

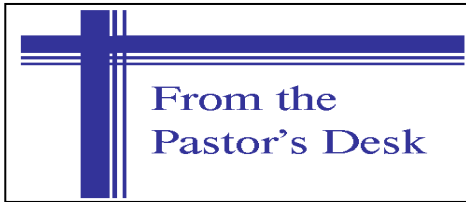


*Discover A Place to Call Home*

# THE MESSENGER

MARCH 2021

Volume 1, Issue 103



What am I thinking about these days?

After several horrific church shootings, along with other shootings at schools and large public gatherings, many churches have come up with security plans in an attempt to thwart any hostile actions directed toward the church's congregation. It is something that is prudent to do and we have done.

On the advice of lawyers and security experts following scandals of sexual abuse of children in churches and other youth organizations such as the Boy Scouts, many churches have implemented a systematic approach to ensure the safety of children and other vulnerable populations. It is something that is prudent to do and we have done.

Now we are faced with a threat that is not human and visible but viral and invisible. And there are not just a few experts we can consult if we choose to about this matter, but rather a torrent of information and even misinformation coming at us daily whether we want it or not. Fears of government overreach and religious liberty combined with the deep desire to do the right thing and protect all people from a potential deadly threat is confusing and overwhelming.

The term "war-weary" means to be tired of or depressed by war. I have heard that even during World War 2, a war most of the population supported, the population grew tired and depressed of the daily grind and tragedy of war. I think too, we are COVID-weary in the same way.

How do we then develop a prudent and systematic plan and approach in the midst of a pandemic to meet the physical, emotional, social, and spiritual needs of the congregation who have different individual priorities of care?

Another thing weighing on my mind:

For several years I grew into following Christian apologist and evangelist, Ravi Zachariah on an increasing level. I would listen to him on an almost daily basis, gaining a greater understanding of the gospel and how to defend and present it to a skeptical community. I waded through his books and other writings in an attempt to grasp the faith at a deeper level. I was impressed at his humble approach to ministry and his effort to recruit young apologists to carry on the ministry after he was gone. I often quoted him and recommended him to others. I donated financially to the ministry and was saddened by his death to cancer.

But then, after his death, everything began to unravel. Ravi had suffered from severe back problems for years and would often seek relief from masseuses. After his death, many began to come forward to say Ravi had abused them sexually. There had been a claim from a woman several years before of the same thing, but Ravi had vigorously defended himself from those accusations. All this turned out to be true. Ravi had done these things and it could be proven. As one Christian minister has put it, Ravi's family and ministry are decimated. His ministry is being dismantled, books removed from the "shelves," and his audio and video deleted from the internet.

We have not heard more about this because Ravi was not the typical "Christian character" that the late-night talk show hosts love to roast, then skewer when they fall. He was well respected and thoughtful in so many ways, which makes all this even more confusing.

So, does this prove, as some claim, Christianity to be false? If it cannot change someone like Ravi, can it change me?

I have other thoughts and questions I do not have all the answers to, but I am running out of room. Where do we go from here, where is our hope?

Jesus said, "Do not let your heart be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me... I have told you these things so that in me you may have peace. You will have suffering in this world. Be courageous! I have conquered the world" (John 14:1, 16:33).

These are the opening and closing verses to Jesus's great discourse to His disciples just before his arrest and crucifixion. There is much more He had to say in between, but let these simple words give you courage to live as Christ in a troubled world.

My plan is to keep moving forward in the simplicity of the gospel. I am going to love God, love the truth of His word, love the church and love those far from God... it is all I can do right now.

~Pastor Mark



### Rathgeber House Report

Due to weather conditions, the meal was delivered a week later. Thank you to Kathy Janeke and Fran Koch for taking a fried chicken meal with sides. Also, thank you to Jean Prange and Kathy Simons for their monetary gifts.

Thank you,  
Fran Koch  
940-636-8215



For the months of January and February, we collected 25 pounds of food for Grace Ministries. With the recent cold spell we had, I'm wondering if the needs will increase for our community. We would like to do a canned food drive for Grace Ministries this month. You can bring donations to the church office, the home of Ida Jones, or deliver to Grace Ministries yourself. Any extra canned goods you can get would be really appreciated.

For the months of January and February we had 15 blankets. On March 10, 2021, we will be doing a meal for MSU Baptist Student Ministry. We will take pizza and dessert for their lunch. We are asking for donations of prepackaged, individually wrapped desserts and canned sodas.

Thank you,  
Steve & Ida Jones

There was a Special Called Business Meeting on February 7th. It was voted on and approved to begin the remodel of the old kitchen (hallway out to youth building). The expected cost is \$6,000 with additional costs coming when project gets underway if additional damage is found. There will also be electrical work done to ground some of our outlets. There will also be plumbing done to install water heaters for the bathrooms and kitchen at the sanctuary end of the building.



### Prayer Walk

March 7th at 9am

Meet in JLBC Fellowship Hall



Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer

FaceBook Live at 6pm

Sanctuary is open at this time if you would like to attend.



Deacons' Meeting

March 14 at 4pm



JLBC Team Kids & Youth Group meet  
Wednesday Nights.

Dinner at 5:30pm in the Fellowship  
Hall. Classes from 6-7pm.



**STOP**  
THE BLEED

Emergency First Aid  
Class

April 10th

Breakfast @ 830am

Class @ 9am



Senior Boys Summer Camp  
June 11-16



Youth Group Camp  
Completed 6-12 Graders  
June 21-25

Team Kids Camp  
Completed Kinder-5th Graders  
July 21-24

Registration & Deposit Deadline is  
March 31 for both Camps



Vacation Bible School  
July 25-29 5:15 pm—8:00 pm  
4 year old through 5th graders  
Adult Volunteers Needed

### PASTOR & DEACONS

Please feel free to call any of  
us at any time.

Mark Simons	940-867-5066
Rick Griffin	940-249-8461
Bill Lindenborn	940-781-2504
Marvin Maherg	940-636-2207
Robert Ritter	940-631-7437
John Naas	501-607-0713

**MARK SIMONS – PASTOR**

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Office hours: 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM  
Monday – Thursday

Located on Kramer Rd across  
from Burkburnett High School

# MARCH 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2  LADIES PRAYER & BLANKET GROUP	3  BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER 6 PM KIDS/YOUTH MEAL @ 530 CLASS @ 6-7	4  7:30 PM	5	6
7  SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 WORSHIP & MESSAGE 11 AM	8	9  LADIES PRAYER & BLANKET GROUP	10  BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER 6 PM KIDS/YOUTH MEAL @ 530 CLASS @ 6-7	11	12	13
14  SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 WORSHIP & MESSAGE 11 AM	15	16  LADIES PRAYER & BLANKET GROUP	17  BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER 6 PM KIDS/YOUTH MEAL @ 530 CLASS @ 6-7	18 	19	20
21  SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 WORSHIP & MESSAGE 11 AM	22	23  LADIES PRAYER & BLANKET GROUP	24  BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER 6 PM KIDS/YOUTH MEAL @ 530 CLASS @ 6-7	25  ARTICLES DUE	26	27
28  SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 WORSHIP & MESSAGE 11 AM	29	30  LADIES PRAYER & BLANKET GROUP	31  BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER 6 PM KIDS/YOUTH MEAL @ 530 CLASS @ 6-7			

## February 2021 Sunday School Attendance Record

Feb 7	38
Feb 14	SNOW
Feb 21	SNOW
Feb 28	43

*Average Attendance: 40*  
**Average based on 2 Sundays**

## February 2021 Financial Report

Tithes	\$11,433.00
Estimated monthly budget needs for 2020 - 2021	\$14,304.94
Designated	\$ 1,770.56



## March 2021 Deacon of the Week

Mar 1-7	Rick Griffin
Mar 8-14	Bill Lindenborn
Mar 15-21	Marvin Maherg
Mar 22-28	John Naas
Mar 29-Apr 4	Robert Ritter

## Prayer Chain

If you have an e-mail address and desire to be on the prayer chain, please call the church office with your email information.

**Questions? Call Jennifer @ 569-1211**

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We're on the web!  
[www.jlbcburk.com](http://www.jlbcburk.com)

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## Jan Lee Baptist Church

SUNDAY SCHOOL	ON HOLD
MORNING SERVICE	11:00 AM
ADULT CHOIR PRACTICE	ON HOLD
YOUTH & TEAM KIDS ACTIVITIES	5:30 PM

### MIDWEEK RENEWAL SERVICE

PRAYER & BIBLE STUDY	6:00 PM
VIA FACEBOOK LIVE	



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1004 Jan Lee Drive  
Burkburnett, TX 76354

Mark Simons, Pastor  
Jennifer Naas, Ministry Assistant  
Email: [jlbcburk@gmail.com](mailto:jlbcburk@gmail.com)  
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