

Adults 60+ *focus*

FALL NEWSLETTER 2026
JOHNSON FERRY



The Essentials

ADULT 60+ THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY

This is a welcoming class designed to help you grow in your faith through five foundational elements of following Jesus. Looking closely at the book of John and the situational aspects of the early church, we can understand how abiding in Christ overflows into all facets of our lives, through our decisions and our

interactions with others. Each session includes teaching, discussion, and practical takeaways you can apply right away. Whether you are new to the faith or have followed Christ for years, this class will help you build a life rooted in Christ and experience the joy of growing in community with others.

Led by Mitch Verdell

9:30am | Magnolia Room

Starting Aug 6

Hymn Sing

Thu, Aug 27 | 6pm | Sanctuary

All ages are welcome! Bring a friend. Grab a hymnal and make a list of your favorites. Come “make a joyful noise unto the Lord!” on Thursday evening at 6pm in the Sanctuary. Mitch Verdell, Bobby Smith, and Sarah Blackstone will lead us in this time of joy and praise. Registration is not required.

Elijah & Elisha

A STUDY FROM I & II KINGS

Join us as we explore the lives of Elijah and Elisha and discover what two of the Old Testament's greatest prophets teach us about Jesus, the New Testament, God's unfolding plan of redemption, and our own walk of faith. Through dramatic encounters with kings, miraculous displays of God's power, seasons of faith, discouragement, and

obedience, these prophets demonstrate what it means to trust God in every circumstance. We will identify practical lessons about faith, prayer, perseverance, and God's provision. Let's see how the lives of Elijah and Elisha ultimately direct us to Jesus Christ and encourage us to become faithful disciples who trust Him completely.

Led by John Farish

Thursdays | 9:30am | Magnolia Room

Starting Sep 10

Connect & Grow

- **Aug 6**—Adults 60+ Thursday Morning Bible Study, The Essentials, 9:30am, Magnolia
- **Aug 11**—Equipping Grandparents 7pm, Rm 351
- **Aug 27**—Hymn Sing, 6pm, Sanctuary
- **Sep 2**—The Holy Spirit You May Not Know, 9:30am, Rm 354
- **Sep 10**—Adults 60+ Thursday Morning Bible Study, Elijah & Elisha: A study of I & II Kings, 9:30am, Magnolia
- **Sep**—Girls Night Out, Guys Night Out, Various neighborhoods
- **Oct 4**—Magnolia Ball, 4-6pm
- **Oct 12-17**—Serve Our City Week
- **Oct 13**—TNC: The Next Chapter, 7pm, Magnolia
- **Nov 9**—Veterans Appreciation
- **Dec 8**—Adults 60+ Christmas Party

Equipping Grandparents

Led by Robin Nelson and Michael Bonham
Tuesdays | 7pm | Room 351 | Starting Aug 11

Equipping grandparents is a seven-week course, led by Robin Nelson and Michael Bonham. It uses Lydia Harris's book *Preparing My Heart for Grandparenting* as the study guide. The book is available at the Provision Bookstore or online at Christianbook.com or Amazon.com.

Designed for current and future grandparents, this course explores the unique role of grandparents, building healthy relationships with adult children, praying intentionally for your family, and leaving a lasting legacy of faith. Whether you're expecting your first grandchild or enjoying great-grandchildren, you'll gain practical, biblical encouragement to embrace this season with grace, purpose, and joy.

Learn how to move from the sidelines of parenting into the GRANDstands. Visit johnsonferry.org/hub for more information.

SUPPORT

There are many times throughout our lives that we will encounter brokenness, loss, grief, and many more painful emotions. These emotions can stem from death, divorce, or even a prodigal child. We believe that God designed you for community and there is no better time to experience community than during your greatest times of need. Our Support Groups are meant to provide a safe place to walk through life's difficult times with people who are in similar situations. johnsonferry.org/supportgroups/



FIND YOUR PEOPLE!

We want to help you get connected and find your people at Johnson Ferry!
Whether you are exploring faith for the first time or seeking to grow deeper, we want to help you find your place to belong.

johnsonferry.org/groups



The Holy Spirit You May Not Know

Led by Frank Horsman

Wednesdays | 9:30am | Room 354 | Starting Sep 2

The Holy Spirit You May Not Know is more than a book about doctrine. It's an invitation to experience the dynamic, powerful life Jesus promised—the life that has been available to you all along.

On the Day of Pentecost, God poured out His Spirit on ordinary believers, and that outpouring continues today. You may understand the Holy Spirit intellectually, but do you truly know Him as your Helper, Comforter, Counselor, and Friend?

In this 10-week study, we'll deepen our understanding of who the Holy Spirit is and discover how He works in and through our lives.

Visit johnsonferry.org/hub for more information.

TNC: The Next Chapter

Led by Lance Cornell and Dave Pyle

Tuesdays | 7pm | Magnolia Room | Starting Oct 13

Many men in their late 50s, 60s, and early 70s reach a season of transition, wondering what God has next as careers change, children leave home, and lifelong goals are achieved. While the world encourages retirement and leisure, many sense God still has a greater purpose.

The Next Chapter is a six-week journey designed to help men discover God's calling for this season of life. Through biblical teaching, personal testimonies, and meaningful table discussions, you'll connect with other Johnson Ferry men seeking to live with renewed purpose.

This series will run Oct 13–Nov 17, from 7–9pm in the Magnolia Room. There is no cost, but registration is required. Visit johnsonferry.org/hub for more information.

Welcome

Hello Adults 60+,

Fall is my favorite time of year! Not only is the weather great, the leaves are changing, and football is kicking off, but it is also the start of a new church year. Our children and students move up a grade in their small groups, new ministries launch, and current ministries are refreshed.

For me, growing up, fall was always a time full of excitement, and church was a big part of it. My parents were part of a southern gospel quartet (The Melody Makers) that traveled all over Tennessee and Kentucky, at a time when churches held homecoming services. My parents would drag my brother, my sister, and me along to these services. We met so many great people, and God did some amazing things around us. What a great memory this time of year brings.

My prayer for you is that you will look at the ministry opportunities that are in this newsletter and make some memories of your own. I'll see you in church on Sunday.

Let's do this together!



Mitch Verdell, Asst. Pastor
Adults 60+ Ministry



Adults 60+ Ministry

Mitch Verdell, Pastor | mitch.verdell@jfb.org | 770-794-2975
Mary Stokes, Assistant | mary.stokes@jfb.org | 770-794-2968



Serving Opportunity Magnolia Ball | Oct 4 | 4-6pm

The Magnolia Ball is an outreach event to our nearby Assisted Living communities. The guests arrive in their party finest to enjoy an afternoon of live music and dancing. The Johnson Ferry Jazz Band provides the live music, and we provide hospitality greeters, table hosts, decorators, servers, and all the fancy food and decorations through the generosity of our volunteers. There are opportunities to serve before, during, and after the event on both Saturday, Oct 3 and on Sunday, Oct 4. Please go to our website to better understand the needs and the timeframes. Visit johnsonferry.org/hub to serve.

Wears Valley Ranch Mission Trip

Sevierville, TN | Oct 16-18



This is a family mission trip opportunity open to children six years old and up. The team will be working with supported partner Wears Valley Ranch by supporting, blessing, and encouraging the staff and children through landscaping, brush clearing, painting, staining, light construction, and hosting a ranch wide dinner. Visit johnsonferry.org/short-term-trips to sign up.



Giving Opportunity Coming in November

The Legacy Tree Christmas Adoption program connects Johnson Ferry individuals to seniors who have qualified for financial support through Southern Baptist GuideStone's "Mission Dignity" program. Since 1918, GuideStone Financial has been on a "Mission" to provide "Dignity" to retired Southern Baptist ministers, missionaries, workers, and their widows. Johnson Ferry partners with GuideStone to provide Christmas.

These Legacy Tree Christmas recipients are men and women who have faithfully served God's people and now find themselves struggling to meet even basic needs. Many served small, rural churches that paid only modest salaries and couldn't afford to contribute to their pastors' retirement. Often, these faithful shepherds had to work extra jobs just to make ends meet. Our delivering of Christmas gifts shows them they are remembered, valued, and loved by God and our church.

We ask the Legacy Tree recipients to provide us with a Christmas Wish List. JF volunteers may go online to adopt one or more. You may purchase and personally deliver gift items to the seniors or ship the gifts directly to them. This adoption program will begin on **Nov 1**. Please watch the HUB and prayerfully consider honoring one of these who shepherded so many. Visit johnsonferry.org/hub to adopt.

Drive Through Prayer

Third Wednesday of each month
10:30am-12:30pm | North Parking Lot

This ministry is designed as a quick, "stay-in-your-car, come-as-you-are" event. You can pull into the designated parking lot area, where a church intercessor will meet you at your vehicle window to pray confidentially for any needs or requests you may have.

Belonging & Purpose

Serve Our City | Oct 12-17

Monday—Saturday: Save these Dates!

This week is an excellent opportunity to serve with your connect group, family, and friends. We will spend the week serving our community through various projects. Help us to identify places to serve and form your own team! Signups to come! Check the Missions page at johnsonferry.org

Petal Pushers | Local Area Assisted Living Residences

Mondays: Our Petal Pushers arrange & deliver bouquets of cheer to nearly 400 assisted living residents each month. They divide into teams and provide a flower and a printed devotion to each resident. They visit briefly, offer a warm smile, speak a kind word, and pray for the concerns of the resident. The group, led by Carolyn Leard, meets on the second and fourth Mondays of each month in the First Floor Plaza area at 9am.

My Sister's House | Atlanta

Mondays: On the second Monday of each month, we serve behind the scenes at one of Atlanta's shelters for women and children. We take a bus and serve from 10am-3pm. We may help organize the pantry, serve in the meal line, wash dishes, or where needed. Contact Philippe Michaud, Leader, at 770-329-3323 or philippehmichaud@gmail.com for more information.

Crochet Groups | Local & State

Wednesdays: Two crochet groups use their talents to reach out into our local community and to the state of Georgia. They provide lap blankets, afghans, and gifts to our veterans, to residents in assisted living, and to retired ministers & spouses.

*Morning Crochet: 1st & 3rd Wednesdays, 10am,
Room 108, Mary Lu Duke, Leader*

*Evening Crochet: Wednesdays, 6pm,
Room 316, Genny Slate, Leader*

By Design | International

Fridays: Join this mission-minded group of women that comes together one Friday of each month to create washable feminine hygiene pads to provide to women internationally. You don't need to be able to sew to participate—both sewing and non-sewing tasks are available. This is an adult group for women only. Please register to let us know that you are coming, johnsonferry.org/women. The group, led by Anna Rose Guthrie & Candy Gaston, meets in Room 270/271 from 9:30am-12:30pm.

Sharing Jesus | Local

Join us and discover how simple it can be to share your faith with others! Bring a brown bag lunch to eat during training or eat prior to sessions.

- ◆ Thu, Sep 3 | 12-3pm | Fellowship Hall
- ◆ Sun, Nov 1 | 11:30am-3:00pm | Room 316
- ◆ Thu, Nov 19 | 12-3pm | Room 270/271

Save the Date

- **Nov 10**—Veterans Appreciation Walk of Honor and Luncheon—Atrium/Fellowship Hall. Registration required.
- **Dec 1, 3, 5**—JF Women Christmas Events. Registration required.
- **Dec 8**—Adults 60+ Christmas Party—Tuesday | 6pm | Fellowship Hall. Registration requested.

Night of Hope

Step away from the busyness and find peace, prayer, and encouragement at **Night of Hope**. During this time of worship and prayer, we believe God meets people to heal and restore hearts. Drop in on the second Thursday of the month between 6:30 and 8pm, on the 2nd Floor at the top of the atrium stairs. You'll find a welcoming space with people who will listen, love, and pray with you.