

THE WITNESS

The Newsletter of West Side Baptist Church

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May 2017

“Marking Milestones”

May is the month to mark milestones in our society, at least educational ones. How many of us will pause to applaud the achievements of our families, friends, and neighbors at an eighth grade promotion, a high school graduation, or a college commencement ceremony? A few of us may spend most of our weekends in May attending graduation services. These moments are important because we need to stop to recognize the hard work and determination people have committed to achieve their goals.



Milestones also help us to remember God's faithfulness and blessings to our human efforts. God told the people of Israel to build memorial markers to remember their accomplishment and event, such as crossing the Jordan river in Joshua 4:1-7. The twelve stones served as a sign of God's goodness to Israel, as a promise for a better future, and as a prompt for teaching children.

West Side Baptist Church will mark a milestone on Sunday, May 21, 2017: the centennial anniversary of “services in English, rather than Swedish, every other Sunday evening” (historical records). This deliberate decision to start services in English was a monumental moment for missions in the life of the church. The goal was to reach more people in the neighborhood for Jesus Christ. It probably triggered a mixture of feelings, too. Would the “new services” cause the church to lose its distinct culture and immigrant identity? It took six more years before all services were offered in the *new* language.

To remember this decision, the Council is considering how we will celebrate the 100th anniversary of English language services. No! We probably will not have an entire service in Swedish unless we all learn Swedish soon. So, share your ideas about the start of services in English with Jan Mauck, Coordinator of Worship, or Pat Carpenter, Church Moderator. Maybe we can have a *Svenska dagen* (Swedish day). Thankfully, Nancy L. has already agreed to give our benediction in the church's mother tongue.

Next year, West Side Baptist Church will also celebrate another milestone with the centennial anniversary of dedicating the current church building on the corner of Fourth and Fillmore. The congregation started on Jan. 1, 1881. It moved to its current location in 1918. The Council would like your input about how to celebrate the anniversary of God's mission center in the Ward Meade neighborhood on this corner! We will share the ideas in a future article.

Grattis på Årsdagen (Happy Anniversary)!

Pastor Ivan

CHURCH
Anniversary
PREPARATIONS

NEWS IN THE PEWS



MAY ANNIVERSARIES

2nd Don & Molly Morris
8th Tom & Jan Mansfield
10th John & Jan Swain
21st Russ & Fran Hunter

MAY BIRTHDAYS

4th Etta Landis
7th Jasmine Jaimez
13th Barbara Amos
13th Chuck Cozad
14th Almira Collier
17th Marianne Spano
18th Alice Payne
22nd Mae Martin
28th Portia Allbert



LADIES NIGHT OUT

-Tuesday, May 2 @ 5:30 pm
Blind Tiger. 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 2 @ 6:00 pm at Carlos O Kellys. 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.



BIBLE STUDIES – Do you want to grow in your knowledge of the Bible? Do you want to have a closer relationship with God? Do you want to meet new friends like you? Join a small group Bible study at West Side Baptist Church to learn God's word and be transformed by the Spirit:



Sundays at 9:15 am – “Biblical Archeology” with Doug Mauck
Sundays at 9:15 am – “Explore the Bible” with Don Johnson
Sundays at 4:00 pm – “The Book of Isaiah” with Pastor Ivan
Wednesdays at 10:30 am – “Philippians” with Pastor Ivan

Bible studies are free and open to the public. A free Bible available to participants.



Seniors' Breakfast

XYZer's BREAKFAST – Join a group of Seniors who enjoy having fun and making real friendships. The “Extra Years of Zest” small group will meet on Saturday, May 13 @ Cracker Barrel at 9:00 am for anyone the age of 55 or older for more information call John Swain at 785-273-2434.

YOUTH (ABY) OPPORTUNITIES – The ABC of the Central Region (ABCCR) is offering new and exciting Christ-centered Youth Opportunities in 2017:

- **4TEN** will offer leadership skills training for youth entering 10-12th grades during the fall of 2017.

Youth wanting to attending this event should speak with Alice Payne, Chair of Christian Education, or Mark Calloway, Sunday School teacher.

BUDGET REPORT



This is a general overview of our church finances through the first quarter of the year.

- Income for the first three months of the year is \$63,929.95 or 24.27% of the budget. The expenses for the same are \$88,360.95 or 32.79%. Our net income to date this year is: - \$22,431.00.
- An additional \$130 came in during the month of March to bring the total of \$2,284 raised this year to offset the \$15,915.33 for the boiler and roof repairs. At the end of 2016 we collected an additional \$12,103.17 for these repairs bringing the total to \$14,387.17. More masonry work is needed and will be paid probably next month. Additional gifts for these projects are still much appreciated.
- At the request of the personnel committee we began April 1st paying all staff every two weeks. You will see some changes in the salary and related line items because of how the pay period will fall in each of the months.
- Our investments for the first quarter have done well. We have \$10,682.44 added to our investments.

Let me know if you have any questions.
Thanks.

~ Nancy Lindberg, Treasurer

RIDE TO CHURCH - If you need 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.) Volunteers are needed to ride along with our driver to pick-up / drop off children on Wednesdays and Sundays. Contact Mark Calloway if you would like to volunteer.



PANCAKE FEED & RUMMAGE SALE—

On Saturday, May 6 West Side Baptist Church is having a community garage sale beginning at 8:00 am to noon in the parking lot and a pancake feed



from 8:00 am to 10:30 am. The pancake feed is a part of the youth fundraising. Tickets are \$2.50 per person for the pancake feed.



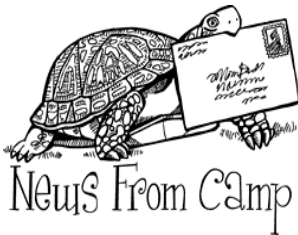
Please come out and support our youth. For more information or to reserve a table please call 785-233-4241.

CHRISTIAN ED—The Christian Education Committee would like to recognize three students who are finishing up their Middle School years and getting ready for High School. They are Shelby Hersh, Macy Greuter, and Randall Carrier. We also have Rose Carrier graduating from High School. Congratulations!

We also want to congratulate and applaud Rexanne Greuter for completing her Master's Degree in Education this year. Rexanne has also accepted a teaching position in USD 501. Congrats to you, Rexanne, on your accomplishments! We wish you much success with your new job!

Alice Payne, Christian Ed

**HEARTLAND TRAVEL-
ING DAY CAMP** – West
Side Baptist and Potwin
Presbyterian Churches



are once again partner-
ing to host Heartland
Traveling Day Camp. It will be held June 19
thru 23 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 com-
pleted by May 31st. Parents may register
their child at:

<http://www.heartland.campintouch.com> or
call the church office at (785) 233-4241 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 Alice Payne If
you are able to help, please fill out the
volunteer registration at:

<http://www.heartland.campintouch.com>. We
would love to have you be
a part of this wonderful
experience!

Alice Payne, Christian Ed



**SHEPHERD'S CENTER
OFFERS** - four "Adventures
in Learning!" sessions per
year in August and Octo-
ber from 9:00-11:30 am on
the Fridays that month.
Classes are 50 minutes
long with the first beginning
at 9:00 o'clock. Participants
may choose from four different classes
being offered in each time slot. At 9:50
refreshment are provided compliments of
our community partners where you'll have
an opportunity to interact with other
members, community partners, and join
with the Director in recognizing birthdays
and anniversaries.

At 10:40, the second class begins. The
cost is \$30.00 per quarterly session (pays
for all four Fridays). So, for \$30.00, a
person chooses eight educational classes,
along with fellowship time and
refreshments. Now that's a BARGAIN!
Class choices are offered in health,
religion, news & current events, people &
places, community, the arts, library
wisdom, and potpourri (classes that may
not fit one of the regular categories) or
a "back by popular demand" speaker.
Our speakers include college professors,
physicians, clergy, business professionals,
authors, artists, lawyers, and other
devoted individuals who graciously give of
their time and talent in support of the
Shepherd's Center mission. If you would
like to be considered as a speaker for a
class program, please send information
with your proposal to SCT, 4101 SW 15th
ST, Topeka, 66604. For more information,
you may call 785-249-3258.



HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY TO ALL!





MISSIONS— Thank you for \$1,123.41 received for the America for Christ Offering toward our goal of \$1,500.00.

The American Baptist Churches of USA, would like to thank you for your generous giving to missions in 2016 as follows:

- United Mission Basics \$16,852.60
- ABW Love Gift \$490.00
- America for Christ \$1,454.33
- World Mission Offering \$1,687.00
- Retired Min/Miss Offering \$855.00
- One Great Hour of Sharing \$1,508.35
- Institutional Support \$325.00
- Specifics \$2,200.00
- Total For United Mission \$17,342.60
- Total ABMS \$25,372.28

MISSION TRIP TO MURROW INDIAN CHILDREN'S HOME –

The mission committee is planning a mission trip to Murrow Indian Children's Home in Muskogee, OK. June 5th – 8th. If you are interested in going and have not already signed up, please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board outside the office. **Please sign up by May 10, 2017.**



CPR & FIRST AID - We will be having a CPR and First Aid training on Sunday May, 7th from 1:30 pm to 5:30 pm in Holmer Hall, and on Wednesday May, 10th at 5:30 pm to 9:30 pm. If you are interested in this training a sign up sheet is on the bulletin board outside the office. **The mission committee ask everyone going on the mission trip to Murrow to have the training.**

Missions, Don Johnson



TOPEKA RESCUE MISSION—We are thrilled to announce the new TRM Boutique on the Boulevard, 3400 SW Topeka Blvd.

The Boutique will have quality used clothing, furniture, and miscellaneous household items at affordable prices. Antiques and unique treasures are also part of the charm and will be priced at market value. All sales from the Boutique go back to support TRM Ministries.

The unique history of the building will draw you in. As you stroll through the store you'll have the opportunity to read about the past that makes this a must stop on your list. Also, the showroom floor is a work of art, showing that "Thrifty" can look excellent. TRM Boutique on the Boulevard will also be a job training/Intern site for several TRM Ministry areas. These areas include Hi-Crest NET, Servants In Training and Career Readiness Education.

In the March issue, you saw the annual report for 2016. In the income section, 4% of the annual income for TRM Ministries comes from Retail sales. Every time you donate items, you truly give through TRM Ministries to people in need in our community. Items are given to those in need and other items are sold at an affordable price. Every time that you shop in one of our retail locations and spend \$5, you feed 35 people or more. Thank you.

