

# THE WITNESS

## The Newsletter of West Side Baptist Church

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Vol. 101, No. 03

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March 2018



**DATE:** Wed. July 4 - Sat. July 7

Plan now to join Pastor and his family at the **World Mission Conference** this summer at the **American Baptist Assembly (ABA)** 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. Celebrate the 4th of July as you interact with global servants and international leaders from dozens of nations, participate in global worship and conversation and explore ways to be more involved in global mission.

Registration deadline: June 1 .



### **America for Christ Offering**

For American Baptist Home Mission Societies (ABHMS), equipping disciples entails supporting and enabling highly motivated Christian disciple-makers who are delivering the Good News of Jesus Christ and producing life-saving and life-giving change in individuals and congregations across the United States and Puerto Rico.

The theme for the America for Christ (AFC) Offering 2018 is: "Equipping Disciples," informed by this biblical text: *"The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ"* (Ephesians 4:11-13, NRSV).



ABHMS works to broaden our understanding of what it means to follow Jesus in word and deed for the 21st century, and to nurture discipleship by expanding our network of highly motivated change-agents who share the Good News and impact the world with God's love. In this way, we encourage authentic Christian discipleship in which the fullness of the Gospel—in its personal and social implications—are manifested in individuals living Jesus' message, involved in their communities and carrying out God's call in their lives.

As you contribute to AFC, you enable ABHMS to provide high-quality Christian resources and encouragement to our network of disciple-makers, thereby improving their effectiveness in equipping other Christians. Our Equipping Disciples team facilitates virtual communities and networks of American Baptists engaged in discipleship for mutual support and enrichment.

Please give generously to the America for Christ Offering 2018.

With gratitude for your generosity,  
*Dr. Jeffrey Haggray*, Executive Director, ABHMS

## March Birthdays

2nd Brian Hunter  
3rd Laura Carrier  
3rd Jill Roesler  
4th Aaron Hunter  
8th Nathan Poe  
12th Caroline Carrier  
12th Don Johnson  
15th Judy Ginest  
16th Rexanne Greuter  
20th Tera Triggs  
21st Shelby Hersh  
22nd Janice Kirby  
22nd Trena Ansell  
29th Kate Olsen

## Anniversaries

8th Bill & Marie Merrifield  
26th Bob & Jill Roesler

We have new members Jack and Nelda Janway. They came from First Southern Baptist Church here in Topeka, KS. Please welcome them.

**XYZer's BREAKFAST** – The “Extra Years of Zest” small group will stop meeting once a month until June 2018. See John Swain for more information.

**Don't forget to spring forward March 11!**

Don't forget to....



Spring Forward!

## LADIES NIGHT OUT -

Tuesday, March 6 @ 5:30 pm at Paisano'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.

**MEN'S NIGHT OUT** – Tuesday, March 6 @ 6:00 pm at Annie's. 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.

# Faith & Fellowship

**CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP SERVICE** – Sunday's at 4:00 pm We will sing contemporary songs, and Pastor will share a study from the Bible. Come in comfortable, casual clothes.



**BREAKFAST ON SUNDAYS** – Register your attendance on the pew pads at the end of each pew. 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.

**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.



**MUSIC COMMITTEE** - Marjorie, Janet and I meet on Tuesdays at 9:00 am in Holmer Hall to select music for the services. My goal is to choose a variety of music (traditional, spiritual, gospels, contemporary and modern) which makes God happy and fits the scriptural theme of the day.

We try to make sure we sing the top 100 traditional hymns and top 100 contemporary songs at least once each year. In the past year, we have sung over 260 different songs, twice as many as the previous three years. We invite you to help us make song selections for the services!

We have chosen song that focus on the Cross of Calvary during Lent:

#### **March 4 - Third Sunday in Lent**

- The Wonderful Cross (WT)
- In the Cross of Christ I Glory (264)
- The Old Rugged Cross (260)
- Communion Hymn (Around the Table of the King)
- Blest Be the Tie that Binds

#### **March 11 - Fourth Sunday of Lent**

- God Hath Spoken by the Prophets (108)
- Amazing Grace (422)
- Amazing Grace, My Chains Are Gone
- What Wonderful Love is This? (257)

#### **March 18 - Fifth Sunday of Lent**

- Jesus Shall Reign (341)
- Refiner's Fire (WT)
- Lead Me to Calvary (253)
- Just As I Am

#### **March 25 - Palm Sunday**

- All Glory, Laud, and Honor
- Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

- Lift You Your Heads, O Mighty Gates
- Lift High the Cross (287)

Fifth Sunday Sing - The Worship Committee is planning to host a "Fifth Sunday Sing" on April 29. We will sing your favorite worship songs and hymns during the service. Please share your requests with Janet Nyfeler or Jan Mauck before April 22.

Pastor Ivan

**BIBLE STUDY** – Come for the free one-hour small group study of the biblical book **"ACTS OF THE APOSTLES"** on **Wednesdays at 10:30 am in Holmer Hall**. Pastor Ivan teaches each book of the Bible from start to finish ("lectio continua"). No previous experience necessary. Bible studies are free, ecumenical (we respect differences) and open to the public .

**MISSIONARIES VISITING** – Join us for these amazing opportunities:

1. **Revs. Keith and Debbie Myers**, our Missionaries serving in Central Mexico, will be visiting WSBC on **Sunday, March 25 at 4:00 pm**. They will share about their work with the Council of Rural Indigenous Evangelicals of Mexico. Please pray for the Myer family. You can find more information about the Myers and their ministry at:

[www.internationalministries.org/author/dk-myers](http://www.internationalministries.org/author/dk-myers).

2. **Rev. Emerson and Ivy Wu**, our Missionaries serving in China and Hong Kong, will be visiting WSBC on **Sunday, April 29 at 4:00 pm**. They will share about their work with Global Chinese Training Ministry. Please pray for the Wu family. You can find more information about the Wu family and their work in China at: [www.internationalministries.org/author/ei-wu](http://www.internationalministries.org/author/ei-wu)

## Our Church Finances

- We start 2018 with our first month's income of \$34,728.61 (12.02%) and expenses of \$23,537.36 (8.63%). Our net income for the month is \$11,191.25. Our income includes the one-time payment of \$7,604.00 from the Topeka Community Foundation (Hill and Woodin estate gifts).
- Our checking account at the end of January was \$18,202.46. This includes \$3,698.56 in the Youth Fund and \$1,634.03 in the Baby Closet Fund.



Let me know if you have any questions. Thanks.

~ Nancy Lindberg, Treasurer

**MISSION**—The Mission Committee will be planning local mission work projects for 2018. We would like to know what projects you are interested in doing.

We will not be traveling to Bethel Neighborhood Center in Kansas City on Friday March 30, 2018, because of construction.

America for Christ Offering will be taken in March. The America for Christ (AFC) 2018 theme is **"Equipping Disciples,"** informed by this biblical text: "The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelist, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ" (Ephesians 4:11-13, NRSV).

**Your gift to the AFC Offering is making life-changing impact through ministries and resources that vitalize our congregations and communities across the United States and Puerto Rico with the hope of Jesus Christ.**

The America for Christ Offering (AFC) 2018 reminds us that it is in our service to the church and the community that many experience the Christ in us. We are encouraged by this year's theme to come alongside people and build them up. This year's AFC offering goal is \$1,400.00.

Don Johnson, Missions

**Christian Education News** - We have 7 young people working on camp scholarship opportunities. Watch the slides on Sunday mornings with pics of their activities.

The Youth are also busy raising funds and planning to attend Young Christians' Weekend in Branson in April.

WWW is busy feeding an average of 60 people a week and teaching about Jesus. One night in our classroom of 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade, the lesson ended with Jesus crucified and buried in the tomb. I promised that the next week Nancy would tell them what happened next. One of our boys slammed his fists on the table and exclaimed, "No, I want to know what happened now!" Picture yourself hearing the story of the arrest, the crucifixion, and the death of Jesus for the very first time. Some of the children we work with have never heard the Bible stories. God is blessing our ministry by bringing these youngsters who want and need to hear the stories of our Savior. Please pray for the staff and overall mission of WWW. I thank God for our church and the opportunity we have to make a difference.

Alice Payne, Coordinator of Christian Ed.

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION** - The Christian Ed. Committee was **rescheduled for TUESDAY (FEBRUARY 27) AT 5:30 PM in Holmer Hall**. See Alice Payne, Coordinator, for information.

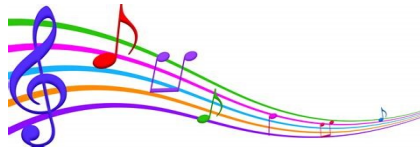
**OUTREACH & EVANGELISM COMMITTEE** – The Outreach Committee will hold their monthly meeting on **Tuesday, February 27 at 7:15 pm in Holmer Hall (HH)**. See Mark Calloway for details.

**SPECIAL CALLED BUSINESS MEETING** – Pat Carpenter, Church Moderator, has called a **Special Called Business Meeting for Sunday, March 4 at 11:45 am in the Sanctuary** to vote on the purchase and installation of a new 4'x10' aluminum, vandal resistant parking lot sign. See Mark Calloway or the bulletin board for picture and pricing.



*Make a special note on your calendar for March 25.*

The choir is working hard on an Easter Cantata, *The Light of Life*, composed by our very own Jim Goodnow, to share with you in worship on Sunday, March 25. That is Palm Sunday, and the choir will be singing in place of a sermon. For you regular morning worship attendees, you will receive a preview of the songs in the cantata on the Sundays in Lent. Then on Palm Sunday, you will hear all the music and narration in the cantata related to the anointing of Jesus through the crucifixion. Then on Easter Sunday, April 1, be sure to come to celebrate the risen Lord and hear the final song "The Light of Life".



We are God's Masterpieces

Ephesians 2:10



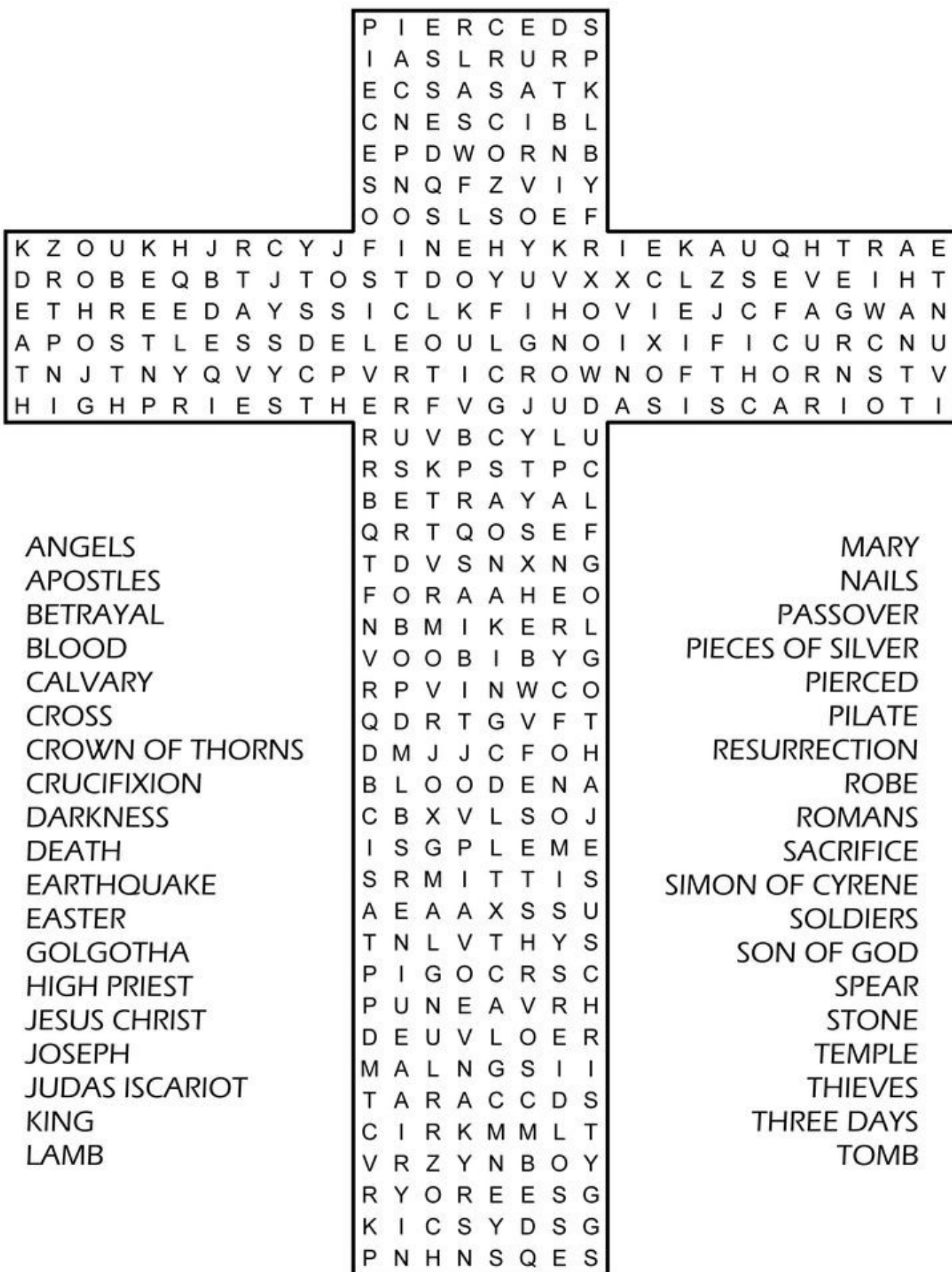
## Matthew 6:25-34

### Do Not Be Anxious

<sup>25</sup> "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? <sup>26</sup> Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? <sup>27</sup> And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? <sup>28</sup> And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, <sup>29</sup> yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. <sup>30</sup> But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? <sup>31</sup> Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' <sup>32</sup> For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. <sup>33</sup> But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

<sup>34</sup> "Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

# Easter Word Search



ANGELS  
APOSTLES  
BETRAYAL  
BLOOD  
CALVARY  
CROSS  
CROWN OF THORNS  
CRUCIFIXION  
DARKNESS  
DEATH  
EARTHQUAKE  
EASTER  
GOLGOTHA  
HIGH PRIEST  
JESUS CHRIST  
JOSEPH  
JUDAS ISCARIOT  
KING  
LAMB

MARY  
NAILS  
PASSOVER  
PIECES OF SILVER  
PIERCED  
PILATE  
RESURRECTION  
ROBE  
ROMANS  
SACRIFICE  
SIMON OF CYRENE  
SOLDIERS  
SON OF GOD  
SPEAR  
STONE  
TEMPLE  
THIEVES  
THREE DAYS  
TOMB

We are nearing the time to once again celebrate the Risen Lord. If you would like to purchase a lily or another flowering plant to help decorate the sanctuary for Easter, you may use the following order form. It's a bit of a short notice, but please try to turn in your order by March 16. Thank you.

## *Lilies & Flowers for Easter*

I (We) would like to order flowers as indicated below to help decorate the sanctuary for Easter:

### Quantity

- \_\_\_\_ 6 inch Lily (4+ blooms) — \$ 8.90  
 \_\_\_\_ 6 inch Lily (6+ blooms) — \$ 9.80  
 \_\_\_\_ 8 inch Lily (2 plants per pot 7-10+blooms) — \$ 19.75

These prices are with foil, delivered to the church.

### Other Plants Available

- \_\_\_\_ Rieger Begonia — \$ 11.25  
 \_\_\_\_ Kalanchoes — \$ 12.50  
 \_\_\_\_ Hyacinth — \$ 9.50  
 \_\_\_\_ Tulips — \$ 9.50  
 \_\_\_\_ Azalea — \$ 17.75  
 \_\_\_\_ Daffodil — \$ 9.50  
 \_\_\_\_ Mum — \$ 10.25  
 \_\_\_\_ Hydrangeas — \$ 16.50



Hyacinth



Daffodil



Begonia



Kalanchoe



Tulip

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to West Side Baptist Church.

Return your order and payment to Janet Nyfeler or Lynda in the office by no later than March 16. Orders after March 16 may cost more or be unavailable.

My plant(s) purchased is/are in memory or honor of:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_



Azalea



Mums



Hydrangea