

THE MESSENGER

NOVEMBER 2023

FROM MIKE WILKINS



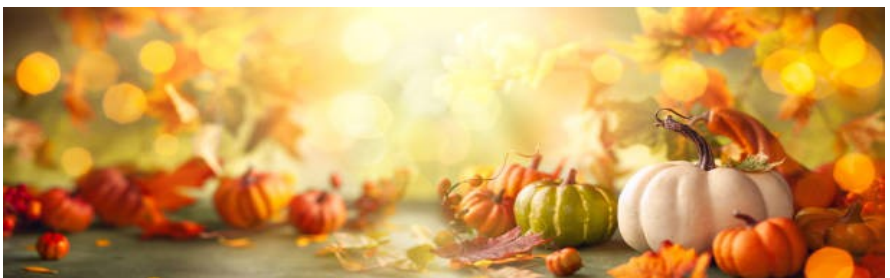
Later this month we will once again celebrate one of my favorite holidays, Thanksgiving. As I pause to “count my blessings” this year I want you to know that I am grateful to God for how you continue to contribute your time, talents and treasures so that First Baptist can share with others the Good News of Jesus Christ.

I know that much of what you do is done behind the scenes where few people get to witness your efforts. I understand that sometimes you wonder if what you do is worth it, or if you are actually accomplishing anything. I realize that there are many demands upon your time and energy and that your schedule is often much busier than you would like for it to be.

So let me assure you that even if you cannot always see it happening, that you are making a difference for God here. God doesn’t waste any of our gifts to him. Instead he takes them, multiplies them and produces miracles from them. Because of you and what you do, men and women, boys and girls, in this church, in this community and all around the world have been, and are, experiencing the life changing love of Jesus Christ.

So, just in case you haven’t heard it in a while, let me say “Thank you” for all that you do. I am grateful for you, and grateful for this opportunity to serve as your interim pastor.

Mike



YOUTH MINISTRY

By Chad Hartsock



First Jeff Youth had a great fall retreat weekend in the Smokies.

2024 BUDGET PROPOSAL

Important Upcoming Dates:



11/5

The 2024 Budget Proposal will be released on Sunday, November 5. Copies will be made available to pick up at the worship service.

11/12

The first discussion regarding the 2024 budget will be held immediately following the Worship service in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, November 12.

11/19

The second discussion regarding the 2024 budget will be held immediately following the Worship service in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, November 19.

12/3

A special business meeting will be held to vote on the 2024 Budget Proposal immediately following the worship service on Sunday, December 3.

FUTURE MESSENGERS

Beginning in 2024, in an effort to lower mailing costs, we ask that you notify the church office if you wish to continue receiving your Messenger by mail. If you do not, please note that there will be digital copies available on the church's website: www.fbcjeff.org.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

By Josh Gibson, Administrative Coordinator

Summary of Operational Budget Income & Expense through September 2023

Items of Interest

- **Online Giving** is simple and convenient, and you do not have to set up a Realm account to give online. Visit: <https://onrealm.org/fbcjeff/give/now> to initiate an online gift today!
- **Designated Benevolence Fund total** (as of 10/26/2023) = \$0.00

	June	July	August	September
Income	\$25,563.08	\$25,612.44	\$18,237.70	\$21,909.44
Expenses	\$26,920.58	\$29,765.49	\$26,372.43	\$23,614.63
Net	\$1,357.50	\$4,153.05	\$8,134.73	\$1,705.19
YTD	\$7,734.17	\$3,581.12	\$4,553.61	\$6,258.80

ATTENDANCE

SUNDAY	BIBLE STUDY	IN-PERSON WORSHIP
October 1	48	83
October 8	49	80
October 15	46	82
October 22	51	90

DEACONS & MINISTER OF THE WEEK

November 5: Ken Morton & Bruce Davenport/Josh Gibson

November 12: Betty Watkins & Ray Dalton/Chad Hartsock

November 19: Leon Shoemaker & Karen Smith/Nenette Measels

November 26: Carolyn Blevins & Jim Wilson/Josh Gibson

REMINDER:

Daylight savings time begins Sunday, November 5.
Don't forget to set your clocks back!



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

By Bethany Davenport, Chair, Children and Youth Committee

October has been a fun and busy month for our children's ministry at FBC. We continued with our new Sunday School schedule. We began our Parenting Series with an online workshop that provided insight on how to increase cooperation at home. We hosted a movie night where we enjoyed the film *Ratatouille* and fresh, hot popcorn. And we wrapped up the month with another wonderful evening of Trunk-or-Treating! It would be impossible to do any of these things without our fantastic Children and Youth Committee and a host of amazing volunteers. Thank you so much to everyone who volunteered their time, taught Sunday School, helped publicize events, made food, donated candy, hosted a trunk, ran a game, painted faces, etc, etc, etc. I am so thankful for this community and their support as we work to take care of our families and engage with the community.

As we head into November, we will continue our Parenting Series and begin preparing for Christmas. In early December, we will be hosting a family Christmas event. More details will be sent via Realm and posted on social media in the coming weeks. In the meantime, follow our children's ministry on Instagram @firstjeffkids and help us spread the word about all of the children's ministry happenings at FBC.

Have questions? Want to get involved? Email Bethany at bethanyk83@gmail.com.



HYMN HIGHLIGHT

By Nenette Measels

This month's featured hymn of praise and thanksgiving is Psalm 67. Other names for "psalm" are hymn, poem, canticle, prayer, sacred song, and song of praise. I've selected the following version from *The Women's Lectionary for the Whole Church* by Rev. Dr. Wilda C. Gafney (2021, Church Street Publishing).

May God be merciful to us and bless us,
Show us the light of her countenance and come to us.
Let your ways be known upon earth,
Your saving health among all nations.
Let the peoples praise you, O God;
Let all the peoples praise you.
Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
For you judge the peoples with equity
And guide all the nations upon earth.
Let the peoples praise you, O God;
Let all the peoples praise you.
The earth has brought forth her increase;
May God, our own God, give us her blessing.
May God give us her blessings,
And may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of her.



Community Thanksgiving Service

NOVEMBER 19 | 7:00PM
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, JEFFERSON CITY





SUNDAY WORSHIP TIMES

9:30am Sunday Bible Studies
 10:45am Worship Service

CONTACT INFO

(865) 475-3826; (865) 262-9026 (Fax)
Church Office Hours:
 Monday-Thursday, 8:30am to 4:30pm

Find us at www.fbcjeff.org or follow us online on *Facebook* and *YouTube*

STAFF

Sierra Bevins (sbevins@fbcjeff.org)	Ministry Assistant
Angie France	Organist
Josh Gibson (jgibson@fbcjeff.org)	Administrative Coordinator
Chad Hartsock	Interim Minister of Youth & College Students
Steven Lloyd (sllloyd@fbcjeff.org)	Facility Caretaker
Nenette Measels	Interim Minister of Music
Cameron Rowlett	Video Editor
Gage Rustin	Youth Ministry Intern
Melanie Simpson	Pianist

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