The Witness

THE NEWSLETTER OF WEST SIDE BAPTIST CHURCH OF TOPEKA, KS

| May 2023 | | | | | | | | | |
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From the Pastor's Desk: "GATHER IN FOR PENTECOST" "While Jesus was still with them, he said:

'Don't leave Jerusalem yet. Wait here for the Father to give you the Holy Spirit, just as I told you he has promised to do.'" Acts 1:4 (CEV)

Why did Jesus tell his disciples to stay in Jerusalem until the Festival of Weeks (Jewish wheat harvest festival, known as *Shavuot*)? The authorities were looking for Jesus' followers. They were being threatened. They were afraid for their lives. Why wait 50 days under extreme conditions in the holy city?

God had a plan: to gather His people from around the world to receive His promised gift: the paraclete, the Holy Spirit, the breathe of God that gives new life. God gathered the faithful from the nations into Jerusalem for a festival. As the people gathered for worship, God released His supernatural powerful Spirit upon them, the day we celebrate as Pentecost. Jesus' followers would form a new community; the Church.

This Pentecost (May 28), we will celebrate God's gift of the Holy Spirit. Gather with us! Pastor Ivan+



UPCOMING EVENTS:

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GRADUATES - Christian Education ministry will be honoring our graduates on Sunday, May 7 during our worship service. If

you know of any West Side members who will be graduating from 8th Grade, high school, a college

or university, or a graduate program, please contact the Church Office or Colleen Smith.

CHURCH OFFICE Staff

May Birthdays

13th Barbara Amos 13th Chuck Cozad 14th Juliano Bennett 14th Almira Collier 17th Marianne Spano 18th Alice Payne



8th Tom & Jan Mansfield 10th John & Jan Swain 21st Russ & Fran Hunter



EMERGENCIES & HOSPITAL – If you or a loved one go to the hospital for an emergency or surgery,

the hospital staff and chaplains' office will NOT contact the Church Office or the Pastor.

You or a family member must call the Office at (785) 233-4241.

The pastor is willing to visit the hospital and pray before surgeries, during emergencies, and stays.



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

MONDAYS - CLOSED

TUESDAYS-THURSDAYS 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM

> **FRIDAYS** 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM

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

CLOSED FOR HOLIDAYS

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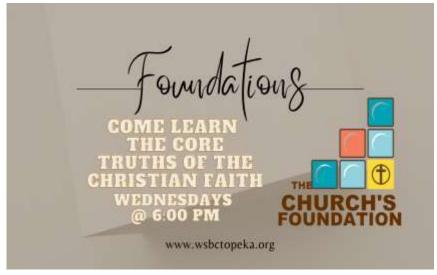
CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & YOUTH GROUP

FOUNDATIONS BIBLE CLASS – Pastor Ivan will teach a five-week introductory class on BIBLICAL FOUNDATIONS on Wednesdays at 6:00-7:30 pm starting May 3 in Holmer Hall (first-floor parlor). All are welcome! Bring your Bibles and your questions. Topics include:

- Introduction & The Bible
- God and the Trinity
- Creation & Evil
- Jesus & Salvation
- The Holy Spirit and the Church
- Heaven and The End Times

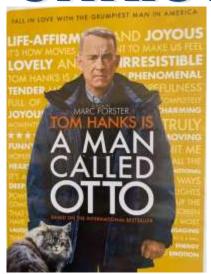




PANCAKE PALOOZA YOUTH **FUNDRAISER** West Side Baptist youth will hostina pancake а breakfast fundraiser Sunday, May 21 from 8:30-10:00 am. We will be serving pancakes, scrambled eggs, and sausage. The meal will include your choice of orange juice, coffee, or milk. Funds raised will help the youth pay to attend Quest at Green Lake. Wisconsin this summer. All donations will be gratefully accepted.



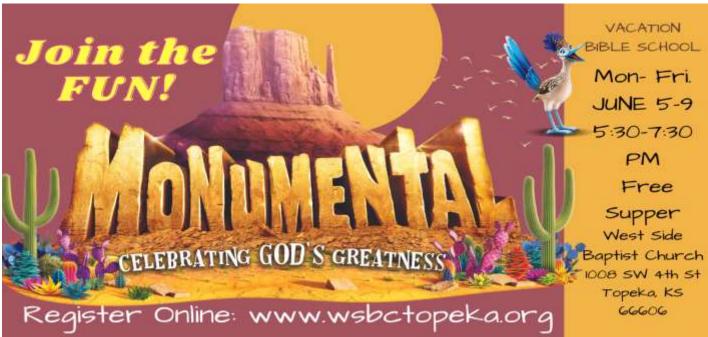
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL CINEMA. It will begin on Sunday, June 5th in Holmer Hall. Our first feature movie is **A Man Called Otto** starring Tom Hanks. This movie was just released January 13, 2023. Otto, played by Tom Hanks, is a grump who has given up on life following the loss of his wife and wants to end it all. When a young family moves in nearby, he meets his match in quick-witted Marisol, leading to a friendship that will turn his world around. It is rated PG-13 and is a combination of comedy and drama. Refreshments will start at 9:00 a.m. with the movie starting promptly at 9:15 a.m. followed by group discussions. There is a <u>sign-up sheet on the bulletin board</u> for those who would like to bring treats. Coffee and juice will be served with breakfast items prepared by those who would like to bring something. Don't miss this opportunity to see a new Tom Hanks movie, to enjoy tasty treats, and to talk with church friends about the storyline and what life lessons can be learned.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - Vacation Bible School planning is well underway. The dates for this week-long event are June 5-9. Supper will be served at 5:30 and activities will begin at 6:00. Children who have completed Kindergarten through 8th grade are invited to attend. REGISTER ONLINE or CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE. Be sure to invite your neighbors and grandchildren. Thanks to everyone who has volunteered to help. We are still in need of additional volunteers so if you have a desire to be a part of this special ministry, contact Colleen or Rexanne.





WWW KIDS BIBLE CLUB - Thanks to all of our leaders, volunteers AND kitchen staff for an outstanding year of WWW Kids Bible Club. The year ended with an entertaining Easter Play. Watch the video online on the church's <u>YouTube Channel</u>. No WWW Kids Club in May, June, or July. COME TO SUNDAY SCHOOL at 9:15 am

SUMMER CAMP

UNSHAKEABLE FAITH

life above the chaos

ABCCR CAMPING 2023

CAMP CHRISTY

June 5-9: High School; \$229 June 12-16: Middle School; \$229 June 19-23: Junior Camp; \$229 June 26-28: Primary Camp; \$124 June 29-30: Day Camp; \$90

CAMP WHITE MEMORIAL

July 7-9: Primary Camp; \$260 July 10-14: Junior Camp; \$355 July 10-14: High School Camp \$355 July 17-21: Middle School Camp; \$355

"NOW FAITH IS CONFIDENCE IN WHAT WE HOPE FOR AND ASSURANCE ABOUT WHAT WE DO NOT SEE." HEBREWS 11:1

Ages for camp are what the student will be in the fall

High School grades 9-12 Junior grades 4-6

Middle High grades 6-8 Primary grades 2-4

Church Summer Camp Registration is now OPEN! Sign Up TODAY! WSBC students may earn up to \$100.00 in scholarship funds for one summer camp. Contact Colleen.



QUEST YOUTH SUMMER CAMP JULY 9-15 | \$350.00 per camper Anyone completed 6th - 12th grade

OUTREACH

FOOD PANTRY

MOST WEDNESDAYS 3:30 - 5:30 PM *All food is available free of cost!

wsbctopeka.org/get-help/foodpantry

No Food Pantry in July.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED! SEE JACK JANWAY TO HELP!

BABY CLOSET

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

wsbctopeka.org/get-help/babycloset

BLESSING BOXES COLLECTION

There is a collection box for non-

perishable food items and hygiene products that will be used for our blessing box in Fellowship Hall on the side of the Milk Refrigerator. ~Jack Janwav. Coordinator of



GETTING TO KNOW OUR CHURCH FRIENDS

<u>Karen Kirby</u> has attended West Side Baptist Church since she was born. She was baptized in 1966. Over her lifetime she has enjoyed serving communion in the sanctuary and to shut-ins, giving small gifts to the children, singing in the choir and serving on the Nominating Committee. Karen is also a most thoughtful person who remembers our birthdays and anniversaries and enjoys sending cards to cheer people who are sick, who have lost a loved one or sometimes just because.

Karen's mom, Geneva, was a member of West Side from 1931 until her passing in 1994. Her mom's home was just a block and a half from the church. Her parents Nels & Eva Olson, her sisters Ragnhild and Vera and her brother Fritz attended West Side which was then "Forsta Svenska Baptiste Kyrkan." When her mom was young the morning services were in Swedish.



Karen's dad, Reg, was born in New York and met Geneva when he was stationed at Forbes Air Force Base during WWII. He joined our church in 1946, the same year they were married. He was a faithful member until his death at the age of 99 in 2019. They had two daughters, Karen and Janice.

Karen went to Highland Park High School, played the clarinet and was in the marching band. She graduated in 1966 and continued her schooling at Clark's Business College in Topeka.

Karen started working for the State of Kansas in 1968 where she eventually worked in the Department of Revenue. She was on the front desk helping customers. Karen retired in 2002 after 34 years to begin helping with her dad who was experiencing health issues.

An interesting fact: Karen and Janice's grandfather, Nels Olson, placed the cornerstone of our church building. He also built the stone setting for the church sign on the SE corner of the church. Their Uncle Fritz's name is one of the four names on the placard. The other three young men died in WWII. Their Uncle Fritz was in the service too, but later got cancer and died at home. All four were church friends. When you have time, take a look up close at the cornerstone, church sign and placard!

Karen reminisced about our church's 100th Centennial in 1981 and the smorgasbord of delicious Swedish foods. That year her mom served on the Historical Committee that was responsible for a new Heritage Room created in the room off the northeast corner of the sanctuary.

Karen has enjoyed vacations to New York and Washington D.C. but it was the trips to California and Estes Park, Colorado that she likes remembering. Her family joined Barb, Buddy and Breck Edds (former church members) on trips to California and Estes Park, Colorado. They traveled by bus to the Grand Canyon to see Janice when she worked there and to hike into the canyon.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

GETTING TO KNOW OUR CHURCH FRIENDS

In 1981 Janice and Karen traveled to Puerto Rico and Haiti with former West Side Pastor Doug & Martha Beyer, their daughters and Vern Allbert. They attended the American Baptist Conference in Puerto Rico and visited American Baptist mission work in Haiti. She remembers celebrating her birthday while in Haiti and that Cathy Beyer thought she should celebrate in the pool... fully clothed which she helped facilitate.

Karen's favorite things to do include: reading biographies and Christian novels, playing board games, going to craft shows and making crafts (silk flower arrangements and grapevine wreaths), working puzzles and sending cards. She also enjoys watching basketball and football games.

Over the years Karen has enjoyed attending Christian women's conferences featuring Anne Graham Lotz, Jill Briscoe, Beth Moore, Carol Kent and Jennifer Rothschild. She's also attended the Women of Faith Conferences featuring such women as Patsy Clairmont and Luci Swindoll and gone to the Jesus Rocky Mountain celebrations. During recent summers she's enjoyed Bible Studies by Priscilla Shirer and Jennifer Rothschild.

Last fall Karen and Janice began sponsoring a young girl in Togo, Africa through Compassion International. They enjoy exchanging letters with their new friend.

Karen wants you all to know how much she appreciates all the love, prayers and support from our congregation through the years.

Chuck Cozad was born and raised in Topeka. He has a sister, Jacque Hale, who is

married and lives on a farm near Lecompton. Chuck grew up attending First Baptist Church and was baptized when he was in 6th grade. He started attending West Side Baptist when Rev. Art Campbell was pastor and decided to join our church family.

Currently Chuck is our church coordinator to Doorstep which is a non-profit that works with faith-based organizations to provide short-term emergency aid to individuals in Topeka in need. He helps with our weekly food pantry distribution and occasionally ushers. Chuck is also one of the signers on our checking account. Thank you, Chuck!

Chuck graduated from Highland Park High School. He attended Washburn University and Johnson County Community College before studying accounting at the University of Kansas and graduating in 1994 with a Bachelor of Science degree.

Chuck has various work experiences in Topeka, Lawrence and Kansas City. They include working at Hills Packing Company, Radio Shack, Topeka Police



Department, King Radio, Burlington Northern Railroad, Allied Signal Defense Plant, and working for the IRS in Kansas City and then in Topeka. He was an IRS Tax Resolution Representative for 14 years before retiring.

For fun, Chuck enjoys fishing, archery and playing some golf in the summers.

~ Nancy Lindberg



Find important information on the Church Website:

- Become a Follower of Jesus
- Get <u>Baptized!</u>
- Join a Bible Study at https://
 wsbctopeka.org/grow/bible-studies
- Council minutes are kept at https://wsbctopeka.org/about-us/our-leaders.
- **Give online** at https://west-side-baptist-church.square.site.
- Kids Programs at https://wsbctopeka.org/
 kids.
- Newsletters are available at https://wsbctopeka.org/newsletter.
- Sunday service is <u>LIVE-STREAM</u> and on our <u>YouTube channel</u>.
- Worship bulletins at https://wsbctopeka.org/bulletins-2023.
- Volunteer to help others at https://wsbctopeka.org/serving-opportunities.
- Past sermons can be found on Facebook and on our YOUTUBE channel.
- Email the Church Office at office@wsbctopeka.org

CELEBRATING a LIFE & LEGACY



HARRY CARPENTER MEMORIAL

It is with deep sadness we share the news of the passing of our dearest friend, Harry Jay Carpenter. He entered into God's eternal rest on Friday, April 21, 2023.

A Memorial Service was celebrated on Sunday, April 30, at 2:00 pm in the sanctuary of West Side Baptist Church. The church was full of family and friends who loved Harry, and who were loved by Harry. We remember Pat, Al, Lonna and their families in our prayers.

Memorial Contributions will be received to honor Harry's life and legacy by mailing your check to West Side Baptist Church, 1008 SW 4th St., Topeka, Ks 66606 or GIVE ONLINE.

Services are arranged by Piper Funeral Home, 714 Maple Street, St. Mary's, Kansas 66536.

TREASURER'S REPORT

OUR CHURCH FINANCES

The first quarter (January - March) giving statements have been passed out or mailed. I hope you take a pledged will see the pledge information at the bottom of the REMEMBER YOUR OFFERINGS form. Please let me know if your place. according to your wishes.



Our income for March was \$17,592.81 compared to \$17,863.63 in February for a total income for the year of \$53,156.24. This is 19.88% of our budget. 3/12 of the budget year is 25%.

Our expenses for March were \$36,617.78 compared to \$21,484.23 in February for total expenses from first of the year through March of \$78,492.17. This is 28.57% of the budget. Expense items to note include: \$13,918 - Annual insurance coverage which increased from last year, \$365 - CCLI License renewed, and \$910.00 youth expenses (Silver Dollar City passes covered by the youth's fundraising efforts).

The difference of income to expenses through March is -\$25,335.93.

Our checking account balance shown on the balance sheet is \$111,214.55 compared to \$128,489.44 last month. A large portion of our balance is in the Capital Campaign and Outreach funds.



The Benevolent Fund balance is \$7.081.17.

We approved at the March council meeting a memorials expense for a new lap top computer for the pastor. Brice is purchasing the new computer so the Memorials Committee will meet to determine which memorial fund(s) to use for the purchase. If you have a recommendation, please let Alice Payne, Bev McCurdy, Molly Morris or me know.

Let me know if you have any questions. Thanks.

~ Nancy Lindberg, Treasurer





ONLINE **GIVING** https://west-sidebaptistchurch.square.site



A SMALL CHURCH WITH A BIG HEART FOR JESUS & OUR NEIGHBORS

WEST SIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

1008 SW Fourth Street | Topeka, KS 66606 Phone: (785) 233-4241 | office@wsbctopeka.org

> **FOLLOW US HERE!** www.wsbctopeka.org

WORSHIP

The Revised Common Lectionary Texts

Reader:
Pat Carpenter

MAY 7:

Acts: 2:42-47 1 Peter 2:19-25 John 10:1-10

MAY 14: MOTHER'S DAY

Acts 7:55-60 1 Peter 2:2-10 John 14:1-14

MAY 21:

Acts 17:22-31 1 Peter 3:13-22 John 14:15-21

May 28:Penecost

Acts 1:1-11 Ephesians 1:15-23 Luke 24:44-53



venmo

PREPARING FOR

WORSHIP - As we gather for worship, you may hear some pre-recorded music playing prior to the worship service. This music will be an introduction to new music that we'll be singing in future worship services. This allows you to hear the music



prior to the Worship Team leading new songs and allow you to become more familiar with it. ~ Brice Smith



BAPTIZED IN JESUS - We rejoice in the recent baptism of Austin Cripe by his father on Sunday, April 23. Austin is the eight-year-old son of Amy and Jared Cripe, and grandson of award-winning grandparents, Colleen and Brice Smith.

Baptism is a religious practice in Christian churches where a new follower of Jesus Christ is immersed (fully dipped) in water in the "name of the

Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit." We believe in the Priesthood of All Believers - so any baptized member can baptized a person. Speak with Pastor Ivan if you would like to follow Jesus in baptism.

MAY USHERS

David Greuter, David Martin, Sonia Roling, Clarence Payne

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

MAY COMMUNION SERVERS

Nancy Lindberg, Molly Morris
Tera Freeman and Colleen Smith

ACTIVITY PAGE



Memorial Day

AMERICAN OE н N 5 MH 5 0 Q. 0 ANTHEM D CEMETERY CEREMONY COMMEMORATE DECORATION FALLEN FLAGS **FLOWERS** FREEDOM Ø GRAVE HALF MAST R N RHP **HEROES**

REMEMBRANCE

HOLIDAY

HONOR

MAY

MEMORIAL

OBSERVANCE

PATRIOTIC

SACRIFICE SALUTE SERVICE SOLDIERS TAPS

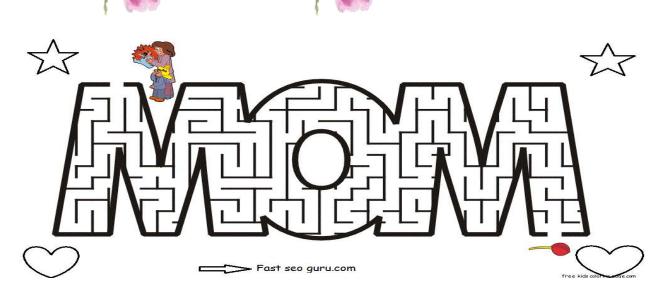


VETERANS

WAR



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| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|---|--|---|-----------------------|--|
| | OFFICE CLOSED 9:00-11:00 am Baby Closet | 2 | 3 10:30 Bible Study 3:30-5:30 Food Pantry 3:30-6:30 pm Baby Closet 6:00 pm Foundations | A National Day of Prayer 1:00-3:00 pm Baby Closet | 5 | 6 1:00 pm Worship Team 2:30 pm Worship Committee Mtg |
| 7 COM- MUNION 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship | 8 OFFICE CLOSED 9:00-11:00 am Baby Closet | 9 6:00 pm Council Meeting | 10 10:30 Bible Study 3:30-5:30 Food Pantry 3:30-6:30 pm Baby Closet 6:00 pm Foundations | 11 1:00-3:00 pm Baby Closet | 12 | 13 1:00 pm Worship Team |
| 14 Mother's Day 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship | OFFICE CLOSED 9:00-11:00 am Baby Closet | 5:30 pm Christian Ed Meet- ing | 17 10:30 Bible Study 3:30-5:30 Food Pantry 3:30-6:30 pm Baby Closet 6:00 pm Foundations | 18 1:00-3:00 pm Baby Closet | 19 | 20 1:00 pm Worship Team |
| 21 8:30 am Pan- cake Palooza 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship | OFFICE CLOSED 9:00-11:00 am Baby Closet | 23 6:00 pm Outreach Meeting | 24 10:30 Bible Study 3:30-5:30 Food Pantry 3:30-6:30 pm Baby Closet 6:00 pm Foundations | 25 1:00-3:00 pm Baby Closet | 26 | 27 1:00 pm Worship Team |
| 28 PENTECOST 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship | CLOSED MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY 9:00-11:00 am Baby Closet | 30 | 31 10:30 Bible Study 3:30-5:30 Food Pantry 3:30-6:30 pm Baby Closet 6:00 pm Foundations | N P | ATIO DAYOR HAYY | VAL ER |