

The Witness

THE NEWSLETTER OF WEST SIDE BAPTIST CHURCH OF TOPEKA, KS

JANUARY 2022
VOLUME 108, NUM. 1

From the Pastor's Desk

How Can We Be the Best Neighborhood Church?

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JANUARY Worship Schedule

Sundays

10:30 a.m.

Sunday School

9:15 a.m.

How can we become the best neighborhood church in Topeka? We know the mission of the Church has not changed since Jesus' commissioned his disciples to "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age" (Matthew 28:19-20). The primary purpose of every follower of Jesus is **(1) Love God**, and **(2) Love Your Neighbor as Yourself** (Matthew 22:37-40). How do we accomplish this age-old command in a new way, in a neighborhood (and world) that is changing?

The church has historically focused its programs in five areas:

WORSHIP
FELLOWSHIP
DISCIPLESHIP
EVANGELISM
MISSION

Sing, Praise, and Proclaim
Community, Friendship,
Study, Devotions, Small Groups
Convert, Proselytize, Save,
Help, Labor, Volunteer

Celebrate
Belong
Grow
Share
Serve

Each local congregation ministers in these five areas in distinct and unique ways according to its personal style and traditions. God calls churches to be inspired by a vision given by the Holy Spirit—a future outcome for the church.

Can you quote our current vision statement from memory?

I've been working with the Church Council to dream about a new vision for WSBC. In the next couple of weeks, please watch for an invitation to join your brothers and sisters as we seek God's will for our church, and as we write a new vision statement: a short, clear, inspiring, long-term desired outcome for our church and programs. The mission doesn't change; we do!

New Years blessings, Pastor Ivan+, pastor@wsbctopeka.org

Dates of Interest:

Epiphany	Jan. 2
Wed. Bible Study Begins (Book of Amos)	5
WWW Kids Club	5
Financial Peace Class ..	10
Church Council	11
Mission Conf.	14-15
Annual Meeting	30

Council President's Corner

Annual Business Meeting

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 (office@wsbctopeka.org) by Tuesday, January 18. The **Annual Meeting and Potluck Luncheon will be held on Sunday, January 30 at 12:00 pm, downstairs in Fellowship Hall. See me for more information and agenda items. Annual reports will be distributed prior to the meeting.**

— Pat Carpenter, Church Moderator

VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.WSBCTOPEKA.ORG

Church Treasurer's Report...

The breakfast meeting to discuss and approve the 2022 budget was Sunday, December 5th. For those of you unable to attend, the new budget was approved by the congregation. A copy of the final budget will be included in the annual report available in January. Overall, we have increased our expected income for 2022 based on our experience of giving in 2021 and a new stream of income from the estate of Portia and Vern Allbert. The increases in expenditures budgeted for 2022 includes rising utility costs, funds for additional outreach projects and most importantly a 3 % salary increase for our staff. We also included an additional 1% merit increase to our pastor.

Pledges continue to come in for both our annual stewardship campaign and the 3-year **Fortifying our Foundation for the Future Capital Campaign**. You can still turn your pledge into the church office or place it in the offering plate. Copies of pledge forms are available on the bookshelf outside the office.

I will be giving an update on the Capital Campaign at our annual meeting in January. My initial report given at the December breakfast meeting was that we are about half-way to our \$300,000 goal with our pledges and gifts. I announced then and will state again that the council will proceed with the 21 projects that you approved on our wish list only when the money is in hand over the next 3 years. The repair of the church steeple and replacement of the north parking lot were high on the list and it looks like they will be worked on in early spring. The expansion of the baby closet is one project that will be completed soon. Bids on other projects are being requested.

Finance overview for November 2021: Our income for November was \$16,403.59 compared to \$12,844.00 in October. Our total income for the year to date is \$253,709.90. Our budget percentage of income through November is 118.73%. Our budget year is 91.67%.

Our expenses for November totals \$17,706.86 compared to \$22,706.86 in October. Our expenses total for the year is \$216,811.01 which is 88.94% of our budget.

The difference of income to expenses for the year shown on the finance reports is \$36,898.89.

Let me know if you have any questions. Thanks.

Thanks, Nancy Lindberg, Treasurer

ANNUAL GIVING STATEMENTS - The Stewardship Secretary will mail annual giving statements to our members before January 31, 2022. In the United States, donors cannot claim a tax deduction without a written receipt from the Church. Please wait for your statement before filing your taxes. Contact Nancy Lindberg if you have any questions or needs assistance.



CHURCH OFFICE



ANNIVERSARIES

1st Wayne & Nancy Cottril
1st Mark & Betty Arnold



BIRTHDAYS

3rd Ethan Sturgeon
12th Jennifer Ansell Blair
18th David Martin

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED—

The Church Office will be closed on **Monday, January 3** in observance of New Year's Day and **Monday, January 17** for the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday .

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. 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.

Email: office@wsbctopeka.org.
Office Hours: 8:00 am – 4:30 pm ,
Tuesday – Friday.

EDUCATION



BIBLE STUDY OPTIONS

BIBLE STUDIES, SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES, & SMALL GROUPS

Join a Bible Study, Sunday School Class, or Small Group by **Scanning the QR code** or visit the church website at



www.wsbctopeka.org. Classes are free and taught by gifted leaders and teachers for adults, beginners, and women.

WEDNESDAY MORNINGS **WED. AM BIBLE STUDY**

We will start a new study “**The Book of Amos**” at 10:30 am on Wed., January 5 in Holmer Hall. All students of the Bible are welcome!



WWW KIDS' BIBLE CLUB

WWW starts again at 5:30 pm on Wed., Jan 5 for a free supper. Classes for children and youth start at 6:00 pm to 7:00pm. Activities include a free supper, creative Bible stories, fun games, easy-to-learn songs, and the Bible Buck store. Call if you need a ride – (785) 233-4241.

From Christian Education...

Many thanks to all who came to our WWW Christmas Celebration. We had such an enjoyable evening with dinner and the Christmas pageant (watch video on Facebook or call the Church Office for a DVD).

Our Wonderful West Side Wednesday program begins again on January 5, 2022. Everyone is always welcome to join us for dinner and Bible Study beginning @ 5:30 on most Wednesdays through April 27.

We also want to recognize new Youth Sponsors, Matt & Ashley Smith. Tera & Dewey and Brice & Colleen will continue to assist with the youth. We appreciate their service.

Colleen Smith will be the new C.E. Coordinator beginning in January. Colleen has done this job before and has been an important resource for me. Thanks, Colleen, for your willingness to lead Christian Education again.

I also want to express my appreciation to the church for allowing me to be the coordinator for the last 5 years. I have been richly blessed by this experience, and I am truly grateful for all the wonderful volunteers that work in Christian Ed.

We hope everyone will join a Bible Study group or a Sunday School class this year. It's a great way to get acquainted or stay connected as a church family. We are looking forward to 2022 and asking God to bless you all with a safe and happy new year!

~ Alice Payne, (your outgoing) C.E. Coordinator



2022 Midwinter Mission and Evangelism Conference

CENTRAL REGION
ANNUAL
MISSIONS
CONFERENCE

JANUARY 14-15

Conference Details

COST: \$25.00

FRIDAY JANUARY 14 - The 2022 Mission & Evangelism Conference kicks off with a mission charge from a special Zoom Keynote challenge on Friday Evening – Keynote 7:00 pm. When we receive your registration, a link will be sent to you.

SATURDAY JANUARY 15 – COVID Pending, we will have “Watch Parties” in 8 locations across the Region. Our theme is “TOGETHER” – When we put our Missions money “Together” we can do better! If we are under COVID restraints and cannot meet, you will receive a link. Please check the location where you will come “Together” in ABCCR mission learning, and development. ***EVENT LIVE STREAMED in HOLMER HALL!***

Find information and registration form at abccr.org/2022-midwinter-mission-evangelism-conference.

2021 MISSION OFFERING	GOAL	RECEIVED
America For Christ (AFC)	\$1,500.00	\$1,799.00
One Great Hour of Sharing	\$1,500.00	\$2,078.00
World Mission Offering	\$1,500.00	\$2,065.00
Ret. Min. & Missionaries	\$1,500.00	\$1,915.00
Doorstep Inc, Local Partner	\$1,000.00	\$1,100.00
Benevolence Fund	\$2,000.00	\$7,128.25

MISSION

We collected the **Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering (RMMO)** in December. The theme was "Transformed by Generosity."

“And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.”

2 Corinthians 3:18

MMBB
A Financial Services Ministry™

The RMMO acknowledges and shares our collective appreciation for the extraordinary commitment of those who serve God’s people.

By participating in the RMMO, all congregants celebrated the strength and perseverance of ministers, missionaries, and their widowed spouses by contributing to provide emergency assistance and “Thank You” checks. Grateful are we for the prayerful contributions to support those who have been faithful in following God's call through the years.

Our goal was \$1,500.00.

On Dec. 20, the balance given was **\$1,915.00.**



OUTREACH

BABY CLOSET

MONDAYS - 9:00-11:00AM
WEDNESDAYS - 3:30-6:30 PM
THURSDAYS - 1:00-3:00 PM

CHILDREN HELPED WITH HARVESTERS IN 2021*

Children: 1,157

Families: 433

As of November 30, 2021

FOOD PANTRY

MOST WEDNESDAYS
3:30 - 5:30 PM

NEIGHBORS HELPED IN 2021*

Adults: 7,077

Children: 5,875

Senior Citizens: 2,733

TOTAL: 15,685

Families: 4,257

Pounds Shared: 189,424 lbs

As of November 30, 2021

**All food is available free of cost!

MEADOWS ELEM.

300+ warm clothing items

112 bags of spaghetti

140 cans/jars spaghetti sauce

528 cans of tuna



We Need Your Help...

If you are looking for a service opportunity within our church, Outreach and Evangelism has many needs for volunteers.

The most critical need is in evangelism. We are presenting new visitors with a loaf of banana bread or similar (without nuts) to thank them for their visit. I need people to make the bread and I need people to visit and drop the bread off to the visitors. The names and contact information will be provided so that you can arrange a visit.

If you like to organize and run activities, I need you to take over our regular and special events. Our regular events include Super Bowl Sunday, Easter egg hunt, and Trunk or Treat. Other events may include game nights, movie nights, and other events that will attract people into our church.

We run a weekly food pantry every Wednesday weather and food availability permitting. We need people sorting food before the start of the food pantry when needed. We need people to interview and gather necessary information from our clients wanting food. We need people to load the food into vehicles. Boxes may weigh up to 25 lbs but often there are smaller loads that need to be handled. Set up and take down help is needed before and after the food pantry. Every 3rd Wednesday, we also give away milk which we need to account for separately.

Baby Closet is open for 3 time periods during the week. Help is needed to greet clients at the door and direct them to the Baby Closet. Help is needed to gather the necessary information from the clients and assist them in obtaining items. Help is also needed to sort clothes and items donated and to assist in seasonal change over of clothing items.

Every year, our church is asked to participate with other churches and non-profit organizations in events to provide needed services for our community. "Get Down and Dirty" and "Sharefest" are two of the events where we spend a half of a day cleaning up and improving specific areas around the city. I would like to see more representation of our church at those events. We are a part of Midtown Community Services, an organization of churches, schools, and other volunteers to provide services for our immediate neighborhoods. Help is needed to coordinate our part in providing these services

I would like to set up one day a month to volunteer at our Harvester warehouse in sorting food. They are in constant need of help and we depend on them for our weekly food and supplies for our pantry, kitchen, and baby closet.

This is what we do. We can do more. We need your help.

Jack Janway, Outreach Coordinator
Pat Carreno, Director of the Baby Closet

WORSHIP with US...

...We're Better Together!

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/wsbctoepka>
- YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/WSBC>
- Order a free copy of the service on DVD by contacting the Church Office.



VENMO – Give to God using VENMO – an easy-to-use, secure phone app. Download from the App Store or iTunes. Search for the church **@wsbctoepka** or scan the QR code. You can donate to the General Fund, designated funds, missions, and others.

2022 Communion Servers Needed - The Lord's Supper or Holy Communion is a sacred ceremony commemorating the life-giving death and resurrection of our Lord and Messiah, Jesus Christ. The Bible teaches that serving at the Lord's Table is an honor and a serious responsibility (1 Cor. 11) open to any baptized believer. The Ministry of Worship is looking for Communion Servers for 2022. Would you be interested in serving at the Table of the Lord? **We will happily train anyone interested in serving at the Lord's Table!** Sign-up to be a Communion Server at <https://www.signupgenius.com>. Speak with me if you have any questions. ~ Brice Smith, Coordinator

WORSHIP

SCRIPTURE TEXTS IN JANUARY

- ♦ **JANUARY 2 - 10:30 AM**
EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
Isaiah 60:1-6
Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14
Ephesians 3:1-12
Matthew 2:1-12
- ♦ **JANUARY 9 - 10:30 AM**
BAPTISM OF THE LORD
Isaiah 43:1-7
Psalm 29
Acts 8:14-17
Luke 3:15-17, 21-22
- ♦ **JANUARY 16 - 10:30 AM**
Isaiah 62:1-5
Psalm 36:5-10
1 Corinthians 12:1-11
John 2:1-11
- ♦ **JANUARY 23 - 10:30 AM**
Nehemiah 8:1-10
Psalm 19
1 Corinthians 12:12-31a
Luke 4:14-21
- ♦ **JANUARY 30 - 10:30 AM**
Jeremiah 1:4-10
Psalm 71:1-6
1 Corinthians 13:1-13



YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS

T.A.C.O.S. ACTIVITIES

Middle school (grades 6-8) and High school students (grade 9-12) are invited to participate in these church sponsored activities. See Ashley and Matt Smith for costs, details, and registration forms. **All Students must have a signed Medical Release Form to participate.**

MIDDLE SCHOOL WINTER WKEND - Friday and Sat., Jan. 28-29

YOUNG CHRISTIANS WEEKEND - Fri., Sat. & Sun., April 1-3: Silver Dollar City. A special teen event. See info: www.silverdollarcity.com

GET DOWN & GET DIRTY—Sat., April 23 - 10 AM - 12 PM. Keep America Beautiful—Topeka / Shawnee Co. part of this community's Earth Day cleanup.

QUEST YOUTH CAMP (Green Lake) - Sun.-Friday, June 26-July 1. Anyone completed 6th–12th grade.

SQUARE STORE –

Donate safely online to the general fund and

designated funds through the Church's Store at <https://squareup.com/store/west-side-baptist-church>



MIDDLE SCHOOL WINTER WEEKEND

"CRAZY FRIENDS"

JANUARY 28-29, 2022

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

410 S HICKORY ST, OTTAWA, KS 66067

SPEAKER: ERIC MOSHER, LIVING A LEGACY CHURCH, NEWTON, KS

\$35 A STUDENT IF REGISTERED BY JANUARY 14TH

\$50 LATE REGISTRATION

REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 6:30PM ON FRIDAY.

DEPARTURE IS AT 5:30PM ON SATURDAY.

Middle School Winter Weekend, January 28-29, 2022. Plan to arrive between 6:30pm-7:00pm to First Baptist Church, Ottawa, KS. No dinner will be provided Friday night, so students will need to eat before they arrive. Registration will happen in the lobby of the education building which is west of the sanctuary building.

First Baptist Church, Ottawa
410 S Hickory St.
Ottawa, KS 66067

Please remember to have your students fill out the medical/image release form online; or bring a filled out paper copy when you arrive. Students will not be allowed to stay if they don't have a medical form.

The link to the online and printed forms can be found on the region website: <https://abccr.org>. Students and sponsors need to bring bedding (air mattress, sleeping bag, or mat because we will be sleeping on floors at the church), personal hygiene items, and their Bibles. Please make sure your students have a pair of socks. Sack dinners will be provided at 5pm and departure is at 5:30pm on Saturday.

If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Schneider at 785-272-7622 or jennifer.schneider@abccr.com





Places in the Bible Word Search



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

BABEL
BETHLEHEM
CYPRUS
EDEN

GETHSEMANE
GOMORRAH
HEAVEN
ISRAEL

JERICHO
JERUSALEM
JORDAN
SODOM

PrintablePac.com



MAY YOU SHINE
THE LIGHT OF
CHRIST IN THE
NEW YEAR!

Snowman Word Search

COAL SNOW
CARROT STICKS
SCARF TOP HAT



E O Y C Q V B
T O R R A C T
S K C H i c k e n S O
M D S c a r f Q G P
C S N O W R H
K F R A C S A
F C M L V W T



Winter Wordsearch



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

WINTER
SNOWFLAKE
SNOWMAN
ICICLE
SPRUCE
HOLLY
CARDINAL
FROZEN
BRRR
CHILLY
SLED
GLOVES
HAT
SKATE
SKI
TOBOGGAN
COCOA
SHOVEL
MITTENS



Christmas Word Find

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

JESUS
MARY
JOSEPH
WISEMEN
MANGER
NATIVITY
BETHLEHEM
CAMEL
DONKEY
STAR
HAY
ANGEL
FAITH
HOPE
FRANKINCENSE
MYRRH
SILENT NIGHT
LORD
SAVIOR
CHRISTMAS



January

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

						1 Happy New Year!
2 ORGANIST 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	3 New Years Holiday CLOSED 9:00 am No Baby Closet	4	5 10:30 am Bible Study 3:30 pm Harvester's 3:30 pm Baby Closet 5:30 pm WWW	6 1:00 pm Baby Closet 4:30 pm Women's Bible Study	7	8 1:30 pm Worship Team
9 PIANIST 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	10 9:00 am Baby Closet	11 6:00 pm Council Meeting	12 10:30 am Bible Study 3:30 pm Harvester's 3:30 pm Baby Closet 5:30 pm WWW	13 1:00 pm Baby Closet 4:30 pm Women's Bible Study	14 7 pm ABCCR Mission Conf.	15 9 am ABCCR Mission Conf. 1:30 pm Worship Team
16 ORGANIST 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	17 MLK Jr Day CLOSED 9:00 am Baby Closet	18 5:30 pm Christian Ed Meeting	19 10:30 am Bible Study 3:30 pm Harvester's 3:30 pm Baby Closet 5:30 pm WWW	20 1:00 pm Baby Closet 4:30 pm Women's Bible Study	21	22 1:30 pm Worship Team
23 PIANIST 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	24 9:00 am Baby Closet 6:00 pm DAR	25 6:00 pm Outreach	26 10:30 am Bible Study 3:30 pm Harvester's 3:30 pm Baby Closet 5:30 pm WWW	27 1:00 pm Baby Closet 4:30 pm Women's Bible Study	28	29 1:30 pm Worship Team
30 PIANIST 9:15 am Sun School 10:30 am Worship 12:00 pm Annual Meeting Potluck (FH)	31 9:00 am Baby Closet	<p>"TO READ A POEM IN JANUARY IS AS LOVELY AS TO GO FOR A WALK IN JUNE." —JEAN PAUL</p>				

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Jesus loves...



Financial Peace University Class Starting Soon!

Planning for the future is hard when you're still paying for the past! Listen—there's a better way! Join our upcoming Financial Peace University class, and we'll learn how to beat debt and make a plan for the future together! Interested? Join me at West Side Baptist Church starting **Monday, January 10, 2022, at 7:00 pm**. You can sign up and start your 14-day free trial of Financial Peace at fpu.com/1144225.

Blessings, Pastor Ivan+