

MARCH 2026

BEACON

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

Dear *Church,*

I read a study that said nearly 80 percent of people who are not connected to a church say they would consider attending if a friend invited them. Eighty percent. An invitation ranked higher for going to church over worship style or sermon quality. People are most likely to step into a church for the first time or after a long time because someone they trust looked at them and said, "Would you come with me?"

An invitation is quiet and ordinary. And it carries more power than we like to admit.

Most of us are here because someone once invited us. A parent who made it part of the rhythm of life. A friend who said, "Come sit with me. I'll save you a seat." A co-worker who invited you to visit after your new move to Jefferson City. That simple act of human courage changed the trajectory of our lives.

March is a month when the days stretch a little longer, and we begin to believe in warmth again. It's also a good season to open the door wider.

Invite someone to worship. Invite them to a small group. Invite them to pickleball, Crochet & Coffee, a Lunch & Learn, Maundy Thursday, or, yes, Easter Sunday.

Research tells us what we already know in our bones. People stay where they are known. Programs matter, but relationships are what hold. Welcoming warmly is a non-negotiable part of our discipleship.

Our mission is to **lead people into life-giving relationships with Christ and with one another**. Most often, that begins with three simple words: "Come with me." You never know what holy ground might be waiting on the other side of your invitation.

Pastor Melissa

UPCOMING

MARCH 10

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

MARCH 13-15

Youth DNOW Weekend

MARCH 21

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

MARCH 29

Palm Sunday
9:00 a.m. Worship
10:15 a.m. Small Groups
11:15 a.m. Donkey Processional
at First Christian Church

APRIL 2

Maundy Thursday Service
7:00 p.m. Sanctuary



LENT

Sunday, March 1 – Lent 2

Bread for Growth

Luke 13:18–21

Sunday, March 8 – Lent 3

Bread for Each Day

Matthew 6:9-13

Sunday, March 15 – Lent 4

Bread for Sharing

Luke 14:7-14

Sunday, March 22 – Lent 5

Bread for Community

Luke 19:1-10

Guest Preacher: Cara Harrington

Sunday, March 29 – Palm Sunday

Bread for the Road

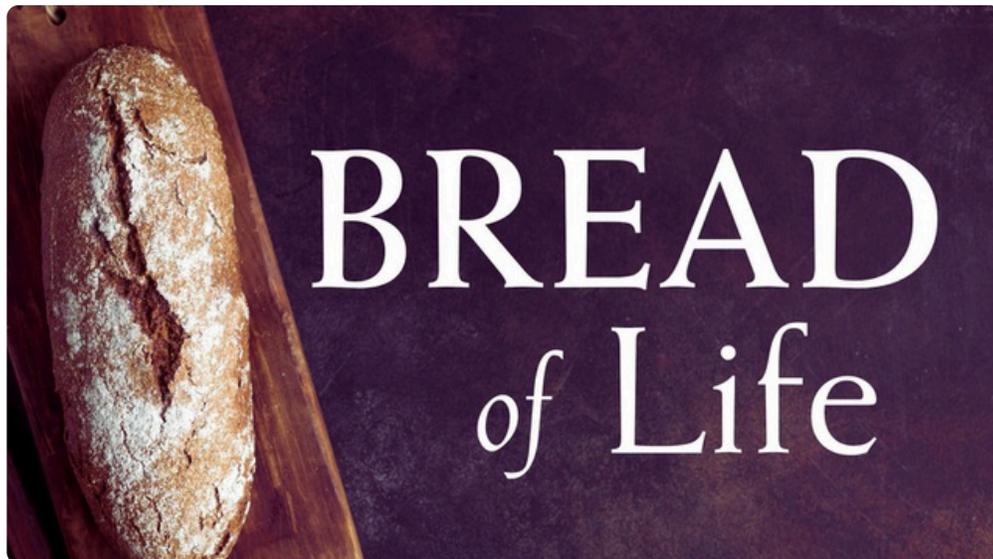
John 12:12-16; Luke 19:28-40

LENTEN DEVOTIONS

Lenten devotions will be sent via email Monday through Friday 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.



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 BIBLE STUDIES

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



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

UPCOMING

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 each month.

The March presenter is Compass Health on Tuesday, March 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.



Pickleball
SUNDAYS | 4- 6 P.M.

FIRST BAPTIST GYM
107 MONROE STREET
ALL LEVELS WELCOME
EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE

 **FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH DOWNTOWN**
JEFFERSON CITY, MO



CROCHET & COFFEE

NEW & EXPERIENCED CRAFTERS OF ALL AGES/GENDERS WELCOME. SUPPLIES AND COFFEE PROVIDED.

BRING A SNACK TO SHARE, IF YOU'D LIKE!

ENTER DOOR 5 ON MONROE ST.

SATURDAY, MARCH 21 | 9-11 A.M.
REFUGE ROOM (2ND FLOOR)





BLOOD DRIVE

Our next blood drive with the American Red Cross will be Tuesday, May 12, from 1:30 - 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Book your appointment today at redcross.org and search for FBCJeffCity.



SYMPATHY

Emmanuel Babalola and family in the death of his father

Family and friends of **Darrell McMillian**

Family and friends of **Rae McKinney**

Rebecca Wilcox in the death of her mother

Doug Blaha and family in the death of his mother



RESERVED
PARKING

Bryan and Dulce Stevens 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 or app to submit a request.

WEDNESDAYS

- 5:20 - 6:00 p.m. | Orchestra Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 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)



SAVE THE DATES

- Thursday, April 2 Maundy Thursday Service, 7 p.m.
- Sunday, April 5 Easter Sunday
- Monday, April 6 Office Closed
- Tuesday, April 14 Final Lunch & Learn
- Sunday, April 19 Robin Stull Retirement Celebration; Creation Sunday
- Sunday, April 26 Children's Sunday; Quarterly Business Meeting
- July 20-24 Vacation Bible Camp
- July 26 Church Swim Party
- August 16 Church Picnic



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



MISSIONS

SERVING GENEROUSLY ONE DONATION AT A TIME

First Baptist Church will host a “Baby Wipe Drive” in March. It benefits Common Ground, which, in partnership with the Capital City Diaper Bank, provides diapers and wipes to families in need. Common Ground keeps 4-5 packets (25 each) of each size diaper on hand, as well as 6-8 packages of wipes. They can restock through the Diaper Bank as needed. Clients can get diapers once a month after filling out a form with their information.

Common Ground reports back quarterly to the Diaper Bank on how many families and children have been served. Packages of wipes can be brought to the lobby on Sundays or dropped off in the church office M-Th.

BABY WIPES DRIVE

Donate baby wipes in March for distribution to Common Ground and the Diaper Bank. Drop wipes off in the church office or blue mission box in the lobby.

PEANUT BUTTER COLLECTION

Bring jars of peanut butter through **Sunday, March 15**, to benefit hungry children in Central and Northeast Missouri. Our Scouts BSA Troop is collecting donations and appreciates your support.

LUNCH & LEARN

Tuesday, March 10
12:15 - 12:45 p.m.
Fellowship Hall



Our guest will be from Compass Health. Bring your lunch and a friend and learn more about the work of Compass with those who are unhoused.

KEYS TO HOPE WORK DAYS RETURN

We’re back to work on the new Transformational Housing apartments at the corner of State and Jackson Streets. Show up on Fridays sometime between 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. and bring a friend if you can! They don’t need to be from First Baptist - just someone willing to lend a hand and ready to serve our community. Join our group to stay updated on volunteer opportunities.

Questions? Contact Ron Medin or join the Transformational Housing Work Group in the Church Center App.





KIDS

BIRTH - GRADE 5

SUNDAYS FOR KIDS

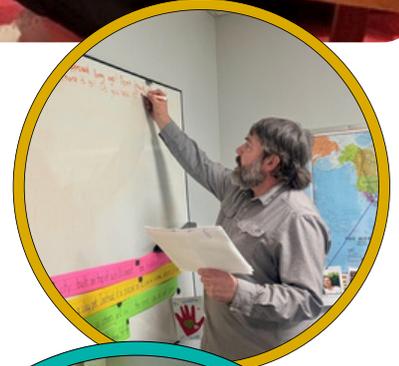
Children in grades K-5 gather in Room 203 at 10:15 a.m. for games and snacks before heading to their classes. K-2 meets in Room 201. Grades 3-5 meet in Room 204. Bible Teaching groups meet from 10:15 to 11:15 a.m. each Sunday.

Extended Care during worship is available for children ages birth through 3-year-olds on Sundays beginning at 8:45 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.



SAVE THE DATE - VBC 2026



PALM SUNDAY

You and your family are invited to join the Donkey Procession hosted by First Christian on Sunday, March 29, Palm Sunday.

The processional begins at 11:15 a.m. in front of First Christian Church. Our teachers will not accompany the children like in years past.

Join us for worship at 9:00 a.m. where our children will wave palm branches, and then stay for Sunday School at 10:15 a.m. before joining the donkey procession from First Christian to the Capitol and back!



YOUTH

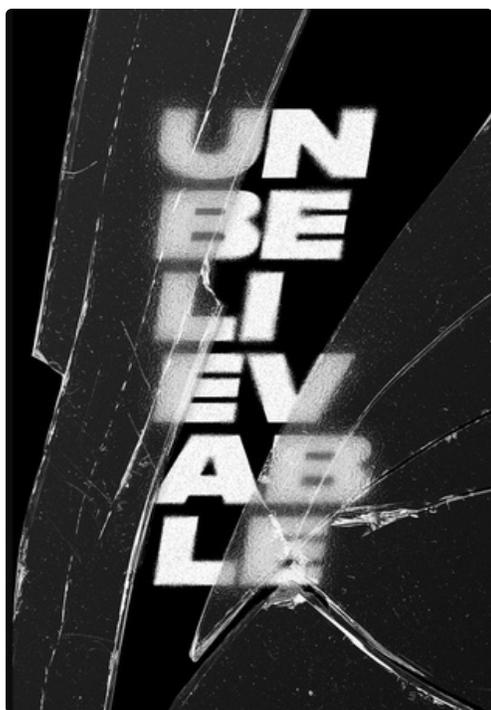
GRADES 6 - 12

MIDWEEK ON WEDNESDAYS

MARCH MIDWEEK SCHEDULE

- March 4 - Heather Feeler speaking
- March 11 - Mark Leesman speaking
- March 18 - Mark Leesman speaking
- March 25 - **No Midweek**, Spring Break

March Midweek Series: a conversation on doubt when the Bible feels unbelievable.



SAVE THESE DATES

- March 13-15 - DNOW Weekend
- May 3 - Senior Sunday
- July 5 - 11/12 - Mission Trip

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



DNOW WEEKEND
MARCH 13 - 15



Sign up today for our Disciple Now youth weekend retreat and get ready for an unforgettable experience. Gather your small group for a weekend filled with fun, meaningful service, and powerful times of worship—you won't want to miss it! This year's special guest speaker will be David Kissing, Director of 812 Ministries at the University of Missouri.

March Parking Spot - Dulce Stevens
Thank you for supporting our youth!

SUNDAYS | 10:15-11:15 am

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

SENIOR ADULTS 60+

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

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

Program: Carrie Peter will present on Capital City Productions, a local Broadway Dinner Experience

Lunch catered by Madisons
Lasagna
Chicken Alfredo
Tossed salad
Rolls
Iced tea, coffee
Dessert

FRIENDSHIP SINGERS

Rehearsals on Mondays at 10 a.m. in the choir room:
March 2 – Rehearsal
March 9 – Rehearsal

Performances:
March 16 – Primrose Retirement Center
March 23 – Lenoir Woods, Columbia – leave after Friendship Club
March 30 – JC Manor

New members ages 60+ are welcome!

HOMEBOUND BIRTHDAYS

Eric Ruhaak (3/3)
Candace Hawkins (3/15)
Marie Colvin (3/17)
Linda Lee (3/25)

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.

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
Feb 1	142	239
Feb 8	139	218
Feb 15	126	245
Feb 18	Ash Wed - 129	
Feb 22	140	214

REVENUE & EXPENSES

	2026		2025		Increase (Decrease)	
	January	Year to Date	January	Year to Date	January	Year to Date
Tithes & Offerings	\$48,989	\$48,989	\$70,505	\$70,505	(\$21,516)	(\$21,516)
Other Revenue	\$20,804	\$20,804	\$20,651	\$20,651	\$153	\$153
Total Revenue	\$69,793	\$69,793	\$91,156	\$91,156	(\$21,363)	(\$21,363)
Total Expenses	\$109,413	\$109,413	\$111,326	\$111,326	(\$1,913)	(\$1,913)
Net Operating Total	(\$39,620)	(\$39,620)	(\$20,170)	(\$20,170)		

