

| FEBRUARY 2025 |



Coffee with Pastor Jaci



~ Opportunities to get together ~

There is so much to hear in this world. Some of what I love to hear includes:

Music! I love nearly all styles of music (nearly), music from other cultures, music which provides a showcase for those who sing it (no matter the genre), music that draws us in, music that puts people in a transcendent space and takes them to a beloved past, music that calls us forward; music of hope, music of lament (but not too much) (hint: Country Western isn't my thing). Music can transport us.

The laughter and wisdom and logic of children – not.to.be.missed. I am so grateful that there are children in my life who share their questions, struggles, insights, and observations on so many things. Children are a gift, and they keep us honest *and* on our toes!

God's voice through his written word. This is a precious gift, and something to which we have free and full access! Anything that muffles it becomes a top priority. I'm so glad that the sound in the Sanctuary was better on Sunday (Feb. 2). Romans 10:17 says, "So faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes through the word of Christ." It also comes through our sound system. And we can all rejoice that the sound has improved. It's about God's word! Amen.

You! I love hearing you as a congregation and also as individuals. Please consider joining me at my next scheduled "Coffee Chat" session:

Thursday, February 13, 10:00-11:30 am

Starbucks @ Riverton Commons Plaza

(next to Chipotle - in the same complex as Aldi & WalMart)

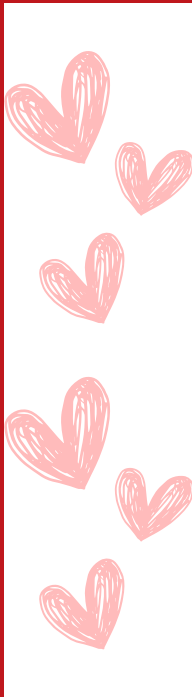
Come one, come five; come rain or snow – I'll be there

Pastor Jaci



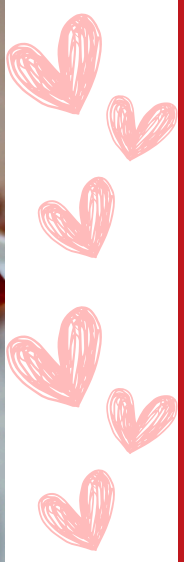
SESSION MEETING

Tuesday, February 11th at 6:00 pm



JOIN US FOR OUR

FEBRUARY Fellowship LUNCHEON



SIGN UP NOW



FEBRUARY 16, 2025



Thanks for ROLLING BY FOR

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We're back and on a roll! Join us on the last Friday of every month for fun, games, and fellowship. Don't miss it!



Please join us for our next Game Night on Friday, February 28th from 6:00-8:00 pm.

People of all ages are welcome!





January certainly went quickly. Even though Mother Nature showed us some of her finest winter weather, the Faith Builders were able to meet every week. In Sunday School we continued our study of the Bible learning about David. We saw how God helped Samuel choose a new king. We loved the story of David and Goliath. We enjoyed choosing our own five smooth stones. We were a little disappointed that we did not get to make a sling shot. We so wanted to try our own skills out slaying that giant! But the stones were really pretty. We learned about friendship with the story of David and Jonathon. Best friends help us through hard times. We also learned about the promise that David made Jonathon to always take care of Jonathon's family. He made the promise and kept it even after many years.



Starting in February we will be learning about Jesus and his Friends. Stay tuned for more information as we learn how Jesus taught his friends about God's Love.

Faith Builders in Children's Church followed the scriptures and sermons with Pastor Jaci with lessons to expand our knowledge. We heard stories, watched videos, played games, and completed a craft activity related to the lesson. And, as always, we had a great snack each week.

One of our lessons included the Bible passage from 1 Corinthians 13:1-13. We learned a lot about love. Paul tells us what love is:

"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always perseveres."

1 Corinthians 13:4-7 (NIV)

"And now these three remain: Faith, Hope, and Love. But the greatest of these is Love."

1 Corinthians 13:13 (NIV)

Pray for us as we learn to live by these words every day.

Ms. Marisa





Over the past several years I've become increasingly aware of a growing call for the Church in America to pray for revival and renewal as it's become glaringly obvious that we desperately need God's help in our nation. The anthem on February 23 is a prayer that answers this need. Using a poem by Mary Louise Bringle, Professor of Philosophy & Religious Studies at Brevard College (Brevard, NC), this anthem is very timely in our day even though Bringle wrote it over twenty years ago. Following a Trinitarian formula, each of the first three verses is addressed to one Person of the Trinity. The first verse recalls the perfection of Eden and God's divine, "bountiful" provision. If that were the whole story, we might wonder why we need to pray for God to send "rain to our roots". The second verse introduces "the twisting and crooked" that requires a Redeemer to rectify. It becomes clear here that the symbolism of rain for our roots points to restoring justice and righteousness in a fallen world as well as life-giving water in the face of aridity. The third verse introduces both waiting and joyful music as the prayer turns to petition the "Life-Breathing Spirit". Here we see that in both silence and jubilation—and every circumstance we could face in life—God sustains us. In the final verse, the poet praises all three Persons of the Trinity in confident faith that God will, indeed, send the requested rain for our roots.

Howard Helvey has set Bringle's text to an American folk melody that captures the rustic imagery of a prayer for rain in the midst of drought. Take a few minutes to read Bringle's poem and, perhaps, even pray it yourself.

Send Rain to our Roots

The juice and the joy of all living, renew,
refreshing and our hearts with the sweetness of dew.
In blossoming fragrance and bountiful fruits,
O Eden's Creator, send rain to our roots!

The twisting and crooked, restore and make straight,
'til righteousness reigns in Jerusalem's gate.
So justice may flourish in all our pursuits,
O Risen Redeemer, send rain to our roots!

When stilled and subdued and in silence we long,
resound through our world with the magic of song.
With jubilant music of trumpets and flutes,
O Life-Breathing Spirit, send rain to our roots!

We praise you, Creator who calls us to be;
Redeemer, Sustainer, the great One-in-Three,
whose showering mercy, all goodness imputes
with nourishing graces—and rain for our roots!

—Mary Louise Bringle



Both as a nation and as a church, we can be grateful for our Christian heritage—or roots—that have grounded us in Truth and grace. And I think we can all agree on the need for God to send rain for our roots.

Blessings,
Heather



Join Us Every Wednesday

**BELL PRACTICE AT 6
CHOIR PRACTICE AT 7**

The bells and the choir will soon have openings. If you have a passion for music, please speak with Heather.





Support the Mission of FRPC in 2025

As we step into a new year, we invite you to prayerfully consider supporting the ongoing ministries of FRPC. Your generosity sustains vital work, including worship, outreach, feeding ministries, and maintaining our church and staff.

Ways to Give:

- **In-person:** Bring your gift to the 10:30 AM Sunday service.
- **By mail:** Send a check to the church office.
- **Office drop-off:** Visit during office hours.
- **Online:** Make a secure gift or set up recurring donations through our [church website](#).
- **Bank auto-pay:** Arrange automatic giving through your bank.
- **Tax-advantaged giving:** Consult your financial advisor to explore options like securities or minimum distributions.



Online giving also allows you to manage your contributions and schedule automatic donations at your preferred frequency.

Your faithful support enables us to continue the work God has called us to—creating a welcoming space, extending our outreach, and sustaining programs that bring hope to our community.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact Ruth Younk (Treasurer) and cc Misty Bordner.

Thank you for your generosity, and may God bless you richly in the year ahead!



Volunteers Needed



Next Dinner Together: February 27



Menu: Chicken, Rice, and Green Bean Casserole & Dessert

We are seeking donations of cream of mushroom soup and desserts as we continue to serve meals to those in need.

Your generosity and support make a meaningful difference—thank you!

We also need volunteers to help with the following:

- **Cooking:** Arrive at First Baptist Church by 3:00 PM
- **Delivery Drivers:** Arrive around 4:00 PM to begin deliveries
- **Servers:** Arrive by 3:30 PM to pack and prepare meals for delivery



Dinner Together wraps up at 6:00 PM. Please see Randy Wertz if you can lend a hand. Your support and contributions are greatly appreciated!



Ben Lacy Compassion Center

Please help us continue supporting individuals as they transition into their new spaces, we're looking to restock our toiletry items. Stores like Family Dollar, Dollar Tree, and Big Lots offer fantastic prices for these essentials.

Items Needed:

- Shampoo & Conditioner
- Body Wash & Bar Soap
- Toothpaste & Toothbrushes
- Deodorant
- Toilet Paper
- Feminine Hygiene Products



Each month, we also work with the Phoenix Project and House of Hope to assist individuals getting settled in their first homes.

The Phoenix Project is currently seeking \$10-\$15 gift cards for stores such as Martin's, Dollar General, and Family Dollar to help these individuals purchase additional essentials.

Thank you for your continued support in making a difference in our community!

Volunteers Needed

REACH Bag Delivery: February 23rd

Our next REACH food distribution will be Sunday, February 23rd, immediately after the worship service. Grab a box at the REACH/Missions table right after service and help deliver to those in need in our community! If you would like to volunteer to deliver, please meet us after worship service in the Narthex.



Backpack Buddies

What is needed for the month of February?



Chewy Granola Bars







Backpack Buddies meets every **Wednesday at 11 AM** to pack food bags for 110 EWM Elementary students experiencing food insecurity. *However, for February, we will meet on **Monday, February 10th at 11 AM** instead of Wednesday* due to Warren County's early release on the 13th and no school on the 14th.

We are so thankful for our dedicated volunteers and always welcome new helping hands. Volunteers are also invited to join Karen Heier for larger Thursday shopping trips to restock inventory.

If you're interested in volunteering or have questions, please email Karen. Thank you for supporting this vital program!



February 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2 Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am	3	4 Al Larson's Birthday	5  11 am Backpack Buddies Bible Study 11 am Bell/Choir 6/7 Practice pm	6	7	8
9 Sunday School 9:30 am Worship - 10:30 am Courtney L'Amoreaux's Birthday	10  11 am Backpack Buddies Jeremiah Lang & Ray Jewell's Birthday	11 Session Meeting- 6:00 pm Lee Bowen's Birthday	12 Bible Study 11 am Bell/Choir Practice 6/7 pm	13	14	15 Kaylee Pawlak's Birthday
16 Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Fellowship Luncheon	17	18	19  11 am Backpack Buddies Bible Study 11 am Bell/Choir 6/7 Practice pm	20	21 Tracey Ramey's Birthday	22
23 Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am REACH	24 Shane L'Amoreaux's Birthday	25	26  11 am Backpack Buddies Bible Study 11 am Bell/Choir 6/7 Practice pm	27  3:30-6:00 pm Charlize Noel's Birthday	28 Game Night 6-8 pm Jackie Lawall & Emily Flynn's Birthday	31

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EMAIL:
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pastorjaci@frontroyalpres.org
540-252-5183 (after hours)



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donations and no longer
worry about envelopes.



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