

# FIRST SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCH

## The L I N K

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### Essential Church

The President recently called for the reopening of churches after weeks of debate in states that seemed to be singling out places of worship in their orders. The narratives about church have been interesting during the pandemic. One narrative was remaining open to overcome the virus, but this narrative did not end well and sometimes increased the spread. Another stance was that the church is not a building and it is always open. We completely agree with this, but the church exists gathered and scattered. To say that the church does not need to assemble in any sort of way fails to fully grasp what the church is and how corporate worship is essential to our walk with the Lord. This is the piece that has been so contested in the media and political realms. As America has grown increasingly secularized, the need for churches gathering is trivialized as though it is some form of entertainment that can be simply met via the internet or television sets. What is it that sets churches apart from just another form of entertainment, social gathering, country club, or holy huddle? The identity of the church is not granted through the state, the IRS, or our ideas of the way we like church. The church, the ekklesia, is established by Jesus only and solidified in the Word.

In Matthew 16:13-20 Jesus asks who people say that he is and then asks who the disciples say he is. Upon Peter's correct confession that Jesus is the chosen one and Son of the living God, Jesus puts a stamp for the church. The church or called out ones are those who confess Jesus is Lord and believe this in their hearts. The church is true believers in Jesus for all of eternity. It is Jesus' church so he sets the criteria. Jesus protects believers for all eternity, mobilizing them, and multiplying them with the kingdom keys. Jesus is the one who declared the Church as essential long ago. The assembling nature of the church is found in the word choice here and its use back into the Old Testament.

We are not ones who say what is essential when it comes to church, but we can if not careful deem church unessential. People have been saying church is essential or unessential for years by casting their votes through attendance and engagement. For any numbers of reasons votes gets cast, perhaps church became boring and irrelevant to them. Perhaps an individual was hurt by the church or a hypocrisy was displayed. Maybe more important things fought with the Sunday morning schedules. Maybe it's the narrative, "I can worship Jesus on my own." Even though Jesus is the one who sets the criteria and the agenda for church, we all have a role to play. Thom Rainer said it well, "Essential churches create an essential community where the essential truth of Jesus is experienced." Jesus' church should be an appealing bunch. The church should be a refuge here on Earth. The church should be a beckon of light to a dark world. Since the Church was never closed, the Church is not reopening, but we are regathering. Whenever we regather, we will have an opportunity to show the essential nature of the church in our message, our worship, our fellowship, our serving, and our love. Let's be an essential part of this community together!

Gratefully,

Tim Singleton

# "Let the little children come to me."

Children's Ministry ~ Roz Crane

**NEW EXPERIENCE 1:** Wearing a mask to grocery shop

**NEW EXPERIENCE 2:** Seeing people look at me and then suspiciously, almost furtively, glance away.

I've found myself saying to people as I shop, "I'm actually smiling at you." They chuckle and move on.

It's a new, hopefully temporary, normal, but if we aren't careful during this time we might find ourselves being that "glance away, say nothing, avoid others at all cost" person.

NOW FLIP THE COIN...

**NEW EXPERIENCE 3:** Twenty cars driving by my front door just to say "Happy Birthday!"

**NEW EXPERIENCE 4:** People driving 20 miles to bring me a May Basket, to bring some cookies, Chex mix, and even Bar BQ ribs!

## KINDNESS...

compassion, caring...maybe these will become the new normal. Just maybe as we have had, and may continue to have, more time to be home and contemplate what's important, caring for others will emerge in an exponential way.



**So what does this have to do with kids?** It's so easy to get caught up teaching kids how to write their numbers or how to put their clothes away "properly" that you forget to teach them how to be kind. In general kids today are more self-absorbed than they were a decade ago, so don't expect them to pick up kindness by just watching you or others. Do acts of kindness with your children to teach them how to be generous, compassionate, and giving.



## Research shows that teaching kindness:

- \*\*increases self-esteem
- \*\*increases motivation to learn
- \*\*decreases bullying and violence.

What better time do we have than now to teach kids to do nice things for others? This could be the key to helping them recognize opportunities to show kindness later in life. This COULD BE a coronavirus game changer! Let's do this... show and teach kindness today!

**NEED IDEAS?** Google: Kids kindness activities. You will be amazed at all the wonderful ideas.

For example: Make a Bingo-like card. Fill squares with easy to do kind activities, i.e.: make a card for a neighbor, clear the table, help a sibling pick up their toys. Let kids mark off activities each day until they have a "Bingo".

*<sup>32</sup> Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.*  
Ephesians 4:32 (NIV)

## UPDATE ON PARKING LOT PROJECT

Contributions thru 04/30/20:	\$181,692.02
May Contributions:	<u>\$ 4,222.00</u>
Total Contributions:	\$185,914.02
Expenses Paid:	<u>\$198,190.06</u>
Current Fund Balance:	\$ -12,276.04
Deficit currently covered by cashed in Investment funds:	\$37,792.59

The last phase of the project is work on the alley which includes removing the existing surface and replacing it with crushed concrete and a new concrete sidewalk connecting the annex to the main building. We are currently waiting on bids for this work.



### Probable Locations:

1. Singleton's – Bissell's Point
2. Carol Smith's – Twin Lakes
3. Harmony's – North of 24<sup>th</sup>
4. Maggie Myers – Country Acres
5. Kayleen Weber (Crosspoint) – 23rd St (North of FSBC)
6. Denise Jahay – Ellinwood
7. Debbie Tomlinson – Quail Creek

Four adults are needed at each location. If you would like to help, please call the church office 620-793-8444 and sign up to serve.

SNACKS will be prepared at the church and transported to each location. Supplies needed for snacks are listed below. If you can supply a specific item or items, please call the church office and let us know. If everyone will check in with the office prior to purchasing any items, we can try to avoid duplication and lessen the need to return items to the store.

Items can be dropped off at the church during the week, on Wednesday evening or Sunday morning. Of course, if you would like to contribute but are uncomfortable going to the store, cash donations will be accepted for the purchase of the snack supplies.

### ITEMS NEEDED:

5 pkgs Betty Crocker Fudge Brownie Mix (family size)  
 1 dozen Eggs  
 20 (4 pack) individual pudding snacks (Chocolate)  
 10 tubes Sugar Cookie Dough  
 1 Family Size Crispix Cereal  
 1 Family Size Plain Cheerios  
 1 bottle Worcestershire Sauce  
 1 paprika  
 3 (4 stick pack) Butter  
 1 Family Size Rice Krispies (not generic...please)  
 10 (10 oz) miniature Marshmallows (white)  
 6 cans Vanilla Frosting  
 2 bags each—Orange, Yellow, Blue and Green candy melts

1 bottle Vegetable Oil  
 1 Big pkg Oreo Sandwich Cookies  
 1 48 oz pkg Gummy Worms  
 2 Solo Brand 9 oz (50 per bag) snack cups  
 1 Family Size Rice Chex Cereal  
 1 Family Size Pretzel Sticks  
 1 garlic powder





## Prayer Ministry, Nancy Rogers



**Prayer Leader of the Month:**  
**Marla Brocher**

*May the light of your faith shine so  
that it will illuminate the heart of  
another!*

**“For though the mountains may de-  
part and the hills be shaken, my  
love for you will never leave you,  
and my covenant of peace with you  
will never be shaken.” Isaiah 54:10**

*Life is a precious gift. Keep it  
wrapped in His love.*

### As We Unite in Prayer:

**“The effective, fervent prayer of a  
righteous man has great power and  
wonderful results.” James 5:16**

Pray for Pastor Tim Singleton, and his family.

Pray for our leaders, teachers, and all who attend.

Pray the eyes, ears, hearts and minds of all listeners will be opened to hear God's voice.

### Prayer Requests in the Month of May 2020

**Darlene Tomanek, Peggy Smith's mother,** diagnosed with lung cancer. Pray for her peace, comfort and healing. and for wisdom for her medical team.

**Tracy Deighton and her mom**—Her mom is 92 and her health is declining. She has leukemia, COPD, asthma and is on oxygen. Pray for peace and comfort for both Tracy and her mom.

**Rick, Jody Beckham's uncle,** had a stroke. He has been on heart transplant list for 10 years, but his health has prevented the surgery. He is not a believer. Pray he will hear the truth of God's Word, repent and be saved.

**Larry and Joyce Fry**—pray for their complete healing and good health. Larry says, “Prayers are being answered. I know healing and health answers are the result of the prayers that some of you have sent to our Great Healer and Protector. Thank you.”

**The Sister** of one of **Alan Crane's** truck drivers had a lengthy lung surgery, but she is now home and still needs lots of prayer for healing from the surgery and cancer.

**Pat Teel** continues to report that her vision is greatly improved. “Thank you for your prayers. To God be the Glory!”

**Wayne Stark,** friend of John Peters, needs to have two vertebrae fused but surgery delayed due to pandemic. Pray for pain management while he waits.

**Pricilla Rose's Step Dad** had surgery to remove cancer from his esophagus and has been in a lot of pain. His oxygen levels and kidneys are sluggish. Please keep him in your prayers.

**Jonathan DeWald's mother** has MS and has been taken to KU Medical Center in Kansas City. She has pneumonia as well other health issues. Pray for her and Jonathan's dad.

**Denny Maxwell** has made it through heart surgery and is off the ventilator and breathing on his own. Thank you for your prayers. Pray for strength and healing.

**Brenda Sievers** thanks everyone for your prayers. Both of her apartments have sold. Brenda also asks for prayers for a **certain couple**, that they would get along, make responsible decisions and be supportive.

**Chris Collicott,** Nancy Rogers' grandson, is in Alabama attend OTS (Officer's Training School). The Air Force will be his career. Pray for his safety, for strength and stamina to do well in his training and also that his faith will be strengthened.

**Suzanne,** Sharon Osborne's daughter, who lives with her daughter, is not doing well. Pray for her to have peace that she can be helped.

**Mark Slattery,** pastor of the First Southern Baptist Church in Larned. His colon cancer has returned. Will undergo another round of chemo and possibly radiation. Pray for Pastor Mark, his wife Shannon, and their children. Pray for wisdom for the oncologist and medical professionals treating him and that he will have victory over the cancer.

**Lisa Mason,** Steve Swagerty's sister, who has battled MS for 30 years, fell and broke her tibia and fibula. Her future mobility is of concern. Pray for her.

**Mike Lynch,** Darlene Bergren's son-in-law, after surgery is now in Medical Lodge for recovery. Pray for him and his wife Kathy.

**Charles,** Theresa Wilks brother has stage 4 cancer in his neck and lung. He will start chemo, but Theresa asks us to pray not only for him and his wife Carolyn, but also for his salvation.

**Jim Lewis,** Kathy Burt's brother is recovering from hip surgery and in a nursing home rehab center. Pray for healing and protection from other illnesses and to be able to go home soon.

**Pricilla Rose** was admitted to hospital with a kidney infection and pneumonia. Pray for quick healing and that she would feel and see God's tender care for both her and Tilly.

**Mike, Greg's dad,** (Greg is a friend of Butch Ramsey) had the coronavirus and was on a ventilator, but showing improvement. Pray that he will continue to respond to treatment.

**Denny Maxwell,** Pam Kitch's brother, made it through surgery and is off the ventilator and breathing on his own. Pray for strength and healing.

**Paul Train,** Bud Brocher's cousin, has been on dialysis over two years and his heart function is diminishing. A medication caused “terrible side effects” so he has decided to stop it. Pray his condition does not worsen. Pray for God's presence and peace for Paul, his wife and children. His family can not be with him right now, so he is completely in God's hands.

### **Pray for the lost.**

*To all who have requested prayer support—  
may the loving thoughts and prayers of  
people who care about you find their way  
into you heart and bring God's joy to you  
this day.*

*“Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory  
through our Lord Jesus Christ.” 1 Corin-  
thians 15:57*

### PRAY FOR MISSIONARIES

*Pray for their protection, strength of mind,  
body and spirit in their work for our Lord.*

**Alan and Beth Locke,** missionaries to Ghana, Africa, are home now in the Kansas City area as they wait out the Coronavirus pandemic. **Read their letter in this Link to see their prayer requests**

**The Hand Family, Michael, Lindsay, Jackson, James and Callie,** serving in Central Asia. Pray for boldness as they share the Gospel, plus wisdom to listen and lead in furthering God's Kingdom.

**Rachel Route,** serving in southern Asia, In view of a powerful cyclone Rachel asked for immediate prayers for (1) The Rohingya areguee camps. (2) The one million plus evacuees, complicated due to the spike in COVID-19 cases, and (3) Members of the National Disaster Response Force. These are overwhelming requests. Please remember Rachel.

**Spanish Mission Church,** Nueva Esperanza (New Hope) and their pastor Luis Guerrero and wife Enedeli

## *Prayer Ministry, continued*

**"Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have."**

1 Peter 3:15



### **PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH'S MISSION OUTREACH**

As we become a lighthouse in our community, may the Great Commission be fulfilled through us.

*"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."* Matthew 5:16

As we serve and minister for Christ may we remember this verse, *"Verily I assure you, Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of Mine, you have done it unto Me."* Matthew 25:40

### **PRAY FOR THOSE IN NURSING HOMES AND ASSISTED LIVING**

**Alta Fry**, River Bend, Great Bend; **Margaret Suppes**, Cherry Village, Great Bend; **Grady Bolding**, Ellinwood Hospital, Long Term Care Unit.

*"Behold, God is my salvation. I will trust and not be afraid; For the Lord is my strength and song, and He also has become my salvation."* Isaiah 12:2

### **HEARTFELT SYMPATHY TO FAMILIES WHO HAVE LOST LOVED ONES**

Pray for the family's peace and comfort at this sorrowful time.

Pray for the family of **"Aunt Stella,"** Jonathan DeWald's aunt, as they mourn the passing of a sister and aunt.

Pray for the family of **Bob Dunavan**, grandfather to Steve Swagerty's grandson, Zachary, as they mourn his passing.

Pray for **Tim Beckham and family** as they mourn the passing of his grandfather.

*"And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life and this life is in His Son."*

1 John 5:11

### **PRAY FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE US ARMED FORCES**

**Tucker Alexander**, Navy, son of Gary and Gail Alexander

**Kayla Callahan**, Marines, serving in Kuwait

**Gregg Dodds**, Air Force, Shaw AF Base, SC, Wife Morgan, son Greyson. Granddaughter of Darlene Bergren.

**Monique Durant**, friend of Darlene Miorandi, home from Afghanistan!

**Michael Frayser**, Air Force, son of Bob and Donna Frayser

**Anthony Hollin**, Army, son of SuLin

**Casey Lynch**, Air Force, g-daughter, Darlene Bergren. Husband Chris, Children: Braedon, Madyson, Gracyan

**Kevin Martin**, Navy, wife Cindy and sons Donnell and Tristen

**Daniel McCray**, Ft. Bragg, Texas, Darlene Miorandi's cousins' son

**Morgan Whorton**, National Guard, a relative of Marla Brocher

**Cordell Merten**, Air Force, son of Mike and Pam Merten; grandson of Jack and Wilda Merten

**John Miner**, Air Force, wife, Maranda, son-in-law of Steve & Judi Swagerty

**Danielle Miorandi-Letzelter**, granddaughter of John and Darlene Miorandi, home from Afghanistan!

**Bryce Letzelter**, (Danielle's husband) - also home from Afghanistan!

**Brett McPherson**, Navy now at boot camp.

**Steven McPherson**, Army serving in Afghanistan

**Tyler Penn**, son of Mike Penn

**Justin Powers**, Army, wife Angela and daughter Jocelyn.

**Devin Ramsey**, Army National Guard, son of Aaron Noblitt and Kathy Phelps.

**Jasper Rankin**, US Marine Corp, son of Denise Rankin and grandson of

Freddie Rankin

**Dan Reed**, Air Force, wife Megan, son-in-law of Steve & Judi Swagerty

**Jonathan Schneweis**, Navy, wife Alicia, children Gage and Kinsley

**Rian Winters**, Marines, son of Tony & Robin Schneweis

*"The Lord is my strength and my shield; My heart trusted in Him, and I am helped."*

*Therefore my heart greatly rejoices, and with my song I will praise Him."* Psalm 28:7



### **PRAY FOR OUR NATION**

*"First, of all, then, I urge that petitions, prayers, requests, and thanksgivings be offered to God for all people;*

*for kings and all others who are in authority, that we may live a quiet and peaceful life with all reverence toward God and with proper conduct."* 1 Timothy 2:1, 2

### **PRAY FOR JERUSALEM AND THE NATION OF ISRAEL**

**"I will bless those who bless you, I will curse those who curse you. And through you, I will bless all the nations."** Genesis 12:3

**"Pray for the peace of Jerusalem. May they prosper who love you."** Psalm 122:6

While You watch over Your people, may Your Spirit awaken in them a hunger to embrace their Messiah—the One who died for them—until they see Him face to face.



## June Birthdays



- 1 Tim Friess
- 1 Ali Gouge
- 2 Donald Calvert
- 8 Darlene Bergren
- 8 Debbie Tomlinson
- 8 Gage Asbury
- 8 Reuben DeWald
- 9 Richard Amerine
- 9 Valarie DeWald
- 11 Harley Burns
- 12 Tim Singleton
- 13 Helen Wrinkle
- 13 Amy Herrera
- 15 Riata Stryker
- 18 Gloria Crane
- 18 Daizy Gomez
- 19 Jeff McCord
- 19 Rachel Crane
- 21 Nancy Rogers
- 21 Ella Tracy
- 25 Brenda Sievers
- 26 Rick Ogden
- 28 Jolene Peters
- 30 Rick Phelps



## June Families of the Week

**June 7** - Justin and Nicole Tracy, Ella, Jack and Logan

**June 14** - Chris and Kortney Traylor, Emma

**June 21** - Janie Tupper

**June 28** - Robert and Rita Vredenburg, Olivia

Church E-mail:  
Church Website:

FirstSouthernGB@gmail.com  
www.fsbcgreatbend.com

Prayer Request Line: (620) 793-6800

Phone: (620) 793-8444  
Fax: (620) 793-8445

**Wednesday Night Adult Bible Study will  
reconvene in the Annex on June 3rd  
at 6:30 pm.**

**At this time, there will be no kids activities or  
meal offered.**

~ \* ~ \* ~

**Drive-In Church will continue on Sunday mornings  
at this time, but stay posted for updates to our  
Sunday Morning Gathering plan.**



**Time to be determined.**

**Bring your car or your lawn chair.**

**Invite a neighbor...bring a friend!!!**

## LOCKE UPDATE

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Phil. 4:8, NIV

Dear Praying friends,

We pray each of you is safe, and have your needs met. We are still in Lee's Summit. No word yet on when we will be returning to Ghana. The borders are still closed, but inside the country there are still restrictions, but movement. Many were unable to buy enough food or store it to survive very long in "lock-down". All large activities in the country are not yet happening. The Ghana Baptist Convention weeks ago canceled all programs, training and meetings until the beginning of the year.

I have added "barber" to my job description, cutting both Ben's and Alan's hair.

Among other things we are enjoying our spring flowers.

And having an emergency dental appointment next week. After being in (just walking around our neighborhood) for about 60 days, it will be strange being outside and seeing people up close.

Ramadan ends next week. During the last days and immediately following the break of fasting, Muslims expect to hear from God. PRAY God would reveal Himself to many and their reaction would be to respond immediately. Pray especially for leaders of mosques and leaders of families as they control activities and lives.

This year is the 175th anniversary of the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. 175 continuous years of working, praying, giving, sending, and going together to fulfil the Lord's great Commission. Below are two links; one for the Board's history and one for prayers for 175 days commemorating this milestone. You can sign up to receive a mission prayer request each day. Find on facebook, instagram, and twitter also.

<https://www.imb.org/175/> - [Praying 175 years of Southern Baptist missions](#)

Today's prayers include:

### **NIGERIA**

"As the coronavirus pandemic continues to spread in Nigeria, please join our Nigeria Team in praying that the Lord will bring peace to the country. Pray for the millions who must work each day to purchase food for their families. Ask that the virus will be stopped and that peace will reign throughout the country."

Another prayer focus is from our cluster. The Sub-Saharan Affinity is divided into clusters of countries. We belong to the Great Bend Cluster comprising 14 countries and inhabited by 434 million souls. From the 55 in 5 website: Among these groups, which all number 100,000 people or more, there are few or no Christians or churches. The gospel will not spread among the groups naturally – outside help is needed. The IMB is calling on churches in the United States and around the world to pray for, and eventually to help engage, these 55 people groups.

Resources and prayer points are available at: <https://www.imb.org/sub-saharan-africa/55-in-5/> Ways for you to help.

Thank you for PRAYING for us and for these ongoing prayer requests.

*Alan & Beth Locke, Ben Locke*

*Accra, Ghana, West Africa*

*currently in Lee's Summit, MO*

[www.greatbendcluster.com](http://www.greatbendcluster.com)

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