

THE NEWSLETTER OF WEST SIDE BAPTIST CHURCH OF TOPEKA, KS

# The Witness

OCTOBER 2020 | VOL 106 #10

## ***TOMORROW WILL TAKE CARE OF ITSELF***

***“Do not worry about tomorrow,” said Jesus.  
“Tomorrow will take care of its. Each day had enough  
trouble of its own” (Matthew 6:34)***

**Pastor's Corner** - Who among us are not thinking about tomorrow, next week, next month, next year, or when this pandemic is over? We are all dreaming about “what we will do when we will get back to normal.” Daydreaming and hoping for a better future is a natural part of our human experience. The problem arises when we become fixed on the future rather than living in the moment. We can all agree, we want this experience past us, but only God knows when that is going to happen!

The global crisis has taught me to confess I have no idea what is going to happen next. When I focus on the future - especially my negative thoughts about “what’s next?” - then I am filled with dread and worry. That is why Jesus’ words have become real for me: enjoy today; no one knows about tomorrow.

Six times in his sermon on the mount, Jesus tells his followers “do not worry” (Greek *me merimnate*): (1) about your life (v. 25), (2) about your bodies (v. 25), (3) about your clothes (v. 28), (4) about what you will eat (v. 31), (5) do not worry about what you will drink (v. 31), or (6) about tomorrow. **The phrase literally means** “take no thought” about - do not be double-minded or bifurcated (split in two). This is why contemporary Christian writer, Eugene Peterson, translated the verse: “Give your entire attention to what God is doing right now, and don’t get worked up about what may or may not happen tomorrow. God will help you deal with whatever hard things come up when the time comes.

Henri J.M. Nouwen, “I also came to see that I should not worry about tomorrow, next week, next year, or the next century. The more willing I was to look honestly at what I was thinking and saying and doing now, the more easily I would come into touch with the movement of God’s Spirit in me, leading me to the future” (**In the Name of Jesus: Reflections on Christian Leadership**, p. 13).

What we are called to do every day—regardless of calm or crisis—is to practice contemplative presence: finding God’s presence and movement in the now (today). We need to ask the questions: What good happened today? Where did I sense God’s presence right now? What can I be thankful for today? Being mindful of God’s presence among us today reminds us His faithfulness tomorrow.

Harvest Blessings!  
Pastor Ivan



## **THE SEASON AFTER PENTECOST**

- ♦ **OCTOBER 4 - WORLD  
COMMUNION SUNDAY**  
The Message:  
**“Under Pressure”**  
Philippians 3:4-14
- ♦ **OCTOBER 11**  
The Message:  
**“United We Stand”**  
Philippians 4:1-13
- ♦ **OCTOBER 18**  
The Message: **“Serving a  
Living and True God”**  
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10
- ♦ **OCTOBER 25**  
**REFORMATION SUNDAY**  
The Message:  
**“The Gospel of God”**  
1 Thessalonians 2:1-8
- ♦ **NOVEMBER 1**  
**ALL SAINTS SUNDAY**  
The Message:  
**“Eager to See You  
Face to Face”**  
1 Thessalonians 2:9-20

**WEDNESDAY MORNING**  
**BIBLE STUDY**  
**10:30 AM**

## OUR CHURCH FINANCES -

Our income for August was \$18,900.91 and our income total to date is \$139,248.97. August budget percentage is at 58.68%. August had five Sundays which made the month of giving the largest for the year. January total income was the only one larger because of our annual distribution from the Topeka Community Foundation.

Our expenses for August totaled \$17,959.61 and total for the year is \$164,800.28. August budget percentage for expenses is at 62.63%.

Our net income to date is -\$25,551.31. We will be transferring \$25,564.00 from the Wells Fargo endowment revenue budgeted for 2020. Once transferred the budgeted difference will be +\$12.69.

At the end of August our checking account total was \$11,081.68. We currently have \$28,802.18 in checking designated for the building fund. Other funds in the checking account include \$4,692.46 – Youth fund; \$2,600.00 – Outreach fund; and \$2,485.79 – Baby Closet.

Memorials Committee Report – The Memorials Committee recommended Gil McCurdy's memorial gifts of \$597.00 be used for a new camera and video capture device for the sanctuary. The committee also recommended Ken Paslay's memorial gifts of \$609 be used to help replace the van's power step. The \$500 remainder of the van repair is a budgeted expense. The council approved both recommendations.

Let me know if you have any questions. Thanks.  
Nancy Lindberg, Treasurer



**MISSION MOMENTS - WORLD MISSION OFFERING.** We will be collecting the World Mission Offering in October. Our goal is \$1500. I want to extend a huge "Thank You" to all of you for your generous giving to the special offerings this year. I pray that God will richly bless you as you continue to seek His will in your words, actions and giving!



**WHAT IS THE WORLD MISSION OFFERING?** Every September and October, individuals and congregations come together for a time of awareness, advocacy, and action for global mission. Thousands across the country celebrate and support the ministries that God is using to transform the world. This is the World Mission Offering and gifts can be received every month.

For the 2020 World Mission Offering, we are highlighting the Ministry Priorities of Discipleship, Theological Education, Peace and Justice, Education, Health and Wellness, and Economic Development. While these represent only a fraction of IM's ministries, they provide a window into what God is doing worldwide through our 125 global servants, 900+ volunteers, home staff, and 250+ international partners.

Jim Goodnow, Mission Coordinator



**DOORSTEP IS LOW ON OR OUT OF SOME FOOD AND HYGIENE ITEMS, AND CAN OPENERS.**

**Food items needed are:**

Peanut Butter, Canned, Fruit, Tuna, Peas, Cream of Mushroom Soup, Vegetable Soup, Ramen Noodles

**Hygiene Items:** Shampoo + Conditioner, Deodorant Razors

**Manual Can Openers**

We are open for food donations Monday – Friday from 9am – 2pm. Address: 1119 SW 10th Ave. Topeka, KS 66604-1105



**SUNDAY SCHOOL** - Beginning October 4th, Jack's Sunday School Class will start season one of "The Chosen". For the first time ever, the greatest story ever told is being presented as a multi-season show. Digging deeper into the backstories and context of the people and events of the gospels, Season One of the #1 highest crowd-funded media project of all times introduces you to people such as Simon Peter, Nicodemus, Mary Magdalene, Matthew, and of course, Jesus in a way never before seen on film. Class starts at 9:15 a.m.

Jack Janway



## NEWS FROM CHRISTIAN EDUCATION -

Following our tradition of gifting a Bible to students upon entering 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and 7<sup>th</sup> grade, on September 20<sup>th</sup> we were pleased to present Bibles to Nathan Orta and Matthew Peck. Please encourage these young men as they grow in their faith.



Three of our youth, Nathan Poe, David Greuter, and Aaron Poe, are participating in a youth bowling league this fall representing our church. They bowl at Gage Bowl on Sunday evenings from 6-8 pm. Pastor Ivan and Brice Smith are co-sponsoring this time of fellowship. Spectators are welcome.

Sunday School classes have resumed. We want to recognize and thank our teachers for their dedication and commitment. Teaching Elementary and Middle School are Fran Seymour-Hunter & Pat Carpenter; Pastor Ivan and Jack Janway are teaching the Teens and Adults. See our News in the Pews for more info and join us at 9:15 any Sunday. Thanks also to Rexanne Greuter who continues to teach a Women's Class on Tuesdays @ 4:00 via Zoom.

The C.E. Committee has again delayed the starting of our Wednesday night Bible club, WWW. We miss our weekly contacts with our neighborhood children, and pray that sometime soon we will be able to again safely meet together for supper, fellowship, learning and play.

Alice Payne, C.E. Coordinator

**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

## 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



## 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.

**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>**.



# Halloween Word Scramble



1. okypos
2. pkpinum
3. treta
4. oghst
5. ydanc
6. rpivame
7. keonstel
8. luhgo
9. pecyre
10. tomcuse
11. nthua
12. owaercrcs
13. iyderah
14. oblod
15. labck act
16. ogbiln
17. mymmu
18. rasyc
19. piserd
20. sremca

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1st Shirley Dell  
5th Mark Calloway Jr.  
7th Zach Smith  
8th Pat Carpenter  
12th Steve May  
16th Bruce Smith  
16th Katelyn Hersh  
18th Enrique Reyes  
18th Jolie Lippitt  
20th Elijah Hammond  
22nd Chelle Decker  
29th Teddy Decker

HAPPY  
ANNIVERSARY

30th Don & Sandra Johnson

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Pastor

God bless you for the time you give, the  
work you do, and the care you offer.

REMEMBERING WITHOUT CEASING YOUR WORK OF FAITH, AND LABOUR OF LOVE.  
1 Thessalonians 1:3







**Sun**

**Mon**

**Tue**

**Wed**

**Thu**

**Fri**

**Sat**

				<b>1</b> 1:00 - 3:00 pm Baby Closet	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 1:30 pm Worship Team
<b>4</b> 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	<b>5</b> 9:00 - 11:00 am Baby Closet	<b>6</b> <b>No Ladies Night Out</b> <b>No Men's Night Out</b>  6:00 pm Men's Chorus	<b>7</b> 10:30 am Bible Study 3:30 - 5:30 pm Harvester's 5:00- 7:00 pm Baby Closet	<b>8</b> 1:00 - 3:00 pm Baby Closet	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 1:30 pm Worship Team
<b>11</b> 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	<b>12</b> 9:00 - 11:00 am Baby Closet	<b>13</b> <b>6:00 pm Council Meeting</b>  6:00 pm Men's Chorus	<b>14</b> 10:30 am Bible Study 3:30 - 5:30 pm Harvester's 5:00- 7:00 pm Baby Closet	<b>15</b> 1:00 - 3:00 pm Baby Closet	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 1:30 pm Worship Team
<b>18</b> 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship <b>2:00 pm Mission Meeting</b>	<b>19</b> 9:00 - 11:00 am Baby Closet	<b>20</b>  6:00 pm Men's Chorus	<b>21</b> 10:30 am Bible Study 3:30 - 5:30 pm Harvester's 5:00- 7:00 pm Baby Closet	<b>22</b> 1:00 - 3:00 pm Baby Closet	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 1:30 pm Worship Team
<b>25</b> 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	<b>26</b> 9:00 - 11:00 am Baby Closet  <b>NO DAR</b>	<b>27</b> <b>6:00 pm Outreach Meeting</b>  6:00 pm Men's Chorus	<b>28</b> 10:30 am Bible Study 3:30 - 5:30 pm Harvester's 5:00- 7:00 pm Baby Closet	<b>29</b> 1:00 - 3:00 pm Baby Closet	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>   1:30 pm Worship Team



RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED  
www.wsbctopeka.org  
Topeka, KS 66606  
1008 SW Fourth Street  
West Side Baptist Church

**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](mailto: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: OCTOBER**

**Acolytes** – Becky Poe, Sage Poe

**Scripture Readers** – Pat Carpenter

**Technology Team** – Brice Smith, and Bruno Sprengs

**Usher's** - Harry Carpenter, Jack Janway, Ernie Longstaff, Doug Mauck,  
Ernie Reed

