



# FBCJ NEWS

LOVE IS THE  
FIRST BAPTIST WAY!

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF JEFFERSONTOWN**  
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## OUR 188th CHURCH ANNIVERSARY! 4.25.21



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# ON A PERSONAL NOTE...

I would like to say Happy Mother's Day to all of the Mothers and surrogate Mothers. You are truly special people. When I give serious thought to the word "Mother" two words come to mind, love and sacrifice. Actually, we can stop with love because love demands that we make sacrifices. Jesus' death on the cross is the perfect example of the sacrifice He made because of His love for us. I firmly believe that our mothers should be celebrated like the queens that they are every single day of the year.

Proverbs 31:25-29 gives us a good idea of the value and the respect in which the Bible places on Mothers:

**25** *She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come.* **26** *She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue.* **27** *She watches over the affairs of her household and does not eat of the bread of idleness.* **28** *Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her:* **29** *"Many women do noble things, but you surpass them all."*

Years ago, an elderly co-worker told me something which I have never forgotten. She said that it is ironic how a single mother can raise and care for five children, but five kids can't take care of their mother. She always bragged on her daughter and I never thought she was referring to her own family, because she was happily married and did not have five children. I always wondered why she told me that. I think she knew that I have six siblings and she was trying to give me advice, although I never really talked about my family situation to her. I am proud that my siblings and I looked after our mother.

Fathers are not to be looked down upon, because the Bible instructs us to honor both parents, but Mothers are special. I know first-hand of a single Mother who raised seven children, and I don't think that her salary ever reached \$30,000 annually. If she did reach a \$30,000 annual salary, it was well after all of her children were grown and out of the house. Her ex-husband never made more than two or three child support payments. She never talked bad to her children about their father, and she never pursued legal action to force him to pay. She was asked once why she never had her ex-husband locked up, and she replied that she still wouldn't receive child support if he was in jail. Mothers are special! One Sunday in May is not enough.

Take into consideration that this same woman battled cervical cancer when her oldest child was just becoming a teenager. She was not divorced at the time, but the children's grandparents made sure they had something to eat and went to school each and every day for the entire three months that she was hospitalized. Take also into consideration that at one point the hospital was about to call the family in because they didn't think this woman would survive. However, no matter what the doctor says, God's will is going to be done. This woman was already saved, so I believe that God spared her life for the sake of her children. He knew that the children's father was either unwilling, or incapable of raising seven children as a single parent. *Mothers are special! One Sunday in May is not enough.*

This woman raised her kids the best she could, and was praised on several occasions on the fine adults her children turned out to be. She made her children get up every Sunday morning and go to church. She emphasized the importance of a good education, but she never told her children to “go to college or go to the army.” She never told them that they had to leave the house when they turned eighteen. Yet, all seven of her children went to college. This woman never remarried, and never dated another man. She didn’t hang out at clubs and she never depended on anyone else to raise her kids. She never received her driver’s license, and went to work every day regardless of the weather forecast. She got up every morning and walked to the bus stop, which was about four blocks away, whether there was six inches of snow on the ground or it was pouring down raining. Now you know why sacrifice comes to mind when I think about Mothers. This marvelous woman was called home to Glory in August 2010, from pancreatic cancer, and her children never forgot the life lessons she taught them.

*Mothers are special! One day in May is not enough.*

Why does a father spend countless hours helping his son to become the best athlete he can be, and then the son goes off to college and gets in front of the television camera and says “Hi Mom!” Why do restaurants claim that their food is as good as Mom’s home cooking? Why do kids run to Mom when they fall and scrape their knee, instead of Dad? Why do retail stores and restaurants sell more merchandise and food on Mother’s Day than Father’s Day? Why do Mothers get better gifts than Fathers? As I said earlier, Fathers are not to be looked down upon because Fathers are great, but *Mothers are special! One day in May is not enough.*

If your mother is still living, let her know how special she is at every opportunity, not just on Mother’s Day. If your mother has relocated to Glory, I hope you had no regrets about your relationship with her after she departed. On this Mother’s Day hold back nothing. Go all out! No matter what the cost or the sacrifice, celebrate your mother like you have never done before. I doubt that you will ever regret it. Then, let’s make this a monthly habit. It will still not be enough, but it will be more than once a year.

We are all familiar with how love is defined in the 13th chapter of 1 Corinthians; specifically, verses 4 - 7. I could easily substitute the word Mother for love in some of those verses and it would fit perfectly. What if 1 Corinthians 13:7 read like this;

A Mother always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.  
Is it just me, or does the word Mother make sense in how it is used in the sentence above?

There have been many songs written about Mothers, but I think one of the best ones was written by Boyz II Men, titled A song for Mama. Every once in a while I hear myself humming part of the chorus:

Mama, I just want you to know  
Loving you is like food to my soul

Be blessed, Happy Mother’s Day, and spend more time with your mother.

William I. Brazley Jr.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER | MAY 6TH, 2021



LORD POUR OUT YOUR  
LOVE, LIFE, AND  
*Liberty*

2 CORINTHIANS 3:17



WWW.NATIONALDAYOFPRAYER.ORG

70  
Years of Prayer  
for America  
1952-2021

1775

### The First National Day of Prayer

The Continental Congress made a proclamation that stated “a day of public humiliation, fasting, and prayer” be created.

1952

### National Day of Prayer

It was co-founded by Congress and signed into law by President Truman.

1863

### Day of Fasting and Prayer

During the Civil War, Lincoln signed a congressional resolution that made April 30 a day of fasting and prayer.

1988

### National Day of Prayer is Designated

The law was amended and signed by President Reagan for the day to land on the first Thursday of May.

# NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

## THURSDAY, MAY 6, 2021

*2 Corinthians 3:17*

*Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.*

*Please join FBCJ Prayer Ministry Team as we pray at 6am and 6pm.*

*Dial-in number: 978.990.5481 Access Code: 3403595#.*

What a blessing to be able to pray over our nation!!! The theme of the 2021 National Day of Prayer is Love, Life, and Liberty. Originally signed into law in 1952, National Day of Prayer is a day when people of all faiths are asked to pray for our nation. Title 36, Section 119 of US law states: "The President shall issue each year a proclamation designating the first Thursday in May as a National Day of Prayer on which the people of the United States may turn to God in prayer and meditation at churches, in groups, and as individuals." This means the National Day of Prayer isn't just a fun holiday – The President is legally required to sign a proclamation encouraging Americans to pray each year!

### **Here's a list of things to pray for on National Day of Prayer:**

1. President Joseph R. Biden and family
2. Vice President Kamala Harris and family
3. Future elections (Pray that the right person will be elected and everyone has equal access to vote.)
4. Our nation's military
5. For our country's leaders to have wisdom in decision making
6. For our country to submit to God and His authority
7. Topics specifically in line with the National Day of Prayer 2021 theme.

### **Here are a few other suggestions specific to 2021:**

1. Our nation to unite
2. Our nation's leaders to focus on liberty for all
3. Our nation to be more compassionate and understanding with one another
4. Our nation to learn to respect ALL life; and justice for all lives.

We pray that you will join us and or invite others to join us in praying over our nation on Thursday, May 6, 2021!

*Blessings, FBCJ Prayer Ministry*

# GIRLS MINISTRY OUTREACH PROJECT

*1 Peter 4:7-11 (MSG)*

*7-11 Everything in the world is about to be wrapped up, so take nothing for granted. Stay wide-awake in prayer. Most of all, love each other as if your life depended on it. Love makes up for practically anything. Be quick to give a meal to the hungry, a bed to the homeless—cheerfully. Be generous with the different things God gave you, passing them around so all get in on it: if words, let it be God's words; if help, let it be God's hearty help. That way, God's bright presence will be evident in everything through Jesus, and he'll get all the credit as the One mighty in everything—encores to the end of time. Oh, yes!*

Our Girls Ministry has joined with our neighbor church friends at Fern Creek United Methodist Church and our Outreach Ministry, to collect items for our city's homeless campsites. The Girls Ministry needs our support and there are so many things you can do to assist in this effort! Our young ladies will be making and giving away comfort bags. Items in the comfort bag will include a variety of the following:

1. Comfort bags: Fruit snacks, Vienna sausage, Little Debbie cookies or cakes, peanut butter crackers, mints, chips, \$5 gift card to McDonald's, flavor packets for water or coffee packets

We're asking that monetary donations be given if at all possible, as there will be one shopping trip to get the items for the comfort bags.

**HOW** to make your donation: Via our Girls Ministry Leader or your offering (envelope, online, or kiosk); in the 'Other' category, please specify 'Girls Homeless Project'.

Other items the Girls Ministry will collect are:

2. Adult Socks- white
3. Bug repellent spray
4. Baby wipes
5. Tarps- 7x5 or 8x10

**HOW/ WHERE** to donate these items: The items in 2 - 5 above, may be brought to church and placed in the blue bin in our church's front hallway. Please no food items; the bin is sanitized each week and food should not be placed in the bin, as it isn't safe. The Girls Ministry will purchase the food with your monetary donations.

There will be a final collection at church on Saturday, the 22nd! The Girls Ministry will be in front of the church from 11am - 1pm, ready for your donation!

Let's support our young ladies as they reach out to assist one our city's most vulnerable communities.

If you have any questions or need more information, please reach out to Vickie Robinson-502.777.8615.

*Blessings! The Girls Ministry*

# *Evolve502 AT-A-GLANCE*

## *Beginning Fall 2021*



**Evolve502** strives to remove the barriers to attend college through scholarships, grants, and wrap around services. The Evolve502 Scholarship will give every eligible JCPS graduate the opportunity for a tuition-free two-year college degree, certificate, or training.

### **Scholarship Eligibility Requirements**

- Graduate from a JCPS high school in class of 2021 or receive a GED within one year of expected graduation.
- Students must have attended a JCPS high school since at least the 9th grade.
- Students must be **eligible** to receive KEES (which will exclude DACA students and non-citizens).
- Complete the **Evolve502 Scholarship Application**. The deadline to apply is June 30.
- **Apply to a KCTCS institution**. Students may attend Jefferson or any other KCTCS college.
- Fill out the **FAFSA Application** and complete the Financial Aid Process. The FAFSA needs to be completed by July 15 and all requested paperwork completed by August 1. For assistance completing the FAFSA please contact the Kentuckiana College Access Center at 502-584-0475 or online at **KCAC**.
- Individuals who enroll in military no later than 90 days after high school graduation may defer eligibility while in active duty.

**Jefferson Evolve502 Landing Page: [JCTC.ME/Evolve502](https://jctc.me/evolve502)**

### **Scholarship Overview**

- **Evolve502** covers tuition and mandatory fees.
- Students must enroll in and successfully complete at least 9 credit hours the fall semester immediately following high school graduation.
- An Opportunity Grant of \$1000 per semester (up to \$2000 per year) will be awarded to students whose household income is under \$40,000. This can be used for fees, books, and other expenses.
- Students must maintain **Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)** to be eligible to renew the scholarship each semester.
- The **Evolve502** Scholarship is good for 6 semesters or 60 credit hours.
- **Evolve502** will only cover 6 credit hours of English as a Second Language and/or developmental classes.
- Once a student earns an Associate Degree, the University of Louisville is offering a continuation of the Scholarship to students whose household income is under \$40,000.

**COMING SOON!**

**THE  
Messiah's  
Servant**



Two thousand years ago, Simon witnessed the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. He had no idea that the compassion he showed to a beaten, forsaken, and condemned stranger would result in an indefinite period of servitude. Join Simon from the crucifixion to present day America and learn why the name of Jesus is on the lips of every man, woman boy and girl.

**By: William I. Brazley, Jr.**

www.EnhancedDNAPublishing.com

The Messiah's Servant is available for purchase NOW! To get your copy please go online: [www.williambrazley.com](http://www.williambrazley.com)

**FBCJ's Scholarship Ministry** has several scholarship opportunities for anyone already in college or returning to complete their studies! Contact them via email- [scholarship@fbcjtown.org](mailto:scholarship@fbcjtown.org) with the following information:

**Your Name ~ School ~ Program of Study**

**Teens and Young Adults** who are 16-21 years old, and looking for summer employment should go online and take a look at the different positions; read about what you'd be doing at each job and which jobs would be a good fit for you. Go to [www.summerworks.org](http://www.summerworks.org), complete the training, and apply for the jobs of your interest. Click on Youth Sign Up> Earn \$10+/ per hour! There are positions available at Bernheim Forest, The Louisville Zoo, Boys & Girls Club, Food Literacy & MORE!

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1tv8JUjmtD3RFzKZB49dItYNz5uilnycwr6zCto-81YE/edit?usp=sharing>

If you have not heard back from them within 3-4 days after applying, text 502.780.9664.

**The Louisville Urban League** is partnering with Samaritan's Feet to give FREE shoes to kids PreK - 12. Register while supplies last! Please submit by Saturday, May 8, 2021 - <https://www.samaritansfeet.org/louisville/>

# *FBCJ IS OPENING SAFELY*

Based on the current circumstance- vaccinations, CDC recommendations, acceptable COVID levels having been reached, and holding, along with the governor's office relaxing certain restrictions, our church is continuing toward a 'soft opening'. Please keep in mind SAFETY is the PRIMARY concern. The soft opening will continually be based on CDC guidelines, COVID levels, and our state's guidelines/mandates.

Currently, we are opening at 60% capacity. If you want to attend morning worship in person, please call our church office each week (no later than 2pm on Friday) to get your name (family) on the attendance list. Church office number: 502.267.6121, office hours, Monday – Friday, 8am until 4:30pm. Remember, call by 2pm each Friday.

You may still view our Sunday Worship service at 11am online- [www.fbcjtown.org](http://www.fbcjtown.org).

**Summer Full of Life-** Jeffersontown Police Department Community Blood Drive ~ Wednesday, May 19, 2021 at the Jeffersonian ~ 10617 Taylorsville Road in the Kentucky Room ~ 2 - 6pm

**Listen to the rebroadcast of Sunday's Morning Worship!**

1240AM-WLLV & 1350AM-WLOU

Tuesdays at 6:30-7:30pm & Wednesdays at 9-10

**FBCJ's Confidential Prayer Line is Open!**

Dial 502.267.6121 then press Option 9

You may also submit a confidential Prayer Request or Note of Encouragement online - [www.fbcjtown.org](http://www.fbcjtown.org)

# JOG YOUR MEMORY & STAYING CONNECTED @ FBCJ!

## JOG YOUR MEMORY:

**APRIL QUESTION:** When the Israelites returned to the Promised Land, how many other tribes did they find already living there? (Seven: The Canaanites, Hittites, Hivites, Perizzites, Girgashites, Amorites, and Jebusites- Joshua 3:10 & Deuteronomy 7:1)

**MAY QUESTION:** Name the person whose mother made him/her a little coat (robe) once a year. (The answer will be in June's FBCJ News.)

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## RECURRING MEETINGS & SERVICES ~ ALSO WITH DIAL-IN ONLY OPTION:

SUNDAY School **9:00- 10:00A (EFFECTIVE SUNDAY, APRIL 11, 2021)**

WEDNESDAY Night Prayer Meeting & Bible Study 6:30 – 8P

WEDNESDAY (2nd) Communication Ministry 8 - 8:30P

THURSDAY (2nd & 4th) Black Awareness Ministry (**BAM!**) 7 - 8P

FRIDAY Night Teen Bible Study 7 – 8P

**SATURDAY May 8th, Girls' Ministry 10 - 11A-** Mtg ID: 834 2064 2179/ PW: 492539

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83420642179?pwd=dHVqVG03cTUrZGJUQmhmclBuQ3o4dz09>

**SATURDAY (Quarterly) R.E.A.C.H. Ministry 11:00-** Mtg ID: 869 7097 5699/ PW: 949054

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86970975699?pwd=WC9BRE1ZMkpMNU5ZV1hqV0FESXlldz09>

**SATURDAY (3rd) Women's Ministry 10 - 11:30A**

**SATURDAY (4th) Ministry2Men 9 - 10A**

SUNDAY Worship Service 11AM - Livestream; [www.fbcjtown.org](http://www.fbcjtown.org)

**SATURDAY May 8th & 22th Prayer Ministry - Open Prayer at 10A**

Dial: 978.990.5481 - Access Code: 340 3595#

## **WAYS TO STAY CONNECTED TO FBCJ:**

**FBCJ Website-** Become a Site Member. [www.fbcjtown.org](http://www.fbcjtown.org)> Click on FBCJ Members Login (top right corner)> Type in your Email Address> Make up and/or enter a Password> Click on Sign Up. You'll receive an email in a few days stating that you're a Site Member.

**FBCJ Facebook (Public)-** <https://www.facebook.com/FBCJtown>> This public page allows you to invite anyone to Join/Like the church's page. This is where we share videos, photos, and events with our community and friends.

**Team App-** [www.teamapp.com](http://www.teamapp.com)> Donna Pearson at [donnalynnpearson@gmail.com](mailto:donnalynnpearson@gmail.com). She will add you to this platform.

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**\*\*\*\*FBCJ News is now published on the first Sunday of the month. The following weeks of the month, one-pager @ A Glance will be published. If there is something you want to see in FBCJ News OR in @ A Glance, please email us your info to [victoria.culberson@fbcjtown.org](mailto:victoria.culberson@fbcjtown.org) by the end of the day, each Thursday. ~Blessings! Communication Ministry ~**