

***First Baptist Church of Jeffersontown  
10600 Watterson Trail  
Jeffersontown, Ky 40299***

## **Church Profile**

**Statement of faith: We believe the Holy Bible is the inspired Word of God. We believe in one triune, God the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit.**

**Matthew 5:16,45:6:1,4,8,9**

The First Baptist Church of Jeffersontown (FBCJ) is a church dedicated to biblical worship. Preaching and teaching for understanding is the foundation for the church. We extol our heritage and history having been in existence since 1833.

FBCJ was established in 1833 by Rev. Henry Adams, a distinguished free Black man who grew to great prominence. Only 12 ministers have served as Pastor of this historic church. From 1887-1933, the late Rev. Richard Reynolds the 6<sup>th</sup> Pastor, served the longest for a total of 46 years. In recent years, the late beloved Rev. Thurman Coleman, Sr. was the pastor of FBCJ for 45 years. In addition to his pastoral duties, he was a notable leader in the community achieving distinction himself and for the church. The membership grew to over 1500. Also, the physical plant was modernized and many new ministries were introduced.

FBCJ is cited as one of the oldest Black churches in Jefferson County and is **THE FIRST** Black Baptist church established in Jeffersontown, a suburb of Louisville, Ky.

The Louisville Metropolitan area has a population of 770,000 residents that includes urban and suburban living. FBCJ sits on twelve acres and is prominent in the quiet and beautiful community of Jeffersontown. FBCJ proudly celebrated 188 years of existence in April of 2021, and still maintains a strong presence in the city of Louisville.

The First Baptist Church of Jeffersontown exists as a local member of God's Universal Church to carry out the Great Commission. (Matthew 28:19-20). The Pastor shall provide spiritual oversight to the church through preaching and teaching. All work of the Pastor shall be done in accordance with the New Testament scripture and in cooperation with the Church leadership and its

membership. Pastoral responsibilities include, but are not limited to, spiritual and administrative oversight to the entire church. Only men may serve as the Pastor (per our Bylaws). Winning souls to Christ throughout the world, and providing a local home for the spiritual development of those in the general vicinity is our goal. We accomplish this in part through focused attention and commitment to these below as well as other means:

- Evangelism--by leading others to a commitment to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.
- Edifying the saved-- by Communicating the Word of God by means of the scripture, initiating fellowship with other believers, and using our God-given gifts for the up-building of others.
- Ministering to those in need-- by being alert and conscious in the community and speaking out for truth in a secular society.

FBCJ's motto is "Love is the First Baptist Way." The membership lives out this motto as may be seen in the manner in which members serve the church and support each other. The FBCJ membership was affected by Covid-19 and is growing back now that we again have in-person services. FBCJ has ministries developed to reach all generations which includes youth programs and a strong presence in our Seasoned in Christ Ministry (for members over 55). There are forty-seven ministries (auxiliaries), thirteen Associate Ministers, thirteen Deacons, and at least twenty-five, fifty-plus year members. We have a dynamic Music Ministry: Inspirational Choir, Men's Choir, Praise Team and Liturgical Dance Ministries of youth and adults. Prior to the Pandemic, FBCJ held morning services at 8:00 am and 1100 am on Sunday followed by Sunday School Services from 9:45 am to 10:45am. (FBCJ is building back with only an 11:00 am in-person service, livestreaming, online Sunday school, and online Wednesday night Prayer Meeting/ Bible Study.)

FBCJ is affiliated with the Central District Association, Kentucky Baptist Convention and Progressive National Baptist Convention. FBCJ is currently under the spiritual leadership of Rev. Dr. Kilen K. Gray as Interim Pastor.

*"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you"*

*John 15:12*

*"Love is the First Baptist Way"*