

Beloved Community of First Baptist Kansas City, MO

100 West Red Bridge Rd, Kansas City, MO 64114 (816) 942-1866 Visit us on our website www.belovedkc.org or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/fbckc

Around & About - AUGUST 2025

Pastor

Rev. Dr. Dezo Schreiner

Come, Seek the Living Water



Last month, I had the joy of attending our denomination's biennial gathering. Every two years we are offered this sacred time to connect and reconnect with friends, colleagues, and fellow believers from across the country and the globe. It was a powerful reminder that we are part of something much bigger than ourselves. Together, we worshipped, prayed, learned, and celebrated the ways our denomination and our Global Servants (missionaries) are working for healing, justice, and transformation both locally and globally.

This year's theme, "Come, Seek the Living Water," was both timely and timeless. In a world that is deeply thirsty--thirsty for peace, meaning, belonging, and justice, we are invited to draw from a source that never runs dry. The story of the Samaritan woman at the well reminds us that Jesus offers us living water, something no earthly well can provide. After encountering Christ, she didn't just keep that gift for herself, she bore fruit and became a witness to her community.

At our church, we are carrying this message forward through our current sermon series on The Fruit of the Spirit. We're exploring how love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control can take root in our lives and bear fruit in a thirsty world. These fruits aren't just personal virtues, they are seeds of justice, compassion, and community transformation.

I invite you to seek the living water with me to root ourselves deeply in Christ and stay connected to one another. When our roots intertwine, we create a strong, resilient community, able to support each other and stand together in the pursuit of justice.

Let us keep growing, praying, and laboring for the world God dreams of. The well is deep, and the water is abundant. Come, be filled, and go bear fruit.

Pastor Dezo Schriener

Announcements



Our office manager, Robin King, will be out of town until August 11th.

Please direct any questions to Pastor Dezo.











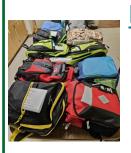
Photos from the Biennial Mission Summit in Omaha, NE











BETHEL SCHOOL BACKPACKS...

The backpacks were delivered on July 18th, by Diana Parker and Pastor Dezo.

Bethel thanks everyone for your gifts.



Chancel Singers hiatus ends on Wednesday, August 20th.
*Please contact Evyonne Walker with any questions/concerns.



FAITH LEADERSHIP IN THE CONTEXT OF CLIMATE CHANGE A CONTINUING EDUCATION

A CONTINUING EDUCATION
COURSE FOR FAITH LEADERS

Series Overview:

As we are increasingly experiencing the impacts of climate change and becoming aware of the threat it carries for human and planetary wellbeing, this new context for ministry brings new challenges for faith leaders and ministers. Once its urgency is understood, it results in new priorities and actions. It raises significant theological and ethical questions. It calls for leadership and preaching that help congregations rise to their calling to care for creation. It involves new forms of pastoral care for those experiencing climate anxiety and grief. It also requires new forms of ministry and missional engagement that are relevant to the needs of this unique time in history. It involves recognizing that faith leaders and congregations can be important in helping to build the spiritual and public will needed to enact the impactful solutions for climate change that are available. And it invites us to a deeper spirituality that is equal to the challenges of this day.

Second and fourth Tuesdays, September - November 2025

(L) 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

Virtual

\$ Free









Dr. Leigh StearnsSeptember 9

Climate Change as Ministry's Context: Basic science of climate change, climate solutions and urgency of action.



Rev. Dr. Greg Hunt September 23

Eco-theological Grounding: Biblical, theological, and ethical perspectives on climate change and creation care.



Dr. Rachel Wheeler October 14

co-spirituality: Nurturing spirituality and faith oractices in the context of climate change.



Rev. Dr. Leah Schade October 28

Pastoral leadership in the context of climate change: Preaching, teaching, leading worship, talking about climate change and dealing with conflict



Josh Richardson November 11

Ministry opportunities in the context of climate change: Building church and community resiliency, advocacy, climate justice, and mercy ministries for those



Rev. Dr. Ruth Rosell November 25

Pastoral care in the context of climate change: Caring for those experiencing anxiety, grief, guilt, and hopelessness related to climate change.

READY TO REGISTER?

This continuing education series for faith leaders is designed to explore these many dimensions of faith leadership in the context of climate change. Each session will include an hour of content presentation and half an hour for discussion. There will be no fee for participants, as a Climate Science in Theological Education grant will cover all costs. However, participants are asked to make a commitment to attending all six sessions in hopes that a cohort of support will be developed. A certificate of completion for nine hours of continuing education from Central Seminary will be available for those that participate in all sessions. Register here:

www.cbts.edu/buttry





We have an adult Sunday Morning class, the Journeys Class, meeting weekly at 9:30 am using the Journeys curriculum. Meets in the Cross-Generations Classroom,

9:30 am Sundays. Everyone is welcome!!

ALL ABOUT FIRST BAPTIST PEOPLE

WE PRAY FOR...

- Tim Link and family who are grieving the passing of Linda. The funeral was on July 28th .
- Jim Kelly recovering from toe surgery
- Dixie Kelly recovering from surgery for blockage arteries.
- A member healing from knee replacement surgery
- Gay Barton, who is grieving the passing of John.
- Kerry Triplett, who has completed six weeks of radiation treatment and is now undergoing hormone therapy. Please continue to pray for his strength.
- Blake and Meghan Severson, friends of the Humenczuk. Meghan has been battling liver cancer, and we ask for your continued prayers for the family.
- Leonard and Lyn Barbee.
- Susan Smith, who is bedridden at home. Please also pray for Sallie as she cares for Susan.
- Bill and Chris Rinck. Valerie Carroll, daughter of Bill and Christine Rinck, and Mary Ann, granddaughter, courageously facing health issues in in Ireland.
- Sue Hansen at Brookdale Care Center in the memory care unit
- Pat Betteridge is home but struggling with vision and back pain
- Andre, Geneva Abel's grandnephew. It was so good to see Andre at church on Sunday, July 27th . Keep praying for him.
- Sue Fugitt experiencing back pain, at home.
- Debbie Ebright experiencing back pain.

WE GIVE THANKS TO ...

- All the members who are participating in the Transforming Congregation program.
- Toni and Dave Page, along with pastor Dezo who attended our denomination Biennial on July 3 to 6.
- Matt Clingan and Bill Humenczuk for their faithful service in handling the technology and livestreaming our worship service. Thank you, Matt and Bill, your dedication is greatly appreciated.

WE SHARE OUR LONG-TERM PRAYER FOR...

Nancy Bundy (Fighting Cancer) — Leonard Barbee — Dixie Kelly — Susan Smith (bedfast at home) — Becky Boden — The Dawdys, Avery & Gregory Family — Marquett, Teen & Dee (Pat Hester's friends) — Bill Rinck — Kerry Triplett — Rion Russell (Diagnosed with Multiple Myeloma [Kathie Manda's Friend]) — Mia Gunter (Care-Giver for Eveyln Brooks) — Evelyn Brooks (Suffering from severe memory issues) — Eyvonne's Mom — Blake Severson (Bill's friend from Alaska. Wife, Meghan, is battling liver cancer) — Patty Vann's Family (Patty passed away) — Gay Barton (John Barton passed away) — Donna Durham (Lost her daughter in a shooting [Lynette's Friend]) — Pat Betteridge — Valerie Caroll (Daughter of Bill & Chris Rinck) — Justin Prigel (In the Military)



Patty Vann's Celebration of life will be in our sanctuary on Saturday, August 30th at 4PM.







AUGUST Offering

Our special offering for August is to give to the United Mission Program of the American Baptist Churches which supports all facets of our denominational mission.

Please give generously!

United in Christ,
Together in Mission

Spotlight on Jim Dingwerth

I'm Jim Dingwerth, born in 1949 and a lifelong member of First Baptist Church of Kansas City, Missouri.

Movies have long reflected the world around me. My all-time favorite is Ben-Hur, but I've also loved City Lights, It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World, Dr. Strangelove, Dances with Wolves, High Noon, Outlaw Josey Wales, Driving Miss Daisy, The Godfather, The Graduate, and It's a Wonderful Life. Chaplin's City Lights—a touching mix of comedy and romance still moves me with its "happy sadness." I once invited FBC members to see it for free at the Dickinson Theatre, but no one came. The Graduate even influenced my college choice; after two years at Ottawa University, I transferred to the University of Texas at Austin, 40 times bigger and 20% cheaper, even without aid.



I attended Southwest High School, where, regrettably, racial boundaries limited diversity. Before that, I went to Bingham Junior High (now an empty lot) and Marlborough Elementary (now neglected). One factor in the dis-

trict's decline was that aging Baby Boomer parents stayed put, while school-age populations moved elsewhere—leaving efforts at fairness lagging behind changing demographics.

After earning a master's in political science from the University of Missouri-Columbia, I briefly made pizzas at Shakey's on Troost for \$1.50/ hour. I left the dough behind for Model Cities, then worked as a probation officer. When a few colleagues lit up marijuana at a gathering, I walked out, thinking, "I belong in a robe, not a cloud of smoke."

Earlier jobs included concessions at the zoo, where I inflated balloons especially those double ones with a mouse inside. My first boss lost his contract after a city audit exposed underreported sales commissions. When the city took over, prices and wages jumped 50%.

After law school at UMKC, I joined the IRS as an Estate Tax Attorney, where I worked 31 years until retiring in 2010. I loved auditing estate and fiduciary returns. Twice, I discovered \$300,000 taxpayer refunds, mistakes overlooked by banks, law firms, and even family members. Contrary to popular belief, the IRS doesn't look for tax increases, only accurate ones. One motto I once proposed (ignored, of course): "At the Internal Revenue Service, our middle name is service."

I love to travel and may leave more unused reward points than anyone in the cemetery. At the 1964 Boy Scout Jamboree at Valley Forge, our council chartered a train that stopped in Buffalo, Niagara Falls, NYC (where room service had never heard of Dr. Pepper), and Washington, D.C. Later adventures included Normandy, Egypt, Jerusalem, Switzerland's 1968 Baptist World Youth Conference, Utah's parks, Tahiti, Alaska, and a solo train trip from Austin to Monterrey, Mexico. The best single day? Gettysburg, where I saw deer at Little Round Top and reflected on sacrifice, misjudgment, and courage.

If I had a whole day free? I'd play duplicate bridge while slowly sipping Diet Coke. Barbecue's nice too, though messy with cards. I first discovered bridge in a Look magazine article in a dentist's office. Oswald Jacoby codebreaker and bridge legend caught my imagination. I once played against him and his son at KC's first National bridge tournament. I've also played a hand or two against Bill Gates and Warren Buffet. Where else can a regular person compete with giants?

As for food, Kansas City barbecue ranks high especially Arthur Bryant's "Rich and Spicy" sauce, developed posthumously to replace the original orange variety. At home, I enjoy Belfonte Black Walnut and Breyers Vanilla Bean ice creams. My favorites at potlucks? Deviled eggs (but not Hy -Vee's) and chocolate-covered strawberries—they always vanish first.

Musically, I gravitate toward jazz and easy listening. Henry Mancini, Pat Metheny, and old favorites like Tenderly, Sinatra's It Was a Very Good Year, and Diana Ross's Touch Me in the Morning. Simon & Garfunkel were the soundtrack of my youth.

Church life has always mattered to me. I drove the church van until there was no one left to drive. I was baptized at the Linwood church, in front of that beautiful stained-glass pastoral scene. Back then, the membership was several hundred and today just a few dozens. I'm grateful for new members but grieved that so many have turned away from God—or at least public expressions of faith. I remember when Builders and Wilson classes resisted merging; now both are gone. I feel a bit like the brother of the prodigal son—but without resentment.

Hearing loss makes conversation harder, but I haven't missed Sunday worship, thanks to the video streaming ministry. I've survived prostate cancer and had a mitral valve replaced. I need hearing aids and cataract surgery, but as Pa Kettle said, "One of these days I've got to see about fixing that." I treasure the words of Granny from The Beverly Hillbillies: "I may be over the hill, but I'm through the hollow and only halfway up the next rise."

I have never married, have no children or siblings, but I've lived fully and gratefully. My father wasn't allowed to attend high school—his dad needed help ion the farm. My mother graduated from Kansas City Teachers College. Several of my teachers were also FBC members—Miss Garrett, Miss Bury, and Miss Coffey. I hope I've been a worthy memory. I'm thankful to everyone who nurtured me.

Greetings in the Lord to all! Well, here we are, the Savior has carried us through to the tail-end of the Summer Season. Our Beloved Community Music Ministry has been rather active throughout our hiatus both in our house of God and in the outer world beyond our *four walls*.

- David Page was "at it again", making music in the heat with his Way Too Famous Classic Pop-Rock Cover Band at a recent, annual outdoor concert at the Harley-Davidson Dealership.
- Sandi Leonard & Laura Martinez blessed our Congregation immensely, just this past Sunday, July 27, '25 with the resounding resonance of Sandi's Handbell Duet arrangement of "Hymn of Promise" by Natalie Sleeth. You can catch their presentation online in our "Worship Services" link, press the play button on the screen or click the date of July 27, 2025.
- On *Saturday, Aug.16th @6pm* four of our Handbell *Celestial Ringers: Adesjola Tucker, Sandi Leonard, Samuel Okwo* and myself will be IN CONCERT @St. Paul's Episcopal Church: 416 SE Grand Ave., Lee's Summit, MO 64063. Tickets are \$10.00, or a tax deductible donation of any amount. General admission seating can also be paid at the door, which is open at 5:30 for concert attendance.
- Adesjola Tucker has blessed us earlier this summer with her lyrical voice singing, Edwin Hawkins "This Day". She'll be bringing the Special Music selection of "Still I Rise", made famous by Whitney Houston on Aug. 17th come and have your heart filled and blessed!
- Chancel Singers will be "back in the saddle" for our first rehearsal on Wed., Aug. 20th at 7:30 we are hoping to add to our numbers with "outside singers" from the surrounding musician community but, if you've been waiting for "the right time" to come to join us from our church family, please count this as our cordial invitation to "COME ON DOWN" and join us in our Music Ministry. If you can't make it please, feel free to invite others whom you know of, that would enjoy bringing music to our Beloved Community.
 - Celestial Ringers will start rehearsals on Wed., Sept.3rd, @6:30pm in the FBC Sanctuary.

 We WELCOME One & All

Contact *Eyvonne Walker*, Dir. of Music & Organist:

Phn.: 816-289-4793 Eml: n10celivin@gmail.com



It's time to start planning your church's 2026 international mission trip!

Missions

Several short-term mission trip opportunities are being planned through our Costa Rica 1602 S partnership. Join us on Sunday, 61874.

August 3 at 4:00 for an informational meeting to learn more about how your congregation can get involved. This meeting is for pastors, mission leaders, and anyone interested in participating in an international short-term mission trip to Costa Rica in 2026.

This meeting will be offered in a hybrid format with both in-person and online participation available.

The in-person meeting will be held at First Baptist Church of Savoy, 1602 S. Prospect Ave., Savoy, IL 61874.

If you are joining the meeting remotely, please message rob@abcgrr.org and the ZOOM meeting link will be sent to you before August 3.





Blood Drive

Thanks to all those who participated in the Community Blood Center blood drive on July 20th. We had 14 participants and collected 12 units of blood. The blood center was in a critical shortage so they especially appreciated having the blood drive when we did.

Thanks for Saving a Life!

Blood Center

Community

Upcoming Worship Schedule

—In-person in the Sanctuary and LIVE on Facebook at 10:50 a.m. or 1:00 p.m. on our website—

UPCOMING SERMON SERIES2025 AUGUST PREACHING SCHEDULE

The Beloved Community of FBC KCMO Rev. Dr. Dezo Schreiner, preaching

Sunday, August 3rd— 10:50am

"Love - The Greatest Fruit of the Spirit," based on 1 Corinthians 13:1-8;

John 13:34-35. Pastor Dezo, preaching. Communion Sunday.

+ Sunday, August 10th, — 10:50am

"Joy - The Fruit of the Spirit," based on John 15:9-11; Philippians 4:4.

Pastor Dezo preaching.

Sunday, August 17th, — 10:50am

"Peace - The Fruit of the Spirit," based on Philippians 4:6-9; John 14:27.

Pastor Dezo, preaching.

+ Sunday, August 24th, — 10:50am

"Patience - The Fruit of the Spirit," based on James 5:7-11; Romans 12:12.

Pastor Dezo, preaching.

+ Sunday, August 31st, — 10:50am

"Kindness - The Fruit of the Spirit," based on Ephesians 4:32; Colossians 3:12.

Pastor Dezo, preaching.

FOOD PANTRY

RED BRIDGE FOOD PANTRY ACTIVITY DATES

Monday, August 4th — 1:15-3:00 p.m.– Restocking Day (Volunteers Needed!)

Wednesday, August 13th 6PM — Deadline for clients call Food Pantry Phone Line. If you know of a family in need of food assistance, have them call the Food Pantry Line (816–908-7800) anytime BEFORE 6 p.m. on Wed., August 13th. They will need to provide the requested information and a phone number. They will then receive a return call which must be answered before their request for food can be processed.

Friday, August 15th — 1:15-3:15 p.m. – Fill Food Pantry Orders

Saturday, August 16th — 9:00-11:00 a.m. – Clients Pick Up Orders

⇒ Potential clients who live in our south Kansas City area can be referred to call:

816-908-7800

Red Bridge Food Pantry NEEDS — AUGUST 2025:

- ⇒ Canned Fruit
- \Rightarrow Jelly
- ⇒ Paper Products (ex: toilet paper, paper towels, etc.)
- ⇒ Personal Hygiene Items (ex: deodorant, shampoo, toothpaste, etc.)
- ⇒ Laundry Detergent
- ⇒ Household Cleaning Items (dish soap, trash bags)

Contact Tarah Kruger with any questions at tarahkruger@sbcglobal.net

In July we served 11 families with 35 individuals. We had wonderful peaches from the St. Peter's and All Saints orchard this month. *Thank you!*



Would you like a tour of our building? Or do you have any questions about our history, our faith, denomination or more? **Let us know.**

Church Calendar

- August 3rd Sunday, at 9:30 a.m. Journeys Bible Study Class (Cross-Generations Classroom)
- August 3rd Sunday, at 9:30 a.m. Children's Sing & Shout (Children's Choir Time)
- August 3rd Sunday, at 10:00 a.m. Musical Ensemble Rehearsal All are Welcome!
- August 3rd "Love The Greatest Fruit of the Spirit," based on 1 Corinthians 13:1-8; John 13:34-35; Pastor Dezo, preaching.
- August 4th Monday, 1:15 p.m. Restock Pantry with Donations
- August 5th Tuesday, Congregational Check-in and Bible Study (via Zoom at 10:00 a.m.)
- August 6th Wednesday, 6:30-8:30 p.m. FBC Music Ministries on Hiatus: June-Aug. 13th, 2025
- August 10th Sunday, at 9:30 a.m. Journeys Bible Study Class (Cross-Generations Classroom)
- August 10th Sunday, at 9:30 a.m. Children's Sing & Shout (Children's Choir Time)
- August 10th Sunday, at 10:00 a.m. Musical Ensemble Rehearsal All are Welcome!
- August 10th "Joy The Fruit of the Spirit," based on John 15:9-11; Philippians 4:4; Pastor Dezo, preaching.
- August 12th Tuesday, Congregational Check-in and Bible Study (via Zoom at 10:00 a.m.)
- August 13th Wednesday, Deadline to Request Food from the Food Pantry
- August 13th Wednesday, 6:30-8:30 p.m. FBC Music Ministries on Hiatus: June-Aug. 13th, 2025
- August 15th Friday, 1:15 p.m. Fill Client Food Pantry Orders
- August 16th Saturday, 9:00-11:00 a.m. Clients Pick Up Food Pantry Orders
- August 17th Sunday, at 9:30 a.m. Journeys Bible Study Class (Cross-Generations Classroom)
- August 17th Sunday, at 9:30 a.m. Children's Sing & Shout (Children's Choir Time)
- August 17th Sunday, at 10:00 a.m. Musical Ensemble Rehearsal All are Welcome!
- August 17th "Peace The Fruit of the Spirit," based on Philippians 4:6-9; John 14:27; Pastor Dezo, preaching.
- August 17th Sunday, 12:00 p.m. Executive Council Meeting
- August 19th Tuesday, Congregational Check-in and Bible Study (via Zoom at 10:00 a.m.)
- August 20th Wednesday, 6:30-8:30 p.m. FBC Music Ministries Starts Back Up!
- August 24th Sunday, at 9:30 a.m. Journeys Bible Study Class (Cross-Generations Classroom)
- August 24th Sunday, at 9:30 a.m. Children's Sing & Shout (Children's Choir Time)
- August 24th Sunday, at 10:00 a.m. Musical Ensemble Rehearsal All are Welcome!
- August 24th "Patience The Fruit of the Spirit," based on James 5:7-11; Romans 12:12; Pastor Dezo, preaching.
- August 26th Tuesday, Congregational Check-in and Bible Study (via Zoom at 10:00 a.m.)
- August 27th Wednesday, 6:30-8:30 p.m. FBC Music Ministries
- August 30th Saturday, 4:00 p.m. Patty Vann Celebration of Life
- August 31st Sunday, at 9:30 a.m. Journeys Bible Study Class (Cross-Generations Classroom)
- August 31st Sunday, at 9:30 a.m. Children's Sing & Shout (Children's Choir Time)
- August 31st Sunday, at 10:00 a.m. Musical Ensemble Rehearsal All are Welcome!
- August 31st "Kindness The Fruit of the Spirit," based on Ephesians 4:32; Colossians 3:12; Pastor Dezo, preaching.

KC JAZZ VESPERS: Our next series will be this Fall beginning:

Sunday, August 16th 6-8pm Millie Edwards and Band

JOIN US ... JOIN US!

for 100 minutes of

popular Jazz!





SUNDAY, AUGUST 17TH 6PM MILLIE EDWARDS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST 6PM WILL MATTHEWS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19TH 6PM MIKOLE KAAR



TIME SENSITIVE INFORMATION



Beloved Community of First Baptist Kansas City, MO

100 West Red Bridge Rd, Kansas City, MO 64114





August Birthdays

Enzo Schreiner	01
Nicole Fugitt	03
Cameron Leonard	05
Benjamin Schreiner	07
Charlotte Schreiner	07
Patricia Betteridge	80
Robin King	09
Mark Riles	14
Diana Parker	15
Justin Fugitt	18
Gerri Brown- Roane	20
Daylin Rodriguez Ortet	20
Dixie Kelly	23
Andy Schreiner	24
Dalie R. Ortet	29



TUESDAY MORNING, 10AM CONGREGATIONAL CHECK-IN AND BIBLE STUDY ON THE TOPIC OF DISCOURAGEMENT

JOIN US! (TAUGHT BY PASTOR DEZO)

Method 1 – Video and Audio by Smartphone/Tablet/PC Method 2 – Audio ONLY

1. Go to https://us02web.zoom.us/j/555892911?
pwd=SFNmQUIvT0tRaHIDaVYrN3I5bzJVQT09

1. Call 312.626.6799 US (Chicago)

2. Meeting ID: 555 892 911

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3. Password: 1

3. Password: 1

Website: www.belovedkc.org/

TO WATCH OUR WORSHIP SERVICE LIVE AT 10:50AM ON FACEBOOK GO TO: www.facebook.com/fbckc/

TO WATCH IT ON THE CHURCH'S WEBSITE GO TO:

www.belovedkc.org/watch

(The services will be posted on our website at 1:00PM)