

HOW TO BECOME A CHRISTIAN TODAY

GOOD NEWS! God loves and yearns to redeem all people. The Bible clearly outlines the way to become a follower of Jesus Christ:

1. **ADMIT** – Admit to God you are a sinner (you have done wrong things). Apologize to God and turn away from harmful behavior and start doing good things (See Romans 3:23; Romans 6:23; 1 John 1:9; Acts 3:19).
2. **BELIEVE JESUS CHRIST DIED FOR YOU AND GOD HAS RAISED HIM FROM THE DEAD** - Believe that Jesus is God's one and only Son who died on the cross and rose from the dead (See Romans 5:8; Acts 4:12; Acts 16:31a; John 3:16; 1 Peter 3:18; John 14:6).
3. **CONFESS JESUS CHRIST AS YOUR LORD** – Make a religious commitment to be a follower of Jesus by trusting Him to be your Savior (Rescuer and Redeemer) and Lord (Ultimate Leader). (See Romans 10:9 and 10; Romans 10:13; Matthew 16:24; Luke 9:23)
4. **DEDICATE YOUR LIFE TO JESUS** - Tell your family and friends about your new faith in Jesus Christ by coming to the front of the Sanctuary at the end of a worship service to publicly announce your decision to be a Christian.

HOW TO JOIN THIS CHRISTIAN CHURCH

COME FORWARD – Any person professing faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and accepting the Baptist principles, practices, and the covenant of this church, may join this Christian church. Persons interested in affiliating should speak with the Pastor, Moderator, or come forward at a meeting of the congregation. A person may join one of the following ways:

1. **BELIEVER'S BAPTISM**
2. **LETTER OF TRANSFER** or recommendation from a previous Christian church with prior baptism; or a
3. **SATISFACTORY STATEMENT OF CHRISTIAN FAITH** and prior baptism

Members shall strive to be faithful to Christian principles as outlined in scripture and support the mission of the church through attendance, prayer, service, and monetary giving. The *first step* to becoming a member is to *come forward* during the singing of the last hymn so you can share your decision with the congregation.

WEST SIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

1008 SW Fourth Street | Topeka, KS 66606
Phone: (785) 233-4241 | office@wsbctopeka.org
www.wsbctopeka.org

December 20, 2020

WELCOME TO WORSHIP – *We are glad you have joined us in the Sanctuary and Online! Download the Bulletin and News in the Pews from the church website: www.wsbctopeka.org.* Share greetings, prayer concerns, and comments online or private message me at <https://www.facebook.com/ivangreuter>. In-person attendees are asked to **complete a Connection Card** and leave in the pew after the service. Please contact the Pastor if you would like to know more about being a follower of Jesus, being baptized, need prayer, or want to request a visit!

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE – The Ministry of Worship is planning to host a **Christmas Eve Service at 7:00 pm on Thursday, December 24.** The service will include carols, scripture, and special music. All emergency health orders and precautions will be observed at the time of the service. Order a Family Worship in a Box kit today by contacting the Church Office or online! The box will contain all the items needed to actively participate in the online service, including candles, communion, coloring pages, etc.



CHRISTMAS OFFERING – “Home for the Holidays!”- We will receive a special Christmas Offering for families in the neighborhood. Please give generously to help. You can give online, mail your donation to the church, or use the envelopes available in the pews.



CHRISTMAS FOR OUR HOMEBOUND – The Ministry of Fellowship and Membership will share small gifts, cookies, and a card with our homebound and residence of care centers this Christmas. **Please write a brief message on the Christmas cards on the Communion Table.** Volunteers are needed to deliver these gifts after worship today.

ANNUAL REPORTS – It is that time again for all the Council members to start thinking of what you want in your report. Please submit your report to Lynda in the Church Office office@wsbctopeka.org by Tuesday, January 12 The **Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 31 at 12:00 pm, downstairs.**



BABY CLOSET – The **Baby Closet is CLOSED** to the public and will operate in **MOBILE DISTRIBUTION ONLY** until further notice. Families may pick-up **diapers, formula ointments, and wipes on WEDNESDAYS from 3:30-5:30 pm at the North Door.** Parents may leave a message on the Baby Closet voice mail for supplies. A volunteer will return the message within 48 hours.

BIBLE STUDY ONLINE – Join us for “The Psalm Book of Israel” Bible Study on Wednesday **MORNINGS at 10:30 am in Holmer Hall (face masks, mass limit, and social distancing required) or ZOOM (see email for link and password).** **NO BIBLE STUDY ON DEC. 30 (HOLIDAY BREAK).**

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR’S HOLIDAY – The Church Office will be **CLOSED on Thursday and Friday, December 24-25** in observance of the Christmas holiday. The Office will be closed on **Thursday and Friday, December 31 and January 1** in observance of the New Year holiday. Call the Pastor at home if you have an emergency.



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. **FACE COVERINGS or MASKS REQUIRED.**

- We **WILL** have the **Food Pantry on Wednesday, Dec. 23.**
- Pantry will be **CLOSED** on Wednesday, **December 30** (Winter Holiday)
- **OCTOBER 2020 PANTRY REPORT:** 2,048 Individuals (914 adults, 824 children, and 310 seniors) in 497 families were able to receive 17,792 pounds of free bread, fruits, vegetables, and other items from the Fruit & Vegetable Food Pantry at West Side Baptist Church during the month of OCTOBER 2020. Volunteers from Meadows and Ward Meade distributed 60 turkeys plus 70 checks on Wed., November 18, during the food pantry.

YOUTH FUNDRAISERS - West Side Baptist Church Youth are **ORNAMENTS** for a suggested donation of \$10.00 each. They will be creating a beautiful one- of- a- kind keepsake Christmas ornament featuring our Good Shephard stained-glass window. Order forms are posted on the bulletin board outside the office or order **ONLINE** at <https://west-side-baptist-church.square.site>. You can also contact Colleen Smith at 785-213-1062 or colleen.cksmith1@gmail.com with orders or questions. Thanks in advance for your support!
~ West Side Baptist Church Youth



Nativity Word Search

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

ADVENT	ANGEL	BABY	BETHLEHEM	CAMEL
CANDLE	DONKEY	GIFTS	HOLY	JESUS
JOSEPH	KINGS	LOVE	MANGER	NATIVITY
PEACE	SHEPHERDS	STABLE	STAR	MARY

STAY HEALTHY / STAY SAFE - All Shawnee County residents must comply with all health codes, emergency orders, and public health protocols including:

1. **Clean and Disinfect Surfaces** – The church will follow industry-specific guidelines and business sector best practices
2. **Face Masks** – Persons are required to wear face coverings or masks (bandanas, gaiters, and masks with valves or vents do not qualify)
3. **Maintain Social Distancing** (individual or family groups must stay at least 6' feet apart; refrain from hugging, shaking hands, or other forms of contact; no greeters or ushers)
4. **No Visits to Long-term Care Facilities or Correctional Facilities**
5. **Practice Good Hygiene** (e.g., wash hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds; avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth; cover coughs and sneezes into an elbow or tissue, throw the used tissue away and immediately wash your hands)
6. **Remain Home when Sick or a Family Member is Sick** (follow isolation and quarantine orders issued by state or local health officers)
7. **Staff and Employees will Work Remotely or Limit Access to Offices.**
8. **Stay Informed** (e.g., local and county governments retain authority to impose equal or more stringent restrictions on businesses during the phases, except as to essential functions in KEFF and constitutionally protected rights).

WORSHIP ONLINE – The Church is committed to the continual praise and worship of Almighty God in the Name of Jesus Christ. Church leaders and our clergy hold services regularly in the Sanctuary in compliance with all published federal, state, and local government health orders. Services are broadcast LIVE (as internet is available) and RECORDED. WATCH the service online at:

- Facebook LIVE – <https://www.facebook.com/wsbctopeka>
- YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/channel/WSBC>

Order a free copy of the service on DVD by contacting the Church Office.



END OF YEAR GIVING - IRS regulations require all donations for 2020 to be received or postmarked by December 31, 2020 to be included on your charitable giving statement. See Nancy Lindberg if you have any questions. 2020 Statements will be mailed before Jan. 31, 2021.

FINANCIAL GIVING – Thank you for the generous support of the work of God in and through West Side Baptist Church. Donations report:

	<u>12-15-2020</u>	<u>Y-T-D</u>	<u>GOAL</u>
General Fund	\$ 2,382.00	\$ 153,598.48	\$ 225,000.00
Building Fund/Cap. Cm.	\$ 365.00	\$ 14,084.99	\$ 35,000.00
Baby Closet	\$	\$ 2,394.57	\$ 2,000.00
Christmas Offering	\$ 125.00	\$ 750.00	
Fellowship/Benevolence	\$ 108.00	\$ 6,479.98	
Food Pantry	\$ 1,000.00		
M & M Offering	\$ 350.00	\$ 925.00	
Sunday School	\$	\$ 195.25	
Thanksgiving Offering	\$ 550.00	\$ 1,260.00	
Youth Group	\$ 414.00		

GIVE SAFELY ONLINE: <https://west-side-baptist-church.square.site>

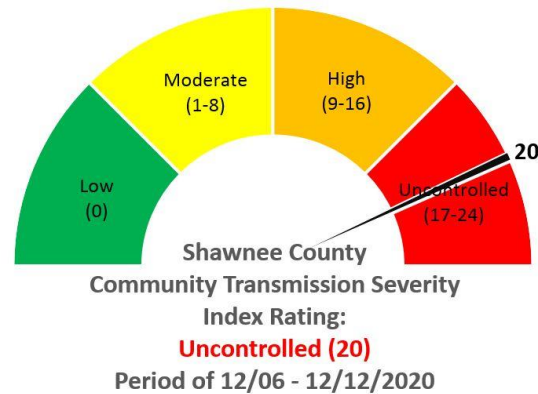
MEADOWS HOLIDAY FOOD BOXES – Thank you for donating children’s hats, gloves, socks, and other items for the fifty families at Meadows Elementary School. Each box had 1 can of peas, corn, green beans & ravioli; two cans tuna & a box of tuna helper, macaroni & cheese, spaghetti sauce & noodles, 3pks of Raman noodles; three cans soup and two bags crackers; peanut butter, jelly, oatmeal, and cereal; 5lb Potatoes, an 8-10 lb ham, bread, bottled water, & a pie! Gift bags contain board games, pairs of socks & undies, winter hats & gloves, coloring book, crayons & candy canes. Thanks to Jack and the Ministry of Outreach, the church donated 25 hams.



HOMEBOUND

- | | |
|------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Cunningham, June* – Brewster Place | Dell, Larry* - Homestead |
| Farrar, Helen* – Plaza West | Goodnow, Grace* |
| Haney, Gerald – Oakley Place | Hunter, Russell* |
| Johnson, Mary Lou* – Aldersgate | Kieffer, Alice* |
| Perkins, Edward* - Plaza West Apartments | |

PUBLIC HEALTH NOTICE: RED PHASE – BUILDING CLOSED TO PUBLIC UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE – To mitigate the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID 19), the Church leaders have enacted **Phase Red Protocols** on the advice of our Executive Minister, the Governor of the State of Kansas, and Shawnee County Health Officer. Effective immediately until further notice:



1. **BUILDING CLOSED** to the public.
 2. **MASKS REQUIRED** - All persons (age 6 and older) are required to **WEAR A MASK IN PUBLIC including employees of the church**, with certain exemptions apply including all children *age 5 and under*, when social distancing (keeping six feet of distance between yourself and others outside your household, except for occasional or incidental moments of closer proximity) is not possible. (see SNCO Emergency Order #2020-68 and the Governors Executive Order #20-68 Mandatory Mask Protocol).
 3. **LIMIT MASS GATHERINGS to 10 persons (including weddings)**
 4. **HIGH RISK INDIVIDUALS and PARENTS AND SMALL CHILDREN should take more intensive precautions including staying-safe-at-home.** High-risk individuals include those with underlying medical conditions, including chronic lung disease, asthma, heart conditions, severe obesity, chronic kidney disease, liver disease, or who are otherwise immunocompromised.
 5. **NURSERY CLOSED** – The church nursery will be CLOSED today until December 12 for cleaning and sanitizing.
 6. **CHILDRENS PROGRAMS are SUSPENDED** including Sunday School (all ages including youth), Children’s Church, Youth Bowling League, etc.
 7. **SOCIAL SERVICE PROGRAMS will operate in MOBILE DISTRIBUTION.**
 8. **WORSHIP and BIBLE STUDIES will be offered REMOTELY (online).**
- For more information about preventing the spread of COVID 19, visit: <https://www.snco.us/hd/coronavirus> or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website (www.cdc.gov).

OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

American Baptist Churches of the Central Region – staff changes
 Coronavirus (COVID 19) – healing, health, isolation, discovery, wisdom, etc.
 Albert, Henry – Lou Gehrig’s (Karen & Janice Kirby’s cousins’ husband)
 Amos, Barbara – Healing (fall)
 Beyer, Martha – Healing (Nancy Cottril’s sister)
 Brousseau, Barbara – Healing; home (Bev McCurdy’s niece)
 Carpenter, Al & Bradley – Healing
 Carpenter, Pat and Harry – Healing
 Cottril, Nancy and Wayne – Healing
 Dell, Larry, Chelle Decker and Family – Grief support (private family service on Monday, December 21 at Parker Price Funeral Home, N. Topeka)
 Graham, TaRon – Healing (Judy Billings’ grandson)
 Lesser, Anthony – Healing (Harry Carpenter’s friend)
 Lewis, Joanna – Healing (Nelda and Jack Janway’s grandniece)
 Lindberg, Howard – Healing (Nancy Lindberg’s brother)
 Lindberg, Nash – Healing (Nancy Lindberg’s cousin)
 Longstaff, Judy and Ernie – Healing
 May, Nancy – Healing
 May, Renea* & Steve – Healing
 Peck, Matthew – Baptism
 Penny, Dean – Grief Support - Services pending for Theo Penny
 Pinkham, Al and Barbara – Healing (Nancy Lindberg’s cousins)
 Pucket, Roxy – Healing (Molly Morris’s sister)
 Reed, Ernie – Healing (Kansas Rehab)
 Smith, Helen – Healing (Bev McCurdy’s friend)
 Springer, Keith – Healing (Marianne Spano’s brother)
 Swank, Kim – Healing
 Zab, Lola – Healing (Marianne Spano’s sister)
 Church and people in:

- 20-26 December 2020 - Japan, North Korea, South Korea, and Taiwan†
- 27 December 2020 - 02 January 2021 - Stateless people†

International Ministries and Missionaries (Global Servants)
 National Guard, Military Personnel (Active Duty), and our Veterans
 Ward Meade Neighborhood and WWW Kids Bible Club

†Ecumenical Prayer Cycle "In God's Hands - Common Prayer for the World" from the World Council of Churches (<https://www.oikoumene.org/en/resources/prayer-cycle>)