JUNE & JULY 2024 / SUMMERTIME VOLUME 111, NUM. 06-07

The Witness

THE NEWSLETTER OF WEST SIDE BAPTIST CHURCH, TOPEKA, KS

"There is literally nothing

in nature that blooms all

year long, so do not expect yourself to do so"

FROM PASTOR'S PEN: A SEASON FOR GROWTH AND REST

Do you get surprised by social media memes*? Like everyone else, I get caught up watching memes that make me laugh, moan, cry, side swipe, and share. A recent meme that made me stop and say, "Wow! Wait!" was Liryae's quote: "There is literally

nothing in nature that blooms all year long, so do not expect yourself to do so!" - Liryae

So often, I find myself focused on trying to be a better person, growing in

my faith, learning more, serving others more, doing more for God that I forget there are seasons to our physical and spiritual lives that include: *new life and growth, rest and renewal, bearing fruit, and dormancy*. Every living creature has a life cycle and all human relationships have cycle, too like getting married, having children, emptying the nest, bonding again, living alone, etc.

It is important that we accept and allow ourselves to be present in our current season, including the activities and rest of summer. Here are some Christian spiritual practices that you might find enriching this summer:

 Daily Scripture Reading: Dedicate time each day to read and meditate on passages from the Bible. We have to devotionals available: Our Daily Bread and The Secret Place. You can also choose a specific book, author, or theme for the summer.

 Prayer Walks: Take prayer walks in nature, whether it's through a park, a forest, or along the beach. Use this time to connect with God, reflect on His creation, and pray for guidance and wisdom.

 Journaling: Keep a spiritual journal to record your thoughts, prayers, and reflections. Write down insights from your Scripture readings, (continued on next page)



June 2024									
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15			
16	17	18	19	20	21	22			
23	24	25	26	27	28	29			
30									

JUNE EVENTS:

Communion 2

Youth Mountain & Prairie Conference Estes Park6-10 Council Meeting 11 Father's Day 16

Juneteenth...... 19

Picnic & Quarterly Business Mt..... 30

JULY EVENTS

Indep Holiday 4

VBS.....15-19

July 2024								
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28	29	30	31					

VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.WSBCTOPEKA.ORG

CHURCH OFFICE Staff

Happy JUNE & JULY Anniversaries

June 21st Brice & Colleen Smith

July 7th Jay & Marty Stevenson July 20th Joseph & Mary Woodall July 27th Clarence & Alice Payne

June 5th Steve Hood June 5th Jan Pukach June 12th Tonya Widow June 15th Amy Cripe June 17th Ashley Smith June 19th Karen Kirby June 19th Becky Poe



July 6th Jan Mansfield
July 8th Doug Mauck
July 13th Molly Morris
July 15th Nancy Lindberg
July 29th Sage Poe
July 30th Dick May Jr.
July 30th Sonya Roling
July 31st Fran Seymour Hunter



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, grammar, 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

www.wsbctopeka.org

(Pastor's Pen)...experiences of God's presence, and prayers for yourself and others.

- Silent Retreat: Consider going on a silent retreat for a day or a weekend. Use this time of solitude and silence to listen to God's voice, reflect on your spiritual journey, and deepen your relationship with Him.
- Creative Expression: Explore different forms of creative expression as a way to worship
 and connect with God. This could include writing poetry or songs, painting or drawing,
 dancing, or playing music.
- Prayer Partnerships: Form prayer partnerships with other believers to support and encourage each other in your spiritual journeys. Meet regularly to pray together, share struggles and victories, and hold each other accountable.

Summer can be a rewarding season of spiritual growth, family adventure, and physical rest. I hope you enjoy the best that God has to offer in your current place and space!

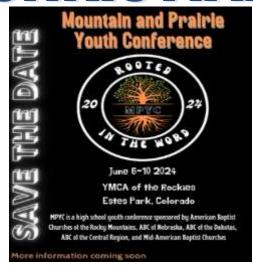
Blessings, Pastor Ivan+

US INDEPENDENCE HOLIDAY

The Church Office will be CLOSED on July 4th in celebration of the US Independence Day Holiday. Have a fun and safe holiday.



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 2 in Holmer Hall at 9:15 AM. This movie will be divided into several Sundays. Refreshments will start at 9:00 a.m., and the movie will start promptly at 9:15 a.m., followed by group discussions. I hope you will plan to join us. Sunday Cinema will run throughout the three months of June, July and August.

A sign-up sheet for individuals to provide refreshments is posted on the bulletin board. Coffee and juice will be provided, and breakfast items will be prepared by those who want to bring something.

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

~ Nancy Lindberg





PANCAKE PALOOZA

The Youth will host their "Pancake Palooza" fundraiser on Sunday, June 2, after worship at 12:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

A free donation will be received to help fund Youth programming and activities, such as the upcoming trip to the Mountain and Prairie Youth Gathering in Estes Park, Colorado.

No reservations are needed.

OUTREACH

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!

WELCOME to our NEW DIRECTOR:
Angie Foster

PRAISE FOR PAT CARRENO!

We are grateful for the extraordinary leadership and years of love Pat Carreno poured into this creative program to meet the needs of children, women and families in Topeka. Pat retired from her role as Baby Closet director. We praise God for her faithful service and wish her happiness and health in her new retirement!



FOOD PANTRY

*All food is available free of cost!

MOST WEDNESDAYS

3:30 - 5:30 PM

Yes! Food Pantry June 5, 12, 19, and 26

No Food Pantry in July

No Food Pantry on the 5th Wednesday of the month

HARVESTERS UPDATE

Harvesters Community Food Network is moving their distribution center from Topeka to Lawrence, Kansas. During the move, there will be disruptions to distributions and deliveries. We are doing our best to minimize these issues. Thank you for your patience.

We will not be distributing any food through the month of July. We will start back up on Wednesday August 7 from 3:30 to 5:30 pm.

wsbctopeka.org/get-help/food-pantry

WWW KIDS BIBLE CLUB

Thanks to all of our leaders, volunteers and kitchen staff for an outstanding year of WWW Kids Bible Club.

No WWW Kids Club in June, or July.

August 14th we will start up the fall session with a foam party.



FELLOWSHIP

MENS & LADIES NIGHT OUT - This is a fun time of building friendships in church. In June and July both the men and the ladies will meet at the same place.

- Tuesday, June 4 @ 6:00pm We will both be meeting at the Blind Tiger at 417 SW 37th Street
- Tuesday, July 2 @ 6:00 pm at Wings Etc. at 2139 SW Fairlawn Plaza Drive

Each person is responsible for paying for her or his 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 or Brice Smith. We are looking forward to a fun fellowship time!





GAME NIGHT - If you like games, food and great fellowship mark your calendar now for game night Wednesday, June 19 from 5:00-7:00 pm at West Side Baptist Church in Holmer Hall. Bring a favorite board or card game and a snack and/or beverage to share. Pizza will be provided. Be sure to invite a friend or two! ~ Colleen Smith, Fellowship

PARENT-CHILD DEDICATIONS ON FATHER'S DAY

Pastor Ivan will bless and dedicate children on Father's Day. See him for details

ALL CHURCH PICNIC & QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING

Please join us on Sunday, June 30, at noon for a picnic lunch at Old Prairie Town at Ward-Meade Historic Site in the Preston Hale Room (airconditioned). Bring a side dish or dessert. The Church will provide baked and fried chicken and beverages.



This will also be our **QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING** so Officers and Coordinators will give reports. Friends are welcome.

There will also be a **DEACONS ORDINATION EXAMINATION** for persons who have shared a call with the ministry. Members are encouraged to hear these candidate's call stories, ask Biblical and ethical questions, and vote to affirm/not affirm their candidacy to the Diaconate. See Pastor Ivan for more information or details.

ellowship

IN LOVING MEMORY



ALLEN, Dale & Marilyn

Marilyn A. Allen, age 82, passed away Tuesday, April 30, 2024 at her home in Osage City. Marilyn Ann Moxley was born July 1, 1941 in Osage City, the daughter of Clarence "CM" Milton and Dorothy (Pierson) Moxley. She graduated from Osage City High School in 1959 and Kansas State University with a master's degree in education. She was joined in marriage to Dale D. Allen on May 20, 1972. Mrs. Allen taught elementary school students for many years in Topeka at Lowman Hill and Lundgren schools. Marilyn



is survived by her husband Dale D. Allen residing in Brewster Place, Topeka, and her sister Sharon (Jim) Brown of Rogersville, Missouri, brother-in-law Larry (Karen) Allen of Marshalltown, Iowa, and a number of cousins, nieces, and nephews. She is preceded in death by her parents and a brother, Dale Eugene Moxley. Cremation is planned and a memorial service will be held at a later date. Memorial contributions may be made to COPD Foundation and sent in care of VanArsdale Funeral Chapel, 107 N. Sixth, Osage City, Kansas 66523. Condolences may be expressed at Vanarsdalefs.com.



IN LOVING MEMORY - We have received word from Esther Maggard, Kim Maggard's sister, that KIM passed away unexpectedly on Sunday, May 12. Memorial services are pending. Watch the bulletin for details.

Please keep the family in your thoughts and prayers. Stella Maggard is in rehab. She had fallen and broken her hip.





POWELL, Jeffrey & Tammy Joshua, Jaymie

IN LOVING MEMORY - The Church received word of Jeffrey Lee Powell's recent passing (obituary: https://www.midwest-cremation.com/obituaries). He was a member and friend of many at West Side Baptist Church. We lift his family and friends during this season of mourning and extend our heartfelt condolences. His celebration of life service will be at Topeka Baptist Church on May 31 at 2 p.m.





MEMORIALS & MEMORIAL COMMITTEE: We are grateful for all gifts dedicated in memory and honor of loved ones. Individuals and families may make financial contributions towards a memorial or purchase flowers to decorate the communion table on any Sunday. Call the Church Office to coordinate the purchase of flowers for worship.

Nancy L. (Chair), Alice P., Bev M., and Molly M.

MISSIONS



OGHS - One Great Hour of Sharing offering will be taken in June. The One Great Hour of Sharing theme is "More than we can imagine". It is easy to feel overwhelmed when we look at all the areas of need in God's world: there is hunger, sickness, and injustice in so many communities. It is easy to feel that we are too small, too insignificant to make a difference, to believe that there's nothing we can do to help. We can feel trapped by hopelessness and fear that there is little we can do to truly make an impact. But there is hope! Better yet: We are the hope! For, as the Apostle Paul writes," ... by the power at work within us, "God is able to "accomplish abundantly more than we can ask or imagine" (Ephesians 3:20).

Your offering to the One Great Hour of Sharing provides. Emergency relief available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for urgent or acute needs brought about by disasters of natural or human origin. And development projects focused on meeting chronic human needs by enabling individuals or maintain a more adequate quality of life.

Thank you for \$1,100.00 received for the America for Christ Offering toward our goal of \$1,250.00.

Our goal for the OGHS Offering this June is \$1,750.00.

Do you know that the American Baptist International Ministries was formed to help Baptists in the United States work together in one sacred effort to make disciples of all nations. Organized in 1814, it is the oldest Baptist international mission agency in North America and the second oldest in the world, following the Baptist Missionary Society formed 1792 in England.

~ Don Johnson, Missions

GIVE TO DISASTER RELIEF & DEVELOPMENT ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING



BETHEL NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER

In July we will be traveling to Bethel Neighborhood Center in Kansas City on Wednesday July 31, 2024. We will bring a meal and lead the worship service. Anyone wanting to help with the meal or go to Bethel with us please let Don Johnson know.

MISSION GIVING

Mission Giving to Date:

Am For Christ \$1,100.00 One Great Hour \$280.00 World Mission \$280.00 Retired Minister \$100.00

Benevolence \$1,462.93

Bibles Africa \$340.00 Bibles Soldiers \$180.00 Doorstep Inc. \$26.00

Thank You!

TREASURER'S REPORT

OUR CHURCH FINANCES

Since our newsletter will cover two months of activity for the church, I will provide the latest finance information for April that was presented at the May Council meeting and encourage you to check the bulletin board for the May and June financials when they are available.

Our income for April was \$9,696.57 compared to \$28,369.52 in March. We had five Sundays in March. At the end of the fourth month of the year our income is \$81,697.52 or 30.45%. Our % goal for the first four months is \$33.3% of the annual budget so we are under our goal.

Our expenses for April totaled \$25,981.06 down from \$38,193.65 in March and a total for four months of \$114,006.44 which is 38.84% of our budget. We paid our M&M Pension for our Office Manager, purchased some Christian Ed supplies and spent \$1,863.29 to send our youth to Branson and paid the registration for our youth to attend the Mountain and Prairie Youth Conference in Colorado this summer.

The difference of income to expenses to date is -\$32,308.92.

Our checking account balance shown on the balance sheet is \$56,244.69. A portion of our balance, \$38,549.16, is in the Capital Campaign and \$11,564.94 is in Outreach funds. There is also \$14,968.92 in the old Capital Campaign account that is designated for the elevator.

The Benevolent Fund balance is \$3,132.36.

The second quarter statements will be available in early July and will be available to be picked up outside of Holmer Hall. I hope you always take time to review your giving statements.

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



PASTOR'S SUMMER SCHEDULE

Pastor Ivan gives a monthly report to the Church Council listing all of his activates and hours her performs his duties for the Church. The Council pre-approves all of his time away from the pulpit serving the denomination, attending conferences, teaching overseas, and enjoying family vacations. The following schedule was approved by the Church Council:

- June 6-10 Drive youth group to/from the Mountain and Prairie National Youth Gathering in Esters Park, Colorado.
- June 17-24 International Ministries Board of Directors Meeting in Atlanta,
 Georgia with a day trip to the National Civil Rights Memorial in Montgomery, Alabama
- July 8-12 International Ministries All Staff Gathering in Denver, Colorado

Pray for Pastor Ivan and Rexanne as they drive to these events. Continue to pray for his health and safety. He plans to maintain regular office hours and his preaching schedule.







WORSHIP: JUNE



HONORING OUR HISTORY

WS Baptist Church started on Jan 1, 1881, as the Forsta Swenska Baptist Kyrkan (First Swedish Baptist Church) of Topeka.



We will honor our SWEDISH history on **Sunday, June 2** by wearing blue and yellow, and sharing photos, stories, and items from the heritage room.

ALLA ÄR WÄLKOMNA

JUNE USHERS

Sonia Roling, Angie Foster, Nancy Lindberg, Nelda Janway and Tony Carreno

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

JUNE COMMUNION SERVERS

Nancy Lindberg, Angie Foster, Steve and Janelle Hood The Revised Common Lectionary Texts

> Scripture Reader Sonia Roling

JUNE 2nd

1 Samuel 3:1-10(11-20) 2 Corinthians 4:5-12 Mark 2:23-3:36

JUNE 9th

1 Samuel 8:4-11 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1 Mark 3:20-35

JUNE 16th

1 Samuel 15:34-16:13 2 Corinthians 5:6-10 Mark 4:26-34

JUNE 23rd

1 Samuel 17:32– 49 2 Corinthians 6:1-13 Mark 4:34-41

JUNE 30

2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27 2 Corinthians 8:7-15 Mark 5:21-43

GLORIFY GOD all the EARTH!



WORSHIP: JULY



JULY USHERS

Ernie Longstaff, Aaron Poe, Don Johnson, Clarence Payne and Tony Carreno

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

JULY COMMUNION SERVERS

Brice & Colleen Smith Matt & Ashley Smith

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

Ernie Reed

JULY 7th

2 Samuel 5:1-5,9-10 2 Corinthians 12:2-10 Mark 6:1-13

JULY 14th

2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19 Ephesians 1:3-14 Mark 6:14-29

JULY 21st

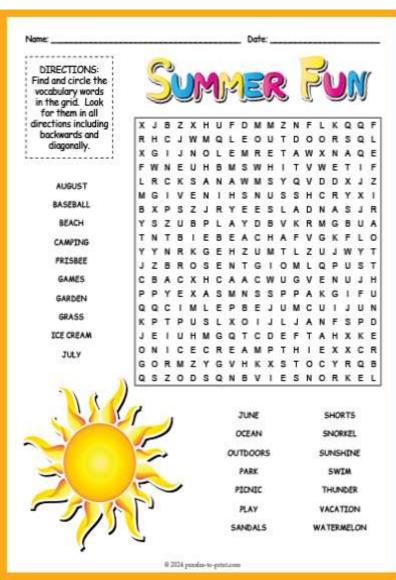
2 Samuel 7:1-14a Ephesians 2:11-22 Mark 6:30-34,53-56

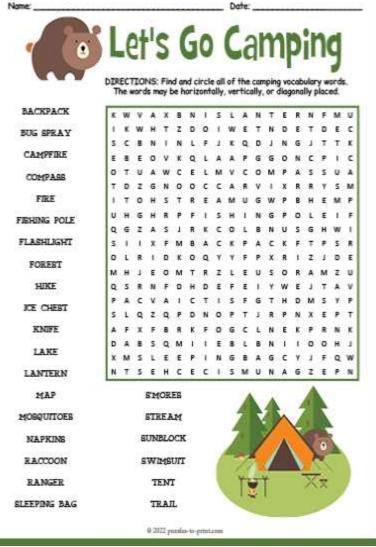
JULY 28

2 Samuel 11:1-15 Ephesians 3:14-21 John 6:1-21



ACTIVITY PAGE







SDEXJKIZLSWPAPAF Respect Father GNPARENTPAXI V ZZVA Caring Daddy RGQNQVDQDADAYECHSF CM S T BCZUGQOIWL EE Brave Dada EGBRSXDQEWPBZRRNOL Hero Dad GÓAORGRANDPAGYSOVVVY Grandpa Strong JAQQCWAYZPYAQOVEA JAVNFATHERQUDADDYR Family lokes ASRPEZXXDEYMXVUOSOTN Parent Love DLIOACARINGRESPECTET Papa Fun

A Dad is one who
Is always there
Can always be counted on.
Always has time
Always encouraging
That is you Dad
Thanks for all you do!

-3



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

HAP	PYF	31 CHURCH DIRECTORY PHOTOS	1 CHURCH DIRECTORY PHOTOS					
HERITAGE DAY 9:00 am SS 10:30 am Worship 12 Pancakes	3 9:00 am Baby Closet	4 6:00 pm Ladies night out And Men's night out @ Blind Tiger	5 10:30 am No Bible Study 3:30 pm Baby Closet 3:30 pm Harvesters	6 1:00 pm Baby Closet YOUTH @ ESTES PARK	7 YOUTH @ MOUNTAIN & PRAIRIE CONFER IN ESTES PARK	8 YOUTH @ MOUNTAIN & PRAIRIE CONFER IN ESTES PARK		
9:00 am SS 10:30 am Worship YOUTH @ ESTES PARK	10 9:00 am Baby Closet YOUTH @ ESTES PARK	11 6:00 pm Council Meeting	12 10:30 am No Bible Study 3:30 pm Baby Closet 3:30 pm Harvesters	13 1:00 pm Baby Closet	14 Pastor @ IM Executive Committee	ABCCR Clergy Boundaries Training		
16 Father's Day 9:00 am SS 10:30 am Worship	17 9:00 am Baby Closet	18 5:30 pm Christian Ed meeting	19 10:30 am No Bible Study 3:30 pm Baby Closet 3:30 pm Harvesters	20 1:00 pm Baby Closet	21	22		
23 9:00 am SS 10:30 am Worship	24 9:00 am Baby Closet	25 6:00 pm Outreach Meeting	26 10:30 am No Bible Study 3:30 pm Baby Closet 3:30 pm Harvesters	27 1:00 pm Baby Closet	28	29		
30 9:00 am SS 10:30 am Worship 12:00 pm Picnic at Ward Meade VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - Vacation Bible School planning is set for a week-long event: Monday-Friday, July 15-19. Supper will be served at 5:30 pm and activities will begin at 6:00. Children who have completed Kindergarten through 8 th grade can attend. REGISTER ONLINE or CALL THE CHURCH								

ACTIVITY PAGE





fun grill seashells vbs sunscreen vacation barefeet summer barbecue ice cream picnics simores popsicles fireworks

hot swim lemonade bike rides camping baseball watermelon flip flops beach smoothies sunburn hiking fishing





Name

ICE CREAM WORD SEARCH

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CARAMEL CHERRY CHOCOLATE CONE HOT FUDGE ICE CREAM SPRINKLES STRAWBERRY VANILLA WHIP CREAM





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Pastor @ JURY DUTY (All Day)	2	3 10:30 am No Bible Study 3:30 pm Baby Closet 3:30 pm No Harvesters		5 July ppy * jence Day	6
7 9:00 am SS 10:30 am Worship	8 9:00 am Baby Closet	9 6:00 pm Ladies night out And Men's night out @ Wing's Etc.	10 10:30 am No Bible Study 3:30 pm Baby Closet 3:30 pm No Harvesters	11 1:00 pm Baby Closet	12	13
14 9:00 am SS 10:30 am Worship	9:00 am Baby Closet 5:30 pm VBS	16 6:00 pm Council Meeting 5:30 pm VBS	17 10:30 am No Bible Study 3:30 pm Baby Closet 3:30 pm No Harvesters 5:30 pm VBS	18 1:00 pm Baby Closet 5:30 pm VBS	19 5:30 pm VBS	20
21 9:00 am SS 10:30 am Worship	22 9:00 am Baby Closet	23 5:30 pm Christian Ed meeting	24 10:30 am No Bible Study 3:30 pm Baby Closet 3:30 pm No Harvesters	25 1:00 pm Baby Closet	26	27
28 9:00 am SS 10:30 am Worship	29 9:00 am Baby Closet	30 6:00 pm Outreach Meeting	31 10:30 am No Bible Study 3:30 pm Baby Closet 3:30 pm No Harvesters 4:00 pm Bethel Neighbor- hood			