

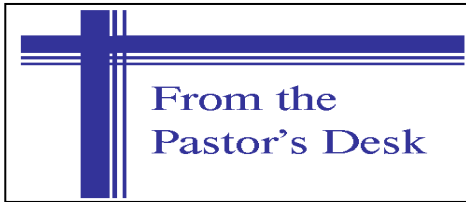


Discover A Place to Call Home

THE MESSENGER

April 2026

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Within the next couple of days (possibly it will have occurred by the time you see this article) NASA plans to launch four astronauts back to the moon on Artemis II. This is the first manned mission back to the moon in 54 years.

NASA labeled the early space missions on the gods of Greek mythology: Mercury, Gemini, and Apollo. Artemis was the twin of Apollo, so a throwback to the original missions. The long-term goal is to build a permanent base on the moon as a “steppingstone” to Mars.

My grandfather was six years old when the Wright brothers made “the first controlled, sustained flight of an engine-powered, heavier-than-air aircraft.” He lived long enough to see man walk on the moon.

I was only two and a half years old when Alan Shepherd launched the United States into the space race but have distinct memories of watching the launches of those early missions with my older brother.

I also have the memory of getting up with my dad early in the morning of July 20, 1969, to watch Neil Armstrong step onto the moon’s surface. That memory was highly emotional for me. I think first, for just the monumental moment in human history that it was, and second, I shared it with my dad whom I often had a hard time connecting with.

So, many years later, when I had three young relatives who were “moon landing deniers” who liked to goad me about it, I found myself feeling uncharacteristically angry... not a common emotion for me.

I think of the complexity of the lie that would have to have been perpetrated and maintained by not a few but thousands of people to pull that off. I think of what would have been the motivation for such a lie. I think of the failed missions of Apollo 1 (astronauts died) and Apollo 13 (astronauts survived) and why, if you were fabricating a story, why would you include failures. I think of the emotional connection I felt, first with my dad, but also the billions of people who literally stopped and watched what was happening at that moment.

In the same way, many people deny the resurrection of Jesus Christ... many more than deny the moon landings. Yet we hold it to be true, but also completely transformative of our world.

Jesus’s disciples would have had to perpetrate and maintain a lie that they would have known to be a lie for all their lives, without one breaking, while suffering a martyr’s death to maintain the lie.

And, if the disciples were making up the story, why would they cast their own failures so vividly as part of it.

The people who killed Jesus, hostile witnesses, never denied his existence or that he died and was buried, or that the tomb was empty. As a matter of fact, they testify to these things to this day but maintain that Jesus’s body was stolen. If they had stolen it, they could produce it to prove his resurrection false. If the disciples stole it, see the argument in the above paragraph.

Also, an early testimony of the resurrection (1 Corinthians 15) claims that Jesus was seen by hundreds of people at same time, and that most of them were still alive and if you wanted to Paul claimed you could ask them.

But there is also the connection we have with billions of people scattered over the earth who claim to be spiritual witnesses of the resurrection. So, what then...?

Certainly, pray for the safety and success of our astronauts; don’t be angry with those who deny the resurrection but most certainly, pity, pray, and “preach” to them.

~Pastor Mark



Thank you to all who supported Grace Ministries in the month of March. We collected 61 pounds of food this month. The April needs for Grace Ministries are small pancake syrup and small pancake mix.

Thank you to all who donated fabric and money to support the blanket ministry for hospice patients. We delivered 8 blankets in the month of March. Thank you so much for your support we could not do this without your help.

Thank you all for the donations to help serve lunch at the MSU BSM.

Thank you,
Steve & Ida Jones



Lawn Care Fund
2026 Goal: \$1800
Current: \$1036

Meeting

Deacon Meeting
April 12 at 3pm

Church Council Meeting
April 19 at 4pm

Family Business Meeting
April 19 at 5:30pm



Pie Bake Off
After Meetings on April 19



Wednesday Night Services
Meal for Everyone at 5:20pm
Adult class at 6pm
Youth & Team Kids class at 6pm
No Services on April 22



Easter Egg Hunt
April 5 After morning services Need donations of plastic eggs with individually wrapped candy or treats



Men & Boys Hike
April 18th
See Bill Banks for Information



BISD Family Night in the Park
April 22 6-8pm
Need volunteers, donations of caramel sauce & apples (send apples on or after April 19)



Wichita · Archer · Clay
Baptist Association

Our 2026 Prayer Focus is the churches of the WAC Association.

- **March 29-April 4 - FBCWF (West)
- **April 5-11 - FBC Petrolia
- **April 12-18 - FBC Burk Burnett
- **April 19-25 - FBC Dean
- **April 26-May 2 - FBC Byers



April 5
Easter Sunday Breakfast & Easter Egg Hunt

April 12
Vacation Bible School Preview & Planning Meeting @ 4pm

May 10
Mother's Day

May 17
Graduating Senior Sunday

May 31-June 4
Youth Camp @ Latham Springs

June 7-10
SBC Convention in Orlando, FL

July 26
Vacation Bible School Kick-Off

July 27-30
Vacation Bible School

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 Burk Burnett High School



April 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 MEAL @ 520 BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER	2 Obs of Good Friday	3	4
5 BREAKFAST @9:15AM WORSHIP @11AM EASTER EGG HUNT AFTER	6	7 LADIES PRAYER & BLANKET GROUP	8 MEAL @ 520 BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER 6 PM KIDS & YOUTH	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	16	17	18
19 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 WORSHIP & MESSAGE 11 AM	20 ARTICLES DUE	21 LADIES PRAYER & BLANKET GROUP	22 BISD FAMILY NIGHT IN THE PARK 6-8PM No Services @ JLBC	23	24	25
26 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 WORSHIP & MESSAGE 11 AM	27	28 LADIES PRAYER & BLANKET GROUP	29 MEAL @ 520 BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER 6 PM	30		

March 2026 Sunday School Attendance Record

March 1	65
March 8	54
March 15	49
March 22	58
March 29	56

Average Attendance: 56

Average based on 5 Sundays

March 2026 Financial Report

Tithes	\$50,267.84
Estimated monthly budget needs for 2025 - 2026	\$20,179.40
Designated	\$14,372.41



March 2026 Deacon of the Week

March 30-April 5	Marvin Maherg
April 6-12	John Naas
April 13-19	Robert Ritter
April 20-26	Rick Griffin
April 27-May3	Bill Lindenborn

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	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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