

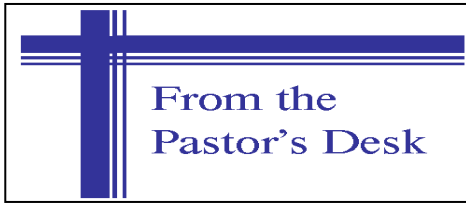


Discover A Place to Call Home

THE MESSENGER

September 2023

Volume 1, Issue 130



J. T. English is a young pastor serving a church in Colorado. He is also a part of the “Knowing Faith” podcast team. In an episode last year during the pre-content banter, he was asked by his co-hosts how things were going at Storyline Church. He responded, “We are in a sweet season right now.” I thought, “What a great way to describe church life when all things seem to be going well at the church.” What are these things? Well, new people and families coming into the church... souls being saved and baptized... people are getting along, growing, and making new friends... people are excited to be at services and attend regularly... people are motivated to serve in some capacity... giving is good and there is no worry about paying the bills.... The building and grounds are updated, and all the equipment is working. Just a sweet season. As a matter of fact, I had a pastor from another church and denomination call and talk to me about a year ago and he asked, “How are things going?” I answered, “We are just in a sweet season right now.”

But I had a call from another pastor in town who wanted to refer me to another podcast. He said, “It’s called ‘What Happened at First Baptist?’” It’s the story of First Baptist Church of Jacksonville, Florida and their pastor Heath Lambert, who had to lead the church through a season of intense change and the subsequent pain that it caused. It was a matter of survival. They were bleeding, both people and money, and unless something changed, they would die. It certainly was not a “sweet season” at FBC Jacksonville to say the least.

Jan Lee Baptist has not been in a place like that since I’ve been here, but it is not to say she hasn’t been here before. I would say right now we are somewhere in the middle between the two.

It is unrealistic to think we would always be in a state of perpetual bliss in our relationship to one another in the church. I don’t know any human relationships that function that way. But there are certainly things that we can do to positively improve relationships and to keep us from sliding down to relational disaster.

Everyone brings multiple differences into a relationship. There must be something that draws us together, and in the case of the Church, it is not a something, but a someone, Jesus Christ. He is the central figure in our relationship, not ourselves, or our preferences, but rather we jointly have the mind of Christ (1 Corinthians 2:16).

We must also accept the fact that genuine and effective relationships are hard work. To be committed to a relationship even when things are difficult takes a sound mind, controlled emotional responses, and determined effort. People stay married for a lifetime because they didn’t get a divorce when things got tough. People stay in the church when things are tough simply because they don’t leave when problems arise.

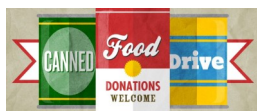
People too, need to be valued, respected, and loved. Ultimately, with the church, these traits come from Christ Himself through the Holy Spirit. When our worth comes from Christ, we then can give it back to someone else without expecting something in return. Now, when we do receive love and support from another human, particularly in the church, that is great! But it is not mandatory for us to feel valued.

People in the church need a voice too. We are a church who operates under a congregational form of order, and everyone has a voice in the form of a vote. But you should be heard with your words too, whether spoken or written. Now, to be heard you must speak in a way that allows you to be heard. There must be no lies, gossip, slander, back-biting, or secret “parking lot” business meetings. These things are evil and not tolerated. But, to the person who speaks the truth in love, whose concern is Christ and His Church, of building it up in love and unity, and concern for its integrity, speak up, particularly if you see something wrong.

Let me speak personally: as a pastor I have (but not here) been attacked both in writing and in speech. I respectfully listened to my attacker and responded with genuine kindness, not appeasing or dominating them but seeking resolution and if possible, reconciliation. If I am willing to do that with someone who doesn’t like me and is speaking hurtfully, how much more will I listen if you are one who cares and are respectful?

If you are concerned about something at the church, talk to me or a Deacon. I can’t guarantee we can give you what you want, but I promise you will be heard.

~Pastor Mark



For Grace Ministry we collected a total of 42 pounds of food in July. The September needs for Grace Ministries are Pancake Mix & Syrup, Boxed Mac & Cheese, Cooking Oil, Plastic & Paper Shopping Bags.

For the month of August we delivered a total of 6 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.

Thank you,
Steve & Ida Jones



A new checking account has been opened for the church bus. This account comes with a debit card for purchases pertaining to the bus.

The Garage No Sale was a success. \$400.25 was donated for Grace Ministries.

The Building & Grounds Committee is accepting bids for the repairs to the choir room.



Wear PINK on Oct 1
in support of our family and
friends fighting & surviving
breast cancer



Prayer Walk
September 3rd 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



Deacon Meeting
September 10th at 7pm

Family Business Meeting
August 16th at 7pm



We exceeded our goal of \$500
with a total of \$631.07!



We have met our Tire Fund goal!



BISD Family Night in the Park
Sept 13 6-8pm
Donations & Volunteers Needed



Ladies' Craft,
Brunch, & Devotional
Oct 7 at 10am \$20/craft



We Are Messengers Concert
Oct 20 @ Evangel Church
\$32/person
RSVP by Sept 20



Newsboys Concert
Nov 9 in Lawton, OK
\$36/person
RSVP by Sept 20

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



September 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3  SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 WORSHIP & MESSAGE 11 AM	4	5  LADIES PRAYER & BLANKET GROUP	6  PRAYER TIME AND DEVOTIONAL ALL AGES WELCOME (NO NURSERY) 6PM	7  Faith Mission 7:30PM	8	9
10 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 WORSHIP & MESSAGE 11 AM	11	12  LADIES PRAYER & BLANKET GROUP	13  BISD FAMILY NIGHT IN THE PARK 6-8PM No Service @ JLBC	14	15	16
17  SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 WORSHIP & MESSAGE 11 AM	18	19  LADIES PRAYER & BLANKET GROUP	20  MEAL @ 520 BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER 6 PM KIDS & YOUTH CLASS @ 6-7	21  FAMILY BUSINESS MEETING @ 7PM ON SEPTEMBER 20 	22	23
24  SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 WORSHIP & MESSAGE 11 AM	25  ARTICLES DUE	26  LADIES PRAYER & BLANKET GROUP	27  MEAL @ 520 BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER 6 PM KIDS & YOUTH CLASS @ 6-7	28	29	30

August 2023 Sunday School Attendance Record

August 6	61
August 13	53
August 20	54
August 27	42

Average Attendance: 53
Average based on 4 Sundays

August 2023 Financial Report

Tithes	\$14, 659.00
Estimated monthly budget needs for 2023 - 2024	\$16,182.00
Designated	\$ 1,895.11



September 2023 Deacon of the Week

Aug 28-Sept 3	Rick Griffin
Sept 4-10	Bill Lindenborn
Sept 11-17	Marvin Maherg
Sept 18-24	John Naas
Sept 25-Oct 1	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

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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