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**

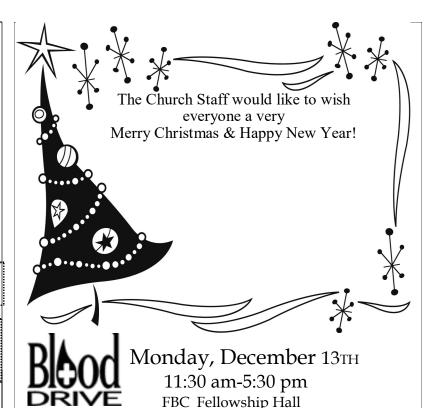
# **Church Office Hours**

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

461-4312

Tanya Potter, Custodian

FOR DECEMBER **MONDAY DECEMBER 27th** 



# 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



# 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.

for Christmas

**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,

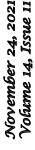
As I sat down to write this month's (December) Vision article, it amazes me that November is almost over. When we arrive at this time of the year our thoughts, plans, and attention focus on the holidays, Thanksgiving and Christmas. That is as it should be. Focus helps us to have vision, plans, preparations,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

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

# 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 & Kyley 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 Querry, 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, II. 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 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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 age 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

# 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.