

# THE WITNESS

## The Newsletter of West Side Baptist Church

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“It’s Time to Celebrate – Join Us!”

May 2016

**Words from your pastor:** We have all probably heard the old English proverb: “April showers bring May flowers.” We know that the rainy month of April traditionally gives way to the flowers in bloom in May because of the abundance of water. Metaphorically, the proverb also tells us that a period of discomfort (i.e., rain) can set the stage for a period of happiness and joy. This is true for the Church: The sufferings of Jesus during Holy Week gives way to the joyful worship services during May.



**ASCENSION SUNDAY (May 8)** – the first on the list of special Sundays is “Ascension of the Lord:” the 40<sup>th</sup> day after Easter when Christians remember Jesus went up into heaven with the promises to send the Holy Spirit and Come Again according the Acts 1. The Church has numerous customs to commemorate the day including releasing doves or balloons.

**MOTHER'S DAY (MAY 8)** — although not a religious holiday, West Side will honor all woman of faith with a special recognition. Woman are encouraged to wear a hat, brooch, or memento your mother or grandmother gave to you!

**PENTECOST SUNDAY (MAY 15)** – the fiftieth day after Easter which commemorates the giving of the Holy Spirit by God upon Jesus Christ's disciples according to Acts 2. This is the day we celebrate the power of God’s Spirit. ***Everyone is encouraged to wear RED!***

**TRINITY SUNDAY (MAY 22)** – the Sunday to celebrate the foundational Christian doctrine of the Trinity: Our God is three Persons in One - the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. This Sunday marks the transition between the Easter Season and General Time when the church focuses on Christian growth in character, discipleship, and spiritual disciplines.

**MEMORIAL DAY (MAY 29)** – although not a religious holiday, we will celebrate this Day to remember all of the Saints of God. ***Wear a Flower on Memorial Day*** to honor a loved one during our Memorial Day Worship service on **May 29, 2016**. Men and women are encouraged to wear a rose, carnation or other flower to remember a loved one. Wear a live, silk, plastic, or metal flower:



- a. **BLUE** flower to remember a father or grandfather
- b. **FORGET-ME-NOT** flower to honor a fallen comrade
- c. **RED** flower to honor a military veteran
- d. **WHITE** flower to remember a spouse or loved one
- e. **YELLOW** flower to remember a mother or grandmother

# NEWS IN THE PEWS

These special services will help us not only connect with God, but move us from the ordinary to the extraordinary days of summer. It's time to celebration - Join us!

Blessings,  
Pastor Ivan

West Side Baptist has been set up on the Amazon.com's charitable program and is in the

process of getting set up with



Dillon's charitable program. Council agreed to have a separate account where electronic deposits will be made. More details will be coming to the congregation on how to use these programs.

It was also agreed by the Council to designate the last Sunday of the month for new member "Right hand of Fellowship". The Council also agreed on dates for Business meetings throughout the year for 2016. The dates are May 22, July 31, October 30, and November 30. Additional meetings can be scheduled and will be announced as early as possible so the church membership will know well in advance. New procedures for how the Agape Fund will be administered need to be done. Brice passed out a framework that was used in Pastor Ivan's prior church and the Council was asked to be prepared in April Council meeting to discuss this item.

~ Brice Smith, Moderator

**CHURCH CALENDAR** - The Council has put together the full year's calendar of events that we are aware of at this time. If you have access online, you will always have the information as close as your computer, smart phone, or tablet. This calendar will be kept current so updates can be made at any time. After checking this calendar out and you see an event not listed, please let Lynda know so she can get the event on the calendar. The calendar is located on our web site [wsbctopeka.org](http://wsbctopeka.org).

~ Brice Smith, Moderator

**COUNCIL OF MINISTRIES UPDATE** - This is a review of the Council of Ministries meeting that was held on April 12. We reviewed the Treasurer's report from the March meeting. We went over our normal reporting for each of the coordinators of each ministry. All coordinators are encouraged to write newsletter articles on what is happening in their ministry positions. West Side Baptist was contacted by Mr. Phil Chiles who is the Moderator of the American Baptist Churches of the Northeast Area asking if West Side Baptist would be interested in hosting their annual meeting on September 11, 2016. Brice did contact Mr. Chiles and informed him that the Council accepted this invitation to host this meeting based on action we took in our March meeting. WWW is wrapping up and plans are being made for the final night which is scheduled for May 4<sup>th</sup>. A mini-carnival was decided on

for this night and announcements will be made to recruit helpers and also for baked goods to be made. Plans are also being made with the Heartland Day Camp that will be held in June. The Council reviewed the framework for new procedures for how the Agape Fund will be administered. There was conversation on the framework and Brice will take the input and make changes and send via email to the Council for action. The Council also will create policy for the Nursery. Brice will work a framework up and will send out via email to the Council for their review and input before taking final action on this topic. There was also some conversation on future planning for the church web site. The web site serves two audiences. One audience is the church membership and the other is people who may be looking for a church so there will be some changes along these lines in the near future.

~ Brice Smith, Moderator

**DIRECTORY INFORMATION** - If you have a change to information like your address, phone number, or if we don't have an anniversary or birthday, please contact Lynda in the church office at 785-233-4241. She is the keeper of this information and to keep it current, please call or email the Church Office with the updated information.

~ Brice Smith, Moderator

## **ALL CHURCH COVERED DISH DINNER –**



On June 18<sup>th</sup> we will be having a covered dish dinner and it will be an opportunity for us to share what our vision is for our new Pastor. Last year we went through a discernment process with Dr. Gillies and crew from Nebraska. I have shared notes from our sessions we had in April and June of 2015 with Pastor Ivan so he is familiar with some of the conversations that we had in those meetings. This meeting is set up for informational purposes for our Pastor to hear from us. If you are unable to attend this first meeting, don't hesitate to set up a time to talk with Pastor Ivan and share your ideas.

~ Brice Smith, Moderator

**RIDE TO CHURCH-** If you are in need of transportation to/from a worship service or another church-related activity, please call the Church Office at (785) 233-4241 during office hours (Tuesday thru Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.).



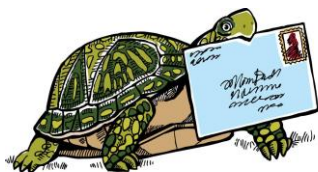
## WONDERFUL WEST SIDE WEDNESDAY SPRING FLING –



Do you enjoy hot dogs, funnel cakes, cotton candy and fun games? If you do, please join us for our Wonderful West Side Wednesday's Spring Fling on May 4 from 5:00 - 7:00 pm in the church parking lot. We invite everyone to help celebrate the conclusion of WWW for this school year. We are still looking for volunteers to help with this event. Kitchen workers, face painters, and people to help run the games are still needed. If you are a baker, we are in need of baked goods for the cake walk. Cookies, cupcakes or any goody would be much appreciated. We hope you can join us on May 4th for WWW Spring Fling!

~ Colleen Smith, Christian Ed

## HEARTLAND TRAVELING DAY CAMP



- West Side Baptist  
and Potwin  
Presbyterian

**News About Camp** Churches are once again partnering to host Heartland Traveling Day Camp. It will be held June 13 thru 17 at West Side Baptist. Children who have completed grades Kindergarten through 6th grade may attend. There is **no cost**, but a registration form must be completed by May 31st. Parents may

register their child at:

<http://www.heartlandcamps.org> or call the church office at (785) 2334241 for more information.

This is a truly wonderful opportunity for children to experience camp without leaving home. Crafts, games, songs and Bible time is all a part of this week. Lunch and a snack are provided daily. If you know of a parent who is looking for a summer activity for their child, please share this information with him/her. There are limited spots so get signed up now! Volunteers are also needed during this week to assist the counselors with groups of children, as well as help with crafts and meal preparation. We also provide the counselors with meals each evening. If you would like to provide a meal or take them out for dinner, please contact Colleen Smith. If you are able to help, please fill out the volunteer registration form at

<http://www.heartlandcamps.org>.

We would love to have you be a part of this wonderful experience!

~ Colleen Smith, Christian Ed



Dear West Side Family,

It was my pleasure to serve as your Interim Pastor and because of that relationship many of you became my friends and



supporters. I value that friendship. I wish to let you know that I am to be married to a wonderful lady, Terri Weber, on May 21, 2016, 2:00 p.m., at the First Baptist Church, 1330 Kasold Drive, Lawrence, KS. Please let this letter serve as an invitation to you to attend the wedding and the reception (no gifts, please). Terri and I will need an RSVP from you addressed to Terri at: [terrimweber@sunflower.com](mailto:terrimweber@sunflower.com) if you plan to attend and also the number of people who will be coming with you. It is our hope that you will be able to be with us to celebrate this joyous occasion together.

Sincerely, Pastor Paul Stevens

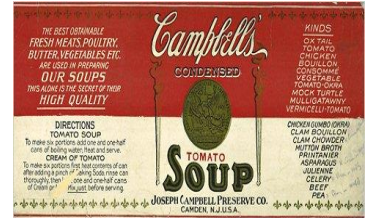
**XYZer's  
BREAKFAST –**  
Saturday, May  
14<sup>th</sup> @ Cracker  
Barrel at 9:00



am for anyone over the age of 55 and older for more information call John Swain at 785-273-2434.



**CAMPBELLS  
SOUP LABELS**  
– We continue  
to mail UPC  
codes from soup



labels to Murrow Indian Children's Center in Muskogee, OK. Murrow is saving one million UPC's for a van for the children's needs. Thank you to all of our faithful congregation for your continuing support. The box to collect the UPC codes is still outside the church office.

~ Marianne Spano

### Ladies Night Out



Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>  
@ 5:30 pm at  
Westridge mall food  
court. Take a Night  
Off from cooking to

connect with other Christian women during Ladies Night Out - a monthly gathering of women who encourage each other in their faith. All women attending West Side Baptist Church are welcome. Please invite friends. Dinner is *Dutch Treat*. Car-pooling is encouraged. Please contact Trena for directions, questions, or to make a reservation.

**MEN'S NIGHT OUT** – Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>  
@ 6:00 p.m at Steak and Shake. Join some familiar faces - and discover new friends - at the Men's Night Out, a monthly gathering of men to enjoy a meal at a local restaurant (Dutch Treat) and enjoy Christian fellowship.

## DILLONS COMMUNITY REWARDS -

West Side now enrolled in Dillons Community Rewards West Side Baptist Church is now participating in Dillons Community Rewards program. If you shop at Dillons for your groceries, you can select West Side Baptist to receive a small donation from Dillons based on the dollars you spend. You can participate by logging into dillons.com with your account information. Then go to:

<https://www.dillons.com/account/enroll>  
[CommunityRewardsNow](#) and then click on the Enroll Now button. The number assigned to West Side Baptist Church is 63996 and you'll need to enter in and then click on the Search button. At this point you just need to select West Side Baptist Church and then you'll be enrolled in the Dillons Community rewards program. If you have any questions you can contact Brice or Pastor Ivan for directions.

**HOSPITAL** – Patient privacy / confidentiality is not only the right thing to do for your protection,



**IT IS THE LAW.** The **HOSPITAL** Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) that was passed by Congress in 1996 does not allow the hospital to share your information with the church or pastor. If you are admitted as a patient to a hospital or care center, please **call the Church Office at (785) 233-4241 or**

**Pastor's home phone at (785) 267-0936** to let us know you have been admitted to the hospital. This is the best way to insure you receive a pastoral visit.

## SUNDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY –

Sign Up for the new Sunday Afternoon (4:00 p.m.) Bible Study **"Experiencing God"** by Henry Blackaby **starting March 13, 2016**. This intense study will help you discover and do the will of God. Purchase a workbook at LifeWay Christian bookstore at 2121 SW Fairlawn Plaza, or order a workbook through the church office (Suggested donation: \$15.00 ea). See Pastor for concerns or questions.

## WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY –

Wednesdays @ 10:30 am Join this in-depth study of the Book of Mark. The lessons are taught Lectio Continuum (In the early church a pattern of reading an entire book or entire books of the Bible and expounding passages of Scripture in an ongoing way). No exams or quizzes, but you can ask questions! No prior knowledge of the Bible needed to join this ecumenical group.

**NEWSLETTER** – Articles and updates for the newsletter are due on **Wednesday, May 18 at 12:00 noon**. Send articles, news, testimonials, poetry, etc. to Lynda Cokeley ([office@wsbctopeka.org](mailto:office@wsbctopeka.org)).

The newsletter and calendar will be released on the last Sunday of each month.

**WHAT IS THAT FUNNY OBJECT?** – This QR Code (abbreviated from Quick Response Code) is a type of matrix barcode (or two-dimensional barcode) which helps smart phone users navigate quickly to a webpage. Open the QR Scanner in any iPhone or Android device to scan this QR. It will take you to the church's webpage.



### **NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS –**

Pastor will begin a new Adult Sunday School class

– **FOUNDATIONS:**  
**11 CORE TRUTHS OF THE CHRISTIAN**



**FAITH** - next **Sunday, April 3 at 9:15 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall (cafeteria).**

Join this twelve-week class to learn the essential truths of the Christian faith and how these truths are to live out – in your relationships, your character, and your work. Class: Free!



**FINANCE REPORT-** For the first three months (1/4) of the year, we have received \$450.54 more than what we spent. Our income is \$67,002.22 or 25.5% of what we budgeted. This compares to \$58,620.87 in 2015.

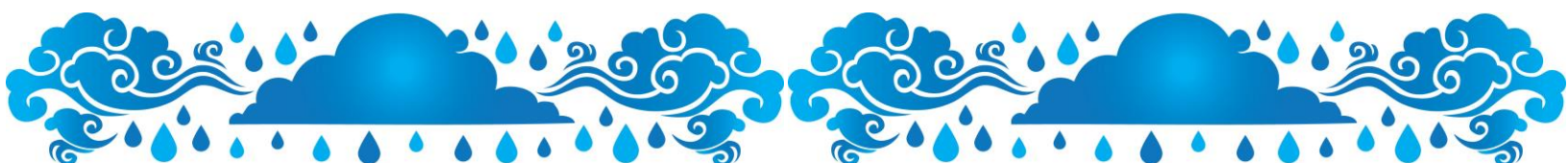
Our expenses to date are: \$66,564.64 or 25.3% of the budget. This compares to \$59,193.07 in 2015.

In receipts for March, there is nothing out of the ordinary to report. In expenditures, we have a number of line items that are more than 50% spent with only 25% of the year gone. Members of the church council will be keeping a watchful eye on some of those.

We have \$7,869.00 in the checking account at the end of March which includes an \$8,000 loan from the capital campaign to help with cash flow. I mentioned last month that we were getting close in needing to transfer some money from our investments to maintain a good cash flow. Borrowing from the capital campaign was a quick fix to pay the end of the month bills. We will pay the capital campaign back when the cash is available or when we make a transfer from our investments.

Let me know if you have any questions.  
Thanks.

~ Nancy Lindberg, Treasurer





## BIBLE

### BOOK OF THE MONTH—

Nahum's world and the world of Judah, was dominated by Assyria which embodied terror and extreme human evil. Incarceration and cruelty to humans knew no bounds. Nahum's, as was Jonah's, main focus is on Nineveh, the seat of Assyrian power. The Assyria of Nahum's time had left its repentance of Jonah's time far behind.

Nahum, whose name means "comfort", was a poet of considerable ability and originality who gifted us with a work of literary excellence and style. Nahum saw God as a universal God whose power extended over all nations. Nahum raised the question, "Should Assyria go unpunished?" And he answered with an emphatic, "no". This book spoke of faith in a time of faltering faith. As you read of the evil of Assyria, look for the golden threads of hope woven in. As a contrast, you may want to read Jonah. Thank-you for joining American Baptist Women in reading the Bible Book of the Month and letting God speak to you as you read.

~Almira Collier

## A Mother's Prayer For You

~ Anon

I said a Mother's Day prayer for you  
to thank the Lord above  
for blessing me with a lifetime  
of your tenderhearted love.  
I thanked God for the caring  
you've shown me through the years,  
for the closeness we've enjoyed  
in time of laughter and of tears.  
And so, I thank you from the heart  
for all you've done for me  
and I bless the Lord for giving me  
the best mother there could be!

## Roses are Red, Windex is Blue

~Anon

Roses are red,  
Windex is blue.

Thanks for keeping everything clean,  
I really appreciate it.



# MOTHER'S DAY

## WORD SEARCH

Words can be found horizontally and vertically.

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

### KEY WORDS

AWESOME  
FABULOUS  
KISSES  
LOVING  
MOTHER

WONDERFUL  
HUGS  
PATIENT  
KIND  
WARM

FAMILY  
HEART  
LOVE  
FUN  
BEAUTIFUL