

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 24th and Friday, Dec. 31st.

Sunday Worship Times
 Morning Worship @ 10:15 am

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 27th**



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



Blood Drive
 Monday, December 13TH
 11:30 am-5:30 pm
 FBC Fellowship Hall

Youth Christmas Party & Scavenger Hunt

Wednesday, December 22nd
 7:00 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 8th
 For delivery Thursday Dec. 9th

Prayer Warrior Crafters

Thursday December 9th 10:30 am
 We will put together the gifts for delivery

The Christmas Mailbox

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

To Know Christ and to
 Make Him Known

 The Vision

November 24, 2021
 Volume 14, Issue 11

**SHEPHERDS
 AND
 KINGS**
 A Dramatic Musical
 for Christmas

**First Baptist Church Sanctuary Choir will be performing
 the presentation of "Shepherds and Kings"**
 A Dramatic Christmas Musical showcasing 25 actors/ actresses, 8 songs
 Visual & audio special effects, and a hand built stage.
 Directed by: Pam Evitts & Steve Livingston

Thurs.& Fri. Dec. 23rd & 24th @ 6:00 pm



**Bring the family and experience
 The birth of Christ!**



From the Pastor's Heart

Dear First Family and Friends,

As I sat down to write this month's (December) Vision article, it amazes me that November is almost over. When we arrive at this time of the year our thoughts, plans, and attention focus on the holidays, Thanksgiving and Christmas. That is as it should be. Focus helps us to have vision, plans, preparations, and execution of those events.

As you prepare for your family celebrations, remember that we celebrate Christmas as the First Advent of Christ, coming as the Suffering Servant to take away the sins of the world.

You will notice that we scheduled our Lord's Supper service for the last Sunday of the month, December 26th. We will also be receiving a Benevolent Offering that morning to assist church members with unexpected financial issues.

Denise and I would like to take this opportunity to pray that you have a focused Christmas on the true purpose of the season. We thank God that He has called us to journey with you.

Keeping the Main Thing, the main thing,
 Pastor Robb

Looking Ahead in December

November	28	Advent of Hope 10:15 am Pic-N-Bow 4:00 pm Deacon's Meeting
December	2	4:30 pm YAH Christmas Trip
December	5	10:15 am Baptism 12:00 pm Deacon's & wives Lunch
December	6	5:00 pm Basketball Team Meal
December	7	7:00 pm Church Council
December	8	Prayer Warrior Gifts Due in Office 6:30 pm Community Youth Night @ 1st Christian Church
December	9	10:30 am Prayer Warrior Crafts
December	12	Advent of Joy 4:30 pm Christmas Meal Carry outs 5:00 -6:00 pm Christmas Meal Dine in 6:00 pm Business Meeting
December	13	11:30 am-5:30 pm Blood Mobile
December	15	1:00 pm Coloring Ministry
December	16	10:00 am Preschool Christmas Party
December	19	Advent of Love
December	20	5:00 pm Basketball Team Meal
December	22	7:00 pm Collision Youth Scavenger Hunt/Christmas Party
December	23	6:00 pm Shepherd's & Kings -choir
December	24	Office Closed-Christmas Eve 6:00 pm Shepherd's & Kings-choir
December	26	10:15 am Lord's Supper Benevolence Offering 4:00 pm Deacon's Meeting

Annual Christmas Church Dinner
Sunday Dec. 12th
Come & Go
Carry out or Dine In options
4:30 pm Carryout Meals Ready for pick-up
5:00 -6:00 pm Dine In
Business Meeting @ 6:00 pm
Sign-Up Sheets in Gathering area.

MINISTRY OF PRAYER CHURCH FAMILY

Kathy & Mike Koehn Brian Gilbert
Phyllis Morris Teresa Roberts Keith & Lynn Divine

EXTENDED CHURCH FAMILY

Robert McDown, Sandy McDown's Son Steve Laepple, nephew of Roberta Hampton
Dwayne Sprouls, brother of Dwight Sprouls Edward Banta, Debra Stefan's dad
Tom Buchanan, Rhonda Enochs, Justin Weis, friend of Anna Voorhees
Trent Morgan, family of Ed & Brenda Onstott Bryan Tabakian
Blair Stefan, granddaughter of Dan & Kyle Metcalf
Dixie McLain, sister of Sharon Ramey Jim Young, friend of David Banwart
Traci Overman, friend of Kristi Gordon, Becky Howell, friend of Teresa Roberts
Larry Roland, father of Eva Buchanan & Curt Roland
Tyler Worington, grandson of Shirley Hildebrand
Josie Chairez, great niece of Brenda Onstott Bryan Tabakian
Nancy Kirby, Kay McKee's siter in law
Noraleen Trout, sister of Barbara Robertson
Jessica Query, sister-in-law of Kerri Beshore
Nate Clement, grandson Cheryl Tally, niece of Ivan & Denzil Voorhees

MILITARY PERSONNEL

Brian Jenkins-helicopter pilot in Germany
Dylan Hill-Eielson Air Force base, Alaska-son in law of Darin & Jennifer Beem
Caleb Stevens-USAF Las Vegas, NV son of Gary & Shelia Stevens
Richard Jones-Army, son of Dwayne & Linda Jones
Brandon Lipe - Chicago, Il. grandson of Noel & Lynn Grigery
Joey Rossiter - North Carolina, grandson of Sue Hobson
Merissa Schmidt - Pentagon, granddaughter of Wanda Reno
Mark Jones - Okinawa, Japan, son of Dwayne and Linda Jones
Nathan Davis-National Guard, husband of Sarah Davis

MISSION OUTREACH

Pastoral Staff Lamar's Unchurched Building Committee/Project
Haiti



December Homebound

Juanita Johnson-Truman
Maxine Francis Roberta Hampton
Junior & Laura Hammons
Phyllis Morris-Truman Joyce Stone
Noel & Lynn Grigery, Dwayne & Linda Jones
Nell Voorhees

Random Acts of Kindness

Adult Coloring Page Ministry

for residents of Maple & Truman Health care and our home
Bound church.
Wed. Dec. 15th @ 1:00 pm FBC

Quarter Collection Ministry

Please donate spare Quarters for Laundromat Ministry
Quarter Jar will be in Gathering Area Sun Dec. 12th

Music/Family Ministries

I am looking forward to our Christmas musical "Shepherd and Kings", on December 23rd and 24th. I have been somewhat overwhelmed by the amount of work required to pull something like this off. From cast selection, to rehearsals, line memorization, set building and dramatic effects, the effort by our choir and volunteers will be exhausting to say the least. However, God willing, it will be a memorable and enjoyable experience for our church and community. But I have to be honest with you... sometimes I start to wonder if it might have been easier to just repeat what we have done the last 7 years. That's right; this will be my 8th Christmas with you. It seems strange for to me to say that because I still feel like the "New Guy" sometimes. And the temptation for the "New Guy" is to just continue with the same old thing, to never attempt anything, to do what is easy and familiar. The Safe Thing. Don't get me wrong, I love tradition as much as the next guy and you won't find a more sentimental person than the "New Guy". However, if we never try anything different, anything brave and adventurous, there is a danger in becoming stagnant and predictable. We made the decision as a church almost 3 years ago to build a Family Life Outreach Center, as an extension of our ministry to Lamar. Bravely, adventurously and responsibly, we followed what we believed God directing us to do. And I'm confident we will see His blessing revealed, as we place our faith in His calling to use our talents and resources to reach the lost. My prayer is that First Baptist Church will never be boring. That we will look to be relevant and innovative as we remember to keep the main thing the main thing. So that no matter what we attempt, may it be musicals, mission trips or buildings, our goal will be to see God glorified, as we begin each new adventure.

God Bless!

Steve



Watch Livestream Christmas Program
December 16th @ 10:00 am

YAH Dec. Christmas Outing

Thurs. Dec. 2nd

Leaving church @ 4:30 pm

Dinner @ Sirloin Stockade-Carthage

"The Best Christmas Pageant Ever"

Showing @ Ozark Christian College

Seats to ride Church bus available

Cost: Dinner \$11.95 plus tax & tip and Play \$5.00

Lottie Moon

Christmas Offering

Will be collected through the month of December

Goal: \$12,000

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Thank you to our church family for your participation in Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes, 184 shoeboxes were filled by individuals and 100 shoeboxes during the Youth Packing Party. Each child who 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. There were 1514 shoeboxes dropped off, packed into shipping cartons and delivered to Joplin to begin their journey to children all over the world.

Vital Signs for November, 2021

Average Attendance for November
Morning Worship - 240
Sunday School - 145
Small Groups - 70

Treasurer's Financial Report
Total Income: \$41,339.72
Total Expenditures: \$43,407.54