

THE NEWSLETTER OF WEST SIDE BAPTIST CHURCH OF TOPEKA, KS

The Witness

SEPTEMBER 2020 | VOL 106 #9

FAITH: THE IRON RAIL SUPPORT FOR HOPE

***“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for,
the evidence of things not seen.” Hebrews 11:1***

Pastor’s Corner - Bernard M. Baruch tells a story about a man sentenced to death by a powerful king. Begging for his life, the prisoner made a promise the emperor could not refuse: the man would receive a reprieve if he could teach his majesty's horse to fly within the year. If he did not succeed, he would be put to death at the end of the year.

When asked by a witness if he believed it was possible to teach the horse to fly as promised, the man relied, “I hope!” “Anything could happen within a year,” he said. “The king may die, or I may die, or the horse may die. Furthermore, in a year, who knows? Maybe the horse will learn to fly.”

2020 has taught us one thing: we all need hope - the unwavering confidence that God will cause good things will happen in our lives or for the wider world because He is good and working in mighty ways.

One of my hopes this year was growing a few cucumbers. This past spring, I bought seeds, planted them, fertilized the seedlings, and I made sure they had a good support - an iron rail fence. Experience taught me the vines grow higher and healthier with a support system. When I planted the seeds this past spring, all I saw was the dirt and the iron rail fence. I dreamed about the vines covering the fence and harvesting lots of produce by autumn. Slowly the vines grew until now, I have to move all of the leaves and vines to see the fence. And as you can imagine, I have too much produce for one family!

For me, hope grows like the cucumber vines: on the unseen support system of our faith, the Lord. Without the Lord, who can hope?

The well-known English author, G.K. Chesterton, once wrote, “Hope means hoping when things are hopeless, or it is no virtue at all...As long as matters are really hopeful, hope is mere flattery or platitude; it is only when everything is hopeless that hope begins to be a strength.” (Quoted in Signs of the Times, April 1993, p. 6)

We all can agree: *anything could happen within a year!* The pandemic could be over, the church could be back to normal, or maybe horses will learn to fly. We do not know, but we can hope! By the way, call if you need any cucumbers. Autumn Blessings!

Pastor Ivan



THE SEASON AFTER PENTECOST

- ♦ **SEPT. 6 - COMMUNION**
The Message: “God Delights in the Praise of His People”
Psalm 149
- ♦ **SEPTEMBER 13**
The Message: “Saved Through the Waters”
Exodus 15:1-11, 20-21
- ♦ **SEPTEMBER 20**
The Message: “God’s Mercies Are New Every Morning”
Exodus 16:2-15
- ♦ **SEPTEMBER 27**
The Message: “God’s Work is Bubbling Inside of Us”
Exodus 17:1-7
Philippians 2:1-13

WORSHIP WITH US!

WEDNESDAY MORNING **BIBLE STUDY**

10:30 AM

- ♦ **Sept. 02** **Matthew 24**
- ♦ **Sept. 09** **Matthew 25**
- ♦ **Sept. 16** **Matthew 26**
- ♦ **Sept. 23** **Matthew 27**
- ♦ **Sept. 30** **Matthew 28**

CHURCH FINANCES - Our income for July was \$14,767 and our income total to date is \$120,348.06 or 50.72%. July budget is at 58.33%. July was a big month for receipt of memorial gifts with a total of \$5,165.

Our expenses for July totaled \$25,171.70 and total for the year is \$146,842.05. We pay our van insurance once a year and it was paid in July. The insurance bill was \$597.22, which was under the \$650 budgeted.

Our net income to date is -\$25,864.00.

Our checking account balance at the end of July was \$10,131.81. We have \$28,262.18 designated for the new building fund.

Let me know if you have any questions. Thanks.

Nancy Lindberg, Treasurer

PASTOR'S SCHEDULE/ DAY OFF

The Pastoral Relations Committee approved Pastor Ivan's request to move his "Day Off" to Mondays starting September 1 to help his family with virtual schoolwork (David and Macy will attend school online for the start of the semester). He will telecommute (work remotely) until the end of August. Please speak with Pastor or Pat Carpenter if you have any concerns or questions. The Church Office will be closed on Mondays starting in September.



ABCCR ANNUAL GATHERING "A NEW THING – A NEW WAY"

Our denomination's regional judicatory will hold its Annual Gathering Business Meeting on **Tuesday, September 29, at 7:00 pm via Zoom**. Congratulations to Trena Ansell and Pat Carpenter for being elected as WSBC's Voting Delegates. Delegates will be notified in September of the Zoom instructions and will be provided the documents which will be presented for a vote. Find information at <https://abCCR.org/2020annualgathering>.



NEWS FROM CHRISTIAN EDUCATION -

We want to thank everyone that has participated in Summer Sunday School Cinema. The food, fellowship, movie, and discussions have all been exceptionally good! Thank you!!!

We are still planning on "regular" Sunday School beginning Sept. 13 @ 9:15 with just a few adjustments. The Middle School Class will meet upstairs with Fran and Pat. The High School Class will meet downstairs with Pastor Ivan and Tera. The adults are invited to meet in Holmer Hall where Jack Janway will lead a study and discussion of a video series entitled, "Letters of the Revelation" by D.A. Horton with Brandon D. Smith. We hope to see you on the 13th.

**Growing
Together
in Faith**

Two other reminders:

The Women's Class that meets by Zoom on Tuesdays @ 4:00 pm will continue, and there will be **NO** Sunday School on 9/6/20 (Labor Day Weekend).

Alice Payne, Coordinator of Christian Ed

FOOD PANTRY - Free Fruit and Vegetable Food Pantry on **Wednesdays from 3:30 to 5:30 pm, while supplies last.**



MOBILE SITE: enter western PARKING LOT from 4th and CLAY Streets; do not park or exit your vehicle. Equal Opportunity. *All food is available at no cost. **Please wear a mask or face covering to protect the health and safety of our volunteers. Volunteers are needed to serve through the month of August.**

~ Jack Janway, Outreach

GIVING – Thank you for giving generously during the Coronavirus (COVID 19) national crisis. Please mail your gifts to the Church, drop off in the secure mailbox, or give **ONLINE** at <https://west-side-baptist-church.square.site>.

Online Giving



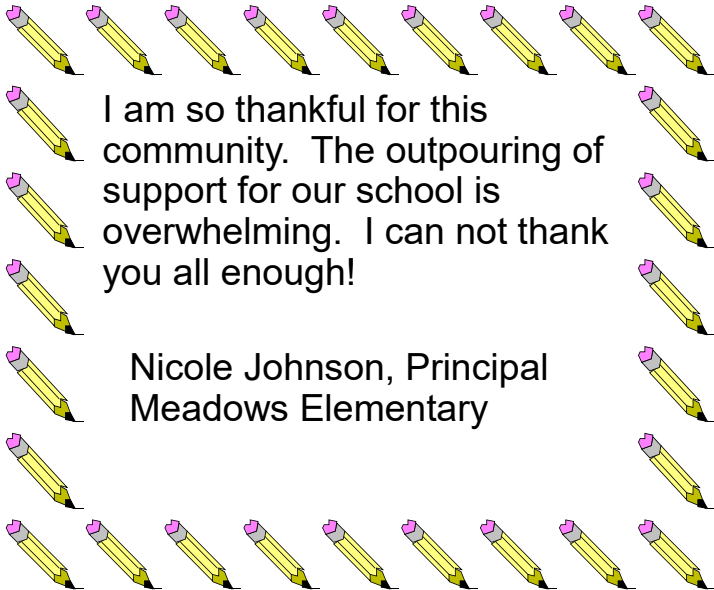
ONLINE WORSHIP

- Stay Safe at Home but Pray with the Church! Join us

ONLINE for WORSHIP on Sundays at 10:30 am. The service bulletin with songs is on our website under downloads. All services will be broadcast LIVE on **FACEBOOK AND YOUTUBE.**

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 people in need. Please see the Pastor, Church Office, or the Moderator to complete an Application for Assistance.

be
KIND
TO OTHERS.



I am so thankful for this community. The outpouring of support for our school is overwhelming. I can not thank you all enough!

Nicole Johnson, Principal
Meadows Elementary



Back to School

EMERGENCIES & HOSPITAL COVID UPDATE

- If you or a loved one go to the hospital for an emergency or surgery, the hospital will NOT allow visitors - including clergy - at this time unless it is a life-and-death situation. The 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 call the Pastor at Home (785) 267-0936. The Pastor is willing to visit the hospital and pray before surgeries



DOORSTEP - EMERGENCY NEEDS:

Food, Clothing, Rent, Prescriptions, Utilities

Transportation (local gas vouchers/bus tickets)

Who we help: Whether they've lost everything in a house fire or are living alone with a disability, Doorstep's up-front emergency services are for those who require assistance with critical needs while they wait for additional aid. We don't impose income guidelines for emergency services, though most of our neighbors who use these services are at or below the poverty line.

SHORT-TERM NEEDS

Food: Once every eight weeks; this is intended to provide three meals for five days

Clothing: Once every two weeks

Rent: One time per 12-month period

Transportation (local gas vouchers/bus tickets): Vouchers available two times per 12-month period

Prescriptions: Two times per 12-month period (\$150 cap)

Utilities: One time per 12-month period

Who we help: Short-term assistance is designed to help those recovering from sudden loss of employment or health-related issues. These solutions are designed to help our neighbors get back on their feet rather than cope with long-term needs.



**ABWCR PROJECT 2019-2020
PARENTING FOR LOVE -AMOS HEALTH & HOPE
Nicaragua (Dr. Laura Parajon)**

This year's ABWCR Project is to support the development of training materials to empower local volunteer Mother leaders to facilitate breastfeeding, parent-child bonding, and early childhood stimulation, decreasing the long-term negative impact on their children and families. Our central region goal is \$35,000.



As of the close of the May books, the total raised was \$9,531.58.

Considering the current COVID-19 situation, it is awesome to have raised 27% of our goal. The close of the June books will reveal an even higher percentage. However, we are a long way from our \$35,000 goal and have only two months to reach that goal.

These times are certainly different from other years we have experienced a shortfall at this time of the year. During the project for 2014-2015, we were also at a great shortage of making our goal. God makes miracles happen. During the last two months of that project period, the women of the central region donated over \$18,000 of the \$32,200 goal, putting the project \$6,000 over the goal. We have always put a lot of monies forward in donations during the last two months. Why do we procrastinate so much? Maybe we all do not realize the shortfall. Or perhaps this year, we are all focused more on 'stay at home' matters and are monies are short because our rallies have not occurred.

You CAN make a difference —with or without a rally. You can make a gift directly to the ABWCR Project by making a check payable to ABCCR, noting ABW Project on your memo line and sending it to the Region Office:

ABCCR - ABW Project
5833 SW 29th St, Ste A
Topeka KS 66614

Rita will make sure your gift is credited to this year's project.

Won't you please help us get closer to, meet, and maybe even exceed our goal?

Thank you. Patty Hodge, Project Chair

Mary Etta Copeland, Coordinator of Mission & Service Ministries

Domestic Violence Prevention and Education Virtual Training

September 12, 2020

1PM-3PM EDT

American Baptist Women's Ministries is partnering with Safe Haven Ministries for a Domestic Violence Prevention and Education virtual training. This training will enable clergy, church leaders, community groups, and domestic violence educators to come together in a safe and intentional manner to learn ways to support and aid those in their communities that are suffering from Domestic Violence. Participants will gain knowledge, insight, and skills useful in addressing and preventing domestic violence.



Topics Covered

- Biblical Exploration of Violence
- Defining Domestic Violence
- Characteristics of an Abuser
- COVID-19 and its impact of Domestic Violence
- Supporting Victims & Safety Planning



9th Ivan Greuter
 11th Tom Mansfield
 13th Mark Arnold
 14th Alice Kieffer
 15th James Carrier
 16th Marty Stevenson
 19th Helen Farrar
 25th Gerald Haney
 26th Clarence Payne
 28th Betty Arnold
 30th Selena Jaimez
 30th Lonna Hersh



DIRECTIONS: Find and circle the vocabulary words in the grid. Look for them in all directions including backwards and diagonally.

Apple Word Search



BASKET
 BITE
 CIDER
 COBBLER
 CORE
 CRISP
 CRUNCHY
 FRETTERS
 GOLDEN
 GREEN
 HARVEST
 JUICE
 LEAVES
 ORCHARD

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



PEEL
 PICK
 PIE
 RED
 SEEDS

SLICE
 SWEET
 TREE
 VARIETY
 WORM

September

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

		1 5:30 pm No Ladies Night Out 5:30 pm No Men's Night Out	2 10:30 am Bible Study 3:30 pm Harvester's 5:00 pm Baby Closet	3 1:00 pm Baby Closet	4	5 1:30 pm Worship Team
6 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	7 9:00 am Baby Closet LABOR DAY 	8 6:00 pm Council Mtg 6:00 pm Men's Chorus	9 10:30 am Bible Study 3:30 pm Harvester's 5:00 pm Baby Closet	10 1:00 pm Baby Closet	11 	12 1:30 pm Worship Team
13 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 	14 9:00 am Baby Closet	15 6:00 pm Men's Chorus	16 10:30 am Bible Study 3:30 pm Harvester's 5:00 pm Baby Closet	17 1:00 pm Baby Closet	18	19 1:30 pm Worship Team
20 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 2:00 pm Mission Mtg	21 9:00 am Baby Closet	22 6:00 pm Outreach Mtg 	23 10:30 am Bible Study 3:30 pm Harvester's 5:00 pm Baby Closet	24 1:00 pm Baby Closet	25	26 1:30 pm Worship Team
27 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	28 9:00 am Baby Closet 6:00 pm DAR	29 6:00 pm Men's Chorus	30 10:30 am Bible Study No Harvester's 5:00 pm Baby Closet			

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: SEPTEMBER

Acolytes – Jessa Greuter, David Greuter

Scripture Readers – Karen Kirby

Technology Team – Brice Smith, and Bruno Sprengs

Usher's - Chuck Cozad, Doug Mauck, Dick May, Steve May, Aaron Poe

September



LEARNING is FUN!