

VOLUME 108, NUM. 10

OCTOBER 2022

# The Witness

THE NEWSLETTER OF WEST SIDE BAPTIST CHURCH OF TOPEKA, KS

October 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					

## SCHEDULE

**Sunday School**  
9:15 a.m.

**WORSHIP**  
10:30 a.m.

**WEDNESDAY**  
**Bible Study**  
10:30 a.m.  
7:00 p.m.



*From the Pastor: The Future is as Bright as the Promises of God*

When people ask me if I would like to live in any past period, my immediate answer is “No.” I like living now. I like modern medicine. I am accustomed to our world’s amenities, technology, and conveniences.

Don’t get me wrong, as a history enthusiast, I dabble in nostalgia. But while we may enjoy daydreaming about the past, the past often appears brighter in the rearview mirror.

In Isaiah 43, the people of God were living in Babylonian captivity. The temple was destroyed, their friends and family were uprooted, and the people mourned the loss of lives and homes. We hear their lament in Psalm 137:1, “by the rivers of Babylon—there we sat down, and there we wept when we remembered Zion.” Who would not ask if there was hope?

Into their disillusionment, God speaks prophetic words for the future. The Lord says, “Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing...” (Isaiah 43:18-19). Almighty God tells the people of faith to have confidence in the One who worked mightily and miraculously in the past because God could and would act again. The former times were critical—God’s people experienced first-hand the Lord’s liberating and redemptive work in the Exodus. The great “I AM who I AM” (Exodus 3:14) assured the people that God’s new thing would eclipse the old and redefine it globally. If the Lord Almighty can save people out of Egypt, can God rescue all people among the nations? God showed the faithful that their Savior was alive, active, capable, and ready to rescue them again.

The people would once again be eyewitnesses of God’s salvation in their midst by testifying to the new life salvation brings in desert places, “now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?” (Isaiah 43:19b). What God did in the past would be seen again as redemption’s work burst forth with new life among them. Scarcity, starvation, and survival would give way to overwhelming abundance and blessings. God’s creativity is inexhaustible when it comes to the Lord fulfilling the gospel mission of saving people. God spares nothing—not even Jesus Christ—to bring hope, love, redemption, and new life to people worldwide. Even the wild animals—the jackals and the ostriches (v. 20)—would benefit from

VISIT US ONLINE AT [WWW.WSBCTOPEKA.ORG](http://WWW.WSBCTOPEKA.ORG)



# CHURCH OFFICE

 Our Staff

God's lavish loving grace.

The Lord would accomplish this saving work for one purpose: "the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise" (v. 21).

As we receive the World Mission Offering, I am reminded of God's great work in the past: two centuries of calling, commissioning, supporting, and sending thousands of missionaries into God's world for redemptive work. We could stop as a mission agency—pause and applaud all God has done in and through us. We could retire knowing "the best is behind us." However, the Lord has not completed the work of bringing hope, healing, liberation, and restoration to the people God loves "from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages" (Revelation 7:9). If God is not done, can the church be done spreading the good news of God's love among us?

I hold on to the wise words of our first missionary, Adoniram Judson, who wrote, *"the Future is as Bright as the Promises of God."* What mind-blowing miracles will God do through International Ministries in the future? What new relationships and technologies will God use to carry the love of Jesus into the world? How will my children and my children's children be eyewitnesses to God's saving actions? I want to be part of God's ongoing work—I hope you do, too!

Global blessings,  
Pastor Ivan+



## HELP WANTED

Do you know someone who loves spending time with infants and small children? **We are in need of additional nursery attendants to take care of our precious little ones on Wednesday evenings during WWW 5:00 - 7:00 pm.** Dinner is included. Please pray for this special need to be met for our church. If you know someone who is at least 18 years old who may be interested in applying, they may apply on-line on our website: [www.wsbctopeka.org](http://www.wsbctopeka.org). **Pick Up a free application in the church or call 785-233-4241.**



**5th Mark Calloway Jr.  
7th Zach Smith  
8th Pat Carpenter  
8th Jack Harden  
12th Steve May  
16th Carla Donnelly  
16th Katelyn Hersh  
18th John Swain  
22nd Chelle Decker  
29th Teddy Decker**

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY  
30th Don & Sandy  
Johnson**

## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

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

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

**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](mailto: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](mailto:office@wsbctopeka.org)**





# Church Treasurer's Report...

## Our Church Finances

Our income for August was \$14,817.05 with a total of \$158,159.24 for the year. We are at 59.7% of our budget. 8/12 of the budget year is 66.67%.

Our expenses for August totaled \$20,669.14 with a yearly total of \$189,214.48 which is 73.32% of our budget.

Our expenditures for August to highlight include: #6270 – Organist – \$341.80 and line item is now over budget; #7720 – Minor Maintenance/ Improvements - \$953.75 and line item is now over budget; and #7810 Electricity and #7820 Gas – Utilities are close to total amount budgeted.

The difference of income to expenses for the first eight months of the year is \$-31,055.24 compared to last month difference of \$-25,451.26.

Our checking/savings account balance in our main account shown on the balance sheet is \$67,226.80.

The Benevolent Fund balance is \$6,054.17.

Early in October you will be receiving your third quarter report on your financial giving. Please let us know if you have any questions on your report.

At our next council meeting the council members will be presenting their first budget recommendations for 2023. Please feel free to talk with a council member if you have something that you would like included in next year's budget.

The Memorials Committee will be meeting to discuss a request by the worship committee to use some memorial dollars for new hymnals that the committee has purchased.

Let me know if you have any questions. Thanks.  
Nancy Lindberg, Treasurer



Your giving matters! Give in person or online at

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



Quarterly Giving Statements  
will be handed out or mailed in  
October. See Nancy Lindberg  
if you have any concerns or  
questions.

**venmo**

# 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](http://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](http://wsbctopeka.org/get-help/food-pantry)

No Food Pantry on the 5th Wednesday of the month

**OUTREACH** - If there is enough interest, there will be a game night **October 7 at 1:00 AND 6:00 pm**. Bring a snack, bring a game. Popcorn and water will be provided. There is a signup sheet on the bulletin board.



West Side Christian Church is looking for volunteers to unload a semitruck full of pumpkins on the 15th of October from 9am until noon. These pumpkins will be sold and all of the profits will go to assist Ukrainian refugees. There will also be opportunities to sign up to sell these pumpkins. I will provide the signup for the selling positions when received. The link for signing up to unload is

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0a4dabaf22a1fc1-pumpkins> Use code WSCC to sign in.



**TRUNK OR TREAT** - Trunk or Treat will be held in the north parking lot Monday October 31st at 6 pm. Signups to participate will on the bulletin board. Donations of candy to be handed out will be appreciated and you can turn in those donations to the church office. If you would like us to purchase the candy, we would be happy to do so. Please turn in cash donations to the church office.





# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

**WWW KIDS BIBLE CLUB** - We will provide supper for free Wednesdays, 5:30 - 6:00 pm, and a group Bible lesson for children, youth, and adults. Again, we will be counting on volunteers to carry out this mission. There are jobs to help with transportation, cooking, serving, clean-up, teaching, playing, singing, and more. You are invited to be a part of WWW. Come join the fun and invite someone to come along.

## WWW BIBLE LESSONS FOR OCTOBER

**Week 5** - Unit 23: Lesson 1, P.72  
The Sermon on the Mount

**Week 6** - Unit 23: Lesson 3, P. 104  
Jesus Taught About Prayer

**Week 7** - Unit 23: Lesson 4, P. 120  
Jesus Taught About Possessions

**Week 8** - Unit 23: Lesson 5, P.136  
The Good Shepherd



## **SUNDAY SCHOOL -**

- **Jack Janway in Holmer Hall.** We will finish up John 1-3 this Sunday and there is no word on season 3 of "The Chosen". Beginning Sunday September 25th, we will start the study of "You Were Made for This Moment" with Max Lucado. It is a 5-session study of the story of Esther.
- **Janice Kirby** is teaching a series of lessons called "Backpack for Life".
- **Colleen Smith** will teach the primary children. Children and youth in grades K-8 will meet upstairs.
- **Fran Seymour-Hunter and Pat Carpenter** will teach the intermediate students.



9:15 am

SUNDAY MORNINGS



# MISSION

## WORLD MISSION OFFERING

### **World Mission Offering - "God is Doing Something New"**

"See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland." - ISAIAH 43:19

We will be collecting the World Mission Offering in October and our goal is \$1,750. Our God is a God of miracles who is always at work bringing hope, healing, liberation, and restoration to people around the world through His church and His Global Servants. We have the privilege and responsibility of participating in His great work through our giving.

You are an extremely generous congregation and I know you will help to support the miraculous work God is doing through His people around the world. Thank you!



### **Global Servant Spotlight**

**Mercy González-Barnes** - MERCY is a regional consultant in theological education and leadership development in Iberoamérica and the Caribbean. Mercy teaches, mentors, and walks alongside men and women that are following God's call in their lives. She works with colleagues and local leaders to provide resources such as retreats and workshops. Mercy is also part of a team of global servants that are collaborating with Palmer Seminary in a NEW Online master's in theological studies in Spanish. Learning using this medium makes higher education accessible to many people from countries in Iberoamérica and the

Caribbean. "I love to see the emotion and gratitude in the eyes of the students; they are truly thankful for this opportunity to stretch for the Kingdom of God. God is indeed doing a new thing"

<https://www.internationalministries.org/author/m-gonzalez-barnes/>

Jim Goodnow, Missions

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. [Ephesians 2:10](#)

# DOORSTEP

The work has begun on our new HVAC system! Thank you to everyone who donated towards our 55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fund to make this upgrade possible, and completely paid for once complete!

The staff and volunteers have begun working on our annual Doorstep Christmas Adoption Project. We will adopt 260 households with 800+ individuals from the Christmas Bureau again this year.



**What we really need right now are school supplies**, especially as they go on clearance, **and full-sized hygiene items** to make the health kits. We need to have all of these items assembled and ready to hand out by Thanksgiving. This will allow us to focus on other aspects of the distribution process. We need to collect the following items in October:

**School Supplies** ~ Backpacks, spiral notebooks, folders, notebook paper (150-200 sheets), pens, pencils, crayons 24 ct., 12-inch rulers, scissors, erasers, highlighters, markers, pencil sharpeners, and glue sticks. Last year we provided school supplies for the second half of the year for 273 children.



**Hygiene Items for the Health Kits** ~

We have lots of towels! We need the items that go inside. Full sized items only please. We will make 260 kits to provide for 800+ individuals... We need shampoo, conditioner (2+1 ok), bar soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, combs, brushes, and deodorant.



Bring donations to: Doorstep, Inc., 1119 SW 10<sup>th</sup> Ave, Topeka, Ks 66604. Office hours: Monday – Friday, 8am – 3pm, south door. Please let us know your donations are for Christmas!





# WORSHIP

The Revised Common  
Lectionary Scripture  
Texts

Reader: Sonia Roling

## October 2

Lamentations 1:1-6  
2 Timothy 1:1-14  
Luke 17:5-10

## October 9

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7  
2 Timothy 2:8-15  
Luke 17:11-19

## October 16

Jeremiah 31:27-34  
2 Timothy 3:14-4:5  
Luke 18:1-8

## October 23

Joel 2:23-32  
2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18  
Luke 18:9-14

## October 30

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4  
2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12  
Luke 19:1-10

## OCTOBER USHERS

Steve May, Nancy Lindberg  
Nathen Poe, Clarence Payne  
Harry Carpenter

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

## OCTOBER COMMUNION SERVERS

Pat Carpenter, Nathen Poe,  
Mark & Betty Arnold



**CHOIR REHEARSALS** - Join the Choir for rehearsals on **WEDNESDAY'S** at 7:00 pm in the **Sanctuary**. 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!*



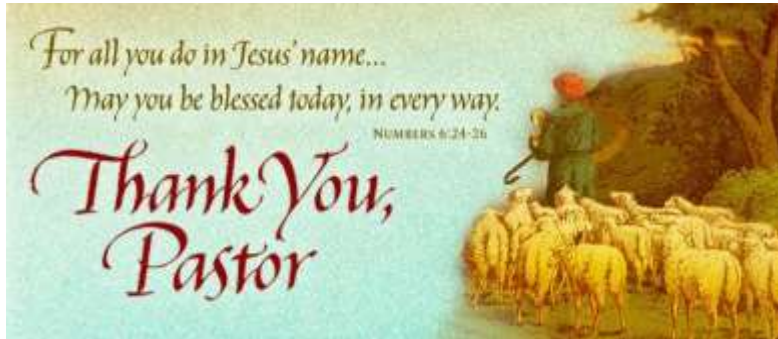
**WORLD  
COMMUNION  
SUNDAY**

*Every year on the first Sunday in October, Christians around the globe celebrate World Communion Sunday to show our common unity and call to be **ONE CHURCH** in Jesus Christ.*

*The Lord's Table is **OPEN** to all people of faith!*



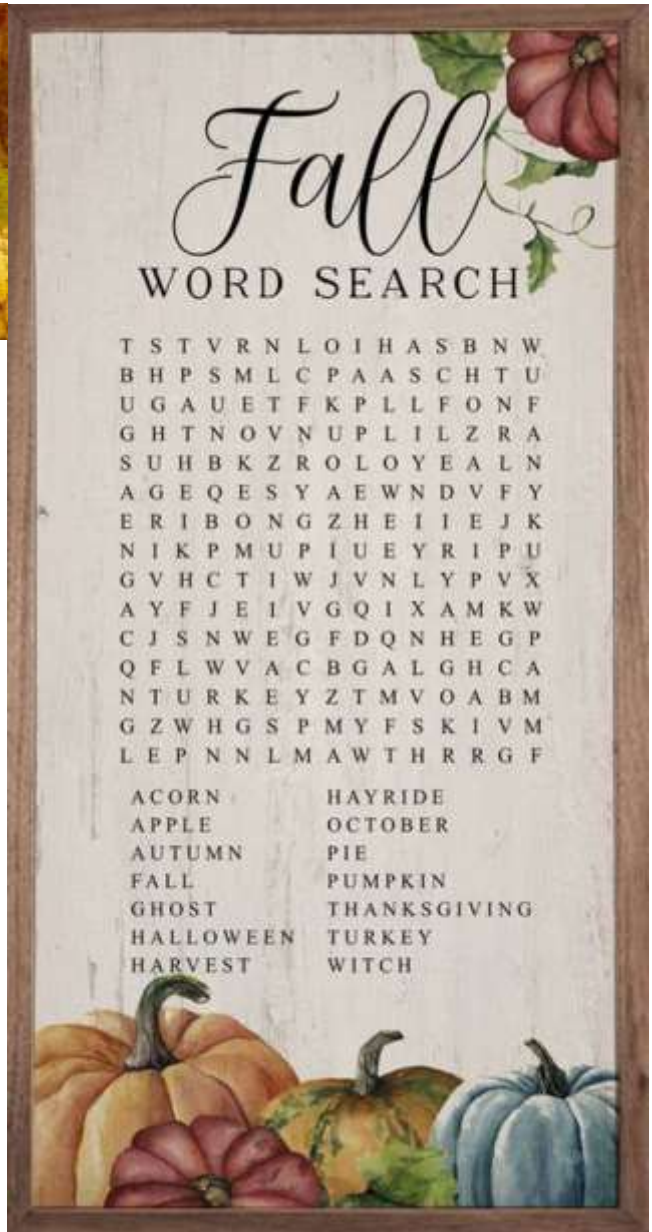
# ACTIVITY PAGE



## THANK YOU

FOR YOUR LEADERSHIP,  
YOUR FAITHFULNESS,  
AND YOUR HEART

MAY GOD BLESS YOU!



## FALL

Directions: The words are hidden vertically and horizontally.



### Word Box:

October	leaves	acorn
autumn	tree	raking
scarecrow	red	school
harvest	yellow	apple
pumpkin	brown	corn
squirrel	orange	carnival

©WindupTeacher

### Deciduous Trees

Find each word in the search. Words go 1, 2, and 3.



# October Happenings

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

<p>October is <b>Pastor Appreciation Month</b> <i>...thank your pastor!</i></p>				<p><b>ABCCR ANNUAL GATHERING</b> <b>Sept. 30-Oct 1</b> <b>Muskogee, Oklahoma</b></p>		<p><b>1</b> 1:30 pm Worship Team</p>
<p><b>2 WORLD Communion</b> 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship</p>	<p><b>3</b> 9:00-11:00 am Baby Closet</p>	<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>5</b> 10:30 am Bible Study 3:30 pm Harvester's 3:30 pm Baby Closet 5:30 pm WWW 7:00 pm Choir</p>	<p><b>6</b> 1:00-3:00 pm Baby Closet</p>	<p><b>7</b> 1:00 pm Game Day  6:00 pm Game Night</p>	<p><b>8</b> 1:30 pm Worship Team</p>
<p><b>9</b> 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship</p>	<p><b>10</b> 9:00-11:00 am Baby Closet</p>	<p><b>11</b>  <b>6:00 pm Council Meeting</b></p>	<p><b>12</b> 10:30 am Bible Study 3:30 pm Harvester's 3:30 pm Baby Closet 5:30 pm WWW 7:00 pm Choir</p>	<p><b>13</b> 1:00-3:00 pm Baby Closet</p>	<p><b>14</b></p>	<p><b>15</b> 9-12 Work Day at Church 1:30 pm Worship Team</p>
<p><b>16</b> 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship</p>	<p><b>17</b> 9:00-11:00 am Baby Closet</p>	<p><b>18</b>  <b>5:30 pm Christian Education Meeting</b></p>	<p><b>19</b> 10:30 am Bible Study 3:30 pm Harvester's 3:30 pm Baby Closet 5:30 pm WWW 7:00 pm Choir</p>	<p><b>20</b> 1:00-3:00 pm Baby Closet</p>	<p><b>21</b></p>	<p><b>22</b> 1:30 pm Worship Team</p>
<p><b>23</b> 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship</p>	<p><b>24</b> 9:00-11:00 am Baby Closet  6:00 pm DAR</p>	<p><b>25</b>  <b>6:30 pm Outreach Meeting</b></p>	<p><b>26</b> 10:30 am Bible Study 3:30 pm Harvester's 3:30 pm Baby Closet 5:30 pm WWW 7:00 pm Choir</p>	<p><b>27</b> 1:00-3:00 pm Baby Closet</p>	<p><b>28</b></p>	<p><b>29</b> 1:30 pm Worship Team</p>
<p><b>30 REFORMATION</b> 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship</p>	<p><b>31</b> 9:00-11:00 am Baby Closet <b>6:00 pm TRUNK OR TREAT</b></p>			<p><b>Share Prayer Concerns and Download the Weekly Prayer Sheet at</b> <a href="https://wsbctopeka.org/get-help/prayer-request">https://wsbctopeka.org/get-help/prayer-request</a></p>		