

Wednesday Night Dinner

February 26th

- White Bean Chicken Chili
- Mexican Cornbread
- Slaw Salad
- Dessert

March 2nd

- Fried Chicken
- Rice & Gravy
- Green Beans
- Dessert

\$5 a person for adults
Children under 18 eat free



WE ARE HIRING

CHURCH SECRETARY

Send resumes to:
fbcj@fbcjaspertx.com

HAPPY Birthday TO YOU

- | | |
|------------------|-------------|
| Missy Tatum | February 24 |
| Cyndi Harris | February 25 |
| John L. Lowery | February 25 |
| Terry Weaver | February 26 |
| Paula Stephenson | March 2 |
| Kara Pullen | March 5 |
| Dean McNeely | March 7 |

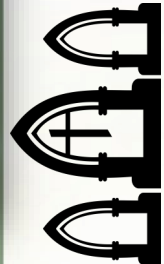


FIRST BAPTIST CHRISTIAN SCHOOL IS HIRING A

Director and a 4th Grade Teacher

for the 2025-2026 school year

Send resumes to fbcj@fbcjaspertx.com or call 409-384-2527



First Baptist, Church Jasper

314 N. Main St.

Jasper, TX 75951 I (409)384-2527

www.fbcjaspertx.com

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- First Baptist Church, Jasper.....409-384-2527
- Donnie Wiltshire, Pastor.....919-524-8302
- Woody Wade, Minister of Music and Senior Adults.....409-382-5575
- Allison Knight, Children's Ministry Director.....409-594-9104
- Aubrey Bond, Minister of Students and Discipleship.....409-658-0701
- Beth Penney, Financial Secretary.....409-384-2527
- Christian School.....409-384-7033

THE COMPASS

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH JASPER

February 20, 2025

VOL 23, ISSUE 4

MARCH 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2 5 p.m. Nicolas Peveto	3	4 1 p.m. Senior Adult Movie	5	6	7	8 8 a.m. Men's Breakfast
9 4 p.m. Budget & Finance	10	11	12 no children's activities	13	14	15 Azalea Festival
16 4 p.m. Deacons Meeting	17	18	19	20	21	22 8 a.m. Church Work Day
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 Lord's Supper	31 7 p.m. Christ Alone Community Choir	10 a.m. Happy Years				

Church family,

Thank you for the sweet cards and notes of encouragement you sent to my family. It means so much that you took the time to write us. We read through each one as a family and enjoyed hearing about the life of the church, the events in Jasper, and news of your lives. We hear nothing but great things from Jasper and are praying for you as the vision takes root. Thank you for recognizing the call on our lives and sending us. We love you and are thankful for you.

- The Slaton's

I've Been Thinking...

Dear Church Family,

All of a sudden, it seems that church life has gotten full. Your time spent in "church" activities might be less than mine (well, I'm the pastor) but as I share mine with you and you will see why I feel "busy." Last Sunday I taught Sunday school, participated in the baptism of Hayze Stephenson, preached, attended deacons' meeting, preached again, and then waited while Irma practiced in choir. Monday was my Small Group (studying 1 Timothy), and then Community choir that Woody leads. Tuesday, we had staff meeting in the morning and in the evening met with Irma's Small Group for supper. Wednesday a team of us helped served "Pancakes with Parents" with the FBC Christian School, then attended school chapel and then worked on sermons. (Hold it. Let me catch my breath) . . . Now buckle up.

In the near future, we will have emphases that connect us to our vision (maybe) better than my business. The Women's Associational Retreat is coming April 28 and March 1. Also, in March we will have a week of prayer for Southern Baptist Missionaries who serve in North America (March 2-9). On March 15, we will participate in the Jasper Azalea Festival. This is a chance to share Christ and our church with our community (sign up and help us). On March 31, the Community Choir, in which many of us sing, will present a powerful gospel message in song to our community. These are just a few of the possibilities for service coming up.

Ash Wednesday and the observance of Lent is not a part of our tradition. However, parts of the Christian family set aside a period of time before Easter to pray, repent, fast, and prepare for Easter. Although setting aside the Lenten period has never been my practice, there is great value in prayer, repentance, fasting, and preparing for Easter. Here is what I want to do this year as I prepare for the celebration of Easter (the remarkable resurrection of Jesus). I want to back off some of the "business"

and fall into the peace of Christ—meeting Him in prayer, repentance, and worship. Join me? I can hardly wait . . .

Brother Donnie

A note from Bro. Woody...



HILLTOP UNIVERSITY

**One-Day Spiritual Retreat for Adults 55+
Tuesday, May 20, 2025**

Join us as we welcome Pastor Emeritus at Green Acres Baptist Church in Tyler, Dr. David Dykes, as our keynote Bible teacher. Hilltop U also includes featured performances by *The Purple Hulls* and Dr. Shellie O'Neal, portraying hymn writer, Fanny Crosby. It's going to be a wonderful time together.

Early Bird Special pricing is \$25 per person before April 1, 2025! After April 1, the price is \$35 per person. Pricing includes lunch, concert tickets, and admittance to all conference events. Registration closes May 12, 2025. If you are interested in going, please call the church office or Bro. Woody.

Dear FBC Family,

Lately, I've been deeply convicted about the enemy's relentless efforts to divide us in every way possible. Satan seeks to break up families, divide the church, and turn our hearts away from Jesus. We must recognize that he is the ultimate puppeteer of this fallen world. Spiritual warfare isn't just a "churchy" term—it is the greatest battle of our time, one the news will never cover. In his book *Your Story Has a Villain*, Jonathan Pokluda writes: "What if I told you the Enemy's greatest tactic against modern-day Christians is to lull you into thinking there is not a war going on? We do not even realize Satan and his army are actively trying to take us down." So, what do we do? **Be aware. Pray. And be aware.** That's not a typo. It is a reminder that it's easy to place blame on circumstances or people, but the real battle is spiritual. Jesus often interrupted His schedule to pray. We see this throughout Scripture:

- Matthew 4:1-11
- Mark 1:35
- Luke 5:16
- Luke 6:12-13
- Mark 6:46
- Luke 9:28
- Luke 10:21-22
- Matthew 11:25-27
- Matthew 14:23
- John 14:23
- John 17:1-26
- Luke 22:41-44
- Luke 23:34

Prayer shouldn't feel like a task—it should be the heartbeat of our desperation for God. We must be a people of prayer. A people who long for God. A people who are vigilant against the enemy. **Be aware. Pray. And be aware.**

In Christ,
Aubrey Bond
Minister of Students and Discipleship

Thank You Thank you all who had part in feeding our stomachs and hearts Saturday and hosting our family. What a joy you all are and we are so thankful for your servant hearts plus all your prayers during this time. How fortunate I am to be a part of such a great community.
Love the family of Donna Kiker / Michelle Webb

Christian School Ministry Team

We have created a new ministry team that will be called the FBC Christian School Ministry Team. This team will lead us as we seek to impact the spiritual lives of the children and the families connected to our school. It will not be like the Christian School Committee that leads our church in the administrative aspects of the school. It is ministry focused. As team leader, Hartley Downs will be recruiting people to help him fulfill the task of the team.

About 100 students enter our building five days a week during the school year. Some of these children are in families that know the Lord and are members of churches in our area. But some of these children are not connected to a church anywhere. We believe that if we love these children, pray for them, minister to their families, and share Christ and the Bible with them, we will be spreading the Gospel and, in part, fulfilling our vision to, "see every life in Jasper transformed by Christ . . ."

Several functions of this ministry team have already started. A Prayer Team has been organized to pray for the special needs of the students, their families, and the school staff. 2nd and 3rd grade students are now attending a weekly Bible class. And this past Wednesday, 12 of our church members welcomed, served, and loved on the parents who attended the school "Pancakes with Parents" breakfast.

There are many more opportunities for you to serve on FBC Christian School Ministry Team. If you feel like your spiritual gifts would be helpful on this ministry team, and if you feel prompted by God's Spirit, contact Hartley at 409-224-6068 or email hartley_downs@gmail.com and talk with him about how you could serve with this team.