

First Baptist Church
1600 S. Main Street
Lamar, Colorado 81052
(719) 336-4953

Non-Profit
Organization
US Postage
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Permit No. 71

Visit us on the Internet: www.lamarfbc.org

Return Service Requested

Come join us Sundays!

8:45a Sunday School
10:00a Worship



The Messenger

Volume 54, Issue 1— January 2021

In the ever changing world we are living in, getting information out to our congregation and friends is vital in keeping us connected. The deacons have been providing us with a daily update and uplift, as well as a list of prayer concerns. If you have not been receiving these mid day calls please let us know. All we need is your name and the number at which you would like to receive these messages. Give us a call at the church at 719-336-4953 or email them to fbclamar@hotmail.com to get added.



WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

- ♦ *Adult Sunday School resumes Sunday, January 10th at 8:45am*
- ♦ *Sunday Worship, 10:00am*
- ♦ *Wednesday Adult Bible Study resumes Wednesday, January 6th at 6:30pm*

Sunday services are available on the radio at

KLMR 920 AM

Sunday

Mornings

@ 9:30

Online services can also be found on our web page and Facebook page



Lamar First
Baptist Church



lamarfbc.org

JANUARY MISSION EMPHASIS

Fellowship of
Christian Athletes

Founded in 1954, FCA serves local communities by engaging, equipping and empowering coaches and athletes to unite, inspire, and change the world through the gospel. Lamar High School supports FCA by reaching out to students through provision of a lunch meal and sharing the gospel.

Thank you for supporting this important mission!





There are many times in my life that I have actually wondered how many Darrens there are in my head. I so understand what Paul was talking about when he said, “Woe is me! What I am supposed to do, I don’t do. What I am not supposed to do, I do.” And I share that with you because I don’t really think I am alone.

Now, somewhere along the line, instead of working through that, I decided that having multiple Darrens in my head was OK as long as they didn’t embarrass me. I made this compromise in my head and my heart that made the life I wanted to lead doable. I separated my world into two categories: the sacred and the secular. This worked out very well in my head. I could go to church on Sunday and hear an amazing sermon on keeping my thought life pure. I could leave challenged and feeling blessed that I had attended. Then on Monday night I could go with my friends to a movie that made a mockery of that sermon and be good with that. As long as the pastor didn’t go to the movies with me, I was OK. As long as I didn’t stand up and start singing, “Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus” during the off color movie, I was OK. As long as I tithed and didn’t cheat God, well then OK. But to take every opportunity to shortchange the IRS, well that was OK as well. In fact, if I cheated the IRS enough, I could increase my giving to the church and that would be OK, right?

I see this a lot in our world. Politicians saying that they are religious but acting anything but godly. Pastors preaching God’s word but getting caught acting like pagans. I get a chuckle on the inside when someone lets a cuss word slip out in a conversation with me. “Please forgive me for that. I don’t know where that came from.” I want to say, “I know where it came from and its not me you need to apologize to. If I weren’t standing here, it would still have been as offensive to God.” And there’s the rub, isn’t it?

We think that we can comfortably cut our existence into two worlds: God’s and ours. But really, how does one do that with a God who knows all things and sees all things? If I’m describing you, then let me be of some encouragement. You are not alone in this struggle. In fact, Paul saw this in a church that he never attended. He heard about this kind of behavior in a church that so messed him up that the Holy Spirit inspired him to the point in which he had to sit down and write a letter to them and correct them and their thinking and theology. God is not impressed when we split out lives into secular and sacred categories. He wants us to be fully committed to Him as a whole integrated person. And this is the message of Paul’s letter to the church in Colosse. We call the book Colossians.

Over the course of January and leading right up to the Lenten season, we’re going to be unpacking Paul’s letter to the Colossian church. In this study, we’ll refresh our minds as to just who Jesus is. We’ll refresh our memories as to just who we are with and without Christ. We’ll train our brains to think in a way that maximizes our worship in both the sacred realms and the secular realms. And hopefully, when we’ve finished we’ll have been challenged to making integrity in our faith and day to day lives a greater and greater reality and witness. It will be a fun and exciting journey!

Now, you can participate in this in multiple ways. First there’s the in person services at 10:00 every Sunday morning. Then there’s the video ministry that you can access from our Facebook page and our website (www.lamarfb.org). And there’s radio that you can listen to every Sunday morning on 920 AM KLMR at 9:30 am.

I also want to encourage you to use your access to RightNowMedia.org. There are two series of video devotionals in RightNowMedia that I would recommend. One is by Matt Chandler who is a deep thinker and very methodical in his study and preaching. The other is by Louis Giglio. He's also a very good solid preacher and theologian. He does kind of remind me of a squirrel who had too many chocolate covered coffee beans, though. And note when you log on to RightNowMedia that you can actually get friends to watch with you and talk about it afterwards. Imagine that? Small groups and Bible Studies!

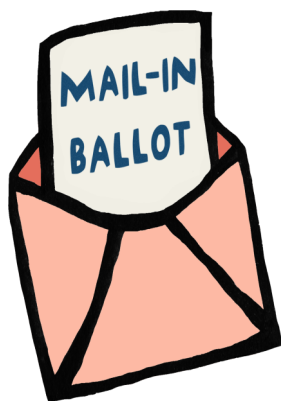
I also challenge you to read the book of Colossians in at least three different translations. And to read the book through at least once from chapter one through chapter four in one sitting. Get the big picture. Listen to the subtle differences in the wordings between the translations and think about why that might be. Ask questions if you want. I'm here for you.

Jesus said, "I have come that you might have life and have it to the fullest." He didn't say that just about your spiritual life. He didn't say that just about your day to day life. He said that about your integrated life. Let's start 2021 off working towards that integrated person that God wants you to be—the integrated self that is more than you could possibly even imagine!

Pastor Dave

Annual Business Meeting

Our Annual Business Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 17th. Details are still being worked out. A call will go out on the calling tree with specific details once a plan is in place.



In our November Business meeting, the church approved a motion to send out absentee ballots to our membership for the remaining issues that were brought forth during the meeting.

Item #1: Hiring of three Associate Pastors, Allen Garcia, John Gersick and Evan Mendenhall.

Item #2: The purchase of 3 iPads for shut-ins and connection to services.

Item #3: New membership for Lynzea Hetricks.

All 3 items were approved by the majority of the ballots returned.

We appreciate your willingness to continue with church business through the mail in ballot process. Thank you for your patients and the return of your ballots so quickly.

Thank each and everyone within our First Baptist Church family for your many prayers and words of support for Gary during our journey the last several years.

Thank you Pastor Darren for your visits and prayers as well—The cards and calls helped carry both of us through. May we give God the glory for the many blessings and allow this to grow our faith.

Sincerely,

Sandy Campbell

Congratulations to
Allen & Emily Garcia
on the birth of their daughter
Allison Taylor.

She was born Tuesday,
December 15th, weighing in at
6lbs. 15oz. and 19" long.



The week of January 11th

If you could help deliver meals one day a month please contact Anita Larrick at 719-940-1266.

OPERATION CHRISTMA CHILD

Thank you for all of the support during our Operation Christmas Child mission month. The silent auction fundraiser raised \$750. That amount was split with Living Covenant Fellowship, and was used for shipping the boxes we packed throughout the month. FBC was able to fill 183 shoeboxes with your mission donations. I would like to thank everyone that donated items for our auction, and thank all that helped during collection week. Thanks also to our ever faithful Richard and Debbie Widener for transporting the boxes to Rocky Ford.



Every year at Christmas we are given the opportunity to honor our loved ones by purchasing a Poinsettia plant to decorate our sanctuary. With the uncertainty of how our Christmas season would play out, we decided to add another option this year. We encouraged those to make a donation to the Salvation Army, Ministerial Alliance, or to our local food pantry, Sparrow House. After all, Christmas is the time for giving. Many of you may have donated directly to the charity of your choice, but listed below are the ones that were given through FBC.

Poinsettias

In Memory of: Ronnie Haggard

From: Debra Haggard, Staci, Jeff and Wendy

In Memory of: Jim Hawkins

From: Linda Hawkins, Lisa Harvey, Reece and Kasen, Chad & Jen Hawkins, Aspen, Stetson & Harper

In Memory of: Al & Grace Payne

From: Linda Hawkins and family

Salvation Army Giving

In Memory of: Bob Gatchell

From: Dixie Gatchell

Ministerial Alliance Giving

In Memory of: George & Edna McClung, Fred, Merna & Isabelle Cecrle

From: Bob & Nadine McClung

In Memory of: Gary Campbell

From: Wanda Bauder

"Nothing paralyzes our lives like the attitude that things can never change. We need to remind ourselves that God can change things. Outlook determines outcome. If we see only the problems, we will be defeated; but if we see the possibilities in the problems, we can have victory"

~ Warren Wiersbe

January

Birthdays

3	Keith Hall	18	Quinten Epperson
3	Virginia Inman	19	Shirley Marriott
4	Charlie Austin	20	Larry Barlow
7	Aiden Cave	23	Jonathan Tague
9	Tori Masten	25	Dave Reid
11	Lacee Cave	25	Heather Reid
13	Kristie Daniels	30	Steven Widener
15	Beverly Haggard		

Anniversaries

18 Ken & Cathy Callison

If we have missed your birthday or anniversary please call the church office at 719-336-4953 and let us know.

JUST A LITTLE Reminder

As of January 5th the following boards and committees still need to submit a year end report.

Please email them to fbclamar@hotmail.com.

Deacon Board

Trustee Board

CE Board

Music Committee

Nominating Committee - Nominations for 2021

Finance Committee - Budget proposal for 2021

Missions Committee

Treasurer's Report

Financial Secretary's Report

J K B R W E D Z M T E G W
 U D I W E L N I E R F N O
 S L P N I D G O O A L I N
 T O P H G H L M R O L T D
 I H C T T D R U R H S S E
 C P V Y T E O D O S T A R
 E U G I V E N M Q H N L F
 G O V E R N M E N T S R U
 K U R H S I L B A T S E L
 K O I N C R E A S E M V V
 F E C N I R P O N A M E X
 K S W U V O H J E C A E P

ISAIAH 9:6-7

For to us a **child** is born, to us a son is **given**; and the **government** shall
 be upon his **shoulder**, and his **name** shall be called **Wonderful**
 Counselor, **Mighty** God, **Everlasting** Father, **Prince** of Peace. Of the
increase of his government and of **peace** there will be no end, on the
throne of David and over his **kingdom**, to **establish** it and to **uphold** it
 with **justice** and with righteousness from this time forth and **forevermore**.
 The **zeal** of the **LORD** of **hosts** will do this.