September 22nd

for

Chicken Lasagna Salad Garlic Bread Dessert

September 29th

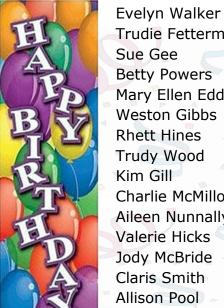
Breakfast Pizza Pan Sausage Biscuits & Gravy Fruit

\$5/person. \$2/child 12 & under. \$15 Family Maximum

To go plates are for shut ins only.

Please sign up by Tuesday at noon by calling the church office 409-384-2527, or fbcj@fbcjaspertx.com or using this QR code





Evelyn Walker	Sep 21
Trudie Fetterman	Sep 21
Sue Gee	Sep 25
Betty Powers	Sep 29
Mary Ellen Eddy	Sep 30
Weston Gibbs	Oct 01
Rhett Hines	Oct 03
Trudy Wood	Oct 03
Kim Gill	Oct 04
Charlie McMillon	Oct 04
Aileen Nunnally	Oct 04
Valerie Hicks	Oct 05
Jody McBride	Oct 05
Claris Smith	Oct 07
Allison Pool	Oct 09



First Baptist, Jasper409-384-2527
Donnie Wiltshire, Pastor919-524-8302
Woody Wade, Minister of Music and Senior Adults409-382-5575
Jim Slaton, Minister of Youth and Education
Kim Gill, Church Secretary409-384-2527
Beth Penney, Financial Secretary409-384-2527
Christian School409-384-7033

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Volume 18 Issue 18





September 16, 2021





I've Been Thinking...

Dear Church Family,

Sunday, September 12, was a pretty big day around FBC. It was big for this reason—last Sunday was the first time a large portion of the church saw our plan to make disciples and fulfill our vision, "to see every life in Jasper transformed by Christ. . ." About 75 people: deacons, committee members, ministry team members, Sunday School leaders, and church officers gathered after worship for a training in Disciple Making Strategy. Our time together was terrific!

It won't be long until everyone in the church has a chance to learn how we plan to move forward making a difference for Christ in our community. At this time, let me just say that our future involves worshiping our majestic God, experiencing life change through transformational small groups, and doing the work of the Kingdom of God by being on Mission with Christ. It's easy to type out these words but it is a bit of a stretch to comprehend what this means and even a bigger stretch to implement the plan once we understand it. I think you know that all of us put a lot of effort into our times of worship. Small groups are going to take some time to develop but we are beginning even now to explore how this can best be done. I hope you have started to see how we are becoming more missional. Our mission efforts will soon increase. Look for our growing mission opportunities through Operation Christmas Child, Reach Texas offering, Lottie Moon Christmas offering, and our involvement in the Butterfly Festival (to name a few). These represent only some of the opportunities we will have in the near future to do the work of the Kingdom.

Our aim is to never do stuff just to be busy. We want to be intentional in what we do and what we don't do. We want to do that which would honor Christ and build His church. Will you come along on this great journey of faith? You will have the time of your life!

I can't wait. . .

Brother Donnie



Therefore if anyone is in Christ, this person is a new creation; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.

--2 Corinthians 5: 17--

As I think back to the moment I first accepted Christ as my Savior, and the wonderful feeling that filled me from inside out, the only thing I can compare it to is when winter finally draws it's last breath, and spring fills the earth with color. In that moment, it was like all the weight of the world had been lifted off my shoulders, and I was brand new. But just as spring turns into summer, summer into fall, and fall back into winter, we experience change in our lives, and things don't stay the same. Things happen—some good, some bad—and it's not always easy to stay on track. We lose sight of God and become slaves to the bondage that is all around us. We become haunted by the things in our lives, burdened by self-pity and unwilling—or unable—to forgive ourselves or others for our hurts and disappointments. We do not give God full control and are held captive by our need to guide our own lives. We limit ourselves by not trusting Him, and instead of living the way God wants us to, we live lives of our own making. Instead of living boldly in Christ, we timidly go through life, afraid to step out in faith, and do not experience all the good things He has for us. It's as though our lives are in "winter" and the cold of sin has overtaken us. This is not the life God intends for us. We need to look at our lives, assess the way things are going, and give our lives totally back to God. Only He can take away the cold and dark of sin, refill us with His sweet Holy Spirit, and make us new again. And only He can bring back the springtime, renewing our hearts to the warm and tender state they were when we first accepted Him. If you are experiencing the cold of winter in your life, I challenge you to give it completely to Him, and let Him perform the miracle of springtime in you.

When in the spring, the flowers are blooming bright and fair,
After the grey of winter's gone.
Once again the lark begins its tuning,
Back in the meadows of my heart.

Lord, to my heart bring back the springtime.
Take away the cold and dark of sin.
Oh refill me now, sweet Holy Spirit:
May I warm and tender be again.

You are loved, Bro. Woody

Bless the Lord, Oh my Soul

A Page from Jim's Journal

Another season of PineyWoods Youth Soccer League has hit the Slaton household. This will be my 9th or 10th season to be the head coach of one of my kids' teams. I'm pulling back on the competitiveness and coaching John's 4- and 5-year-old team this season. It's a little less like organized soccer and a little more like ants running around aimlessly. Some are running in the wrong direction, one kid might take their shoes off, and another is picking his nose in the middle of the field for all to see. With all of that in mind, we STILL have tryouts for the kids so the coaches can come evaluate the players and give them a rank. We then go into a closed room and draft them based on what we saw.

We use a 1-5 ranking system for each kid. 5 is the best, while 1 means they require the most work and attention. It's tough at the 4- and 5-year-old level because there really is no in between. The kids either know how to run from point A to point B or they don't. They can either connect their foot to the ball or they pull a Charlie Brown. You try to get at least a "5" in your draft and then you prepare to work hard with the others.

I'm not sure why but I was thinking about James 2:1-4 throughout the draft. I am so thankful God does not put a ranking system on people. I firmly believe I would have never been picked for His team. But God shows no favoritism! James 2:1-4 says, "My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing comes in, and if you pay attention to the man in fine clothing and say, 'You sit here in a good place,' while you say to the poor man, 'You stand over there,' or 'sit down at my feet' have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?"

A soccer draft is one thing. But showing favoritism in the church and deciding who can and cannot be saved by God is another. It is simply wrong and is not in our power to decide. Jesus died for the world so that the world might know him. If He could save a "1" like me then I am convinced no one is out of His loving reach. I am thankful and praise God for His loving kindness.







Our Vision:
To see every life in Jasper transformed by Christ resulting in an impact in His name felt to the very ends of the earth.