

THE WITNESS

The Newsletter of West Side Baptist Church

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June 2016

SUMMER IS HERE – HURRAY!

Words from your pastor: Summer is an amazing time for ministry and service at West Side Baptist Church. While children are out-of-school and youth are hunting for summer jobs, the majority of the church's ministries kick into high gear. Many individuals and families plan a summer vacation, camping trip, graduation parties, or visits to see grandchildren. However, many of our neighborhood kids will be sticking right here to enjoy their summer.

One of the exciting weeks of summer is **Heartland Day Camps – June 13-17**. We are planning for twenty or more children from kindergarten to sixth grade to hear the Gospel message, build real friendships, and play exciting games. You can help by volunteering! Register on-line to be a volunteer at <http://www.heartlandcamps.org/traveling-day-camp>.



Three boys plus ten youth are heading to summer camps this year! Aaron, David, and Nathen will be attending Cross Wind Camp near Hesston in July. This is a vital part of our summer program since *more children make first-time decisions to follow Jesus Christ at camp than any other place*. Ten youth and two adult leaders will drive to our American Baptist Assembly in Green Lake, Wisconsin to attend a week-long Quest Youth Leadership Training event. This Training will not only help our youth learn critical leadership skills, but hopefully it will build lasting friendship connections among our young people. Pray for our kids and youth!

Summer also brings the **One Great Hour of Sharing Offering** (OGHS) for disaster relief and development. Read Bob Roesler article below for more details. Thank you for giving!

It's also vacation time! As individuals and families prepare to vacate the area, churches find themselves closely watching their cash flow. West Side Baptist Church is no different – summer is a challenging time financially at our church. I make every effort to “catch up my giving” when I get home, but honestly, it's easier said than done. Therefore, I hope your family will generously and regularly give to God through the church this summer. Please give your tithe – and Agape Fund offering – before you leave town. You can mail them to the church, and hopefully soon, give on-line. Thank you in advance for considering this request to give this summer.



Have a wonderful Summer!

Blessings, Pastor Ivan

NEWS IN THE PEW

AMERICAN BAPTIST WOMEN – Register for the American Baptist Women's Ministries (ABW) **Summer Conference – June 3-4, 2016 at Cross Wind Conference Center in Hesston, Ks.** All women are encouraged to attend with Almira Collier, Rexanne Greuter and Tera Triggs! Pick up a registration form in the Church Office.



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.

DILLON AND AMAZON SMILE - West Side is now enrolled in both the Dillons Community Rewards and the Amazon Smile Rewards programs. Look for dates soon for assistance to sign-up with Dillon's Community Rewards and



Amazon Smile. You can now designate West Side Baptist Church for these charitable programs and we will have sign-up days after church where we can help you get it set up.

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.

~ Brice Smith, Moderator



Heartland Camps

Parkville, Missouri and Olathe, Kansas

HEARTLAND TRAVELING DAY CAMP - West Side Baptist and Potwin Presbyterian Churches are once again partnering to host Heartland Traveling Day Camp. It will be held **June 13 thru 17 at West Side Baptist Church.** Children who have completed grades Kindergarten through 6th grade may attend. There is **no cost**, 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. Potwin Presbyterian will provide lunch and a snack 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 Heartland Day Camp staff with meals each evening. If you would like to provide a meal or take them out for dinner, please contact me.

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 Education

HOSPITAL – Patient privacy /



HOSPITAL protection, **IT IS THE LAW.** The Health Insurance Portability and

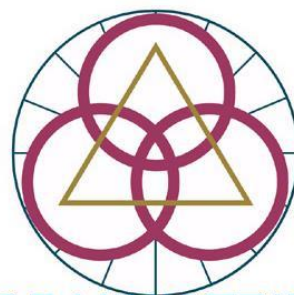


Accountability Act (HIPAA) that was passed by Congress in 1996 does not allow the hospital to share your information with the church or pastor. If you are admitted as a patient to a hospital or care center, please **call the Church Office at (785) 233-4241 or Pastor's home phone at (785) 267-0936** to let us know you have been admitted to the hospital. This is the best way to insure you receive a pastoral visit.

LADIES NIGHT OUT- Tuesday, June 7 @ 5:30 pm at Boss Hawg's. 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.

COUNCIL OF MINISTRIES UPDATE -

COUNCIL



OF MINISTRIES

This is a review of the Council of Ministries meeting that was held on May 12, 2016. We reviewed the Treasurer's report for the month of April. 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 to keep the church membership informed. A new policy for the Agape Fund was approved.

A Nursery policy was reviewed and a copy was sent to Trena A. for her review. We also approved the process for background checks for workers who will be working with children and youth. We will be using *Shepard's Watch Background Checks*.

The Council also approved an Incident Report Form that will be used. The information from the incident report ties back to information that Brotherhood Mutual requires from us.

There was also a call for getting a copy on file with the Church Office of all written policies. We will need to review these on an ongoing basis. If there are policies that are missing, we will create and approve them as we move through this year.

An effort will be made to update our membership rolls and make them current.

We also agreed to go through Harvesters for food that will be provided at WWW and also Harvesters wants to use West Side Baptist Church as a distribution site for our neighbors.

~ Brice Smith,
Moderator



MEN'S NIGHT OUT – Tuesday, June 7 @ 6:00 p.m. Scholtskys 21st and Gage. 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.



NEWSLETTER – Articles and updates for the newsletter are due on **Wednesday, June 22 at 12:00 noon**. Send articles, news, testimonials, poetry, etc. to Lynda Cokeley (office@wsbctopeka.org). The calendar and newsletter will be released on the last Sunday of each month.



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.).

UPDATED 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. 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

TOPEKA GIVES 2016 – Help Support our Partner

Mission Agencies – like

Breakthrough House,

Doorstep, Inc., Topeka Rescue Mission Ministries - **on Tuesday, June 7 during the TOPEKA GIVES EVENT at Fairlawn Plaza Mall from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.** This event is sponsored by the Topeka Foundation. Excitement for this day of charitable giving continues to grow with a "match" pool of \$73,500. Contributions made by checks, cash or credit card will be accepted inside Fairlawn Plaza Mall. The event will be held rain or shine. For more information, call The Topeka Community Foundation at 785-272-4804 or see brochure on bulletin board.

www.topekacommunityfoundation.org.

TREASURER'S REPORT

- This is a general overview of our church finances through the end

of April - For the first four months (33.3%) of the year, we have spent



\$6,657.90 more than what we have received. Our income is \$82,442.69 or 31.4% of what we budgeted. This compares to \$73,861.68 in 2015. Our expenses to date are: \$89,100.59 or 33.9% of the budget. This compares to \$73,013.94 in 2015.

In receipts for April, there is nothing out of the ordinary to report. In expenditures we have a several line items that are more than 50% spent so members of the church council were asked to keep a watchful eye on their program expenses.

We have \$2,329.16 in the checking account at the end of April. \$3,000 of the loan last month from the Capital Campaign was paid back with \$5,000 still outstanding.

The Pastor asked for us to consider using a requisition form that he had created. By consensus it will be the form that everyone will use if they have an expenditure for the church. This will



take the place of the prior purple form. The requisition form will need to be signed by a council member whose program monies are being spent before a reimbursement is made or a bill is paid.

On a different note, Tom Mansfield is setting up the Memorials Committee under the new constitution. We have had a three-member committee over the years made up of Molly Morris, Alice Payne and myself.

The new constitution

requires a four-member committee so if you have an interest in serving on this committee, please let either Molly, Alice or me know of your interest. We're a fun group to work with! Let me know if you have any questions on our Church finances. Thanks.

~ Nancy Lindberg, Treasurer



VISIONING FOR OUR FUTURE - On May18, the Council held our first meeting where the congregation can communicate with our new Pastor about our vision for West Side Baptist. This is the first of several meetings that we'll have throughout this year. Look for more information as the additional dates get added to the church calendar. We



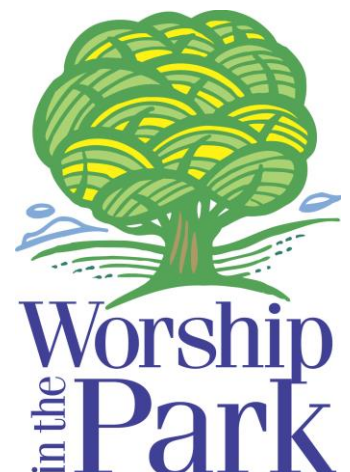
need to be in prayer continually about this process as with every decision that we consider for West Side Baptist. Prayer isn't for emergencies only. Prayer life was identified as a strength of our church during our discernment process we had with Dr. Gillies.

As we move forward, all accomplishments we make as a church should be to the Glory of God and we should be in constant prayer. 1 Thess. 5:16-18: "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything, give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

~ Brice Smith, Moderator

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.

WORSHIP IN THE PARK – The annual, ecumenical worship service in Gage Park will be on Sunday, September 18 this



year. The churches – Central Congregational Church, Gage Park Baptist Church, Potwin Presbyterian, and West Side Christian Church - are joining their choirs to provide special music throughout the service. Due to the number of songs there are to learn, we will be rehearsing together throughout the summer. We are hopeful that choir members from all the churches will be able to attend many of the rehearsals shown below. Location for the rehearsals will be determined by a meeting with the choir directors on May 31. The first rehearsal will be held at West Side Baptist Church.

- Sa.t, June 25: 1:30 – 3:30 pm
- Wed, June 29: 6:00 – 8:00 pm
- Sat, July 16: 1:30 – 3:30 pm
- Wed, July 27: 6:00 – 8:00 pm
- Wed, August 24: 6:00 – 8:00 pm
- Sat, August 27: 1:30 – 3:30 pm
- Wed, August 31: 6:00 – 8:00 pm
- Wed, September 7: 7:00 – 8:30 pm
- Wed, September 14: 7:00 – 8:30
- Sat, September 17: 1:30 – 3:30 pm

XYZer's BREAKFAST – Join a group of Seniors who enjoy having fun and making real friendships. The **SENIORS' BREAKFAST** "Extra Years of Zest" small group will meet on Saturday, June 11th @ 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.

YOUTH GROUP FUNDRAISER - The West Side Baptist Church Youth Group is raising \$2,340.00 for tuition and transportation costs to attend the **Quest Fundraiser**



Leadership Training for Youth at Green Lake Wisconsin in June 2015. You can help! Buy a Sonic Community First Value Card - today - for only \$5.00 bucks! Each card has a \$15.00 value in savings at Sonic Drive-In Restaurants. What a great value! Buy your card today for \$5.00 to help our youth! **Donations are welcome, designate: "Youth Group Trips."** See Pat Carreno for details.

YOUTH GROUP NAME – T.A.C.O.S. – The Youth Group has chosen a new name: T.A.C.O.S. which stands for "Teens at Church on Sundays." Mark Calloway is helping the Youth Group design a new logo. Watch for more news from these young leaders.

POEM - Untitled "Tis The Set of the Sail"
– Or - One Ship Sails East
Poem by Ella Wheeler Wilcox:

But to every mind there openeth
A way, and way, and away.
A high soul climbs the highway,
And the low soul gropes the low,

And in between on the misty flats,
The rest drift to and fro.
But to every man there openeth,
A highway and a low

And every mind decideth,
The way his soul shall go.
On ship sails East,

And another West,
By the self-same winds that blow,
'Tis the set of the sails
And not the gales,
That tells the way we go.

Like the winds of the sea,
Are the waves of time,
As we journey along through life,
'Tis the set of the soul,
That determines the goal,
And not the calm or the strife.

Submitted by: Virginia Mansfield

SURVEYS – Thank you to the numerous individuals who have completed the **Core Values Survey** and the **Serving as the Hands & Feet of Christ form**. This invaluable information will be used by the Church Council and Nominating Committee to recruit volunteers and leaders to guide Christ's Church into the future. Remember:

- God has Gifted Every Person for Service
- Every One has a Place to Serve
- Serve in the Place Which Matches Your Passions!

Extra surveys may be picked up in the Church Office, or complete the surveys on-line by contacting the Pastor.

Dear WSBC Family and Friends,

Before I share with you the "congregational" letter supplied by the resource packet of the annual **One Great Hour of Sharing Offering (OGHS)**, I want to share some thoughts with you. Maybe it is because I am

maturing in age, (not getting older) I find the world is getting smaller all the time.

It is a bit like time, when I was a child I thought year was an eternity, even a month felt like forever and an hour was a long time. Now a year is gone too soon, a month is a yesterday and an hour is a hiccup in time.

The world used to be a big place but TV has changed all this. We are rapidly discovering how interconnected to each other we are. What happens in places far away impact us in Topeka, KS. Earthquakes in Ecuador and Japan, fires in Canada, tornadoes throughout the US, floods here and abroad, refugees from Syria and so many other natural and man-made catastrophes call us to reach out in Christian love to those impacted by these tragedies.

We will be receiving this special offering throughout the month of June. Churches in many denominations will be doing this too. One church cannot take care of all the needs there are but together with our sisters and brothers in the Christ Jesus we can bring hope. Please give as you are able and know your gift will bring hope where hope has been lost.

In Christ's Love,
~ Bob Roesler



One Great Hour
O F S H A R I N G

Dear Friends,

It is time again for the **One Great Hour of Sharing** special offering. By the grace of God, we are given the opportunity to share our gifts and resources with our brothers and sisters in need around the world. All of us have the power to give

back to God from that which God has given us, and in doing so, create a more just world for all of God's children. Through our gifts, we participate in the many ministries that serve the hungry, the poor, the distressed, and the refugee.

The Hebrew Bible models this offering in the story of Ruth and Naomi, portrayed in the Book of Ruth. When faced with forced relocation, due to famine and political strife, Ruth said to Naomi, "Where you go I will go." Solidarity stands at the heart of their story. Solidarity stands at the heart of the ministries of **One Great Hour of Sharing**. Solidarity stands at the heart of this offering. Like Ruth and Naomi, refugees today are confronted with dire situations in their homes, and are forced by the necessity of survival to leave behind their communities in order to seek safety and security. Currently, the United Nations estimates over 60 million of our brothers and sisters across the world are refugees or displaced persons. The number is higher than it has been since World War II, and is expected to increase as violence continues in the Middle East and parts of Africa.

Through **One Great Hour of Sharing** we embrace refugees around the world as our own. We say "where you go, we will go." This offering places us side-by-side with those in need. It offers us the opportunity to be Ruth for the Naomi's of the world. By supporting One Great Hour of Sharing, we answer God's call for us to bring wholeness to a fragmented world.

The **One Great Hour of Sharing** offering reaches across the globe. Sometimes it provides solidarity to those who have experienced loss due to disasters in our own community and congregation, and at other times it says tangibly "you are not forgotten" to our sisters and brothers on the other side of the world. Through our gifts, we can help ensure that all of God's children have what they need. Together, we accompany the refugee and stand in solidarity with the distressed, bringing about the world as God intended.

Thank you for prayerfully considering your gift to this special offering.

Sincerely,

Your Mission Ministry

**AMERICAN BAPTIST
WORLD RELIEF OFFICE**

**One Great
HOUR
OF SHARING**



Matt.9:9-22

BOOTH	DISCIPLES
CLOAK	DINNER
CLOTH	DOCTOR
DESIRE	FOLLOW
FAITH	GARMENT
HAND	GUESTS
HEART	HEALED
JESUS	HEALTHY
KNELT	HEARING
LEARN	MAKING
MERCY	MOMENT
NAMED	MOURN
PATCH	SACRIFICE
RUINED	SINNERS
RULER	SITTING
SKINS	TEACHER
TOUCH	TURNED
WINE	WOMAN

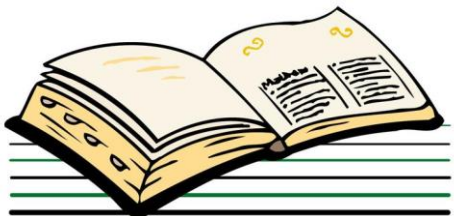
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RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED

SUMMER SERMON SERIES - *A LIFE WORTH LIVING!*

June 5	Galatians 1:1-24	"No Other Gospel"
June 12	YOUTH SUNDAY	"Baptist Youth Day of Prayer"
June 19	Galatians 2:15-21	"Justification by Faith"
June 26	Galatians 3:1-14	"Curses and Covenant Blessings"
July 3	Pastor at Conference	Guest Speaker
July 10	Galatians 3:26-4:7	"Sons and Daughters of God: Inheritors"
July 17	Galatians 5:1-15	"The Only Thing that Matters!"
July 24	Galatians 5:16-26	"Live by the Holy Spirit"
July 31	Galatians 6:1-10	"Doing Good to All"
August 7	Galatians 6:11-18	"The End is the Beginning: A New Creation"



SUMMER SERMON SERIES
A LIFE WORTH LIVING!