



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 - JUNE 2026

Pastors
Rev. Dr. Dezo Schreiner
Dr. Megan Bedford-Strohm

A Heart for Global Mission

I often refer to myself as a product of mission work. When I was growing up, my mother worked full time as a manager at a mission compound. Many of my childhood friends were missionary kids. Because of that, I have always had a special place in my heart for missionaries and Global Servants.

One of my dreams was to become a medical missionary. Though my life did not unfold exactly as I once envisioned, I continue to love learning about the many ways mission work is transforming lives around the world.

There are many ways we can learn about the work our Global Servants are doing. One way is simply to meet them, listen to their stories, and ask questions. Recently, Global Servant Christy Lafferty was in town, and we are grateful to our beloved members Margo and Bill for hosting her. Many of us had the opportunity to hear about her work in Nicaragua.

One church member summarized the experience of meeting Christy beautifully: "It was inspiring to learn about the wide reach of the work of AMOS, and how they are providing loving, holistic healthcare even in the most rural communities in Nicaragua. Christy herself was also very inspiring, in that she grew up in the Midwest but has now dedicated 15 years to public health in Nicaragua. She is deeply integrated there, while also maintaining bridges with American Baptist churches like ours here in the U.S., so we can be involved in this wonderful work and stay connected as a global church. I especially love the postpartum care element of AMOS's work, and how they provide kits to mothers to meet their basic needs right after their babies are born."

That is a powerful example of how much we can learn when we take time to interact with our Global Servants. Their stories remind us that mission is not simply something happening far away. It is part of who we are as the body of Christ, connected across cultures, countries, and communities.

Another way we can learn is by going on mission trips. Our church tries to offer this opportunity every year or every other year. My first mission trip with our church was in 2015 to Deborah's House in Mexico, and that trip changed my life forever. Our next mission trip will be to Nicaragua in 2027. I encourage you to consider going if you are able. And if you cannot go, perhaps you can help sponsor someone else. Mission trips often change our lives in ways we cannot fully understand until later.

Another way to be engaged, even from a place closer to home, is by attending the World Mission Conference, which usually takes place every other year. This year, it will be held July 29–31 in Orlando, Florida. Many of our Global Servants will be there to share about their work with the larger American Baptist family. If you know someone who may be dreaming of becoming a missionary or Global Servant, encourage them to attend. If you are able to sponsor a person or family to go, consider doing so. Lives are being transformed around the world through this work.

Jesus said in Matthew 9:37–38, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

There is still much work to be done. There are people who may feel called to join in God's mission but do not yet know where to begin. Let us help them find a way. Encourage them to talk with Global Servants. Invite them to consider mission trips. Tell them about the World Mission Conference. We never know how God may use a conversation, an invitation, or an opportunity to awaken a calling.

Most of all, let us continue to pray for our Global Servants who are serving now, and for the ones God is still preparing.

Pastor Dezo Schriener

Announcements

Join us
IN THE COMMENTS
after worship
AS WE CELEBRATE OUR
GRADUATES
AND
Eyvonne
AS SHE CONCLUDES HER SERVICE
AS THE MUSIC DIRECTOR
IN OUR CHURCH

invites you to:

ART NIGHT

for Children & Families

THURSDAY, JUNE 11

6:00-8:00 PM

A relaxed evening for families to create and play together.

WHAT TO EXPECT

- Open-ended process art activities for children ages 3+
- Bubbles & sidewalk chalk
- Light refreshments

Beloved Community - Fireside Room and Patio
100 Red Bridge Rd
Kansas City, MO 64114

We would like to place an order for black baseball hats with the church logo on them. The hats will be \$8 each. Payments can be made by cash, check, or online through our website.

Please let us know if you would like to order one. Thank you!

YOU ARE INVITED
TO THE WEDDING OF
DALINE
DESAUGUSTE
— and —
STEVE
STUART

JUNE | 5 | 2026

2 O'CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON

BELOVED COMMUNITY OF
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH KANSAS CITY, MO
100 WEST RED BRIDGE RD.
KANSAS CITY, MO 64114

Reception to follow

We're looking for volunteers to help maintain our church garden! If you're interested in helping plant, water, weed, or keep the garden looking beautiful, please let us know! We'd love to have you join us!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Executive Council will be meeting after worship on June 14th 2026 in the Fireside Room.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING



Are you interested in volunteering for our wedding committee? Let our church office know!

Please RSVP to the Church Office Manager by email (theoffice@fbckcmo.net) or on the **Green Sheet**.

In Daline's words, "The church is my family. Everyone has been so supportive and so loving. I want them to celebrate our big day with us."

* The Transforming Congregation is taking a break for the month of June. You will be notified of the next meeting.

Continue to be in prayer during this discernment process. God is at work in our midst.

Transforming CONGREGATIONAL TEAM

Pentecost Sunday

We had a wonderful Pentecost Sunday! Thank you Pastor Megan for the wonderful Art activity. We are thankful!



LAST CALL



These are the items that we need to conclude the Savers Drive:

- Clothing including shirts, ties, T's, suits, dresses, tops, bottoms, underwear, swimwear, hats, coats, gloves, scarves and socks (even mismatched!)
- Linens including sheets, towels, decorative pillows, towels, wash clothes, quilts, bedspreads, tablecloths and rugs
- Shoes, boots, handbags, belts, wallets, purses, cloth or leather bags, backpacks
- Storage bins (18" or less, 8 gallons or less), decor, candles, knick knacks, figurines, toys, games, small electronics
- Small household appliances, pots, pans, bakeware, utensils, drinking glasses, mugs, coffee cups, water bottles, serving dishes
- Tools, unused school supplies, sporting goods, fabric, sewing items, craft supplies and kits, vases, jewelry and decor for any season.
- Books: all genre, hard and soft cover. No encyclopedias or textbooks.



We are paid by the weight of the items, so heavy pots and pans, tools, etc. are especially welcome. Clothing for any season is appropriate as long as it's clean. Please bring all items to the door by the blue awning by Monday, June 1st!

Congratulations to Pastor Megan on passing her final ordination examination with the Area V Ordination Council on May 28, 2026. She was unanimously affirmed in her call to pastoral ministry.



The church has now been given the green light to proceed with her ordination process. Her ordination service will take place at our church sometime in late summer.

Congratulations!

We give thanks to God for Pastor Megan, for her faithful preparation, and for this meaningful step in her journey of ministry.

ALL ABOUT FIRST BAPTIST PEOPLE

WE PRAY FOR...

- Bob Holloway who is now home.
- Melba McIntosh for strength. We give thanks for the healing that is taking place in her son's life.
- Vonda Breedlove is struggling with pain. She is really struggling to walk. It was good to see her at church on May 24th.
- Sue and Dennis Fugitt. Their daughter Megan who is only 42, is going through chemo for pancreatic cancer.
- LaMoine Tatum and her family.
- Geneva Abel dealing with health issues.
- Kerry Triplett and his family.
- Megan Severson (Recovering from Liver transplant).
- Lynette Adkins and her family. For her niece Shianne.
- Valerie Carroll, daughter of Bill and Christine Rinck, and Mary Ann, granddaughter, courageously facing health issues in Ireland.
- Dixie and Jim Kelly. Dixie's brother Wilbur passed away while on a cruise in London.
- Susan Smith is receiving good care at home. Pray for her and for Sallie's health.
- Toni Page's Mother dealing with health issues.
- Tom Ott, Jay Manda's father in law.
- Daylin, Dalie Rodriguez Ortet and Noah.
- Sue Hansen at Brookdale Care Center in the memory care unit



WE GIVE THANKS TO ...

- To the Transforming Congregation team and to all of the members for have been participating in the discernment process.

WE REJOICE WITH ...

- Those who are graduating.
- Lyn Barbee, graduated with her Bachelors in Psychology and Fritz Manda, graduating High School.
- Lyn Barbee's granddaughter and grandson graduating High School & PreK.

WE SHARE OUR LONG-TERM PRAYER FOR...

Sue Hansen at Brookdale (in memory Care)—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 — Justin Prigel (In the Military) — Samuel Okwo (US National Guard)



Our Graduates

Spotlight on Jesse Carpenter

My name is Jesse Carpenter, and I am the youngest of three children in the Thomas family. My elementary and high school years were both rewarding and a true blessing. I had the unique experience of having the same principal throughout all 12 years, who also served as my Sunday school teacher. He often referred to me as “Doubting Thomas”—a nickname I am still reflecting on, given that Thomas is my maiden name.



I am a graduate of Lane College, a private Christian Methodist Episcopal institution located in Jackson, Tennessee. I have remained a devoted Baptist and have celebrated over 20 years of membership at First Baptist Church of Kansas City, Missouri.

During my time at First Baptist, I have had the privilege of serving as Moderator, volunteer for the Food Pantry and as a member of the Scholarship Committee. As a returning Scholarship Committee member, I remain prayerful that we will continue to encourage scholarship recipients to give back to the church by sharing their talents as disciples of Christ.

I am a retired educator, having served in various roles including Teacher, Principal, and appointed Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education within the community. My commitment to service extends beyond education. I have been actively involved with Habitat for Humanity—both locally and internationally—as well as the Alvin Ailey Dance Troupe and other public service initiatives.

I enjoy sports, reading, and traveling. I have traveled to every continent except Australia, including participating in and supervising Delta/Habitat builds. One of the most meaningful experiences was helping build and dedicate 40 homes in Ghana, West Africa. Faith and love were at the heart of that project, including one in Kansas City, MO, as well as the construction of more than 100 Delta/Habitat homes across the United States.

It is truly an honor and a privilege to be part of First Baptist Church of Kansas City, Missouri, with its more than 170 years of remarkable service. May we continue to encourage and share our faith, foster an informed and engaged congregation, demonstrate our individual commitments, and emphasize the oneness we have in Jesus Christ.

Sincerely,
Jesse Carpenter

Missions

We are planning a mission trip to Nicaragua in 2027!

Thank YOU! For helping us gather items for our Savers' Drive. We are nearly done packaging all the donations in a way that they will be accepted by Savers and truly appreciate each of you for bringing in your unwanted clothing, household goods, books, toys, tools, etc. The funds will be used to support the mission trip to Nicaragua in 2027.



Exact dates to be determined shortly! Thanks again!

The Mission Team

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!



FOOD PANTRY

RED BRIDGE FOOD PANTRY ACTIVITY DATES

Monday, June 8th— 1:15-3:00 p.m.— Restocking Day
(Volunteers Needed!)

Wednesday, June 17th 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., June 17th. 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, June 19th— 1:15-3:15 p.m. — Fill Food Pantry Orders

Saturday, June 19th — 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 — JUNE 2026:

- ⇒ Women's Deodorant
- ⇒ Men's Deodorant
- ⇒ Canned Chicken
- ⇒ Canned Fruit (Mixed, Pineapple, Mandarin Oranges, Pears)
- ⇒ Any other items, either non-perishable food or household necessities

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



Scan to Donate online!

In May, we served 15 families with 43 individuals through YOUR help. Thank you so much!!

**Since we no longer get produce or meat products from Harvesters, any donation to the food pantry (at First Baptist Church) can be used for those purchases.

Financials

OFFERINGS



AMOS Health and Hope (AMOS) reduces health inequities in Nicaragua by empowering local leadership to prevent disease and save lives. AMOS Health and Hope (AMOS) is dedicated to reducing preventable deaths and improving the health and well-being of people who suffer from the unjust conditions of poverty. They provide health education, water filters in areas without clean water, and medical care in remote communities by training local leaders to prevent and treat common diseases and ailments. The Beloved Community of First Baptist Church partners with AMOS on out mission trips to Nicaragua.

We gave: \$72.00



JUNE OFFERING

Our Love Offering to the World

Our special offering for June is the One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) that supports emergency relief, funds for development projects and ministries to displaced persons with a focus on displaced persons, immigrants, refugees, asylum seekers and migrants both in the US and around the world. OGHS, in collaboration with our international partners, shows up all over the world delivering your love offering in practical and life-changing ways. Rebuilding lives and entire communities with God's love.

Please give generously.



The 2026 Flower Calendar has been posted on the bulletin board in the commons area.

*If you are interested in providing chancel flowers, please write your name on the date on the calendar and Kathie Manda will contact you for details.



FREE SHREDDING!!!

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



**Be on the lookout for our
2026 Fall Jazz Vespers
Performances**

Upcoming Worship Schedule

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

The Beloved Community of FBC KCMO

UPCOMING WORSHIP THEMES: 2026 PREACHING SCHEDULE A CALL TO CREATION CARE - A SUMMER SERIES

Creation care is not a political trend, it is a biblical calling. From Genesis to Revelation, Scripture teaches that the earth belongs to God, that human beings are entrusted with stewardship, and that caring for creation is part of loving God and neighbor.

+ Sunday, May 31st — 10:50am

“The Earth Is the Lord’s,” based on Psalm 24.

Pastor Dezo, preaching. Communion Sunday.

+ Sunday, June 7th — 10:50am

“Humanity’s First Vocation,” based on Genesis 2:4-15.

Pastor Megan preaching. Communion Sunday.

+ Sunday, June 14th — 10:50am

“The Groaning Creation,” based on Romans 8:18-25.

Pastor Dezo, preaching.

+ Sunday, June 21st — 10:50am - Happy Father’s Day

“Consider the Birds,” based on Matthew 6:25-34.

Pastor Dezo, preaching.

+ Sunday, June 28th — 10:50am

“Making All Things New,” based on Revelation 21:1-5; Isaiah 65:17-25.

Pastor Dezo, preaching.

Summer Art Night Series at Beloved Community

This summer, we will be hosting several “Art Nights” for children and their families. The first will be held on July 11 from 6–8 p.m. in the Fireside Room and spilling out onto the patio. We plan to have art project stations for various age groups, sidewalk chalk, bubbles, good tunes, and light refreshments. The idea is to host a relaxed, easy-access event for the local community and anyone else who may be interested. Like Jazz Vespers, it will be a chance to bless people with art, beauty, and community — in this case, especially families with young children.

Quite a number of families have already said they are coming, and the event has been advertised broadly, so we want to be prepared for whoever may come through our doors. If anyone is available to make light finger foods, serve refreshments, welcome guests, or help run the art stations, your help would be greatly appreciated. Please let us know if you are able to volunteer. Thanks so much in advance!



After this first Art Night, we will begin planning and advertising for the following two events, which are tentatively scheduled for July 16 and August 6.



My final Around & About entry as Dir. of Music/Organist






"Blessing & Glory & Honor & Power be unto you... Thank you Jesus, for blessing me!" —These are words from the Postlude the Jonas Bedford-Strohm and I played at the end of our April 26, 2026 Worship Service, last Sunday. The song was composed by Maurette Brown Clark & Paul Wright, III. I want to start my May newsletter entry with these words because they sound like a blessed benediction. As many of you know, benedictions are words of blessing, given at a time of departure.

I want our Beloved Community of friends to know that this will be my final entry for our Around and About newsletter as our Director of Music and Organist. Some months ago, we were given a mighty Word from the pulpit regarding our attempts, as Children of God to try to "serve two masters". Try though we will, it's not just "good advice" to not do that, but it's well... a mandate that serves us well in cementing our relationship with our Savior, our Mighty God and our Holy Spirit who years

to live with us and within our hearts. Some may query, "Aren't you stepping away from serving God by resigning from your positions in our FBC Music Ministries?" No, not really! I'm shedding my Leadership Role vs stepping away from our Music Ministry or from the Beloved Community. I will still be a PARTICIPANT in our Music Ministry! I'll be freed up actually, to do a wider variety of things in service through music than I ever have before, actually.

Though my Mother, Lillie Walker, is enjoying good health currently (I'm sure this is due to the prayers of our Beloved Community Members), her advancing years (4 Score & 10) are calling for more attention. As her Home Healthcare Assistant, and in keeping with God's commandment to "Honor our Mothers and Fathers that our days may be long upon the Earth", I've chosen to shift my focus to one of my lives rather than having both suffer from being spread too thin.

So, out of the millions of followers of our Mighty God who are also music leaders,  "I Will Trust - In the Lord  I Will Trust - In the Lord  (as another song goes) to bring to us an additional leader for our music ministry - - or, perhaps, as I have had the pleasure to do, we may already have another person within our Beloved Community who can stand up to fill this void and continue to move our church family ever forward within the shepharding of our Pastors. Otherwise, the word is out and the search is on!

My final Sunday will be May 31st. So, throughout the summer, we will have, as usual, Special Music presented by our own music ministry participants as well as guest musicians. Our service music will be presented by a mix of substitute/"supply" Organists and Candidates for our Organist-Director of Music position(s). The finalist(s) will be selected by the Music & Worship Committee (Sandi Leonard, Chair; David Page, Member; Eyvonne Walker & Rev., Dr. Dezo Schreiner - Ex-Officio Members) and will be called to official service in August if not sooner.

It has been a pleasure to serve the Lord with gladness over these past 3+ years! Though I am stepping down, I am by no means stepping "away" from our Beloved Community! Hope, Peace, Joy & Love to all in the power of our Holy Spirit!

Thank you Eyvonne for all that you have done for our church and music ministry over the years. Your dedication, talent, and heart have been such a blessing to so many. We are so glad we still get to see you in worship service. Wishing you many blessings!

Church Calendar

- **May 31st** — Sunday, 9:30 a.m. Journeys Bible Study Class (Cross-Generations Classroom)
- **May 31st** — Sunday, 10:00 a.m. Musical Ensemble Rehearsal - All are Welcome!
- **May 31st** — **“The Earth Is the Lord’s,” based on Psalm 24.**
Pastor Dezo, preaching.
- June 2nd — Tuesday, Congregational Check-in and Bible Study (via Zoom at 10:00 a.m.)
- June 5th — Friday, 2:00 p.m. Daline & Steve’s Wedding
- **June 7th** — Sunday, 9:30 a.m. Journeys Bible Study Class (Cross-Generations Classroom)
- **June 7th** — Sunday, 10:00 a.m. Musical Ensemble Rehearsal - All are Welcome!
- **June 7th** — **“Humanity’s First Vocation,” based on Genesis 2:4-15.**
Pastor Megan, preaching. Communion Sunday.
- June 8th — Monday, 1:15-3:00 p.m. Food Pantry Restock Day
- June 9th — Tuesday, Congregational Check-in and Bible Study (via Zoom at 10:00 a.m.)
- June 11th — Thursday, 6:00 p.m. Art Night for Children + Families
- **June 14th** — Sunday, 9:30 a.m. Journeys Bible Study Class (Cross-Generations Classroom)
- **June 14th** — Sunday, 10:00 a.m. Musical Ensemble Rehearsal - All are Welcome!
- **June 14th** — **“The Groaning Creation,” based on Romans 8:18-25.**
Pastor Dezo, preaching.
- **June 14th** — Sunday, 12:00 p.m. Executive Council Meeting
- June 16th — Tuesday, Congregational Check-in and Bible Study (via Zoom at 10:00 a.m.)
- June 17th — Wednesday, Food Pantry Client Deadline
- June 19th — Friday, FBC Offices Closed in observance of Juneteenth
- June 19th — Friday, 1:15 p.m. Fill Client Food Pantry Orders
- June 20th — Saturday, 9:00-11:00 a.m. Clients Pick Up Food Pantry Orders
- **June 21st** — Sunday, 9:30 a.m. Journeys Bible Study Class (Cross-Generations Classroom)
- **June 21st** — Sunday, 10:00 a.m. Musical Ensemble Rehearsal - All are Welcome!
- **June 21st** — **“Consider the Birds,” based on Matthew 6:25-34.**
Pastor Dezo, preaching. Happy Father’s Day.
- June 23rd — Tuesday, Congregational Check-in and Bible Study (via Zoom at 10:00 a.m.)
- **June 28th** — Sunday, 9:30 a.m. Journeys Bible Study Class (Cross-Generations Classroom)
- **June 28th** — Sunday, 10:00 a.m. Musical Ensemble Rehearsal - All are Welcome!
- **June 28th** — **“Making All Things New,” based on Revelation 21:1-5; Isaiah 65:17-25.**
Pastor Dezo, preaching.



Let us know!
We would like to include it in our service.

TIME SENSITIVE INFORMATION



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

100 West Red Bridge Rd,
Kansas City, MO 64114

Place
Stamp
Here



June Birthdays

Mark Sharp	01
Bailey Prigel	04
Susan Smith	05
Christina Rinck	06
Christine Garner	11
Sue Hansen	11
Ashlyn Mathis	18
Fortuna Ali	23
Debbie Ebright	30
Gary Ferguson	30



**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=SFNmQUlvT0tRaHlDaVYrN3I5bzJVQT09>
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 YOUTUBE GO TO:
www.youtube.com/@BelovedCommunityKC

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)