

The Witness

THE NEWSLETTER OF WEST SIDE BAPTIST CHURCH OF TOPEKA, KS



From the Pastor's Desk

A Spiritual Adventure

MARCH 2022

VOLUME 108, NUM. 3

.....Where is "Lent" in the Bible? It's not. There are many church words - like Easter, Christmas, Advent, Trinity, etc. - that do not appear in holy scripture, yet Christians still celebrate them. The season of "Lent," for example, comes from the Latin word, *Quadragesima*, meaning "fortieth." There is a Christian spiritual practice of fasting and praying for forty days prior to Easter (not counting Sundays)) to remember Jesus' forty days in the desert where he fasted, prayed, and was tempted (Matthew 4:1-11; Mark.1:12; Luke 4:1-15), and Moses' forty days on Mount Sinai when God gave him the 10 Commandments (Exodus 32). Fasting and prayer are spiritual disciplines. Some Christians chose not to observe Lent because it does not appear in Scripture, but enjoy a **50 Day Spiritual Adventure** (Ash Wednesday to Easter including Sundays) to focus on the Cross in preparations for the joyous events of Easter.

Starting Sunday, March 6, I will start a new sermon series on "**At the Cross**" - six Sundays focused on the meaning and mystery of Christ's suffering, sacrifice, death, and resurrection. Why the cross? How does it save? The meaning behind each act and symbol. The hope salvation brings to all!



We will also have services during Holy Week to help us experience God's saving grace and faithfulness. Watch for more details. Our partners, Potwin Presbyterian and Westside Christian Church, will be hosting service. You are invited to participate with them.

I hope you can use the time between now and Easter for a spiritual adventure that can strengthen and renew your life in Christ. Let me know if you want or need devotional materials to help you grow in love and faith.

Lenten blessings,
Pastor Ivan+

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MARCH SUNDAY Schedule

Sunday School

9:15 a.m.

Sundays

10:30 a.m.

Dates of Interest:

MARCH

Ash Wednesday .Mar.2

Daylight Savings..... 13

Pastor Vacation . 14-20

APRIL

Palm Sunday..... 10

Maundy Thursday... 14

Good Friday

Easter Sunday..... 17

VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.WSBCTOPEKA.ORG

Church Treasurer's Report...

We have a good start to the year with our church finances. Our income for January was \$18,262.80 which is 6.89% of our budget. This includes our annual disbursement of \$8,054 from our investment in the Topeka Community Foundation.

Our expenses for January totaled \$24,657.96 which is 9.56% of our budget. Almost \$5,000 of the expenses was for building maintenance and repairs. Also, just like our home utilities, we paid more than \$2,000 for gas in January.

Our checking account balance is \$96,919.87. The majority of this is two accounts that carried over into the new year – the new Capital Campaign monies totaling \$80,697.07 and Outreach totaling \$11,159.05.

One of the items on our capital campaign project list was completed in January. The baby closet was expanded into the room next to it. I hope you can go downstairs to see the expanded area and to hear about the many families being served by this outreach program.

The Benevolent Fund balance is \$5,411.25.

The Mission Committee has recommended \$200 from the old capital campaign account be given to Jessa Greuter to assist her with her mission trip to Albania. Jessa leaves on May 31st to fly to the country of Albania. She and several others from Ottawa University will be meeting with a missionary who has planted three churches there. They will be painting and doing projects to help maintain the buildings as well as spending time with local college students.

Let me know if you have any questions. Thanks.

Nancy Lindberg, Treasurer



CHURCH OFFICE



2nd Brian hunter
3rd Jill Roesler
4th Aaron Hunter
8th Nathan Poe
12th Don Johnson
14th Thomas Donnelly
16th Rexanne Greuter
20th Tera Freeman
21st Shelby Hersh
22nd Janice Kirby
22nd Trena Ansell
26th Angie Foster
27th Wally Goodnow

Anniversaries

26th Bob & Jill Roesler

**Happy Belated Birthday to
Janice Hedberg-Boyce,
Church Organist
February 24**

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesday-Fridays
8:00 AM to 4:30 PM

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.

EDUCATION



BIBLE STUDY OPTIONS

BIBLE STUDIES, SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES, & SMALL GROUPS

WEDNESDAY MORNINGS

WED. AM BIBLE STUDY

Join us for "The Book of Amos" and then "Obadiah" at 10:30 am on Wednesdays *online or in-person* in Holmer Hall. All students are welcome!

- ♦ March 2 - Amos, Ch. 7
- ♦ March 9 - Amos, Chs. 8-9
- ♦ March 16 - No Bible Study
- ♦ March 23 - Obadiah Overview
- ♦ March 30 - Obadiah 1-2



WWW KIDS' BIBLE CLUB WEDNESDAYS

5:30-6:00 PM - FREE SUPPER

6:00-7:00 PM - BIBLE CLUB

- ♦ March 02 – WWW Kids Club
- ♦ March 09 – WWW Kids Club
- ♦ **March 16 – No Club /Spring Break**
- ♦ March 23 – WWW Kids Club
- ♦ March 30 – WWW Kids Club

Bible classes for children, youth, and adults. Activities include creative Bible stories, fun games, easy-to-learn songs, and the Bible Buck store. Call for a ride – (785) 233-4241.

NEW ADULT CLASSES

JACK JANWAY will start a NEW CLASS for adults on **Sunday, March 6 at 9:15 am in Holmer Hall (first-floor parlor): "SABINA: Tortured for Christ The Nazi Years"** –

This motion picture move (Rated PG13 for thematic content, some disturbing images and violence) tells "the story of how God's love transformed an ambitious, atheistic hedonist into one of the greatest Christian women of the 20th century. Experience the amazing true story that has redefined the concepts of love and forgiveness for millions around the world." Produced by The Voice of the Martyrs. Schedule:

- ♦ **Sunday, March 6** - Sabina, Tortured for Christ, The Nazi Years Part I
- ♦ **Sunday, March 13** - Sabina, Tortured for Christ, The Nazi Years Part II

On Sunday, March 20, Jack will teach "**John 1-3 The Word Became Flesh**" – a twelve-week video series by Matt Chandler – starts Sunday, March 20 at 9:15 am.

- ♦ **Sunday, March 20** - John 1-3, The Word Became Flesh by Matt Chandler Session 1 of 12'
- ♦ **Sunday, March 27** - John 1-3, The Word Became Flesh by Matt Chandler Session 2 of 12

Scan the QR code to learn more or visit <https://wsbctopeka.org/grow/sunday-school>



JOIN US FOR
Sunday School!

MISSION

AMERICA FOR CHRIST OFFERING

"I will praise you and testify about what you have done." - Psalm 22:22

We will be collecting the America for Christ Offering in March. The theme for this year's offering is "Testimony". Thanks to America for Christ (AFC) Offering contributions, American Baptist Home Mission Societies (ABHMS) supported communities distressed by the devastation of COVID-19 last year, as the pandemic swept our country and Puerto Rico. The offering helped families who lost homes to floods, wildfires and storms, along with children living on the edge because of poverty, and seminarians preparing to devote their lives to sharing the Good News. These are just a few of the ways your gifts to the AFC Offering minister to those in need; there are many more.

Please help us continue to bring healing and hope to communities, families, children and Jesus' disciples in 2022 by supporting this year's America for Christ Offering.

Our goal is \$1,750.

AMERICA FOR CHRIST OFFERING 2022

"I will praise you and testify about what you have done." PSALM 22:22

Global Servant Spotlight - Aphiwan & Scott Coats - In association with Hope International Development Agency, TAN (Aphiwan) and SCOTT support Thai and Burmese nationals in their own ministries. As residents of Chiang Rai, Thailand, they seek to bring spiritual transformation, social change, and economic development to the ethnic minority peoples who inhabit the hills of Northern Thailand, Eastern Shan state of Myanmar, and other neighboring countries. As a result of recent events in Myanmar, they are also significantly involved in relief work across the border.

<https://www.internationalministries.org/author/as-coats/>

~ Jim Goodnow, Missions



SQUARE STORE –

Donate safely online to the general fund, memorials, mission offerings, and designated funds through the Church's Store at <https://squareup.com/store/west-side-baptist-church>



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



OUTREACH

BABY CLOSET

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

FOOD PANTRY MOST WEDNESDAYS

3:30 - 5:30 PM

*All food is available free of cost!

MOVIE NIGHT??

Are you interested in a movie night? Outreach would like to know if there is enough interest to hold a movie night during March. The movie would be "Sabina, Tortured For Christ, The Nazi Years", a story of how God's love transformed an ambitious, atheistic hedonist into one of the greatest Christian women of the 20th century. Experience the amazing true story that has redefined the concepts of love and forgiveness for millions around the world. The film is rated PG13. No date has been set yet. We could have pizza before the movie and popcorn during the movie. Keep an eye on the bulletin board for a sheet to express your interest.

Thank you
Jack Janway, Outreach

THANK YOU!

West Side Baptist Church T.A.C.O.S.'s 2022 Collection

raised:

\$95 and 145 food items

Thanks to your efforts this year, more dollars have been raised, more lives have been changed and the nation has seen the impact of people working together to help those in need. Thank you for working to transform the time around the Super Bowl into the nation's largest celebration of giving and serving.



February 13, 2022

Allison Reese
Executive Director
Souper Bowl of Caring

We Need Your Help...



DOORSTEP

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

DOORSTEP -
Thank you to everyone who donated soup and crackers during our **Souper**

Bowl Sunday collection! We know that a can of soup can be a meal or two, and your generous donations helped stock our pantry, and provide meals for your neighbors in need!

We are now firmly in the second half of Doorstep's 55th Anniversary year, (June 1, 2021 – May 31, 2022)! If you haven't heard we are raising funds for our 55th Anniversary Fund, specifically to replace the 60+ year old HVAC system in our building! We received our original bid just after the beginning of COVID in our country, and our estimate was \$150,000. Unfortunately, with all of the changes COVID has brought, we now need to raise at least \$180,000!

Beginning February 16th and running through April 15th Doorstep has a Matching Funds Challenge for you to take advantage of, and help Doorstep meet our goal!! We have a generous couple who has pledged \$20,000 towards Doorstep's HVAC replacement fund. They understand this type of 'fundraising' is not perhaps the 'tug at your heartstrings' type of need, but for a non-profit like Doorstep, who owns our building, it is very necessary!

Donate to Doorstep between February 16th ~ April 15th and for every \$2 you donate, our matching funders will add \$1 to that donation!

Help us turn \$20,000 into \$60,000 towards our 55th Anniversary HVAC Fund...

Be a part of this exciting one-time, project specific ask to keep our building in good shape so we can continue providing emergency, basic needs services to your neighbors in need.

Make sure to note your donation as part of the 55th Anniversary, HVAC Matching Fund! As of 2/10/22 we have secured almost \$93,500 towards the updated goal of \$180,000. And, anything we raise over what is needed to replace the HVAC system, will go towards rent and utility assistance for those families and individuals who are struggling, and need a little help, and a hand up!

If you have already donated towards our special project fund, Thank You, and keep in mind this is a new tax year, with another opportunity for you to help out, and have your donation matched!

Doorstep, Inc. is located at 1119 SW 10th, Topeka, Ks 66604. You can also visit our website: www.DoorstepTopeka.org, and donate through PayPal. Make sure to note the HVAC fund on any donation you send for this Challenge.

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. JOIN US IN PERSON OR 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.

Mitigation practices to prevent the spread of diseases are encouraged - such as wearing a mask — but not required. See the Center for Disease Control and Prevention website for accurate information at www.cdc.gov.

MARCH USHERS

Chuck Cozad, Ernie Reed, Clarence Payne
Harry Carpenter, Sonia Roling

Interested in serving as an Usher??
See Clarence Payne, Head Usher



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

The Revised Common Lectionary Texts for Worship Reader: Sonia K Roling

- ♦ **MARCH 6 - Lent 1**
Deuteronomy 26:1-11
Psalm 91
Romans 10:8b-13
Luke 4:1-13
- ♦ **MARCH 13 - Lent 2**
Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18
Psalm 27
Philippians 3:17-4:1
Luke 13:31-35
- ♦ **MARCH 20 - Lent 3**
Isaiah 55:1-9
Psalm 63:1-8
1 Corinthians 10:1-13
Luke 13:1-19
- ♦ **MARCH 27 - Lent 4**
Joshua 5:9-12
Psalm 32
2 Corinthians 5:16-21
Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32



"Next time we'll sit closer."



Wake Up!! "God is Leading You"

Saturday, March 12, 2022 - 9:00 to 3:00 p.m.

First Baptist Church Spiritual Retreat

for 55 and Older-- \$5 per person

3033 SW MacVicar Ave Topeka KS, 66611

Featuring:

Rev. Ed O'Rear



Ed served American Baptist Churches in Indiana and Kansas (including FBC-Topeka from 1984-86.) In addition, Ed retired from Shawnee County as Director of Community Corrections. He is also known as a singer, songwriter, and guitarist. He has two solo albums in addition to his recordings with The Carey-Oberlin Band. Ed and his wife, Sandy, have two daughters, Erin and Jennie, who live in Texas with their families. Ed and Sandy are members of FBC-Topeka.

Program

"Wake Up"

9:00 a.m. Registration

9:30 a.m. Opening Worship, Janet Crowl

10:00 a.m. Through Scripture and Circumstances, Rev Ed O'Rear

10:45 a.m. Break

11:00 a.m. Through Community and Reason, Rev. Melissa Newberry

11:45 a.m. Lunch and Group Activity

1:00 p.m. Through Dreams, Visions, and Divine Whispering, Rev. John Kress

1:45 p.m. Through Spiritual Direction and Counsel, Rev. Ed O'Rear

2:30 p.m. Closing Worship

3:00 p.m. Dismiss

With Presentations by:



Rev. Melissa Newberry
Pastor of Grandview Baptist
Church, Kansas City, KS

AND

Rev. John Kress
Pastor of First Baptist
Church, Horton KS



Worship Leader:
Rev. Janet Crowl, Associate
Pastor, First Baptist Church,
Topeka



Register with First Baptist Office by
Monday March 7th. Call 785.267.0380

American Baptist Women's MINISTRIES

INTERESTED IN STARTING ABWM

– Please come to a **PANCAKE BREAKFAST on Saturday, March 12 at 10:00 AM** know if you are interested in restarting ABWM and ABMen. These are service groups that meet once per month to promote faith formation, friendships, and volunteer service in the church, neighborhood, and world. Donate to ABWM Love Gift during the month of February (use envelope or write “Love Gift” in memo). Love Gift supports the work of our ABCCR and denomination.

**ABWM/ABM
PANCAKE BREAKFAST
Saturday, March 12 at 10:00 AM**



CHOIR REHEARSALS on WED @ 7:00 PM – Matt Smith, Director of Music, would like to start rehearsals for the Chancel Choir. Men and women are welcome.

Please let Matt know of your interest by calling or texting him at (785) 230-6442 or email at matthews@wsbctopeka.org.

DID YOU KNOW...



Community Rewards

DILLONS COMMUNITY REWARDS - West Side Baptist Church (#63996) is now enrolled in the **Dillon Community Rewards program**. If you shop at Dillon for your groceries or prescriptions, you can select West Side Baptist Church to receive a small donation from Dillon based on the dollars you spend. **WSBC has received a total of \$156.30 in donations in 2021.** The Office can help with sign up!

**ASH WEDNESDAY
MARCH 2**

**AT POTWIN PRESBYTERIAN
& WS CHRISTIAN CHURCHES**



**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER— Friday,
March 4, 2022. Lift Up God's World!**



**Daylight-
Saving Time
begins March
13, 2022**

CANCELLATION & CLOSING POLICY

If weather conditions or an emergency warrants the cancellation of an event, activity, meeting or public worship, or the closing of the building, the Church Office will notify members, participants, and the community as soon as reasonably possible by a post on the church website (www.wsbctopeka.org), recorded phone message, electronic message and social media (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, etc.), and on the local TV stations (see <https://www.ksnt.com> and <https://www.wibw.com>). Activities and events are canceled at the request of the ministry coordinator sponsoring the program. Every effort will be made to keep constituents and stakeholders informed of all closures, postponements, and cancellations.

ACTIVITY PAGE

Creation

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

Adam
 Animals
 Birds
 Create
 Days
 Earth
 Eden
 Eve
 Fish
 Fruit

Garden
 Herbs
 Man
 Mist
 Moon
 Paradise
 Rest
 Rib
 Seeds
 Sky

Stars
 Sun
 Trees
 Woman

©A Kid's Heart
akidsheart.com

God's
 Love
 Never
 Fails



Bible Wordsearch

Wordsearch 237

Matt. 4:23-5:8

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

Beatitudes

BLESSED EARTH
 BROUGHT FILLED
 CROWDS GOD
 DISCIPLES HEART
 DISEASES JESUS
 GALILEE JORDAN
 HEALED JUDEA
 HEAVEN MEEK
 HUNGER MERCY
 INHERIT MOURN
 KINGDOM PAIN
 MERCIFUL POOR
 PREACHING PEOPLE
 SEIZURES PURE
 SICKNESS REGION
 SPREAD SPIRIT
 SUFFERING SYRIA
 TEACHING SEVERE
 JERUSALEM

After you find all the hidden words the left over letters spell out a
 Bible verse reading from the top left to the bottom right

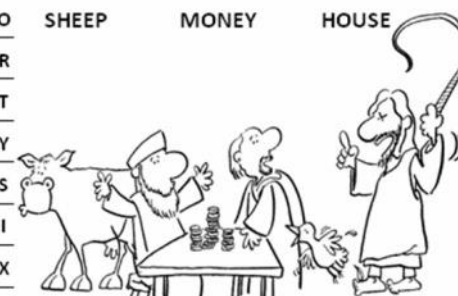
MORE PUZZLES AT:

<http://biblewordgames.com>

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R	S	C	Y	S	H	E	E	P	T	JERUSALEM	PASSOVER	PIGEONS
Z	E	D	O	S	M	C	B	E	F	WHIP	MARKET	SANCTUARY
W	O	V	N	C	E	O	K	L	O	ZEAL	BODY	COINS
B	H	S	O	S	L	R	N	A	R	SHEEP	MONEY	HOUSE
E	O	I	G	S	A	Z	E	E	T			
C	N	G	P	M	S	R	S	Z	Y			
S	A	N	C	T	U	A	R	Y	S			
J	E	S	O	T	R	B	P	P	I			
K	U	P	I	G	E	O	N	S	X			
E	S	U	O	H	J	S	G	I	P			






MARCH

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	1		2 	3 1:00 pm Baby Closet 4:30 pm Women's Bible Study	4	5 1:30 pm Worship Team
6 COMMUNION 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	7 9:00 am Baby Closet	8 6:00 pm Council Meeting	9 10:30 am Bible Study 3:30 pm Harvester's 3:30 pm Baby Closet 5:30 pm WWW 5:30 pm TOPS	10 1:00 pm Baby Closet 4:30 pm Women's Bible Study	11	12 10:00 ABWM & ABMen Pan-cake Breakfast 1:30 pm Worship Team
13  9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	14 9:00 am Baby Closet	15 16 17 18 SPRING BREAK - PASTOR ON VACATION				19 1:30 pm Worship Team
20 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 	21 9:00 am Baby Closet	22 5:30 pm Christian Ed Meeting	23 10:30 am Bible Study 3:30 pm Harvester's 3:30 pm Baby Closet 5:30 pm WWW 5:30 pm TOPS	24 1:00 pm Baby Closet 4:30 pm Women's Bible Study	25	26 1:30 pm Worship Team
27 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	28 9:00 am Baby Closet 6:00 pm DAR	29 6:00 pm Outreach meeting	30 10:30 am Bible Study 3:30 pm Harvester's 3:30 pm Baby Closet 5:30 pm WWW 5:30 pm TOPS	31 1:00 pm Baby Closet 4:30 pm Women's Bible Study		