

The Vision
First Baptist Church
 1301 E. 6th St.
 P.O. Box 426
 Lamar, MO 64759

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 Organization
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Sunday Worship Times

Morning Worship @ 10:15 am
 Small Groups 1st & 3rd Sundays @ 5:30
 Evening Worship 2nd & 4th Sundays @ 7:00 pm

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

STAFF

Church Phone. 682-3538
 Fax Number. 682-3539
 Church Web Site. www.fbclamar.org
 www.facebook.com/firstbaptistchurchoflamar
 On-line Giving available
 Dr. Robert Hodson, Pastor. 681-0393
 Steve Livingston. 225-2821
 Worship Leader & Family Ministries
 Chris Roth, Youth & Outreach Director. 214-0233
 Belinda Shoff, Secretary
 Chastity O'Neal, Secretary
 Staci King, Financial Secretary/Treasurer

Church Office Hours
 Monday-Friday
 8:00 am - 12:00 pm
 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm
Staff Meeting
 Monday 1:30 pm



**FOR MAY
 FRIDAY
 May 22**

Sunday Morning Worship will be live on our
 Facebook page
www.facebook.com/firstbaptistchurchoflamar
Online Giving is available on our website
www.fbclamar.org

Upcoming Meetings:

Tuesday, May 5

Pre-School Council @ 6:00 pm
 Church Council @ 7:00 pm
 Deacon's Meeting @ 8:00 pm



Thursday, May 7
11:45 - 12:30 pm
@ Bandstand
Drive Up in your cars.

**Donations for Operation Christmas Child
 Youth Packing Party**

With the help of the Youth Ministry we will be having a packing party in October 2020. We have set a goal to pack 100 shoeboxes during the Youth Packing Party and Sunday School classes have been asked to collect specific items all year long to help fill shoeboxes.

Since we have been staying at home due to the coronavirus, the church-wide collections will be held during the summer from May through August. The following items are needed:
bars of soap, toothbrushes, hair brushes, boxes of bandages, small plastic cups, pencil sharpeners, pencil pouches, erasers, colored pencils, and crayons.

We need 100 of each item. Bring the items to the church and put them in the tubs that will be provided. Watch the Worship Guide for a weekly update on the donations received.

The shoeboxes packed by the youth will not replace individuals or families personally filling shoeboxes, but provides our youth with the opportunity to serve through a "hands-on" activity.

Your participation is crucial for this project to be successful. It is our desire to provide more children with the joy of receiving a gift and an opportunity to hear the Gospel.

Serving God together,
 Operation Christmas Child at First Baptist Church Lamar

*To Know Christ and to
 Make Him Known*



The Vision

*April 28, 2020
 Volume 13, Issue 4*

From the Pastor's Heart

Dear First Family and Friends,

We have survived a month of social distancing and stay-at-home order. I am sure that your prayer is much like mine, asking God to bring a quick end to this virus. At least lessen the restrictions so we can resume our "more normal" lives and ministry. One thing is for certain, there will be a "new" normal that we will have to adjust. We need to continue to pray for our political leadership as they give direction for us to navigate this pandemic. It is the biblical mandate and the right thing to do.

To say that we miss seeing you and gathering together for worship is an understatement. The admonition of Hebrews 10:24-25 clearly fits in this situation. The writer challenges the church to watch out for one another, provoking one another to love and do good works, not neglecting to gather together, but encouraging each other. I have appreciated all your notes, cards, letters, text, and words of encouragement during this time. Sharing worship with the praise team and the thought of you all in the camera is not the same as when we see each other, smile, converse, and yes, shake hands, hug, enjoying each presence.

If you have picked up one of our devotional book, *The Word for you Today*, you might remember that on April 22 the focal passage was Psalm 118:5 "I called to the Lord in distress; the Lord answered me." The title of the thought was Turn to God – He will not Disappoint you. That is my encouragement to you today. Call out to the Lord whatever your situation may be. He will answer. He desires to show Himself strong to those who trust in Him.

Keeping the Main Thing, the main thing,
 Pastor Robb

The Deacon Officers and Leadership Team met to discuss our options for re-opening our church for worship and ministry. The Governor's directive allows us to attend in-service worship as long as we follow the social distancing requirements. This directive is in effect until Sunday, May 31. With that in focus, we have made several decisions that I believe allows us to make the best of a bad situation.

1. Our first Sunday together will be Mother's Day, May 10. We are asking that you sit in family units, leaving adequate space (suggested 6 feet) between your unit and your neighbor, skipping every other pew.
2. We are cancelling Sunday school, nursery, and children's church for the month of May.
3. Our Greeters will be at the four main entrances only so that no one will have to open the door, and worship guides will be on tables for you to pick up. Hand sanitizers will be available for you to use.
4. Stationed on tables in the foyer will be offering plates for your convenience.
5. Welcome time will be a shout "I see you!" and a wave.
6. Our committees, councils, and deacons will begin meeting again, with social distancing practiced
7. We have decided to cancel all Wednesday night activities, except Praise Team, through the month of May. We will re-evaluate these ministries at the end of May.
8. Other events cancelled are Ladie's Luncheon, YAH, funeral dinners, to name a few.

One of the suggestions made by our Governor is that we use common sense and be aware of the needs of others. We are suggesting:

- Stay home if you are sick or do not feel well.
- Stay home if your immune system is compromised
- Stay home if you have concerns about getting out in public
- If you feel more comfortable wearing mask or gloves, by all means, please do so.

We will strive to have a variety to hand sanitizers in various places for your personal use. Rest assured we would have our building disinfected to the best of our ability.

Thank you for your cooperation and excitement to return to worship together. Looking forward to SEEING you here!

Staying Kingdom Focused,
 Pastor Robb

Looking Ahead

May 5	6:00 pm Pre-School Council Meeting 7:00 pm Church Council 8:00 pm Deacon's Meeting
May 7	National Day of Prayer
May 17	5:00 pm Senior Class Parade National Day of Prayer for VBS
May 21	7:00 pm OPBA Executive Board Mtg.
May 25	Memorial Day Office closed

HAITI MISSION TRIP

The Mission Trip for June has been cancelled due to the concerns of the Coronavirus. We plan to reschedule a trip for next June or July. Please keep this ministry in your prayers.

The shoe drive has been postponed, but we will be happy to accept shoes at anytime.

Our Deepest Sympathy To:

The Family of Junior Garringer who went home to be with his Lord & Savior .

Albert & Justine McManis in the loss of her brother, Carl Stansberry.

Tanya & Dan Potter in the loss of her sister-in-law, Lori Clapper.

The family of Don Selvey & Louise Caruthers in the loss of their brother, Keith Selvey.

VBS Save the Date



July 12th-16th

MINISTRY OF PRAYER CHURCH FAMILY

Noel Grigery Jim McKee Laura Hammons Carlee Phipps
Brian Gilbert Dean Westbay Pat & George Sheat

EXTENDED CHURCH FAMILY

Karen Hardy, mother of Todd King
Mike & Cheryl Berry, brother of Lynn Divine
Josie Chairez, great niece of Brenda Onstott
Terry Hartline, husband of Carol Hartline
Becky Howell, friend of Teresa Roberts
Melissa Fanning, friend of Jennifer Beem
Justin Weis, friend of Linda Gardner
Elizabeth Banwart, cousin of David & Peggy Banwart
Noah Mason, cousin of Belinda Shoff Dallas Beem, father of Darin Beem
Fred Plain, brother of Sheila Stevens
Renee Whitley, sister of Alan Ray
Jessica Querry, sister-in-law of Kerri Beshore

MILITARY PERSONNEL

Richard Jones - Army, son of Dwayne & Linda Jones
Austin Potter - Marines, son of Dan & Tanya Potter
Brandon Lipe - Chicago, IL, grandson of Noel & Lynn Grigery
Joey Rossiter - North Carolina, grandson of Sue Hobson
Merissa Schmidt - Pentagon, granddaughter of Wanda Reno
Landon McManis - Moody AFB, GA, grandson of Albert & Justine McManis
Mark Jones - Okinawa, Japan, son of Dwayne & Linda Jones
Patrick Beetler - Camp LaJeune, NC, son of Sherry Stettler
Capt. Cody Rossiter - Germany, grandson of Sue Hobson
Nathan Davis-National Guard, husband of Sarah Davis

MISSION OUTREACH

Pastoral Staff Lamar's Unchurched Building Committee

HAPPY
Mother's Day

Sunday, May 10

We are thankful to be able to resume
Worship Service @ 10:15!
We will adhere to social distancing
guidelines.

Ladies' Luncheon

For May has been cancelled

Family Ministries

Paul described true worship perfectly in **Romans 12:1-2**: "I urge you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God which is your spiritual service of worship". Here we find a challenge to DO something. Paul uses the motivation of the mercies of God: His goodness, grace, promises, faithfulness, righteousness, eternal life, as a reminder that we owe everything to God. This motivational reminder, urges us to present our bodies to Him in worship, to freely give our whole self to the service of God. I believe worship is more than just what we do on Sunday morning. Worship is everything we do in the name of the Lord every second of our lives. True worship requires sacrifice, a living sacrifice, active and selfless. What we do matters, in fact we are the hammers God uses to nail down His plan and purposes, therefore true worship requires acts of service. "And do not be conformed to this world". Conformed to this world means to be molded into the image of the world, to look like and to act like the world. Instead of conformity, Paul urges us to be different, to be "transformed" in the way we think, by a "renewing of your minds". These two words, transformed and renewing, indicate a constant work, a process of daily becoming something new, accomplished by a work of the Holy Spirit. God's Word, prayer, singing, God inspired preaching, and Brotherly and Sisterly accountability in worship, is how God has chosen to accomplish this work. When we forsake these, we miss out on the tools of God's sanctifying work in our lives, and we risk becoming conformed to the world. "That you may prove what the will of God is". The will of God can be summed up in this, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all

your soul and with all your mind.³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' ⁴⁰ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments." If true worship (love God and love people) were to explode in the lives of God's people, we would see revival like never seen before, at least in recent history. God has defined what "is good and acceptable, or well pleasing and perfect." We do not have the right to superimpose our own agendas in place of it. We "prove" who we are and Who's we are, by how we love. If you refuse to love, you had better check your heart; you may not be a Christian. What? Yes, that is what I meant to say. Believe me, I have to remind myself of that daily, "Steve, check your heart!" No one gets a free pass. I don't care how old you are, how many committees you've served on, how many years you've preached or taught Sunday School, or served as a Deacon, or led Worship with a guitar. God will see through our hypocrisy. Just as He saw though Cain's false worship. Cain's failure was in his heart, he worshiped not out of love for God, but out of what he could get from God; which was why he was so angry he didn't receive a blessing. His anger revealed what was in his heart; hate, jealousy, and selfishness. Not Love for God, and certainly not love for his brother. The time has come for us to serve different, to look different, to be different, to love different. God honoring, God loving, God's people loving, true worship, Biblical worship, depends upon it.

Steve

FLOC Special Offering

Will be postponed to a later date
Goal: \$100,000

Annie Armstrong Easter Offering

Church Goal: \$10,000
Amount Received: \$4,385.00

Vital Signs for April, 2020

Average Attendance for April
Morning Worship Facebook Views - 923
Sunday School -
Evening Worship -
Small Groups -

Treasurer's Report for March 2020 Business Meeting
Total Income: \$31,013.95
Total Expenditures: \$55,308.14



J.D. Bishop Donte Stahl
Travis Noyes Gillian Watts
Maddie Jeffries Olivia Smoots
Cody Gilbertson

YAH Meeting

For May has been Cancelled
Fish & Chicken Fry
Will be held in June.