



Beloved Community of First Baptist Kansas City, MO

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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 - FEBRUARY 2026

Pastor
Rev. Dr. Dezo Schreiner

Celebrating Black History Month Matters

Each February, our church observes Black History Month with intention and care. For us, this is more than a cultural observance. It is an act of faithful remembrance. It is a way for the Church to honor God's work through God's people and to tell the truth about our shared past so that we may live more faithfully in the present.

Many of us were raised with an incomplete version of history, one that highlighted some stories while overlooking or erasing others. Black History Month helps correct that imbalance by lifting up the voices, leadership, courage, and contributions of Black Americans who have shaped our nation and our churches. Our story as a country and as the Church is richer and more truthful when all God's people are remembered.

Scripture reminds us that remembering is holy work. God repeatedly calls Israel and us to remember deliverance, covenant, and faithfulness across generations. In that same spirit, Black History Month invites us to remember the strength, suffering, creativity, and deep faith of our Black siblings whose lives continue to bless and challenge us.

What began in 1926 as Negro History Week grew into a month-long observance to ensure that history would be told more fully and honestly. This commitment to remembrance is shared beyond the United States, reminding us that the Black experience is part of a global story of resilience, faith, and perseverance.

Black History Month is not separate from American history or church history. It is essential to it. When stories are ignored or erased, we all lose something. When they are restored, we gain wisdom, depth, and truth.

Throughout the month of February, our worship will reflect and honor Black history and contributions. We will also host a special events - "Sarah's Oil" movie showing on Sunday, February 8th, vocalist recital by Marvin Byas on Saturday, February 21st, and A-Flat Youth Orchestra performance on Sunday, February 22nd. All are invited to attend and celebrate together.

Observing Black History Month is not about guilt or looking backward with regret. It is about honesty, gratitude, and hope. It is about recognizing how God has always been at work, often through people the world tried to overlook. Let us celebrate this month together. I also want to encourage to go support a black owned restaurant.

May this season help us continue to grow into a church where every person is seen, valued, and welcomed as a beloved child of God.

Pastor Dezo Schriener

Announcements

BLACK HISTORY MONTH "FEBRUARY FINE ARTS FEST"

- **Sunday, Feb.8 at 12:15pm** - "Sarah's Oil" movie showing (Fireside Room) (Lunch will be provided)
- **Saturday, Feb.21 at 2:00pm** - a *Vocalist Recital* presented by Marvin Byas [BUY- az], IV.
- **Sunday, Feb.22 at 3:00pm** - The A-Flat Youth Orchestra performance



NEED VIDEO/SOUND/ STREAMING VOLUNTEERS!

We are looking for volunteers to help in the sound booth. It would be good to give Matt and Bill a break every once in a while. Let us know if you would like to help.

Thank you!



Spotlight on Kerry Triplett

Kerry grew up in St. Louis as part of a big family. He is one of six kids, with four boys and two girls. The siblings came in two waves of three, separated by a four-year gap, and he is part of the second group. Family has always been a huge part of his life, and that extends well beyond his immediate household. His extended family traces its roots back to Louisiana and now stretches across Arkansas, Memphis, St. Louis, Wichita, California, Detroit, Michigan, and the East Coast.

His path brought him to Kansas City by way of KU, Rock Chalk! At KU, he started out in Architectural Engineering, later switched to Business Administration and Computer Science, and wrapped it all up in about five and a half to six years. It was in Lawrence, shortly after returning from his first Gulf War deployment, that he met his wife, Jana.

He served 21 years in the military, retiring as a Master Sergeant. Desert Shield/Desert Storm was a 9 month operation for him, which included him being deployed into the land of sand. He was also involved in Enduring Freedom which was later changed to OIF and that was a 17 month operation for him. During that time, he was responsible for 300 soldiers and their families. Although he was on track to retire as a Command Sergeant Major, the intensity and responsibility ultimately led him to step away, closing out a long and meaningful military career.

Faith has always been present in his life, though it has taken different forms over the years. He grew up in a high-energy, all-day African-American Southern Baptist church. His grandfather was a preacher, but that style of worship wasn't the right fit for him as an adult. He and Jana found First Baptist Church to be exactly what they were looking for: family-friendly, welcoming, and grounded in community (with a special shoutout to Miss Shirley!). Since Jana's father is a priest, church has always been an important part of her life as well, making First Baptist a perfect fit for their family. They've been members for over 20 years. Together, they have two children: Travis and Evie.

Outside of church and family life, he enjoys sports and education and has a deep love for music. He's a big jazz fan, especially Pat Metheny (a Kansas City-area favorite from Lee's Summit!) and Donald Fagen, along with Stevie Wonder and a mix of country and classic rock. Looking ahead, he's planning a spring vacation and hopes to travel to Scotland this summer. It will be the first trip he and Jana have taken without the kids, which feels both exciting and a little different.

He's not really a "quote guy," but his personal motto says it all: "Action speaks louder than words." To him, a good plan doesn't mean much unless you follow through. His hope for the church is simple and heartfelt: that God continues to work the miracles he's already witnessed and that the church's legacy carries on far beyond any one person.



ALL ABOUT FIRST BAPTIST PEOPLE

WE PRAY FOR...

- We are sad to let you know that Pat Betteridge passed away on January 12th. The visitation will be on **Saturday, January 31st 12:00-1:00pm** at Speaks Suburban Chapel, followed by a funeral service beginning at 1:00pm. Our church is still planning an in-service memorial for Pat in an upcoming Sunday worship service.
- Leonard and Lyn Barbee, Leonard's grandson, Lucas Long, Jr., was tragically killed a few weeks ago at the age of 16. His service was last Saturday, January 24th.
- Rebecca Page, daughter of Toni and Dave, keep in your prayers. She is expecting, with a due date in late February, but has been diagnosed with gestational diabetes and suspected pre-eclampsia. Due to that, she will be induced February 1st. If you would like to offer practical support, here is her [meal train](#) and [baby registry](#).
- Sallie Smith regarding her health; she was recently hospitalized for two days due to high blood pressure. In better news, Susan Smith remains stable.
- Geneva Abel dealing with some health issues. And for her nephew, Andre.
- LaMoine Tatum, grieving the passing of her grandma. Please, keep the whole family in prayer as they face this difficult time. Funeral is on Saturday, January 31st.
- Kerry Triplett and his family in your thoughts and prayers. Several of the family members are dealing with health issues. His sister, Allyssa, is undergoing chemotherapy. Additionally, his mother-in-law is experiencing declining health due to dementia..
- Drs. Bill and Chris Rink in your prayers. Bill has been experiencing significant health issues, and we pray for his full recovery.
- Ron Thomas healing from broken ribs. He also continues to grieve the passing of Lynne.
- Dixie Kelly is healing from a fall. She lost some teeth due to the fall. Keep praying for her and for Jim Kelly.
- Valerie Carroll, daughter of Bill and Christine Rinck, and Mary Ann, granddaughter both dealing with health issues.
- Megan Severson successfully underwent a liver transplant last week, and the prognosis is positive. While the surgery was successful, a long recovery is anticipated. We will continue to provide updates. Please keep Megan and her family in your thoughts and prayers.
- Vonda Breedlove is experiencing a lot of pain, keep her in our prayers.
- Lynette Adkins's family, several of them have experienced car accidents this year.
- Sue Hansen at Brookdale Care Center in the memory care unit.
- Pray for Marcena and Luther and their brother as their sister-in-law recently passed away.



WE GIVE THANKS TO ...

- Matt Clingan, Bill Humenczuk, and Lamoine Tatum for their faithful service in handling the technology and livestreaming our worship service.
- Laurie Tourtellot, our hospitality chair, for coordinating our delicious Annual Meeting Dinner in January. 18 2026. Thank you to all who contributed. All the casseroles were so yummy!
- Kerry Triplett, Bill Humenczuk, our continuing moderators, and all the other leaders elected to serve our congregation in 2026.

WE REJOICE WITH ...

- Mark and Cherish Sharp who joined our church on January 18th, 2026.

WE SHARE OUR LONG-TERM PRAYER FOR...

Nancy Bundy (Fighting Cancer) — Leonard Barbee — The Dawdys, Avery & Gregory Family — Rodie (Pat Hester's Friends) — Mia Gunter (Care-Giver for Evelyn Brooks) — Evelyn Brooks (Suffering from severe memory issues) — Tim Link — Vonda Breedlove — The Chandler Family — Lilly Atcheson (Grieving that passing of her sister, Esther) — Pat Betteridge — Justin Prigel (In the Military) — Samuel Okwo (US National Guard Training)



Missions

We are planning a mission trip to Nicaragua in 2027!



Please let Margo Humenczuk know if you'd like to be included in the information sessions on the trip that will be held after the first of the year.



Whether or not you're able to engage in mission with the team, your support of the Savers' clothing and household items drive would be greatly appreciated. Your cast off goods can provide funds for the team training and delivery of water filters to families with no access to clean water. Bring items to church anytime.



Doing a New Year's Clean Out? Donate unwanted items to our Savers Drive!

Whether or not you're able to engage in mission with the team, your support of the Savers' clothing and household items drive would be greatly appreciated. Your cast-off goods can provide funds for the team training and delivery of water filters to families with no access to clean water.

Savers is a thrift store that will pay the church for items donated to our drive by our members, friends and community. We are paid by the pound for your unwanted household items, kitchenware, nick knacks, clothing, toys, shoes, camping gear, etc. Please pack clean clothing, towels, linens and other soft goods in clean trash bags.

Please bring household items (hard goods) in boxes. There are boxes for clothing, hard goods, books and shoes by the outside door into the commons. We will be collecting for several months, so you have plenty of time to go through closets, drawers, etc.

Remember, all the money earned from the goods taken to Savers will be used for the mission trip costs for water filters, training for volunteers, supplies for VBS done in Nicaragua, etc.



Clean out your closets for the Beloved Community of First Baptist Church Kansas City, MO!



We Are Collecting

CLOTHES

Men's, Women's and Children's Clothes, Coats, Shoes, Scarves, Handbags, Wallets, Fashion Accessories, Ties, Belts, Backpacks, Etc.

HOUSEHOLD TEXTILES

Bedding, Comforters, Blankets, Sheets, Towels, Linen, Tablecloths, Curtains, Pillows, Etc.

Please gather clothes and household textiles in bags. All items must be clean and in sellable condition.



The holidays are historically a difficult time for blood donations; however, this holiday season brings added challenges. Our current blood inventory is approximately **5,000 units lower than this same time last year**, making every donation critical as we work to build inventory heading into January.

Please go to www.savealifenow.org to find your closest donation location. *Donations made now are essential to rebuilding and stabilizing inventory as we enter the new year.*



**Community
Blood Center**

FOOD PANTRY

RED BRIDGE FOOD PANTRY ACTIVITY DATES

Monday, February 2nd — 1:15-3:00 p.m. — Restocking Day
(Volunteers Needed!)

Wednesday, February 18th 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., February 18th.** 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, February 20th — 1:15-3:15 p.m. — Fill Food Pantry Orders

Saturday, February 21st — 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 — FEBRUARY 2026:

- ⇒ Gluten free options
- ⇒ Instant mashed potatoes
- ⇒ Facial tissues
- ⇒ Shampoo
- ⇒ Hand/body lotion
- ⇒ Laundry detergent (small bottles)

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



Scan to
Donate
online!

Through your generosity the Pantry in January was able to help 13 families with 32 individuals, including a new client (working mom who needs gluten free items) and 2 homeless men who learned about us from a flyer. These families who have "too much month at the end of the paycheck" or are on fixed incomes (or less) really appreciate the help you provide--thank you!!

FBC Music -- Eyvonne



 ***It's Time everybody!! We're having a
fabulous Black History Month —
FEBRUARY FINE ARTS FEST*** 

Happy February Beloved Community of FBC! Here we are into our second month of a new year and I am grateful and thankful to be here with our Community to celebrate another Black History Month with our Friends and Church Family!

The FBC Black History and Women's History Month Group have prepared great things for this celebration, during our worship services and I have a couple of events "up my sleeve" again, sponsored by our FBC Music Ministry.

For the weekend of February 21st-22nd we will be graced once again by Marvin Byas, IV as he and Wendy Kleintank will present a Saturday afternoon vocal music recital entitled, "I'll Rise Up, a Black History Month Reflection". Their recital will be held in the FBC Sanctuary on Sat., Feb. 21st at 2pm. Admission donations will be received, with the proceeds going to the performing artists and to the FBC BHM/Women's History

Month Committee as seed funds for next year's celebration activities.

Darryl Chamberlain and his A-Flat Youth Orchestra will make their 4th Annual return to enlighten primarily and to entertain for certain with the wide variety of orchestral music of the African-American Diaspora.

Even in the midst of so many victories received by the Music Students of the A-Flat Music Studio, Inc., due to the turmoil of our times, tragedy has struck among the students of this cherished organization and that same loss has rippled out to touch members of our own Church Family. It is my desire to begin the steps to establish a music scholarship/endowment fund for the A-Flat Music Studio in the name of young



Lucas Long, Jr., Percussionist

Lucas Long recently had his light of kindness, respectfulness and love for God extinguished by random gunfire on his walk home from school in early January. Lucas is the Great-Grandson of our own Beloved Community member, Leonard Barbee. To begin the process of starting this memorial scholarship/endowment fund, we will dedicate the concert admission donations for this second day of our

FEBRUARY FINE ARTS FEST

to the A-Flat Music Studio, Inc. This concert event will also be held **in the Sanctuary** of our **Beloved Community Church** on **Sunday, February 22nd, at 3:00 pm, in the afternoon.** If you are not able to attend this event in-person, would you please inform as many people as you can? Invite them to come as your special guest or you could send the word out among your social media contacts! We hope to see you at our many events this year! Come as you can -- AND BRING FRIENDS! Grace to you, and peace, from God the Father, comfort and joy from our Holy Spirit wrapped in the sacrificial love of our Savior Jesus Christ.

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—

The Beloved Community of FBC KCMO

SERMON SERIES: A CALL FOR ALL OF US 2026 FEBRUARY PREACHING SCHEDULE

+ Sunday, February 1st — 10:50am

"Called to Speak and to Listen," based on James 1:19-27.

Pastor Dezo, preaching. First Sunday of Black History Month. Communion Sunday.

+ Sunday, February 8th — 10:50am

"Called to Reconciliation," based on 2 Corinthians 5:16-20.

Pastor Dezo, preaching.

+ Sunday, February 15th — 10:50am

"The Great Commission: A Call for All of Us," based on Matthew 28:16-20.

Pastor Dezo, preaching.

+ Sunday, February 18th — 6:00pm

Ash Wednesday. Simple Meal and Service in the Fireside Room.

An Ash Wednesday Reflection will be given by Pastor Dezo.

+ Sunday, February 22nd — 10:50am

The First Sunday of Lent "A Call to Reflection," based on Luke 5:16.

Pastor Dezo, preaching.

SUMMARY OF ANNUAL MEETING

The 170th Annual Congregational Meeting was successfully held on January 18, 2026, where a balanced budget for 2026 was adopted. We are especially grateful that for the first time in decades no funds were withdrawn from our unrestricted endowment in 2025. Despite a challenging increase of \$15,000 in insurance costs for 2026, with extensive efforts by our pastor, broker, and leaders failing to find a better option—we moved forward trusting that God will provide.

Our Moderator Kerry Triplett led the meeting, which included the election of church leaders for 2026 and the presentation of annual reports from every Board and Committee.

As we look ahead to our 171st anniversary in April 2026, we celebrate our legacy as the oldest continuing Protestant church founded in Kansas (established in 1855). We believe God has been faithful to us and will continue to be with us in the future.

Financials

OFFERINGS



February Offering

In February, we receive the Deacon Communion Offering, to assist those within and near to our church in crisis or transition. Finally, we receive the Youth Penny Fund for upcoming church mission trips.

Please give generously!



January Communion

Our January, Special Offering goes to the American Baptist Retired Ministers and Missionaries Love Offering, expressing our thanks for all the retired ABC pastors and missionaries.

We gave: \$120.00



AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES USA
Serving as the hands and feet of Christ

Church Calendar

- **February 1st** — Sunday, 9:30 a.m. Journeys Bible Study Class (Cross-Generations Classroom)
- **February 1st** — Sunday, 10:00 a.m. Musical Ensemble Rehearsal - All are Welcome!
- **February 1st** — **"Called to Speak and to Listen," based on James 1:19-27.**
Pastor Dezo, preaching. First Sunday of Black History Month. Communion Sunday.
- **February 1st** — Sunday, 12:00 p.m. Inquirers Gathering (Fireside Room)
- February 2nd — Monday, 1:15 p.m. Restock Pantry with Donations
- February 2nd — Monday, 6:00-8:00 p.m. MORE2 Community Conversation (Sanctuary)
- February 3rd — Tuesday, Congregational Check-in and Bible Study (via Zoom at 10:00 a.m.)
- February 4th — Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. Celestial Ringers (Handbell Ensemble rehearsal)
- February 4th — Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. Chancel Singers (Choir rehearsal)
- **February 8th** — Sunday, 9:30 a.m. Journeys Bible Study Class (Cross-Generations Classroom)
- **February 8th** — Sunday, 10:00 a.m. Musical Ensemble Rehearsal - All are Welcome!
- **February 8th** — **"Called to Reconciliation," based on 2 Corinthians 5:16-20.**
Pastor Dezo, preaching.
- **February 8th** — "Sarah's Oil" movie showing at 12:15 p.m. (Fireside Room)
- February 10th — Tuesday, Congregational Check-in and Bible Study (via Zoom at 10:00 a.m.)
- February 11th — Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. Celestial Ringers (Handbell Ensemble rehearsal)
- February 11th — Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. Chancel Singers (Choir rehearsal)
- February 12th — Thursday, 12:00-1:00 p.m. Buttry Center Zoom Event
- **February 15th** — Sunday, 9:30 a.m. Journeys Bible Study Class (Cross-Generations Classroom)
- **February 15th** — Sunday, 10:00 a.m. Musical Ensemble Rehearsal - All are Welcome!
- **February 15th** — **"The Great Commission: A Call for All of Us," based on Matthew 28:16-20.**
Pastor Dezo, preaching.
- February 16th — Monday, FBC Offices Closed in observance of President's Day
- February 17th — Tuesday, Congregational Check-in and Bible Study (via Zoom at 10:00 a.m.)
- **February 18th** — **Ash Wednesday - Service at 6:00 p.m.**
- February 18th — Wednesday, Deadline to Request Food from the Food Pantry
- February 18th — Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. Celestial Ringers (Handbell Ensemble rehearsal)
- February 18th — Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. Chancel Singers (Choir rehearsal)
- February 20th — Friday, 1:15 p.m. Fill Client Food Pantry Orders
- February 21st — Saturday, 9:00-11:00 a.m. Clients Pick Up Food Pantry Orders
- February 21st — Saturday, 2:00 p.m. BHM Vocalist Recital presented by Marvin Byas
- **February 22nd** — Sunday, 9:30 a.m. Journeys Bible Study Class (Cross-Generations Classroom)
- **February 22nd** — Sunday, 10:00 a.m. Musical Ensemble Rehearsal - All are Welcome!
- **February 22nd** — **The First Sunday of Lent "A Call to Reflection," based on Luke 5:16.**
Pastor Dezo, preaching.
- **February 22nd** — Sunday, 3:00 p.m. The A-Flat Youth Orchestra Performance
- February 24th — Tuesday, Congregational Check-in and Bible Study (via Zoom at 10:00 a.m.)
- February 25th — Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. Celestial Ringers (Handbell Ensemble rehearsal)
- February 25th — Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. Chancel Singers (Choir rehearsal)

Register Here:

<https://zoom.us/join/zoom/register/3AskUKqGSKKE9eEdmdBiqQ#/registration>

Faithful Action: For Such A Time As This



Date: *February 12, 2026 12:00 pm*

Location: *Virtual*

Faithful Action: For Such A Time As This

Zoom Webinar

Thursday, February 12th at 12-1 pm (Central time)

Presented by: Rev. Dr. Daniel Buttry

FREE SHREDDING!!!

Have sensitive documents lying around?
We have a shredding bin available for
members to shred their documents in
the FBC Office.



TIME SENSITIVE INFORMATION



**Beloved Community
of First Baptist
Kansas City, MO**

100 West Red Bridge Rd,
Kansas City, MO 64114

Place
Stamp
Here

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**

February Birthdays

Dennis Fugitt	11
Brielle Crosby	12
Shelbi Neel	13
Pat Hester	14
Melba McIntosh	27
Jill Clingan	28



**TUESDAY MORNING, 10AM CONGREGATIONAL CHECK-IN
AND BIBLE STUDY ON THE BOOK OF ISAIAH**

JOIN US!

(TAUGHT BY PASTOR DEZO)

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

1. Go to <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/555892911?pwd=SFNmQUlVTDtRaHlDaVYrN3I5bzJlVQT09>
2. Meeting ID: 555 892 911
3. Password: 1

Method 2 – Audio ONLY

1. Call 312.626.6799 US (Chicago)
2. Meeting ID: 555 892 911
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)