

The Witness

AUGUST 2022

VOLUME 108, NUM. 8

THE NEWSLETTER OF WEST SIDE BAPTIST CHURCH OF TOPEKA, KS

From the Pastor's Desk

HOW FULL IS YOUR PLATE?

What do you think of when someone says, "Church Picnic"? Friends? Checkered tablecloths? Fried chicken? Lemonade? Homemade Ice-Cream? Watermelon? Fun? *I think of the divided plates.* Food intermingling on my plate was one of my childhood pet peeves! I didn't like my food to touch. Thankfully, I've outgrown the issue. Picnics were fantastic times of fellowship, fun, and trying new foods! **I hope you can join us on Sunday, August 14, for an old-fashion church picnic at Old Prairie Town (see announcement).**

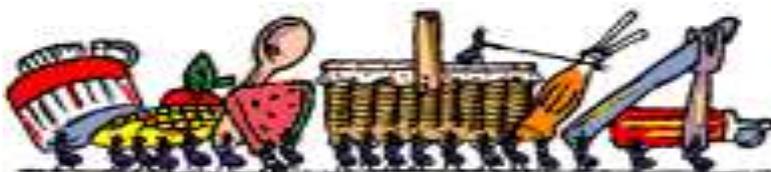


The divided plate image popped up in a recent conversation with a friend. She asked, "how much do you have on your plate?" I had to admit, "too much." She shared the wisdom of thinking of life as a divided plate, with each compartment representing a vital area needing time and energy: God, family, friends, community involvement, hobbies, etc. She asked, "Which area is overloaded? Which area needs to be fed?"

I've spent the summer reimagining a better-balanced plate with time for God, family, church, hobbies, and friends. **Where do I need to focus my time and energy?**

To help me better serve the people at West Side and Ward Meade neighborhood, **I'm asking for your help:** What can I do or teach to serve your needs better? What activities and programs do you and your family need to grow your love for God and others? Where should I focus my time and energy? Please take this 2-minute survey to answer four basic questions: [SURVEY LINK](#). Remember to add your name as I do not read anonymous mail or feedback. We'll have hardcopies for people to complete in worship.

Our church leaders will use your feedback to plan programs and activities for this fall. We cannot do everything, but we can do a few things well. We want to meet the needs of our church family and neighbors because you matter to God and us! Hope to see you soon!



Sweet Blessings,
Pastor Ivan+



ALL-CHURCH PICNIC

AUGUST 14 - 12:00 NOON
@ OLD PRAIRE TOWN

Schedule

Sunday School
9:00 a.m.

WORSHIP
10:30 a.m.

WEDNESDAY
Bible Study
7:00 pm

August 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.WSBCTOPEKA.ORG

CHURCH OFFICE

Information on how to stay safe and healthy from COVID-19



IS IT SAFE TO GO TO CHURCH?

Conditions may vary and change frequently depending upon your age, health conditions, and community exposure. Checking trusted sources before attending a service is important. Visit the Shawnee County Health Department website at www.snco.us/hd for updated information for our county. Find accurate information at the US Center for Disease Control and Prevention (www.cdc.gov). **Wearing a mask to protect yourself and others is still a good idea even if you're vaccinated.** Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines. Get tested if you have symptoms. Stay home if you're sick, recently traveled, or have symptoms. Additional precautions may be needed for people at high risk.

CHURCH PICNIC & QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING on SUNDAY, AUG. 14 - There will be an **All-Church Picnic and Quarterly Business meeting on Sunday, August 14 immediately following worship service at Old Prairie Town.**

Chicken and beverages will be provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. Hope you can join us.

RSVP to the Church Office before Wednesday, Aug. 10



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Dick Jr. & Nancy May 08/02
Ivan & Rexanne Greuter 08/24
Harry & Pat Carpenter 08/28

Happy birthday

Dan Decker 08/06
Jim Goodnow 08/16
Wayne Cottril 08/17
Nelda Janway 08/19
Donna Niegsch 08/22
Jay Stevenson 08/24

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

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

Call for a Pastoral Visit
Pastor's Day Off: Fridays

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West Side Baptist Church,
1008 SW 4th St.,
Topeka, KS 66606.
Phone: (785) 233-4241.
Email: office@wsbctopeka.org.

Church Treasurer's Report...

The second quarter statements of giving have been distributed. Please review and let me know if there is anything that needs to be changed.

Our first check from the Vern and Portia Allbert estate gift invested at the Topeka Community Foundation has been received. We received a distribution of \$4,312.61 which is to be used for music and related expenses.

Our memorials committee (Molly Morris, Bev McCurdy, Alice Payne and myself) met and determined that Don Morris' memorial gifts of \$5,090.00 will be added to his \$50,000 life insurance gift to the church and used for the repaving of the north parking lot.

Our income for June was \$13,749.89 with a total of \$126,351.69 for the year. We are at 47.69% of our budget (6/12 of the budget year is 50.00%).

Our expenses for June totaled \$24,090.89 with a yearly total of \$147,632.15 which is 57.21% of our budget. Our expenditures for June to highlight include: #6101 - 3 payroll periods instead of the typical two (payroll is paid every two weeks); # 7530 - Facility operations – \$665.18 includes new battery for floor cleaner costing \$287.00; #7653 - van insurance - \$593.00; #7720 - minor maintenance improvements - \$432.00 for expenses of fluorescent lights and toilet parts; #7810 – electricity bill increase - \$1,443.00; and #8470 - outreach projects - \$260.00 for movie night supplies.

The difference of income to expenses for the first six months of the year is \$-21,280.46.

Our checking/savings account balance in our main account shown on the balance sheet is \$114,780.01. The majority of this is the new Capital Campaign monies totaling \$74,420.67 which includes a Mission portion of \$5,752.00. It also includes Outreach funds totaling \$10,946.50 and our Youth fund of \$3,792.17.

The Benevolent Fund balance is \$6,899.58.

A progress report on our 3- year Fortifying our Foundation for the Future (FFF) capital campaign will be given at the August 14 Quarterly Business meeting. The parapets on the towers (\$30,000 from Reg Kirby estate gift) have been replaced. The parking lot has been completed. Next project will be the replacement of the administration offices windows.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks. Nancy Lindberg, Treasurer



CHURCH OFFICE

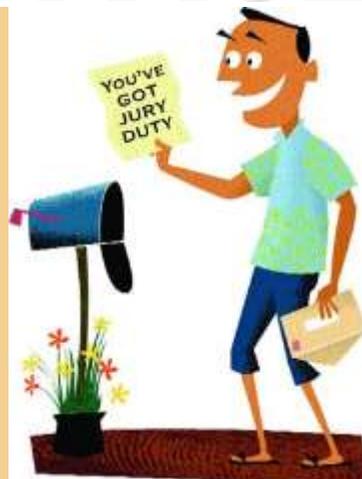
HEADING
FOR



PASTOR SUMMONED TO JURY DUTY

- Pastor Ivan has been summoned to Jury Duty the week starting Monday, August 22. If selected, he will joyfully fulfill his civic duty. Please call the Church Office if you need to speak with him.

Jury Duty AUGUST 22



College students head back to college the first week of August. Contact the Church Office for their school addresses. They love to get mail from their church family and friends!!

HOSPITAL VISITS & EMERGENCIES

– If you or a loved one is admitted to the hospital for an emergency or for surgery, the hospital staff and chaplains' office will NOT contact the Church Office or the Pastor. You or a family member must call the Church at (785) 233-4241 or the Pastor at (785) 224-7234. Pastor is willing to visit the hospital and pray prior to surgeries.



The Ecumenical Prayer Cycle takes us through every region of the world over the course of a year. Praying for each place on earth and its people at least once a year, we affirm our solidarity with Christians all over the world, brothers and sisters living in diverse situations, experiencing diverse problems and sharing diverse gifts. Pray with us! Prayer is at the very heart of the ecumenical movement. Jesus prayed that we – his followers – may all be one. When we pray with and for one another, we can feel God's gift of unity. Prayer sustains us on our way towards a unity that all can see, "so that the world may believe" (John 17:21)

Pray for the Church and People in:

- ♦ **31 July - 06 August 2022 - Republic of Congo, Gabon, Sao Tome and Principe**
- ♦ **07 - 13 August 2022 - Cameroon, Central African Republic, and Equatorial Guinea**
- ♦ **14 - 20 August 2022 - Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, and Niger**
- ♦ **21 - 27 August 2022 - Liberia and Sierra Leone**
- ♦ **28 August - 03 September 2022 - Cape Verde, The Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, and Senegal**

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>)

Share Prayer Concerns
and Download the
Weekly Prayer Sheet at

<https://wsbctopeka.org/get-help/prayer-request>



World Council of Churches

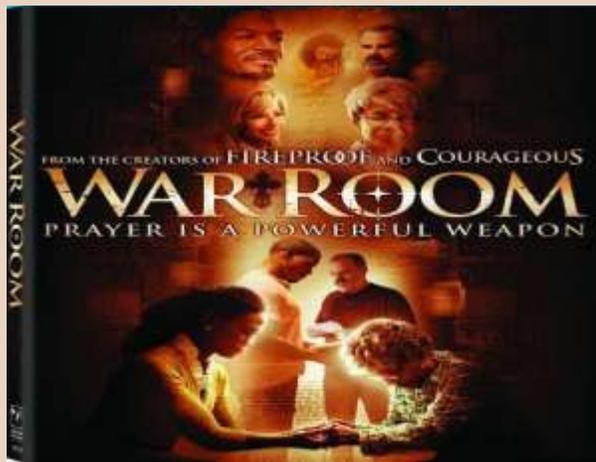
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

SUNDAY SCHOOL CINEMA

We have had a wonderful summer of movies during Sunday School Cinema. We will complete our last movie, War Room, August 14. **FALL SUNDAY SCHOOL KICKOFF** will **START at 9:00 AM on AUGUST 21.**

Classes are available for all ages and more information regarding class offerings will be listed in News in the Pews in the upcoming weeks.

Colleen Smith, Christian Ed



WEDNESDAY MORNING

BIBLE STUDIES

NO STUDY until AUGUST 31

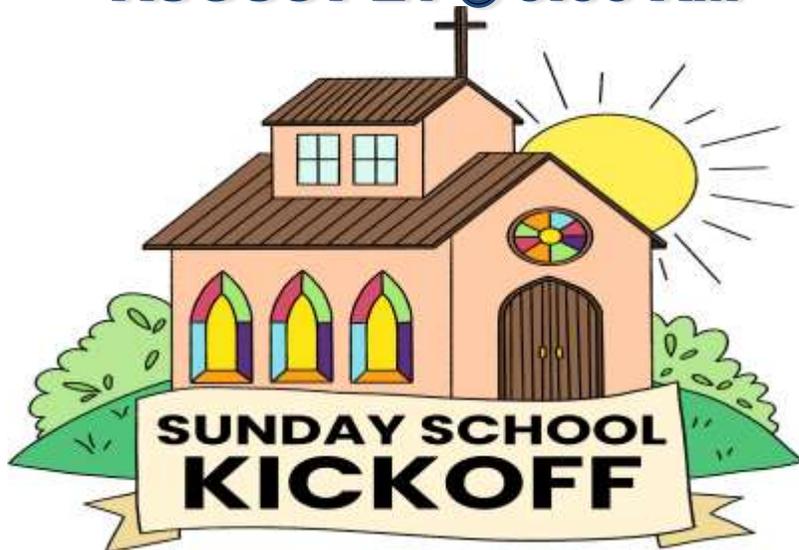
WWW KIDS BIBLE CLUB

SPLASH PARTY

Plans are underway for WWW and Kids' Bible Club. **Please join us August 31 as we kick off a great year with a hot dog supper and lots of fun water games.** Bring your children, grandchildren or neighborhood children and get them registered for the fall session. **Dinner will begin at 5:30 pm and water games will begin at 6:00.** If you are interested in helping with this event or on Wednesday evenings this year, please contact Colleen Smith. **SEE YOU AUG 31!**

SUNDAY SCHOOL KICKOFF

AUGUST 21 @ 9:00 AM



WONDERFUL WESTSIDE WEDNESDAYS

SPLASH PARTY

SUMMER SPLASH

Wednesday, August 31

FREE SUPPER	WEAR YOUR SWIMSUIT
5:30-7:00 PM	Water Sports & Games
Free Entry	

West Side Baptist
1008 SW 4th St | Topeka 66606

Follow Us
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www.wsbctopeka.org

OUTREACH & EVANGELISM



BABY CLOSET

MONDAY - 9:00-11:00AM
WEDNESDAY - 3:30-6:30 PM
THURSDAY - 1:00-3:00 PM

wsbctopeka.org/get-help/baby-closet
NEED DONATIONS OF DIAPERS

FOOD PANTRY

MOST WEDNESDAYS
3:30 - 5:30 PM

*All food is available free of cost!

wsbctopeka.org/get-help/food-pantry

No Food Pantry on the 5th Wednesday of a month

NE INDIA GENERAL SECRETARY GUEST SAYS “THANK YOU!”

Pastor Ivan hosted an international guest, **the Rev Prof Akheto Sema, General Secretary of the Council of Baptist Churches of Northeast India (CBCNI), on Tuesday, July 19.** Dr. Sema was visiting American Baptist Churches in the Heartland to learn about ministry and mission work in America, and to share information about a new school, NorthEast Christian University (NECU).

He is from Sema Naga community in Nagaland.

Dr. Sema expressed his gratitude, and the CBCNI’s appreciation, for the **\$10,000 gift WSBC made in 2013** to build the **Tutsa Model School Boy’s Hostel Building in Tirap District, India** (see pictures on bulletin board).



Thank you to everyone who sacrificially gave to the previous Capital Campaign. Ten-percent of all gifts to Fortifying our Foundation for the Future Capital Campaign is given to mission work in the US and overseas. Give online at <https://west-side-baptist-church.square.site>.

CBCNI: <https://cbcnei.org> NE Christian University: <https://necu.ac.in>

MISSION

BETHEL NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER - Our church often provides a meal and devotional message at the Bethel Neighborhood Center worship service in Kansas City, KS, whenever there is a 5th Friday in a month. Bethel has opted not to hold services during the summer, so we will NOT be going in July. However, mark your calendars for the next "5th Friday" on September 30!



GLOBAL SERVANT SPOTLIGHT

Madeline Flores-López - MADELINE serves as mission coordinator for volunteers from the U.S. and Puerto Rico. She identifies teams' strengths and matches them with service opportunities that empower, educate, and help them grow in their own faith. Much of Madeline's mission work takes place in the severely impoverished *bateyes* (bah-tays) communities, which are villages of sugar workers. Teams meet local needs by bringing supplies such as food, clothes, and bedding. They also setup medical clinics; offer training in hygiene, birth control, and domestic violence prevention; and lead Vacation Bible School programs in Cuba, Madeline works with the Eastern Cuba Baptist Convention and the churches in the Jiguaní district in Granma.

<https://www.internationalministries.org/author/m-flores-lopez/>

SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR MEADOWS

- We are still collecting school supplies for the children at Meadows through the month of July. Please bring supplies to the church office or if you would like to donate money towards buying supplies you may do that as well. Just remember to write on your envelope that it is to go towards the purchase of school supplies. We need neutral and masculine themed backpacks.



WEST SIDE WILL BE COLLECTING:

- ◆ Backpacks – Small (No wheels) - need boys themed more than girls
- ◆ Colored Pencils (12 count) – 40 boxes
- ◆ Pencils #2 – Purchased – thanks to a private donor
- ◆ Scissors (Blunt)- 37 pairs
- ◆ Scissors (Pointed) – 38 pairs
- ◆ Ticonderoga (Husky with Eraser) – 30 pencils

Cash donations welcome!



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING (OGHS)

- We collected the **One Great Hour of Sharing** offering in June. The theme for this year is "Love remains". The world has changed dramatically in the last 2 years. Communities around the world have been both socially and economically affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. That impact has been felt even more deeply in the most vulnerable communities and in those affected by other disasters. **We exceeded our goal of \$1,750 thanks to all of you who gave generously - and sacrificially to the "OGHS and OGHS Ukraine Relief."**

WORSHIP

The Revised
Common Lectionary
Scripture Texts
Reader: Pat Carpenter

AUGUST 7

Genesis 15:1-6
Psalm 33:12-22
Hebrews 11:1-3,8-16
Luke 12:32-40

AUGUST 14

Jeremiah 23:23-29
Psalm 82
Hebrews 11:29-12:2
Luke 12:49-56

AUGUST 21

Isaiah 58:9b-14
Psalm 103:1-8
Hebrews 12:18-29
Luke 13:10-17

AUGUST 28

Proverbs 25:6-7
Psalm 112
Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16
Luke 14:1, 7-14

AUGUST USHERS

Tom Donnelly, Pat Carpenter
Jared Cripe, Clarence Payne &
Harry Carpenter

Interested in being an Usher??
See Clarence Payne,
Head Usher

AUGUST COMMUNION SERVERS

Pat Carreno, David Martin
Clarence & Alice Payne



CHOIR REHEARSALS - Join the Choir for rehearsals on **WEDNESDAY** at 5:45 pm in the Sanctuary starting **AUGUST 17**. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board outside the sanctuary if you are new and would like to join the Choir.

~ Matt Smith, Choir Director

Let me know if you or someone you know would like to perform special music!





Current Food Needs at Doorstep

We are low on or out of the following items, and could really use your help to stock our pantry shelves! We want to continue to give out a well rounded food order our neighbors can put meals together with during these difficult times. We know everyone is feeling the increase in everyday expenses at the store, at the pump, and in our utility bills. Please help where you can. Doorstep began 56 years ago with a group working together to try and help their neighbors, and it is the same today. It takes all of us, doing what we can, working together.

Pancake Mix & Syrup	Pinto Beans	Spaghetti O's
Hamburger Helper	Canned Fruit	Evaporated Milk
Vegetable Soup	Cup O Noodles	Canned Raviolis
Mixed Canned Veggies	Canned Beans	Tuna Peas

Please bring your donations to Doorstep at 1119 SW 10th Avenue, (10th & Buchanan), South Door, Monday – Friday from 9am - 2pm. Let us know you if you attend one of our member congregations, and we'll give them credit for the pounds of food donated!

Thank you!

Sign Up for Doorstep's 5th Annual Neighbor Helping Neighbor Walk/5K Fun Run!

Sunday, October 2nd is the date for this year's fundraiser! We are planning to have an in-person event this year! And, we hope the beautiful fall weather we've had the past two COVID years, continues in 2022!!

You can sign up to participate yourself for \$30 including a t-shirt (deadline September 14th to guarantee a shirt) or sponsor a walker/runner! Those getting sponsors will get a free t-shirt with pledges of \$100 or more. All proceeds will benefit Doorstep, Inc.

This is our only fundraiser this year!!! So, get your family, friends, youth & community groups together, and join us this October!

We are excited about this event! It will start/end from shelter houses 1 & 2 at Lake Shawnee. The Walk/Run will start at 2:00pm with our friend & celebrity starter, Chris Fisher from WIBW-TV 13 joining us again this year! We will have some entertainment prior to the start, and afterwards return to shelter house#1 for snacks & drinks!

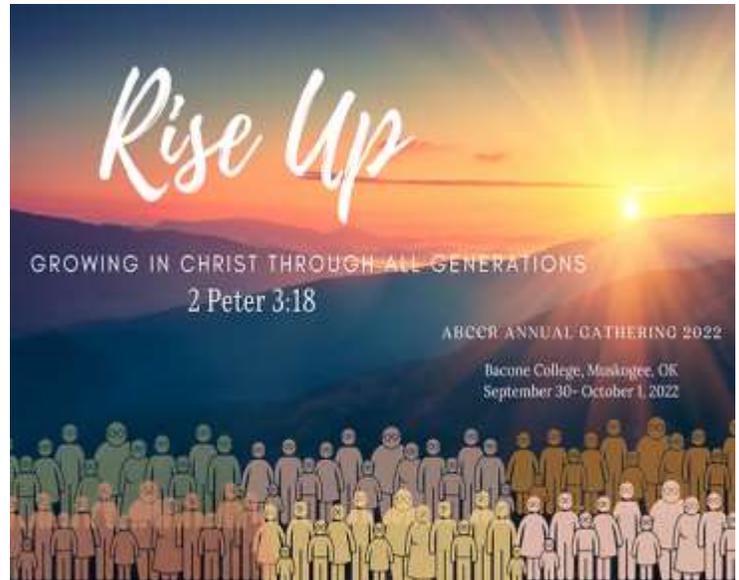
You can sign up on our website: www.DoorstepTopeka.org after August 8th.

Sign-up and sponsor forms are also available from the website or congregations.

American Baptist Churches USA

REGIONAL GATHERING

The ABCCR Annual Gathering will be held on **Friday-Saturday, Sept. 30-Oct. 1** at **Bacone College in Muskogee, Oklahoma**. See Pat Carpenter, Church Moderator, if you would like to volunteer as a **Voting Church Delegate** to this important meeting. Register Online at <https://www.abccr.org/annual-gathering-2022>. American Baptist Churches of the Central Region (ABCCR) serves ABC Churches in Kansas, Arkansas, and Oklahoma (<https://www.abccr.org>).



BIENNIAL MISSION SUMMIT

The **2023 Biennial Mission Summit** is less than one year away! **Save the Date** now for this event, coming **June 2023** at the **Puerto Rico Convention Center in San Juan, Puerto Rico**. The **Biennial dates are June 23-25**, but make sure you save extra time as events will be held before, during and after the larger Biennial Mission Summit event. To learn more about the 2023 Biennial Mission Summit, visit www.americanbaptists2023.com.

WORLD MISSION OFFERING

Pastor Ivan was invited to write the **Leaders' Guide for the 2022 World Mission Offering** (WMO) promotional materials (see <https://www.internationalministries.org/wmo-2022-pastor-resources>). He coordinated a national team of contributors to help churches and pastors encourage giving to the World Mission Offering. The WMO is the largest annual collection to financially support our foreign mission society, global servants, international partners, projects, and programs. We will receive the World Mission Offering in October. Plan now to give generously!



ACTIVITY PAGE



AUGUST

BEACH
BONFIRE
CAMPING
EXCITEMENT
FISHING
FRISBEE
FLIES
HEAT

HIKING
ICE CREAM
NEW TEACHERS
POPSICLES
SMORES
SUNFLOWERS
SWIMMING
TENT

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

Welcome Back School

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

ALPHABET	LIBRARY	SCIENCE
BACKPACK	LISTENING	SPEAKING
BLACKBOARD	LITERATURE	STUDYING
CHALK	MATH	SUBJECTS
CLASSMATE	NUMBERS	TEACHER
ERASER	QUIZ	TEACHING
GYM	READING	WRITING
LANGUAGE	RECESS	
LEARNING	SCHOOL	

Back-to-School Word Search

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

How many words can you find?



KIDS
MATH
PAPER
PENCIL
READ



SCHOOL
SING
SNACK
SPELL

ART
BOOK
DESK
FUN



Faith is not believing that
god can, it's knowing that
he will.

Faith is not the belief that
God will do what
YOU WANT,

It is the belief that God will
do WHAT IS RIGHT!

God Still Loves You



AUGUST

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 9:00-11:00 am Baby Closet	2	3 10:30 No Bible Study 3:30 pm Harvester's Food Pantry 3:30 pm Baby Closet 5:45 pm No Choir 7:00 Foundations	4 1:00-3:00 pm Baby Closet 4:30 pm Women's Bible Study	5	6 1:30 pm Worship Team
7 Communion 9:00 am Sunday Cinema 10:30 am Worship	8 9:00-11:00 am Baby Closet	9 6:00 pm Council Meeting	10 10:30 No Bible Study 3:30 pm Harvester's Food Pantry 3:30 pm Baby Closet 5:45 pm No Choir 7:00 Foundations	11 1:00-3:00 pm Baby Closet 4:30 pm Women's Bible Study	12	13 1:30 pm Worship Team
14 Sun. School Promotion 9:00 am Sun. School 10:30 am Worship 12:00 pm QBM & Picnic	15 9:00-11:00 am Baby Closet	16	17 10:30 No Bible Study 3:30 pm Harvester's Food Pantry 3:30 pm Baby Closet 5:45 pm Choir Rehearsal Starts 7:00 Foundations	18 1:00-3:00 pm Baby Closet 4:30 pm Women's Bible Study	19	20 1:30 pm Worship Team
21 9:00 am Sunday School Kick Off 10:30 am Worship	22 9:00-11:00 am Baby Closet 6:00 pm DAR	23 6:00 pm Outreach Meeting	24 10:30 No Bible Study 3:30 pm Harvester's Food Pantry 3:30 pm Baby Closet 5:45 pm Choir Reh. 7:00 Foundations	25 1:00-3:00 pm Baby Closet 4:30 pm Women's Bible Study	26	27 1:30 pm Worship Team
28 9:00 am Sun. School 10:30 am Worship	29 9:00-11:00 am Baby Closet	30	31 10:30 Bible Study 3:30 pm Harvester's Food Pantry 3:30 pm Baby Closet 5:00 Free Supper 6:00 WWW Bible Club Kick-Off	 OFFICE CLOSED MONDAY, SEPT 5 FEDERAL HOLIDAY		