

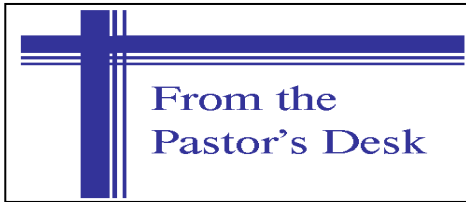


Discover A Place to Call Home

THE MESSENGER

November 2023

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Lifeway Research has reported on one of the new realities of the church in America is the rise in the average age of pastors. In 2000 the average age was 50. In 2021 the average age has risen to an average age of 57. With the dropping enrollment in seminaries, it does not appear this trend will turn around any time soon. Lifeway responds to this by saying: "The goal for congregations should not be to force out members and pastors who reach retirement age, but to leverage the strengths of those individuals and work together to reach and retain young adults." From those young adults who are saved, who are under the Lordship of Jesus Christ, and who become functional church members, God will raise up and call out a new generation of pastors.

The last nineteen years Jan Lee Baptist Church has brought on to church staff young men who are sensing God's call to vocational ministry but lack the experience and education to function independently in a larger or higher church context. These men have achieved a basic level of education (usually a bachelor's degree) and have displayed the character and maturity required for pastoral ministry. Because of the narrow goals and requirements, the position has not been consistently filled. We have recently come across a potential candidate though.

Purpose: The reasons why I believe we should consider this challenging ministry:

1. To bring generational diversity to the pastoral staff.

I was 46 years old and a very recent "empty nester" when I was called to pastor Jan Lee Baptist Church. The last twenty years have brought significant change to this world and me personally. I very much desire and pray to be able to relate to all generations but find it increasingly difficult to grasp a younger person's perspective of the world. I want to be clear; I am not hostile per se to their view, I just don't get it. A younger minister could assist the church in applying the timeless truths of the Bible in a new way.

2. To encourage a young minister by allowing him a safe place to complete his education and gain valuable "hands on" experience.

When I was brand new to ministry, I had a pastor, while not much older than me but, with much greater education and experience come alongside me to teach, train, guide, and encourage me in ministry. Other older ministers did the same for me in my time at seminary. It was invaluable. I desire to pay this forward to a new generation and allow a young man to gain the education and experience he lacks.

3. To increase the vocational workforce within the church.

All Christians and church members are valuable workers and ministers in the congregation, but they are also volunteer and are focused on work interests outside the church as they should be. There is something totally different when a young man takes on this ministry as his life's calling. In Matthew 9:38 Jesus says, "the harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send workers into the harvest field." What Jesus said 2000 years ago is true today; Jan Lee Baptist Church does not have too many workers, whether volunteer or paid... we need the help.

4. To be kingdom minded beyond our present time and space.

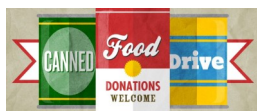
A seminary professor once told me that he thought one of the gifts the small church gave to the kingdom of God was giving young pastors the experience they needed to grow the kingdom even further. Of the five men who have come through Jan Lee Baptist Church as youth ministers or associate pastor, all have gone on to serve in full time student ministries at larger churches, or served as lead pastors, and/or have sought to begin their theological education. This is doing something for the common good of the kingdom.

Questions and Challenges to Consider and pray about:

1. Is this the will of God for Jan Lee Baptist Church?
2. Is this person the right person for that position?
3. Is he genuinely qualified to serve?
4. If he is, is his position to be full or part time?
5. Will the position be paid or unpaid?
6. If we are going to pay him, what would his compensation be?
7. Would he be allowed to work a second job if he is paid part-time?
8. How would the church fund this position?
9. What would his duties and responsibilities be, and who would he answer to?
10. Others?

Conclusion: The responsibility of calling a minister is the work of the congregation through a special committee. That committee was proposed and nominated by the Church Council in October 2023 and was elected by the church in the October 2023 business meeting. Its members are Heath Holtzen, Wayne Lamont, Bill Lindenborn, Amy Owens, and Debbie Ritter. Their responsibility is to consider and answer the above questions and others, determine a course of action, and present a recommendation to the church body for a vote. Please pray for them in the process.

~Pastor Mark



Thank you all that brought in food for Grace Ministries. Also to the ones that gave money. For month of October we collected 68 pounds of food. Not sure how the board member "challenge" went, but most of the items I took up were sugar and Mac n cheese. This month we are doing frozen pies and boxed desserts. We need 200 desserts by November 15.

We did 12 blankets for hospice in October. Thank you all that donate money for this ministry. We wouldn't be able to do this without your help.

Thank you,
Steve & Ida Jones



A new committee was formed, voted on, and approved to begin the hiring process for a possible part time associate pastor. The committee members are Bill Lindenborn, Amy Owens, Wayne LaMont, Heath Holtzen, and Debbie Ritter.

The church bus has been running a Wednesday Night route picking up kids for services.



Prayer Walk
November 5 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



Family Business Meeting
November 15 at 7pm

Deacon Meeting
November 19 at 4pm



November 4 at 9am



Member Orientation Class
November 12
9:30-10:30am



Youth Group Progressive Dinner
Friendsgiving
November 12 at 4pm
Meet in Fellowship Hall



Office Closed
November
22 & 23



Youth Building Furniture Fund
Goal: \$3000 Current: \$694.24



Lottie Moon Dinner & Auction
December 2 at 5:30pm



Snowman Painting Class
December 15 at 6pm \$30
Led by Lahoma Vaughn

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



November 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1  MEAL @ 520 BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER 6 PM KIDS & YOUTH CLASS @ 6-7	2  7:30PM	3	4
5  SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 WORSHIP & MESSAGE 11 AM	6	7  LADIES PRAYER & BLANKET GROUP	8  MEAL @ 520 BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER 6 PM KIDS & YOUTH CLASS @ 6-7	9	10	11
12  SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 WORSHIP & MESSAGE 11 AM	13	14  LADIES PRAYER & BLANKET GROUP	15  MEAL @ 520 BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER 6 PM KIDS & YOUTH CLASS @ 6-7	16  FAMILY BUSINESS MEETING @ 7PM ON NOVEMBER 15 	17	18
19  SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 WORSHIP & MESSAGE 11 AM	20  COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE - BMS AUDITORIUM AT 6PM 	21  LADIES PRAYER & BLANKET GROUP	22 	23  NOV 22 & 23 	24	25
26  SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 WORSHIP & MESSAGE 11 AM	27  ARTICLES DUE	28  LADIES PRAYER & BLANKET GROUP	29  MEAL @ 520 BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER 6 PM KIDS & YOUTH CLASS @ 6-7	30  TO PASTOR MARK		

October 2023 Sunday School Attendance Record

October 1	45
October 8	52
October 15	46
October 22	45
October 29	49

Average Attendance: 47

Average based on 5 Sundays

October 2023 Financial Report

Tithes	\$14,725.65
Estimated monthly budget needs for 2023 - 2024	\$16,182.00
Designated	\$ 6,157.11



November 2023 Deacon of the Week

Oct 30-Nov 5	Robert Ritter
Nov 6-12	Rick Griffin
Nov 13-19	Bill Lindenborn
Nov 20-26	Marvin Maherg
Nov 27-Dec 2	John Naas

Prayer Notification

If you have an e-mail address and desire to be on the prayer notification, 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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