

## HOW TO BECOME A CHRISTIAN TODAY!

**GOOD NEWS!** God loves and yearns to redeem all people. The Bible clearly outlines the way to become a follower of Jesus Christ:

1. **ADMIT** - Admit to God you are a sinner (you have done things that were wrong). Apologize and turn away from your sins towards God (See Romans 3:23; Romans 6:23; 1 John 1:9; Acts 3:19).
2. **BELIEVE JESUS CHRIST DIED FOR YOU AND GOD HAS RAISED HIM FROM THE DEAD** - Believe that Jesus is God's one and only Son who died on the cross and rose from the dead (See Romans 5:8; Acts 4:12; Acts 16:31a; John 3:16; 1 Peter 3:18; John 14:6).
3. **CONFESS JESUS CHRIST AS YOUR LORD** – Make a spiritual commitment to be a follower of Jesus by trusting Him to be your Savior (Rescuer and Redeemer) and Lord (Ultimate Leader). (See Romans 10:9 and 10; Romans 10:13; Matthew 16:24; Luke 9:23)
4. **DEDICATE YOUR LIFE TO JESUS** - Tell your family and friends about your new faith in Jesus Christ by coming to the front of the Sanctuary at the end of a worship service to publicly announce your decision to be a Christian.

## HOW TO JOIN THIS CHRISTIAN CHURCH!

**COME FORWARD** – Any person professing faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, accepting Baptist principles, practices, and the covenant of this church may request and be accepted into the membership of this church. Upon request to the Pastor, Moderator or at a meeting of the membership, a person may be received by affirmation of the membership based on:

1. **BELIEVER'S BAPTISM**
2. **LETTER OF TRANSFER** or recommendation from a previous Christian church and prior baptism; or a
3. **SATISFACTORY STATEMENT OF CHRISTIAN FAITH** and prior baptism

Members shall strive to be faithful to Christian principles as set forth in scripture and support the mission of the church through attendance, prayer, service and monetary giving. The *first step* to become a member is to *come forward* during the singing of the last hymn so you can share your decision with the congregation.

## WEST SIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

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**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2017**

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP – *We are happy you are here!*** You will hopefully discover very quickly this is a small, loving church in a big city. If you are looking for a place to belong, make real friendships, and get involved - then West Side is for you! Please speak with me after the worship service if you would like to learn more about having a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, need personal prayer, or want to request a pastoral visit! Blessings, Pastor Ivan

**FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY** – Take Control of Your Money. Get out of debt. Plan for retirement. Financial Peace University is a nine week, easy-to-follow program to help you learn how to get out

Dave Ramsey's

**Financial** *Peace*  
UNIVERSITY

of debt, create a budget, make wise spending decisions, save for the future, and so much more! Join **Financial Peace University on Mondays, starting January 22, at 6:30 pm in West Side Baptist Church's Holmer Hall. Register in the Church Office or on-line at <https://www.daveramsey.com>.** See Pastor for details.

**MID-WINTER MISSIONS CONFERENCE** – Register TODAY for the **American Baptist Churches of the Central Region (ABCCR\_ Mid-Winter Mission & Evangelism Conference "Pathways to New Life" on January 19-20 at Cross Wind Conference Center, Hesston, Ks.** The event will kick off with a soup and salad bar at 6:00 p.m. on Friday and close with lunch at noon on Saturday. Keynote speaker, Dr. Jeff Johnson, will help people get excited about sharing their faith. Missionary Karen Smith will join the group via Skype to talk about the ministry of the New Life Center in Thailand. **Cost: \$25.00 registration (before Jan. 1).** See Mark Calloway for more details.

NEWS IN THE PEWS

**BREAKFAST ON SUNDAYS** – Sign-up if you plan to attend the free breakfasts on Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall starting at 8:30 am. All ages are welcome to eat for free. Coffee and donuts will be served on December 31, 2017.



**BIBLE STUDY** – Come for the free one-hour small group study of the biblical book "EZEKIEL" on **Wednesdays at 10:30 am in Holmer Hall**. The Bible study is taught start-to-finish ("lectio continua"), no previous experience necessary. Bible studies are free and open to the public.



**CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP SERVICE – 4:00 pm** We will sing contemporary songs, and Pastor will share a study from the Bible. Come in comfortable, casual clothes. No Evening Worship on December 31 – Happy New Year!

**FRUIT & VEGETABLE FOOD PANTRY** – Free bread, fruits, and vegetables on **Wednesdays from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm** or while supplies last at West Side Baptist Church, 1008 SW 4th St., Topeka. Program eligibility: Households in Topeka area (zip code 66601-66619). ID required: a piece of US Mail with client's name and current address for identification. One household per address. All food is available no cost We have shared 26,000 pounds of food with 1,700 families (6,000 persons) in 2017.

**WORLD MISSION CONFERENCE** – Plan now to attend the **World Mission Conference this next summer (Wednesday, July 4 thru Saturday, 7, 2018) at the American Baptist Assembly in Green Lake, Wisconsin sponsored by our ABCUSA International Ministries (IM)**. Discover how International Ministries global servants and partners make disciples for Jesus Christ through ministries of health and wellness, economic and community development, and the abolition of human trafficking. Learn valuable cross-cultural and evangelistic skills by attending workshops. This is an amazing event! Registration deadline: June 1.



**WEEKLY CALENDAR**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31 NEW YEARS EVE**

8:30 am Breakfast – Coffee and Donuts (HH)  
 9:15 am Sunday School  
 10:30 am Worship (S)  
 No Evening Service

**MONDAY, JANUARY 1 HAPPY NEW YEAR – OFFICE CLOSED**

No Baby Closet Ministry  
 No Capital City Men's Chorus (FH)

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 2**

5:30 pm Lady's Night Out @ Paisano's  
 6:00 pm Men's Night Out @ Schlotsky's

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3**

10:30 am Bible Study (HH)  
 4:00 – 6:00 pm Fruit & Vegetable Food Pantry (FH)  
 4:30 – 7:00 pm Baby Closet Ministry  
 No Open Gym Time  
 No Meal – Holiday Break  
**No WWW Kids Bible Club and Adult Study**  
 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal (S)

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 4**

1:00 – 3:00 pm Baby Closet

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 5**

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 6**

1:00 pm Worship Team Rehearsal (S)

## IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Joe Abby – Healing for health concerns (Pat Abby's husband)  
Mark Arnold – Cancer, chemotherapy and bone marrow transplant  
Albert Carpenter – Healing for health issues (Harry and Pat's son)  
Pat and Harry Carpenter – Healing for health issues  
Susan Carpenter – Healing (Harry and Pat's daughter in law)  
Esther and Laura Carrier – Healing for health concerns  
\*June Cunningham – Healing for health concerns  
\*Gerald Haney -  
\*Russ Hunter – Healing for health issues (Fran's husband)  
\*Mary Lou Johnson – Healing for health concerns  
\*Alice Kieffer – Healing for health concerns  
\*Karen Kirby – Healing for health concerns  
\*Reginald Kirby – Healing for health concerns  
\*Etta Landis – Healing for health concerns (Legend at Capital Ridge)  
Ernie and Judy Longstaff - Healing for health concerns  
Hilda Lundgren – Healing for health concerns (Brewster Place)  
\*Madeleine Martinson – Healing for health concerns  
\*Mae Martin – Healing for health concerns  
Nancy May – Healing for health concerns  
Marie Merrifield – Healing for health concerns  
Rogene Moody – Healing for health concerns  
Don Morris – Healing for health concerns  
Ken Paslay – Healing for health concerns  
Sonny Payne – Healing for health concerns (Clarence Payne's brother)  
\*Juanita Plankinton – Healing for health concerns  
\*Jeffery Runyan – Healing for health concerns  
\*Hazel Smith-Tindall – Healing for health concerns  
Marianne Spano – Healing for health concerns  
Keith Springer – Healing (Marianne Spano's brother)  
Lola Zab – Healing for health concerns (Marianne Spano's sister)  
US Military personnel and Veterans

*\*Homebound*

**AGAPE FUND (COMMUNION OFFERING)** - Thank you to the **Ward-Meade Neighborhood Improvement Association (NIA)** for donating their **\$450.00 in Chili Feed profits to WSBC's Agape Fund** to assist families in the neighborhood during the month of December. We were able to help four families with children at Meadows Elementary School with this money. Plus, we were able to help three additional families with rent and utility bills from funds donated by the church. **The total amount disbursed in December was \$639.44.** West Side Baptist Church receive a benevolence offering for the Agape Fund the first Sunday of each month after Holy Communion. These funds are shared with persons in financial need. Please see the Pastor or the Church Office to complete an Application for Assistance.



**RETIRED MINISTERS AND MISSIONARIES OFFERING (RMMO)** – West Side will receive its annual offering for **retired ministers and missionaries** during the month of December. Help our denomination say, “thank you,” to all our retired ministers and missionaries this Christmas with a generous gift to the RMMO! Please join us in honoring God’s committed servants by donating to the Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering. **We have received \$805.00 towards our goal of \$1,500.00.**



Retired  
Ministers &  
Missionaries  
Offering  
2017

**YEAR-END DONATIONS** – Please consider giving an End-of-the-Year financial gift by mail or in person. West Side Baptist Church is registered 501(c)(3) not-for-profit religious organization under the Internal Revenue Code. Donations may be tax deductible as provided by law. **All donations for 2017 must be received on or before December 31 to be included in your Financial Giving statement.** See our Stewardship Secretary, Bill Merrifield, or Church Treasurer, Nancy Lindberg, with any questions.

# THANK YOU NOTES

Dear West Side, thank you very much for the wonderful gift for Christmas. It will come in handy. I love working her at West Side and enjoy working with all of you. Much appreciated.

Lynda Cokeley

The LORD has blessed us with a wonderful Church family! Thank you for the gracious gifts of food, puzzles, flowers, restaurant gift cards, cards, monetary surprises, and staff bonus. We are truly grateful! We thank the Lord every time we remember you in our prayers.

Ivan, Rexanne, Jessa, Macy, and David Greuter

Dear Church Family, thank you for the generous gift for Christmas and your continuing support. I am so grateful to know each and every one of you.

Ernie Longstaff

To our Church Family – Thank you for the generous gift. I'll make good use of it! I am so grateful for this wonderful church of ours – so willing to lend a hand whenever there is a need!

With a grateful heart – Jan Mauck

It's hard to believe another year is almost gone and we're headed into 2018. I feel blessed to work with such a talented and dedicated choir in providing music for worship. I thank West Side Baptist for all your love and support throughout the year. I love you all. A special thank you for the generous Christmas gift you present to the staff every year. I look forward to worshipping with this wonderful church family in the coming year. Blessings to you all for the very best in the new year.

Love, Janet

Dear West Side Friends, Thank you so much for your generous Christmas gift; warm fellowship; and words of appreciation. It is a pleasure to serve as your organist and accompanist.

With heartfelt gratitude, Marjorie O'Konski

To Pastor Ivan and Congregation: Thank you so much for the wonderful Christmas gift. All the kindness you all have shown to the both of us has been very much appreciated.

Sincerely, LaTondra and Martha

## Healthy Foods Hard Word Search

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

ALMONDS  
 BEANS  
 BROWN RICE  
 CELERY  
 CORN  
 EGGS  
 OATMEAL  
 SALMON  
 TOMATOES  
 WATERMELON  
 ZUCCHINI

APPLES  
 BLUEBERRIES  
 CARROTS  
 CHEESE  
 CRANBERRIES  
 LEMONS  
 ORANGES  
 SPINACH  
 WALNUTS  
 WHOLEGRAINS

BANANAS  
 BROCCOLI  
 CASHEWS  
 CHICKEN  
 CUCUMBERS  
 LETTUCE  
 POTATOES  
 TOFU  
 WATER  
 YOGURT