

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

U.S. Postage Paid  
 Permit No. 426  
 Nonprofit  
 Organization  
 Carrier Presort

The Church Office will be closed  
 Wednesday, December 25th.

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  
 David Thrasher, Custodian 682-1562

**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



**There will be NO  
 December Vision**



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

*Pastor Robb, Chris Roth*  
*Steve Livingston, Pam Caruthers*  
*Gina Reed, David Thrasher*  
*Val Waggoner*



Monday, December 9TH  
 11:30 am-5:30 pm  
 FBC FLOC Building

**Children & Youth Christmas Party**

Wednesday, December 18th

Everyone wear your P.J.'s~ Breakfast is on the menu!  
**Team Kids 6:00 pm Games & Cookie Decorating**  
**Collision Youth 6:30 pm ~ Scavenger Hunt**  
**White Elephant Gift Game (bring a gift not to exceed \$5.00)**



**Prayer Warriors**

Gifts for school personnel need to be in  
 the office by Wed. Dec. 11th  
**YAH Crafters**  
 10:30 am Thurs. Dec. 12th  
 Assembling gifts for delivery to schools

**Lottie Moon**  
**Christmas Offering-Goal \$13,500**  
**Will be collected through the month of December**

**The Christmas Mailbox**

The mail box is 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.

November 27, 2024  
 Volume 17, Issue 11

**The Vision**



To Know Christ and to  
 Make Him Known



**December Events @ FBC**

Sun. Dec. 8th Deacon & Wives Banquet @ 12:00

Sun. Dec. 8th Church Wide Christmas Dinner  
 Carry out meals ready for pick up @ 4:30 pm  
 Dine In-Fellowship Hall 5:00-6:00 pm  
 Business Meeting 6:00 pm

Wed. Dec. 18th @ 6:00 pm **Team Kids** Christmas Party  
 Games, Cookie Decorating

@ 6:30 pm **Collision Youth**  
 Scavenger Hunt, Breakfast, P.J.'s, White Elephant Gift exchange

Thurs. Dec. 15th @ 4:00 pm Women's Christmas Party FBC F.H.

Tues. Dec. 17th @ 10:00 am FBC's & 123's Christmas Program



Sanctuary Choir will present Christmas Music  
 Sun., Dec. 22nd, morning worship service



Tues. Dec. 24th @ 6:00 pm Christmas Eve Service

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year to you & your family

*Winter Devotionals & magazines are available in the Gathering Area.*

*From the Pastor's Heart*

Dear First Family and Friends,

Denise and I would like to greet everyone, Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas. As I write this article, I am reminiscent of the past twenty-seven years, sharing in each other's lives. Working together, we have seen the advancement of God's kingdom in various ways. Pam Caruthers shared with me pictures of special events over the years, naming many of our precious friends who have already gone to their eternal rest. Each Sunday we see the evidence of God's continual work in the lives of our young people, and we rejoice with exceeding great joy.

Denise and I have a deep appreciation and gratitude in our hearts to God for you. It is my privilege and honor to serve as your pastor. I don't take that charge lightly. My prayer is that God will continue to guide and bless this church as we share the Gospel.

Keeping the Main Thing, the main thing,  
 Pastor Robb

## Looking Ahead in December

- December 1 Advent of Hope
- December 3 10:30 am YAH Council Meeting  
7:00 pm Church Council Meeting
- December 5 5:30 pm bus departs for YAH  
Christmas Outing, Carthage
- December 7 8:00 am Men's Ministry Breakfast
- December 8 Advent of Peace  
12:00 pm Deacon's & Wives Banquet  
4:30 pm Carry Out Dinners  
5:00 pm Church Wide Christmas Meal  
6:00 pm Business Meeting  
6:00 pm bus leaves for  
Community Youth Night  
@ 1st Christian Church
- December 9 11:30 am-5:30 pm Bloodmobile FLOC  
7:00 pm Building Committee Meeting
- December 11 Prayer Warrior Gifts are due in office  
Usual Wed. Nite Activities
- December 12 10:30 am YAH Crafters  
Assembling/ Delivering gifts to schools
- December 14 9:00-10:30 am KID'S DAY OUT  
Cookies & Christmas Crafts in F.H.
- December 15 Advent of Joy  
4:00 pm Women's Christmas Fellowship
- December 17 FBC's & 123's Christmas Program
- December 18 6:00 pm Team Kids Christmas Party  
6:30 pm Collision Youth Scavenger Hunt, Christmas party
- December 22 Advent of Love/ Lord's Supper
- December 24 6:00 pm Christmas Eve Service
- December 25 Christmas Day-Office Closed
- January 1st New Year's Day-Office Closed

## Annual Christmas Church Dinner Sunday Dec. 8th

Come & Stay for the Business Meeting  
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

**MINISTRY OF PRAYER  
CHURCH FAMILY**  
Wayne Leavell Jan Bowman Scott Gordon Gary Swor  
David Banwart Rita Bennett Wayne Dingman Ann Stahl  
Sondra Divine Stephanie Siebert Donna Oglesby

**EXTENDED CHURCH FAMILY**  
Rubin & Tracy Neufeld, brother & sister in law of Rosmarie McMullen  
Lance James, son in law of James & Rosmarie McMullen  
Kim Sampson, daughter of Anna & LeeRoy Voorhees  
Grady O'Sullivan, grandson of Jennifer & Mike O'Sullivan  
Jerry Bunn, friend of Dick & Linda Pope  
Jentri Banwart, granddaughter of David & Peggy Banwart  
Russ Clapper, brother of Tanya Potter Brenda McKay, sister of Chris Sheat  
Robert Rodell, cousin of Anita VanSickle Terry Logan, sister of Dana Sheat  
Greg Peters, friend Wanda Hudson, sister of Denzil Voorhees  
Coty Jones & Vicky Sparks, friends of Sheila Stevens  
Juli Davis, daughter of Jerry & Jane Houghton  
Janelle Vice, daughter in law of Harvey Vice  
Becky Howell, friend of Teresa Roberts  
Sharla Hafer, cousin of Chastity O'Neal Dohnyetta Robinson  
Josh Blanchard, cousin of Leena Harris  
Brett Campbell, friend of Belinda & Dayne Shoff  
Tina Walker, sister of Cindi Sprouls

**MILITARY/ 1st RESPONDER PERSONNEL**  
Amanda Dunford, Navy, Va. family of Russ & Rita Bennett  
Brian Jenkins, Army-Germany, nephew of Jerald Lehman  
Taylor Sheat, National Guard, nephew of Chris Sheat  
Rene Gamache-Army, husband of Jerica (Stahl) Gamache  
Caleb Stevens-USAF Las Vegas, NV son of Gary & Shelia Stevens  
Richard Jones-Army, Washington son of Linda Jones  
Joey Rossiter - North Carolina, grandson of Sue Hobson  
Mark Jones - Navy-Illinois son of Linda Jones  
Nathan Davis-National Guard, husband of Sarah Davis

**MISSION OUTREACH**  
Pastoral Staff Lamar's Unchurched Building Committee/Project  
Issues in Haiti /Ukraine / Israel

**December Homebound**  
Howard Smith-Lynn Grigery  
Thelma Lehman -Dorothy Todd -Carol Stanley  
Junior Hammons -Joyce Stone -Justine McManis  
Rose Bronson - Nancy Bowman  
Please take time to send each one of these a card this holiday



*Our Deepest Sympathy To:*  
*Connie White in the loss of her  
Sister, Teressa Melvin*

## Music/ Family Ministries

Ten years ago (Nov.2, 2014) God called me to First Baptist Lamar. It is my belief that God moved you as a fellowship of believers to place your trust in this call and affirm me in the service of worship and family ministries. As followers of Christ, we communed together to serve and to worship as one body, for one purpose, by the one true faith in which each of us have been called, trusting in the grace and mercy of our sovereign God and King to direct us according to His will. My family and I have joined you for the purpose of mutual spiritual, emotional, and physical growth within this community, as Gods salt and light to a dark and tasteless world. It is my hope and prayer that each year, or better yet, each day we will recommit ourselves to this upward call; that we will find our joy in Jesus Christ our great prize. Let us stand in agreement with Paul and confess in humbleness: **"Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."** (Philippians 3:13-14) By His grace, we shall endure, through our faith, we press on.

God Bless You All,

Steve



Please pick up your coolers from the Fellowship Hall.  
Thank You to all that helped in any way to make our  
Community Thanksgiving Day a blessing to others.

*Welcome New Member*

*Steve Peters  
Anthony & Trisha Mize*

## THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Because of our church family's generosity, a total of **334** Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes were filled by individuals, our youth and children during their Packing Parties.

Each child who receives a shoebox will have an opportunity to hear about God and His love for them. Please pray for these children and those who will deliver the shoeboxes.

Thank you also for the volunteers that helped during Collection Week, as our church served as a drop-off sight. During Collection Week, there were **1329** 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, 2024

Average Attendance for November  
Morning Worship - 242  
Sunday School - 130  
Small Groups - 58

Treasurer's Financial Report for October  
Total Income:\$46,054.46  
Total Expenditures: \$54,442.22  
Nov. FLOC Donations: \$52,520.00