

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

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www.wsbctopeka.org

December 27, 2020

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

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.**



NEW YEAR'S 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.



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.

NEWS IN THE PEWS

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 – NO BIBLE STUDY ON DEC. 30 (HOLIDAY BREAK). 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).

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.



FOOD PANTRY – NO FOOD PANTRY ON DECEMBER 30. 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.**

- **NOVEMBER 2020 PANTRY REPORT:** 1,858 Individuals (807 adults, 756 children, and 295 seniors) in 441 families were able to receive 13,112 pounds of free bread, fruits, vegetables, and other items from the Fruit & Vegetable Food Pantry at West Side Baptist Church during the month of **NOVEMBER 2020**. Volunteers from Meadows and Ward Meade distributed 60 turkeys plus 70 checks on Wed., November 18, during the food pantry.
- **YEAR TO DATE REPORT – 6,996** individuals (6,996 adults, 5,949 children, and 2,181 seniors) in 3,864 families were able to receive 118,489 pounds (60 tons) of free bread, fruits, vegetables, and other items from the Fruit & Vegetable Food Pantry at West Side Baptist Church in 2020.

Thank you to Jack Janway, Outreach Coordinator, and all of the volunteers who make this service project possible.

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.

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

	<u>12-20-2020</u>	<u>Y-T-D</u>	<u>GOAL</u>
General Fund	\$ 1,063.00	\$ 154,661.48	\$ 225,000.00
Building Fund/Cap. Cm.	\$ 15.00	\$ 14,099.99	\$ 35,000.00
Baby Closet	\$	\$ 2,394.57	\$ 2,000.00
Christmas Offering	\$ 340.00	\$ 1,380.00	
Fellowship/Benevolence	\$	\$ 6,479.98	
Food Pantry	\$ 100.00	\$	
M & M Offering	\$ 125.00	\$ 925.00	
Sunday School	\$	\$ 195.25	
Thanksgiving Offering	\$	\$ 1,260.00	

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

HOMEBOUND – Thank you to Lonna Hersh, the Ministry of Fellowship, and our volunteers for sharing small gifts, cookies, and a card with our homebound and residents of care centers this Christmas.

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

IN LOVING MEMORY - Our hearts are heavy with sorrow and sympathies at the passing of our dearest friends, Shirley and Larry Dell. Shirley went to be with the Lord on Friday, December 11. Her devoted husband, Larry, joined her in heaven on Sunday, December 20. The family held a private funeral service to prevent the spread of COVID 19 on Wednesday, December 23. Cards and condolences may be sent to the Church Office or their daughter. The Church is grateful to receive memorials in honor of this loving Christian couple. Give in person, by mail, or safely online at the Church's store: <http://west-side-baptist-church.square.site>.



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:



- BUILDING CLOSED** to the public.
- 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).
- LIMIT MASS GATHERINGS to 10 persons (including weddings)**
- 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.
- NURSERY CLOSED** – The church nursery will be CLOSED until after the first of the year for cleaning and sanitizing.
- CHILDRENS PROGRAMS** are **SUSPENDED** including Sunday School (all ages including youth), Children's Church, Youth Bowling League, etc.
- SOCIAL SERVICE PROGRAMS** will operate in **MOBILE DISTRIBUTION.**
- WORSHIP and BIBLE STUDIES** will be offered **REMOTELY (online).** For more information about preventing the spread of COVID 19, visit: <https://www.scco.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

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:

- 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>)



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

BELLS	RUDOLPH	ELVES	JOY
CANDLES	SANTA	FROSTY	MERRY
CANDY CANE	SEASON	GIFT	MISTLETOE
CARDS	SLEIGH	GIVING	NOEL
CELEBRATE	STOCKING	GREETINGS	NORTH POLE
CHIMNEY	TREE	HOLIDAY	REINDEER
CHRISTMAS	WREATH	JOLLY	

