

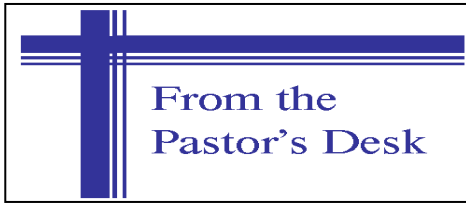


Discover A Place to Call Home

# THE MESSENGER

December 2025

Volume 1, Issue 155



Seemingly small events sometimes turn into something much more significant.

Several years ago, I went into a dollar store in Wichita Falls with my wife. As she looked around, I was perusing the dollar book section. A book caught my eye entitled, “30 Days to Understanding the Bible” by Max Anders.

I had never heard of Max Anders, so I went to the back of the book to look for his biography. It said he was a graduate of Dallas Theological Seminary, had authored over 20 books, was an editor for the Holman Bible Commentary, teacher, professor, and pastor. The book was also published by a well-known and reputable company, so I splurged and paid a whole dollar for the book. And it changed the whole way I approach the Bible and Bible study as I preach, teach, and even for my personal devotions.

We are taught to always consider the context of the Bible passage we are reading and studying. But there is a tendency to focus on a small section of the Scriptures, a few verses out of a chapter in one of the books of the Bible.

But Dr. Anders has us take a step back and look at the Bible’s whole story. To see the “Arc of Bible History.” To condense the Story of the Bible into a few pages. To grasp the core beliefs in all the pages of the Bible. It changed the way I teach and preach. Yes, I still teach and preach on sections of the Scriptures, but now I see them in the context of both this historic and yet on-going story.

The significance of this hit me once when I was teaching a small group of students. We were looking at a particular passage of the Scripture related to a Bible story, but I had drawn the Arc of Bible History on a white board with an X where the story occurred along the arc and an X where we are now in the story. One young lady sat back and studied the diagram, and you could see the “wheels turning,” so to speak, in her brain. Then the “light bulb” seemed to come on. She looked at me and with understanding smile asked, “Can I take a picture of this?”

Ever since this “discovery” that was right in front of me the whole time, it has been my desire for others to see this as well. To know the whole story of the Bible, to know what its significance is and what it means, and to be able to tell the story correctly and concisely to anyone who is willing to listen.

Over the last several years I have issued an annual challenge to the church. We began by attempting to memorize the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5-7. Last year’s challenge was to read through the book of Proverbs (31 chapters) once every month in 2025 (how did you do?).

This year in 2026, I want you to read “The Story” edited by Max Lucado and Randy Frazee. This book is “the Bible story condensed into 31 accessible and readable chapters that sweeps you into the unfolding progression of Bible characters and events from Genesis to Revelation.”

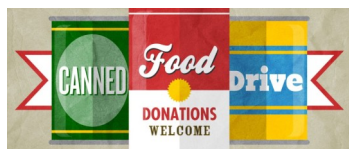
My goal for this challenge is that the entire congregation of Jan Lee Baptist Church know the whole story of the Bible, to know what its significance is and what it means, and to be able to tell the story correctly and concisely to anyone who is willing to listen.

We can purchase these hardback books for \$6 apiece and can get them in before the first of the year, but we need to order soon. Please let the office know if you want to participate. Thanks!

Have a Merry Christmas and let’s have a great 2026 as we read God’s story together.

~Pastor Mark





Thank you to all who supported Grace Ministries in the month of November. We collected 73 pounds of food this month. The December needs for Grace Ministries are canned soup, crackers, and Vienna sausages.

Thank you to all who donated fabric and money to support the blanket ministry for hospice patients. We delivered 7 blankets in the month of November. Thank you so much for your support we could not do this without your help.

Thank you,  
Steve & Ida Jones



**Prayer Walk**  
**December 7 at 9:15am**  
**Meet in JLBC Fellowship Hall**



**Wednesday Night Services**  
**Meal for Everyone at 5:20pm**  
**Adult class at 6pm**  
**Youth & Team Kids class at 6pm**  
**No Services on December 31st**



**Deacon Meeting**  
**December 14 at 4pm**



**Lottie Moon Dinner & Auction**  
**December 7 at 5:30pm**



**Scripture Song Service**  
**December 24 at 5pm**



**Church offices will be closed**  
**December 24, 25 & January 1**



**December 14**  
**Youth & Kids' Christmas Program**

**December 21**  
**Adults' Christmas Program**

**January 30-February 1**  
**Marriage Enrichment with**  
**Sherman & Tammy Aten**

**March 26**  
**Passover Seder with Steven Ger**



## PASTOR & DEACONS

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

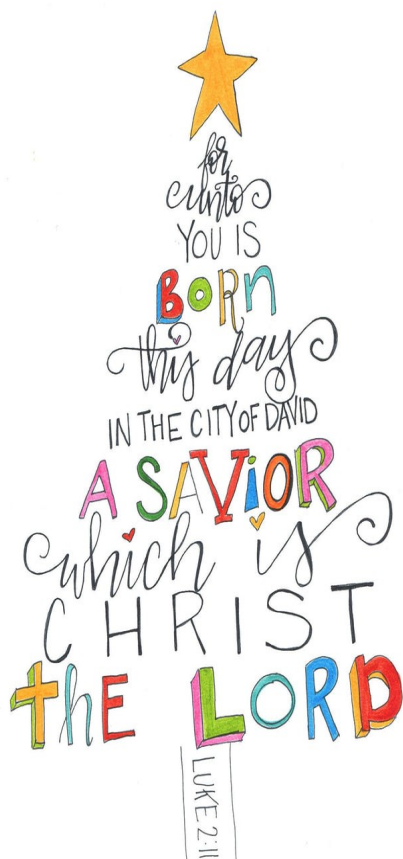
Mark Simons	940-867-5066
Rick Griffin	940-249-8461
Bill Lindenborn	940-781-2504
Marvin Maherg	940-636-2207
Robert Ritter	940-631-7437
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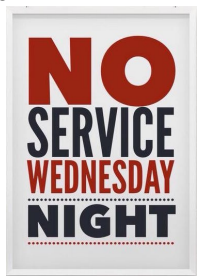
**Office hours: 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM**  
**Monday – Thursday**

**Located on Kramer Rd across**  
**from Burkburnett High School**





# December 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2  LADIES PRAYER & BLANKET GROUP	3  MEAL @ 520 BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER 6 PM KIDS & YOUTH	4  7:30PM	5	6
7  SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 WORSHIP & MESSAGE 11 AM	8  LOTTIE MOON DINNER & AUCTION DEC 7 @5:30PM 	9  LADIES PRAYER & BLANKET GROUP	10  MEAL @ 520 BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER 6 PM KIDS & YOUTH	11	12	13
14  SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 WORSHIP & MESSAGE 11 AM	15  YOUTH & TEAM KIDS CHRISTMAS PROGRAM DEC 14 AT 6PM 	16  LADIES PRAYER & BLANKET GROUP	17  MEAL @ 520 BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER 6 PM KIDS & YOUTH	18  ARTICLES DUE	19	20
21  SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 WORSHIP & MESSAGE 11 AM	22  ADULT CHOIR CHRISTMAS PROGRAM DEC 21 AT 6PM 	23  LADIES PRAYER & BLANKET GROUP	24  SCRIPTURE SONG SERVICE DEC 24 AT 5PM	25  Closed for Christmas DEC 24-25	26	27
28  SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 WORSHIP & MESSAGE 11 AM	29	30	31 			

### November 2025 Sunday School Attendance Record

November 2	59
November 9	52
November 16	71
November 23	67
November 30	58

*Average Attendance: 61*

***Average based on 5 Sundays***

### November 2025 Financial Report

Tithes	\$49,499.20
Estimated monthly budget needs for 2025 - 2026	\$20,179.40

Designated      \$ 3,565.71



### December 2025 Deacon of the Week



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

### 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](http://www.jlbcburk.com)

### Jan Lee Baptist Church

SUNDAY SCHOOL	9:45 AM
MORNING SERVICE	11:00 AM
ADULT CHOIR PRACTICE	5:00 PM

#### MIDWEEK RENEWAL SERVICE

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



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