

DECEMBER 2025

BEACON

WE LEAD PEOPLE INTO LIFE-GIVING RELATIONSHIPS
WITH CHRIST AND EACH OTHER.

Dear *Church,*

As we step into Advent, we begin a new sermon series: *God in the Chaos*. Advent tells the truth about God's character. God doesn't wait for the world to be tidy before showing up. God comes right into the thick of it all ... the overbooked calendars, the broken systems, the hurting hearts. Wherever we find ourselves and our world in this season, God brings hope, peace, joy, and love. And maybe that's why an invitation matters so much in this season. In a messy, heartbreaking world, your simple "come with me" can be a lifeline.

Research says 82% of people would attend worship if invited by someone they know. That number amazes me, but it also nudges me. It means your courage to extend an invitation can help someone discover that God meets us in real life, not the cleaned-up version we wish we had. As you look at our Advent services, cantata, and events, think about who around you might need a reminder that God shows up in the chaos.

This season also leans heavily on generosity. December giving helps us finish the year strong, supports our worship and ministries to all ages, keeps our building warm and welcoming, and fuels mission partners who are doing beautiful, gritty work in our community and around the world. Our fourth quarter is always our strongest thanks to your steady, faithful, and generous giving.

So as we light candles and sing familiar songs, may we open our hearts to the God who steps into our world as it is. Christ is coming—small, brilliant, and full of grace. The world may feel chaotic, but let's not forget what our Creator God can do with chaos! Hallelujah and Amen.

Pastor Melissa

UPCOMING

DEC 1

JC Room at the Inn opens

DEC 6

Crochet & Coffee, 9-11 a.m.,
Refuge Room (2nd Fl)

DEC 7

Soups, Sweaters, & Songs,
11:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall

DEC 14

Christmas Cantata, 9 a.m.
Special Called Business
Meeting, 11:30 a.m.

DEC 24

Christmas Eve Candlelight
Communion Service, 6 p.m.

DEC 28

Sabbath Sunday - No worship
or Bible Teaching classes

ADVENT 2025

November 30

Hope in the Chaos
Matthew 24:36–44

December 7 - Presenting Our Gifts

Peace in the Chaos
Isaiah 11:1-10
Soups, Sweaters, & Songs
fundraiser for Youth, 11:30 a.m.

December 14

Adult Christmas Cantata

December 21

Love in the Chaos
Matthew 1:18–25

December 24

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
6:00 p.m.

December 28

Sabbath Sunday
No Bible Teaching or Worship Services

Our Advent devotions will begin Sunday, November 30. If you do not receive them via email but would like to, contact Mary Huhn at mary@fbcjc.org. We will not have printed books this year due to the high printing costs.



In a world that feels chaotic and unsteady, Advent proclaims the stubborn, unshakable truth: God is with us — in the mess, the questions, the waiting, and the wonder. Advent reminds us that God doesn't wait for the world to be perfect before showing up. God enters into real human mess—chaotic schedules, broken systems, hurting hearts—and brings hope, peace, joy, and love right there. In the chaos, we meet Emmanuel: God with us.

THE CHRISTMAS MAILBOX HAS RETIRED | The Christmas Mailbox has served our church family well for many years. It began as a creative way to share Christmas cards while supporting the Offering for Global Missions. Over the last few years, though, fewer cards have been shared, and even fewer donations have been given, leaving our staff with a big January task of tracking down and delivering unclaimed mail. We've spent more on this task than we've received for missions. After much reflection, we believe it's time to let this tradition rest. If you'd like to exchange cards, feel free to do so within your Bible Teaching classes or departments, or simply use the regular mail. We're grateful for the many years this practice has blessed our church family.

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:00 am | WORSHIP
10:15 am | BIBLE STUDY
GROUPS

Join us in person or online at
facebook.com/fbcjc or
youtube.com/fbcjc

MUSIC REHEARSALS

Wednesdays; Sanctuary
Orchestra 5:20–6:00 p.m.
Choir 6:00–7:00 p.m.
Praise Team 7:15–8:00 p.m.

Contact Alice Satterfield,
Interim Worship Leader, at
alice@fbcjc.org.

ONLINE WORSHIP & PODCAST

For recordings, check out these options.

- Church Center App
- [Youtube.com/fbcjc](https://youtube.com/fbcjc)
- [Facebook.com/fbcjc](https://facebook.com/fbcjc)
- Podcasts - Search "First Baptist Jefferson City, Missouri" on your favorite streaming service.

UPCOMING

CROCHET & coffee

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6
9-11 a.m.
REFUGE ROOM (2nd Floor)

NEW & EXPERIENCED CRAFTERS OF ALL AGES WELCOME. WE'LL HAVE EXTRA HOOKS, YARN, AND TEACHERS AVAILABLE.

ENJOY SOME COFFEE, PASTRIES, AND CONVERSATION.



PRESENTING OUR GIFTS December 7

BRING ONE

- New, unwrapped toy or children's book
- Non-perishable food items
- Cash/Checks to benefit Global Missions



PARENTS NIGHT OUT

December 12
5:30 - 8:30 p.m.
KIDS Birth - Grade 5

Register by December 5
fbcjc.org/events

Crafts, Snacks, Movie
Enter Door 6 (Fellowship Hall)
Check In/Pick Up Preschool Center

REFUGE YOUTH INVITE YOU TO

soups, Sweaters, & SONGS

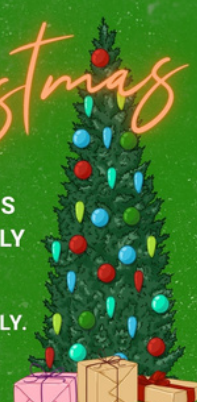
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7
11:30 AM



SOUTH SCHOOL Christmas

- DONATE NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS
- ADOPT A FAMILY AS A CLASS OR FAMILY TO PROVIDE REQUESTED TOYS

CONTACT CHERRI WILLIAMS TO ADOPT A FAMILY. BRING NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS TO THE LOBBY OR CHURCH OFFICE.





OUR GOAL

\$4,000

Offering for GLOBAL MISSIONS



Give online at fbcjc.org/give and select Global Missions, or mail or drop your check by the church office or the offering boxes with a note "Global Missions."



SYMPATHY

Family and friends of **Ray Mabury**

Family and friends of **Shirley Sankpill**

Joyce Knowles in the death of her sister

Gale Schaffner in the death of her brother

Gayla Steenberg in the death of her brother

Carolyn Vargas and family in the death of her brother.



RESERVED PARKING

Mike and Carol Craighead

purchased the Lead Pastor's parking spot for Sundays this month. Thanks for your generous donation to the Youth Mission Trip.



PRAYER REQUESTS

If you have prayer requests, contact the office or visit our website to submit a request.

UPCOMING EVENTS

WEDNESDAYS @ FBC JC

5:20 - 6:00 p.m. | Orchestra Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
6:00 - 8:00 p.m. | Pickleball (Gym)
6:00 - 7:00 p.m. | First Friends (3rd Floor Preschool)
6:00 - 7:00 p.m. | First Kids (2nd Floor)
6:00 - 7:00 p.m. | MIDWEEK, Grades 6-8 (2nd Floor)
6:00 - 7:00 p.m. | Adult Book Study (Room 326)
6:00 - 7:00 p.m. | Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
7:15 - 8:00 p.m. | Praise Team Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
7:30 - 9:00 p.m. | MIDWEEK, Grades 9-12 (2nd Floor)

NOTE:

No Wednesday activities on December 24 and 31 due to the holidays.

NEW MEMBERS



Welcome
Xavier
Jordan!

PICKLEBALL

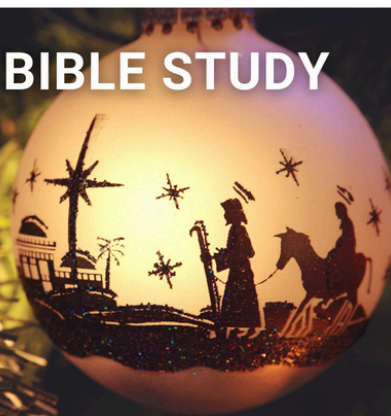
WEDNESDAYS | 6 - 8 PM
FBC GYM
COME & GO
ALL SKILL LEVELS



WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

The WONDER of
Christmas

6:00 - 7:00 P.M.
Room 326
Dec 3, 10, & 17.



CONGREGATIONAL CARE | For care situations on the weekends or after 5:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday, call or text: 573.400.4142. A Care Team member from the church will respond to your call or text as they are able.

CONNECT WITH US

 573.634.3603	Stan Farmer Church Administrator stan@fbcjc.org	Mark and Kailey Leesman Interim Youth Ministers mark@fbcjc.org	Dani Schmidbauer Accountant dani@fbcjc.org
 fbcjc.org	Preston Feeler Interim Praise Team Leader	Rev. Jeanie McGowan Associate Pastor of Engagement jeanie@fbcjc.org	Robin Stull Maintenance Supervisor robin@fbcjc.org
 youtube.com/fbcjc	Rev. Melissa Hatfield Lead Pastor melissa@fbcjc.org	Alice Satterfield Interim Worship Leader & Administrative Assistant alice@fbcjc.org	
 info@fbcjc.org	Mary Huhn Administrative Assistant mary@fbcjc.org		
 facebook.com/fbcjc			
 @fbcjcmo			



MISSIONS

Each Advent, we collect an offering to support the Offering for Global Missions (OGM) through the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, our ministry partner.



100% of the OGM funds the long-term presence of CBF field personnel, like those pictured above. This covers the costs of field personnel and their families to live full and healthy lives in their place of service, including their salaries, benefits, housing, and children's educational needs. Field personnel raise their support for programming from within their circles of influence. Some field personnel also partner with specific churches that meet some of their programming needs. These gifts to field personnel projects and ministries do not fund their long-term presence (i.e., salary, benefits, housing.) The OGM funds their presence.

CBF's goal is \$3 million, which will support the presence of current CBF field personnel in the US and around the world.

Our goal for FBC JC is \$4,000. Will you help us reach our goal?

1. Give online at fbcjc.org/give and select the "Offering for Global Missions" fund.
2. Please place cash or a check in the offering boxes in the sanctuary. On the check or envelope with your money, please note "OGM."
3. Mail your cash or check with a note for "OGM" to the church office.

SHELTER FOR UNHOUSED OPENS DECEMBER 1

During these cold winter months, there is room for 20 adults in the Jefferson City Room at the Inn (JCRATI). Located on the upper level of our gym, JCRATI will operate daily from 5:30 p.m. to 7 a.m. beginning December 1, 2025. They will remain open through the first part of March 2026.

To learn more and to sign up to volunteer, visit fbcjc.org.



2026 KENYA MISSION TRIP

- May 31 - June 10, 2026
- Cost: \$2,500 estimate (does not include passport, immunizations, souvenirs, or airport meals)
- A \$1,000 deposit is due by January 31, 2026.
- Register and pay at fbcjc.org/events.
- Contact Rand Swanigan or Melissa Hatfield with questions.



KIDS

BIRTH - GRADE 5

SUNDAYS FOR KIDS

Children in grades K-5 gather in Room 203 at 10:15 a.m. for games and snacks before heading to their classes. K-2 meets in Room 201. Grades 3-5 meet in Room 204. Bible Teaching groups meet from 10:15 to 11:15 a.m. each Sunday.

Extended Care during worship is available for children ages birth to kindergarten on Sundays from 8:30 a.m. until Sunday school ends at 11:15 a.m.

WEDNESDAYS FOR KIDS | 6:00 - 7:00 P.M.

First Friends is for preschool children and meets in the 3rd-floor preschool room. They enjoy music time, games, and mission activities with teachers Christina Hudson and Camille McClelland.

First Kids meets on the 2nd floor, Rooms 202 and 203, with Mande Carney, Jeff Feeler, and Teresa Stull.



FIRST BAPTIST DOWNTOWN

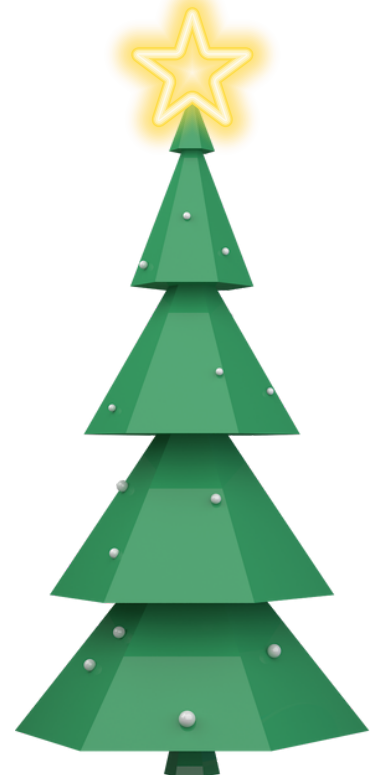
PARENTS NIGHT OUT

December 12
5:30 - 8:30 p.m.
KIDS Birth - Grade 5



Register by December 5
fbcjc.org/events

Crafts, Snacks, Movie
 Enter Door 6 (Fellowship Hall)
 Check In/Pick Up Preschool Center





YOUTH

GRADES 6 - 12

SOUPS, SWEATERS & SONGS REMINDERS

Sunday, December 7 - FELLOWSHIP HALL

All money raised will help bring down the cost of the trip for our youth.

SCHEDULE

- 10:00 a.m. – Youth set up & decorate
- 11:15 a.m. – Greet Guests
- 11:30 a.m. – Event
- 1:00 p.m. – Clean-up!

WHAT WE NEED FROM YOU

- Wear your favorite Christmas attire.
- Participate in entertainment during lunch (group singing and individual acts.)
- Bring items to decorate a table.
(It does not have to be Christmas décor)
- Arrive in Fellowship Hall after service (10:00) to set up.
- Help serve and greet our guests.
- Come with some Christmas spirit.

MIDWEEK ON WEDNESDAYS

MIDWEEK: Games, Worship, Small Groups

Grades 6-8 | 6:00 - 7:00 pm

Grades 9-12 | 7:30 - 9:00 pm

SAVE THESE DATES

Dec 7 - Mission Trip Fundraiser

Dec 17 - Christmas Party

Dec 24 & Dec 31 - No Midweek

Jan 25 - Youth Sunday

SUNDAYS | 10:15-11:15 am

Every Sunday, we dig deep into God's word and grow in our faith.

*Sign up to bring 3-dozen donuts for
Basecamp 10:15 a.m. Sundays*

CONNECT WITH US

TEXT UPDATES

Text RefugeJC to 573.606.4123



refugejc



refugejc.com



mark@fbcjc.org



REFUGE CHRISTMAS PARTY

Wednesday, December 17th

Join us for a festive Refuge Christmas Party as we celebrate the season together

- Enjoy a variety of holiday snacks and treats
- Take part in fun Christmas games and activities
- Come ready for laughter, fellowship, and festive cheer!



SENIOR ADULTS

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Friendship Club returns in January 2026.

It meets on the fourth Monday of each month from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

All adults ages 60+ are invited to join us!

HOMEBOUND BIRTHDAYS

Joyce Phillips (12/3)
Ann Colter (12/5)
Marilyn Barnard (12/10)
Norma Braucksieker (12/15)

Reta McDonald (12/17)
Pat Bly (12/19)
Alice Holman (12/27)
Rae McKinney (12/28)

SEND A CARD!
Our Homebound members love to receive cards! If you'd like to send a birthday card, contact Mary at mary@fbcjc.org or 573.634.3603 for addresses.

YEAR-END GIVING

You may bring gifts to the office by Noon on December 31, give them through the app or online @ <https://www.fbcjc.org/give>, or mail them. All end-of-year gifts and offerings must be postmarked by December 31. Likewise, all online gifts should be dated by December 31. The church office will close at noon on Wednesday, December 31. A change in the tax code for 2025 may result in you being able to deduct gifts up to a limit, even if you do not itemize your expenses on your tax return. Please call your tax advisor if you have questions.

WAYS TO GIVE TO FBC JC

www.fbcjc.org/give



In the App



301 E. Capitol Avenue
Jefferson City, MO 65101



On Sundays in the Offering Boxes



ATTENDANCE

	Bible Teaching Attendance	In Person Worship Only
Nov 2	150	240
Nov 9	127	219
Nov 16*	190	259
Nov 23	141	226
Nov 30	NA	NA

*Includes 57 on youth retreat

REVENUE & EXPENSES

	2025		2024		Increase (Decrease)	
	October	Year to Date	October	Year to Date	October	Year to Date
Tithes & Offerings	\$123,988	\$854,385	\$64,529	\$927,515	\$59,459	(\$73,130)
Other Revenue	(\$1,502)	\$115,879	\$7,367	\$128,653	(\$8,869)	(\$12,774)
Total Revenue	\$122,486	\$970,264	\$71,896	\$1,056,168	\$50,590	(\$85,904)
Total Expenses	\$96,291	\$1,037,618	\$98,026	\$1,140,395	(\$1,735)	(\$102,777)
Net Operating Total	\$26,195	(\$67,354)	(\$26,130)	(\$84,227)		