



First Baptist Church

JEFFERSON CITY TENNESSEE

Breaking down barriers to proclaim the love of Christ.

THE MESSENGER

APRIL 2025

FROM MAJOR TREADWAY

One of the great challenges of the season of Lent is holding fast to the Lenten journey when all around us people and businesses and even the weather seem to have skipped ahead to Easter. But this year, as in years past, I suspect that there is yet more for us on this journey.



We may long for the breaking of our fasting, and we may long to sing the songs of Easter praise, but there is a richness in holding onto our fasting, learning from our commitment to new practices, new wisdom and mercy in the telling of the stories of our faith one more time.

The first two Sundays of April, we will continue in the season of Lent, learning from the ostrich, the palms, and the stones. We will gather with the disciples in celebration of the Last Supper on Maundy Thursday. As the shadows gather on Good Friday, we will tell the story of Jesus's final day – his capture, trial, crucifixion, and burial.

And we will wait.

Sorrowful.

Hopeful.

Expectant.

And as the longing within us gives way to new life and celebration, we can take our cue from what nature already knows, that the long and difficult days of formation during Lent, do not end when Easter arrives. Rather, invigorated by the Easter celebrations, by the mercy brought forth so long ago, made new in each telling of the Easter story, we renew our commitment to growth. We grow nearer and nearer to God, the journey of our lives drawing us ever closer.

But before we get to that glorious day, we continue our Lenten journey. We hold to our Lenten commitments. We move steadily toward the cross.

HYMN HIGHLIGHT

By Nenetete Measels, Minister of Music and Worship

He is not here: For He is risen, as He said. Come see the place where the Lord lay. Matthew 28:6

Charles Wesley wrote the originally titled “Hymn for Easter Day” for the first service in the new chapel (Foundry Meeting House) in London in 1739, one year after his dramatic conversion experience. He was inspired by Paul’s gospel truth in 1 Corinthians 15. It summarizes both the experience and meaning of Christ’s resurrection. The popularity of the hymn is due in part to the tune for which the composer has never been identified. “Hallelujah” or “alleluia” is from the ancient Hebrew worship service and was a common expression of praise in the early Christian church. Jerome, an important leader in the early church and translator of the Bible into Latin, wrote that in his day the very ceilings of houses of worship were often shaken with the reverberating “Hallelujahs” when believers sang their praises to God.

CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN TODAY

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
Earth and heaven in chorus say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids Him rise, Alleluia!
Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Dying once He all doth save, Alleluia!
Where thy victory, O grave? Alleluia!

Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!
Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!
Made like Him, like Him we rise, Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

(101 Hymn Stories, Osbeck; The Worshiping Church: A Hymnal, Hustad, ed.)

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Summary of Operational Budget Income & Expense through March 2025

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 03/31/2025) = \$701.21

	December	January	February	March
Income	\$69,622.68	\$25,601.16	\$25,327.05	\$41,878.49
Expenses	\$33,158.08	\$37,738.36	\$31,429.19	\$32,300.90
Net	\$36,464.60	(\$12,137.20)	(\$6,165.14)	\$9,577.59
YTD	\$51,762.98	(\$12,137.20)	(\$18,302.34)	(\$8,724.75)

ATTENDANCE

SUNDAY	BIBLE STUDY	IN-PERSON WORSHIP
March 2	37	94
March 9	46	95
March 16	43	94
March 23	39	94
March 30	43	91

DEACONS & MINISTER OF THE WEEK

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| April 6: | Jim Wilson/Peggy Dalton/Nenette Measels |
| April 13: | Susan Garber/Betty Watkins/Major Treadway |
| April 20: | Leon Shoemaker/Karen Smith/Chad Hartsock |
| April 27: | Carolyn Blevins/Jim Wilson/Nenette Measels |

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

By Bethany Davenport, Chair, Children and Youth Committee



We need volunteers! If you would be willing to be present at this event to run a game or craft, to welcome folks as they're arriving, or to hide eggs, let Bethany know!

We need egg fillers (candy and small prizes)! There will be bins in the foyer and at the covered entrance. Drop your donations off anytime between now and April 16th.



Thank you so much to everyone who has sponsored a Passport camper. It means the world to us! This month, we will be fundraising for camp by selling First Jeff Kids t-shirts (seen in the image above)! Sizes will be available from Youth XS to Adult 5XL. Ordering information coming soon. You may still sponsor a camper if you would like, thru May 1, 2025.

APRIL EVENTS

at

FBC Jefferson City

April 6, 2025-2:00pm: Church Advisory Council/Room 214

April 9, 2025-4:00pm: Deacon's Mtg./Room 102

April 9, 2025-7:30pm: Budget and Finance Mtg./Parlor

April 13, 2025-12:00pm: Church Ministries Mtg./

Lunch provided, in the Fellowship Hall

April 15, 2025-5:30pm—Women's Fellowship Gathering/

Off the Hook, 2513 Black Oak Rd., Jeff City 37760

April 19, 2025-10:30-11:30 Easter Egg Hunt

April 27, 2025-12:00pm Dawnings 3/Lunch provided/
Fellowship Hall

Holy Week

PALM SUNDAY April 13	10:45 AM Sanctuary
MAUNDY THURSDAY April 17	6:00 PM Sanctuary
GOOD FRIDAY April 18	6:00 PM Sanctuary
EASTER SUNDAY April 20	10:45 AM Sanctuary*

*Please bring fresh flowers to decorate the cross!

Upcoming Sermons

April 6

What the Ostrich Knows

Isaiah 43:16-21; Psalm 126

April 13

Palms and Stones

Psalm 118:1-2; 19-29; Luke 19:28-40

April 20

Remember

Luke 24:1-12

April 27

What Comes Next

Don Garner

Preaching

Luke 24:13-35



Like puzzles?
Visit FBC's...

PUZZLE LIBRARY

Rm 103
(near the Fellowship Hall)

- ★ Take a puzzle
- ★ Bring a puzzle, or
- ★ Swap a puzzle

DAWNINGS

Join us in discerning together God's calling for FBC into the future.

February 23
March 30
April 27
May 18

Meetings will take place in the Fellowship Hall, directly following the service. Lunches provided.
(Please attend as many gatherings as possible.)

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

Angie France	Organist
Cyndi Harrell (charrell@fbcjeff.org)	Ministry Assistant
Chad Hartsock (chartsock@fbcjeff.org)	Minister for Students
Nenette Measels (nmeasels@fbcjeff.org)	Minister of Music and Worship
Cameron Rowlett	Video Editor
Melanie Simpson	Pianist
Karen Treadway (ktreadway@fbcjeff.org)	Interim Administrative Coordinator
Major Treadway (major@fbcjeff.org)	Senior Pastor

The Messenger (ISSN 766010) is published monthly by First Baptist Church, 1610 Russell Ave., Jefferson City, TN 37760-2299. Periodicals Postage Paid at Jefferson City, TN POSTMASTER. Send address change to *The Messenger*, 1610 Russell Ave., Jefferson City, TN 37760-2299.