

THE NEWSLETTER OF WEST SIDE BAPTIST CHURCH OF TOPEKA, KS

The Witness

FEBRUARY 2020 VOL 106 #2

FINDING A BARGAIN VS. PAYING FULL PRICE

Pastor's Corner - Do you penny shop? It's a new hobby in our household. Macy has introduced us to *extreme thrift shopping*. Yes! Our family has shopped at thrift stores, second-hand shops, and discount chains for years. Who isn't frugal these days? However, penny shopping has taken on a new life: we watch videos, search stores, scan barcodes, wait with anticipation for the price to register, make the purchase, and the most important of all, celebrate when we get home! *High-fives for everyone!!*

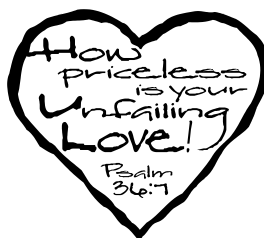
Our dining room table has become hallowed ground for displaying the treasures we purchased for only pennies, literally! Many of the products are clearance items, scraps, seasonal leftovers, etc. So, they're significantly discounted. We have enjoyed the shopping adventures. Most of all, I have enjoyed spending quality time with Macy!!

The one rule I keep breaking is "*no talking about it!*" (Oops). It is a best kept secret: stores clearance items for almost nothing instead of throwing them away. Sadly, there are plenty of people who think of themselves in the same way: scraps, accidents, leftovers, rejects, etc. This is unfortunate, since the Christian story of faith teaches us: *God doesn't create worthless things or throw anyone away!* In our hour of need, the Lord didn't wait to redeem us at a discount. Instead, God paid the premium price for us and our freedom: His one and only Son, Jesus Christ. The Apostle Paul wrote to the Galatian Church: "*Christ purchased our freedom and redeemed us from the curse of the Law and its condemnation by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, 'Cursed is everyone who hangs [crucified] on a tree (cross)'—in order that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might also come to the Gentiles, so that we would all receive [the realization of] the promise of the [Holy] Spirit through faith*" (3:13-14, The Amplified Bible).

As we prepare for the Lenten season of self reflection and reform, I want to make sure you begin on the right path: You are valuable!

You were planned. God considers you "priceless!" We may be *totally depraved* but we are also **RADICALLY SAVED!**

Blessings on your Lenten Journey,
Pastor Ivan



WORSHIP WITH US!

SUNDAY WORSHIP
10:30 AM

Prepare for Worship by
reading these texts:

- ♦ **Feb. 2 - Epiphany #4**
Micah 6:1-8
Psalm 15
1 Corinthians 1:18-31
Matthew 5:1-12
- ♦ **Feb. 9 - Epiphany #5**
Isaiah 58:1-9a (9b-12)
Psalm 112
1 Corinthians 2:1-16
Matthew 5:13-20
- ♦ **Feb. 16 - Epiphany #6**
Deuteronomy 30:15-20
Psalm 119:1-8
1 Corinthians 3:1-9
Matthew 5:21-37
- ♦ **Feb. 23 - Transfiguration**
Exodus 24:12-18
Psalm 99
2 Peter 1:16-21
Matthew 17:1-9

THE LENTEN SEASON
Ash Wednesday (Feb. 26)
Until Easter Sunday
(April 12, 2020)

Lent



OUR CHURCH FINANCES – December 2019 Report

When I write a finance report for this newsletter I typically report on the month prior to the council meeting. So, for this newsletter I am sharing with you my report of the December 2019 financials that I reported at the January 2020 council meeting. If you ever need any more up-to-date numbers, please feel free to check with me.

This report is the year-end report or 100 % of our budget year.

The income for December was \$52,929.82 and year-end totals \$307,918.31 or 114.98% of the year. This includes a \$6,000 loan from the capital campaign.

Our expenses for December totaled \$24,797.80 and year-end totals \$288,591.28 or 107.76%. Our net income for the year is \$19,327.03. Our checking account at the end of December was \$30,998.96. This includes \$4,171.12 – Youth Fund, \$1,000 – Outreach grant, \$1,256.00 – Baby Closet grant, \$7,458.00 – Major Building Repairs gifts, \$192.18 – WWW grant and \$100 – Capital Funds Campaign. It also includes the estate gift from Reg Kirby. His family has decided that it should be used for the new Capital Campaign and will be transferred into that account.

As we close out the finance records for 2019, the council decided to use some of the remaining capital campaign to pay off the negative balance of our year-end due to major building repairs in 2018 and 2019. It includes the \$6,000 loan from the capital campaign. This totals a little less than \$20,000. The remainder of the old capital campaign, the new offerings given for major building repairs and the Kirby estate will be the foundation of the new capital campaign as it launches in 2020.

Thanks.

~ Nancy Lindberg, Treasurer



REMINDER: WWW will not meet Wednesday, February 19, 2020 due to Parent/Teacher Conferences. Also remember if USD 501 cancels school for inclement weather on a Wednesday, WWW will also be cancelled.

FOOD PANTRY - The Free Fruit & Vegetable Food Pantry is open most **Wednesday from 3:30 to 5:30 pm.** Call the Church Office at (785) 233-4241 for more information. **BRING a government-issued PHOTO ID and a piece US Mail with the client's NAME and CURRENT ADDRESS as proof-of-residency every visit.**

2019 ANNUAL PANTRY REPORT - 9,688 Individuals (4,812 adults, 3,809 children, and 1,020 seniors) in 2,683 families were able to receive free bread, fruits, vegetables, and other items (total 51,765 pounds) from the Fruit & Vegetable Food Pantry in 2019.

The Food Pantry will be open on Wednesdays in February from 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm. Call the Church Office for weather related closures. Equal Opportunity. *All food is available at no cost.



KITCHEN FOOD PROGRAM - Clarence and Alice Payne, and their volunteer crew, provide free suppers most **Wednesday from 5:30 to 6:00 pm.** Call the Church Office at (785) 233-4241 for more information.

2019 ANNUAL SUPPER REPORT - The Kitchen served 1,910 free meals (1,025 adults and 688 children/youth), preparing a total of 2,725 pounds on Wednesday nights in 2019.

The Kitchen will serve Free Suppers on Wednesdays from 5:30 pm to 6:00 pm. The Kitchen will be **CLOSED** on Feb. 19 (Parent-Teacher Conferences). Call the Church Office for weather related closures. Equal Opportunity. *All food is available at no cost.



BACK TO BETHEL! We will once again be providing a meal and message at Bethel Neighborhood Center in Kansas City, KS, on each 5th Friday evening. The first one is coming up on Friday, January 31. We will meet at the church and leave in the church van no later than 4:00pm. The other 5th Friday dates are May 29th, July 31st and October 30th. Please consider helping with this fun and fulfilling ministry. If you have questions, please contact Jim Goodnow at 246-1807 or jim.goodnow@sbcglobal.net.

SUPPER BOWL WATCH PARTY - Come watch the Super Bowl with us! Pre-game chili feed will start at 4:30 pm on February 2 in Fellowship Hall. Chili, crackers, cheese and onions will be provided. If you prefer other chili fixings, feel free to bring it. We will move up to Holmer Hall to watch the game. Bring your favorite snacks for the game. Most importantly, bring a guest to watch the game with us.



CHOIR CHANGES - All who enjoy singing and have some available time to spend learning music are invited to join the Choir on **Wednesday's at 7:00 pm**. Contact our Choir Director, Matt Smith at (785) 230-6442 if you have any questions or songs you would like to sing.



AGAPE BENEVOLENCE FUND -

We receive a benevolence offering for persons in need the **first Sunday of each month after the Lord's Supper**. These funds are shared with members and neighborhood. Please see the Pastor, Church Office, or the Moderator to complete an Application for Assistance.

It is more blessed to give than to receive.

Acts 20:35
(American Standard Version)

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.



4th Ophelia Hammond
8th David Greuter
8th Nadine Manley
10th Skyler Walters
11th Macy Greuter
14th Reanna Campbell
23rd Markayla Calloway
25th Matt Smith
26th Tony Carreno
29th Colleen Smith

HOSPITAL &

EMERGENCIES - If you or a loved one go to the hospital for an emergency or surgery, **the hospital staff and chaplains' office will NOT contact the Church Office or the**

Pastor. You or a family member must call the Church Office at (785) 233-4241 or Pastor's home at (785) 267-0936. The pastor is willing to visit the hospital and pray before surgeries. Pastor will not be able to visit when his children or he is sick.



ANNIVERSARY & BIRTHDAY CARDS -

Pastor sends lots of cards each month. If you have not received an anniversary or birthday card, then please call the Office with your date. Please donate anniversary and birthday cards to the Church.



Doorstep

February is a busy month for Doorstep! We have **SouperBowl Sunday, February 2nd** where we ask our member congregations to collect soup and crackers to help stock our food pantry! **Our goal for 2020 is 3 ton... 6,000 pounds!** Last year's goal was 4 ton, and we fell short, receiving 5,382 pounds. So, let's shoot for increasing last year's total to 6,000!! Watch for sales and bring donations to your congregation, or to Doorstep directly! You have exceeded the goal in the past ~ Let's do it again!

The month of February brings cold weather, and what is better on a cold day than hot soup and chili! One of Doorstep's major fundraisers, **Operation Soup Line**, is in its 17th year! Mark your calendars for **Tuesday, February 25th**. We will have lunch and carry out available this year. As always, we will offer delivery on orders of 10 or more from 11am – 1:30pm. We will have celebrity servers, entertainment, and the theme basket silent auction. Food will be available from 11:00am – 2:00pm.

Ticket price is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under. You will receive your choice of soup or chili, dessert and a drink. We hope you will plan to attend and support Doorstep's fundraiser by coming to the Ag Hall on February 25th! The funds raised at this event are used to help our neighbors in need with emergency services, and agency needs throughout the year.

Finally, **Thank You** to everyone who participated in **Doorstep's Christmas Store** this past December! With the Store and the After Store we ended up providing gifts and food to **277 households with 883 individuals!** We could not have accomplished this without the help of dedicated volunteers and donors who wanted to help their neighbors in need at Christmastime!

Hy-Vee Reusable Red Bag Program – Doorstep has been selected as the recipient of funds for all bags sold at the Topeka Location in February! Doorstep receives \$1 for each bag purchased!!



LET'S HELP Free Community Lunches and Food Pantry

Free hot meals Monday through Friday to anyone in our community who finds themselves needing a hot meal.

- Food pantry for emergency needs and food boxes for our neighbors.
- We serve 89,000 meals annually in our downtown Topeka lunchroom with the help of hundreds of volunteers, providing nearly 15,000 volunteer hours each year.
- Community Lunch Hours: 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday 9:30-10:30 a.m. on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month
- We serve nearly 7,000 people through our food pantry every year, handing out more than 100,000 pounds of food annually.

LET'S HELP Comprehensive Emergency Services

- Rent or utility payments to help people stay in their homes, keep the lights and water on, and avoid eviction.
- Help buying prescription medications or getting tooth extractions so that no one has to choose between feeding their children or following their doctor's recommendations.
- Annually, we give more than \$160,000 in financial help for rent, utilities and medical expenses.

Valentine Wordsearch

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



cupid
love
rose
flower

candy
friend
red
pink

heart
February
chocolate
mine



★☆☆★
★ Presidents' Day ★

Groundhog Day Word Search

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

CLOUDY	FORECAST	PREDICT	SUNNY
EARLY	GROUNDHOG	SHADOW	WEATHER
FEBRUARY	HIBERNATE	SPRING	WINTER



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For "whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." [Romans 10:13](#)



Little Groundhog
(tune of I'm a little teapot)



I'm a little groundhog,
sleeping in my hole.
Will I see my shadow?
Only I will know.



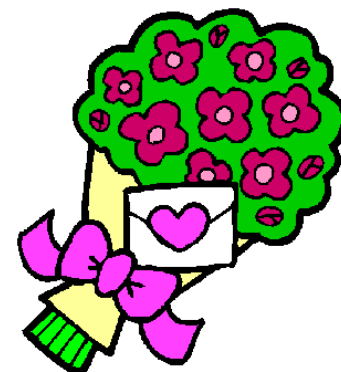
If I see my shadow,
more winter it will be.
More cold and snowy days,
for you and for me!

Crystal McGraw 2017

Valentine's Day Word Search

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

candy
card
chocolate
cuddle
flowers
friend
heart



hugs
kisses
love
roses
smooch
snuggle



February 2020

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

						1 1 pm Worship Team
2 9:15 am Sun. School 10:30 am Worship 2:00 pm Supper Bowl	3 9 am Baby Closet	4 5:30 pm Ladies Night Out @ Margarita Jalisco 5:30 pm Men's Night Out @ Jimmy John's	5 10:30 am Bible Study 3:30 pm Food Pantry 5 pm Baby Closet 5:30 pm WWW Kids Bible Club 7 pm Choir	6 1 pm Baby Closet	7	8 1 pm Worship Team
9 9:15 am Sun. School 10:30 am Worship	10 9 am Baby Closet	11 6 pm Council Meeting 6 pm Men's Chorus	12 10:30 am Bible Study 3:30 pm Food Pantry 5 pm Baby Closet 5:30 pm WWW Kids Bible Club 7 pm Choir	13 1 pm Baby Closet	14	15 1 pm Worship Team
16 9:15 am Sun. School 10:30 am Worship	17 9 am Baby Closet	18 6 pm Men's Chorus	19 10:30 am Bible Study 3:30 pm Food Pantry 5 pm Baby Closet 5:30 pm No WWW Kids Bible Club 7 pm Choir	20 1 pm Baby Closet	21	22 1 pm Worship Team
23 9:15 am Sun. School 10:30 am Worship	24 9 am Baby Closet 6:00 pm DAR Daughters American Revolution	25 6 pm Outreach & Evangelism Meeting 6 pm Men's Chorus	26 10:30 am Bible Study 3:30 pm Food Pantry 5 pm Baby Closet 5:30 pm WWW Kids Bible Club 7 pm Choir	27 1 pm Baby Closet 6:00 pm NIA Meeting	28	29 1 pm Worship Team

West Side Baptist Church
1008 SW Fourth Street
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www.wsbctopeka.org
RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED

The Witness is published monthly *free of charge* at 1008 SW 4th St., Topeka Kansas, 66606. Submission deadlines is the third Tuesday of each month to office@wsbctopeka.org. The Rev. Dr. Ivan E. Greuter, Senior Minister. Lynda Cokeley, Secretary and Editor, reserves the right to edit submissions for content and publication spacing. Send address corrections and subscription requests to West Side Baptist Church, 1008 SW 4th St., Topeka, KS 66606. Phone: (785) 233-4241. Fax: (785) 233-1988 Hours: 8:00 am – 4:30 pm , Tuesday – Friday.

RIDE TO CHURCH - If you or your children would like a ride to/from a worship **call Harry Carpenter, Bus Driver at (785) 608-3937 [no text messages] on Saturday.** The van leaves at 8:15 AM on Sunday mornings for Sunday School. Volunteers are needed to ride along with our driver to transport children on Sundays and Wednesdays. See Harry Carpenter for more information or to volunteer.

WORSHIP LEADERS: FEBRUARY

Acolytes – Becky Poe and Aaron Poe

Communion Servers in Service – See Brice Smith, Coordinator for Worship

Communion Homebound Ministers - See Pastor Ivan to Sign-Up

Scripture Readers – See Brice Smith, Coordinator for Worship

Technology Team – Tom Mansfield, Brice Smith, and Bruno Sprengs

Ushers – Mark Arnold, Don Johnson, Steve May, Clarence Payne, John Swain