

The Witness

THE NEWSLETTER OF WEST SIDE BAPTIST CHURCH, TOPEKA, KS



MAY EVENTS:

- Seder Supper 1
- National Day of Prayer..... 2
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CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES’ 210TH ANNIVERSARY JOIN US AT THE GLOBAL ENCOUNTER WATCH PARTIES

The **Global Encounter** is your opportunity to experience the World Mission Conference in an online format. The Global Encounter is a multilingual, cross-cultural event that celebrates International Ministries’ 210th anniversary with presentations from global servants and partners, international music and worship, and interactive elements to engage the participants.

Each Global Encounter session is 90-minutes long. They will be held in Holmer Hall (first-floor parlor) on:

FIRST SESSION:

Tuesday, May 21, 2024 at 6:00 PM
and repeated on Wednesday, May 22 at 10:30 AM

SECOND SESSION:

Wednesday, May 22 at 6 PM
and repeated on Wednesday, May 29 at 10:30 AM

The events are free and open to the public! You can choose to attend one or both sessions. The Global Encounter is not something you will sit and watch. It will engage your heart, mind and body through the music and worship, interactive games, quizzes and polls. We will also have door prizes sent by our global servants from the mission field.

Immediately following each Global Encounter are opportunities for you to learn more about our global servants. And two weeks later International Ministries is offering a deep dive into several topics and ministries featured in a series of workshops offered on June 4, 5 and 8. Watch for more information in the News in the Pews.

Mission is one of our core activities as followers of Jesus Christ; along side worship and discipleship.

Plan now to join us!

Blessings,
Pastor Ivan+



May 2024						
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	

CHURCH OFFICE Our Staff

5/08 Tom & Jan Mansfield
5/21 Russ & Fran Seymour Hunter



Anniversary & Birthday List

5/07 Myrt Blasdel
5/13 Barbara Amos
5/13 Chuck Cozad
5/13 Mary Woodall
5/14 Almira Collier
5/17 Marianne Spano
5/18 Alice Payne
5/29 Joshua Tripod

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

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



CHILD - PARENT DEDICATIONS

We will dedicate children (newborn+) on

**Mother's Day (May 12) during
the 10:30 AM Worship Service**

This free service is open to all parents,
guardians, and families.

**Contact Pastor Ivan to sign up to dedicate
your child on May 12, 2024.**



HONOR THOSE WHO SERVED

We will honor the men and women of our
church who served in the US armed forces
during the service on

Sunday, May 26 at 10:30 AM

The OFFICE will be CLOSED on May 27.



Remember -
our fallen heroes.
They are the reason
that we are free.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



YOUTH – Come on SUNDAY MORNINGS for Youth Group in the downstairs Youth Room.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

**Mountain & Prairie National Youth Gathering
June 6-10 in Estes Park, Colorado**

Text Tera or a Youth Leader to go.
We will plan fundraisers as soon as possible.

**Children and Youth interested in Church Summer
Camp should visit with Pastor Ivan.**

<https://www.abccr.org/abccr-camping>

SUNDAY SCHOOL CINEMA - Sunday Cinema begins June 2nd in Holmer Hall. Our first feature movie this summer is **American Underdog** starring Zachary Levi, Anna Paquin and Dennis Quaid. This movie tells the inspirational true story of Kurt Warner who longs to become an NFL player, but years of setbacks constantly prevent him from reaching his goal. As Kurt stocks shelves in a supermarket with his dreams all but out of reach, his wife, coaches, and teammates encourage him to show the world the champion they know him to be. Kurt perseveres and finds the strength to show the world the champion that he already is. American Underdog is an uplifting story that proves anything is possible when you have faith, family and determination.

This movie will be divided into several Sundays. Refreshments will start at 9:00 a.m. with the movie starting promptly at 9:15 a.m. followed by group discussions. I hope you will plan to join us.

There is a [sign-up sheet on the bulletin board](#) for those who would like to bring treats, serve and clean-up for one of the Sunday mornings. Coffee and juice will be provided with breakfast items prepared by those who would like to bring something.

Don't miss this opportunity to see a movie, to enjoy tasty treats, and to talk with church friends about what life lessons can be learned from this movie and others throughout the summer. ~ Nancy Lindberg



**SAVE THE DATE: VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
Monday-Friday, July 15-19**

Supper at 5:30

Programming 6:00-8:00 pm

Watch for more details

~ Pat Carpenter & Marty Stevenson

FELLOWSHIP & MISSIONS

MENS & LADIES NIGHT OUT - This is a fun time of building friendships in church.

LADIES NIGHT OUT: The LADIES will meet at 6:00 pm on May 7 at Jose Peppers.

Each person is responsible for paying for her meal, and don't forget to bring a friend and pay for their meal. If you need a ride, please get in touch with Colleen Smith. We are looking forward to a fun fellowship time!



MENS' NIGHT OUT: The MEN will meet at 6:00 pm on May 7 IHOP. Each person is responsible for paying for his meal. Each person is responsible for paying for her meal, and don't forget to bring a friend and pay for their meal. If you need a ride, please get in touch with Brice Smith. We are looking forward to a fun fellowship time!



GRADUATION RECOGNITION SUNDAY

On Sunday, May 5, during the 10:30 am service, the Church will recognize all students graduating this year, including kindergarten, eighth grade, high school, technical or vocational, college, or graduate programs. We want to honor all scholars, so please call the Church Office with your student's information.

COMMUNITY GROUPS – Come learn to engage in civil conversations on tough topics **TODAY, April 28, at 5:30 pm.** POTATO BAR supper at 5:30 pm (sign up to bring food on the bulletin board outside the Church Office). All are welcome including neighbors and friends from Topeka. **Community Groups meet the SECOND and FOURTH Sundays of each month (except on Mother's Day!!).**

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

As you read on you will see that page 5 has all the information needed to sign up for the New Church Directory. If you should have any questions please talk with Colleen or Lynda in the church office. If you need someone to help you with signing up than see one of us to guide or help you. We will also have signing up on Sunday's before and after Church as well. So do not get discouraged we are here to help. We really want everyone that are members in the church directory and would like for everyone to take advantage of this offer for even our non members. This is really a good deal for everyone. So please call the office if you should have any questions. Hope to see you all there on Friday May 31 or Saturday June 1.

Dear Church *family,*
It's time for a New Directory!



*Celebrating faith.
Connecting families.
Sharing hope.*

When people enter the doors of our church they are looking for a place to belong. Our directory brings us together to develop new relationships, connect with our own families and reconnect with those we haven't seen in a while. Join us for this "Connections Event" and be part of what God is doing right here at our church!

Directory Committee

Connections Event

Our church directory will not be complete without you. Join us to celebrate faith and family with our new church family album.

- **Schedule your professional photography session when you stop by the sign-up table at church or simply go online and follow the instructions below.** If we don't see your name on our list of appointments, you will receive a phone call inviting you to participate.
- **Everyone who is photographed by Universal will receive a complimentary 8 x 10 portrait and a directory!**
- **Universal provides a complete professional portrait studio right here at our church!** You'll enjoy a variety of poses, backgrounds, portrait sizes, finish and framing options AND have the opportunity to purchase portraits to give to family and friends.

Set your appointment with Universal today!



*Gathering families,
Connecting generations.*



Online Scheduling Available!

To schedule your photography appointment online, simply go to www.ucdir.com, click on photography appointment scheduling login on the right side, enter KS185 in the Church Code field and enter photos in the Church Password field. Follow the prompts to schedule your family's appointment time. If you have 6 or more in your family, please use 2 consecutive time slots. The online scheduling option is available Monday through Friday. Appointments fill up quickly, so schedule as soon as possible to secure your preferred date and time.

Did you know that you could invite a friend or family members to take a picture? While they won't appear in our directory they will get a free 8x10 and an opportunity to purchase pictures of their family. How about a group picture of the family (grandparents with children and grandchildren). And did you know you could even bring your pets in on picture day too!



OUTREACH

FOOD PANTRY

*All food is available free of cost!

MOST WEDNESDAYS

3:30 - 5:30 PM

May, 1, 8, 15, 22

Yes! Food Pantry

wsbctopeka.org/get-help/food-pantry

**No Food Pantry on the
5th Wednesday of the month**

BABY CLOSET

MONDAY - 9:00-11:00AM

WEDNESDAY - 3:30-5:30 PM

THURSDAY - 1:00-3:00 PM

wsbctopeka.org/get-help/baby-closet

***NEED DONATIONS OF DIAPERS
NEED WEDNESDAY VOLUNTEERS!***

*Find important information on the
Church Website:*

- ◆ **Become a Follower of Jesus**
- ◆ **Get Baptized!**
- ◆ 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 **LIVE-STREAM** and on our **YouTube channel**.
- ◆ **Worship bulletins** at <https://wsbctopeka.org/bulletins-2024>.
- ◆ **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

BLESSING BOXES COLLECTION

Jack is still filling the Blessing Boxes. We need to thank him for all he does at West Side Baptist Church.
~Jack Janway,
Coordinator of Outreach



TREASURER'S REPORT

OUR CHURCH FINANCES

Our income for March was \$28,369.52 up from \$23,104.21 in February. We had five Sundays instead of the usual four which impacted our income. At the end of the third month of the year our income is \$72,000.95 or 26.84%. Our % goal for the first three months is \$25% of the annual budget so we have exceeded our goal.

Our expenses for March totaled \$38,193.65 up from \$25,087.45 in February and a total for three months of \$88,025.38 which is 29.60% of our budget. The main expenditure to impact our expenses was our annual insurance policy payment of \$14,783.00. Another expense was the piano/organ tuning of \$545.00. The gas utility was down more than \$500 from last month!

The difference of income to expenses to date is -\$16,024.43

Our checking account balance shown on the balance sheet is \$74,956.00. A portion of our balance, \$45,080.03, is in the Capital Campaign and \$12,133.24 is in Outreach funds. There is also \$14,959.72 in the old Capital Campaign account that is designated for the elevator maintenance and inspection.

The Benevolent Fund balance is \$2,656.45.

First quarter statements are prepared and are available to be picked up. Please take time to review not only your giving but also your pledge if you made one for 2024.

Let me know if you have any questions. Thanks.

Nancy Lindberg, Treasurer



GETTING TO KNOW OUR CHURCH FRIENDS

Our Friends story this month features Ernie Longstaff. Ernie is our church custodian and has been for more than 13 years. You might ask: What does Ernie do around the church? But the better question is: What doesn't he do? From polishing floors and vacuuming the carpet, painting and repairing, and setting up and taking down tables and chairs, to opening the church on Sunday mornings and making the Sunday morning coffee. Most of us wonder what we would do without him! He's remarkable in his many talents.



Ernie was born and raised in Topeka. He grew up in the Oakland area. His father, Ernest Sr., was in the produce business providing produce to stores and restaurants. Ernest Jr., nicknamed Sonny, started working for his dad at the age of eight sacking potatoes on Saturdays and Sundays for a grocery store. His mother, Lorraine, was a homemaker and kept the books for her husband's business. Ernie has five siblings - an older sister Sherry, a younger brother Ralph, younger sister Marjorie, another younger brother Sam and the youngest brother Ed is the only one deceased. All of them stayed in Topeka except for Marjorie who lives in Florida.

From Kindergarten until they were married, Ernie grew up just down the street from Judy Frost. They both graduated from Topeka High. Ernie told me that all the boys chased Judy but from 9th grade on they were a couple. They married in June 1956. During high school Ernie loved sports especially track. He was a pole vaulter and placed first in Kansas both his Junior and Senior years breaking state records.

Judy and Ernie had three girls and one boy. Pam is the oldest and lives in Wichita, Becky lives in Kansas City, Steve in Topeka and Lynda in Delia. In case you don't know, Ernie's daughter, Lynda Cokeley, is our church office administrator. Ernie and Judy have 9 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren. After more than 64 years of marriage, Judy passed away April 11, 2021.

After high school Ernie continued to work for his dad until his dad retired. Then he worked a year for Judy's Dad at Martin Lumber before getting hired on at Goodyear. Although Ernie and Judy went to high school with Molly Morris, it was at Goodyear where Don Morris and Ernie became life-long friends. Ernie worked for Goodyear for 42 years before retiring in 2000.

Although Ernie had an uncle (his Dad's brother) who was an ordained minister, he didn't go to church growing up. It wasn't until he was 60 years old that he went forward at West Side Baptist professing his faith and asking to be baptized. It was his friendship with Don and Molly Morris that brought Judy and Ernie to West Side.

So what does someone who has worked since he was 8-years-old do when he retires? He gets another job. Ernie always had side jobs while working for Goodyear. He was an exceptional painter and also flipped houses (about 20) – buying and then renovating and selling them. But after retiring from Goodyear, Fred Ansell as West Side's Deacon of Personnel, asked him to fill in as custodian when our church needed one. What started out as "filling in until someone was hired" has become 13 years and still counting.

I asked Ernie why he worked so much? His answer: "What else would I do?" Thank you Ernie for all you do at West Side Baptist!

~ Nancy Lindberg

WORSHIP



SCRIPTURE READER

MAY USHERS

David Greuter, David Martin,
Sonia Roling, Clarence Payne
& Tony Carreno

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

MAY COMMUNION SERVERS

Clarence & Alice Payne
Mark & Betty Arnold

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:

- **Facebook LIVE** –
<https://www.facebook.com/wsbctopeka>
- **YouTube** -
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/WSBC>



The Revised Common
Lectionary Texts

**WORSHIP CHRIST
THE KING**

Scripture Reader

Don Johnson

Sixth Sunday of Easter

MAY 5th

Acts 10:44-48

1 John 5:1-6

John 15:9-17

Ascension of the Lord

MAY 12th

Acts 1:1-11

Ephesians 1:15-23

Luke 24:44-53

Pentecost

MAY 19th

Acts 2:1-21 or Ezekiel 37:1-14

Romans 8:22-27 or Acts 2:1-2

John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

Trinity

MAY 26th

Isaiah 6:1-8

Romans 8:12-17

John 3:1-17



ACTIVITY PAGE

Mother's Day Word Search



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



MOTHER
 AUNT
 FAMILY
 RESPECT
 COOKING




MOMMY
 LOVE
 PARENT
 WISDOM
 NURTURE



GRANDMA
 SPECIAL
 HUGS
 KISSES
 BEAUTIFUL

Broad stripes and bright stars.... gave proof....



Veteran

I was a proud veteran
 That served my country well
 To those that would listen
 I had many stories to tell.

We fought for America's freedom
 In far away places on foreign land.
 Wherever the battle for democracy raged,
 America's finest made a stand.

We fought for your future
 And the right to remain free.
 For we saw what freedom meant
 To those not blessed with Liberty.

For you and yours
 We would gladly have given our life.
 We faced the fears and perils of battle
 We braved endless turmoil and strife.

Please remember us veterans
 And the sacrifices we made for you.
 Please share the blessings of freedom.
 Proudly wave the red, white and blue.

Lynne Curry
 Copyright 2004

that our flag was still there. Broad stripes and bright stars gave proof that our flag was still there.

Butterfly Word Search



CATERPILLAR
 WING
 CHRYSALIS
 EGGS

INSECT
 BUTTERFLY
 NECTAR

Strawberries

Find each word in the search.
 Words go 7, 8, and 9.

b	a	r	p	a	t	c	h	u	r
p	a	j	i	k	s	i	s	t	i
s	w	s	c	a	q	e	w	o	p
m	j	g	k	l	o	v	e	b	e
f	u	i	v	e	m	d	e	d	n
i	r	t	y	c	t	o	t	i	s
z	e	u	y	g	j	p	o	m	v
i	j	u	i	c	y	u	n	M	y
r	t	a	u	t	n	j	c	a	i
s	t	e	m	u	i	v	d	y	a
u	k	b	f	i	r	e	d	j	t

- | | |
|--------|-------|
| red | juicy |
| ripe | stem |
| seeds | May |
| basket | sweet |
| pick | patch |
| jam | fruit |





Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<p>1 10:30 am Bible Study 3:30 pm Harvesters 3:30 pm Baby Closet 6:00 pm Seder Supper</p>	<p>2 1:00 pm Baby Closet</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4 2:30 pm Worship Committee</p>
<p>5 9:15 am Sunday School Graduate Recognition 10:30 am Worship</p>	<p>6 9:00 am Baby Closet</p>	<p>7 6:00 pm Ladies night out @ Jose Peppers 6:00 pm Men's night out @ Ihop</p>	<p>8 10:30 am Bible Study 3:30 pm Harvesters 3:30 pm Baby Closet 6:00 pm Bible Study</p>	<p>9 1:00 pm Baby Closet</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12 Mother's Day 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Baby Dedication and Baptism's</p>	<p>13 9:00 am Baby Closet</p>	<p>14 6:00 pm Council Members Meeting</p>	<p>15 10:30 am Bible Study 3:30 pm Harvesters 3:30 pm Baby Closet 6:00 pm No Bible Study 6:00 pm Global Encounter</p>	<p>16 1:00 pm Baby Closet</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18 11:00 am Virginia Mansfield Funeral 2:00 pm David Greuter's Graduation</p>
<p>19 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:00 am Aidan Hood's Graduation</p>	<p>20 9:00 am Baby Closet</p>	<p>21 5:30 pm Christian Ed meeting</p>	<p>22 10:30 am Global Mission Encounter 10:30 am No Bible Study 3:30 pm Harvesters 3:30 pm Baby Closet 6:00 pm No Bible Study</p>	<p>23 1:00 pm Baby Closet</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 5:30 pm Community Group Meeting</p>	<p>27 Memorial Day 9:00 am Baby Closet Office Closed</p>	<p>28 6:00 pm Outreach meeting</p>	<p>29 10:30 am Global Encounter 10:30 am No Bible Study 3:30 pm Harvesters 3:30 pm Baby Closet 6:00 pm Bible Study</p>	<p>30 1:00 pm Baby Closet</p>	<p>31 2:00 pm Picture day</p>	