



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 - SEPTEMBER 2025

Pastor
Rev. Dr. Dezo Schreiner

The Joy of Truly Knowing One Another

Have you ever known someone for years but realized you never truly got to know them? As your pastor, I stand before you each Sunday in the pulpit. Many of you know me through my sermons, stories, and illustrations. Yet, there are parts of who we are that can only be discovered in conversation, outside of Sunday morning worship. That takes time, and it takes a genuine desire to connect.

Recently, I was blessed to spend time in a one-on-one conversation with a member of *The Transforming Congregation Team*. It was a joy to talk not only about church, but also about life, personal stories, experiences, and things we had never shared before. That kind of connection builds trust and deepens our bonds as the body of Christ.

I have seen the same joy spreading through our congregation. *The Transforming Congregation Team* has been leading us in this effort, encouraging us to spend intentional time together. I have heard so many of you say how meaningful these one-on-one conversations have been. One member told me with excitement, "I just had my one-on-one with Lynette. I want to get to know her more, so I'm planning to meet with her again soon." Friends, what a beautiful testimony of community!

Others are noticing, too. A visitor recently shared, "Wow, there is such a joyful and positive spirit in this congregation that I had not seen before." Another member observed during the passing of the peace and said to me, "These people genuinely enjoy being together." Glory to God for the work the Spirit is doing among us!

This also fits beautifully into our Next 170 Vision. As we continue to intentionally be and do what we want our legacy as a church to be in 2095. I think of the picture of the tree that the children along with Dr. Megan Bedford-Strohm hung on the wall in front of the sanctuary. It was empty a few weeks ago, but now it is covered with fruit, each fruit added by people in the congregation. This initiative reminds us that we are shaping our future together. Our participation in children's conversations and their participation in our worship services is a beautiful sign that all generations are working together to do the work God has called us to do. We are not just a church. We are a beloved community that does life together.

It is in that same spirit of getting to know one another that on September 28th, our whole Daycare family will join us for worship. Staff, parents, and children are all invited to come worship with us. What a beautiful day it will be when church members interact with our Punkin Patch family! We hope you will plan to attend and help host everyone. We will especially need help with the children, as there will be crafts and treats prepared for them. Imagine if over 50 families show up on September 28th. Will we be ready? I believe we can, so join us in this wonderful day of hospitality and fellowship.

Back in June, during our church workdays, I experienced this same spirit of community. As some brushed, others poured water, while others painted and organized, we were not only getting tasks done but also talking, laughing, and deepening our relationships. It is beautiful when we work side by side. We have **two more workdays coming up on September 6 and 7**. I hope many of you will join us. Together we can prepare our space to be a warm and welcoming place for members and visitors alike.

The Transforming Congregation Team is halfway through the first phase of the Listening program, and the fruit is already evident. People are talking more, laughing more, and building deeper friendships. Thank you to everyone who has participated so far and thank you in advance to those who will. This is one way God is transforming our church, and one way God will continue to move among us.

Let us keep showing genuine interest in one another, because in doing so, we grow closer not only to each other but also to the heart of God.

Pastor Dezo Schriener

Announcements

Two upcoming Church Work Days:

- * Saturday, September 6th, from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM
- * Sunday, September 7th, from 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM



We have various tasks planned, including light building duties, groundwork, landscaping, cleaning, organizing, and childcare.

Whether you enjoy hands-on work or not, these will be great opportunities to spend time together as a community.

Sign up on the **Green Sheet!**



Patty's burial service will be on Saturday, August 30th, 2025 at 3PM Longview Cemetery.

Anyone can attend.

Please keep Patty's family and friends in your prayers during this difficult time.

TRANSFORMED

The Transforming Congregation Team members are:

Carol Colston, David Page, Diana Parker, Eyvonne Walker, Jonas Bedford-Strohm, Lynette Adkins and Toni Page

We encourage you to participate in this sacred listening program as I believe our congregation will be transformed by it.

Let's get to know each other!



Brad Dawdy's Mom, Karen Hockaday Avery, passed away on August 20, 2025.

Her celebration of life will be held on **Thursday, September 4, 2025 at 10AM** at the Village Presbyterian Church in Prairie Village, Kansas.

FAITH LEADERSHIP IN THE CONTEXT OF CLIMATE CHANGE 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

🕒 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM (CT) 📍 Virtual 💰 Free



The Buttry Center
for Peace and Nonviolence

CENTRAL
SEMINARY
중앙신학대학교



Dr. Leigh Stearns
September 9

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



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.



Rev. Dr. Greg Hunt
September 23

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



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 affected by climate change.



Dr. Rachel Wheeler
October 14

Eco-spirituality: Nurturing spirituality and faith practices in the context of climate change.



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



Early Journey Bible Study
Sundays Mornings

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...

- Geneva, who is having a procedure on Friday 08/29/25. Pray for a smooth recovery.
- Brad and Vickie Dawdy grieving the passing of Brad's mom. Her service will be on **Thursday, 09/04/25 at 10 AM at Village Presbyterian Church** in Prairie Village.
- The family of Patty Vann. Patty's burial service will be on **Saturday, 08/30/25 at 3 PM Longview Cemetery.**
- Tim Link and family who are grieving the passing of Linda.
- Gay Barton, who is grieving the passing of John.
- Jim Kelly recovering from toe surgery.
- Dixie Kelly recovering from a second surgery for blockage arteries.
- A member healing from knee replacement surgery. Pray the swollen will go down.
- Kerry Triplett, 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's health as she cares for Susie.
- Bill and Chris Rinck. Valerie Carroll, daughter of Bill and Christine Rinck, and Mary Ann, granddaughter, courageously facing health issues 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, keep praying for him.
- Sue Fugitt experiencing back pain, at home.
- Debbie Ebright experiencing back pain.
- Pray for healing for Eyvonne's sister. Pray for Eyvonne as she cares for her family.



WE GIVE THANKS TO ...

- All the members who are participating in the Transforming Congregation program. It is going so well.
- 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) — 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 Carroll (Daughter of Bill & Chris Rinck) — Justin Prigel (In the Military)

Financials

OFFERINGS



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.

We gave: \$1,835.00

United in Christ,
Together in Mission

SEPTEMBER OFFERING



AMOS Health and Hope is a Christian 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that reduces health inequities in Nicaragua by empowering local leadership to prevent disease and save lives. Please give generously!

Spotlight on Susan Smith

We all know her simply as **Susie**. She is a gentle spirit with a deep love for children, music, and family.

She was born in Kansas, where her family lived on a farm in Blue Springs. Not long after, they moved to Richmond, Missouri, where Susie and her sister, Sallie, spent their childhood together. The two sisters have been part of our church family for many years. They fondly remember visiting when the church was still on Linwood Boulevard, and though they can't recall the exact year, they later became official members.



Education has always been close to Susie's heart. She earned both her Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Education from the University of Missouri-Kansas City. She even spent one summer studying math at Wentworth Military Academy in Lexington, Missouri, at a time when only a handful of girls were welcomed there in the summer..

Her love for teaching blossomed into a meaningful career. She taught in Head Start programs in Shawnee Mission, worked as a nursery teacher at Child World Preschool in Kansas City, taught at the Children's Visual Education Center, and later served as a substitute in the Kansas City Public Schools. Susie was also an active member of the **National Association for the Education of Young Children**. Whether in the classroom or here at church, she always found joy in nurturing little ones and helping them grow.

Music is another gift she shares. Susie can play both the piano and the harpsichord, and she even wrote songs of her own. She carried a love of adventure too, traveling with her mother to Alaska in the 1950s which is an experience she remembers fondly.

Perhaps one of the clearest reflections of Susie's character was her devotion to her family. When her mother was diagnosed with cancer, Susie made the selfless decision to step away from her teaching career to care for her. During the week she tended to her mother's needs, while Sallie cared for her on the weekends. It was a labor of love and an expression of the same kindness and devotion Susie showed throughout her life.

Animals also brought joy to Susie. She always had a dog, but at one point, she even had a pet duck named Smithy! Another unique memory is how she cared for wild rabbits her father found in their yard. Susie kept them safe in a cage and even took them along one summer to visit her grandmother Cox in Illinois.

Susie's story is one of faithfulness. Her faithfulness to her family, to her calling as a teacher, to her love of children, and to her church.

Susie is bedfast at home suffering from memory loss. Sallie is doing a beautiful job caring for her. I, Pastor Dezo saw Susie over a week ago. When I showed her videos of Flora and Grace walking, she laughed so much. She genuinely loves children.

Celestial Ringers are starting back up!



***Wednesday, September 3rd, at 6:30 p.m.
- Celestial Ringers (Handbell Ensemble rehearsal)

Both ensembles (Celestial Ringers at 6:30 p.m. & Chancel Singers at 7:30p.m.) will continue to rehearse every Wednesday starting September 3rd.

We look forward to making music together!



Missions

The recipient of our September offering is AMOS Health and Hope. Our church's partnership with AMOS is vital to the people of Nicaragua and it helps save lives. The organization's mission is to reduce preventable diseases such as diabetes and hypertension and to improve the health of the people who suffer from poverty in rural Nicaragua. Dr. Gabriella Woo Moreno is the current Executive Director. She is a Nicaraguan physician and public health leader with more than ten years of experience.



AMOS believes that through its partnerships with churches, individuals and communities, they strive to create a world where no child dies from preventable diseases. Here in the USA, we can take it granted that if we are diagnosed with diabetes or hypertension, we'll receive a prescription for medication from our physician. We will simply take it to our local pharmacy and our insurance will pay. We will take it as prescribed by the doctor and go on with our lives. Our life is not endangered as long as we take our medication as prescribed but that isn't the case in rural areas in Nicaragua where people die from these preventable diseases.

AMOS will train its Health Care Promoters to go into rural communities and work with local families to setup clean water stations so they will have clean water to drink and cook with. There are also Urban Clinics where families can go to see a doctor. All of this however, takes money.

AMOS future depends on our help. Please support this program with your generous donations. We at FBC Beloved Community want to continue to partner with this amazing organization.



AMOS partnership past 2017



AMOS partnership present 2024

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 SERIES 2025 SEPTEMBER PREACHING SCHEDULE

The Beloved Community of FBC KCMO

Rev. Dr. Dezo Schreiner, preaching

+ **Sunday, September 7th — 10:50am**

“Goodness,” based on Matthew 5:14-16; Romans 12:21.

Pastor Dezo, preaching. Communion Sunday.

+ **Sunday, September 14th — 10:50am**

“Faithfulness,” based on Lamentations 3:22-23; Matthew 25-21.

Jonas Bedford-Strohm preaching.

+ **Sunday, September 21st, — 10:50am**

“Gentleness and Self-Control,” based on Proverbs 16:32; Titus 3:2; 1 Corinthians 9:24-27.

Pastor Dezo, preaching.

+ **Sunday, September 28th, — 10:50am**

“Fruit That Lasts,” based on John 15:1-8.

Pastor Dezo, preaching.

Punkin Patch Sunday. Celebrating our Punkin Patch Families and Teachers.

FOOD PANTRY

RED BRIDGE FOOD PANTRY ACTIVITY DATES

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

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

Saturday, September 20th — 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 — SEPTEMBER 2025:

- ⇒ Canned Pasta
- ⇒ Canned Fruit
- ⇒ Boxed Meals (Hamburger Helper type)
- ⇒ Cleaning Products
- ⇒ Personal Hygiene Products
- ⇒ Trash Bags
- ⇒ Foil
- ⇒ Plastic Wrap

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

In August, we served 9 families with 27 individuals. Some things are just seasonal, so our needs may go up with the school year. We were blessed with freshly picked fruit from St. Peter's and All Saints 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

- September 1st — FBC Church Offices Closed in observance of Labor Day
- September 2nd — Tuesday, Congregational Check-in and Bible Study (via Zoom at 10:00 a.m.)
- September 3rd — Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. Celestial Ringers (Handbell Ensemble rehearsal)
- September 3rd — Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. Chancel Singers (Choir rehearsal)
- September 6th — Saturday, at 9:30 a.m. Church Work Day
- **September 7th** — Sunday, at 9:30 a.m. Journeys Bible Study Class (Cross-Generations Classroom)
- **September 7th** — Sunday, at 9:30 a.m. Children's Sing & Shout (Children's Choir Time)
- **September 7th** — Sunday, at 10:00 a.m. Musical Ensemble Rehearsal - All are Welcome!
- **September 7th** — "Goodness," based on **Matthew 5:14-16; Romans 12:21** Pastor Dezo, preaching. Communion Sunday.
- **September 7th** — Sunday, at 12:00 p.m. Deacon Meeting (Fireside Room)
- **September 7th** — Sunday, at 12:00 p.m. Church Work Day
- September 8th — Monday, 1:15 p.m. Restock Pantry with Donations
- September 9th — Tuesday, Congregational Check-in and Bible Study (via Zoom at 10:00 a.m.)
- September 10th — Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. Celestial Ringers (Handbell Ensemble rehearsal)
- September 10th — Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. Chancel Singers (Choir rehearsal)
- **September 14th** — Sunday, at 9:30 a.m. Journeys Bible Study Class (Cross-Generations Classroom)
- **September 14th** — Sunday, at 9:30 a.m. Children's Sing & Shout (Children's Choir Time)
- **September 14th** — Sunday, at 10:00 a.m. Musical Ensemble Rehearsal - All are Welcome!
- **September 14th** — "Faithfulness," based on **Lamentations 3:22-23; Matthew 25:21; Jonas** Bedford-Strohm, preaching.
- September 16th — Tuesday, Congregational Check-in and Bible Study (via Zoom at 10:00 a.m.)
- September 17th — Wednesday, Deadline to Request Food from the Food Pantry
- September 17th — Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. Celestial Ringers (Handbell Ensemble rehearsal)
- September 17th — Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. Chancel Singers (Choir rehearsal)
- September 19th — Friday, 1:15 p.m. Fill Client Food Pantry Orders
- September 20th — Saturday, 9:00-11:00 a.m. Clients Pick Up Food Pantry Orders
- **September 21st** — Sunday, at 9:30 a.m. Journeys Bible Study Class (Cross-Generations Classroom)
- **September 21st** — Sunday, at 9:30 a.m. Children's Sing & Shout (Children's Choir Time)
- **September 21st** — Sunday, at 10:00 a.m. Musical Ensemble Rehearsal - All are Welcome!
- **September 21st** — "Gentleness and Self-Control," based on **Proverbs 16:32; Titus 3:2; 1 Corinthians 9:24-27.** Pastor Dezo, preaching.
- **September 21st** — Sunday, 6:00-8:00 p.m. KC Jazz Vespers - Will Matthews
- September 23rd — Tuesday, Congregational Check-in and Bible Study (via Zoom at 10:00 a.m.)
- September 24th — Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. Celestial Ringers (Handbell Ensemble rehearsal)
- September 24th — Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. Chancel Singers (Choir rehearsal)
- **September 28th** — Sunday, at 9:30 a.m. Journeys Bible Study Class (Cross-Generations Classroom)
- **September 28th** — Sunday, at 9:30 a.m. Children's Sing & Shout (Children's Choir Time)
- **September 28th** — "Fruit That Lasts," based on **John 15:1-8; Pastor Dezo, preaching. Punkin Patch Sunday.**
- September 30th — Special Elections Voting Day at our Church
- September 30th — Tuesday, Congregational Check-in and Bible Study (via Zoom at 10:00 a.m.)

WELCOME BELOVED COMMUNITY



Beloved Community
of First Baptist
Kansas City, MO

* CELEBRATING OUR PUNKIN PATCH FAMILIES IN WORSHIP *

Join us on **September 28th at 10:50 AM** as we celebrate our Daycare family. Staff, teachers, and parents are all invited to worship with us.

Next KC JAZZ VESPERS Event:

Sunday, September 21st
6-8pm
Will Matthews



JOIN US ...
for 100 minutes of
popular Jazz!



2025 FALL JAZZ VESPERS PERFORMANCES

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

Place
Stamp
Here



September Birthdays

Michelle Hopkins	09
Noah Rodriguez-Ortet	13
Eyvonne Walker	20
Flora Schreiner	23
Grace Schreiner	23
Justin Prigel	24
LaMoine Tatum	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

1. Go to <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/555892911?pwd=SFNmQUlVTD0tRaHlDaVYrN3l5bzJlVQQT09>
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)