



Lake of the Ozarks Baptist Association

PO Box 391 • Eldon, MO 65026

573-392-6591 • lakeoftheozarksBA.com

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The Voice

APRIL 2020

The marketplace is empty, No more traffic in the streets, All the builders' tools are silent,
No more time to harvest wheat;
Busy housewives cease their labors, In the courtroom no debate, Work on earth is all suspended . . .

If you remember this Gaither song from 1970, you may also remember the next phrase . . .

Whether you remember or not, reading (or singing) these words now seems eerily prophetic!
We are certainly living in a time like none of us have ever experienced. As I write this, over 46,000 people worldwide have died from Covid-19, fully 10% of those (over 4600) have been Americans. And the outlook is that many more will die before this pandemic subsides.

Indeed, there are those who prophesy that this is one of the plagues revealed to us in the Bible, portending end times. Yet, the Bible also reminds us that no one knows the day nor the hour of Christ's return. So how do we respond to the current situation?

There are those who would have us respond in fear, complete quarantine, and isolation, and even have this enforced by law. They hoard toilet paper and hand sanitizer and want the government to prohibit any public gatherings including worship services. Others claim that there is nothing to fear "but fear itself", and that washing our hands is good enough. One group is ignoring common sense as well as the constitution (particularly the first amendment's guarantee of freedom of religion and freedom of assembly). The other group seems to favor such disregard of government and other authority that they would support anarchy. I believe both extremes are an improper response for God's people.

Jesus commands us to "Love one another". What does that look like? Well, it looks like not putting others in danger. It looks like doing to others as you would have them do unto you. It looks like turning the other cheek. It looks like not hoarding more than you really need so that others can have what they need. It looks like providing for those who are need – of rest, of comfort, of support, of understanding.... We may each respond to the pandemic differently, but let us all be sure to respond in faith, and in faithfulness.

Within our association, churches are responding in various ways, some have cancelled services, some are continuing, some are continuing with modifications in schedule and attendance. Each is responding in accordance with guidance from their pastor and other leadership. We should honor that. In all of this, the old adage "We've never done things that way before" is bound to become a distant memory. Perhaps the Lord has allowed this to come upon us, in part, to shake us out of our comfort zones and do things differently so that we may be more effective in reaching others with the gospel. Think outside the box.

To say "The church has left the building" is no longer a motivational slogan. It is now a reality, and in a way we never imagined. Let's use this time to remember that it is not the building that makes us a church. Let's be the church to our neighbors, and to one another, and even to those who mock and malign us. Let the church be the church, the body of Christ, His hands and feet!

Some are wondering about Easter. Let me say this: EASTER IS NOT CANCELLED! Some congregations may still not have the people gathered, and other activities may be cancelled, but praise God, Easter cannot be cancelled! Satan tried to cancel our Lord's resurrection 2000 years ago but he couldn't do it! O death, where is your victory? O grave, where is your sting? All the forces of hell could not keep Jesus in that tomb! So even if we are not gathered together to celebrate, even if there no egg hunts, or new dresses/suits, or sunrise services, or cantatas, or....the fact of Christ's resurrection and His ever living to make intercession for us cannot be denied!

As we travel through is world between the first and second coming of Christ, and especially in the circumstances we find ourselves in currently, remember to continue supporting your church in prayer. Pray for your pastor and other church leaders as they seek the Lord's guidance to shepherd you and your church family through this time. Pray that your church will have an effective ministry of the Gospel even when not able to gather for worship. Pray for those who have tested positive for Covid-19 and for the families of those who have died as a result. Pray for those on the front lines of caring for the sick, and other "essential workers" who are trying to meet the needs for food, utilities, and other necessities.

Remember to also stay faithful in your tithing – tithing is not the admission cost to a worship service! It is a demonstration of faith in God's provision. Giving 10% back to Him in appreciation for what He has given you is an act of obedience, a catalyst for greater faith, and a testimony of trust in your Provider.

Get involved. While it is difficult (even impossible) to do some things while in quarantine or "sheltering in place", there are things that can be done....check on your elderly neighbors, encourage a family that is trying homeschool their kids (with no previous plan or intent to do so), or in some other ay allow the Lord to work through you for His glory.

Be Safe. Stay Faithful. Keep in Touch.

Your Fellow Servant,
Timothy

MEETING CANCELLED

Associational Council Meeting
Tuesday, April 7, 6:30 PM
LOBA Office, 401 Champaign, Eldon

MEETING CANCELLED

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 7:00 PM
TUSCUMBIA BAPTIST CHURCH
1982 HWY 52, TUSCUMBIA**

MEETING CANCELLED



**Pastors & Wives Fellowship
Breakfast
Saturday, April 11, 2020
8:30 AM
Blue Springs Baptist Church**

CAMP DATES HAVE BEEN SET

**PLEASE MARK THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDARS
MORE INFORMATION WILL COME SOON.**

CAMP P82, ROCKY MOUNT

JULY 13-15 Completed Grades K-3

JULY 13-17 Completed Grades 3-6



Group leaders and other volunteers are needed. If interested please Contact the Association Office, 392-6591.



NEW PASTOR AT MONTGOMERY BAPTIST CHURCH

Rodney Allen has been called as Pastor to the Montgomery Baptist Church. Rodney has previously served as Youth Pastor and Deacon at Mt. Carmel. Please keep Rodney and Montgomery in your prayers as they begin serving together.

2020 SUMMER MISSIONARY

Churches wanting summer missionary for VBS need to be letting us know when their VBS is scheduled for. Call 392-6591 and leave your information.

So far, we have one summer missionary, Brooklyn Wadley, from Okmulgee, Oklahoma. She is a college student pursuing a vocation in medical missions. She will arrive here in late May and will be available for VBS and other ministry activities.

**THE LAKE OF THE OZARKS ASSOCIATION
2020 VBS TRAINING EVENT HAS BEEN
RESCHEDULED FOR
MONDAY, APRIL 27, 6:30 PM
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, ELDON
209 SOUTH AURORA STREET
THEME REVIEW, BREAK OUT SESSIONS,
VBS THEME REFRESHMENTS
CHILD CARE PROVIDED**

Going **BEYOND**
SIMULCAST
with PRISCILLA SHIRER

May 16th, 2020 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

First Baptist Church of Eldon, MO

573-392-3124

Cost: \$15 if paid by April 18th, \$20 after April 18th

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

Church currently attending: _____

Preferred Method of Contact: ☐ Phone Call ☐ Text Message ☐ Email

Payment Method: ☐ Cash ☐ Check

- Make checks payable to "First Baptist Church of Eldon". Include "Going Beyond Simulcast" in memo line.

Registration form and payment may be mailed to: First Baptist Church, 209 South Aurora St, Eldon, MO 65026 OR submitted online at fbcelson.net by clicking on the "Women's Ministry" page.

Must be registered and paid by April 18th to receive early registration rate.

No refunds will be given once payment is received.



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2020 ON MISSIONS CELEBRATION

On October 11-14, missionaries will be in the Lake of the Ozarks Association and available to speak in our area Baptist Churches.

In order to participate in the On Missions Celebration your church needs to sign up to sponsor, or partner with another church to sponsor one of the missionaries who will speak at the sponsoring churches on a rotating basis starting at the sponsoring church on Sunday morning and then speaking at the other participating churches as assigned. All participating churches, or partnering churches, will have an opportunity to hear each missionary.

Services will be held Sunday morning, Sunday evening, Monday evening, Tuesday evening and Wednesday evening, five services.

Sponsoring churches, or churches that partner to sponsor a missionary will be responsible for providing the following:

- \$500.00 to the association to provide for transportation costs of the missionaries to and from LOBA and lodging costs while staying in LOBA.
- The sponsoring churches will also be responsible for the cost of meals for their missionary while they are here. Missionaries will provide receipts to their sponsoring church for meals eaten out. The church will then compensate their sponsored missionary for receipts received.
- The sponsoring church or partnering churches will be responsible for arranging transportation for their missionary from the motel to their assigned churches; Sunday morning through Wednesday evening.
- An offering is to be taken at each service. The money is not to be given to the missionary at that service but is to be remitted to the association office. It will then be equally divided among all participating missionaries. This is the only pay they will receive for their ministry to our association.
- There will be a contract for each sponsoring or partnering churches to sign that will be made available by the association office. The contract will specifically state the responsibilities of the sponsoring churches for their missionary. A signature and date of the business meeting at which the sponsoring church voted to participate in the On Mission Celebration will be required. We would like for the contracts to be signed in time for the April Executive Board Meeting, April 14, so that there can be a discussion of questions from participating churches.

For further information contact

Kent Hutcherson, Chr, Missions Committee, 573-569-3041

Timothy Faber, DOM, 573-392-6591, 573-480-2704 or timothy@ephesians412.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 5: Palm Sunday

April 10: Good Friday

April 12: Easter

April 24-25: Rocky Mount Food Pantry Open

April 27: 2020 Association VBS Training Event, FBC Eldon 6:30 PM

May 7: National Day of Prayer

May 9: Pastors and Wives Breakfast, Blue Springs Baptist Church, 8:30 AM

May 10: Mothers' Day

May 25: Memorial Day

May 31: 5th Sunday Sing at Mt. Herman Baptist Church, Hwy FF, Olean, 6:00 PM

June 6: PHC Open House, 948 E. Hwy 54, Camdenton, 11:00-2:00

June 13: Pastors and Wives Breakfast, Blue Springs Baptist Church, 8:30 AM

50th Wedding Anniversary Celebration for Kent & Carol Hutcherson, Eldon Community Center, 2:00 PM

June 21: Father's Day

MISSION TRIP TO ROCHESTER MN DATES JULY 25-31



**Lois McDonald
18837 Hwy 52
Barnett, MO 65011**