

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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www.wsbctopeka.org

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 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



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE – Come Celebrate Jesus! on December 24 at 4:30 pm at the Candlelight Communion Service. Come enjoy an evening of scripture lessons, candlelight, and carols.

UGLY CHRISTMAS SWEATER SUNDAY – Let's have some fun the Sunday after Christmas! Wear an ugly Christmas sweater, a terrible tie, or an outrageous Christmas outfit on Sunday, December 31 for worship at 10:30 am.



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 24 and 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 Worship on December 31 – Happy New Year!

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 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.



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. **PANTRY CLOSED: Wednesday, December 27 (The week of Christmas/New Year's).** We have shared 26,000 pounds of food with 1,700 families (6,000 persons) in 2017.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

8:30 am	Breakfast – Coffee and Donuts (HH)
9:15 am	Sunday School
10:30 am	Worship (S)
4:30 pm	Christmas Eve Service (S)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25 MERRY CHRISTMAS

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

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26

7:15 pm	Outreach Meeting
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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27

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

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28

1:00 – 3:00 pm	Baby Closet
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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

No Worship Team Rehearsal (S)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31 NEW YEARS EVE

8:30 am	Breakfast – Coffee and Donuts (HH)
9:15 am	Sunday School
10:30 am	Worship (S) – Choir Christmas Cantata
4:00 pm	No Evening Worship Service (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 Carrier – Healing for health concerns
Laura Carrier – Healing for health concerns
*June Cunningham – Healing for health concerns
*Russ Hunter – Healing for health issues (Fran's husband)
Mary Lou Johnson and family – grief
*Alice Kieffer – Healing for health concerns
*Karen Kirby – Healing for health concerns
*Reginald Kirby – Healing for health concerns (Stormont Vail)
*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 Rehab)
*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)
Kathy Timpany – Healing for health concerns
Lola Zab – Healing for health concerns (Marianne Spano's sister)
US Military personnel and Veterans

**Homebound*

MID-WINTER MISSIONS CONFERENCE – Register TODAY for the **ABCCR Mid-Winter Mission & Evangelism Conference “Pathways to New Life” on January 19-20, 2018, at Cross Wind Conference Center, Hesston, Kan.** 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, (left) helps congregations 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 or Pastor for more information.



WWW KID'S BIBLE CLUB – CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE BEFORE NOON TO REQUEST A RIDE TO/FROM CHURCH ON WEDNESDAY NIGHTS. The doors open for OPEN Gym Time at 4:30 pm. **Supper is served at 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall (cafeteria).** Bible Studies are offered for children and adults of all ages. See Colleen Smith, Coordinator, for details. **NO SUPPER, WWW KIDS BIBLE CLUB, OR ADULT BIBLE STUDY ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20 AND DECEMBER 27, OR JANUARY 3, 2018.**



WORLD MISSION CONFERENCE – Plan now to attend the World Mission Conference this next summer (July 4-8, 2018) at Green Lake Conference Center (American Baptist Assembly) in Wisconsin sponsored by our ABCUSA International Ministries. Registration deadline: June 1.

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.

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!



Retired
Ministers &
Missionaries
Offering
2017

The roots of RMMO go back to the mid-1930s, when American Baptist congregations received a Communion Fellowship Offering on the first Sunday of each month to support retired ministers, missionaries, their widowed spouses and elderly clergy within their churches. In 1977, American Baptist Churches USA launched the Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering (RMMO) to continue this appreciation of God’s service. The offering supports those who have dedicated their lives to God’s service by providing emergency assistance in times of need and a thank you check at the end of each year.

We hope congregations will be inspired by the theme this year, *Generous Congregations*. The verse is taken from Isaiah 32:8, ‘But generous people plan to do what is generous, and they stand firm in their generosity.’” Generosity is central to our faith. As Christians, we are called to serve and care for others, and RMMO aligns with the collective spirit of love that inspires us all to honor the devotion of ministers and their families for their service to the church.

Please join us in honoring God’s committed servants by donating to the Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering.

We have received \$645.00 towards our goal of \$1,500.00.

People from the New Testament

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

Andrew	John	Mary	Simon
Aquila	John the Baptist	Matthew	Stephen
Barnabas	Joseph	Matthias	Tabitha
Barsabas	Judas	Paul	Thaddaeus
Bartholomew	Lazarus	Peter	Thomas
Cornelius	Luke	Philip	Timothy
Elizabeth	Lydia	Priscilla	Zacchaeus
James	Mark	Silas	Zebedee
Jesus	Martha		