OCTOBER 2024 / HARVEST TIME VOLUME 111, NUM. 10

The Witness

THE NEWSLETTER OF WEST SIDE BAPTIST CHURCH, TOPEKA, KS

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"United at the Table" FROM PASTOR'S PEN:

Why does the church celebrate World Communion on the first Sunday in October? On World Communion Sunday, Christians come together in every land to share in the Lord's Supper, celebrating our unity in Christ made visible in Holy Communion. This special day reminds us that, no matter where we live or what language we speak, we are all part of one family in Jesus. It bears witness to the world that we are **People of the Jesus Way!**

The Apostle Paul instructed early believers of this fundamental truth in his letter to the Corinthians: "Because there is one loaf. we, who are many, are one body, for we all share the one loaf" (1 Cor. 10:17). When Christians celebrate communion, we are not only connecting with Christ, but also with believers everywhere. This simple act of breaking bread is a powerful symbol of our unity, bringing us together as one body in Christ.

Jesus Himself prayed for this kind of unity. In the Gospel of John, He says, "I pray... that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you" (John 17:21, NIV). Jesus' prayer wasn't just for His disciples, but for all believers-past, present, and future. He wanted us to be united in love, just as He is united with the Father.

World Communion Sunday is a beautiful reminder of this unity. As we take the bread and drink the cup, we are connected to believers around the world, all sharing in the grace and love of Christ. Despite our differences in culture, language, or background, we are all part of the same body, working together for God's kingdom.

Let us celebrate this unity, remembering that as we gather at the Lord's Table, we join a global family of faith. And may we carry his Spirit of love and togetherness into the world. living as one in Christ.



Blessings, Pastor Ivan+ World Communion Sunday, Oct. 6

Pastor's Pag



INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY The Church will be CLOSED on Monday, October 14

The day recognizes and honors the resilience and diversity

of 571+ distinct Native American and American Indian Peoples who exist today in the United States. It is celebrated on the second Monday of October, including the State of Kansas. Join us as we pray and work with our Creator for healing and hope all people and every tribe and nation that we might live in dignity. Amen.

FALL ALTER FLOWERS: Help decorate



the Sanctuary table with Alter flowers, pumpkins, gords. and other harvest decorations. Call Lynda to arrange for flowers to be purchased in the

name or memory of your loved ones on any Sunday (not just holidays). Live flowers may be taken home by the donor or the Church will deliver them to a family or friend who is sick, homebound or living in a nursing home. The Table is 61 inches long, 31 inches wide, and 31 inches high.

REFORMATION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27:

Protestant Christian churches celebrate in remembrance of the onset of the Reformation. We invite you to **WEAR RED** on Reformation Sunday to remind us of the fire of the Spirit.



PASTOR PRAYER RETREAT: Pastor will

be spending a week in praver and silence OCTOBER 14-18 No Bible Studies on Wed., Oct. 16. Call the Church Office if have an you emergency or need pastoral care. The Deacons will visit



hospitals and make visits.



NO FEE WEDDINGS: The Church values the Covenant of Christian Marriage and want all couples to enjoy this blessed estate. Couples wanting a free Simple Service are encouraged to hold their ceremony in the Sanctuary. A no fee wedding is limited to two witnesses, no rehearsal, no extended time for photographers, and fewer than fifty guests. The ceremony is limited to the spoken rite with no special music (e.g., solos, songs, etc.). Couples should speak with the Pastor

this Ring..

request to а simple With free, service.

CHURCH OFFICE Sur Staff



10/05 Ashley & Matt Smith 10/22 Tonya & Brian Widow 10/30 Sandra & Don Johnson

10/07 Zach Smith 10/08 Pat Carpenter 10/08 Jack Harden 10/09 Laura Carpenter 10/12 Steve May 10/16 Carla Donnelly 10/16 Katelyn Hersh 10/16 Bruce Smith 10/18 Jan Swain 10/22 Michelle Decker 10/29 Teddy (Mac" Decker



And He Appreciates Serving Christ Among Us!

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. Cokelev. Lynda Secretary and Editor, reserves the right to edit submissions for content, grammar, and publication spacing. Send address corrections subscription requests to: and

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

October is Pastor Appreciation Month Our Pastor works long hours and is on call 24/7 for anyone. Let's show our appreciation to Pastor Ivan by giving back Please give generously.

- Thank you for being a shepherd to the flock and a guiding light in our lives."
- "Your dedication to the Lord's work touches our hearts and souls daily."
- "For your guidance, wisdom, and unwavering faith, we are forever grateful."
- "You are a blessing to this church, and we thank God for you."
- "Your words bring hope, and your actions bring love to our community's flock.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HERE ARE SOME DATES TO REMEMBER:

- October 16 WWW youth will do a community service for Doorstep during our WWW time.
- October 23 PT Conferences NO WWW
- November 20 WWW and Community Thanksgiving dinner
- CE won't be meeting in October. The next meeting is November 19

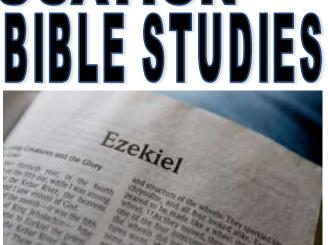
NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES—New Fall Sunday School Classes have begun at 9:15 AM (arrive early if you want a donut). Preschool through senior high school classes are offered, and gifted teachers teach adult classes. See the Website for more information.



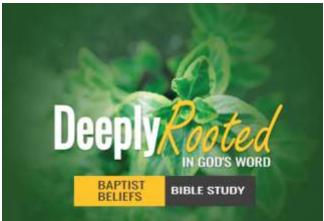
WWW KIDS CLUB CLUBS -We provide supper for free on Wednesdays, 5:30 - 6:00 p.m.

JOIN a group Bible lesson for children, youth, and adults at 6:00 to 7:00 pm. 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. Join the fun and invite someone to come along.

~ Marty Stevenson & Pat Carpenter, Coordinators of Christian Ed



WEDNESDAYS 10:30 AM



WEDNESDAYS 6:00 PM



4

OUTREACH



Baby Closet Sole to Soul Shoe Campaign The baby closet is in need of children's footwear, (shoes, tennis shoes, boots, etc.) for ages 2 yr to 5 yr. Donations are appreciated Blessings, Baby Closet Staff

CALL FOR CANDY NEEDED - Halloween candy is on the shelves at the store, and Trunk & Treat is right around the corner. We are planning the Trunk or Treat Thursday October 31 at 5:30 pm. Please consider purchasing candy for this event. You can drop off the candy in the office. If you do not want to brave the crowds, please donate money, and someone will do the candy shopping for you. We are planning to serve at least two hundred kids on Halloween. Join in the fun of decorating your vehicle and passing out candy. There is a signup sheet for anyone that is wanting to pass out candy Halloween evening. Thanks, ~ Jack Janway FOOD PANTRY Every 3rd WEDNESDAY 3:30 - 5:30 PM

Yes! Food Pantry is open <u>Every Third Wednesday of</u> <u>the Month beginning in</u> <u>October</u>

> October 16th November 20th December 18th

*All food is available free of cost!

HARVESTERS UPDATE

Harvesters Community Food Network has moved their distribution center from Topeka to Lawrence, Kansas.

wsbctopeka.org/get-help/food-pantry



FELLOWSHIP

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

- Ladies Night Out is on Tuesday, October 1 at 6:00 pm at Eddy's Mexican Restaurant in Brookwood Shopping Center 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!
- Men's Night Out is on Tuesday, October 1 at 6:00 pm at Eddy's Mexican Restaurant in Brookwood Shopping Center. Each person is responsible for paying for 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 Brice Smith. We are looking forward to a fun fellowship time!



COMMUNITY GROUPS: Learn to listen and talk about tough topics using civil conversation skills. Led by a trained facilitator. Community Groups meet each month on the Second and Fourth Sundays of the month at 5:30 – 7:00 pm. Bring a Snack to Share at 5:30 pm. All are welcome and open to the public. **NEXT MEETINGS: October 13th**



DEACON'S CORNER - Greetings everyone! I wish to let it be known that I provide Spiritual and Clinical Pastoral care that is available for anyone. We all struggle with life in this world. Of where we are in this world, not of it. There is no topic that I will deny. This is a private and confidential service that the church provides me to listen to you with a compassionate and loving ear. If you or someone you know is struggling with their spirituality, please come by my office or set an appointment day and time with me. I am available after church on

Sunday's. We are to help carry the burdens of others. Allow me to come alongside you in your struggle. Remember you are never alone!

With Christ's Love, Deacon Laurie Dewey Office Hours are 12:00 to 4:00 pm on Wednesdays. Email: laurie.dewey@wsbctopeka.org

OUR DEACONS

Deacon Traci Brown, Hospital and VA Chaplain and Lay Minister Deacon Laurie Dewey, Neighborhood/Community Chaplain and Lay Minister Deacon Sonia Rolling, Recovery Ministers Chaplain and Lay Minister

TREASURER'S REPORT

Our Church Finances

Our income for August was \$15,991.70. At the end of eight months our income is \$214,996.24 or 80.14% compared to \$198,681.83 or 74.06% last month. Our % goal for the first eight months is 66.67% of the annual budget so we are exceeding our goal. We received \$230 in donations for School Supplies and \$235 in Outreach income.

Our expenses for August totaled \$23,736.55 and a total for eight months of \$227,189.77 which is 76.4% of our budget. Expenditures of interest for August included: #8468 Outreach Projects for school supplies - \$207.96 and #8130 Christian Leadership workshops and training - \$190.07.

The difference of income to expenses for the month is -\$7,744.85 and for the year is - \$12,193.53.

Our checking account balance shown on the balance sheet is \$58,453.33. A portion of our checking account, \$46,190.03, is in the Capital Campaign and \$10,146.88 is in Outreach funds. The main general fund is \$442.58.

The Benevolent Fund balance is \$1,332.19.

The Memorials Committee met on September 11th to discuss consideration of several expenditures out of memorials. The council approved a new computer for Lynda Cokeley. We decided the \$769.97 computer should be paid from the memorials of Juanita Plankinton, Etta Landis, Hazel Smith-Tindall, and Shirley and Larry Dell. The Stewardship Committee is getting us a cost for a dishwasher in the downstairs kitchen and we will let you know which memorials we will use once that cost is determined. This is a wonderful way to purchase something needed for the church as we remember our loved ones.

The Council Members have been working on their budgets for 2025. If you have any budget recommendations, please talk with one of the council members and/or with me.

Thank you for your continued financial support of our church. Let me know if you have any questions.

Nancy Lindberg, Treasurer



The Nominating Committee would like you to pray with us as we ask people to fill vacant positions on the Council. Nancy Lindberg has been asked and has accepted continuing to serve as Treasurer. Thank you, Nancy! We are needing to fill the following positions: Outreach and Vice Moderator. If there is someone you would like to recommend to serve for Outreach or Vice Moderator or if you would like to serve yourself please contact someone on the Nominating Committee.

The following people are on the Nominating Committee: Chuck Cozad, Jan Mansfield, Molly Morris, Tera Triggs, and Karen Kirby, Chairperson.



WORLD MISSION OFFERING - Jesus call all of us to "Go then, to all people everywhere and make them my disciples; baptize them in the name of the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit, and teach them to obey everything I have commanded you." (Matthew 28:19-20)

We here at West Side Baptist Church need to plan our mission outreach for 2025. The mission committee will meet on October 16, 2024 at 11:30 am in Holmer Hall. We will be planning the programming for the year. Some of the topics we will be looking at are:

- Mission trip to San Diego, then go to Deborah's house in Tijuana
- To Mexico to visit Deliris Carrion—Joseph and Moise Joseph. Our missionaries we are supporting with a \$100.00 per month donation.
- Bethel Neighborhood Center in Kansas City

If you are interested in being involved with going on a mission trip please see Don Johnson or just come to a mission's meeting.

Thank you for your continuing giving to the World Mission Offering so far we received \$330.00. Please continue to give to the World Mission Offering through the month of October. Blessing, Don Johnson, Missions



WOMEN'S MINISTRY – The Women's Ministry is working on aLOCAL MISSIONPROJECT by collecting and packaging femininehygiene products for our needywomen and the homeless.See Deacon Laurie for details or to donate.

WHY IS WOMEN'S MINISTRY IMPORTANT:

- Addressing Spiritual Needs:
- Encourage Spiritual Growth:
 - Building Relationships:
 - Teaching Godliness:
 Women interested in starting small groups this fall for Bible study, prayer, spiritual enrichment, or affinity hobbies (crafts, croqueting, quilting, etc.) should speak with Deacon Laurie.



Our next meeting is Monday, October 21 at 5:30 pm in Holmer Hall.

ADRIENNE DECLERK - Our Nursery Supervisor is Adrienne DeClerk who joined us in March. Adrienne has had a variety of experiences in working with children: including care for children of family members, teaching swimming lessons to children, and teaching VBS. We appreciate her special and unique insights in understanding children, her calm and quiet

manner, and her thoughtful reorganization in the nursery. Thank you, Adrienne, for helping us think "outside the box" and for working over the summer to sort, clean out and repair books and toys.

WELCOME





KIARA NYAMBEGERA - We are also pleased to have Kiara Nyambegera join us as our new Nursery Attendant. Kiara is a graduate of Washburn Rural High School. In the past, she has worked at Mini Masters Learning Academy. She is currently attending Washburn University where she is focusing on studies in Spanish and Psychology. Thank you, Kiara, for coming to WSBC and for helping to make our nursery a fun and safe place for our young children!



West Side Baptist Church has also Welcomed our new Choir Director you can see her on page 10 under Worship.

GOODBYE -

We said good-bye in the nursery to Kayleen Angel Shaw who was our Nursery Attendant from November 2023 through August of this year. She was our "Angel" who willingly came to watch children Sunday morning, Wednesday



evening and even Thursday evening when there were Love & Logic Classes all while working another full-time job. Thank you, Angel, for all of your hard work and for being here on Sundays even when it meant that you put in another eight hours after doing three hours in our nursery. We appreciate you greatly and look forward to you being able to come to worship with us and hope that you enjoy your classes this year at Washburn!

Personnel, Janice Kirby





OUR NEW WELCOME CHOIR DIRECTOR - The Personnel Committee is delighted to announce that Rexanne Greuter has accepted the position of Choir Director for WSBC. She can now say that she has filled that role in all three churches where the Greuter's have served! We are looking forward to having a choir again! Rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 PM. All are welcome to come who would like to lift up a musical offering of song to Thank LORD. the you,

Rexanne, for using your musical gifts, background, and knowledge to make a choir possible again!



OCTOBER USHERS

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

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

COMMUNION SERVERS

Lonna Hersh, Pat Carpenter Alice & Clarence Payne The Revised Common Lectionary Texts <u>Scripture Reader</u> Angie Foster

<u>October 6</u> Job 1:1;2:1-10 Hebrews 1:1-4;2:5-12 Mark 10:2-16

October 13

Job23:1-9,16-17 Hebrews 4:12-16 Mark 10:17-31

October 20

Job 38:1-7 (34-41) Hebrews 5:1-10 Mark 10:35-45

October 27

Job 42:1-6,10-17 Hebrews 7:23-28 Mark 10:46-52

COME WORSHIP WITH US!

Scan QR Code to Access the Schedule, Bible Classes, Updates, Prayer Requests, and Information on the Church's Website

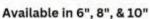
TEXT "JOIN" to (785) 432-5383 to Receive WSBC Text Messages



POINSETTIA ORDER FORM







Pink



Available in 6", 8", & 10" Availab

Available in 6", 8", & 10"



Please circle the color (S) you want. All Sizes: Red Glitter, Christmas Red, Marble White, Pink Ice Crystal & Cinnamon only available in 6 1/2 inch

Your Name _

Please make checks payable to West Side Baptist Church.

<u>Return</u> your order and payment to Lynda in the office by November 11th. Orders after the 11th may cost more or be unavailable.

My plant(s) purchased is/are in memory or honor of:

I know it is early to be thinking Christmas already, but they give us a better price if order early.



Available in 6", 8", & 10"



Available in 6" only



Available in 6" only

ACTIVITY PAGE

Apple Picking Word Search

apples autumn barrel cider ladder picking pie wagon





Pastor

A teacher, a mentor and shepherd with love, sent by God from up above. You've showed us Jesus. You've taught us the way. By being an example of Christ's love each day. You are a teacher in all that you do, always pointing to Jesus through and through. You are a mentor we look to in trials and you send us to Jesus to walk the tough miles. You know that He is the answer ALWAYS and send us to Him to get through the haze. You are a Shepherd by tending your sheep some frightened, some worn, some tattered, some weak, You always care and help us to find contentment and joy in Jesus Divine. When we wander away from the rest of the flock, you seek to find and lead back to the Rock. You've sought His will and carried your Cross, by teaching His sheep, so there would be no lost. One day in heaven, you'll hear Jesus say, "WELL DONE MY SERVANT." This humbly I pray.

Fall Word Search



ACORN APPLE AUTUMN CHESTNUTS CHILLY CIDER COBWEB FALL FOOTBALL GOURD HALLOWEEN HARVEST HAY BALE HAYRIDE LEAVES MAIZE NOVEMBER NOVEMBER NOTS OCTOBER PUMPKIN



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Sull	MUII	Iuc	Vicu	Inu		Sat
		1 6:00 pm Men's and Ladies night out Eddy's Mexican Res Brookwood shopping Ctr	2 10:30 am Bible Study 3:30 pm Baby Closet 5:30 pm WWW 6:00 p, Bible Study 7:00 pm Choir Practice	3 1:00 pm Baby Closet	4	5 11:00 am Financial Peace Class 1:30 pm Praise Team
6 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	7 9:00 am Baby Closet	8 6:00 pm Council Meeting	9 10:30 am Bible Study 3:30 pm Baby Closet 5:30 pm WWW 6:00 p, Bible Study 7:00 pm Choir Practice	1O 1:00 pm Baby Closet	11	12 11:00 am Financial Peace Class 1:30 pm Praise Team
13 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 5:30 pm Community Group Mtg	14 9:00 am Baby Closet	15 5:30 pm Christian Ed Meeting	16 10:30 am No Bible Study 11:30 Mission Mtg 3:30 pm Baby Closet 3:30 pm Harvester's 5:30 pm WWW 6:00 pm Bible Study 7:00 pm Choir Practice	17 1:00 pm Baby Closet	18	19 11:00 am Financial Peace Class 1:30 pm Praise Team
20 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 12:00 pm Potluck Quarterly Business Mtg	21 9:00 am Baby Closet 5:30 pm Women's Ministry Mtg	22 6:00 pm Outreach Meeting	23 10:30 am Bible Study 3:30 pm Baby Closet 5:30 pm WWW 6:00 pm Bible Study 7:00 pm Choir Practice	24 1:00 pm Baby Closet	25	26 11:00 am Financial Peace Class 1:30 pm Praise Team 2:30 pm Worship Committee Mtg
27 RED DAY 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 5:30 pm Community Group Mtg	28 9:00 am Baby Closet 6:00 pm DAR	29	30 10:30 am Bible Study 3:30 pm Baby Closet 5:30 pm WWW 6:00 p, Bible Study 7:00 pm Choir Practice	31 1:00 pm Baby Closet 5:30 pm Trunk or Treat	Арр	n Henor of Pastor reciation Month celebrate you!