

THE NEWSLETTER OF WEST SIDE BAPTIST CHURCH OF TOPEKA, KS

The Witness

MARCH 2020 VOL 106 #3

SACRIFICE YOURSELF THIS LENTEN SEASON

Pastor's Corner - Years ago, a friend asked me, "What are you giving up this Lent?" I was a little lost. I knew Lent was approaching but I had not prepared for it. The forty-day observance before Easter was a part of my religious upbringing. We were taught that Christians used this time to reflect upon Christ's temptation, his suffering, and his sacrifice.

Then, I was told to "give something up to show your willingness to sacrifice for the Lord." I never understood why we had to *give something up*. Yes, I understood sacrificing something to the Lord as an act of self-discipline (like food during a fast) but I didn't understand why it was only one thing, like soda, coffee, or sarcasm (I will never do that again!) when Jesus' invitation was discipleship is a call to sacrifice everything earthly for the kingdom of heaven. So, I must confess: most of the time, I have skipped this Lenten tradition.

The reason I have sacrificed the symbolic sacrificing something is Lent becomes another season of "self-centeredness." It has become: *I* give up something *I* like to show that *I* can sacrifice for God; not imitating Christ who sacrificed himself for us. The season of self-examination, self-reflection, self-discipline, has become self-centered which is the opposite reason Lent exists.

So, this year, I have decided to give something up for Lent: **self!** We all know the hardest thing to give up is focusing on ourselves! So, instead of giving up coffee this year, I will give up *drinking coffee by myself*. I am not going to give up chocolate but stop eating it all by yourself.

What would be different about this Lenten Season if we focused on the Cross (God's work for us) instead of our sacrifice for God?

Sacrificial Blessings,
Pastor Ivan

LENT & HOLY WEEK SERVICES



ASH WEDNESDAY - February 26, 2020: The start of the 40-day season of answering God's call to discipleship, transformation, conversion, repentance, and *metanoia* (metamorphosis) in preparation for Easter.



PALM SUNDAY - April 5, 2020: The day Christians commemorate Jesus Christ's Parade into Jerusalem with palm branches and shouts of praise. Palm Sunday is the first day of Holy Passion Week.

WORSHIP WITH US!

THE LENTEN SEASON

Ash Wednesday (Feb. 26)

**Until Easter Sunday
(April 12, 2020)**

- ♦ **MARCH 1 - LENT #1**
Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7
Psalm 32
Romans 5:12-19
Matthew 4:1-11
- ♦ **MARCH 8 - LENT #2**
Genesis 12:1-4a
Psalm 121
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17
John 3:1-17
- ♦ **MARCH 15 - LENT #3**
Exodus 17:1-7
Psalm 95
Romans 5:1-11
John 4:5-42
- ♦ **MARCH 22 - LENT #4**
1 Samuel 16:1-13
Psalm 23
Ephesians 5:8-14
John 9:1-41
- ♦ **MARCH 29 - LENT #5**
Ezekiel 37:1-14
Psalm 130
Romans 8:6-11
John 11:1-45



Maundy Thursday - April 9, 2020:

Maundy means "Command," the day we remember Christ's command to his disciples to wash one another's feet and celebrate The Last Supper (Holy Communion). Potwin Presbyterian Church will host an evening Agape Feast. Watch for more details.



Good Friday - April 10, 2020: A day of prayer and fasting in solemn remembrance of Jesus Christ's crucifixion and death. Evening service hosted by Westside Christian Church.



Easter Sunday - April 12, 2020: The joyous service of Jesus' Resurrection from the dead. The day begins with an ecumenical Communion Sunrise service in Old Prairie Town/Ward Meade Park. The sun is predicted to rise at 6:50 am on Easter Sunday.

CHURCH FINANCES REPORT – JAN. 2020

Our income for January was \$36,995.64. This total includes:

1. \$14,577.02 - offerings
2. \$7,940.00 - our annual distribution from the Topeka Community Foundation (Hill and Wooten estate gifts)
3. \$954.00 - Memorials (Plankinton, Merrifield and Allbert)
4. \$85.87 - Youth Funds
5. \$13,438.75 - a contribution deposited directly to Wells Fargo investment account.

Our expenses for January were \$20,918.00 making our net income for the first month of the year more than \$16,077.64

The checking account total is \$56,139.97. This includes the monies in the Outreach, Baby Closet and WWW grants along with monies collected for the new building fund/Capital Campaign.

Let me know if you have any questions. Thanks.

~ Nancy Lindberg, Treasurer

EASTER FLOWERS – The deadline for ordering Easter Flowers is Monday, March 9. Please make sure your form is in the office by then. I will be calling in the order Tuesday morning, March 10.



MOVIE NIGHT - Come put your mind in the Easter Spirit with the movie "King of Kings" on March 6th from 6 to 9 pm. Popcorn will be provided. Please invite a guest.

Jack Janway, Outreach

OUTREACH AND EVANGELISM -Get involved! Consider joining the Outreach and Evangelism Committee. We need people to plan, organize and run the many activities we do. Would you like to be in charge of the Easter Egg hunt, or parking lot sale, a movie or game night? Or would you be willing to help? Do you have a new idea for a new activity that will attract people to our church? If interested, please contact Jack Janway for information.



FOOD PANTRY - The Free Fruit & Vegetable Food Pantry is now open every **Wednesday from 3:30 to 5:30 pm.** Call the Church Office at (785) 233-4241 for more information. **IDENTIFICATION REQUIRED EVERY VISIT:** Clients MUST provide a PHOTO I.D. with current address (including apartment number, if applicable). If the address is incorrect, the client must provide a piece of US POSTAL MAIL with name and current address. Clients without identification must see Program Supervisor. Call the Church Office at (785) 233-4241 for more information. Equal Opportunity. *All food is available at no cost. **We need empty egg cartons and reusable bags.** See Jack Janway for more information or details about volunteering.



MISSION MOMENTS

"Who is my neighbor?" We will be collecting the America for Christ offering in March. **Our goal is \$1,500.** The theme for this year is "Love your neighbor as yourself". In the coming weeks we will learn how our past contributions have gone to help children in poverty, helped rebuild and renew Puerto Rico, helped organizations resettle displaced persons, provided scholarships, mobilized volunteers, and empowered Community Outreach Ministries. Please give generously as we continue to help our neighbors in need!

Congratulations to Jessa Greuter! Jessa will be going to Israel in May with a group from Ottawa University. Also, she has been accepted into the Young Adult Special Project sponsored by International Ministries. She has received grant money and will be doing mission work in Mexico for 6 weeks this summer with missionaries, Keith and Debbie Myers.

We are planning a mission trip to the Murrow Indian Children's Home in Muskogee, Oklahoma from June 1-4. They are in need of people to help organize storage areas, do yard work and perform simple maintenance tasks. No special skills required! Please contact Jim Goodnow at 246-1807 or jim.goodnow@sbcglobal.net if you have questions or if you would like to go. The signup deadline is May 1st.



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. 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

DOORSTEP is in need of the following items for the clothing room:

Diapers Sizes 5 and 6 and Wipes
Comforters and Blankets sizes Full, Queen and King
Men's Jeans – All Sizes
Small Kitchen Appliances (Not New) – can openers, toasters, crock pots, etc.

Doorstep is open for donations Monday – Friday from 8am – 3pm.

We are at 1119 SW 10th Avenue (10th & Buchanan)

Please do not leave donations outside our building when we are closed they become a parking lot mess.



*Thank you,
Lisa Cain*

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. 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.

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.



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.



Happy Anniversary

26th Bob & Jill Roesler

2nd Brian Hunter
3rd Laura Carrier
3rd Jill Roesler
4th Aaron Hunter
8th Nathan Poe
12th Caroline Carrier
12th Don Johnson
16th Rexanne Greuter
20th Tera Triggs
21st Shelby Hersh
22nd Janice Kirby
22nd Trena Ansell
27th Wally Goodnow
29th Kate Olsen



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.



REMINDER: Always remember if USD 501 cancels school for inclement weather on a Wednesday, WWW will also be cancelled.

REMINDER: WWW will **not** meet March 11, 2020 due to Spring Break.



LEPRECHAUN

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

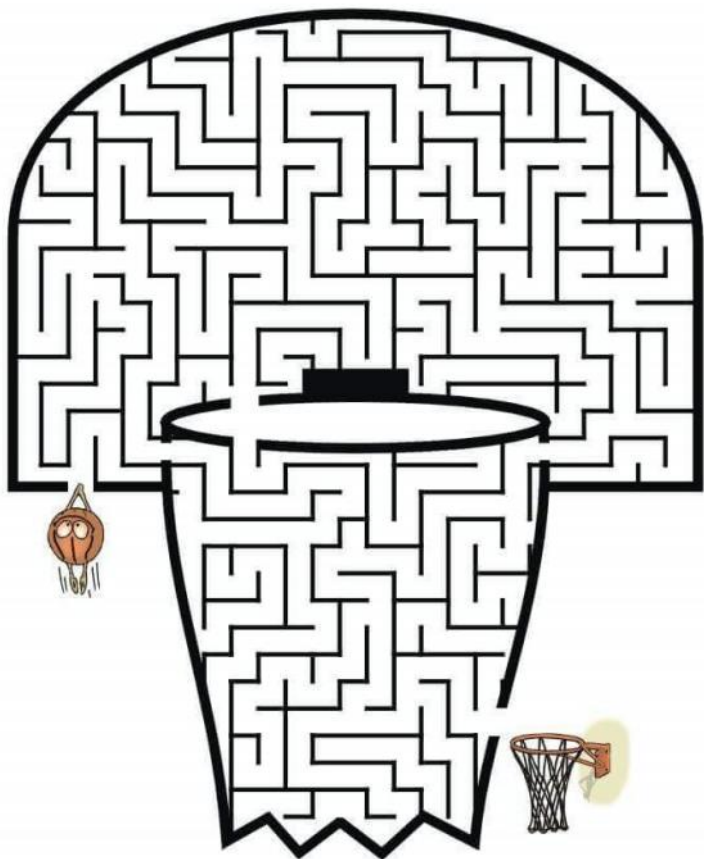
Start Over

Presented by theKidzpage.com

Word List

SAINT
PATRICK
IRISH
BLARNEY
BLESSING
EMERALD
LEPRECHAUN
GOLD
GREEN
IRELAND
LIMERICK
MAGIC
PARADE
RAINBOW
SHAMROCK
LUCKY
WISH
FAIRY
MARCH
PARTY
CLOVER
POT
SNAKES

Trust
Never put a question mark
where the Lord has put a period.



Name: _____

Date: _____

Feeling Grateful

Word Search

What are YOU thankful for on Thanksgiving Day and all the other days of the year? Here are a few ideas to get you started.

ANIMALS
BED
BIRTHDAY
BOOKS
CARS
CHALLENGES
DAD
EARTH
FAMILY
FLOWERS
GRANDPARENTS
HEALTH
HEARING
HEART
HOME
ICE CREAM
JOKES
LAUGHTER
LUNGS
MOM
MOON
MUSIC
NATURE
OXYGEN
POPCORN

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

RAIN
READING
SCHOOL
SHOES
SIGHT
SMELL

STARS
SUNSHINE
TASTE
TEACHER
TOUCH
VACATION



March 2020

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	2 9:00 am Baby Closet	3 5:30 pm Ladies Night Out @ Red Robin 5:30 pm Men's Night Out @ Freddy's 6:00 pm Men's Chorus Lynda Vacation	4 10:30 am Bible Study 3:30 pm Harvester's 5:00 pm Baby Closet 5:30 pm WWW 7:00 pm Choir Lynda Vacation	5 1:00 pm Baby Closet Lynda Vacation	6 Lynda Vacation	7 1:00 pm Worship Team
8 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 	9 9:00 am Baby Closet Pastor Vacation	10 6:00 pm Council Members Mtg 6:00 pm Men's Chorus Pastor Vacation	11 10:30 am No Bible Study 3:30 pm No Harvester's 5:00 pm Baby Closet 5:30 pm No WWW 7:00 pm Choir Pastor Vacation	12 1:00 pm Baby Closet Pastor Vacation	13 Pastor Vacation	14 1:00 pm Worship Team Pastor Vacation
15 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship (Guest Speaker) 2:00 pm Missions Mtg	16 9:00 am Baby Closet	17 6:00 pm Men's Chorus	18 10:30 am Bible Study 3:30 pm Harvester's 5:00 pm Baby Closet 5:30 pm WWW 7:00 pm Choir	19 1:00 pm Baby Closet	20	21 1:00 pm Worship Team
22 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	23 9:00 am Baby Closet 6:00 pm DAR	24 6:00 pm Outreach Meeting 6:00 pm Men's Chorus	25 10:30 am No Bible Study 3:30 pm Harvester's 5:00 pm Baby Closet 5:30 pm WWW 7:00 pm Choir	26 1:00 pm Baby Closet 6:00 pm NIA	27	28 1:00 pm Worship Team
29 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	30 9:00 am Baby Closet	31 6:00 pm Men's Chorus				

West Side Baptist Church
1008 SW Fourth Street
Topeka, KS 66606
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: MARCH

Acolytes – Pat Carpenter and Nathan Poe

Communion Servers in Service – Harry & Pat Carpenter

Communion Homebound Ministers - See Pastor Ivan to Sign-Up

Scripture Readers – Pat Carpenter

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

Ushers – Chuck Cozad, Steve May, Aaron Poe, John Swain

