

The Witness

THE NEWSLETTER OF WEST SIDE BAPTIST CHURCH OF TOPEKA, KS

SUNDAYS IN APRIL

- ♦ **APRIL 4 - EASTER**
SUNRISE VIGIL - 7:00 AM
Exodus 14:10-31; 15:20-21
Psalm 136
Romans 6:3-11
Mark 16:1-8

CELEBRATION - 10:30 AM
Acts 10:34-43
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
1 Corinthians 15:1-11
John 20:1-18

- ♦ **APRIL 11 - EASTERTIDE 2**
Acts 4:32-35
Psalm 133
1 John 1:1-2:2
John 20:19-31

- ♦ **APRIL 18 - EASTERTIDE 3**
Acts 3:12-19
Psalm 4
1 John 3:1-7
Luke 24:36b-48

- ♦ **APRIL 25 - EASTERTIDE 4**
Acts 4:5-12
Psalm 23
1 John 3:16-24
John 10:11-18

**STUDY THESE TEXTS
AS YOU PREPARE TO
WORSHIP WITH US**

50 DAYS OF CELEBRATING THE EIGHTH DAY

Pastor's Corner - The day of rejoicing will soon be here with its return of festive flowers, beautiful banners, believer's baptisms, and the celebratory chanting of the "alleluia!"

Alleluia, Christ is Risen!

He is risen indeed!

Alleluia is the Greek and Latin word that translates the Hebrew word, "Halleluiah" which means "praise the Lord!" It is the word the angels use to worship the Lord.

The ancient call and response, and the added Alleluia song, marks the start of the Easter season - the fifty holy days of celebrating from Easter Sunday to Pentecost. We will pass from penitent, solemn season of Lent to the joyful, jubilant time of Easter. It is a time of unrestrained celebration - not because spring has sprung, the long winter has passed, or our return to outdoor living, spring vacations, and gardening. [Sorry, Christians do not celebrate Easter as a pagan fertility festival for the goddess *Eostre*, symbolized by eggs and bunnies, just read the historian, Venerable Bebe.] For followers of Jesus, Easter or *Páscha* in Greek (meaning "Passover") is a time of extraordinary news: Death is dead. Christ has conquered the cross, sin, and the grave. God offers forgiveness of sin by the blood of his son. **Jesus is**



Alive!

Easter Sunday serves as the “eighth day” - the day God anew over with Creation. The new covenant is brought to life by God’s powerful act of restoring life to his one and only Son, Jesus. It marks the coming of God’s kingdom, and the start of God’s relations with the new humanity - a new community - the Church.

The fifty days between Easter and Pentecost is focused largely on the new community: the Church. The first reading of scripture in worship services, traditionally reserved for the Old Testament lesson, is taken from the Book of Acts. Worship focuses on everything new: the new community, the new covenant, the promise of new life, and the hope of a new kingdom on earth, the kingdom of God.



I plan to start a new sermon series during Eastertide: ***I Love the Church!*** We will search the stories from the Book of Acts to discover the blessings God has given to us

here on earth: the gift of his Son and Spirit in a community where we can belong. I hope you will be able to join us!

Our Easter celebrations will begin at the **Sunrise Service on April 4 at 7:00 am on the patio behind the mansion at Old Prairie Town at Ward Meade Historic Site and Botanical Garden.** Our theme will be “Come to the Garden.” We will sing, shout Alleluia, hear the good news, light the Christ candle and celebrate. If it is raining, we will have the service in the Sanctuary at West Side Baptist Church.

Resurrection Blessings, Pastor Ivan+



Malachi 3:10

Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,” says the LORD Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.



Our Church Finances

Last month I shared with you that the church had applied for our second Payroll Protection Program (PPP) loan from the federal government. The PPP loan program is designed to provide small businesses including churches encouragement to keep their staff on payroll during the Covid-19 crisis. We applied for \$29,488. Capitol Federal Bank approved our loan and the payment was received on February 26th. Since my last newsletter report we also were notified that our application for forgiveness of our first loan in 2020 of \$23,500 has been forgiven.

Our income for February was \$18,009.34 and our income total this year to date is \$34,663.12. Our budget percentage of income is 16.22%. Our budget year is 16.67%.

Our expenses for February totaled \$17,421.16. Our expense total for the year is \$35,257.42 or 14.46%.

The difference of income to expenses for the year is -\$594.30.

After each quarter a summary of your giving will be given to you at church or mailed. If you have any questions about your report, please let me know.

Thanks,
Nancy Lindberg
Treasurer



SHAREFEST - After being cancelled last year, SHAREFEST will be held April 24, 2021 8am -12 pm. SHAREFEST is an event that was created with the belief that churches and organizations can do more together than any one group could do separately to reach out to its community. We serve in school districts, community organizations all over the city by landscaping, painting, constructing, and cleaning up the grounds of area schools and buildings.

West Side Baptist has registered for this event and pledged 10 individuals to work. You may pick which school you want to work at and what job you would like. Nelda and I picked Topeka High School as landscapers. I also volunteered my truck to haul mulch. Please go to Sharefesttopeka.com and register. If you order before April 11th, you will receive a T-shirt to wear on the day at work. Be sure to order your size when you register.

After work, there will be a celebration at Everygy Plaza downtown. There will be food trucks for food purchase to support local business.

Please contact Jack Janway for any questions or assistance.

Baby Shower Invitation

You are invited to a baby shower to celebrate the birth of **Malcolm Alan Smith** with his parents, **Matt and Ashley Smith**, and grandparents, **Brice and Colleen Smith**.

Saturday, April 10th at 2:00 p.m.
Holmer Hall, West Side Baptist Church

Ashley Smith's Baby Registry:

<https://www.amazon.com/baby-reg/ashley-smith-february-2021-topeka/1R3U1OJEGNO50>

If you want to know size for clothes, Mac is starting to get into 3-6 months!

To RSVP, please leave a note on the back of your church attendance card or call the church office (785) 233-4241.



WORSHIP WITH US

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**.

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.**



~ Jack Janway, Outreach

It's A Bridal Shower...

Please join us for a bridal shower honoring Tera Triggs on Saturday, April 17 at 11:00 am. It will be held at West Side Baptist Church in Holmer Hall. Tera and Dewey are registered at Target and Bed, Bath and Beyond. Please RSVP to Colleen Smith if you plan to attend.



Doorstep - Check out the volunteer opportunities we have available!
YEAR-ROUND:

Clothing Bank

Sorting, folding and drying clothes

Food Bank, Packing food orders and hygiene packs, organizing food pallets. Drivers

Collecting donations from area restaurants and businesses

Unloading and organizing deliveries



SEASONAL:

Christmas Store

Sorting and collecting Christmas donations Go to Doorstep, Inc. | Topeka Kansas
(doorsteptopeka.org) for more information.



The month of April traditionally brings Doorstep's Annual Banquet honoring our volunteers, and the quilt drawing. With COVID still going on, we do not have plans yet for this event. It won't be in April, but hopefully later in the year we can gather again and celebrate Doorstep and our volunteers!



EASTERTIDE SERMON SERIES
APRIL 4 to MAY 23



Mission Moments

A Great BIG THANK YOU!!! - Because of your generosity, we exceeded our goal of \$1500.00 for the America For Christ offering. To date we have collected \$1674.00. Thank you for being such a loving and caring people who display Christ's love through actions and giving!



Global Servant Spotlight

Melanie Baggao - (Lebanon) In partnership with the Arab Baptist Theological Seminary of the Lebanese Society for Educational and Social Development, MELANIE, as a student in the seminary's master's in religion program, is focusing on learning the Arabic language and culture, building relationships, and preparing for future ministry in Arabic speaking cultures. Melanie, a former middle school teacher, is also volunteering as a teacher at the seminary, assisting some students in their English studies. For more info, visit: <https://www.internationalministries.org/author/m-baggao/>

Rainy Day Showers!

Find each word in the search.
Words go ↑, →, and ↘.

a	r	e	t	c	l	o	u	d	s
d	a	d	r	o	p	s	m	i	p
p	i	t	i	h	n	m	b	u	r
u	n	n	y	d	e	a	r	o	d
d	b	b	s	h	o	w	e	r	s
d	o	m	o	i	p	e	l	u	p
l	w	d	a	o	d	i	l	o	l
e	r	c	k	o	t	e	a	y	a
d	q	x	e	n	m	s	o	p	s
f	l	o	d	n	b	q	x	l	h
z	f	d	o	w	n	p	o	u	r

puddle	umbrella
rain boots	showers
inside	drops
soaked	clouds
rainbow	splash
downpour	mud

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1st Bev McCurdy
3rd Russ Hunter
3rd Nancy Cottril
6th Jessa Greuter
17th Emily Hersh
25th Ernie Longstaff
26th Adelyn Cripe
29th Jan Mauck
30th Harry Carpenter

Happy Anniversary

4th Jared & Amy Cripe
18th Brian & Lonna Hersh



April Word Search

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

Babys Breath	Hydrangea	Rose
Black Eyed Susan	Iris	Snapdragon
Daffodil	Lily	Sunflower
Daisy	Petunia	Sweet pea
Heather	Queen Annes Lace	Tulip

APRIL

April brings a lot of rain.
The ground is wet and mud remains.
Green buds soon begin to appear.
Spring is on its way it's clear.
The weather changes, birds fly around.
The neighborhood is filled with sounds.



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

				1 1:00 pm Baby Closet 7:00 pm Worship	2 Good Friday Office Closed 7:00 pm Worship	3 1:30 pm Worship Team
4 Easter 7:00 am Sunrise Service 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	5 9:00 am Baby Closet	6 4:30 pm Women's Bible Study	7 No Bible Study 3:30 pm Harvester's 3:30 pm Baby Closet	8 1:00 pm Baby Closet	9	10 1:30 pm Worship Team 2:00 pm Smith Baby Shower
11 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	12 9:00 am Baby Closet	13 4:30 pm Women's Bible Study 6:00 pm Council Mtg	14 10:30 am Bible Study 3:30 pm Harvester's 3:30 pm Baby Closet	15 1:00 pm Baby Closet	16	17 11:00 Bridal Shower 1:30 pm Worship Team
18 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	19 9:00 am Baby Closet	20 4:30 pm Women's Bible Study 5:30 pm Christian Ed	21 10:30 am Bible Study 3:30 pm Harvester's 3:30 pm Baby Closet	22 1:00 pm Baby Closet	23	24 1:30 pm Worship Team 2:00 pm Wedding Terra & Dewey
25 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	26 9:00 am Baby Closet 6:00 pm DAR	27 4:30 pm Women's Bible Study 6:00 pm Outreach Mtg	28 10:30 am Bible Study 3:30 pm Harvester's 3:30 pm Baby Closet	29 1:00 pm Baby Closet	30	



West Side Baptist Church
1008 SW Fourth Street
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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.

BIBLE READING PLAN - The Navigators have a great Plans for Reading Through the Bible in at Year at www.navigators.org/resource/bible-reading-plans or ask the Church Office for a copy.

