

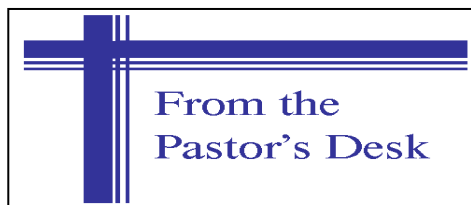


Discover A Place to Call Home

THE MESSENGER

April 2023

Volume 1, Issue 125



Several years ago I came in need of a product that has to also be serviced on a regular basis. There were several businesses in the area that provided both the product and the service, and I had to pick one. Initially, the business I chose was responsive to my needs and I was happy. But over time, they seemed to lose interest in supplying and servicing my need. It was still available, but with a much-reduced sense of priority and urgency. I became dissatisfied and disgruntled and chose to take my business elsewhere. I am now with a new company and am pleased with the level of service and attention I am receiving. I will remain with them as long as they continue to meet my need. This is appropriate behavior for a consumer in a capitalist system as I want to get the most for my dollar. But what happens when this mentality invades every facet of my life?

What if it becomes the basis of marriage and family? Then my spouse, children, or parents just become “vendors” of services who are responsible for meeting my particular needs. And, if they fail to do so, then I can leave them for another. If that one fails, then on to the next. This would be disastrous not only for a family but for society as well. So we don’t treat marriage and family as a business transaction.

But what about the Church? Is it just a business to meet my spiritual needs? The pastor - CEO, the deacons – the board of directors, the staff, leaders, and teachers – employees who exist to entertain and serve the congregation. A legitimate criticism of the American Church is that we have turned it and the gospel into a business.

Doyle Young in his book, “New Life for Your Church” states this about the church:

The Church is not a human organization based on common interests... like the Rotary Club or the...Garden Society, that is, a group of people who are drawn together by some interest held in common. In this case everyone is interested in religion. All those interested in religious matters have gotten together and formed a “club.” They have officers, regular meetings, and membership dues. This is a far cry from the biblical teaching.

The Church is not a social institution, like the government or the public schools. In our society, this idea says, we have a certain structures or institutions. So, the Church has officers, buildings and property, official leaders, schools to train those leaders, and a social function to fill. It is a false – or at least incomplete – idea.

The church is not a corporation, a task-oriented business intent on “selling” something or “making a profit.” This is, however, a common mind-set in many of our churches, particularly the very large ones. The procedures, methods of evaluation, and structures are often very similar to those in a corporation (or business).

All these conceptions of what the Church is are faulty. Granted, the church is made up of people, but it is not merely a human organization. Granted, the Church has a role in society, but it is not a cultural institution. Granted, the Church must have some organization, and mission, but it is not a business.

Both Church leadership and laity must reject this notion. A summation of what Young says the Church is:

The Church is the community of the converted, under the Lordship of Jesus Christ, where the Holy Spirit is active, and who are on mission to make disciples of all people. It is the community of those called by God.

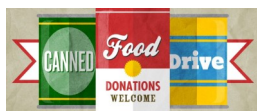
The Apostle Paul wrote to the Church:

It was He (the Lord) who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God’s people for works of service, so that the body of Christ (the Church) may be built up until we reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure the fullness of Christ. Then we will no longer be infants... but grown-ups in Christ... built up in love, as each part does its work (Ephesians 4:11-16).

Let us all strive for excellence in Christ and the Church, and not seek to just be entertained.

(D. Young, New Life for Your Church – A Renewal Handbook for Pastors, Baker Book House, Grand Rapids, 1989, pp. 21-26.

~Pastor Mark



For the month of March we delivered a total of 11 blankets to hospice. Without the support of all that contribute money and ones that make the blankets, this mission would not be possible. So thank you. Anyone that would like to come on Tuesdays, we meet in the Fellowship Hall from 1-3 pm. We would enjoy your company.

For Grace Ministry we collected a total of 44 pounds of food in March. The April needs for Grace Ministries are dried pinto beans, crackers, and ramen noodles

We are planning our next Garage "No" Sale on August 12th. If you have items to donate, you can bring them to the church. However, if you have clothing, please make sure your clothing is clean, separated by size and gender, and labeled before being put in a box or bag. Please keep sizes separated. For bedding, please be sure the size is clearly marked on the box or bag it is contained in.

Thank you,
Steve & Ida Jones



The Nominating Committee approved to form a committee of 4-6 to manage the needs of the church bus.

We are still collecting funds for Kasi Bailey's Children's Mission.

Repairs on choir room are on hold until the Building and Grounds Committee can meet.



Prayer Walk
April 2nd at 9:15am
Meet in JLBC Fellowship Hall



Wednesday Night Services
Meal for Everyone at 5:20pm
Adult class in Sanctuary at 6pm
Youth & Team Kids class at 6pm



Church Council
April 2nd at 4pm

Family Business Meeting
April 12th at 7pm



No Wednesday Services on April 5
No Sunday Night Services on April 9



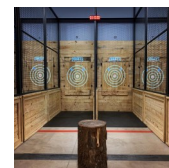
Easter Hunt
April 9 after morning services For 5th graders and under



New Member Classes
April 12 or May 17
Open to Everyone



Crochet & Knitting Fellowship
April 13th at 6pm
JLBC Fellowship Hall
Bring your own drinks & snacks



Red Robin & Axe Throwing
April 22 Leave at 10:30am
\$20/person + lunch



Mission Trip Fundraiser Class
April 25th at JLBC Fellowship Hall
\$30/person

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



April 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2  SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 WORSHIP & MESSAGE 11 AM	3	4  LADIES PRAYER & BLANKET GROUP	5  MEAL @ 520 BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER 6 PM KIDS & YOUTH CLASS @ 6-7	6  7:30 PM	7	8
9  SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 WORSHIP & MESSAGE 11 AM	10	11  LADIES PRAYER & BLANKET GROUP	12  MEAL @ 520 BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER 6 PM KIDS & YOUTH CLASS @ 6-7	13  FAMILY BUSINESS MEETING @ 7PM ON APRIL 12 	14	15
16  SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 WORSHIP & MESSAGE 11 AM	17	18  LADIES PRAYER & BLANKET GROUP	19  MEAL @ 520 BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER 6 PM KIDS & YOUTH CLASS @ 6-7	20  ARTICLES DUE	21	22
23/30  SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 WORSHIP & MESSAGE 11 AM	24	25  LADIES PRAYER & BLANKET GROUP	26  BISD FAMILY NIGHT IN THE PARK 6PM	27	28	29

March 2023 Sunday School Attendance Record

March 5	63
March 12	54
March 19	47
March 26	55

Average Attendance: 55
Average based on 4 Sundays

March 2023 Financial Report

Tithes	\$16,633.85
Estimated monthly budget needs for 2022 - 2023	\$15,695.00
Designated	\$ 9,780.58



April 2023 Deacon of the Week

Mar 27-Apr 2	John Naas
Apr 3-9	Robert Ritter
Apr 10-16	Rick Griffin
Apr 17-23	Bill Lindenborn
Apr 24-30	Marvin Maherg

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

We're on the web!

www.jlbcburk.com

Jan Lee Baptist Church

SUNDAY SCHOOL	9:45 AM
MORNING SERVICE	11:00 AM
ADULT CHOIR PRACTICE	Resumes in Fall

MIDWEEK RENEWAL SERVICE

MEAL	5:20 PM
PRAYER & BIBLE STUDY	6:00 PM
YOUTH & TEAM KIDS ACTIVITIES	6:00 PM



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