

THE NEWSLETTER OF WEST SIDE BAPTIST CHURCH OF TOPEKA, KS

# The Witness

NOVEMBER 2018  
VOL 104 #11

## LIGHT DISPELS THE DARKNESS!

**Pastor's Corner** - The Woolly Bear banded caterpillars wiggling across the roads were right: winter is on its way! Cooler weather has come to our area a little earlier than I expected. I hope the Farmers Almanac is wrong: its suppose to be a "teeth-chattering cold winter" with a higher than average amount of precipitation: SNOW!

The cold weather also signals a change in the hours of daylight vs darkness. We will see the slow increase of darkness (shorter days) until the Winter Solace, and then the sun will slowly climb higher into the atmosphere. Many of the living world religions will celebrate this change with "light ceremonies":

- **Diwali** - On November 7, Hindu, Jain, Buddhist, and Sikh worshippers will begin Diwali - a five-day autumn festival in the northern hemisphere when revelers will light clay lamps to signal the triumph of light over dark, liberation, and their New Year.
- **Samhain (Halloween)** - A Gaelic feast when Celts light candles on October 31 to mark the end of the harvest and the start of the "dark half" of the year.
- **Yule** - On Friday, December 21, Neopagans will start their week-long observance of Yule - a Germanic feast marking the death and rebirth of the sun. Worshippers will burn traditional Yule logs and light bonfires to help the dying sun.
- **Advent/Christmas** - As Christians, we will start our celebration of Advent and Christmas with a "Christ the King Sunday" service on November 25. This service declares Christ has not only conquer death but darkness, evil, and all forces in the universe. It is the last Sunday of the Church year (acknowledging Christ if the *Alpha* and *Omega*, beginning and end).



## WORSHIP WITH US!

Worship the Lord with us on the Christian Sabbath: SUNDAYS!

- ♦ **Nov. 4 - All Saints Sunday**  
Ruth 1:1-18 - "O Little Town of Bethlehem"
- ♦ **Nov. 11 - Veteran's Sunday**  
Ruth 3:1-5, 4:13-17 - "Love"
- ♦ **Nov. 18 - Stewardship Sunday**  
1 Samuel 1:4-20 - "Generosity"
- ♦ **Nov. 25 - Christ the King Sunday**  
Revelation 1:4b-8 - "The A to Z of Christology"

**SUNDAY WORSHIP**  
@ 10:30 AM

**Sundays Facebook Live:**  
[www.facebook.com/wsbctopeka](http://www.facebook.com/wsbctopeka)



**ACOLYTE  
TRAINING**

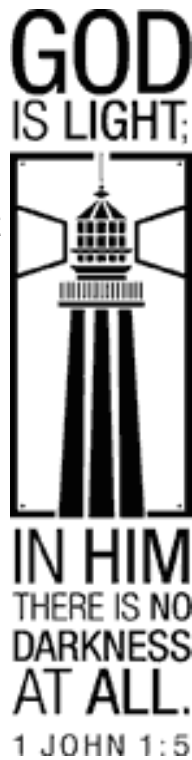
**SATURDAY  
NOV. 3  
10:00 AM**

All children (age 12+) and adults are invited to become an acolyte (worship assistant). Formal training is required. See Pastor for information.

Then, we'll start the new Church year with the Advent season when we'll light candles - not to drive away the darkness, mark the decline, death, and resurrection of the sun, or to help the sun recapture life, but to celebrate the truth: **Jesus is Light of the World!** We will count down the weeks and years to Christ's second return when the world will be filled with his unstoppable goodness and light.

As the days grow shorter and the nights longer, hold fast to the truth: "God is light; in him there is no darkness at all." Jesus defeated darkness and dispels night by his glorious strength shown in the resurrection. Let the light of Jesus Christ shine in your lives!

Illuminated blessings,  
Pastor Ivan



### YOU'RE INVITED WWW THANKSGIVING DINNER



The Christian Education Committee wants to give our WWW participants the experience of Thanksgiving. We are

blessed weekly by their presence and want to share with them the tradition of giving thanks for all God has done for us this year along with feasting together.

Please join us for a celebration of Thanksgiving on Wednesday, November 14 @ 5:30. We have volunteers fixing the turkeys, potatoes, gravy, stuffing, and rolls. **We're inviting the church family to join us for dinner and to help by bringing a salad or dessert to share.** Please join us as we deliciously share a great American tradition.  
~ Alice Payne, Coordinator of Christian Ed.

### NEW EXECUTIVE MINISTER The Rev. Dr. Gregg Hemmen



The American Baptist Churches of the Central Region has called the new executive minister, Rev. Dr. Gregg Hemmen. Dr. Hemmen is a native of Steamboat Rock, a small farming community in central Iowa. He has a B.A. in Religious Studies from the University of Sioux Falls, an M.Div. and M.A. in Counseling from Sioux Falls Seminary, and a D.Min. from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary.

Dr. Hemmen has served three congregations in his 25 years of pastoral ministry: Wentworth Presbyterian Church in Wentworth, SD, while going to seminary; Cane Creek Baptist Church in Hillsborough, NC; and First Baptist Church in Rapid City, SD. He is married to Rev. Dr. Diane Lynn Janssen Hemmen who serves the Hermosa United Church of Christ, First Presbyterian Church in Rapid City, SD, and Rapid City Regional Hospital in the chaplaincy department. They have two children, Ainslee, a junior at Rapid City Central High School, and Eli, a freshman at Rapid City Central High School. Rev. Hemmen will be attending the ABCCR Annual Gathering, Oct. 12-13. He is expected to assume his duties in November.

### FRUIT & VEGETABLE FOOD PANTRY –

Free bread, fruits, and vegetables on

**Wednesdays from 3:30 to 5:30 pm,** while supplies last.

#### PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY:

Households living in

Topeka area (zip code

66601-66619). **INCOME GUIDELINES:** None. **ID**

**REQUIRED:** Client must bring a PHOTO ID AND A PIECE OF US MAIL with client's name and current address for identification. **HOUSEHOLDS:** One

household per address. All food is available at no cost. West Side does not participate in Client Track.







## ORDER YOUR

**POINSETTIAS** – It's time to order poinsettias in memory of your loved ones to help decorate the sanctuary for Christmas.

You will notice the colors offered this year are slightly different. There are 3 colors (Ice Crystal, Marble Star and Polly Pink) that are **ONLY AVAILABLE** in a 6½-inch pot. All other colors are available in any size. Please indicate the color you want and the size you prefer on the order sheet. Don't forget to include your name and those people you are remembering or honoring. **Please return your poinsettia order and payment no later than November 12.** You may put it in the offering plate, turn into Lynda in the Church Office, or give to Janet Nyfeler. See Janet Nyfeler for more information.

**MISSION** - The mission committee would like to know if anyone is interested in going on a mission trip in 2019. Please let Don Johnson or anyone on the mission committee know.

Thank you for giving so generously to the World Mission Offering (WMO). Our goal this year was \$1,500.00. To date we have received \$1,790.85.

International Ministries, also known as the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society, works cross-culturally to invite people to become disciples of Jesus Christ and to proclaim, through both word and deed, God's reign of justice, peace and abundant life all creation.

The American Baptist International Ministries for over 200 years, has relied on the generosity of individuals and churches to carry out this mission. The Christ-centered work is truly a light in the darkness. When you give to the International Ministries, you can be sure that you are making a difference through what God is accomplishing in over 70 countries.



## OUR CHURCH FINANCES

- The budget year is 3/4's or 75% over. Our income for September was \$15,075.95 and totals for the year \$201,970.31 or 74.01% of our annual budget. The income includes \$20,460.07 in our fundraising efforts for the sign and boiler repair. We are almost half-way to our goal of \$42,915.
- Our expenses for September are \$17,199.18 and total to date \$205,258.29 or 75.22% of our budget.
- We had \$13,995.22 in our checking account at the end of September. This included \$2,017.88 in the Youth Fund and \$31.69 in the Baby Closet Fund. The remainder of the checking account is the money collected for the boiler replacement/repairs.
- Our fundraising efforts for the boiler will continue until at least the end of the year. It is projected that we will pay McElroy's for the boiler replacement and repairs in November and will be paid from the fundraising dollars collected with remainder out of the capital campaign fund's money market. That will just about use up all the capital campaign fund.
- The council members have been working on their program budgets for 2019. We will have a budget to present to the church along with asking you to help us decide on our level of mission giving and salary increases.

Let me know if you have any questions. Thanks.

~ Nancy Lindberg, Treasurer



## COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

The Nominating Committee is presenting the following nominations to be voted on at the November Business Meeting. These positions are for a 3 year term, 2019 through 2021.

**Vice-Moderator- Clarence Payne**

**Treasurer- Nancy Lindberg**

**Coordinator of Outreach and Evangelism-Jack Janway**

Nominations will also be accepted from the floor provided the person being nominated has agreed to serve.

Nominating Committee: Marianne Spano, Harry Carpenter, Ernie Longstaff, Nancy Cottril, Dick May, Jr. and Clarence Payne.



## DAYLIGHT SAVINGS

**TIME** – It's time to FALL BACK! Remember to set your clocks back one hour on **Sunday, November 4.**



**THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY** – The Church Office will be **CLOSED Thursday, Nov. 22 and Friday, Nov. 23** in observance of Thanksgiving Holiday.

**VETERANS DAY** – The Church Office will be **CLOSED on Monday, November 12** in observance of Veterans Day. The Office will reopen on Tuesday, Nov. 13 at 8:00 a.m.



**YOUTH** - The youth are making Apple Pies Saturday, November 17, before Thanksgiving. They will be selling them for \$12.00 each. If you are interested in having them make a pie for you please sign the sheet on the bulletin board outside the sanctuary.



**BEING THANKFUL** - Thanksgiving is a wonderful time to gather with family and friends and reflect on the blessings of the last year. Many of us experience renewed hope and faith during the Thanksgiving holiday because we turn our eyes onto what is most important. What if we spent time each day in giving thanks and prayer? How could God grow out faith and trust if we lived a life of thanks through all seasons and not just Thanksgiving time? When your heart is filled with gratitude, there is little room to worry or complain.



### THANKSGIVING PRAYER

"Dear God, Thank you for your amazing power and work in our lives, thank you for your goodness and for your blessings over us. Thank you for your great love and care. Thank you for your sacrifice so that we might have freedom and life. Forgive us for when we don't thank you enough, for who you are, for all that you do, for all that you've given. Help us to set our eyes and our hearts on you afresh. Renew our spirits, fill us with your peace and joy. We love you and we need you, this day and every day. We give you praise and thanks, for You alone are worthy! In Jesus' Name, Amen."

*Happy Anniversary!*

9th Dan & Chelle Decker  
26th Terry & Becky Poe



**NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

1st Mariah Calloway  
1st Nathan Triggs  
1st Hilda Lundgren  
2nd John Swain  
7th Christine Carrier  
9th Aaron Poe  
11th Judy Longstaff  
15th Grace Goodnow  
18th Austin Cripe  
27th Christopher Poe  
30th Brice Smith

*Ladies Night Out  
on Tuesday,  
November 6 at  
5:30 pm at  
Olive Garden*



*Men's Night Out on  
Tuesday, November  
6 at 5:30 pm at  
Chick Fil' A*



**XYZer's BREAKFAST** –The "Extra Years of Zest" small group will stop meeting once a month until April 2019. See John Swain for more information.

**HANGING OF THE GREENS** - The hanging of the greens will be Sunday, November 25 following worship. Everyone is welcome to stay and help.





## Food Donations

TRM Ministries relies on donations of food from individuals, churches, businesses and other partnering agencies to meet the daily food needs of our guests. Our most pressing food needs are updated monthly on our website. Thank you for your support. Because of your generous and loyal support, and your donations of money, food and time, every \$5 donated serves a fresh meal to 35 people.

## 24,000 Meals Per Month:

TRM Ministries Food Services is responsible for the planning, preparing and serving on average 24,000 meals per month in our dining room 7 days a week. The food served consists primarily of food donations from the community. Because of the generosity of the friends of TRM, this is accomplished for a cost of only 14 cents per meal.

Anyone who is hungry is welcome to eat at TRM.



## 450 Sack Lunches Weekly

For those TRM guests who are unable to be present during meal times, sack lunches are provided by written request. Sack lunches are also kept on hand to feed others who come in who have a need. Meeting this need requires making 1,200 sandwiches per week. A typical sack lunch includes 2 lunchmeat sandwiches (with cheese when available), chips, fruit or a fruit cup, a granola bar and a dessert. Supplies needed include 120 loaves of bread and approximately 300 lbs of lunch meat each week.



**Love. Grow. Serve.**



Thank You, God, for those people in my life whom You have called home to be with You. Their absence from this earth keeps my heart longing for [heaven](#).



**DOORSTEP'S CHRISTMAS STORE**

Each year we adopt 250 households for Christmas. There will be 750+ individuals in these households & we need your help in providing gifts & necessities.

**Below are specific items we need this Christmas.**

<p><b><u>Health Kit Items</u></b></p> <p>Towels (new) bath, hand &amp; washcloths, Combs, Bar Soap, Deodorant, Toothpaste/brushes, Shampoo, Razors</p> <p><b><u>NAIL POLISH</u></b></p>	<p><b><u>Toys</u></b></p> <p>Games - All Ages Baby Dolls, Balls - Football, Soccer, Basketball Teen Girls Gifts - Make Up &amp; Nail Kits Back Packs Color/Reading Books School Supplies Toys for Ages 2-12</p>
<p><b><u>Household Gifts</u></b></p> <p>Quilts, Blankets &amp; Sheet Sets (Full, Queen &amp; King) Dish Sets, Toasters, Hand Mixers, Crockpots, Silverware, Glass/Cup Sets, Pots &amp; Pans, Coffee Makers, Etc.</p>	<p><b><u>Adult Gifts</u></b></p> <p>Flashlights, Tool Sets, Small Radios, Watches, Aftershave, Playing Cards, Perfume, Body Wash &amp; Lotion Sets, Jewelry, Etc.</p>

***Please Bring Items To Worship Or Doorstep. Our Christmas Store is December 9th - 13th.***



Author: Christine Ann www.ChristineAnnChristineAnn.com



## Thanksgiving Word Search



Choose a pumpkin:

"Lord fill me with your wisdom and guidance."



Scoop out the insides:

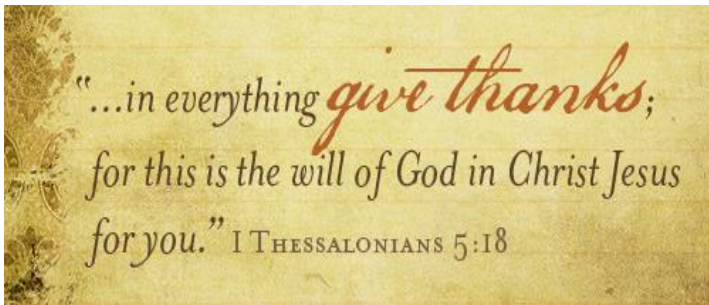
"Lord take out all of my fussies and frownies and fill me with your love."



Carve the eyes:

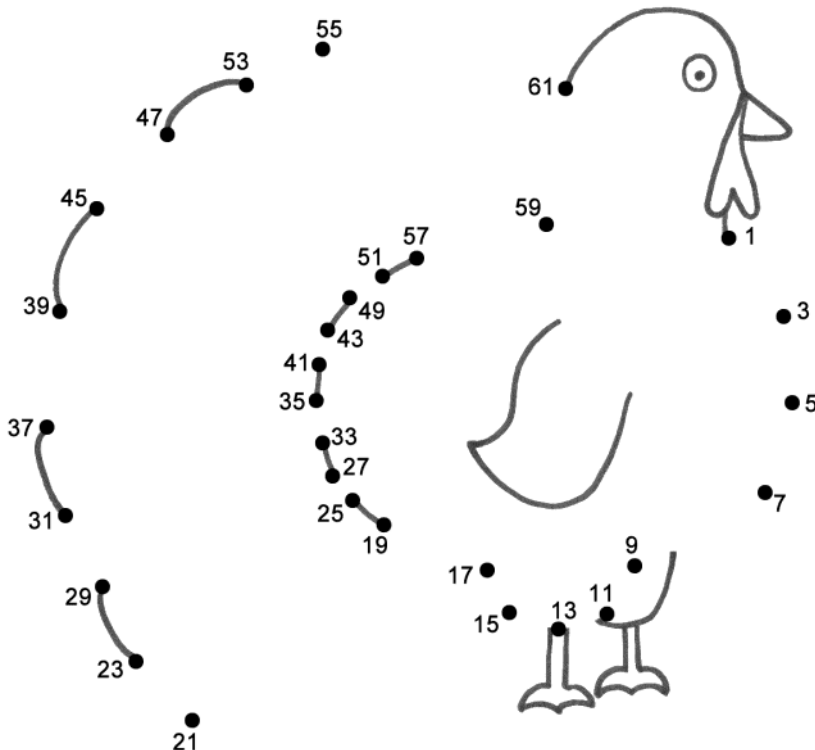
"Lord, open my eyes to see all the beautiful things you have made."

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



1. Carve
2. Celebrate
3. Colonist
4. Cornucopia
5. Cranberry
6. Dessert
7. Farmer
8. Feast
9. Gather
10. Harvest

11. Holiday
12. November
13. Pilgrim
14. Platter
15. Pumpkin
16. Thanksgiving
17. Tradition
18. Turkey
19. Vegetable
20. Worship





# November 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 1 pm Baby Closet	2	3 10 am Acolyte training (ages 12 + ) 11 am Pathfinder's 1 pm Worship Team
4 8:30 am Breakfast 9:15 am S. School 10:30 am Worship	5 9 am Baby Closet 9 am Music Mtg 6 pm Men's Chorus	6 5:30 pm Ladies Night Out @ Olive Garden 5:30 pm Men's Night Out @ Chick –Fil-A	7 10:30am Bible Study 3:30 pm Harvester's 5:30 pm WWW 7 pm Choir Practice 5 pm Baby Closet	8 1 pm Baby Closet	9	10 11 am Pathfinder's 1 pm Worship Team
11 8:30 am Breakfast 9:15 am S. School 10:30 am Worship	12 Closed 9 am Baby Closet 9 am Music Mtg 6 pm Men's Chorus	13 6 pm Council Members Mtg	14 10:30am Bible Study 3:30 pm Harvester's 5:30 pm WWW Thanksgiving meal 5 pm Baby Closet 7 pm Choir Practice	15 1 pm Baby Closet	16	17 11 am Pathfinder's 1 pm Worship Team
18 8:30 am Breakfast 9:15 am S. School 10:30 am Worship 12:00 pm Stewardship Dinner	19 9 am Baby Closet 9 am Music Mtg 6 pm Men's Chorus	20	21 10:30am Bible Study 3:30 pm Harvester's No WWW No Choir Practice No Baby Closet	22 Closed No Baby Closet  Thanksgiving	23 Closed  Black Friday	24 No Pathfinder's 1 pm Worship Team
25 8:30 am Breakfast 9:15 am S. School 10:30 am Worship Hanging of the Greens 2:30 pm Mission Mtg	26 9 am Baby Closet 9 am Music Mtg 6 pm Men's Chorus	27 5:30 pm Christian Ed Meeting No Outreach Meeting	28 10:30am Bible Study 3:30 pm Harvester's 5:30 pm WWW 7 pm Choir Practice 5 pm Baby Closet	29 1 pm Baby Closet  6 pm NIA Mtg	30	

THE WITNESS NEWSLETTER  
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*RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED*