

FEBRUARY 2026

# BEACON

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

Dear *Church*,

I'm writing this from home, where it is negative three outside and six inches of snow cover the ground and streets. It hasn't been much of a winter until now, at least according to the forecast. But some winters don't show up on weather apps. They show up in tired bones, heavy hearts, and the ache of trying to make sense of a world that feels frayed at the edges.

That's why I've been grateful for our sermon series, *Light in the Long Winter*, which concludes this month. It has helped me practice noticing the light that shows up anyway. Not the dramatic, everything-is-fixed kind of light, but the quieter kind that doesn't erase or deny the darkness but refuses to let it have the last word.

And honestly, that's what Lent feels like to me: a chance to tell the truth about what hurts, what's empty, and what we're hungry for, and find Jesus meets us right there.

On Wednesday, February 18, we will gather for our 6:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday service as we begin our Lenten journey together. Our theme this year is *Bread of Life*. Jesus fed people wherever he went. Sometimes with bread. Sometimes with mercy, forgiveness, stories, and second chances. People didn't leave him perfect. They left him a little more alive. Lent isn't about getting your spiritual act together. It's about making room. Room to notice what we're hungry for. Room to receive what Christ offers. Room to become people who share that life with others.

I hope you'll join us fully in this season. Sign up for our daily devotions. Come to our Wednesday night small group. Worship with us on Sundays. Begin with Ash Wednesday. And save April 2 at 7:00 p.m. for our Maundy Thursday service. You can find more details on page 2. Let's join Jesus at the table, hungry and ready to be fed.

*Pastor Melissa*

## UPCOMING

### FEB 8

Youth Sunday, 9:00 a.m.

### FEB 10

Lunch & Learn, 12:15-12:45 p.m. Fellowship Hall

### FEB 16

Office Closed for Holiday

### FEB 18

Ash Wednesday Service  
6:00 p.m. Sanctuary

### FEB 22

Quarterly Business Meeting  
11:30 a.m. Sanctuary

### FEB 28

Crochet & Coffee  
9:00 - 11:00 a.m. Refuge Room

# SUNDAYS

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## February 1

Light That Shapes Us

Matthew 5:1-12

Rev. Melissa Hatfield

## February 8

Youth Sunday

## February 15

Light That Transfigures

Luke 9:28-36

Rev. Melissa Hatfield

## Light *in the* Long Winter



## SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:00 am | WORSHIP

10:15 am | BIBLE STUDY GROUPS

Join us in person or online at

[facebook.com/fbcjc](https://facebook.com/fbcjc) or

[youtube.com/fbcjc](https://youtube.com/fbcjc)

# LENT

## ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

Wednesday, February 18

6:00 p.m. Sanctuary

Worship, Reflection, Stations,

Imposition of Ashes

## Sunday, Feb 22 – Lent 1

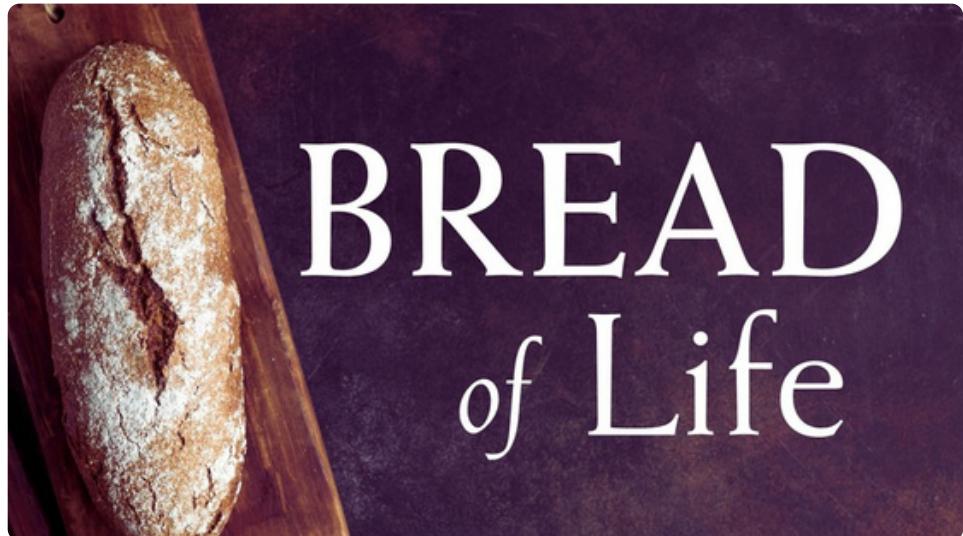
Bread of Life

John 6:25-40

## Sunday, March 1 – Lent 2

Bread for Growth

Luke 13:18-21



Our Lenten theme, Bread of Life, highlights how Jesus fed people—not just their bodies but also their souls—with good news, stories of redemption, and parables that showed the way of God's kingdom. From wedding feasts to eating with tax collectors to feeding thousands, people left Jesus' presence with full hearts and bellies. A gift Jesus gives freely so we may give to others.

## LENTEN DEVOTIONS

Lenten devotions will be sent via email beginning

Wednesday, Feb 18, through Easter Sunday.

We hope the words written by our church family will invite you to enter the season of Lent in deeper and more reflective ways as we journey together toward Holy Week.

Text *devotions* to 573.400.4142 to sign up for our daily devotions.

## LENTEN BIBLE STUDIES

Wednesdays, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. or Thursdays, 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Begins Feb 25 and Feb 26

Room 326 | Leader: Sondra Allen

Topic: *The Last Supper: Conversations that Led to the Cross* by Will Willimon. This Lenten season, gather at the table with Jesus and his disciples to experience the journey from Palm Sunday to the cross through the stories that prepared the way. Willimon's accessible yet profound insights will transform how you understand both the Last Supper and your own place at Christ's table.

# UPCOMING

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## ROBIN STULL RETIREMENT CELEBRATION

After 35 years of service as our Maintenance Director, Robin Stull has announced his retirement. His last day of employment will be the end of April. We will honor Robin and Teresa in our service on Sunday, April 19, followed by a brunch reception at 10:15 a.m. during the Bible Teaching hour. Mark your calendar. More information coming later.

## LUNCH & LEARNS: CONVERSATIONS ON HOMELESSNESS

As part of our Keys to Hope initiative to address housing insecurity in our community, FBC JC is hosting free conversations for anyone in our church and community interested in learning more about homelessness in Jefferson City. These events will be held on the second Tuesday of February, March, and April 2026.

The February presenter is the Salvation Army Center for Hope on Tuesday, February 10.

We meet in the Fellowship Hall at First Baptist Church (3rd Floor) from 12:15-12:45 p.m. Feel free to bring your lunch if you'd like! We will provide drinks and desserts.

## CREATION CARE TEAM

The Creation Care Team will meet next on Sunday, March 8, at 11:30 a.m. in Room 326. All are welcome who are interested in efforts to better care for God's creation. You can join the group via our church app or online at [fbcjc.org/groups](http://fbcjc.org/groups).



SYMPATHY

Art McGeorge and family in the death of his dad



RESERVED  
PARKING



PRAYER  
REQUESTS

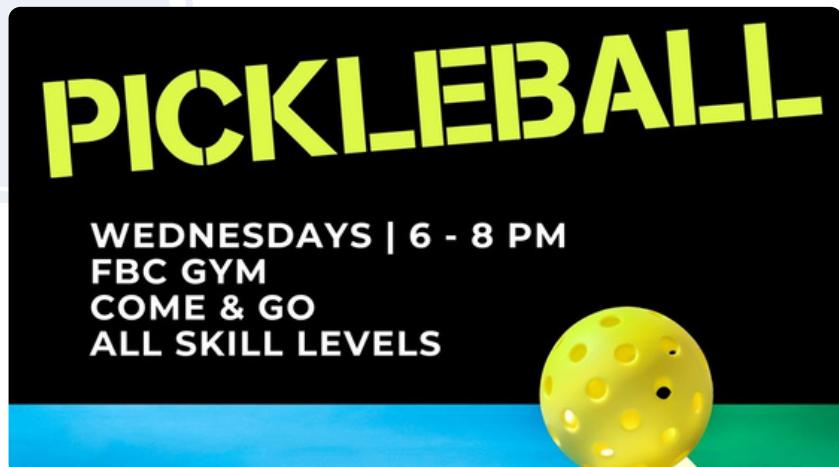
Art and Beth McGeorge purchased the Lead Pastor's parking spot for Sundays this month. Thanks for your generous donation to the Youth Mission Trip.

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

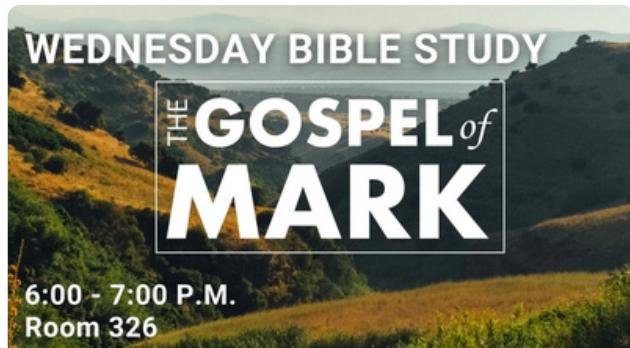
# WEDNESDAYS —

## 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)



## BIBLE STUDY —



Sondra Allen will continue the study on *The Gospel of Mark* through Wednesday, February 18. After Ash Wednesday, the group will begin with our Lenten Study, *The Last Supper*, by Will Willimon.

Join other adults for this study, which includes a video study, group discussion, and teacher instruction.

Join us in Room 326 (Blue Wing, just inside Door 3)

**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	<b>Stan Farmer</b> Church Administrator <a href="mailto:stan@fbcjc.org">stan@fbcjc.org</a>	<b>Mark Leesman</b> Director Youth & Facilities <a href="mailto:mark@fbcjc.org">mark@fbcjc.org</a>	<b>Alice Satterfield</b> <b>Interim Worship Leader &amp; Administrative Assistant</b> <a href="mailto:alice@fbcjc.org">alice@fbcjc.org</a>
<a href="http://fbcjc.org">fbcjc.org</a>	<b>Preston Feeler</b> Interim Praise Team Leader	<b>Rev. Jeanie McGowan</b> Associate Pastor of Engagement <a href="mailto:jeanie@fbcjc.org">jeanie@fbcjc.org</a>	<b>Dani Schmidbauer</b> Accountant <a href="mailto:dani@fbcjc.org">dani@fbcjc.org</a>
<a href="http://youtube.com/fbcjc">youtube.com/fbcjc</a>	<b>Rev. Melissa Hatfield</b> Lead Pastor <a href="mailto:melissa@fbcjc.org">melissa@fbcjc.org</a>	<b>Ally Rose</b> Preschool Coordinator <a href="mailto:preschool@fbcjc.org">preschool@fbcjc.org</a>	<b>Robin Stull</b> Maintenance Supervisor <a href="mailto:robin@fbcjc.org">robin@fbcjc.org</a>
<a href="mailto:info@fbcjc.org">info@fbcjc.org</a>			
<a href="http://facebook.com/fbcjc">facebook.com/fbcjc</a>			
@fbcjcmo	<b>Mary Huhn</b> Administrative Assistant <a href="mailto:mary@fbcjc.org">mary@fbcjc.org</a>		



# MISSIONS

## SERVING GENEROUSLY THROUGH LOCAL MISSIONS

Last year, FBC launched an ambitious three-year partnership with two local programs, Transformational Housing and Housing the Community Jefferson City. In addition, FBC regularly provides support to Common Ground through the monthly benevolence donations. Let's take a look at the progress that each of these organizations is making to combat homelessness and housing instability.

**Transformational Housing is growing.** In addition to the five Cherry St apartments, six units are now ready at 1112 E McCarty. One family has moved in, and the selection process is underway with additional families. Demolition of a dilapidated building at 101 Jackson is complete, making way for new construction to begin in late February. Progress has created a need for personnel. Two job openings have been announced. The Family Support Manager is a part-time position that requires a social work or related degree and experience in case management. The Program Administrator position will be responsible for internal and external communication. It requires proficiency with computers, strong writing, and organizational skills. Interested persons can submit a cover letter and resume to [info@transformationalhousing.org](mailto:info@transformationalhousing.org). Volunteers will be needed soon for the construction of the new apartment building. Join our Transformational Housing Group in the Church Center App for notices on volunteer opportunities.

**Housing the Community of Jefferson City** is the “parent organization” for Room at the Inn and Project Homeless Connect. JCRATI completed the first month with an average of just under 20 guests per night (maximum capacity is 20). A policy to accept reservations for the night following a stay has dramatically reduced the early waitlist, and so far, 66 unique guests have been served. Volunteers generously donate time, and approximately \$6,000 of in-kind donations have kept needed supplies on hand. Volunteers are still needed daily for JCRATI. Sign up at [fbcjc.org/jcrati](http://fbcjc.org/jcrati). If you would like to shadow Pastor Melissa Hatfield on one of her regular shifts to learn more about JCRATI, contact the church office.

**Common Ground** receives a large portion of the FBC benevolence offering. The quarterly report provides a snapshot of how contributions benefit community members. Distributions in the 4th quarter of 2025 are as follows: 31 Birth certificates or IDs; 60 bus passes; 15 gasoline vouchers; 7 furniture vouchers; 86 rental assistance; 126 households received utility assistance. FBC provides 2 people each Wednesday to man the front desk. To volunteer or observe, contact Steve Whitlock or Marlene Medin.

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. through the first part of March 2026.

**FEBRUARY 22 is FBC JC week! Let's cover as many volunteer openings as possible from 2/22 - 3/1!**

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

WORK A SHIFT  
BRING A MEAL  
PURCHASE SUPPLIES

[FBCJC.ORG/JCRATI](http://fbcjc.org/jcrati)  
FOR INFO AND  
SIGN-UP LINKS.





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 Mandee Carney, Jeff Feeler, and Teresa Stull.

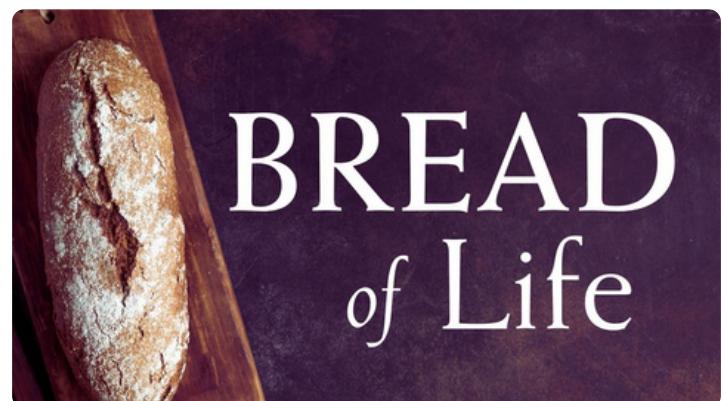


## LENT RESOURCE FOR FAMILIES

As we journey through Lent, from the wilderness to the shorelines of Galilee, we will find the sacred in the ordinary—like bread, simple yet essential. Bread of Life, highlights how Jesus fed people—not just their bodies but their souls—with good news, redemption, and stories of God's kingdom. From wedding feasts to eating with tax collectors to feeding thousands, people left Jesus' presence with full hearts and bellies.

Each family packet includes a weekly:

- Scripture
- Reflection Questions
- Discussion
- Family Memory-Making Activity
- Prayer
- There is also an audio version of the reflection, questions, and prayer for busy families on the go!



If you'd like a Lent Families Packet, contact [mary@fbcjc.org](mailto:mary@fbcjc.org).



# YOUTH

GRADES 6 - 12

## MIDWEEK ON WEDNESDAYS

### FEBRUARY MIDWEEK SCHEDULE

- February 4 - Heather Feeler, Speaker
- February 11 - GAME NIGHT (GYM)
- February 18 - Ash Wednesday. No middle school Midweek. Instead, join the church at 6 p.m. in the sanctuary for our Ash Wednesday service, as the season of Lent begins. High School meets at 7:30 p.m.
- February 25 - Mark Leesman, Speaker

Games, Worship, Small Groups  
Grades 6-8 | 6:00 - 7:00 pm  
Grades 9-12 | 7:30 - 9:00 pm

### CONNECT WITH US

#### TEXT UPDATES

Text RefugeJC to 573.606.4123



refugejc



refugejc.com



mark@fbcjc.org



### YOUTH SUNDAY

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8 | 9:00 A.M.



SAVE  
THE DATE

### DNOW 2026

March 13 - 15

DETAILS AND REGISTRATION  
COMING SOON!

### SAVE THESE DATES

Feb 8 - Youth Sunday

March 13-15 - DNOW Weekend

May 3 - Senior 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



# SENIOR ADULTS 60+

## FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Monday, February 23  
11:30 am – 1:00 pm  
Fellowship Hall

**Program:** Missouri Governor's Mansion program with special guests.

Lunch Provided Free:  
Catered by Annie's  
Chicken or Roast Beef  
Mashed potatoes and gravy  
Green beans  
Garden Salad  
Rolls  
Dessert

## FRIENDSHIP SINGERS

Rehearsals on Mondays:  
February 2  
February 9  
February 23

Rehearsals begin at 10 am in the choir room at FBC.

New members ages 60+ are welcome!

## HOMEBOUND BIRTHDAYS

**Joyce Knowles (2/4)**  
**Peggy Brink (2/28)**

### 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](mailto:mary@fbcjc.org) or 573.634.3603 for addresses.

## WAYS TO GIVE TO FBC JC

[www.fbcjc.org/give](http://www.fbcjc.org/give)



In the App



301 E. Capitol Avenue  
Jefferson City, MO 65101



On Sundays in the Offering Boxes



Give

## ATTENDANCE

	Bible Teaching Attendance	In Person Worship Only
Jan 4	150	209
Jan 11	169	223
Jan 18	126	198
Jan 25	SNOW	SNOW

## REVENUE & EXPENSES

	2025		2024		Increase (Decrease)	
	December	Year to Date	December	Year to Date	December	Year to Date
Tithes & Offerings	\$155,253	\$1,092,315	\$148,159	\$1,176,094	\$7,094	(\$83,779)
Other Revenue	\$8,000	\$138,792	\$6,719	\$138,775	\$1,281	\$17
Total Revenue	\$163,253	\$1,231,107	\$154,878	\$1,314,869	\$8,375	(\$83,762)
Total Expenses	\$100,876	\$1,274,478	\$121,465	\$1,351,650	(\$20,589)	(\$77,172)
Net Operating Total	\$62,377	(\$43,371)	\$33,413	(\$36,781)		

