



# FOCUS

SEPTEMBER 2023 - MMXXIII ISSUE IX

735 RIDGE LAKE BOULEVARD | MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE 38120

## Cookies for the Soul by Rev. Jim Fleming

*But concerning Apollos our brother, I encouraged him greatly to come to you with the brethren; and it was not at all his desire to come now, but he will come when he has opportunity (1 Corinthians 16:12).*

Imagine a conversation like this between a mom and her teenage son:

**Mom:** “I know you would like to borrow the car tonight, but you have several big papers due in a few days, why don’t you stay home and focus on your homework?”

**Son:** “What a really great idea, Mom! I’m sure my friends won’t mind if I don’t hang with them tonight. Anyway, if they’re really true friends, they’ll support me when I make a right choice.”

**Mom:** “What a smart son I have! How about I bake a big batch of fresh chocolate chip cookies to keep you going?”

**Son:** “Wow! Thanks, Mom. You’re the best!”

Yes, I know, this is not reality. Differing viewpoints, tense words, and heated conflicts all go with the territory in the real world of relationships. Becoming a disciple of Jesus Christ does not change the equation; even spiritual giants can have acute disagreements. 1 Corinthians 16:12 is a case in point. Paul was absolutely convinced that it was God’s will for Apollos to go to Corinth and he “encouraged him greatly” to do so. Apollos couldn’t disagree more. It was “not at all his desire to come.”

Despite the intensity of their disagreement, the relationship of Paul and Apollos didn’t miss a beat. What kept the relationship intact? Here’s Paul’s secret: *One man regards one day above another, another regards every day alike. Let each man be fully convinced in his own mind* (Romans 14:5). In matters of personal preferences and individual guidance, Paul did not insist that everyone see things the way he did. Now, granted, when dealing with the explicit instruction of Scripture, Paul knew that is not the place for accommodation.

But once outside the circle of what the Scripture explicitly teaches, “one size fits all” does not apply.

So does this mean “anything goes” outside that circle? Not at all. If you catch the last half of Romans 14:5, you see that every man has a responsibility to get before the Lord and come to a point of conviction about what he should do. It may not be the same thing anyone else would do, but it is the thing he is convinced God wants him to do.

Are you trying to convince people to do things your way instead of encouraging them to do what they are fully convinced God thinks they should do? That’s not Paul’s approach: After he and Apollos each stated his case, Paul deferred to Apollos and supported him in his decision, even though it



was different from what Paul had advised. He declared, “Apollos will come when he has opportunity,” i.e., when he (not me) thinks the time is right.

That imaginary conversation between mom and son doesn’t have to be just a figment of your imagination. Paul is the voice of the son who knows: Really true friends will support you when you make a choice that is the right one before God, even when it’s different from what they would prescribe. That kind of trust among friends is like fresh homemade chocolate chip cookies for the soul.

# CHURCH-WIDE

## Midweek at First Evan

Wednesdays, beginning September 6

There is something for everyone on Wednesday nights! Enrich your spiritual walk and deepen your relationships with others in our fellowship. It starts with dinner at 5:00 p.m., followed by electives for all ages. [www.firstevan.org/midweek](http://www.firstevan.org/midweek)

**Attending or volunteering and need childcare?** (For ages 2 and under. Subject to availability.) [www.firstevan.org/midweek-childcare](http://www.firstevan.org/midweek-childcare)

## Midweek Fellowship Meal

Wednesdays, September 6–November 15 (No meal October 11) 5:00–6:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall



During the school year the church gathers for dinner. Each individual has a choice between an entrée and side items or the weekly soup and salad bar. A dessert is served with every meal. Visitors and guests are always welcome and reservations are not necessary. First time is FREE! View the September menu at [www.firstevan.org/midweek-menu](http://www.firstevan.org/midweek-menu).

## Church Picnic

Sunday, September 24  
12:00–2:00 p.m., East Lawn

Our annual picnic will have all the staples: John Dawson's BBQ sandwiches, hotdogs, grilled corn on the cob, inflatables, rock wall, putting golf games, and more! Dress casually for church, bring a lawn chair or blanket, and enjoy fellowship with your church family!

## Thankful for the Cross

We are grateful to Collierville Bible Church for their willingness to share their cross with us for a season. We have used this cross in services and as a key visual marker for our after-service prayer location. The cross has recently been returned to CBC. But we found this resource so helpful, our own Joseph Lawrick is working on a project to do something similar here at First Evan.



## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



Matt & Lisa Alford



Jeff & Leah Pitman



Brittany Smith

## Discover First Evan Class

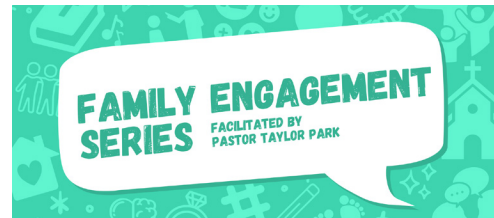
Sunday, September 17  
4:00–6:00 p.m., Chapel



This class is offered to those interested in learning more about First Evan or desiring membership. Attending the class in no way obligates you to join, but it is the first step toward membership. For questions or additional information, please contact Jacki Stieferman at [jstieferman@firstevan.org](mailto:jstieferman@firstevan.org). More details on membership can be found at [www.firstevan.org/dfe](http://www.firstevan.org/dfe).

## Family Engagement Series

Wednesdays, September 6–November 15 (No meetings October 11 or 25)  
6:15–8:00 p.m., A121/122



This nine-session series will cover a variety of family related topics. Feel free to come to all nine or pick and choose the ones most applicable to you (no registration required).

## September Schedule:

### SEP 6 “Modern Family”

Taylor Park & Jason Ellis

None of the stereotypes and parodies of families portrayed in tv and movies truly reflect the truth about the family or what families face in seeking to be who God has called us to be in our culture. In a candid conversation with Jason Ellis, Director of Student Ministries at Briarcrest, we'll explore just what families are facing in today's culture.

### SEP 13 “Foundation” Taylor Park

This thing we call “the family.” Where did it come from and why do we have it? Is it even relevant to our culture? Is it an archaic idea from a time long past that's now irrelevant? Let's discuss.

### SEP 20 “7,000 Days” Jim Fleming

How should you use the ~7K days from the time children are born until they leave the home? God's word has the answer in three OT books written specifically for parents. All adults in parenting roles will benefit from a survey of these three bodies of biblical wisdom.

## Fall Blood Drive

Wednesday, September 20  
4:00–7:00 p.m., A124

Blood donation provides patients the opportunity to create and share more precious moments to cherish with loved ones!



vitalant

You are encouraged to complete the [Fast Track Health Questionnaire](#) on the day of your drive, prior to coming out to donate. This will significantly expedite the donors processing time. Also please remind your potential donors to eat a good meal and drink plenty of water prior to donate. New donors, please contact Sam Hezlep at 901-486-6237.



# FEC KIDS TEAM

## Thank You, Mrs. Cortney by Taylor Park Executive Pastor

Chris and Cortney Cannon, as a somewhat newly married couple with no kids, found their way to a fairly newly started young couples' class here at First Evan in 2005. Since that time, they have both been incredible gifts to First Evan serving many of our ministries.



*Pictured left to right: FEC Kids Team members Kate Taylor, Jill Hopkins, Cortney Cannon, and Kelley Clack on Mrs. Cortney's final Sunday as director.*

In September 2014, when we found ourselves as a church in need of a grade-school coordinator, Cortney was there. Stepping out of a very responsible role in the corporate world, Cortney joined our staff filling this much-needed role. When Jessica Tinsley stepped down from the position of Children's Ministry Director in 2017, Cortney was the obvious choice as her replacement.

Cortney has served First Evan's children and families through some of our most difficult seasons. She guided us with great care and compassion through the conclusion of our Mother's Day Out ministry. She led with creativity, courage and conviction through the tumultuous waters of COVID and all the social upheaval and tensions of '20 and '21. She's been a rock on our staff as we continue through the Senior Pastor search.

Somehow, Cortney has managed to accomplish so much for First Evan while still being an attentive mom and wife. Do you remember that fairly new married couple with no kids from the first paragraph? They are now a couple married nineteen years with four wonderful kids ranging in age from seven to thirteen and Cortney is feeling the call to be home for them and Chris on a more full-time basis. We can't argue with that, but she will certainly be sorely missed. We are, however, glad she will still be here volunteering and ministering to our kids.

About her time serving on First Evan's staff, Cortney says, "It has been such a joy to serve our church in the Children's Ministry! I have truly been blessed beyond measure by the friendships the Lord has brought my family through this ministry and the memories we have made throughout the years. And the biggest blessing of all was watching the children of our church (and even our adult volunteers) grow in their love and knowledge of our Lord through the study of His word!"

Cortney has built and developed a wonderful staff and volunteer team in which we have the utmost confidence going forward. [Kate Taylor](#), will step into the role of [Acting Children's Ministry Director](#) (more on Kate next month). Please continue to pray as we walk through these transitions.

## Charity Gurley Serves Abroad by Kate Taylor, Acting Director

If you've spent any time around FEC Kids the past two years, you have most likely come to know and love the youngest member of our staff, Charity. I met her when she was assigned to be my co-teacher during the last days of MDO before Covid. I was immediately struck by her giftedness and affection for kids. Given that she was only 17 at the time, her skill with our little 2's class was impressive. She has a natural way with them that is at once firm and compassionate, and a warmth that radiates the love of Jesus Christ.

After the pandemic, she began attending First Evan and subsequently joined the FEC Kids staff, where she has loved and served our children. Watching her at our VBS, she showed that she is willing and ready to be a traveling world explorer, a shepherd from the time of Christ, or a pirate in need of God's salvation—and she's not afraid of slime!



Now, at age 21, Charity is taking her skills to Ethiopia where she will serve for the next three months with Pastor Steve Winstead and the staff at International Evangelical Church (IEC). She lives with a family there to help in homeschooling their daughter in addition to working at the church and various connected ministries in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia's capital. Her focus as a part of the IEC staff is on international children within the community. She also serves the children at the "Make Your Mark" home, a facility for homeless women and children.

We look forward to seeing and hearing all that God will do through Miss Charity, and we are also excited to see how God will connect our children at FEC Kids to the children at IEC in Ethiopia. We will miss her tremendously as a friend, co-worker, and fellow-laborer, but we count ourselves privileged to send Charity off to our sister church and its children. Join us in praying for God's blessing on Charity's work and her life over the next few months. Miss Charity, we love you!

**If you would like to support Charity and the IEC children's ministry:**  
[www.firstevan.org/online-giving](http://www.firstevan.org/online-giving).  
("Ethiopia IEC" in the dropdown)



## Angel Snider Joins Our Team

FEC Kids is excited to welcome Mrs. Angel Snider to our team as **Administrative Assistant**. As part of our former MDO staff, she is familiar with First Evan, and we are thrilled to have her back to work with children and families here again.

# FEC KIDS

## FEC Kids Midweek

Wednesdays, September 6–November 15 (No meeting October 11)  
6:15–7:30/8:00 p.m.\*



K–5th graded, Gym 3–5 years olds, C-Wing  
0–2 years old, Nursery

Please join us for dinner from 5:00–6:00 p.m., and then stay for Midweek electives from 6:15–7:30 p.m. \***Child-care is available until 8:00 p.m. if participating in an adult elective.**

FEC Kids Midweek uses Awana's *Discovery of Grace* handbook. This year, **K–5th graders** will be learning about the attributes of God as communicated in Scripture, the role of the Bible in the life of the believer, Jesus' life and ministry, and the Fruit of the Spirit. We know these lessons will complement our Sunday Morning chronological study of the Bible and we look forward to seeing our children grow through hiding God's Word in their hearts.

This year in **PreK**, we will be going through the *Cubbies* handbook by Awana. This is a take home book that will give parents an opportunity to disciple their 3–5 year old in the truths of God's word during the week and then attend Wednesday nights to play, wiggle, and learn in the classroom setting. Please join us for a fun-filled adventure with Cubbie the Bear as we learn God's Word together on Wednesday nights after the fellowship meal. **Sign up for FEC Kids Midweek at [www.firstevan.org/feckids-midweek](http://www.firstevan.org/feckids-midweek).**

### Kids Carnival

**SAVE THE DATE: Wednesday, October 25, 6:00–8:00 p.m.**

Dress up in your best costume (no scary costumes, please) and come enjoy a carnival with FEC Kids! We will have bounce houses, games, and prizes...Can't wait to see you there! Entry fee is one bag of candy per family.



*Pictured: FEC Kids Promotion Sunday.*

## September Curriculum



This month FEC Kids will be studying two units within the *Gospel Project* curriculum, a chronological curriculum through which we study the Bible each week. We will focus on "The Miracles of Jesus" and "The Teachings of Jesus," and learn the answers to each unit's **Big Picture Question**: "Is Jesus God or a human?" *Jesus is both fully God and fully human.* And "What did Jesus teach when He was on earth?" *Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.* Finally, we will be memorizing verses to go along with each unit, **John 1:18** and **1 Chronicles 29:11**. We are excited to learn about Jesus together!

## FEC STAFF

### Blessed by John Dawson by Don Warren Pastor of Administration

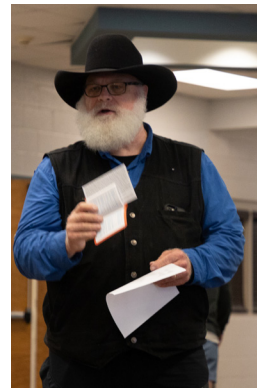
John Dawson joined the staff team in December 2015 as Food Services Director. He had been asked to consider the position several times before 2015, but the last time he was asked he accepted the position.

After a couple years, and the absence of a Facilities Director, John found himself interacting more and more with maintenance and facility issues. So in January of 2018 he was promoted to Support Services Director.

John did not see Food Services as a job, he saw it as a ministry. He saw it as a way to build community, establish friendships within First Evan as well as outside the wall of First Evan. One boy asked his mom, "who is going to throw the rolls on Wednesday night" upon hearing Mr. John had resigned. John sparked energy in the Wednesday night meals and many enjoyed catching a hot roll.

John has a servant's heart, and if there was a need that he could fill, he would do it. He was Saint Nick to a widow's event, he was a pirate for VBS, and he was part of the security team as well as serving people coffee and donuts Sunday morning. Occasionally John would direct traffic if a large crowd was expected for a funeral. To say John was everywhere would not be an overstatement.

We will miss John being a part of the staff, but are thankful he will still be a part of the First Evan family and now have the opportunity to attend Sunday school with his wife, Deb. John leaves some big shoes to fill, but to John's credit he said, "The Lord had someone before me, and the Lord will provide someone after me." We do pray for God to provide us our next Food Services Director, but we will never be able to replace John.





# WORSHIP

## Last Word Sermon Series



As we prepare to close our season with Pastor Jim, here are four last words to remember. Use these to make the most of your time as you see the Day drawing near.

### SEP 3 "The Great Exchange"

Mark 10:28-31

Whatever the cost for following Jesus, it will be worth it.

### SEP 10 "One Plus One = One"

John 17:20-23

What does it mean for us to be one in Christ and why does this matter?

### SEP 17 "Aware"

2 Corinthians 2:10-11; Ephesians 6:10-13

Who is our true adversary and why is knowing this a game-changer?

### SEP 24 "Getting Close"

Hebrews 10:24-25

Become fluent in the language of encouragement to make each day count.

## Baptisms

Sundays, October 15 and December 17

Do you want to get baptized to express your faith in Christ? Jesus commanded all His followers to be baptized, publicly proclaiming that God has brought them from death to life. If this describes you, we'd love to help you take the next step. Sign up for the October baptism by September 17 at [www.firstevan.org/baptism](http://www.firstevan.org/baptism). Contact Katelynn Bernardini ([kbernardini@firstevan.org](mailto:kbernardini@firstevan.org)) for other dates.



Dalton Collier, Weezie Duffy, and Owen Duffy were baptized on August 27, 2023. Watch at [www.firstevan.org/baptisms](http://www.firstevan.org/baptisms).

# ADULTS

## Senior Adult Ministry Update

Led by Jim Henry and several volunteers, FEC Senior Adult ministry has been active in ministry to First Evan home bound members through visits, phone calls, and written communication. We are thankful for the team of volunteers who strive to assure that our homebound are loved and nurtured.

Mickey Bowdon has launched several initiatives, including a *Let's Get A Name* contest for our Senior Adult Ministry. The *Let's Get a Name Contest* concluded on September 1 and the winning name will be announced very soon.

A Senior Adult Council has been formed to include leaders of various ongoing ministry areas.

### Senior Adult Council Members Include:

**Mickey Bowdon**, chairman

**Cathy Graham**, ministry to widows (ACT II)

**John Main**, ministry to widowers

**Christy Bicknell**, ministry to women of the church

**Jim Henry** and **Cynthia Johnson**, ministry to homebound

**Larry Fitzgerald**, ministry to those in resident and retirement homes

We have ten adult Sunday school classes with the majority of class members aged 55 and up. A Steering Committee of representatives from each of these classes has been formed to provide guidance for future senior adult events, programs and activities.

### Steering Committee Members Include:

**Abundant Life- Buddy Jones**

**Cornerstone - Alan Bowden, Sr**

**Cross Generations - Bryan Miller**

**Encouragers -Mickey Bowdon**

**Eternal Perspective - Larry Fitzgerald**

**Foundations - Bob Fratesi**

**Joint Heirs - Jim Newman**

**Life Builders - Preston Klinke**

**Pilgrim's Progress - David McGill**

**Sojourners - Jimmy Garrison**

## MINISTRY TO WIDOWS

### ACT II Widows Fellowship

Monday, September 11

10:00 a.m., Chapel



ACT II is a group for widows that meet for prayer and fellowship on the first Monday of the month in the Chapel, unless we have an outing or special program.

This month's special program will be **Homeland Security** talking about what to do in an active shooter situation. After the program, a brunch will follow. For more information about this ministry or to RSVP to the special program, please Cathy Graham at [cathygraham@icloud.com](mailto:cathygraham@icloud.com) or 901-299-1426.

## MEMPHIS MINISTRIES

### Come and See Events



Come and See events are upcoming events that are happening with our local ministries. You'll get to invest one or two hours to see who is ministering to whom and how they do it. You may also get to participate in some way. The opportunities vary by ministries. It could be a tour, a karaoke night, or serving a meal!

We hope that you will experience how God is at work around you during a Come and See event; how He is at work through you as you volunteer and love a neighbor; and how He is at work in you as your heart and mind increase around the things of Him.

Check out what's happening this month: [www.firstevan.org/come-and-see](http://www.firstevan.org/come-and-see).

# GLOBAL MISSIONS

## Don't You Care? Czech Republic Trip Report by Becca Mathews



Despite being seasoned sailors, the Disciples were scared by a massive storm on the Sea of Galilee and looked to Jesus desperately. "Don't you care?"

Many of us know this Bible story by heart and are not surprised when, verses later, Jesus calms the storm. Yet still, like the disciples, we approach the Throne of God, asking Him if he cares about us. And Jesus, who has been in the heart of the storm with us, reminds us that He does care.

The Lord demonstrates his love for us in small ways, like the ability to make a connecting flight in Paris or the ability to find a good hotel when we didn't make a connecting flight in NYC. The Lord demonstrates his love for the Czech Republic in big ways, by placing the ministry In-Life in the heart of large cities to share the Good News with college students.

In-Life ministries is able to serve Prague, Brno and Bratislava by offering discipleship programs throughout the school year and by offering English camps during the summers. These English camps are In-Life's biggest outreach opportunities, where members invite unbelieving friends and family. We had the unique opportunity to work the "young professionals" English camp, called Pluska. At this camp, we met with a small class daily to have English conversations and a rotating class to discuss specific topics, like art or culture or phobias. Additionally, when we weren't in class, we got to form relationships with those around us, going on walks and making crafts. Tori and I even spent a day conquering the tallest mountain in the Czech Republic with a group of friends.



## FAMILY

**Trail Life (1st-5th grade boys) & American Heritage Girls (1st-5th grade girls)**



Anyone who missed the interest meeting about new discipleship ministry opportunities at First Evan for families, please contact Richard Marsh at [richardmmarsh@yahoo.com](mailto:richardmmarsh@yahoo.com) for details.

## OUTREACH

**On-Ramps to Spiritual Conversations (Men's Community Group)**

Wednesdays, September 6-November 15 (No Meeting October 11), 6:15-8:00 p.m., E111

Bringing up the gospel may feel awkward or intimidating. Join us as we share personal experiences and discuss creative on-ramps to spiritual conversations. Contact Chuck Dalton at [chuck@chuckdalton.com](mailto:chuck@chuckdalton.com) with questions or interest.



## Maui Wildfire Relief

We look around the globe and we look locally. This world needs Jesus.

The recent fires on the Island of Maui in Hawaii have devastated lives and families. To date, there are still hundreds of people who are missing as a result of the fires.

Our long-time missionaries, **Andrew and Lori Spurgeon**, spent a year in Maui before recently returning to Singapore to continue their teaching responsibilities. Lori taught at a local school on Maui. One of her students died as a result of the fires and one of the teachers from Lori's school has yet to be located.

Hope Chapel Maui is heavily involved in the fire relief efforts. Andrew and Lori were part of a church plant of Hope Chapel Maui. Andrew and Lori trust this church.

The Global Missions Team will be approving funds to assist Hope Chapel Maui with the consequences of the trauma experienced by so many families there.

If you are interested in assisting financially with this disaster, please designate any funds to the Domestic Disaster Fund, or merely designate "Hawaii fires." You can also give at [www.firstevan.org/maui](http://www.firstevan.org/maui). Funds received through October will be allocated to disaster relief in this area.

With this opportunity to be the "hands and feet of Jesus," we also pray that families on Maui will experience comfort from the Holy Spirit in these trying times.

## World Prayer Focus

Sundays, September 10  
6:00-7:00 p.m., Chapel



Join us in intercessory prayer for our world, nation, county, city, and church. For more information, contact [missions@firstevan.org](mailto:missions@firstevan.org).



# MEN

## MEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

"GALATIANS, EPHESIANS, PHILIPPIANS, COLOSSIANS, PHILEMON"

### Fall Men's Bible Study

"Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, Philemon" led by Buddy Jones

**Mondays, September 11–December 4, 6:30–8:00 p.m., E135 OR**

**Wednesdays, September 13–December 6, 6:30–7:30 a.m., Zoom**

These letters were written by the Apostle Paul to four New Testament churches. Paul told Timothy that the Scriptures are profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness. We'll look for those four benefits each week as we study these letters. We will cover Galatians and Ephesians in the Fall and the remaining letters in the Winter/Spring. The format includes weekly study assignments, small group discussion, and lecture. Contact Buddy Jones at [buddyjones0@gmail.com](mailto:buddyjones0@gmail.com) with questions. Register at [www.firstevan.org/mens-bible-studies](http://www.firstevan.org/mens-bible-studies).

### Men's Fish Fry

**Tuesday, September 26  
6:00–8:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall  
Cost: \$7/person or \$50/table**



Join us for an evening of fish, food, and fellowship with speaker Dr. Joe Carson. Dr. Carson is National Missions Director of The Life Church of Memphis, National Disaster Response Coordinator for the Association of Related Churches, and Leadership Essentials Facilitator/Executive Coach of Lead Beyond. Purchase tickets in the Fellowship Hall on Sundays. Questions: Contact John Dawson, 485-0859, Sammy Bell, 210-7958, or email [men@firstevan.org](mailto:men@firstevan.org).

# YOUNG ADULTS STUDENTS

## Break Chill Night

We had a great time at the Break and Common Ground Chill Night! Everyone had fun with the various activities and enjoyed making new friendships and connections. We look forward to future combined events!



## Thanks, Zoë!

Break was grateful to have the service of Zoë Perrock as a summer intern this year. She is kind and genuine and we loved having her as a part of our community! We are praying for her as she is on tour for work this fall!

## Break Fair Game

**Wednesdays, September 6–November 15, 7:00–9:00 p.m., E134**

All young adults are welcome to join us as we openly discuss young adults' questions such as: *Did God create evil? Should guns be banned? Why is homosexuality treated differently than other sins in the church?* and more! This is a safe and welcoming space. We hope to see you there! Text Anies Kunda at 901-304-4894 for address and details.



## Break Pool Party

**Sunday, September 17  
3:00–9:00 p.m., The Dease's House**



Young adults, bring your floaties and come join us for a Break Pool Party! We will be grilling out afterwards. We hope to see you there! Contact Kassie Sanborn at [ksanborn@firstevan.org](mailto:ksanborn@firstevan.org) for the address or more details

## Impact and Common Ground Midweek

**Wednesdays, August 16–December 6 (No meeting October 11 or November 22), 6:15–8:00 p.m.**

**Impact (6th–8th grade), E226  
Common Ground (9th–12th gr.), E202**



MIDWEEK

Students will learn how to apply Biblical truths to their lives through engaging worship and service as we connect with our local Memphis Ministry partners. Join us for community, worship, prayer and small groups as we learn to deepen our call to love our neighbors. [www.firstevan.org/students](http://www.firstevan.org/students)

## Impact Retreat

**Friday–Sunday  
September 22–24  
Host Homes**



Impact will gather during this weekend to grow closer in our relationship with God and with each other. Register by Wednesday, September 6 at [www.firstevan.org/events/impact-retreat](http://www.firstevan.org/events/impact-retreat).

# WOMEN

## Heart to Heart Bible Study

**Tuesdays, September 5–November 14 (No meeting October 10), 9:30–11:30 a.m.**

**Fellowship Hall OR  
Wednesdays, September 6–November 15 (No meeting October 11), 6:15–8:00 p.m.**

**Chapel | Cost: \$15**  
We will be studying *The Greatest Story: Read the Bible as One Story and Discover Your Place in God's Redemptive Plan*. Register at [www.firstevan.org/h2h](http://www.firstevan.org/h2h).

## Garden Gathering: Planting Bulbs

**Friday, October 13, 10:00 a.m.**

**Mary Minor's Home  
6580 May Hollow Cv., Memphis**  
Come hear a devotional by Mary Ewing followed by Mary Minor taking us through the steps of how and when to plant bulbs. Light refreshments will be served. Limit: 19; Register at [www.firstevan.org/gardengathering](http://www.firstevan.org/gardengathering).

# SEPTEMBER 2023

					FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2 Common Ground Run the River >> Church Offices Closed for Labor Day
3 Common Ground Run the River >>  FEC Prayer Focus 5:00-5:30 p.m., Zoom	4 Common Ground Run the River >>  Church Offices Closed for Labor Day	5 Heart to Heart Bible Study Begins 9:30-11:30 a.m. Fellowship Hall	6 Midweek Fellowship Meal 5:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall Midweek Begins 6:15 p.m.	7 Thursday Morning Women's Prayer Meeting 10:00-11:00 a.m., D106	8	9
10 Communion  FEC Prayer Focus 5:00-5:30 p.m., Zoom	11 ACT II Widows Fellowship 10:00 a.m., Chapel Men's Bible Study Begins 6:30-8:00 p.m., E135 Council Meeting 6:30-8:00 p.m., E135	12 Heart to Heart 9:30-11:30 a.m. Fellowship Hall	13 Men's Bible Study Begins 6:30-7:30 a.m., Zoom Fellowship Meal 5:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall Midweek Electives 6:15 p.m.	14 Thursday Morning Women's Prayer Meeting 10:00-11:00 a.m., D106	15 Women's Retreat >> Mariott Shoals Hotel and Spa (Florence, AL)	16
17 Women's Retreat Discover First Evan 4:00-6:00 p.m., Chapel FEC Prayer Focus 5:00-5:30 p.m., Zoom	18	19 Men's Fish Fry 6:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall	20 Men's Bible Study 6:30-8:00 p.m., Zoom Fellowship Meal 5:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall Blood Drive 4:30-7:30 p.m., A124 Midweek Elec. 6:15 p.m.	21 Thursday Morning Women's Prayer Meeting 10:00-11:00 a.m., D106	22 Impact Fall Retreat >> Host Homes	23
24 Impact Retreat Host Homes Child Dedication Church Picnic 12:00-2:00 p.m., East Lawn FEC Prayer Focus 5:00-5:30 p.m., Zoom	25	26 Art for Jobs	27 Art for Jobs Fellowship Meal 5:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall Midweek Electives 6:15 p.m.	28 Art for Jobs Thursday Morning Women's Prayer Meeting 10:00-11:00 a.m., D106	29	30