

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

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The Church Office will be closed Friday,  
 December 25th and Friday, January 1st

**Sunday Worship Times**

Morning Worship @ 10:15 am  
 Evening Worship @ 7:00 pm (2nd & 4th)

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**

**STAFF**

Church Phone..... 682-3538  
 Fax Number..... 682-3539  
 Church Web Site..... www.fbclamar.org  
 www.facebook.com/firstbaptistchurchoflamar  
 Dr. Robert Hodson, Pastor..... 681-0393  
 Steve Livingston..... 225-2821  
 Worship Leader & Family Ministries  
 Chris Roth, Youth & Outreach Director..... 214-0233  
 Pam Caruthers, Secretary  
 Gina Reed Secretary  
 Staci King, Financial Secretary/Treasurer  
 Valerie Waggoner, Preschool Director 214-4406  
 Tanya Potter, Custodian 461-4312

**Church Office Hours**

Monday-Thursday  
 8:00 am - 12:00 pm  
 1:00 pm - 4:30pm  
 Friday  
 8:00 am - noon  
**Staff Meeting**  
 Monday 1:30 pm



**FOR DECEMBER**  
**MONDAY**  
**DECEMBER 28th**



The Church Staff would like to wish  
 everyone a very  
 Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!



December 7<sup>TH</sup>  
 Noon-6:00 pm  
 Fellowship Hall

**Youth Christmas Party & Scavenger Hunt**

Wednesday, December 16th

6:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Here at FBC in the Youth Department.

Meal: Breakfast

Bring a White Elephant Gift (not to exceed \$5)

Wear your favorite PJs



**PRAYER WARRIOR**

Teacher Gifts for December

Need to be in the church office by

Wednesday December 9th

For delivery Thursday Dec. 10th

**Crafters**

Thursday December 10th 10:30 am

We will put together the gifts for delivery



**Christmas Mail Box**



The mail box is set up in the Gathering Area for your convenience to give cards to others. Please remember that the postage you save may be given to missions. The mail box will be across from the office window.

November 18, 2020  
 Volume 13, Issue 11

*The Vision*



To Know Christ and to  
 Make Him Known



**COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE**

Sunday November 22nd

6:00 pm

FBC

Come Praise & Worship our Creator

**THANKSGIVING BLESSINGS**

*Give Thanks to the Lord, For he is good: his love endures Forever.*  
*Psalm 118:1*

Community Thanksgiving Dinner Thursday Nov. 26th

All meals will be for Delivery Or Pick-Up

There is still time to place an order-Call church office @ 682- 3538

Volunteers still needed for Kitchen & Delivery help

Please have turkeys/non-perishables @ church by Sun, Nov 22nd



**Traditional CHRISTMAS EVE Service**

Thurs. Dec. 24th 6:00 pm

Festivities will include: Communion, Candle Lighting  
 Bells, Congregational Christmas Worship



*From the Pastor's Heart*

Dear First Family and Friends,

This is a time for Thanksgiving and preparation for the Advent season. Our church is preparing music and messages to enhance the atmosphere of this beautiful time of year. Denise and I would like to share our thankfulness to God and appreciation to you for all you have done for us. We love serving you and with you as we journey together.

As past member of the Missouri Baptist Children's Home board of trustee, there has come to my attention a dire need in our residential facilities. President of our Children's Home, Russell Martin has sent a letter requesting we announce this need for missionaries to two of our residential housing.

Here is the need: You can find more information on the website, mbch.org.

Byrne Campus: Peculiar, MO

**Mabee House** (our human trafficking rescue program for minors) is scheduled to close tomorrow. The residents that are currently there are being transferred to the Pillsbury Building on the Lowe-Frillman Campus (I want to share a brief story on one of those residents later in this email).

**Gebhart House** (therapeutic group home for boys) remains open.

Hutchens Campus: Mt. Vernon, MO

**Gimbel-Medearis House** (transitional living program for females) is closed.

**Swadley House** (therapeutic group home for girls) is scheduled to close mid-December, unless staff is found to replace the staff who is leaving).

**Moody House** (therapeutic group home for boys) remains open.

**South Haven House** (transitional living program for males) remains open.

Prayerfully consider how you or someone you know can serve God's Kingdom

Keeping the Main Thing, the main thing,  
 Pastor Robb

## Looking Ahead in December

November	29	Advent of Hope
December	1	1:15 pm YAH Council Meeting 7:00 pm Church Council
December	2	1:00 pm Random Acts of Kindness I Adult Coloring Page Ministry
December	3	9:00 am. Bible Study Fellowship
December	6	Advent of Peace No Evening Service
December	7	12:00 pm-6:00 pm Blood Mobile
December	10	9:00 am Fellowship Bible Study 10:30 am Crafters
December	13	Advent of Joy 4:30-6:00 pm <b>CHRISTMAS MEAL</b> Come & Go 6:00 pm Business Meeting No Evening Service
December	16	6:30 pm Youth Christmas Party
December	17	9:00 am Bible Study Fellowship 10:00 am Preschool Christmas Party
December	20	Advent of Love 10:15 am <b>Lottie Moon Christmas Offering</b> No Evening Service
December	24	6:00 pm Christmas Eve Service Lord's Supper
December	25	Christmas - Office Closed
December	27	6:00 pm Deacons Meeting No Evening Service
December	31	New Year's Eve
January	1	New Years Day-Office Closed



### December Homebound

Juanita Johnson-Truman  
Maxine Francis  
Leonard Metcalf  
Phyllis Morris-Truman  
Dick Scroggs  
George Sheat

### MINISTRY OF PRAYER CHURCH FAMILY

Eugene Stump Emily Jett Linda Bronson Ralph Stahl

Laurann Robertson Sue Hobson Brian Gilbert

Bonnie O'Neal Mike Divine

### EXTENDED CHURCH FAMILY

Mary Bowman, mother of Chastity O'Neal Karen Hardy, mother of Todd King  
Justin Weis, friend of Anna Voorhees Deanna Laepple, Sister-in-law Carol Melton  
Wanda Felts, friend of Roberta Hampton Doris Little, cousin of John Lawrence  
Gloretta Rhodes, wife of Bro. Gordon Rhodes Bob Gariss  
Beth Pettibon, friend of Barb Thrasher Melissa Fanning, friend of Jennifer Beem  
Elizabeth Banwart, cousin of David & Peggy Banwart  
Earl Johnson, stepdad of Sam LeeMasters Josie Chairez, great niece of Brenda Onstott  
Jessica Query, sister-in-law of Kerri Beshore Renee Whitley, sister of Alan Ray

### MILITARY PERSONNEL

Caleb Stevens-USAF Las Vegas, NV son of Gary & Shelia Stevens  
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 and 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

### YAH Council

Tuesday December 1st

@ 1:15 pm

We will be planning next years  
Meetings & Activities

### Lottie Moon Offering

**Sunday, Dec. 20th**

**Goal: \$12,000**

### Random Acts of Kindness

#### Adult Coloring Page Ministry

for residents of Maple & Truman Health care  
Wed. Dec. 2nd @ 1:00 pm FBC

#### Quarter Collection Ministry

Please donate spare Quarters for Laundromat Ministry  
Empty TIDE Bottle will be in Gathering Area Sun Dec. 6th

### Being thankful through difficult time.

Dear First Family,

You may be going through a difficult situation of some kind this Thanksgiving. You may be asking the question, what do I have to be thankful for this year? When going through difficult times, it's harder to see the good that exists amidst our troubles. By being more grateful for what we do have, we can increase our joy. Gratitude is one of the few things that can change people's lives in a measurable way. In bad times, look for an opportunity that may exist, yet may not be so obvious. For example, a job loss can present all kinds of fears but perhaps it's time to change life's direction and look for work that is more suited to your talents and passions. Life changes, even the bad ones, can lead to good things and perhaps be the blessing of a lifetime.

Complaining feels good, right? When complaining becomes a habit, this creates negativity that attracts even more negativity. Expressing gratitude to our loved ones and to strangers every day can be uplifting for both the giver and receiver. We are often so consumed with our daily routines and obligations that we may take people for granted and if we stopped to say thanks, we can make someone's day. People who might be in need of some thankfulness are teachers, bus drivers, postmen, police officers, restaurant workers, a friend or family member who always provides encouragement and love, and even a co-worker who is constantly lending a hand.

Retraining our brain to think about all there is to be grateful for, in good times or bad, can be difficult at times, but life-changing if applied daily. One of the things that has helped me stay positive is beginning the day off with a prayer of thankfulness. Before the day begins is an excellent time to reflect on all there is to be grateful for. This starts the day with feelings of hope, peace and happiness. You can simply say thank you for the day as soon as you wake up. This puts us right first thing in the morning and starts our day on a good note instead of starting the day out with negative thoughts.

Colossians 3:17 says and whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

To God be the Glory,  
Chris Roth

Watch our Livestream Christmas Program  
December 17th @ 10:00 am

### THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Thank you to our church family for your participation in Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes, over 200 shoeboxes were filled by individuals and during the Youth Packing Party. Each child receives a shoebox will have an opportunity to hear about God and His love for them. Please continue to pray for these children.

Thank you also for the volunteers that helped during Collection Week, as our church served as a drop-off sight. Many wonderful filled shoeboxes were dropped off, packed into shipping cartons and delivered to Joplin to begin their journey to children all over the world.

### Annual Christmas Dinner

Sunday Dec. 13th

4:30-6:00 pm

**Come & Go**

Sign Up for Dine In &

Carry Out Options this Year.

Join us for the meal-Stay for Business meeting



### Missouri Baptist Children's Home Christmas Tree Program

Pick an ornament off the tree outside  
the church office and bless a child at the  
childrens home this Christmas.  
Please return **unwrapped** gift by Wed. Dec. 2.

### Vital Signs for November, 2020

Average Attendance for November  
Morning Worship - 111  
Sunday School - 108  
Small Groups - 28

Treasurer's Report for November 2020 Business Meeting  
Total Income:\$36,160.14  
Total Expenditures: \$41,140.90