First Methodist Church Johnson City

"God's Church, Jesus' Grace, Your People, Every Day."



"Do no harm. Do good. Stay in love with God"
John Wesley

OCTOBER 2026

First Methodist Church
Johnson City

105 North LBJ Drive
PO Box 207
Johnson City, TX 78636

Phone: 830-868-7414

Website:
www.fmcjc.com

Pastor Darin Zumwalt
pastor@fmcjc.com
830-743-2879
*

Angela Bacon
secretary@fmcjc.com
*

Sarah Allen
Adult Ministries Coordinator
adultmin@fmcjc.com
&
Education Director
education@fmcjc.com
*

Devin Roschetzky
Youth Director
youth@fmcjc.com
*

Jazmin Aguilar
Wesley Nurse
M-F 8-12 & 1-5
512-271-2104
jaguilar@mhm.org
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Worship Services

8:30 a.m.
Contemporary Service

10:50 a.m.
Traditional Service

Sunday Christian Education Classes
9:40 - 10:30 a.m.

A Heartfelt Thank You

The church family would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to **Donna Sultemeier** and **Riley Beard** for the beautiful flower arrangements they have lovingly created and donated to adorn our altar.

Week after week, their beautiful arrangements have brought warmth, color, and a special touch of beauty to our worship services—especially on Sundays when there are no fresh flower arrangements donated by members to celebrate special occasions. Their thoughtful gift of time and talent has been a true blessing to our entire congregation.

Before Donna and Riley began creating these lovely arrangements, the church was incurring additional expenses to keep fresh flowers on the altar on Sundays when no arrangements had been donated. Their generosity has not only helped reduce that expense, but has given us something even more meaningful: arrangements made with love, care, and a spirit of service.

Their work is so beautiful that it can be difficult to distinguish the silk flowers from the fresh ones! Each arrangement is a reflection of the thought and creativity they put into making our sanctuary welcoming and beautiful for everyone who enters.

Donna and Riley, thank you for sharing your time, your talents, and your hearts with our church family. Please know how much your generosity is appreciated. The beauty you create is enjoyed by all of us, and your loving service is a wonderful reminder of how small acts of kindness can make such a meaningful difference in the life of our church.

With sincere appreciation and love,
Your Church Family

As members of this congregation, we pledge to faithfully participate in its ministries by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service and our witness.

Our Prayers…

Lord Hear our prayers: *for those who are ill, grieving, or facing difficult times; for those persons in nursing homes, assisted living and homebound; for our military and civilian men and women serving in harm's way and their families; for our leaders, and children everywhere.*



FELLOWSHIP - Led by Bill & Elaine Swiss. New members and visitors are welcome to join in for a study on "**Watch your Mouth: Understanding the Power of the Tongue"** Tony Evans. Join us in the Fellowship Hall, located near the Sanctuary.

NOMADS - Led by Tom Walston. Please join us in the Nomads' room for a study on **"Simon Peter, Flawed but Faithful Disciple",** by Adam Hamilton. If you are not involved in a Sunday School class, please join us.

JOHN WESLEY - Led by Myra Zumwalt. This class is diving deep into Scripture through the **Book of Acts.** The church today is sometimes persecuted, ridiculed or even ignored, and it often needs encouragement. The book of Acts reminds us that despite modern challenges, the church can be alive and well. The book of Acts shows that revival and church growth come not by human effort but through the power of the Holy Spirit. Come be encouraged and inspired!

Seekers—Parent Class led by Kayla and Gary Gostnell, this class will use ***"Praying Through the Bible for Your Kid"*** by Nancy Guthrie as a guide. It's a time for Scripture, prayer, and conversation. No book or homework is required! Come connect with other parents, encourage one another, and spend intentional time praying for our kids.

Youth - Led by Devin Roschetzky. The class meets in the Youth room in the Activity Center.

CHILDREN - PreK-5th Grade are meeting in the Wesley Classroom in the Activity Center, also known as the Kids Club Room.

Our Presence…

	1st Service	2nd Service	Online	SS
September 6th	29	54	3	25
September 13th	33	43	3	38
September 20th	34	75	5	24

Our Gifts…

Year to date as of September 20, 2026

Budget Requirements	$282,368
Tithes Received	$238,456



October Sermons

October 4th
Matthew 28:19-20
Go and Make Disciples

October 11th
Guest Preacher: Myra Zumwalt
Matthew 24:14
Missions – Does it really matter?

October 18th
Guest Preacher: Doug Smith

October 25th
Luke 10:1-11
Missions – Who, Me?

Saints, Ghosts, & Goblins – All Hallows Eve (Halloween)

Hebrews 11:1-3

11 Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. 2 For by it the people of old received their commendation. 3 By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.

A common sight as you drive through neighborhoods might be this: Freddie Krueger is on one side of the yard. His pose appears as if he is ready to attack the next person walking by. Skeletons and witches adorn the trees. There is a man holding on to the gutters as he hangs from the roof. Gravestones are scattered about the yard with skeletons and other ghosts and goblins seeming to rise from them. Large spider webs cover the hedges with pumpkins littered about the place. The "Big Bad Wolf," which is nothing more than a large, oversized inflatable werewolf, lurches out at you from the bushes. Some folks really get into celebrating Halloween.

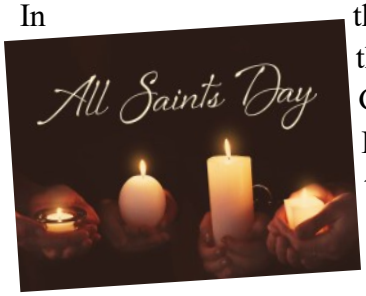
It is that time of the year for "ghoulies and ghosties and long-leggedy beasties and things that go bump in the night." The days are getting shorter. Soon daylight savings will be over and outside will be dark thirty at 5:30. Halloween is the climax of this season that is well marked with trick-or-treating, costume parties, haunted houses, hayrides, bobbing for apples, cake walks and yes, even the Trunk-or-Treat down on the square here in Johnson City on October 31st.

All of this revolves around All Saints' Day on November 1st each year. Many people fail to recognize the connection between All Saints' Day and Halloween and only see Halloween as an arbitrary day each year that gives us a free pass to dress up and not be seen as ridiculous. The word Halloween is a construction of All Hallows' Eve which is just another way of saying All Saints' Eve, or the day before All Saint's Day.

All Saints' Day is an important part of the church calendar. It reminds us that through our baptism, we are a part of something bigger than ourselves. We are a part of a communion. We are a part of a community. This communion is comprised of the living and the dead ("the people of old have received their commendation") who are bound together in Jesus Christ, for Paul says in his letter to the Romans that whether we die or whether we live, we belong to the Lord.

All of the faithful – both living and dead – make up the Communion of Saints, and this Communion makes up the Church. This is the way that we are joined together as believers. The love that unites us in Jesus Christ unites us even beyond the grave.

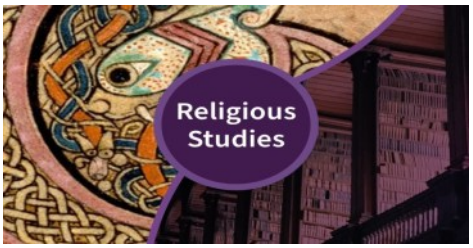
The goal is heaven, as my grandmother liked to say. However, few of us have an imagination for heaven these days, it seems to me. While some may argue for Halloween's merits, it seems it would benefit all of us to know of this night's real meaning of the great splendor of the Communion of Saints, who are present to us from beyond the grave.



In this Year of Faith, it is well to remember that faith joins us in a real way with all the faithful souls living and dead. Faith makes this possible by joining us to God Himself.

If you take your kids out to celebrate "All Saint's Day Eve", prepare yourselves to meet saints, ghosts, and goblins from around our community and know that while some that dress up may be frightening, it is a celebration of not only the living, but also of the dead.

Welcome Home Church, Welcome Home! Pastor Darin Zumwalt



Bible Study Opportunity for Men & Women

Led by Elaine Swiss. All men and women are invited to join this Bible study group!

We will meet **every Sunday at 6:00 p.m.**

Come join us for a time of fellowship, learning, and growing together in faith!

Senior Activities & Meals on Wheels

Senior Activities & Meals on Wheels is meeting **every Tuesday from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** at **FMC JC in the Fellowship Hall**

We're excited to welcome this wonderful group to FMC JC as they move their weekly activities here from their previous location.

Everyone is welcome!





Blanco County Emmaus News

Upcoming weekend retreats (Walks). The purpose is to strengthen the local church and develop Christian disciples.

Local Gathering:
October 19th 6:30pm

Women's Walk:
November 5th –8th

Women's Bible Study

Wednesdays at 6pm Fellowship Hall



Join us for a special Bible study led by **LeAndy Pletcher**!

LeAndy is creating something wonderful that will take us on a journey through the Bible as we grow in our understanding of God's Word together.

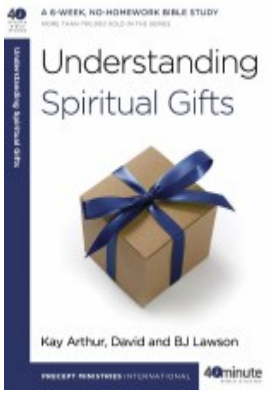
This group is always a good time—full of laughter, fellowship, meaningful conversation, and time spent digging into Scripture.

We'd love for you to join us!

Women's Bible Study—Understanding Spiritual Gifts

Ladies, join us **Wednesdays at 12:00 PM** for our Women's Bible Study, *Understanding Spiritual Gifts* by Kay Arthur.

Together, we'll explore what Scripture teaches about the unique gifts God gives each of us and how we can use those gifts to serve Him and others. It's a wonderful time to dig deeper into God's Word, grow in your faith, and enjoy fellowship with other women.



Come discover how God has uniquely equipped **you** for His purpose!

MEXICAN TRAIN
And 42
Every Monday at 10:30 AM in the Activity Center











All Saints' Sunday,
November 1st
During both services we'll remember the Saints that have gone before us.

~~*~*

Recognition of our Veterans
Sunday, November 8th
during both services.

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November 22nd – 7pm
Community Thanksgiving Service

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November 26th—11:30am
George Barnette
Community Thanksgiving Potluck Feast

Mission Minute

LOVE IN ACTION

Three times when Peter said he loved Jesus, Jesus responded: *"Feed my lambs," "Tend my sheep," "Feed my sheep."* John 21:15-18. Jesus made it clear that we show love for him when we help those in need. Thank you church for all you do to show your love for Christ by helping others – both materially and spiritually.

Treats for Troops*:** Halloween is coming and it's time for ***Treats for Troops! This program collects Halloween Candy to send to active-duty military personnel during the holidays. Last year you generously donated over 250 pounds of candy, so we'll set that as our goal for 2026! We will **collect candy from October 18 through November 15**. Individually wrapped candy and unopened small bags of loose candy such as candy corn, jelly beans, etc. Chocolate candy is fine and does not need to be separated. NO homemade candy and NO baked goods. Many stores have clearance sales on candy immediately after Halloween. Help us ensure that "No soldier goes unloved." Thanks for your support!



***Backpack Buddies*:** School is back in session and our Backpack Buddies supplemental food program is up and running. Each week we provide food items to take home for **45 students at our local schools! This is a large increase from last school year.** Thanks to our Education Director Sarah Allen for leading this important program. You can help by providing canned vegetables and protein items, as well as breakfast items, such as small boxes of cereal, Pop Tarts, instant oatmeal, Nutrigrain bars, etc. Thanks to all who help and contribute to this important program!



The Holidays are Coming*:** It's already October and the holiday season will be here soon! Many mission projects happen during November and December: the **George Barnette Community Thanksgiving Dinner; Operation Christmas Child (Christmas Shoeboxes); the Living Nativity; and Christmas Joy.** ***Volunteers and donors are essential to make these things happen. Please help as you are able to bring holiday blessings to many. Thank you!

Mobility Ramp Construction: After a lengthy lull in the action, our ramp construction team returned to work and built a ramp for a kind lady west of Blanco. She has mobility issues that made it difficult for her to get on or off the porch of her home. She was very thankful to get the ramp. Tommy Levitt and Howard Lawson lead this mission effort to give mobility freedom to people in need. A big thanks to the Texas Ramp Project, which provides funding for the building materials, and to all the volunteers who build the ramps.





Children's Ministry

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH • JOHNSON CITY

♥ DISCOVER ♥ BELONG ♥ GROW ♥ SHINE

Kids today. A brighter tomorrow.

FALL 2025

NEWSLETTER

REAL KIDS. REAL FAITH. A BRIGHT FUTURE.

KIDS CLUB

Bible stories ♥ Snacks ♥ Games ♥ Crafts
Friends ♥ Fun!

MONDAYS

Pre-K through 1st Grade

After school – 5:00 PM

WEDNESDAYS

2nd through 5th Grade

After school – 5:00 PM

Church Activity Center

We love spending our afternoons learning about Jesus, having fun, and growing together!

KIDS CLUB FIELD TRIP!

Sweet Berry Farms

Pumpkin Patch + Chick-fil-A

No school... so we're taking a FIELD TRIP!



Chick-fil-A®

Monday, October 12

9:30 AM – 2:00 PM

Cost: $20

Bus seats are limited, so be sure to get your child on the list!



HALLOWEEN ON THE SQUARE

COSTUMES CANDY COMMUNITY FUN!

Join us for Trick-or-Treating on the Square!

We'll be there handing out candy and would LOVE to see all of our church kids, Kids Club friends, and families. Put on your costume, grab your candy bucket, and come say hi!

Questions? I'd love to hear from you!

Sarah Allen | Education Director | (512) 948-5419

"Let the little children come to me..."
Mark 10:14 ♥

Abide

JOHN 15:4
"Abide in me, and I in you."

FMCJC YOUTH • OCTOBER 2026

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE BILL ELSBURY FISH FRY

Thank you to everyone who helped make this year's Bill Elsbury Fish Fry such a success! Whether you cooked, served, donated, sponsored, prayed, gave, or came and shared a meal, you helped make a difference. Your support helps FMCJC Youth create opportunities for students to encounter Christ, grow in faith, build relationships, and experience retreats, mission trips, and discipleship. We are incredibly grateful for the way you continue to invest in the next generation.

OCTOBER AT A GLANCE

10.7	**WOW**	4:00–8:00 PM
10.14	**Youth**	MSY 4:00–5:30 PM HSY 6:30–8 PM
10.21	**Youth**	MSY 4:00–5:30 PM HSY 6:30–8 PM
10.28	**Youth**	MSY 4:00–5:30 PM HSY 6:30–8 PM

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Pray for students to grow in their relationship with Jesus.
- Pray for students attending WOW and for the guest speaker.
- Pray for our high school students as they help host and lead.
- Pray for bold faith, strong friendships, and open hearts.

WHAT WE'RE LEARNING

MSY: Knowing Jesus through prayer, Scripture, and worship.

HSY: Discipleship, grace, surrender, and following Jesus in everyday life.

SAVE THE DATE

Halloween on the Square
October 31

Youth Lights Spectacular Setup
November 18

Paintball / Airsoft - Tentative
November 24

REVIVE
February 19–21, 2027
More details coming soon.

FMCJC YOUTH

Devin Roschetzky — Youth Director
830.330.0078
devinvr@fmcjc.com

QUESTIONS? CONCERNS?
Don't hesitate to call, text, or email.

A NOTE FROM YOUR WESLEY NURSE!

GET YOUR FLU SHOT

Be prepared and stay healthy during flu season

Thursday, October 22
10 AM - 5 PM

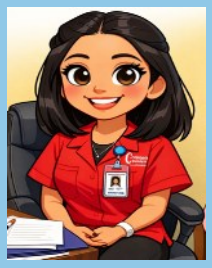
First Methodist Church
105 N LBJ Drive,
Johnson City, TX 78636
(In the Fellowship Hall)

Provided by Atkins Pharmacy – They will have the regular Flu vaccine and the over 65 Flu vaccine.

Uninsured or unable to pay?
Don't let cost keep you from getting your flu shot!

Please contact Wesley Nurse Jazmin Aguilar to access a flu vaccine at no cost at 512-271-2104

Methodist Healthcare Ministries
SERVING HUMANITY TO HONOR GOD



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Gary Polvado
October 1

Clayton Young
October 3

Scott Grote
October 4

Kay Peters
October 7

Dayton Danz
October 7

Keith Dahmann
October 8

Patrick Fisher
October 8

Carol Schlachter
October 9

Bill Wittkohl
October 11

Chelita Riley
October 12

Molly Koennecke
October 13

Ryan Smith
October 13

Darrell Sultemeier
October 14

Nathan Philips
October 15

Reese Odiorne
October 16

Millie Pletcher
October 21

Madison Hacker
October 22

Kaitlin Hacker
October 22

Ryann Gorum
October 24

T. A. Hyatt
October 26

Kathryn Rutherford
October 29

Susan Hamm
October 31



Happy Anniversary!

Bryan & Tara Philips, October 5

Don & Linda Liesmann, October 8

Lee & Kathy Romero, October 14

David & Shirley White, October 14

Tommy & Shelley Levitt, October 16

Chris & Tammy Liesmann, October 17

Eric & Terry Mills, October 23

Jayme & Devin Roschetzky, October 26

Keith & Tonya Dahmann, October 30



"A Place to Grow in Christian Love"

First Methodist Church
PO Box 207
Johnson City, TX 78636
Return Service Requested

Hand folded and sealed with love especially for …



October 2026

The mission of the Congregation of the First Methodist Church is to continue to be a committed fellowship of disciples sharing the love of God through Jesus Christ and furnishing a place of Christian worship, programs, services and facilities for its members and the people of the Johnson City area.



Worship Services

8:30 a.m. - Contemporary Service
9:30 - 10:30 a.m. Christian Education
10:50 a.m. - Traditional Service

Online Worship Services available on
Our home page www.fmcjc.com is updated with a clickable link to the YouTube page.

Or like us on Facebook: FMC Johnson City TX

The church office is open:
Monday - Thursday 9 am - 12 & 1 - 4 pm
Office Phone: 830-868-7414
Pastor's email: pastor@fmcjc.com
Secretary's email: secretary@fmcjc.com
Youth Director: youth@fmcjc.com
Adult Ministries Coordinator: adultmin@fmcjc.com
Education Director: education@fmcjc.com

Please remember and pray

for our nursing home residents,

those in the hospital

and shut-ins:



Elizabeth Sooter

Darrell Sultemeier

Perry Sultemeier

Pam Sultemeier

Gary Polvado

Paul Watt