*)

As we explore God's mission this year, children will learn about missionaries serving in diverse settings such as workplaces, churches, universities, prisons, and military bases. They'll learn how God is at work in places like Florida, Italy, California, East Asia, and beyond through missionaries sharing the gospel, planting churches, and caring for people in need. **Join us August 26th at 6:00 pm for our Children in Action Kick-Off! For ages 3 years to 5th Grade!**

College Ministry: Please prayerfully consider supporting our college students as they prepare to attend **Cross Conference (Cross Con)** in St. Louis, Missouri, over New Year's! On Sunday, September 13th, following the worship service, our college students will be serving smoked chicken quarter plates for \$12 each to help raise funds for their trip. **Tickets are available in advance from any college student, Josh, or by contacting the church office.** Enjoy a great meal while helping our college students take part in this meaningful opportunity!



Connect Run/Walk Group: Connect Run/Walk Group meets on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 pm. 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. Everyone in our church and community is invited. Perfect place to safely run/walk with others.

Connect Run/Walk Upcoming events:

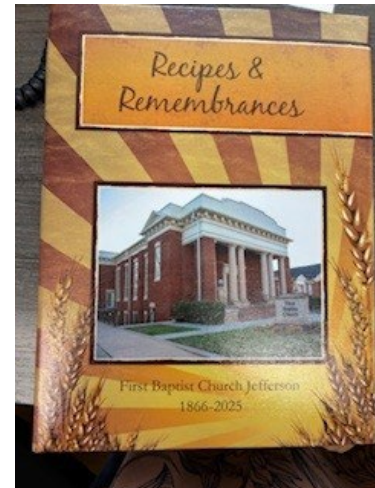
August 19th - 6:00 pm – Adult II SS Classroom

August 26th - 6:00 pm – Adult II SS Classroom

September 2nd - 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: Get your copy today before they are all gone – FOREVER! 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 go towards the church bus fund.



Faithful Followers: Our Faithful Followers Bible study will begin meeting again on Wednesday, September 2nd at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall.

Meal on Wheels: Schedule by month:

August: 24:15 SS Class

September: Adult II SS Class

If you or your Sunday School Class, women's circle, or civic organization would like to help deliver on Wednesdays, 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!

Men's Ministry: The Men's Ministry will begin having a Bible study on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 6:30 pm. The first meeting will be on Sep. 1st. We invite all men to come and enjoy this time of study and fellowship.

Student Ministry: Our student ministry meets on Sunday mornings at 10:00 am and Sunday afternoons from 5:30-7:00 pm, as well as 6:00 pm on Wednesday evenings for Bible Study, all open to 6th-12th graders. If you or your SS group would like to host the student ministry for an event, please let the church office know. For more information, contact Josh at 478-456-1382.

18th Annual Turkey CAN Run 5K: 🦃🏃 IT'S TURKEY CAN RUN TIME! 🏃🇺🇸



Get ready for the **18th Annual Turkey CAN Run 5K** this Thanksgiving morning, Thursday, November 26, 2026, beginning at 8:00 am!

Before the turkey, dressing, and pumpkin pie, come run or walk with us for a great cause. The Turkey CAN Run benefits the **FBC Jefferson Food Bank**, helping us provide food for individuals and families right here in our community.

Last year, we had over **1,300 registered participants** and collected more than **16,000 canned goods!** Let's make our 18th year even bigger! 🍂

And remember—you don't have to run to be part of the Turkey CAN Run! Members of FBC Jefferson are invited to support this important ministry through a **monetary donation**. Every gift, no matter the amount, helps our Food Bank continue serving those in need in our community.

-  Run it
-  Walk it
-  Volunteer
-  Donate canned goods
-  Make a monetary donation
-  Cheer on your friends and family!

There's a way for **everyone** to be part of the Turkey CAN Run! 🦃 Run with a purpose. Give with a purpose. Make a difference.

Wednesday Night Meal: MENU FOR AUGUST 19, 2026: Pulled Pork Sandwiches, Chips, Dessert, Drinks.

MENU FOR AUGUST 26, 2026: Club Sandwiches, Chips, Fruit, 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.

WMU Salad Supper: The WMU Salad Supper will be on Tuesday, September 8, 2026 at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Our speakers will be Brandon and Brianna Hawkins, missionaries to Taiwan. They have been in the US on furlough but will be leaving shortly to return to the mission field.

They have 2 daughters, Sarah and Madeline, and have family in the Hoschton area. They have visited our church several times. They will tell us about their work with the Taiwanese people. All ladies are invited to attend.

Deacons of the Week:

Week of August 16, 2026: Ken Hall and Fred Gurley

Week of August 23, 2026: Tom Emory and Brian Ferguson

Opening and Closing: Greg Laughinghouse

Greeters and Ushers: Greg Keith and Joey Blackstock

NUMBERS FOR SUNDAY, AUGUST 16, 2026

- Sunday School Attendance: 117
- Worship Attendance: 157
- Nursery Attendance: 9
- WORSHIP TOTAL: 166
- Offering: \$7,192.75

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.





August 19, 2026

Ongoing Prayer Concerns

Dean Andrews
Diane Ariail
Tom Fore

Ezra King
Jane Kinney
Nancy McGhee

Homebound, Assisted Living, Etc.

Dianne Brooks
Glenn Bullock
Dan Edgar
Fred Glass
Tim Harris

Raye Dean Jackson
Eudene Johnson
Jack Purcell
Raynelle Sims
Helen Whitlock

Friends & Family

Alex Farmer (Sandra Farmer's son)

Barry Farmer (Sandra Farmer's husband)

Additional Requests

Our Ministry Team and Their Families
Our Church-sponsored Missionaries
All US Veterans
Our Church Leadership & Staff