



FIRST BAPTIST JONESBORO



A WORD FROM THE PASTOR

2023 is a New Year full of new opportunities to know and serve the Lord. Circumstances, good or bad, cannot take away from the joy of a relationship with God. In fact, it is often the challenging road that brings us closer to God and allows us to experience His power and love. So, keep your eyes firmly fixed on Jesus, and He will guide you through this great adventure called life.

With a New Year, First Baptist Jonesboro will explore a new theme: "Alive in Christ." The Apostle Paul made a significant statement in Ephesians 2:1 – "You He made alive in Christ who were dead in trespasses and sins." And then just a few verses later, Paul reminds us that this new life is not just an individual experience, but a corporate one. Verse 5 says – "He made us alive together in Christ." Also, in Verse 6 – "He raised us up together and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ."

Before we became a Christian, we were spiritually dead. At salvation, we are born again; we are made alive in Christ. That change is dramatic; it is radical in every sense of the word. And the difference between one who is dead and one who is alive is obvious for all to see.

It is my prayer that we fully understand our new identity in Christ and all that is available in Him. Fundamentally, to be alive in Christ is to live like Christ. 1 John 2:6 says, "He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked."

Make it your goal to seek the Lord with all your heart. And together, we will show the world what life in Christ really looks like. They need to know that He is "the way, the truth and the life."

To God be the glory,
Pastor Mel

UPCOMING EVENTS

MID WEEK ACTIVITIES BEGIN
JANUARY 11

SALT LIFE GATHERING
JANUARY 12

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP
JANUARY 28

STUDENT'S D-NOW
MARCH 10-11

BOB GOFF & FRIENDS
MARCH 18

LADIES SPRING MARKET
& TEA PARTY
MARCH 25

*For more info and/or to register, visit
www.fbcjonesboro.com or call 770-478-6710



Christmas at Jonesboro - A huge "thank you" goes out to the hundreds of people who helped make the three presentations possible. Our ministers are following up with the 300+ people/families that came and reached out for prayer, information about our church, to speak with a pastor, or made a decision for Christ.

MIDWEEK @ JONESBORO

We are excited to announce a new schedule for Wednesday night: **Midweek @ Jonesboro**. Prayer was the primary focus of the early church, and we believe it must be the priority for our church. Our new schedule provides us an opportunity to pray together as a church family each Wednesday beginning at 6:00 pm in the Worship Center.

Our new Christian Life Academy will provide opportunities to grow in Christ for our entire church family. You can choose to attend a class, join the choir and orchestra, or serve in our Kids or Student ministries.

Make your plans now to join us on **January 11** when our new Midweek schedule begins with our Family Dinner, united prayer, and our Christian Life Academy discipleship opportunities. Will you join us in 2023 to grow in Christ?

Schedule:

5:00-6:00p - Family Dinner

6:00-6:30p - **PRAY: A Church United**

6:00-8:00p - Kingdom Kidz: Music & Missions

6:40-8:00p - Adult & Student Discipleship

**Pick up a MidWeek @ Jonesboro card at the Welcome Desk for more details, class descriptions & locations.*

SALT | SENIOR ADULTS DOING LIFE TOGETHER

Our Senior Adults will begin gathering monthly for fellowship, covered dish lunch, singing, and time of devotion. The next gathering will be on January 12 at 12pm in the Fellowship Hall. Lunch costs \$5. For more information and to register, contact Rhonda Butler at 770-478-6710 or rbutler@fbcjonesboro.com.



GA's Christmas Post Office - Thank you to all who mailed cards and donated. Over \$165 was raised for International Missions!

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Upcoming FBJ mission trips to Cuba, Nepal/India, and Dominican Republic.
- Revival in our church and community as we focus on our theme for 2023: "Alive in Christ."

LOOKING AHEAD

- ROC Basketball practice begins - week of January 2
- Post-Abortion Recovery Bible Study - January 2
- Celebration of Life Service - January 8
- ONE: Sunday Night Together - January 8
- Mid Week Activities resume - January 11
- SALT Life Gathering | January 12
- GA's Lock-in - January 13-14
- ROC Basketball Games begin - January 14
- Ladies Fellowship | Craft Night - January 28
- SALT Life Gathering - February 9
- Valentine's Date Night - February 10
- Senior Adult Valentine's Banquet - February 14

ONE: SUNDAY NIGHTS TOGETHER

ONE - a Sunday evening when the people of FBCJ meet as one church family to celebrate all that God is doing in us and through us. We will worship together, hear stories of what God is doing in the lives of members of our church family, learn of what God is doing among our leadership, and enjoy time together as we eat and fellowship together.

It is an evening when we slow down and enjoy being together as the body of Christ in Jonesboro, celebrating all He has done and is doing while prayerfully looking towards His agenda for the future.