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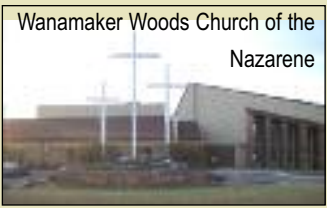
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*See inside back cover!*

## Expo set for February 28



Metro Voice will hold the 2015 Christian Education and College Expo Saturday, February 28, from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Colonial Presbyterian Church, 9300 Wornall, KCMO.

Parents looking both at K-12 options and high school students scouting colleges can come with specific questions in mind, such as:

What curriculum is used? What is the worldview of the school? Is there an established fine arts program? What testing measure is used? What about sports and extracurricular activities? Can I afford it? The area's best Christian private K-12 schools have booths, and faculty and administrators will be ready to answer questions.

The free Expo also features 50 Christian universities from 15 states and free mini-seminars on everything from homeschooling to finding financial aid.

"For high school students, prayerfully choosing the right college can still be a daunting task," said Dwight Widaman, Metro Voice KC editor and Expo coordinator. "There are so many excellent choices."

More information is available at [www.metrovoicenews.com](http://www.metrovoicenews.com)



EACH OF US IS A  
**MASTERPIECE**  
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**RESPECT LIFE**

by **Dwight Widaman**

For many years, Metro Voice has worked with local, state and national organizations in an effort to educate the public on the value of all human life — born and unborn, young and old, able and physically challenged. Our efforts would not be possible without the support of these organizations.

January is National Respect Life Month. Beginning on page 8 you'll find our annual Respect Life Guide filled with information, testimonies and success stories of the 40-plus-year effort to make sure all human life is valued.

There are many fine organizations that provide counseling and medical assistance to women in crisis pregnancies. But it also includes shelters which

give women "breathing room" before they feel pressured by family or friends to abort their child. These women may also be fleeing an abusive situation or economic crisis. Other organizations are working to end the sex-trafficking of young girls or teach life-skills and provide training to help women end a cycle of poverty.

Pro-life also means prayerfully seek-

ing the Lord about adopting a child or serving as a foster parent. There are many state programs and ministries crucial to finding children homes. And, ultimately, as we work together to build a culture that respects life at all stages, it also means speaking truth and working to promote laws that respect life, protect women and children, and provide safeguards for our disabled and elderly.

## 2014: Back to the future

The year that jerked us back to a past we thought we'd left behind: Beheadings, race riots and runaway epidemics

by **Mindy Belz**

(WNS)--In the subterranean reaches of ancient churches in Mosul, Iraq—turned suddenly and in broad daylight to ISIS shrines—the captives of the 21st century met an abyss of medieval-minded militants, and the unenlightened dawn of a new dark age.

The year turned on regifting. Like the stiff-necked aunt who keeps handing out fruitcake after all the relatives say, "Enough!" 2014 gave us ample taste of

old and familiar history only wrapped in new paper. With Ferguson, Mo., the streets of America demanded a new civil rights era, six years into the first African-American presidency and half a century since legal remedies took shape to end a long U.S. history of injustice to blacks.

Vladimir Putin took us back to Cold War days with an audacious takeover of Crimea and continued provocation in eastern Ukraine, blaming his actions on "the enemies of yesteryear."

■ Please see YEAR IN REVIEW page 2





## 2014: THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Africa's Ebola epidemic proved resilient to the world's best public health protocols—affecting more than 25 countries on six continents and continuing unabated, with more than 18,000 cases and nearly 8,000 confirmed deaths by year's end.

A long-ignored ISIS rebranded itself as the Islamic State and served notice on the United States with the August beheading of journalist James Foley that war in Iraq was not over.

Despite drone strikes, by year's end ISIS controlled nearly all the same territory it captured in 2014.

Lost in the takeover: the destruction of Christian institutions in Syria and Iraq—a civilization stretching back to the first century. In Mosul the militants destroyed or converted to mosques 45 Christian churches or institutions, all now flying the black ISIS flag.

During a standing-room-only serv-

ice in Rome that included Pope Francis, the Orthodox bishop of Damascus Jean Kawak recounted stories of starving, homeless Christians: "How much longer denied, we believers? We are not resigned to the darkness of evil. We are not people of resignation or despair. Christians are the people of faith and hope.... The anonymous prayer of many people has changed the course of history."

Domestically amid a growing world disorder came midterm elections securing Republican control of Congress (with a record number of conservative Hispanic, Asian, and African-Americans elected), falling oil prices, and signs of economic recovery. Unemployment rates dropped but remain stubbornly high for 20- to 30-year-olds (in some places above 10 percent).

With a changing economy, plus

changing values, the American family slid further into decline—under half as many new households formed in the five years ending with 2014, compared to the five years before 2009.

At the same time America's "non-religious bloc" has nearly doubled to over 17 percent, prompting researchers to conclude, "The religious canvas of American life is being repainted before our eyes."

In this sea of old and new, there is a gift we never tire of, and a Regifter who breaks through our retrograde tragedies moment by moment. One who knows our frame and remembers we are dust.

"The answer to the WHY is WHO," wrote Iranian-American pastor Saeed Abedini from prison in a September letter on his daughter's eighth birthday. "The confusion of 'WHY has all of this happened?' and 'WHY your prayers are not answered yet' is resolved with understanding WHO is in control...LORD JESUS CHRIST, our GOD!"

## KEY PLAYERS AND EVENTS OF THE YEAR

**ISIS:** Islamic State militants on June 30 take part in a parade in the Raqqa province of northern Syria to celebrate the declaration of an Islamic caliphate. Throughout the year the al-Qaeda offshoot gained territory while fighting against Syrian, Iraqi, and Kurdish forces, brutally ousting Christian and Yazidi residents from the region.

**Flight 370:** A Boeing 777 that went missing over the Indian Ocean. Search efforts in the months since have failed to locate the plane, which had 239 persons on board, or any wreckage from it.



**Midterms:** U.S. Sen.-elect Joni Ernst, R-Iowa, became the first woman elected to the U.S. Senate from Iowa, and her victory was part of a nationwide wave that handed Republicans control of the U.S. Senate for the final two years of the Obama administration.

**Ebola:** The deadliest outbreak of Ebola on record infected 18,000 persons in Africa in 2014, killing more than 6,000 of them, and for the first time spread to the United States and other Western nations.



**Nigeria:** Muslims from the terrorist group Boko Haram on April 14 abducted more than 200 other Christian girls from a school in Chibok.



**ObamaCare:** On June 30 the U.S. Supreme Court's decision protected the religious freedom of employers to opt out of the requirement to provide contraception to employees under the Affordable Care Act. The case involved

the craft store chain Hobby Lobby.

**IRS Scandal:** Former IRS official Lois Lerner swears to tell the truth before



invoking her Fifth Amendment right not to testify at a House hearing on March 5. The hearing investigated whether the IRS had targeted conservative groups based on their political beliefs. The IRS later reported pertinent emails from Lerner had disappeared in a computer crash. A Treasury inspector general in late November found the emails.

**Immigration:** U.S. Border Patrol agents on May 23 arrested migrants trying to cross the border illegally in McAllen, Texas. Tens of thousands of mostly unaccompanied minors from Central America crossed into the United States, causing a humanitarian crisis on the U.S.-Mexico border.



**Ukraine:** Russian soldiers seized control of Crimea, Ukraine. As part of ongoing violence there, Malaysia Airlines Flight 17 was shot down by forces linked to Russia. All 298 persons on board were killed.

**Iraq:**

Tens of thousands of Yazidis and Christians fled Iraq this year from advancing Islamic State forces, which brutalized and killed Yazidis and Christians in their path.



**Same-sex marriage march:** At the start of 2014, 18 states had overturned marriage amendments or had legalized same-sex marriage—and by year's end with more marriage amendments

overturned or ruled unconstitutional, 35 states had some form of legalized same-sex marriage. Judges acting at all levels kept the state of marriage in some states in legal limbo. Until 2003, same-sex marriage was illegal in all 50 states.



**Hacked:** Cyber attacks were a common trend on various company credit cards. Michaels, P.F. Chang's, and Home Depot were among the retailers that



had millions of customer credit card numbers stolen in data breaches. Hacking touched Hollywood as Sony Corporation had employee emails and passwords leaked which led to the cancellation of the movie The Interview. Security experts expected such attacks to continue in 2015.

**Finding limits in space:** Commercial spaceflight faced major setbacks, as disastrous accidents dealt a blow to the private industries that make up "New Space." An unpiloted Antares rocket operated by Orbital Sciences Corp. exploded on launch Oct. 28—part of a \$1.9 billion NASA ferry cargo to the International Space Station. Only three days later, Virgin Galactic's test vehicle crashed in the Mojave Desert, killing the pilot. All the while, India and Russia succeeded in launching their own spacecraft.

**Touchdown on a comet:** The Philae lander heads to comet 67P. The comet was traveling at 80,000 miles per hour about 300 million miles from Earth—and the European Space Agency managed to land a probe on it. Physics World called the successful landing of the Philae probe the "breakthrough of the year."



## Life Lessons From a Little One

### OVERCOMING THE BLOWS OF 2014

by Jessica S. Hosman

A few nights ago while playing with Bliss (our playful 50-pound Golden Retriever), Zechariah tossed her rubber bone into the air just as he had done hundreds of times before. She eagerly jumped up to fetch it and crashed down with a thud—at the very moment my three-year old decided to step underneath her and look up. Bad combination! As our dog's airborne body abruptly came down, it directly collided with Zechariah. Immediately he began to cry and ran into my arms as I snuggled and covered him with prayer. Within brief minutes, his tears were subsiding but as he pulled away from my arms I saw blood trickling down from his head. Turns out it wasn't just Bliss's head that crashed into his, two of her teeth sank deep into his forehead as well!

The next morning my son woke up with two perfectly round holes in his forehead that may leave a permanent scar. But instead of viewing them as a sign of defeat, he is viewing them as a mark of honor. Like a proud battle wound earned by a soldier, he is excited about his holes and is even making repetitive trips to the mirror to ensure they're still there!

I look back over the past year and see a lot of areas where I feel like I've been knocked in the head similar to what my little one recently experienced. My scars might not be as visible as Zechariah's, but they're still there. Up until this point I had been viewing them as a mark of defeat and failure but through my son I am able to begin seeing them as a mark of survival and victory. Two puncture

wounds coupled with the blunt force of 50-pounds crashing down on his head could have taken my son out—but it didn't. Instead he rose up and proudly shows off his war wounds as a mark of a warrior who was not defeated but instead overcame.

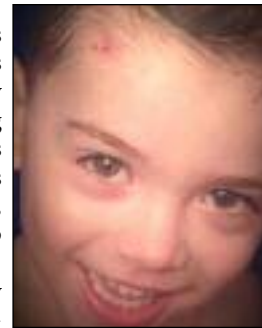
The same can be true for us. The wounds and scars we have endured this past year might have been painful—but they didn't take us out. We survived the battles that surrounded them and now we have the opportunity to walk into the new year with victory and strength.

When we think of the wounds and the circumstances that brought them about, we can choose to feel defeated and void of hope, or we can look at them as marks of survival and recognize that God can use our wounds to remind us of the strength He daily fills us with to overcome the next challenge ahead. For me, I will look at my son, look at those scars and choose to believe that I too can arise from my circumstances and walk in the strength and victory of Christ. My prayer for you is that you would be able to look at your wounds and do the same.

I don't know the weight that crashed down on you or what trials may have tried to consume you over the past year, but I do know they didn't succeed. Just like Zechariah, you are a warrior. You survived the battle and are breathing fresh breath today. There's purpose in that. There is purpose for your life. There is purpose for you. May that truth consume and empower you each day of the new year ahead.



Jessica Hosman



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## KEEPING UP WITH TECHNOLOGY

by **Dave Navarro Jr.**

Learned some interesting statistics for a report coming out in January (I got an advanced copy)...

Mobile Device Web Browsing is expected to overtake desktop browsing worldwide in 2015 (it already happened in the U.S. this past summer). More people now view web sites with their mobile device than with their desktop or laptop computer.

Mobile internet devices will reach the 400% sales mark over laptop and desktop devices this year. In 2014, consumers bought 3.6 mobile devices for every desktop/laptop device purchased. And 70% of all desktop/laptop purchases were made by businesses and professionals, not home consumers. In the fall of 2015, 44% of new college students will not own a desktop or laptop computer, they will use a tablet for schoolwork instead. That number is expected to pass 50% in the fall of 2016.

During the 2014 Christmas shopping season nearly 90% of all shoppers surveyed used their mobile device while in a store to research a product. Of those, 73% said online reviews influenced their final decision. And 68% searched for a better price at another local store or online.

If you are an SEO person... Google changed its site ranking formula in 2014 to rank web sites with VIDEO five-times higher than web sites without VIDEO. Furthermore, web sites with video saw

visitors stay on a web page an average of 4 times longer than a page without video. And emails sent to subscribers saw a 350% higher click-thru rate if that email contained a link to a page that had video. And businesses that added a weekly VLOG (Video BLOG) saw a 700% visitor return rate increase.

Product pages that included a product review or product demonstration video had an 84% higher purchase rate than product pages without a video.

And YouTube, which became the number 2 ranked "search engine" in the world in 2013, increased its numbers over Yahoo (number 3) in 2014. The number one search term on YouTube for 2014? "[product name] review", i.e. "iPhone 6 review" or "LG smart tv review." Oh, and 71% of all YouTube traffic was on mobile devices in 2014.

Starting on the Monday before Thanksgiving and ending on the Friday after Christmas, YouTube was the NUMBER 1 search engine in the world with consumers using it to research purchases.

And the YouTube App has the highest install rate on mobile devices with 96%. The second highest is Google Maps at 74%, followed by Facebook at 67%.

*Dave Navarro, Jr. is the Director of Digital Media for WIBW Radio in Topeka. You can follow him on twitter @wibwwebguru.*



## Chaplain's Corner Uncommon Prayers



**Fred S. Hollomon**  
Chaplain Emeritus  
Kansas Senate

Prayers like this may be found in my Book of Uncommon Prayers at Book Boutique at the Library, Wolfe's Camera Shop, the State Capital, and my Web site, fsh-kschap.org

**Heavenly Father,**

There is an old hymn that goes like this:  
"Count your blessings name them one  
by one,  
And it will surprise you  
What the Lord has done."

Lord, I have discovered  
This old hymn is true,

Marveled at the blessings  
That have come from You.

Help us to stop dwelling  
On our problems every day,  
And thank You for the blessings  
You have sent our way.

**I Pray in the Name of Jesus Christ  
AMEN**

## Bleeding Kansas Series Returns to Constitution Hall State Historic Site

LECOMPTON, KS—Dramatic interpretations and talks about the violent conflict over slavery highlight the 19th annual Bleeding Kansas series, which begins January 25, 2015. The programs are held at 2 p.m. Sundays, through March 1. Bleeding Kansas describes that time in Kansas Territory, from 1854 to 1861, during the struggle to determine whether the new state would be free or slave. Each of these programs explores aspects of the state's unique history.

• January 25 - "The Kansas Statehouse Restoration," Barry Greis, statehouse architect, with remarks by Matt Veatch, state archivist, Kansas Historical Society. /This program is a Kansas Day commemoration./

• February 1 - "Railroad Empire Across the Heartland: Rephotographing Alexander Gardner's 1867 Westward Journey Through Kansas," John Charlton, photographer, Kansas Geological Survey, University of Kansas with remarks by Nancy Sherbert, curator of photographs, Kansas Historical Society. Charlton will sign copies of his book after the presentation, which will be available for purchase the day of the event.

• February 8 - "John Brown vs. W.B. 'Ft. Scott' Brockett," first-person portrayals by Kerry Altenbernd, as abolitionist John Brown, and Jeff Quigley, as proslavery advocate W.B. Brockett, discussing Bleeding Kansas and the Battle of Black Jack.

• February 15 - "James Montgomery, The Original Jayhawker," Max Nehrbass, Labette Community College history instructor, with historian Rich Ankerholz portraying James

Montgomery.

• February 22 - "If It Looks Like a Man: Female Soldiers and Lady Bushwhackers in the Civil War in Kansas and Missouri," Diane Eickhoff and Aaron Barnhart, authors and historians.

• March 1 - "John Brown's Money Man: George Luther Stearns, Abolitionist," Dr. Charles E. Heller, author and historian. Heller will sign copies of his book after the presentation, which will be available for purchase the day of the event.

chase the day of the event.

The suggested donation is \$3 adults. Constitution Hall is located at 319 Elmore, LeCompton. For more information, call 785-887-6520 or visit [kshs.org/constitution\\_hall](http://kshs.org/constitution_hall).

Constitution Hall State Historic Site is one of 16 state historic sites operated by the Kansas Historical Society, a state agency.

For more informatino about the Kansas Historical Society visit the web-site at [kshs.org](http://kshs.org)

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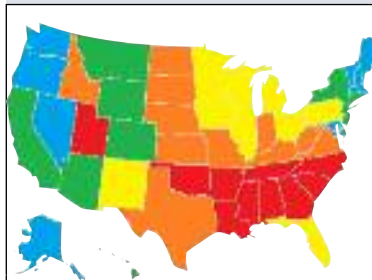
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## newsbriefs



### Survey Determines Most Religious States in the USA

Most Religious US states. Red states are the most religious. Orange states are highly religious. Yellow states are average. Green states are below average. Blue states are the least religious.

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## 5 New Year Resolutions for 2015

by **John Potter | Military Chaplain**

It is that time of year again. We stand at the threshold of a new year and people are full of excitement and anticipation. Part of that excitement is making a list of resolutions or goals for 2015.

We make resolutions because we want to improve our circumstances. We want to improve ourselves and our quality of life. The top resolutions, for most people, tend to revolve around the same three areas: money, health, and family.

I encourage you to also make faith a part of your "wish list" for 2015. Here are 5 resolutions that can strengthen your Christian walk next year.

Read the Bible. Spending time with God's Word is vital to any Christian. It encourages and educates us. It provides direction when we feel lost. It reminds us that God is near. Examine your daily schedule and find the right time when you can reflect on Scripture.

Speak more carefully. While we ignore much of what we hear in a typical day, words matter. Words can build up or tear down. Don't allow destructive talk, gossip, or vulgarities to rule your speech. Resolve to watch your language and speak in a manner that glorifies God, especially when it comes to the name of God.

Go gadget free. Yes, your smart phone is fun and it is a great way to stay in touch with others, but it also robs time from important areas of life. Make

a rule to turn off your computers, cell phones, tablets, etc. at least once a week. While it may seem like this is hindering your ability to connect, it will actually allow you to make even deeper connections with those around you. Bless your family and friends by being present in their lives.

Pray frequently. Prayer is central to our faith. It is deliberate communication with our Heavenly Father. It is an act of worship. It is a spiritual discipline. It allows us to

adore, petition, praise, and confess. Scripture shares several occasions when Jesus made time and space to pray. Follow in the example of Christ and find time to pray to our Creator.

Volunteer your time. You can make a difference in someone's life by investing minutes each day. Take time to volunteer at a local charity, non-profit, or ministry organization. Live your faith and demonstrate that you are a servant of Christ. There are programs designed to help pregnant girls and teenage parents make good choices and establish a solid foundation for their lives and the lives of their babies. There are programs to feed the hungry. There are programs to mentor married couples. All of these programs need volunteers to strengthen others in need.

As we prepare for 2015, make faith part of your improvement plan. Make a plan to strengthen your faith now and into the new year.



## newsbriefs

### Christian governor takes helm in Muslim nation

JAKARTA, Indonesia -- Despite opposition from Islamic extremists, the capital city of the world's most populous Muslim nation now has a governor, and he's a Christian.

Members of the Islamic Defenders Front protested the swearing in of ethnic Chinese Christian, Basuki Purnama.

He became governor of Jakarta late last month after his predecessor was elected president.

Muslim hardliners find it very difficult to accept that after 69 years of Indonesian independence, a Christian now sits in this governor's office.

But most Muslims welcome Purnama. They believe that he is a man of action and integrity who can solve their problems.

"We have been requesting to be recognized as state teachers since 2003 but still nothing happened. But today we have hope that Basuki will be able to help us because he is a good leader," Indria, a Muslim teacher, said.

From the post of vice-governor, Purnama automatically became



governor after his predecessor, Joko Widodo, was declared the new president of Indonesia in July.

Political analyst, Pastor Bigman, believes the hand of God opened the door for Basuki.

"As a pastor I am very happy, because there is hope and an open door for other Christians to be leaders in this country," Bigman said.

Purnama was born to a Christian family and served as an elementary Sunday school teacher and an elder at the Evangelical Reformed Church of Jesus Christ.

As a church leader, he expressed an interest in politics.

"Basuki loves Indonesia. He loves

God. In every meeting he always says that he's just an extension of God to bless the people in Indonesia," Ardes Goenawan, Purnama's churchmate, said.

It may seem improbable for someone like Purnama to run the capital of the world's most populous Muslim-majority nation, but the new governor says he considers neither his faith nor his ethnicity to be a political handicap.

"We don't talk about religion. If you ask me about my character and what I do for the people, it's for the nation," he said. "We are not for the position and the power, what's important is what you do for humanity and service for others."

So what are his future political aspirations?

"Every politician should dream to become president," he replied.

Most Indonesians would probably say the election of a Chinese president would be unlikely. But then again, few people expected a Christian to ever become governor of their capital city.

## Angel Flight Central reaches 20,000 flights

Last summer, Angel Flight Central (AFC), flew its 20,000th flight. AFC, which serves people in need by arranging charitable flights for health care or other humanitarian purposes, was founded in 1995 by Overland Park resident Jim Stevens.

The non-profit has a roster of nearly 400 volunteer pilots throughout the mid to upper Midwest who give of themselves on a daily basis.

Executive Director Don Sumple stated that "the AFC volunteer pilots who transport people in need of non-emergency medical treatment and for other humanitarian reasons are truly heroes. Sumple noted that many AFC passengers are alive today because of the unselfishness of the volunteer pilots who provide their time, treasure and talent to help our friends and neighbors in need reach their treatment facilities free of charge."

According to Sumple, "the arrival of this 20,000th angel flight only reinforces that the need for charitable aviation is real and increasing each and every day."

Angel Flight Central serves Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, and North and South Dakota. For more information on how Angel Flight Central might be able to assist you or someone you know, please call 816-421-2300 or toll free at 1-866-569-9464. You can also visit their website at [www.angelflightcentral.org](http://www.angelflightcentral.org).



An Angel Flight volunteer pilot and passengers.

## Church to offer new Saturday evening service

Crossroads Wesleyan Church, 2121 SW Harrison Street, will hold a Saturday night service beginning January 3rd, starting at 6:00 p.m. The Saturday service was begun in order to offer an alternative to those who find it difficult to worship on Sunday mornings, according to pastor David

Deck.

The regular service will continue to begin at 10:45 a.m. Sunday mornings. The church also offers various small group meetings for men, women, adults, and teens, as well as a quarterly Kids Game Night. For more information call the church at 354-7953.

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## 5 STEPS TO BEING FINANCIALLY FIT IN '15

It's another new year, and that means it's time for yet another set of resolutions. But if you're like most Americans, you'll probably forget your goals by mid-February. So how can you turn your financial resolutions into reality in 2015?

Make a plan. The number-one mistake people make with their money is they don't bother with a plan. They have no idea where their money is going! The money comes in and the money goes out, and only the names are changed to protect the innocent.

You have to do a budget! Put a name to every dollar you earn. Tell your money what to do instead of wondering where it went. Remember, it takes at least three months of practice and dedication to really make your budget work.

Save for emergencies. Murphy is going to visit. You know Murphy: If something can go wrong, it will. I promise you it's going to rain from time to time, so you'll need an umbrella. Save \$1,000 in cash as quickly as possible for an emergency fund before you begin attacking your debt.

After you pay off all your debt except for your mortgage, increase your emergency fund to cover three to six months of expenses. Layoffs happen, cars break down, and kids get sick. A fully funded emergency fund can turn these disasters into nothing more than minor inconveniences.

Don't make the mistake of putting life's emergencies on a credit card. You'll end up paying on them for months or even years to come. An emergency fund gives you the peace of mind that comes with knowing you can handle whatever life throws at you.

Use the debt snowball. List all of your debts, except your house, from smallest payoff balance to largest. Make the minimum payment on every debt except the smallest and put every extra dollar you can find toward the smallest debt until it is paid.

If you can find a way to generate extra income, do it! Take on a part-time job for a while or have a big yard sale and get rid of that stuff you never use, wear or didn't want in the first place! Then focus on paying off the next smallest debt, then the next, then the next, rolling the money over each time.

Have plastic surgery. Cut up all of your credit cards. We call this a plasectomy. Everyone says they pay off their credit cards each month, but the truth is virtually no one does.

Carnegie Melon conducted a study that showed when McDonalds began accepting credit cards, the average purchase increased by 47 percent. People are more reluctant to spend money when they see tens and twenties leaving their wallets and going into someone else's. You really feel it when you have to lay out cash. Get rid of the credit cards!

Invest for the future. When you're debt-free and have a fully funded emergency fund, you're ready to start planning for the future. Invest 15 percent of your income in a 401(k), Roth IRA and other tax-advantaged retirement plans. Why not more? Because the extra money you'll save can go toward saving



**DAVE RAMSEY**

Financial author, radio host, television personality, and motivational speaker

**davesays**

for college (if you have kids) or paying off your home early.

Do these things sound like a dream? Well, I can tell you from experience that some dreams do come true. If you're willing to be disciplined and focused, live on a budget, and have a plan for your money, the sky's the limit. Make 2015 the year you begin to live like no one else, so later you really can live like no one else!

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**Linda Fields** | The Joseph Company

As a leader, some core principles are found in Proverbs to apply as you begin a new year. This process applies to an individual, a team or a business.

1. Define Your Destination: Describe where you want to be in 12, 24 and 36 months. Paint a clear picture of the best outcome you desire to bring. (Prov. 16:3)

2. Create a Compelling Vision: Capture your vision in a short, clear phrase or sentence. Your vision statement should be passionate so it inspires you as well as those you share it with. You must believe in your own vision. Without a vision, we are without restraint and meander aimlessly. (Prov. 29:18)

3. Share Your Vision with Your Inner Circle: Surround yourself with a few trusted advisors who know you well. Ask them to engage with you in a meaningful conversation about your vision at least every quarter. (Prov. 15:22)

4. Create Your Action Plans with Prayer: Make a plan for what it will take to

execute your vision. Describe the action steps, the resources required and the due date for each item. (Prov. 16:3)

5. Create Your Budget: Finances and stewardship of those finances will enable you to fulfill your plan. (Prov. 10:22)

6. Find a Business Buddy: Your business buddy will understand the practical steps of your business, help you solve problems and find outside help as needed. (Prov. 9:9)

7. Communicate Your Vision to your Audience: Consider the needs, language

and solutions for your ideal customer. Craft messages and marketing tools to enable your customer to find you and access your solutions. (Prov. 15:2)

8. Own it. Be it. Do it! You are living your vision with confidence at this point. (Prov. 3:26 and 4:25)

9. Tell Success Stories: Share the good news and enjoy the fruit of your labor. (Prov. 18:20)

Have a wonderful year of IMPACT in 2015.

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*But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an everflowing stream. - Amos 5:24*

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# opinion

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## Is GOD FINISHED WITH THE PROMISED LAND?

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**ELWOOD McQUAID**

Consulting editor for Israel My Glory Magazine of Friends of Israel Ministry

**myopinion**

### Israel still has more friends than foes

The New Year is upon us and, no doubt, headlines will continue to tell the frightening stories of the genocidal slaughter of believers abroad. Israel, too, is under attack—literally and figuratively. Part of this battle involves evangelicals turning away from Israel to support the creation of a Palestinian state.

This anti-Israel campaign repudiates biblical doctrine, endorses Arab revisionist propaganda and claims Israel is illegally occupying Arab land and imposing apartheid-like conditions on the Palestinians. Furthermore, Millennials are being recruited to fashion a pro-Palestinian evangelical opinion regarding the Israeli-Arab peace process.

While social media highlight this movement, they do not change the fact that the argument that evangelicals are deserting Israel is flawed.

Devotees of “Christ at the Checkpoint,” a group of evangelicals dedicated to reclaiming the “prophetic role in bringing peace, justice and reconciliation in Palestine and Israel,” are clearly pro-Palestinian. They embrace Replacement Theology, the belief that God is finished with Israel as a nation and has installed the church as the true “Israel of God.” This position negates God’s promises, etched in Scripture, of (1) Israel’s future restoration; (2) a Messianic Kingdom on Earth; and (3) glory for Jacob and his posterity, including full land rights to the inheritance in the Middle East. Undoubtedly, the Jewish return to Israel is theologically

unsettling to Replacement practitioners. And gentlemanly disagreement has turned into a united front among Replacement adherents to discredit the opposition. This spring’s reconciliation between Hamas leaders in Gaza and Palestinian Authority leader Mahmoud Abbas is a terrorist union based on absurdity. Purportedly, the agreement includes working toward a two-state solution that recognizes Israel’s existence.

Yet, Hamas has fired thousands of missiles into Jewish towns in an attempt to kill as many Israeli men, women and children as possible. Hamas’s very charter enshrines its commitment to eradicate Israel. Additionally, Abbas oversees an unrelenting incitement campaign against Israel, praising suicide attackers who have drenched Israeli streets with innocent blood.

Professing believers in Christ (who align themselves with anti-Semites) defame Bible-believing Christians and demonize Israelis.

In a culture obsessed with radical change, fighting for the underdog is fashionable. But we must ensure the underdog

**“In a culture obsessed with radical change, fighting for the underdog is fashionable. But we must ensure the underdog is truly an underdog and not the fabrication of propaganda.”**

is truly an underdog and not the fabrication of propaganda.

Accusing the Jewish people of duplicity and treachery is a tactic as old as time. The “wandering Jew” characterized the general Jewish condition until May 14, 1948. With the restoration of part of the Jewish homeland, it appeared a new era of peace and stability might be at hand.

After World War II, few people, particularly Christians, would have questioned



recognizing a legal Jewish nation. Unanticipated, however, was the radical Arab inhabitants’ genocidal fervor.

The Israeli struggle for survival suddenly became a fact of life. Against insurmountable odds, Jewish perseverance and ingenuity made Israel a model of progress, humanitarian excellence, technological innovation and medical achievement.

The world should accept and admire what this tiny refugee country has accomplished.

But in a world with an inexorable sin problem, old specters never die. Recent incidents offer disturbing reminders. In countries where Jewish people were murdered by the millions during the Holocaust, anti-Semitism lingers.

A recent Anti-Defamation League survey found 45 percent of Poland’s citizens, 41 percent of Hungary’s and 37 percent of France’s have anti-Semitic attitudes. And in Ukraine, political upheaval and anti-Semitism have sent Jewish emigration soaring.

The increase in anti-Jewish, anti-Israel incidents underscores the necessity of a secure Jewish state.

God has issued a promise and a land deed to Abraham and his descendants in perpetuity: “And the Lord said to Abram ...

‘Lift your eyes now and look from the place where you are—northward, southward, eastward and westward; for all the land which you see I give to you and your descendants forever’” (Gen. 13:14-15).

Considering Israel is the only true democracy in the Middle East and the closest ally of America and the West, the clamor to dismantle the state seems demented. Israelis have long asked that armistice lines where fighting ceased in 1948-49 be exchanged for negotiated, safe borders so they can maintain security without the constant threat of annihilation. For professing Christians to side with jihadists who vow to erase Israel from the map is, at minimum, bewildering.

Israel still has more friends than foes. Although opposition exists, we must not become agitated by stories of massive evangelical defections from loyalty to Israel. It is a concern, but the movement is a noisy, activist sliver among evangelical Christians. The mature remnant of believers stands firm with Israel’s right to the land. These Christians have wisely chosen truth over fabrications. That will not change.

*Elwood McQuaid is consulting editor for Israel My Glory Magazine of The Friends of Israel Gospel Ministry, and a former executive director of the worldwide ministry.*

## HOPE FOR A MOTHER & CHILD



**CLINT DECKER**

President and Evangelist with Great Awakenings, Inc.

**hopefortoday**

Clay Center, Kan. – Jill, a high school senior, took the emotionally wrenching drive to the clinic. Nervously she sat, seeming unsure of herself. It felt like there was no other way to handle her unplanned pregnancy.

Millions can identify with Jill. It might be a pregnant college girl and boyfriend who are not ready for the challenges of parenthood, a pregnant single mom who cannot afford another child or a couple who knows the baby they are carrying will likely have a life-long disability.

Hope is that intangible thing you need when you feel overwhelmed by your circumstances. It is that gentle voice inside that in our moment of crisis, challenges us to believe in someone that is greater than our self.

If you are pregnant, living in a very difficult set of circumstances and wondering what to do, let me say, “There is hope!”

Have hope for your baby. Any ultra-

sound or a simple hand on the belly will prove it is not just an “it” or blob of tissue. You. Are. Carrying. Life! Let your mind dream of what your baby could grow up and become. Imagine. Dream great dreams for that little one you are carrying.

Have hope for yourself. Choosing an abortion tosses those dreams away and will etch a tragic memory on the walls of your mind. This baby can be a new beginning. Like the start of a new year. Determine to accept this child and be the very best father or mother your baby could ever have. Another way is adoption. Perhaps you could fulfill the wish of a couple out there. Maybe there is a loving husband and wife who would welcome your baby into their home.

Have hope through forgiveness. Maybe you have already had an abortion

and the sense of guilt and shame weighs heavy on your shoulders. What can you do to find relief from this burden?

Centuries ago, Jesus provided a way for complete forgiveness. His sacrificial death on a cross atoned for all our sin. His blood that was shed covered our sin, removed it and washed us clean. The atoning work of Jesus and the relief it brings is waiting for you. If you call out to Him, He stands ready to forgive. God says, “I will be merciful toward their iniquities [sins], and I will remember their sins no more” (Hebrews 8:12). Imagine having your sins remembered no more. The peace. The joy. May Jesus be your hope for today and in the choices you face.

*Clint Decker is President and Evangelist with Great Awakenings, Inc. Contact him at cdeckergreatawakenings.org.*



# HOPE FOR YOUR TOMORROWS

by **Jessica S. Hosman**

I have a friend who tells her teenage grandson at the beginning of every school year, “You’re starting the year with straight A’s; whether you keep them or not is up to you.” I’ve thought about that statement a lot as the calendar year turns over to January. It’s a new year, a new beginning. It begins on a fresh slate filled with 365 days of opportunity to pass or to fail. But thankfully, even on those days when we lie down at night feeling as though we’ve earned the largest “F” possible, God wipes our slate clean and gives us the opportunity to start afresh the next day. His mercies are new every morning (Lamentations 3:22-23). Therefore it’s not just on January 1st when we have a new opportunity to start afresh, but each day throughout the year ahead.

A multitude of trials come to remembrance when I ponder 2014 and I have wondered if I’ve ever had a more challenging year. In talking with others,



I’m shocked at how many have said the same. When December rolled around, I looked forward to 2015 with great anticipation – almost as if when the new year dawned, I’d suddenly be able to breathe afresh and experience a new sense of joy that somehow got buried beneath the rubble of the past 12 months.

Perhaps it’s been the same for you. Pressures may have seemed to suffocate you causing you to eagerly say goodbye to the past and hope for something new in the future. I stand in expectancy with you and hold fast to God’s promise to give us a future filled with hope (Jeremiah 29:11). No matter what you’re faced with, never lose sight that tomorrow is a new day; one filled with straight A’s... and you don’t have to wait for a full year to pass before you can start afresh. His mercies are new every morning and so is His love. May each day be filled with an abundance of both for you in the new year we embrace.



The rain was pouring down. It was cold. It was the type of weather that most would call miserable. Cars were passing by looking at me. I could tell by the look on a few startled faces that they were asking themselves, “What is that fool doing running in the rain?”

I was the object of the imagined question. I was jogging in pouring rain in nearly freezing weather.

There were 2 things they didn’t realize:

1. It wasn’t raining when I started.
2. I was enjoying myself.

When I started running it was cold but dry. Only a light mist hung in the air. After 30 mins the bottom fell out of the clouds. The weather is often nice when we start something. Weather changes.

When you start a business, it’s nice. You are excited. You have money saved. You have big dreams. Then you don’t make as much as you thought. Your money runs out. The customers don’t line up, & the sales don’t go up. You had your business plans & they didn’t include rain. Weather changes.

When you get married, it’s nice. You are excited. You have money saved. You have big dreams. You have your life planned & changing diapers at 2 a.m. & 4 a.m. somehow wasn’t in the plans. Having more bills than money wasn’t in the plans. The mood swings & differences weren’t on the plans. The extra weight in so many areas weren’t on the plans. Weather changes.

When you move to a new city, it’s nice. You are excited. You have money saved.

You have your life planned & all of the negative stuff of the old town you are leaving behind. You soon are around the same type of people in the new city, on the new job, in the new church, they weren’t in your plans. Weather changes.

“What is that fool doing running in the rain?” I was smiling. The rain & cold air felt good. My lungs were in shape so they weren’t burning from the cold air. The rain washed the sweat away. It kept me refreshed. It was like running in the shower.

Plus, when the downpour started, I was 2 miles from home. There was nothing that I could do but keep running. If they thought I was a fool at first, they should have seen me during the last one-half mile. I took my shirt off. I had no choice but to run, whether it was hot or cold, wet or dry, but the choice to smile & fully enjoy the weather, was mine.

If you’ve got to run, find the good in your weather & smile, even if people do think you are crazy, they don’t know your situation or what you’re made of inside.

Have you ever noticed how kids like to play in the rain?

You may have no choice but to run in the rain; you do have a choice of the expression on your face & how much you enjoy it. Weather changes.

~Excerpt from *A Mountain Wings Moment* at [www.mountainwings.com](http://www.mountainwings.com)

# An NFL player’s amazing response to Ferguson



**DR. JIM DENISON**  
Cultural apologist, engaging contemporary issues with biblical truth

**viewpoint**

Benjamin Watson plays football for the New Orleans Saints. After the grand jury in Ferguson chose not to indict Officer Darren Wilson in connection with the death of Michael Brown, Watson posted a response on Facebook. His post has gone viral and led to national media appearances, including an extended CNN interview.

I urge you to read Watson's entire statement, as it expresses eloquently the pain, conflicted emotions, and confusion so many feel in reacting to this tragedy and its aftermath. Here's how it closes:

"I'M ENCOURAGED, because ultimately the problem is not a SKIN problem, it is a SIN problem. SIN is the reason we rebel against authority. SIN is the reason we abuse our authority. SIN is the reason we are racist, prejudiced and lie to cover for our own. SIN is the reason we riot, loot and burn. BUT I'M ENCOURAGED because God has provided a solution for sin through his son Jesus and with it, a transformed heart and mind. One that's capable of looking past the outward and seeing what's truly important in every human being. The cure for the Michael Brown, Trayvon Martin, Tamir Rice and Eric Garner tragedies is not education or exposure. It's the Gospel.



So, finally, I’M ENCOURAGED because the Gospel gives mankind hope."

Benjamin Watson has spoken God's word to our fractured world. Consider some headlines: a Palestinian woman stabbed an Israeli yesterday and was wounded by security forces. Eleven Israelis have been killed in five separate Palestinian attacks over the last six weeks. Protests continue in Hong Kong. Suicide bombers killed 70 last week in Nigeria. A suicide bomber killed nine in Afghanistan yesterday. A Canadian woman has reportedly been kidnapped in Syria.

What do these conflicts have in common? Sin. What is the hope? The gospel.

In 2 Kings 22 we find the nation of Israel on the brink of divine judgment and enslavement to Babylon. Workers cleaning the temple found "the Book of the Law," most likely the book of Deuteronomy. When the king read the word of God, he tore his clothes in repentance and commanded the high priest to seek God's grace for the nation. The priest went to Huldah the prophetess, who warned of imminent judgment. But

because the king responded to Scripture with remorse and humility, disaster was averted (vs. 8-20) and a great spiritual awakening swept the nation (2 Kings 23).

Christmas is the celebration of the birth of the Prince of Peace. How can we bring his peace to our conflicted culture? By using our influence to share his word. When Benjamin Watson signed with New Orleans, he said that his purpose was "not just to play football, but to minister in the locker room and also be involved in the community of New Orleans and serve where we can, and tell people about the Lord where we can. Something my wife always says is, 'Benjamin, it's not always about you, and what you want.' God has a way of moving us to where He wants us to be and He expects us to serve Him where we are. So that's been our approach since I've been in New Orleans."

Let's take the same approach where we are today, to the glory of God.

*Jim Denison, Ph.D., is a cultural apologist, building a bridge between faith and culture by engaging contemporary issues with biblical truth. [www.denisonforum.org](http://www.denisonforum.org)*

# WHAT’S WRITTEN IN YOUR DESTINATION BOOK?

by **Earl Kemper**

Imagine you are sitting in a movie theater and after almost two hours you are perched on the edge of your chair as the end of the movie begins to draw near. You are filled with so much excitement and anticipation to see the last 20 minutes of the movie and then it arrives and you are quickly deflated like an untied balloon. You are left with the thought of “Was that it? Is that really all there is?”

Don’t let your Destination Story have an ending like that. Begin writing your story with the end in mind. First, look at where you are today and then look at where you choose to be three years from now. You want the ending, that last 20 minutes, to be powerful. What ending do you need to write that will fill you with excitement? So much excitement that you hop out of bed each morning with determination to overcome any challenge that tries to get in your way?

Write an ending that enables you to turn challenges into opportunities because you have the end of the story written and know the amazing potential. Where do you choose to be three years from now? Have you taken the time to lay out your Three Year Destination Storybook?

Each one of your twelve chapters (about three months on your three year timeline) needs to progress and create momentum as you build up to this powerful ending. The beginning of your book, the prelude of your powerful ending, will only begin when you decide to start. There are one hundred and fifty-six weeks in a three year time period. If you get caught up in the thought of “It can be done next week,” you are just putting off your destination of success.

BE: You have to start working on your “Be” right now! Every day you need to work toward who you choose to be. Work on your vision and beliefs, and put a spotlight on disciplines that will enable you to focus on what you want to accomplish. Get

connected to the right people, within and outside of your organization that can help you. Make decisions to map out a clear plan and precise directions to help you reach your goal. From this moment on, each page that you write in your story is very important. Every page needs to build momentum and propel you to your powerful ending.

DO: Have you ever had a “good thought” or a “great idea?” The problem with a good thought is that it is seldom acted upon. Also a great idea, although you intend to work on it sometime in the future, usually ends up lost due to procrastination or fear. Whatever idea you decide on must become a must. A must is urgent and important and requires you to act upon it right now and refuses to let something hold you back. What needs to happen for you to achieve your destination story ending? What is required to become a “must?”

HAVE: When your thoughts and actions intertwine, you will begin to see results. Having confidence in knowing why you do what you do will enable you to push yourself through any challenge in order to reach your destination.

What is it going to take to write your story? If everything came together perfectly, where could you be three years from now? What annual profit and revenue is your business generating and what is your salary? Who are your target clients and what product has helped you achieve your goals?

Write your story with clear precise direction and know that obstacles will eventually get in the way, but if your goal and dreams are big enough you can use those obstacles as a stepping stone. If you are not sure why you do what you do and need help in discovering your vision call 785.408.5927 to qualify for a complimentary coaching session.

*Earl Kemper is a Certified Business Coach with ActionCOACH of Topeka*





## WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO SUPPORT 'LIFE?'



**KRISTIN  
RUDOLPH**  
Fellow with John  
Jay Institute

### mythoughts

You have probably heard the story before: American pro-life Christians only care about human life before birth, and afterwards, they turn their backs on the child and mother. The only thing that matters to these heartless hypocrites is making people take responsibility for their own poor decisions.

This cliché is spouted endlessly by pro-abortion activists frustrated by their primary opposition – Evangelical and Catholic Christians – but one doesn't expect to find such flat stereotypes peddled in the pages of popular Christian publications.

Relevant Magazine online published such an article, titled "Pro-life is More Than Anti-Abortion," which made serious accusations with no supporting evidence, that "the Church" has done no more than yell about abortion while abandoning women and children in need. The story is so common it is almost unworthy of response, but it does provide a good frame to highlight the reality of Christian responses to abortion in light of the wave of new regulations and abortion clinic closures.

The authors, Haley Henderson and Stephen Boyd, assert that because Texas's regulations mean only five abortion providers will remain in the state, the resulting increase in "unsolicited [lives]" demands that "The Church needs to abandon the harsh rhetoric and manipulation that sways instead of secures. It needs to be prepared to offer help and options for women." They claim "most



Christians and church-goers would say-to the same people who choose to have their baby instead of turning to abortion-that they should take responsibility for their poor choices and not expect the government to provide for them ... Ironically enough, the Church's opposition to abortion has all too often resulted in the abandonment of several Biblical ideas; namely love, grace, compassion and humility."

The authors write the law will save lives from "unsolicited death. [Which] is a very positive development. But it may also force children into an unsolicited life." They continue: "There will be an increased risk for babies to be born to

unplanned pregnancies. Religious Americans are also more likely to take in foster children. Recently an evangelical adoption movement has swelled throughout America, with conferences and summits drawing thousands of believers each year.

Additionally, pregnancy care centers (or crisis pregnancy centers) outnumber abortion clinics in the United States, and are usually run by Christian organizations. They do not abandon women the moment they give birth, but rather offer steady support and education for them. There are an estimated 2,000 to 2,500 of these centers throughout the U.S. Surely

there is room for more outreach to women considering abortion, but it is factually wrong to claim all "the Church" does about abortion is shout and wave signs with bloody photos.

These examples barely scratch the surface and say nothing of the

countless untold stories from families and churches that have actively cared (not merely sympathized) for vulnerable women and children. Just this year, hundreds of people lived their pro-life convictions, offering at a moment's notice to adopt a baby with Down Syndrome to save the child from the parents' plans to abort.

This is not to say things are perfect. There is always more work that can be done, and there are valid points of criticism concerning the strategy, focus, and message of the pro-life movement. Not all Christians or churches are consistently pro-life.

A consistently pro-life Christian cares deeply for babies and their mothers and fathers throughout their entire lifespan. In contrast, there is nothing "pro-life" about caring for an unborn child's potentially poor "quality of life" and implying the alternative of death by abortion may be preferable to poverty.

The point of being "pro-life" is not to merely stop abortions in the abstract. Fighting for the unborn child's right to life flows from a Christian's conviction that God is the author of all life, and it is not for us humans to determine whose life is worth living. Life is inherently good and sacred, and the most vulnerable and weak are precious to God.

—Kristin Rudolph is a fellow with the John Jay Institute and a former Evangelical Program Coordinator at the IRD.

*"Before I formed you in  
the womb I knew you,  
before you were born  
I set you apart.*

Jeremiah 1:5



young mothers, teenagers and abusive homes. These are needs the Church must be ready to meet."

Further, they write: "It's easy to hold up a sign with a picture of a dead baby on it. It's a lot harder to actually sympathize with a woman who got pregnant and has to keep her baby because there's no abortion clinic nearby."

Despite the cliché, Christians overwhelmingly do live out their pro-life convictions beyond merely spouting anti-abortion "rhetoric." The largest adoption agency in the United States is Bethany Christian Services, which also offers foster care services and support for women with

## Abortion clinic worker quits after seeing 'The Faces of God's Children'

by **Steven Ertelt**

The pro-life movement is blessed to have quite a number of former abortion practitioners, abortion clinic operators, and abortion facility staff who are now passionately pro-life. They are some of the leading figures talking about the horrors of what goes on in abortion clinics — where unborn babies and women are both violated by abortions.

In many cases, what led them to exit the abortion industry was a confrontation with abortion itself and a final awakening

of their senses that they were involved in the sad and tragic destruction of human life.

On her Facebook page, Abby Johnson shares the story of an abortion worker who called it quits on August 8th. She was concerned about quitting because of the adverse financial impact it would have on her family. After all, the abortion industry and jobs in it are lucrative.

Here is her story:

"I left the abortion clinic I worked at August 8th. My husband and I were in no shape financially for me to leave, and there were many great perks that came with my job there. I had excellent pay, health and life insurance that were no cost to me, three weeks of paid vacation annually, tuition reimbursement, and a 401k that they would match dollar for dollar to what I contributed.

Every morning as I walked in, I would hear a kind voice outside the fence, a bit distanced from the shouting crowd that would offer to help me find a new job. I usually ignored it. I sat

behind bullet proof glass every day and watched the sad, hardened faces of so many women walk up the steps to the clinic and walk out drugged, teary eyed, and heartbroken.

I was set up to start training in the pathology lab in the coming weeks and I was scheduled one day just to "sit in" and see what happens in there.



In a tiny room with a "Biohazard" sign on the door I met God. In tiny little petri dishes, neatly displayed with a patient's name sprawled on each label with the giant letters POC printed on them were the tiny little

faces of God's children. Some of them weren't recognizably human but most of them clearly were. There I sat face to face with about twenty people. Twenty people who you couldn't see walk through the door, 20 people who didn't get to plead their case in the counseling room, 20 people whose little hearts were barely able to beat, 20 people who didn't get a choice, 20 people who would be tossed in a freezer at the end of the day to wait and be carted off to a burn site as medical waste. Medical Waste or Product of Conception were the only names these people would ever be given.

**"I left work that day  
with such a heavy sorrow  
in my heart. I have never  
felt those type of intense  
emotions before."**

I shamefully went into work the next morning, and I heard the kind voice outside the fence again. But everything was different that day. I decided when I left I was going to reach out to these people and I wasn't going to remain a part of this."

**Every child deserves a loving, caring home. A family they can call their own.  
A place where they belong. With people who will be there for them always.**



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Adopt Kansas Kids works to connect foster and approved adoptive families with children throughout Kansas who need adoption. This service is provided by the Kansas Children's Service League through a contract with the Kansas Department for Children and Families (DCF).

## Topeka Rescue Mission

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# Their “Rescuing Hug” stunned the world; now the twins are all grown up

Steven Ertelt | LifeNews.com

When preemie twins Brielle and Kyrie Jackson were born, doctors weren't sure they'd make it, until a smart nurse placed the girls together in one incubator.

These iconic twins were born 12 weeks premature in 1995. They're lying on their bellies, and the slightly larger baby has her stick-thin arm around her sister. One baby was not expected to live, hospital nurse fought to put them in the same incubator.

The stronger baby wrapped her arm around her sister, and her touch allowed the struggling baby's heart to stabilize and her temperature to return to normal.

Today, they're all grown up.

Kyrie and Brielle Jackson were born on October 17, 1995, a full 12 weeks ahead of their due date. The standard practice, that time, at The Medical Center of Central Massachusetts in Worcester, where the twins came into the world, was to place them in separate incubators in order to reduce the risk of infection. Both

babies were placed in separate incubators, a standard practice to reduce the risk of cross-infection. Kyrie, who weighed 2 lbs 3 oz, was making good progress and gaining weight, but her tiny sister had breathing and heart-rate problems, there was little weight gain and her oxygen level was low.

On November 12, tiny Brielle went into critical condition. Her stick-thin arms and legs turned bluish-gray as she gasped for air. Her heart rate soared. The Jackson parents watched, terrified that their little daughter might die.

It is said that desperate moments call for desperate measures. Nurse Gayle Kasparian, after exhausting all the conventional remedies, decided to try a procedure that was common in parts of Europe but virtually unknown in the United States. With parental permission, she placed the twins in the same bed. No sooner had she closed the incubator door, Brielle snuggled up to Kyrie and began to calm down. Within minutes, her blood-oxygen readings improved. As she dozed, Kyrie wrapped her left arm around her



Brielle and Kyrie Jackson with the famous 'hug' photo shot.



smaller sister. Brielle's heart rate stabilized and her temperature rose to normal.

In due time, the twins went home. Their parents placed them, once again, in the same bed where they continued to thrive. Even after five years, according to mom and dad, the twins still slept together and, not surprisingly, still snuggled.

The photograph of Kyrie hugging her little sister, dubbed the “Rescuing Hug,” appeared in both Life magazine and Reader's Digest. It brought fame to the pair and spurred a growing interest in co-bedding premature twins, triplets, and quads. The University of Massachusetts Memorial, for example, has co-bedded at least 100 sets of multiple birth preemies. Observing this practice over a period of five years, the hospital staff there has not found a single case of twin-to-twin infection. In addition, clinical studies have shown that premature twins enjoy substantial benefits when they are placed in the same bed together.

**moreinformation**  
To watch the CNN report, visit [www.metrovoice-news.com/](http://www.metrovoice-news.com/)



## Ten amazing things that happen to all babies before they are born

by Kristi Burton Brown

(LiveActionNews) — With today's modern technology and medical information, we have a real-time window into the womb. What happens to babies before birth – all the ways they move, grow, and change – is nothing short of amazing.

Here are just 10 things that happen to babies before birth. These 10 things demonstrate their uniqueness, value, and of course, their humanity.

What's more, each of these 10 things happen in the first trimester – when approximately 90% of abortions in the U.S. occur.

1) “On the first day following fertilization, the human embryo is identifiable as a specific individual human being on a molecular level.”

A South Dakota legislative task force, appointed to examine the science behind unborn life, found that “the new recombinant DNA technologies indisputably prove that the unborn child is a whole human being from the moment of fertilization, that all abortions terminate the life of a living human being, and that the unborn child is a separate human patient under the care of modern medicine.”



ern medicine.”

2) A Baby's Heart Begins to Beat at 21 Days.

According to The Endowment for Human Development, “between fertilization and birth, the heart beats approximately 54 million times...”

3) At 2 to 3 Weeks, a Baby's Brain is the “First Organ to Appear.”

4) A Baby May Feel Physical Pain as Early as His Fifth Week.

After examining scientific resources and hearing medical testimony, the South Dakota Task Force found that “(the necessary pieces) for pain detec-



tion in the spinal cord exists at very early developmental stages.” Babies have also been documented moving away from unwanted or painful touch in their first few weeks of in utero life.

5) A Baby's Kidneys are Present at Only 5 Weeks.

In fact, by eight weeks old, all of the baby's organs are in place and only need to be fully developed.

6) A Baby's Brainwaves Can be Measured at 6 Weeks Old.

7) At 6 Weeks, a Baby Will Move Away if His Mouth is Touched.

The Endowment for Human Development has a video of a six-week-old baby responding to touch here.

8) A Baby's Ear Can Begin to be Seen Around 6 Weeks.

9) A Baby Has Fingerprints at 9-10 Weeks.

These fingerprints will be the same throughout the baby's life. His permanent identification is already developing. Watch a video and see an unborn baby's fingerprints here.

10) A Baby Can Suck Her Thumb and Yawn at 9 1/2 Weeks Old.

According to The Endowment for Human Development, most babies prefer their right thumb. At this age, plenty is going on. A baby's vocal cords are forming, her bones are hardening, and her toenails and fingernails are emerging. See a video of a ten-week-old baby yawning here.

*Editor's Note: The information here has, in large part, been studied and documented by The Endowment for Human Development (“a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving health science education and public health” that has cooperated with National Geographic to put out a video about prenatal development) and The South Dakota Task Force to Study Abortion.*

*LifeNews Note: Kristi Burton Brown is a pro-life activist in her home state of Colorado, a pro-bono attorney for Life Legal Defense Fund, and a stay-at-home mom. This column originally appeared at LiveActionNews.*

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Kathryn Peoples 785-207-9760 [kat@projectbelong.org](mailto:kat@projectbelong.org)

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## KANSAS PRO-LIFE NEWS IN 2014



**KATHY OSTROWSKI**  
Kansans for Life  
Legislative Director

### viewpoint

2014 saw many victories for LIFE in Kansas. Pro-lifers can proudly claim credit for the fact that pro-life candidates won all of Kansas' statewide offices, along with 94 of the 125 seats in the Kansas House of Representatives in the 2014 elections. Notably, pro-life stalwarts Gov. Sam Brownback and U.S. Senator Pat Roberts won re-election over their radically pro-abortion challengers.

No late-term abortions (after 22 weeks pregnancy) are allowed in Kansas due to a 2011 pro-life law acknowledging the unborn child's ability to feel pain. As officially reported by the health department, the number of Kansas abortions dropped to 7,485 in 2013, from 7,598 in 2012 (2014 numbers aren't available til March, 2015). Many reasons can be attributed to the continued drop, including the improved availability of informed consent information online and increased utilization of pregnancy care centers statewide.

Kansas is now down to three abortion clinics. The Kansas City Aid

for Women abortion clinic closed abruptly at the end of July. It claimed the reason for the sudden closure was the retirement of its 73-year-old abortionist, but this clinic was notorious for its string of abortionists with lengthy histories of malpractice cases and disciplinary actions issued by the state medical board. Not surprisingly, Aid for Women failed to attain a state-issued license in June 2011 after passage of the Kansas clinic licensure and regulation law -- yet another pro-life law currently under legal challenge. The clinic admitted it would "have to gut the place" to be in compliance and thus Kansas women and unborn children are safer with the closing of this substandard clinic.

Kansas also had a major pro-life legal win in early May when Planned Parenthood of Kansas and Mid-Missouri dropped its 2011 lawsuit in federal court. They had sued against the Kansas budget provision that prioritized federal family planning funds be given to public full-service clinics rather than "specialty" clinics like Planned Parenthood. After the Kansas budget authority was upheld, Planned Parenthood's already-failing Hays "abortion-feeder" clinic closed its doors -- showing that this clinic relied on government money to survive.

In December, Planned Parenthood also backed out of another lawsuit, just days before it was headed to trial. At issue was their past

refusal to obey a provision of the 2013 Pro-Life Protections Act that required that every abortion clinic website have a live link on their home page that connected to the state's Woman's Right to Know website. The law intends that there be "one-click access" to sonogram images and information about the development of the unborn child to anyone remotely, or directly, considering abortion.

Planned Parenthood is now compliant with that live link. This is the fourth success for defense attorneys under Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt in defending sound pro-life laws promoted by Kansans for Life.

### i moreinformation

For more information or to be involved visit  
[www.KFL.org](http://www.KFL.org).



42<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of Roe v. Wade: 60 million U.S. Abortions

Learn, Pray, March

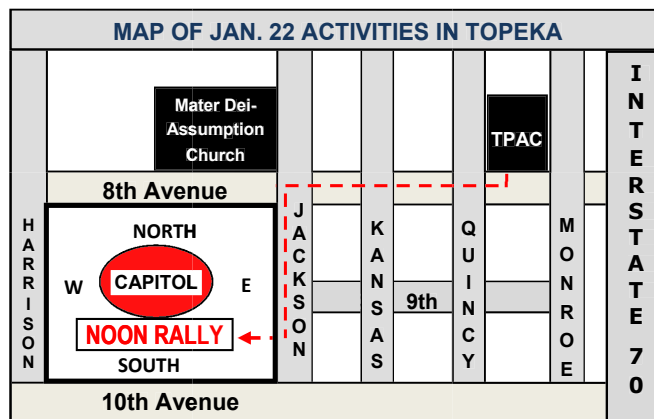
## RALLY FOR LIFE!

Topeka, Kansas: Thursday, Jan. 22, 2015



Bring baby items  
for crisis pregnancy  
centers and drop them  
off at Registration!

### MAP OF JAN. 22 ACTIVITIES IN TOPEKA



8:30 AM **REGISTRATION:** 1st Floor of the Capitol Rotunda! Donuts, visit booths.

8:30-NOON **LOBBY YOUR STATE REPRESENTATIVE & SENATOR**

8:45-9:30 AM **WORKSHOPS:** Topics and capitol room numbers to be announced.

9:45-10:30 AM **WORKSHOPS:** Earlier workshops repeated.

10:00-11:30 AM **MASS & PRAYER SERVICE:** Topeka Performing Arts Center (TPAC)

11:30-NOON **MARCH FOR LIFE** from TPAC to the South Capitol Steps

**NOON RALLY FOR LIFE** on the south Capitol steps featuring KANSAS GOVERNOR SAM BROWNBACK, pro-life state legislators, and more.

1:00-2:30 PM **LUNCH:** Basement, Mater Dei-Assumption Church, Cost: Free will donation.

2:30-3:30 PM **WORKSHOP:** Topic and location to be announced.

For more or updated information or to volunteer:  
[www.kfl.org](http://www.kfl.org) or contact Jeanne Gawdun (785) 234-2998 or [kfltopeka@gmail.com](mailto:kfltopeka@gmail.com)

## KFL-PAC Prayer Breakfast with Kansas Legislators

Saturday, January 31, 7:00 a.m. at the Topeka Capitol Plaza

Featured Speaker: Father Ben Shockey of St. Patrick Catholic Church in Kingman.  
Tickets: \$25 if reserved by January 25; \$35 after Jan. 25; \$40 at the door. 1-800-928-5433.

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## Save The Storks Van makes a stop in Topeka

### MOBILE CRISIS PREGNANCY CENTERS ARE THE NEW WAVE

A "Save the Storks" van made a stop in Topeka recently while on the way to Colorado. It drew a lot of attention as it made a visit to Caring Pregnancy Options, 2041 SW McAlister St.

Save The Storks was started by Founder and President Joe Baker in 2011 in Dallas. Their target at the time was to service five different abortion clinics in the city. The ministry is now headquartered in Colorado Springs with plans on adding as many busses to their fleet as possible.

What is a Stork bus? It is a medical vehicle equipped with a counseling area and a state-of-the-art ultrasound machine, which allows pregnancy centers to counsel and minister



How successful are the Stork busses? "The result of these efforts is that 3 out of 5 women who board a Stork Bus will choose life after seeing the ultrasound images of their child."

"We are not political whatsoever, and it is against our policy and procedure manual to be out there debating abortion or anything else. That's not our style. And it's not the place for it. We want our kindness and our love to be at the heart of what we do," said Baker.

Locally active organizations like Caring Pregnancy Options, Alden's House and others are very interested in procuring one of the vans to be used locally and in other cities in Kansas.

"We are very excited about the possibility of 'going mobile'" said Kathy Hart, Executive Director of Caring Pregnancy Options.

The Stork Buses are built by certified Mercedes-



to women and show them an image of their baby. The goal is for pregnancy centers to own and operate these vehicles, so that women can receive the follow-up support they need. Save The Storks wants to partner with as many crisis pregnancy centers as possible.

"Our desire is to provide pregnancy resource centers with Stork Buses to be an extension of their ministry," Baker said. "This enables them to meet with women right at the door of an abortion clinic or any other location, instead of waiting for women to come to them. It is our partnership with pregnancy resource centers that makes us a complete ministry. Abortion-minded women who decide to keep their children often need counseling, discipleship, a loving community, food, formula, clothing, diapers, and so much more – all provided through local pregnancy centers."



Benz, and cost more than \$100,000 each. The van's interior is specifically designed with the woman's needs in mind, contains massage chairs, bathroom, refrigerator, and climate control. state-of-the-art "Stork Buses," are able to provide free pregnancy testing and a sonogram to abortion-minded women in a confidential location just outside the abortion clinic they were planning to visit.

For more information, contact Hart at 249-6130.

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 Executive Director    2041 SW McAlister • 785-249-6130

New phone number!

## Topeka Rescue Mission serves Christmas dinner to hundreds

The Topeka Rescue Mission staff and volunteers hosted "On the Road to Bethlehem" with dinner and gifts Christmas Day. Guests were treated to a festive dinner, a live nativity and gifts for all who attended.

Santa himself arrived about 12:45 and made his way around the dinner tables, stopping to talk with children and letting them ring his sleigh bells.

Rescue Mission residents were served dinner first, then it was opened up to the entire community. As the residents were finishing up with dinner, the line from the surrounding community was all the way out the door and onto the sidewalk.

Terry Hund, Media Coordinator at the mission, said all kinds of people from the community come to Christmas dinner at the mission.

"Some are homeless, some mentally ill, and some are just lonely, with no family, and they just wanted to

be around other people," Hund said.

Amid the hustle and bustle Barry Feaker, Executive Director, was busy talking to guests and giving interviews. When asked how everything came together, Feaker said "Many people working together helped perform a Christmas miracle!"



## Governor declares Religious Freedom Day

Kansas Governor Sam Brownback, in cooperation with various religious and other organizations, signed a Proclamation declaring January 16, 2015, to be "Religious Freedom Day" in the state of Kansas.

Josephine Strnad, of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, was one of those excited about the event.

"I'm thrilled that our Governor has signed this," Strnad said.

**STATE OF KANSAS**

**PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR**

TO THE PEOPLE OF KANSAS, GREETINGS:

WHEREAS, the right to religious freedom is a foundation block of America's historical roots; and

WHEREAS, our Founding Fathers knew the importance of freedom of religion for a stable democracy, and our Constitution protects individual's rights to worship as they choose; and

WHEREAS, January 16<sup>th</sup> celebrated the anniversary of the 1786 Virginia Statute on Religious Freedom that restrained the practice of taxing people to pay for the support of the local clergy, and protected the civil rights of people to express their religious beliefs without suffering discrimination. This statute serves as the model for protecting religious freedom as evidence in the First Amendment to the United States Constitution; and

WHEREAS, each year the President of the United States declares January 16<sup>th</sup> to be "Religious Freedom Day" and calls upon Americans to "observe this day through appropriate events and activities in homes, schools, and places of worship."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Sam Brownback, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF KANSAS, do hereby proclaim January 16<sup>th</sup> of 2015, as

**Religious Freedom Day**

in Kansas and ask that all citizen join in this observance.

DONE: At the Capital in Topeka under the Great Seal of the State this 19<sup>th</sup> day of December, A.D. 2014

BY THE GOVERNOR: *Sam Brownback*

*Kate E. Kopach*  
 Secretary of State

*John R. ...*  
 Assistant Secretary of State



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## Quick Turn-around Time Featured on Computers, Cell Phones, iPads & Tablets

Many times you will find that dealing with locally-owned businesses will benefit you, as well as the community.

Jim Driggers, owner of The Computer Store, says you will get quick turn-around time and the most experienced technicians in Topeka. Most big-box stores send your computer out of town for repairs, and you never even get a chance to talk directly to the technician doing the work on your computer.



"It's the difference between getting your computer back in a few days by us or a few weeks!" Driggers said.

If you need a new computer, The

Computer Store will build one for you, with a warranty, and it will be serviced locally in the store if ever necessary. They have used computers and laptops for sale also.

The Computer Store now also repairs all mobile devices like cell phones, tablets and iPads, including damaged screens. Driggers said the new service is available at a very reasonable price, and has been very well received.

The Computer Store has been in business since 1999, and is located at



21st and Gage in Seabrook Center. You can reach them by phone at 785-267-3223, or visit their website online at [www.thecomputerstoreks.com](http://www.thecomputerstoreks.com).

The Computer Store is a member of the Greater Topeka Chamber of Commerce, the Capital City Christian Chamber of Commerce and the Topeka Independent Business Association.

## Get Rockstar Detailing without Rockstar Prices

Rockstar Detailing is a family run auto detailing business that was started in 2008 and has been serving the needs of Topekans ever since. At Rockstar Detailing, they make it their business to continually research and find the most effective and beautifying auto detailing products, according to owner Trevon Ewing.

"We will rejuvenate and restore

your car to its original luster and help make you proud of your vehicle," Ewing said. "Whether you have



kids, pets or are planning on someone special riding in your car...let Rockstar Detailing in Topeka clean your vehicle to its very best condi-

tion. We promise you will drive away with a smile and come back again!"

Rockstar Detailing is located at Squeaky Clean Car Wash, 2010 SW Ashworth Place, behind Sonic Drive In. You can call them at 554-9302 or visit their website at [www.rockstardetailing.com](http://www.rockstardetailing.com).



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# the events calendar

**FREE LISTINGS! E-mail your events to: [Voice@cox.net](mailto:Voice@cox.net); mail to Metro Voice, P.O. 5724, Topeka, KS 66605; or fax to 785-235-3340**

## CONCERTS

**THE WRIGHTS** — Jan. 11, 10:30am, Oakland UMC, 801 NE Chester. 289-8905. [thewrightministries.com](http://thewrightministries.com)

**WOODVALLEY PICKERS** — Jan. 23, 7:30, Classic Bean, Fairlawn Plaza. Bluegrass music.

**SAWYER BROWN IN CONCERT** — Jan. 24, 7:30pm at TPAC. For info: [www.tpactix.org](http://www.tpactix.org)

**THE WRIGHTS** — Jan. 25, 10am, St. Peter UMC, 3737 NW 35th St. 289-8905. [thewrightministries.com](http://thewrightministries.com)

## SPECIAL CHURCH EVENTS

**HARVESTER'S PROGRAM FOR SENIOR CITIZENS** — every second Saturday, takes place at Christian Lord Ministries, 2421 SE California. Call 266-4979.

**FREE WEEKLY COMMUNITY PANCAKE BREAKFAST** — Sundays at 10am sharp, at Oakland Church of the Nazarene: 900 block of NE Oakland, followed by church services at 10:45am with Pastor John Menkeld — which is in turn followed at noon by The Hope House FREE

Community Food & Clothing Banks.

**BINGO AT FAIRLAWN HEIGHTS ASSISTED LIVING** — 3:00PM, 1st Saturday of every month, facilitator: Pastor Carole

**FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY** — Mondays starting Jan. 12, 6:30 pm, Fellowship Bible Church, 10th & Urish Rd. 478-0002. Tuesdays starting Jan. 6, 6:30 pm, Fairlawn Nazarene, 730 SW Fairlawn. 272-6322. Thursdays starting Jan. 8, 7pm, Christ Lutheran, 3509 SW Burlingame. 266-6263. Dave Ramsey Money Makeover program.

**LIFEFEET** — Jan. 8, 10am-12:30pm, Covenant Baptist Church, 5440 SW 37th St. Seniors ministering to seniors — celebrating with fellowship, fun, food, learning & entertainment. Greg Bullion, Health Educator of Genstler Eye Center, will speak about the ways the Lord has led in the mission field as well as now at home. If transportation is needed, call 354-4994 or 478-1729

**ANNUAL PANCAKES & SAUSAGE BREAKFAST** — Jan. 31, 7-11am, Seaman Community Church, 2036 NW Taylor. Also juice, milk, coffee. Cost: \$5. 354-8777

**UPWARD BASKETBALL AND CHEER** — beginning soon at

Northland Christian Church. For info: 286-1204.

## SEMINARS & CONFERENCES

**PROFIT CLUB** — Jan. 19, 1:30-2:30, Children's Discovery Center. For business owners and executives: The 5 Keys to Increasing Profits. Hosted by ActionCoach. Meetings are held the 3rd Monday of each month. Attend the first time for free! RSVP to 785-408-5927

## FAMILY-FRIENDLY EVENTS

**NOTO MARKET ON FIRST FRIDAYS** — NOTO arts district. Enjoy arts, antiques, fine crafts, and flea market items.

**PUBLIC SKATING AT EXPOCENTRE** — \$7 admission, \$3 for skates. Jan. 3: 12:30 - 2:30pm & 9:45 - 11:45pm; Jan. 18: 4-6pm; Jan. 24: 12:30-2:30pm; Jan. 25: 4-6pm. For info: 235-1986

**MAKIN' MOVES: TIME 4 ME** — Jan. 5, 12, 19, 26, 5:30pm. Williams Science and Fine Arts Magnet School, 1301 S.E. Monroe. Stress management and stretching experience. Free for all ages. For info: Chris 478-2237, [chris@makinmoves.com](mailto:chris@makinmoves.com), [makinmoves.com](http://makinmoves.com), or [facebook.com/startmakinmoves](http://facebook.com/startmakinmoves)

**TOPEKA FARM SHOW** — Jan. 6, 9am-5pm, Jan. 7, 9am-8pm, Jan. 8, 9am-4pm. Kansas Expocentre. Free.

**CIA ESTATE PLANNING WORKSHOP** — Jan. 6, 9:30am-1pm. Holiday Inn Express, 601 US Hwy 24. Free. Workshop providing valuable information for seniors on securing one's estate. Space is limited. RSVP at 1-866-252-8721

**MONTHLY MOOSE MARKET** — Jan. 10, 8am-12pm. Moose Lodge. Free to shop, \$4 for pancakes. For info: 250-6788

**TUMI Topeka Courses 1st Quarter 2015** — Jan. 17, 10:00am-12:30pm: Orientation (Mandatory); Module 1, Conversion and Calling: Thu. eves 6:30-10:00 pm; Module 14, God the Holy Spirit: Sat. morns. 10:00-12:30 OR Sat. eves. 4:30-7. Application, Pastoral Reference and \$38 for student text due Jan. 7. Request packet from Mary Flin, 785-431-6000 or [maryflin@hotmail.com](mailto:maryflin@hotmail.com). [www.facebook.com/tumitopeka](http://www.facebook.com/tumitopeka), [www.tumi.org](http://www.tumi.org)

**KFL RALLY FOR LIFE** — Jan. 22. 8:30am registration at Capitol Rotunda; 8:45-9:30: workshops; 9:45-10:30 workshops; 10-11:30: Mass & prayer service at TPAC; 11:30-noon: March For Life from TPAC to Capitol steps. Noon: Rally on south Capitol steps with Gov. Brownback & legislators; 1-2pm: Lunch at Mater Dei-Assumption Church; 2:30-3:30: workshops. For info: 234-2998

**94.5 COUNTRY BRIDAL FAIR** — Jan. 24-25, 10am. Downtown Topeka Ramada. For info and tickets: [bridalfair.94country.com](http://bridalfair.94country.com)

**BLEEDING KANSAS 2015** — Jan. 25-Mar. 1, Constitution Hall Historic Site, 319 Elmore, LeCompton. Come to an 1850s Kansas Territorial Town Hall political meeting. Members of the LeCompton Reenactors acting troupe will present the play Bleeding Kansas Characters by J. Howard Duncan. Actors will portray Kansans from the turbulent Bleeding Kansas era, such as John Brown & others as they passionately discuss the issue of slavery in Kansas. Adm: \$3 adults, \$1 students. Children five & younger free. For info: 785-887-6520

**KANSAS DAY** — Jan. 29. Celebrate the state's 154th birthday.

**KANSAS DAY AT THE MUSEUM** — Jan. 29. 9am-3pm. Hands-on activities, performances, and demonstrations. Free. For info: 272-8681

**HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS** — Jan. 30, 7-9pm. Kansas Expocentre. For info: 235-1986

**SAFE STREETS COALITION MEETING** — Feb. 4, 11:45am-1pm. Great Overland Station. For info: 266-4606 or [jwilsom@safestreets.org](mailto:jwilsom@safestreets.org)

**TOPEKA RESCUE MISSION WAREHOUSE SALE** — Feb. 5&6, 7am-3pm, 206 NW Norris St. All sales benefit the programs of Topeka Rescue Mission.

**ADVENTURE'S IN LEARNING** — Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27. For those over 55. For info: Shepherd's Center 267-0248

**POLAR PLUNGE STRUT** — Feb. 7, 11am-1pm. Swim Beach, 3300 SE 29th St. Registration at 9:30am, 5k at 11am, Polar Plunge at 12pm. For info: 251-2610

## FAMILY-FRIENDLY DESTINATIONS

**BROWN V. BOARD NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE** — Daily, 9am-5pm, 1515 SE Monroe. Located in the former all-black Monroe School. Free admission. For info: 354-4273 or [www.nps.gov/brvb/](http://www.nps.gov/brvb/)

**CEDAR CREST**, official residence of the KS Governor — Mon., 1pm-3pm, with tours on the half hour, 1 SW



**JAN 30** THE HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS, JAN. 30, 7-9PM. KANSAS EXPOCENTRE. FOR INFO CALL 235-1986

Cedar Crest Rd. Free adm. For info: 296-3636.

**COMBAT AIR MUSEUM** — Mon.-Sat. 9:30am-4:30pm; Sun. noon-4:30pm, Hanger 602, Forbes Field. For info: 862-3303 or [combatairmuseum.org](http://combatairmuseum.org).

**CURTIS HOUSE MUSEUM** — Every Sat., 11am-3pm; by appointment other times, 1101 SW Topeka Blvd. Former mansion of Charles Curtis, 31st Vice President of the US, and the only one of American Indian heritage. Cost \$5. For info: 357-1371 or 597-5380.

**CONSTITUTION HALL** — Wed.-Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm, National Landmark, Kansas State Historic Site, Civil War History: Famous LeCompton Constitution, 319 Elmore, LeCompton. For info: 887-6520 or [consthall@kshs.org](http://consthall@kshs.org); or [kshs.org/constitutionhall](http://kshs.org/constitutionhall).

**GREAT OVERLAND STATION** — Railroad museum, education center, veterans memorial and more. 701 N. Kansas Avenue. Tue-Sat 10am-4pm; Sun 1-4pm. Closed on Sundays in Jan. & Feb. Adm: \$4 adults, \$3 seniors, \$2 children age 3-12. For info: 232-5533 or [greatoverlandstation.com](http://greatoverlandstation.com).

**HISTORIC RITCHIE HOUSE** — Tour the oldest remaining home in Topeka (built 1856-57). 1116 Madison. Admission free. 10am-2pm; weaving demonstrations, games, food & more.

**HOLLEY MILITARY MUSEUM** — Downtown Ramada Inn. Featuring 5 galleries, named after world leaders. Featuring World War II artifacts, Air Force One exhibit, Kansas War Heroes, Space, Vietnam & more. Cost: Free.

10am-8pm daily.

**KANSAS NATIONAL GUARD MUSEUM** — Forbes Field. For hours & info: 862-1020.

**KANSAS MUSEUM OF HISTORY** — 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Tuesday - Saturday, 1 - 5 p.m. Sunday. 6425 SW 6th Avenue. 785-272-8681. [kshs.org/museum](http://kshs.org/museum)

**KANSAS STATE CAPITOL** — Mon.-Fri., 8am-5pm, SW 10th & Jackson St. Tours provided. Dome Tours M-F 10:30am-4:15pm. Info: 296-3966 or [kshs.org/capitol](http://kshs.org/capitol).

**OLD PRAIRIE TOWN** — 1st & Clay. Open Mon.-Sat., 10am-4pm; Sun. 12-4pm. Daily guided tours: M-F 10am, 12 & 2pm; Sat. & Sun. 12 & 2pm. 368-2441.

**ROEBKE HOUSE MUSEUM** — 216 New York, Holton. For info: 364-4991.

**TERRITORIAL CAPITAL MUSEUM** — Wed.-Sat., 11am-4pm; Sun., 1-5pm, National Register Site, 3 floors of Civil War and Victorian Artifacts, President Eisenhower's parents' marriage site: 640 E. Woodson Ave., LeCompton. For info: 887-6148 or [lanemuseum@aol.com](mailto:lanemuseum@aol.com) or [lecomptonkansas.com](http://lecomptonkansas.com).

**TOPEKA/SHAWNEE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY** — 1515 SW 10th St. Mon.-Fri., 9am-9pm, Sat., 9am-6pm, Sun., 12-9pm. For info: 580-4400.

**TOPEKA ZOO** — Gage Blvd. between 6th & 10th St. Zoo hours 9am-5pm. Birthday Parties available -- choose from two separate party packages; parties last two hours. For info: 368-9180 or [topekazoo.com](http://topekazoo.com).

**4 GOLDEN GLOBE® NOMINATIONS**  
**BEST ACTOR** DAVID OYELOWO • **BEST ORIGINAL SONG**  
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**“A TRULY GREAT AMERICAN FILM.**  
 ‘Selma’ isn’t just a biopic. By seeing Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. through the prism of one crucial event, the film offers a rousing portrait of a born preacher not without sin. It’s in the quiet moments of humor, heartbreak, and stabbing self-doubt that we see a man in full.”  
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**“A RAZOR-SHARP PORTRAIT OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT.**  
 David Oyelowo gives a graceful, majestic lead performance and Ava DuVernay directs ‘Selma’ with startling immediacy, dramatic force and filmmaking verve.”  
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**SELMA**

PG-13  
 PARENTS STRONGLY CAUTIONED  
 Some Material May Be Inappropriate for Children Under 13

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 Also Milk, Juice, Coffee. Cost: Only \$5!  
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**Capital City Christian Chamber of Commerce**

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Membership open to all Christian businesses, non-profits, churches & individuals! Luncheons & Tradeshows & some other events open to the general public!

- **Monthly C5Alive POWER Luncheons** - (Second Thurs. of each month; great food & speakers!) Open to the public.
- **Jan. 8, 11:30-1, Brickyard Barn Inn, 4020 NW 25th St.**  
**RSVP to [info@C5Alive.org](mailto:info@C5Alive.org)**
- Feb. 12, 11:30-1, at Aldersgate Village

**SAVE THE DATE: Easter Parade & Fun Fair Apr. 4!**

- **C5 Directory of Christian Businesses & Orgs.**
- **Semi-Annual C5 Christian Expos** - Held in Spring & Fall

**f** Find us on Facebook at [facebook.com/C5Alive](http://facebook.com/C5Alive)



## FINE ART

**FIRST FRIDAY ART WALK** — 1st Friday of every month at various Topeka galleries. Downtown businesses open late. [artsconnecttopeka.org](http://artsconnecttopeka.org).

**"ART WALK AT THE T.V. UP/DOWN GALLERY!"** — First Friday of every month, TV Up Down Gallery, 909 ½ S. Kansas Ave. "Art, Music, and More!"

**BEAUCHAMP'S ART GALLERY** — 3113 SW Huttoon. For info: Bob Swain, 233-0300 or [beauchampsart@cox.net](mailto:beauchampsart@cox.net).

**THE ECLECTIC ART SHOWROOM & STUDIOS** — 900 N. Kansas in the NOTO Arts District.

**MULVANE ART MUSEUM** — at Washburn University. Free admission, open to the public. For info: 670-1124.

**SIGNS OF LIFE GALLERY** — 722 Massachusetts St., Lawrence. 830-8030 or [SignsofLifeGallery.com](http://SignsofLifeGallery.com).

**SOUTHWIND GALLERY** — 3074 SW 29th Street, Topeka. 273-5994

**THE UPSTAGE GALLERY** — 720 SW Jackson (Historic Jayhawk Theatre). Open for 1st Fri. Artwalk 5-8pm.

**TOPEKA ART GUILD & GALLERY** — Wed.-Sat., 11am-5pm, Fairlawn Plaza. 273-7646 or [topekaartguild.org](http://topekaartguild.org).

## MEETINGS & CLASSES

**C5Aive "POWER" LUNCHEON** — Jan. 8, 11:30am-1pm. Brickyard Barn Inn, 4020 NW 25th St.

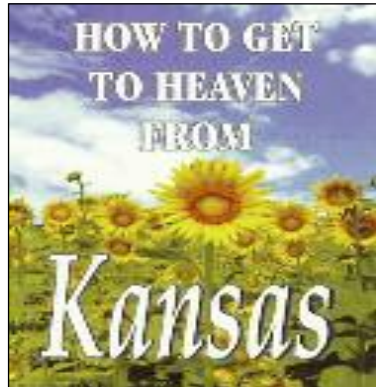
• Cost: \$10 for C5 members & first-time guests who RSVP, \$12 at the door

• \$15 for non-members & repeat guests.

• Please RSVP to [info@C5Aive.org](mailto:info@C5Aive.org), so we know how much food is needed!

Open to the public — Put POWER in your life with great food, great speakers and great company! Invite a friend to join you!

**MINISTRY FELLOWSHIP** - now meeting every Tuesday,



More important than living in KANSAS is where you will live forever. Just as you would look at a map of KANSAS to find your way, so you must look at the Bible to find your way to heaven. The Bible says, "Narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it" (Matt. 7:14). Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." (Jn. 14:6). Jesus is the only way to Heaven and He gave these directions on getting there.

1. Realize you are a sinner. Everyone starts the same place spiritually. "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of god." (Rom. 3:23). Sin's penalty keeps you out of Heaven and condemns you to Hell, separating you from God. Romans 6:23 says, "The wages of sin is death." Sin brings both physical & spiritual death. "And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death." (Rev. 20:14).

2. Realize Jesus paid the penalty. Jesus Christ's death, burial, and resurrection provided a way for you to go to heaven and restore your relationship with God. "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." (Rom. 5:8). Since Jesus, God's Son, was the only One who could pay for our sin, He is the only Way to Heaven.

3. Repent of your sin and receive Jesus as your Savior. In order to go to Heaven from KANSAS, or anywhere else, you must accept Christ by calling on Him in prayer. He tells us in Romans 10:13, "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." Use the following prayer, or one similar to it, to receive Him now:

Dear Lord Jesus, I know I am a sinner. I believe that you died and rose again for me. Please forgive me of my sin, become Lord of my life, and take me to heaven when I die. I am trusting you completely, and in nothing I can do. Thank you Jesus! Amen.



6:3

Opm at McDonald's, 11th & Kansas Ave. Christian fellowship & praise. All are welcome. For info: Richard Wilson at 338-3072.

**WOMEN'S CLUB OF TOPEKA** - Jan. 15, 11am, General Assembly at 5221 SW West Dr. Music: Songs of Kansas by Kathleen Wilson on Piano. Meditation by Ruth Davis. Luncheon at Noon. RSVP by Nov. 18 to 273-6978

**SURRENDERING THE SECRET** - Hurting from an Abortion? God extends His love and forgiveness to all. Studies are now forming to help people begin the process of reconciling with God, themselves and others. This completely confidential group will meet weekly for 8 weeks. The study will help you to heal by experiencing freedom from not being able to forgive yourself from guilt and shame. There is hope! There is forgiveness! If this is something you are ready to do, call Trudy at 785-817-1577 or Diane at 785-249-6416.

**SONS OF THUNDER** — First Thurs. 6:30-9:30pm at Crestview Shelter House, featuring an invited speaker, food and fellowship. For info: 256-0728 or go to faebook Northeast Kansas Sons of Thunder. Freewill donation.

**STEP UP — BUILDING THE SMART STEP-FAMILY** — Every Sun. 11am, Northland Christian Church, Room 4, 3102 NW Topeka Blvd. Focusing on the challenges facing step-families and blended families. Contact Thomas Munker at 249-3054 for info.

**TRAIL LIFE & AMERICAN HERITAGE GIRLS TROUPS** - Every Mon. 6pm, Cornerstone Community Church, 7620 SW 21st. Faith-based scouting programs are kids age 5-18. Register online at [cornerstonetopeka.com](http://cornerstonetopeka.com). For info: 478-2929.

**INNOVATIVE NETWORKING GROUP OF TOPEKA** - every other Wed. 11:20am - 12:30pm. [www.INGTopeka.com](http://www.INGTopeka.com) go to Event page to see future meetings, locations and register to attend. If you do not like a whole lot of rules and costs, this group is for you!

**CAPITAL CITY NETWORKING GROUP** - every Thur, 7:30am, Jayhawk Tower - [www.cccng-online.com](http://www.cccng-online.com). Membership cost \$37.50 a quarter.

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**TIBA NETWORKING GROUP** - 2nd Tues, 11:30a.m. - 1 p.m. MUST RSVP: Lunch is \$10. [www.topekatiba.org](http://www.topekatiba.org)

**I.N.G. WOMAN'S CHAPTER NETWORKING GROUP** - every 2nd Sat., 11am. Bring your business cards, catalogs, a guest and join in the fun! - No fees. [INGTopeka.com](http://INGTopeka.com)

**BIBLE STUDY ON THE BOOK OF ESTHER** - 6pm Sunday evenings, Cornerstone Community Church, 7620 SW 21st. For info: 478-2929

**DEAF WORSHIP SERVICE** — 3rd Sun., 3pm, Faith Lutheran Church, 17th & Gage. Also, every Sun. 9:30am service is interpreted.

**FAMILY EXPERIENCE (FX)** — Every Sun., 6:01pm, Fairlawn Church of Nazarene, 730 Fairlawn Rd. A time of high intensity, action packed, skit mania, worship music all centered around the word of God for 45 minutes. A free family worship event. For info: Emily Moore, 272-6322 or [fxthelawn@gmail.com](mailto:fxthelawn@gmail.com).

**LADIES' SMALL GROUP** — Every Sun., 6pm, Bethel Baptist Church, 4011 N. Kansas Ave. Studying the book of Esther, using the DVD series "It's Tough Being a Woman" by Beth Moore. All welcome. Info: 286-0467.

**THE FORCE (Students Taking Action)** — 1st Mon. & 3rd Tue., 6:30-8pm, Safe Streets, 2209 SW 29th St. A group committed to being alcohol & drug free. Associate with like-minded peers, plan activities & get involved in the community. Youth ages 12-18 are invited. 266-4606.

**HEARTLAND HEALTHY NEIGHBORHOODS** — 2nd Mon., 11:45am-1pm. Promoting neighborhood well-being by mobilizing people, ideas & resources. 233-1365.

**POINT MAN AND HOME FRONT OF SHAWNEE CO** - 1st, 3rd & 5th Tues. of each month, 6-8pm, Topeka Bible Church, 1101 SW Mulvane, Potluck dinner begins at 6:10 PM. A Bible study and support group for military & veterans and their wives, moms and sisters. Contact David or Jacque Ankenman at 249-8359 or 221-1739.

**TOPEKA LINCOLN CLUB** — 1st Tue. of month, 7pm, Topeka Public Library. Discussing our greatest President, Abraham Lincoln, and his times. The public is welcome. For info, contact Kirk Nystrom 235-6977.

**CONCERNED WOMEN FOR AMERICA (CWA)** — 3rd Tue., 10am-12noon, Northland Christian Church, 3102 NW Topeka Blvd. 224-7126 or [cwatopeka@giantcomm.net](mailto:cwatopeka@giantcomm.net).

**OUR LADY OF THE FAITHFUL** — Every 1st Tues., 6:30pm Mass followed by Dinner, Most Pure Heart of Mary Catholic Church. A Catholic group for those in their 20-30s. For info: Michelle Ann 580-3071 or [ourladyofthefairthful@gmail.com](mailto:ourladyofthefairthful@gmail.com). All events are also posted on Facebook at "Our Lady of the Faithful."

**SUNRISE OPTIMIST CLUB** — Every Tue., 6:30am, Sunrise Optimist Complex, 720 NW 50th St. Info: 246-1291.

**O.W.L.S. (Older Wise Loving Saints)** - meets the second Tuesday of the month. Location varies and can be found at [www.faithfamilylife.com](http://www.faithfamilylife.com)

**S.W.A.G. (Spiritual Warriors Anointed by God)** youth group - Wed at 7:00 p.m. 3710 NW Topeka Blvd.

**AWANA** — Every Wed., 6-8pm, First Southern Baptist Church, 1912 SW Gage Blvd. Bible based program for children & youth ages 3-HS. For info: 272-0443.

**AWANA** — Every Wed., 6:30pm, Bethel Baptist Church, 4011 N. Kansas Ave. Bible based program for children & youth ages 3-HS. For info: 286-0467.

**AWANA** — Every Wed., 6:30-8pm, Auburn Christian Church. Bible based program for children & youth ages 3-HS. For info: 256-2515.

**MACHINE EMBROIDERY CLUB** — 1st Wed., 9am-2:30pm, Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 2021 SW 29th Street (south doors). To teach each other, enjoy fellowship & complete projects. Call Anne 271-1567.

**SAFE STREETS MEETING** — 1st Wed., 11:45am, Golf Park Blvd, 2 blocks west of Adams. Info: 266-4606.

**STUDENT IMPACT** — Every Wed., 6-8pm, First Southern Baptist, 1912 SW Gage Blvd. Youth games, teaching, worship, small groups. For info: 272-0443.

**TGIW: "TEACHING GOD'S INFINITE WISDOM" MEN'S STUDY** — Every Wed., 6:15am,

Lawrence Wesleyan Church, 3705 Clinton Parkway. Affiliated with [CharacterCounts.com](http://CharacterCounts.com). David Scheib, 865-5258 or [dvscheib@sunflower.com](mailto:dvscheib@sunflower.com).

**BIBLE STUDY** - every Thur. 1pm-3pm in the Prayer Rm at Faith Family Life Centre, 3710 NW Topeka Blvd.

**CHRISTIAN CHALLENGE** — Every Thurs. 7-9pm, First Southern Baptist, 1912 SW Gage Blvd. Worship for college students.

**LIFE FEST** — 1st Thurs., 10am-12:30pm, Covenant Baptist Church, 5440 SW 37th St. Celebrate Senior Life. For info: 273-2811.

**OPERATION BACKPACK** — 1st Thurs., 6pm, Lyman Learning Center, Lyman and N. Kansas Ave. Volunteers gather to assemble Weekend Snack Sacks for low-income students. Sponsored by Topeka North Outreach. For info: 286-1370.

**IMOM** — 1st & 3rd Thurs., 9-11:30am, Topeka Bible Church Fellowship Hall, 1135 SW College. For all moms, helping them to be intentional! For info: 234-5545.

**SINGLES BIBLE STUDY** — 2nd & 4th Thurs., 7pm, Heartland Worship Center Church of God, 1401 NW Harrison. For info: 232-5503.

**FULL GOSPEL BUSINESSMEN'S FELLOWSHIP** — 3rd Thurs., 6pm meal, 7pm meeting, Coyote Canyon, Hunton & Wanamaker. Kirk Nystrom, 235-6977.

**BIBLES AND BOOTS:** Chapter of Cowboys for Christ Fellowship — 3rd Thurs., 7:30pm, Wamego. Call for location. All welcome, no membership dues, livestock ownership not required. Fellowship & fun! Doug Palmer, Pres. 410-9097, or Dave Boyd, V.P. 364-2779.

**TOPEKA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY** — 4th Thurs., 7pm, Topeka Shawnee County Public Library, 1515 SW 10th St. No program in Nov. or Dec. Promotes & stimulates the education, knowledge & interest of the membership & the public in family history, genealogical records & research. For info: 233-5762 or [tgstopeka.org](http://tgstopeka.org).

**KINGDOM ADVISORS TOPEKA AREA STUDY GROUP MEETING** — 3rd Thu., 11:30am, Northland Christian Church, 3102 NW Topeka Blvd. Christian financial professionals: Financial Planners, Accountants, Attorney's & Insurance Agents invited to attend. For info: [kingdomadvisors.org](http://kingdomadvisors.org) or Jim Hanna, [james.c.hanna@ampf.com](mailto:james.c.hanna@ampf.com) or 357-6278 x19.

**TOPEKA (Downtown) OPTIMIST CLUB** — Every Fri., noon,

Top of the Tower. Serving the youth of Topeka. Anyone welcome. 272-1099 or [fostern60@yahoo.com](mailto:fostern60@yahoo.com).

**VIP LUNCHEON FOR SENIORS** — Every Fri., Noon, North Topeka Baptist Church, 123 NW Gordon. FREE lunch with Christian fellowship, devotions & entertainment provided by Topeka North Outreach. For Info: 286-1370.

**A GOOD YARN CLUB** — 2nd & 4th Sat., 9-11am, Wanamaker Rd Baptist Church, 2700 SW Wanamaker. Doing Good for Others: Knitting & Crocheting for Local Charities, free yarn, needles, hooks & patterns. All are welcome. Info: Debby, 215-4889, [ddhenrikson@cox.net](mailto:ddhenrikson@cox.net)

**BIBLE QUIZZING** — 1st Sat. Learn God's Word & have fun with area Christian youth age 9-19. YFC/YEA style quizzing & rules. 913-593-6427; [biblequizzing.org](http://biblequizzing.org)

**MONTHLY SCORE MEETING** — 1st Sat., 8-9:30am, Washburn Tech, 5724 SW Huttoon (enter east doors facing Huttoon). No RSVP or fee. Small business owners are invited to a Breakfast Roundtable discussion with (Service Corps of Retired Executives. 234-3049.

**TOPEKA LOVE AGLOW** — Once a month on Sat. morning. A time of worship, prayer and encountering God. Call Tawny Barton at 785-409-0232 or Linda Williams at 785-267-0600 for details.

**FREE ENGLISH CLASSES** — Every Sat. 9-10:30am, Central Congregational Church, 1248 SW Buchanan. For info: 235-2376.

**RUSSIAN HOUSE OF PRAYER** — Every Sat., 4pm, Williamstown Assembly of God, 1225 Oak St., Perry/Williamstown. For info: 597-5228.

**SINGLES PLAY CARDS SR.** — 1st Sat., 6-9pm, St. Peter's UMC, NW 35th & Hwy 75

**UPPER ROOM COMMUNITY** — held at the Capitol Building every second Saturday of the month at 10am.

## SUPPORT GROUPS

**MIDLAND CARE GRIEF SUPPORT** Groups: Building A, 200 SW Frazier Circle. Every Mon., 4-5pm: 12 Week Adult Group for Reent Loss 1st and 3rd Thu., 10:30am & 5:30pm—Ongoing Adult Group 1st and 3rd Thu., 5:30pm: Ongoing Young Adult Group (4-18 years of age) For All Groups: Call for start dates and info packet. Group and individual grief support available upon request. For info: 785-232-2044 ext.341

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TUMI Topeka Courses 1st Quarter 2015

Orientation (mandatory) Jan. 17, 10am - 12:30pm

Module 1: Conversion and Calling - Thursday evenings 6:30-10pm

Module 14: God the Holy Spirit - Saturday 10am - 12:30pm or 4:30-7pm

Application, Pastoral Reference and \$38 for student text due by Jan. 7th.

You will purchase 3 additional books on your own. No additional tuition or fees.

For info contact Mary Flin at 431-6000 or [maryflin@hotmail.com](mailto:maryflin@hotmail.com)

Facebook: TUMI-Topeka • [www.tumi.org](http://www.tumi.org) • [www.winthecity.org](http://www.winthecity.org)

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**AL-ANON FAMILY GROUPS** — for friends & families of alcoholics. For info: 785-409-3072 or topekalaanon.org

**PURSUIT FOR SEXUAL PURITY** — Men struggling with pornography & sexual addiction. This bible study/accountability group uses the Pure Desire book by Ted Roberts. For info: Hunter Ruch, Topeka Bible Church, 234-5545 or hruch@topekabiblechurch.org.

**ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUPS** — Monthly support group meetings for caregivers of individuals with Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia. For info: Alzheimer's Association, Heart of America Chapter, 271-1844 or email cindy.miller@alz.org.

**"BETRAYED HEART"** support group/Bible study — For women whose husbands struggle with pornography addictions or have had affairs. Videos & workbook will give you hope for your marriage & emotional healing. For info: Jane Goble, 478-9605.

**BIKERS AGAINST CHILD ABUSE** — NE Kansas Chapter (B.A.C.A.) 3rd Sun., 4 pm American Legion, 3800 SE Michigan. Open to the public. For info: 817-5801.

**FRIENDS WITH M.S.** — 3rd Mon., 6:30pm, Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 2021 SW 29th St. (Enter East door). A Multiple Sclerosis support group. Donna, 266-7383.

**BOUNCE BACK SELF-HELP** — 3rd Mon., 6:30pm, Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 2021 SW 29th St. For those living with multiple sclerosis. For info: 273-0799.

**INCARCERATED PERSONS & FAMILIES** — 1st Mon., 6:30-7:30pm, YMCA, 421 Van Buren. 286-2329.

**THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS BEREAVED PARENTS GROUP** — Meets 4th Monday in Formation classroom at Most Pure Heart of Mary, 17th & Stone. Discussion starts at 7pm with fellowship & refreshments at 8:30. For info: Susan 272-4895

**OVERCOMERS OUTREACH** — Every Mon., 7-8:30pm, Wanamaker Woods Church, 3501 SW Wanamaker Rd. A bridge between traditional church and traditional 12 step meetings. 409-9111; wcnovercomers@gmail.com.

**GRIEF SUPPORT OPPORTUNITIES** — Sponsored by Heartland Hospice for those dealing with death or major loss: **1st Mon.**, 5:30-7:30pm, Individual appointments; other times are available. Call Terry Frizzell directly at (785)230-6730. **3rd Thurs.**, 11am, Lunch After Loss, Paisano's Ristorante, Fleming Place, SW 10th & Gage Blvd., Dutch treat luncheon to meet new friends who have sat where you are sitting. Reservations 271-6500.

**OVEREATERS / UNDEREATERS ANONYMOUS:**

**MON.**, 7pm — Westminster Presbyterian, south door, upstairs in Library; 233-6724.

**WED.**, 7pm — St. Francis Hospital meeting room 6, 2nd floor; 234-8020.

**SAT.** - 9am — St. Francis Hospital meeting room 8, 2nd floor; 862-2326.

For info: 357-8774; sunflowerintergroup.aa.org.

**CHRIST-CENTERED SUPPORT GROUP** — "Strong Tower" 12 step recovery program — Tue., 7pm, 1331 SW Harrison. Currently discussing the book "Living Free in Christ." For info: Tony, 620-366-1427.

**NAMI TOPEKA** — Every 2nd Tue., 6:45pm, lower level of Valeo, 330 SW Oakley. If door is locked, call 608-1317 to

get in. The 1st hour is often a discussion of an important topic or video. The 2nd hour is usually a support talk time, w/ separate consumer & family groups.608-1317.

**GRANDPARENT/RELATIVE CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP** — 3rd Tue., 6:30-8pm, 2nd floor meeting room, St. Francis Hosp, 1700 SW 7th. Join for support, information, etc. For info: Sharla, 286-2329; Jennie (English/Spanish) 231-0763.

**THE GREATER TOPEKA MULTIPLE MYELOMA** — 3rd Tue., 7-8:30pm, Faith Lutheran Church, 17th St. & Gage Blvd. Open to Multiple Myeloma patients, their family members & friends. Share support, information, & friendship. For info: Donna, 903-918-9553.

**"HEALING AFTER THE SUICIDE OF A LOVED ONE" ("HEAL")** — or Survivors of Suicide" (SOS). 1st & 3rd Tue., 7-8:30pm, Pozee Education Center of Stormont Vail Hospital, 1505 SW 8th St. Serving anyone who has lost a loved one by suicide.

**PRISON OUTREACH MINISTRY** — Every Tue., 7-9pm, Topeka Women's Prison, 815 Rice Rd. Reaching out to those who can't come in, finding freedom behind bars, inspiring inmates to seek salvation during a difficult time. Providing support & guidance through the Holy Spirit to offer strength. Director: Don Garner. 286-0489 or faithfamilylifeministries@gmail.com.

**GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS** — Every Wed, 7pm, St. Francis Hospital, meeting room #8.

**JAYHAWK AREA AGENCY ON AGING** — 4th Wed., 1pm, Rosehill Place Clubhouse. Monthly support group for caregivers of seniors. For info: 235-1367 ext.30.

**MOMS-IN-TOUCH PRAYER GROUP** — Every Wed., 2:30-3:30pm, Library at Cair Paravel-Latin School. Experience God's power through prayer as we lift our students, teachers, staff, administrators & board up to the Lord. For info: 357-0369.

**DIVORCECARE PROGRAMS** — locations and times:

**TUE.** — 7-8:30pm, Covenant Baptist Church, 5440 SW 37th St. Cost \$15. Scholarships available. Also DC4K(DivorceCare for Kids) and Single & Parenting beginning May 13. For info: 273-2811

**WED.** — 6:30pm, Topeka Bible Church, 1101 SW Mulvane. Cost: \$15. Child care provided. For info: 379-0505 or www.divorcecare.org.

**WED.** — 6:45 — 8:45pm, Walnut View Christian Church, 3634 SE 37th St. Cost: \$10 registration (scholarships available). Video seminar series featuring some of the nation's foremost experts on divorce and recovery topics, combined with support group discussion of the materials. Free child care children up to fifth grade. Info: 266-7550 or walnutviewcc@att.net. divorcecare.org.

**NAMI WASHBURN** — 4th Thurs., 6-8pm, Spirit Building Room, University United Methodist Church, 1621 SW College Ave. NAMI is a student-run, student-led organization that provides mental health support, education, & advocacy in the Washburn University setting. A support group is also available during this time.

**PROSTATE CANCER SUPPORT GROUP** — 1st Thurs., 7pm, 2nd floor conf. room of the cancer unit at St Francis Hospital. For info: 266-9533.

**NICOTINE ANONYMOUS** — Every Fri., 6:30pm, Town & Country Christian Church Renaissance Room, 4925 SW 29th St., use west door cross red foot bridge. A fellowship of men & women helping each other to live free of nicotine. No fees. 402-321-486; Laboomaha@att.net.

**CELEBRATE RECOVERY** — Every Fri., 6pm, 1912 Gage Blvd. A Christ centered program, based on 8 principles found in Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. Applying these Biblical principles, become free from addictive & dysfunctional behaviors. 220-0017 or crtopeka.org.

**TOPEKA NAR-ANON FAMILY GROUP** — For families & friends who are affected by someone else's narcotic addiction. Every Sat. — 1005 SW 10th, next to Oxford House, noon-1:15 pm. www.naranonmidwest.org

**COVENANT KEEPERS** — 3rd Sat. Group for people who want to see their marriage saved when their spouse wants out. For info: 816-453-0884 or 816-966-0927.

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## No Fear of Failure

### In The Huddle with Fran Tarkenton

I have never been afraid of failure. Sure, I would rather succeed than fail, but I'm not afraid of failing. As a quarterback, some of your passes are going to be intercepted. A lot more of them are going to fall incomplete. A lot of your drives won't result in touchdowns, or any points at all. And you're going to lose games.

Football's not alone in that, of course. I think of the great quote from Ted Williams, that baseball is the only place where you can succeed three times out of 10 and be considered a great success. That's a lot of outs, even for the best hitters.

But that can't stop you. And those failures are opportunities to learn and get better, to give yourself a better chance of succeeding in the next play. For me, what did I not see about the defense that I can beat the next time? How can I adjust the game plan in specific situations to sustain a drive? What can I do so to help our team win the next game?

The failure stung, but it was also an opportunity to get better. And I had to learn those lessons in real time, because the next game, the next play was just around the corner. Any time spent dwelling on failures was time that I wasn't preparing for what was coming next, which would just put my team even farther behind. To help us win, I couldn't be afraid of failing, but when it happened I had to acknowledge it and learn from it.

I've found that it's the same in busi-

n e s s .

Most of what we try to do doesn't work. We have all sorts of ideas, and we try them, and a lot of them don't work. But that's ok! The key is to fail fast, to have the wisdom to see when something is not working, the humility to accept that fact, and the vision to learn from the mistake. Then apply what you've learned and try the next idea. It's ok to make mistakes, but you don't want to make the same mistake over and over. That's a recipe for disaster.

Business moves fast. And sometimes, things will change so that what used to work doesn't work anymore. You have to identify and deal with that, too. Your favorite play might work for a long time—but then suddenly it doesn't work anymore and you have to adapt. It's constant change, innovation, reinvention, and learning. Failure is just part of that cycle. It's not something to be afraid of. It's something to learn from.

*Fran Tarkenton is an NFL Hall of Fame quarterback and member of the Association of Mature American Citizens (AMAC) Advisory Board (AMAC is the conservative alternative to AARP).*



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107 SW 14th St., Topeka, KS 66612  
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*"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me." Matthew 25:35-36 (NIV)*

**Our Mission:** to witness the Good News of Jesus Christ, to feed and clothe the hungry, to teach the Bible and Christian conduct, to help mankind by establishing rehabilitation projects, and by engaging in business to support the above-mentioned goals.

*The Christian Neighbor Center offers a safe place for Christians to become acquainted with "street people" and the difficulties they face. This in turn provides the opportunity for Christians to be a living witness to people in crisis.*

**Who we help:** the down and out, abused women & children, drug addicts, alcoholics, widows & orphans, ex-convicts, etc.

**How we help:** Christian counseling, rehabilitation & support services to establish such individuals in a stable and productive lifestyle; help to find and maintain employment, Bible studies, telephone crisis counseling, and more.

### How you can partner with us & God in this ministry:

#### Daily needs:

- clean clothing items
- non-perishable food items
- paper plates & napkins
- coffee & filters
- plastic utensils
- dish soap, aluminum foil
- cleaning items, toilet paper
- 40 gallon trash bags
- stamps

#### Reconstruction needs:

- 30 double-pane windows
- bathroom remodel
- kitchen remodel & plumbing
- new exit doors
- new carpet for Chapel
- sidewalk replacement
- driveway repair
- new furnace
- central air installation

## Bleeding Kansas 2015

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*A series of talks and dramatic interpretations on the violent conflict over the slavery issue in Kansas Territory 1854 – 1861*

**Jan. 25** "The Kansas Statehouse Restoration" — Barry Greis, statehouse architect. Remarks by Matt Veatch, state archivist, Kansas Historical Society. This program is a Kansas Day commemoration.



**Feb. 1** "Railroad Empire Across the Heartland: Rephotographing Alexander Gardner's 1867 Westward Journey Through Kansas" — John Charlton, photographer, Kansas Geological Survey, University of Kansas. Remarks by Nancy Sherbert, curator of photographs, Kansas Historical Society. Charlton will sign copies of his book after the presentation.



**Feb. 8** "John Brown vs. W. B. 'Pt. Scott' Brockett" — The history of Bleeding Kansas and the Battle of Black Jack are debated in first-person portrayals by Kerry Allenbernd, as abolitionist John Brown, and Jeff Quigley, as proslavery advocate W. B. Brockett.



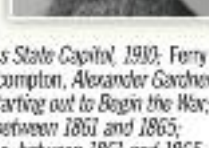
**Feb. 15** "James Montgomery, The Original Jayhawker" — Max Nehrbass, Labette Community College history instructor. Historian Rich Ankeholz will portray James Montgomery.



**Feb. 22** "If It Looks Like a Man: Female Soldiers and Lady Bushwhackers in the Civil War in Kansas and Missouri" — Diane Eickhoff and Aaron Barnhart, authors and historians.



**Mar. 1** "John Brown's Money Man: George Luther Stearns, Abolitionist" — Dr. Charles E. Heller, author and historian. Heller will sign copies of his book after the presentation.



*Top to Bottom: Kansas State Capitol, 1910; Ferry Across the Kaw at Lecompton, Alexander Gardner, 1867; "John Brown Starting out to Begin the War," James Montgomery, between 1861 and 1865; George Luther Stearns, between 1861 and 1865.*



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# entertainment

## MOVIES, BOOKS, MUSIC & MORE!

### MOVIE OFFERS POWERFUL MESSAGE

#### movie review

by **Frederic and Mary Ann Brussat**

In 1964, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (David Oyelowo in an Academy-Award caliber performance) and his wife Coretta (Carmen Ejogo) are preparing for their trip to Stockholm, where he will receive the Nobel Peace Prize.

The previous year King had aroused the conscience of the nation with his "I Have a Dream" speech at a rally in Washington at the base of the Lincoln Memorial. But the South is still in the grip of racial hatred as demonstrated by the bombing of a church in Birmingham that kills four black girls.

Black citizens, like the hospice nurse Annie Lee Cooper (Oprah Winfrey), have been repeatedly intimidated and turned away in their attempts to register to vote. Now King is planning to rally blacks in Selma, Ala. to engage in large-scale demonstrations, including a march from Selma to the capitol of Montgomery. His goal is to convince President Lyndon Johnson (Tom Wilkinson) to get behind voting rights legislation that will be enforced with the full power of the law.

The substantive screenplay of Selma,

#### film411

##### SELMA

**STARS:** David Oyelowo, Tim Roth, Giovanni Ribisi, Cuba Gooding Jr., Martin Sheen, Carmen Ejogo

**DIRECTOR:** Ava DuVernay

**RATED:** PG-13

written by Paul Webb, vividly conveys the complex struggles faced by King as he and other members of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference contend with the youthful members of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee over the right strategy to win the allegiance of a majority of Americans to their cause. In a moving vignette, Coretta King listens to Malcolm X (Nigel Thatch) as he admits his differences with her husband over the practice of nonviolence but promises to support the Selma demonstrations. Meanwhile the pressure of hate calls and threats of death bother King and his wife who grow more anxious in "the constant closeness of death."

The most powerful point in this compelling drama is the depiction of the violent attack on the marchers by police on the Edmond Pettus Bridge. In this

sequence, Henry G. Sanders turns in a touching performance as the 82-year-old father of one of the young men who had been killed in a previous demonstration. We are also impressed by the passion of other members of the leadership team, including John Lewis (Stefan James) and Rev. Hosea Williams (Wendell Pierce).

In several meetings at the White House, King pressures President Johnson to send a voting rights bill to Congress. He asks how the President can fund a war in Vietnam while refusing to fight against the crimes perpetrated against his own people. King's energy is also drained by a crusade of hatred by governor George Wallace (Tim Roth) and the secret campaign of J. Edgar Hoover (Dylan Baker) to discredit him.

The best thing about Selma is that it is so convincing in its portrayal of how nonviolent action can effect social change. It is an inspiring moment when the Selma community is joined by priests, nuns, ministers, and rabbis on the march from Selma to Montgomery, united in their pursuit of freedom, equality, and justice. Here we see the important roles of prayer, Scripture passages, hymns, and community solidarity.

In these times, when government leaders seem all too quick to use violence against their perceived enemies, and



individuals all too often rely on guns to settle grievances, we look back at the civil rights movement with admiration and the utmost respect. The leaders in Selma are the kind of leaders we need today.

#### Going Deeper

It is fascinating to watch the end credits for Selma where we learn the fates of those we have traveled with in this soul-stirring drama. While allowing the film to simmer in our minds, we came across this spiritual rule used by Dr. Martin Luther King to guide the nonviolent protests of the civil rights movement. As you ponder these ethical precepts keep in mind how timely they still are:

"Meditate daily on the teachings and life of Jesus.

Remember always that the nonviolent movement in Birmingham seeks justice and reconciliation, not victory.

Walk and talk in the manner of love, for God is love.

Pray daily to be used by God in order that all might be free.

Sacrifice personal wishes in order that all might be free.

Seek to perform regular service for others and the world.

Refrain from violence of fist, tongue, or heart.

Strive to be in good spiritual and bodily health.

Follow the directions of the movement and the captains of a demonstration."

— from *Soul Feast: An Invitation to the Christian Spiritual Life* by Marjorie J. Thompson

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## Out in the COUNTRY

by **Scott Perkins**

#### COUNTRY PARSON

*Lil Miss*

Happy New Year to you! We also hope that you were able to Celebrate Courageously at Christmas!

Christian Country Music has been an active genre for almost 25 years. I've hosted The Country Parson for 20 years and have seen artists come and go. The longest releasing and most decorated female artist has been Lisa Daggs.

Lisa has a testimony that shows God's love to a woman who was doing everything on her own power. She was in an all-girl band and had just landed a contract with the USO to go on a tour of military bases. The night before she was to leave on the tour, she was arrested for DUI. That

was not the end. In actuality, it was the beginning. It was a beginning for a woman who had a prodigal experience. Lisa turned her life completely over to God. All of this is the premise of her ministry for God. Her music reflects God's love, forgiveness and reconciliation.

After Lisa took time off for a while, she soon found herself singing again. In 1991, she was touring with Evangelist Lowell Lundstrum. She did move to Nashville for a time but then moved back home to California. Since then, she has won many awards including The Entertainer of the Year from the Christian Country Music Association!

She has been with Bill and Gloria Gaither with their Homecoming videos and more. She is currently singing with her band in the West Coast area. She also has a radio program on 103.9 the Fish every Sunday called Reality Check. It is a faith-based recovery program that is reaching and expanding audience.



You can hear her music on The Country Parson & Lil Miss every Sunday morning on the Big 94.5 Country! Be Encouraged!

Scott and Diane Perkins host The Country Parson which can be heard every Sunday morning from 6 a.m. to 10 a.m. on their home station of 94.5 fm in Topeka, KS.

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## 2015 WILL BE BUSY YEAR FOR CONCERTS

Happy New Year! I hope you've had a good transition from 2014 to 2015 so far. God's plans do not change because of time or any other measurable constraint that we've concocted, AMEN? He knows, day-by-day, what we need, and He provides. Here's to looking forward to what He has in store for us this coming 365 days! Here's also a brief list of the music news early in the New Year!

Chosen by votes from fans and peers, Phil Keaggy was named the greatest Christian Rock Guitarist of all time by



the Classic Christian Rock Zone, created to remember pioneers of Christian rock from the 60s, 70s, 80s and 90s, Christian

Rock Zone website was created in 2011. Notable voters at the site were HM Magazine's Doug Van Pelt, Classic Christian Rock Radio's William Schaaff, and Billy Glover of Petra. The site conducted the survey in early December, with over 24,000 voters contributing.

"Many thanks to the voters first of all," Keaggy said recently. "Polls and award shows make me nervous at times, because truly gifted and hardworking artists and guitarists often get overlooked. But I am humbled to even be on this list."

Having had the chance to see Phil Keaggy perform, in person, once, I can attest to the incredible ability God has granted him with the six-string. Considering, also, missing the middle finger on his right hand, it's amazing what he can do on the guitar! Congratulations, Mr. Keaggy!

In further music news, one of the favorite places to eat around town will also be releasing an in-store-only release of Hymns by one of the favorite artists in



the CCM catalogue! Casting Crowns will be releasing a "very special" Casting Crowns album, exclusively through Cracker Barrel, sometime this year. Not only that, but Stu G, known for his guitar handiwork with Delirious will also be contributing his talents to the recording! Definitely something to look forward to in the New Year!

Also early this year, will be the 2015 Jam Tour coming to Kansas City on January 25 and Wichita, KS March 6. Celebrating twenty years of noisemaking and praise, notable contributors in



2015 include Jeremy Camp, Building 429, Skillet, Family Force 5, For King & Country, and Francesca Battistelli! This will be a concert worth checking out!

## Book, movie hero's greatest victory came through faith in Christ

Jamie Dean | World News

[Editor's note: The book *Unbroken* has been adapted to the screen by director Angelina Jolie and is appearing in theaters across the country.]

When I met Louis Zamperini at the Billy Graham Library in 2011, dozens of eager

fans had already formed a long line outside, clutching water bottles and copies of the book that had made the World War II veteran famous.

The decorated war hero—who died last summer—was in town to sign copies of Laura Hillenbrand's best-selling account of his extraordinary life. *Unbroken* had already topped the New York Times bestseller list, and it remains on the list today, ranking No. 4. Only four other nonfiction books in history have remained on the list longer.

The book sketches the remarkable tale of Zamperini's experiences as an Olympic runner and a World War II soldier who courageously survived a plane crash, 47 days on a raft in the Pacific Ocean, and two years of brutality in Japanese prison camps.

Zamperini recalled that Hillenbrand, author of the bestseller *Seabiscuit*, had spent seven years painstakingly piecing together an account of Zamperini's life while combating a debilitating case of chronic fatigue syndrome.

Extreme weakness and vertigo confined Hillenbrand to her home, and she never met Zamperini in person while

she worked on the book. Instead, she spent hundreds of hours interviewing Zamperini and others by phone, and researching archive materials and official documents via the internet and mail. The pair became friends without meeting, and Hillenbrand once called Zamperini "a virtuoso of joy."

"Now that's a courageous lady." He was so struck by her perseverance through her illness, Zamperini did what seemed most logical to him: "I sent her one of my Purple Hearts."

When Hillenbrand, then 43, didn't have strength to travel for a book tour, Zamperini took on the job for her. The then-94-year-old embarked on a book-signing excursion that took him to stops all over the country, where he spent hours giving media interviews and meeting admiring fans.

Zamperini became a Christian during a Billy Graham crusade in Los Angeles in 1949. A huge, black-and-white photo of a young Graham preaching to thousands hung on the wall as Zamperini remembered his conversion to Christianity. He had returned from the war traumatized and depressed from the extreme abuse he endured, and he had turned to alcohol for relief. He initially resisted his wife's suggestions that the pair attend Graham's tent meeting, but he eventually relented.

Hillenbrand located the sermon Graham preached that October evening in 1949, and included the scene in *Unbroken*. As Zamperini battled anger and bitter memories of the hellish ordeal of war, Graham preached:

"Here tonight, there's a drowning

man, a drowning boy, a drowning girl that is out lost in the sea of life."

The next night, Zamperini returned to the tent, and Graham again preached the gospel of salvation from sin through faith in Christ. This time Zamperini responded. He and his wife both embraced Christ.

Zamperini said he was thankful for Graham's ministry, and thrilled that Hillenbrand included the account in her book. Shortly after the release of *Unbroken*, Zamperini found a letter in his mailbox from Graham. "Dear Louis," it began. "My associate read me parts of the new book about you yesterday. What a life you have lived. What a description you have in the book of your conversion to Christ in 1949, and the great part that [your wife] Cynthia played in it. ... I had tears in my eyes and praise in my heart for what

God has done through you."

I asked Zamperini—who maintained a devout Christian faith and service throughout the rest of his life—how important it was for the story of his conversion and faith to make it into the book. His reply was simple: "There wouldn't be a book without it."

Zamperini saw his conversion as the hinge for all that went before it, and all that followed in his long life. He wanted as many other people as possible to hear about salvation through Christ through his own story: "That's the message of the book."

Indeed, when Zamperini reflected on the best day of his life, he didn't mention the day he was liberated from a Japanese war camp.

Instead, he said, "It was the day I came to Christ."

**"Zamperini became a Christian during a 1949 Billy Graham crusade in Los Angeles."**

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## 7 Healthy Tips to Help You Enjoy the New Year

By Eileen McGivern, BSN, RN, Director of Strategic Community Initiatives at Brewster Place

Happy New Year! It's another year to refocus on living healthier as we age gracefully. Here are 7 simple tips to help 2015 be a healthy one:

1) **Raise Your Mood with Sunshine!** Sunlight stimulates the production of feel-good serotonin and also helps relieve seasonal affective disorder (SAD). Spend time outdoors or even near a window on sunny days.

2) **Take a Whiff of Citrus!** Researchers studying depression have found that certain citrus fragrances boost feelings of well-being and alleviate stress by upping levels of norepinephrine, a hormone that affects mood.

3) **Laugh!** Laughing reduces stress hormones and helps immune cells function better. So spend time with your

friends and family and laugh!

4) **Dip Into Some Honey!** You will get an instant kick and energy for the long haul. Research shows that honey's antioxidant and antibacterial properties may improve your immunity as well. The darker the honey, the better.

5) **Listen to Music!** Research from the University of Maryland shows that hearing music you love can relax blood vessels and increase blood flow. Music not only calms you down but is good for your heart too.

6) **Exercise!** If you are



feeling down during the holidays, exercise might be the last thing you want to do but research shows that exercise can boost your mood for up to 12 hours. Don't miss exercise class!

7) **Think Positive!** Negative thinking can trigger your body's stress response.

## FROM DREAM TO REALITY WITH MY SOCIAL SECURITY

In 1963, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. spoke about his dream of an America where equality was more than a concept—where it was an everyday reality.

I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: "We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal."

His dream struck a chord with many people and inspired a nation. It shined a light on the ideal that every citizen should have equal opportunity to prosper and succeed.

As we remember Dr. King and his dream for America, take a moment to reflect on your dreams for yourself and your family. What are the things that you want for your future? Do you see yourself enjoying retirement someday?

With some planning, that dream can come true. The best way to keep your retirement dreams on track is by opening a my Social Security account. A my Social Security account is an excellent tool that helps you plan for the future. It lets you verify your earnings on your personal Social Security

Statement—because your future retirement benefit depends on your earnings throughout your career. You can view your Statement at any time, giving you a good picture of what your future benefits will be. When you are ready to retire, you can even go online to apply for benefits from your home or office.

And the advantages of having a my Social Security account don't stop after you retire. Once you start receiving benefits, you can manage them with a my Social Security account. You can get an instant benefit verification letter, check your benefit and payment information, change your address and phone number, and start or change your direct deposit information—all online.

Setting up a my Social Security account is quick, secure, and easy. Millions of Americans already have accounts. In fact, someone opens one about every 6 seconds. Join the crowd and sign up today at [www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount).

It's the stuff dreams are made of.

## RING IN THE NEW YEAR WITH A COLA

Happy New Year from Social Security! Put down the champagne and ring in the New Year with a COLA! And we don't mean the soda. In 2015, nearly 64 million Americans who receive Social Security or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) will receive a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) increase to their monthly benefit payments of 1.7 percent.

The average monthly Social Security benefit for a retired worker in 2015 is \$1,328 (up from \$1,306 in 2014). The average monthly Social Security benefit for a disabled worker in 2015 is \$1,165 (up from \$1,146 in 2014).

For people who receive SSI, the maximum federal payment amount increased to \$733 (up from \$721 in 2014).

Other Social Security changes in 2015 are also worth noting. For example, the maximum amount of earnings subject to the Social Security payroll tax will increase to \$118,500 (up from \$117,000 in 2014). A worker will earn one credit toward Social Security coverage after paying taxes on

\$1,220 in earnings in 2015 (up from \$1,200 in 2014). As a reminder, eligibility for retirement benefits still requires 40 credits (usually about 10 years of work).

Information about Medicare changes for 2015 is available at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov).

The Social Security Act out-

lines how the COLA is calculated. To read more about the COLA, please visit [www.socialsecurity.gov/cola](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/cola).

To learn more about other changes in 2015, read our fact sheet at [www.socialsecurity.gov/news/press/factsheets/colafacts2015.html](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/news/press/factsheets/colafacts2015.html).

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## SOCIAL SECURITY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

### Question:

I'm creating my budget for 2015. How much will my benefit increase at the beginning of the year?

### Answer:

The monthly Social Security and Supplemental Security Income benefits for nearly 64 million Americans will increase by 1.7 percent in 2015. This annual cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) is tied to the Consumer Price Index as determined by the Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics. This New Year, you can enjoy your COLA starting in January. Read our press release at [www.socialsecurity.gov/news/#!/post/10-2014-2](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/news/#!/post/10-2014-2).

### Question:

I'd like to change the healthcare coverage that I signed up for through Healthcare.gov. How can I do that?

### Answer:

The open enrollment period for Affordable Healthcare coverage takes place from November 15, 2014 to February 15, 2015. During this four-month period,

you can enroll in a new plan or change current plans using the Affordable Care Act's Marketplace. To continue health coverage in 2015, simply renew the current health plan, or choose a new plan through the Marketplace between now and February 15, 2015. Once the open enrollment deadline passes, the only way to get coverage for 2015 is to qualify for a "Special Enrollment Period" due to a qualifying life event as specified by Healthcare.gov. You have four months to decide what type of coverage you want, but the sooner you act, the sooner you will enjoy the security of affordable healthcare.

Find out more about Healthcare.gov's open enrollment period at [www.healthcare.gov](http://www.healthcare.gov).



### RETIREMENT

#### Question:

I went back to work after retiring, but now the company I work for is downsizing. I'll be receiving unemployment benefits in a few weeks. Will this affect my retirement benefits?

#### Answer:

When it comes to retirement benefits, Social Security does not count unemployment as earnings, so your retirement benefits will not be affected. However, any income you receive from Social Security may reduce your unemployment benefits. Contact your state unemployment office for information on how your state applies the reduction to your unemployment compensation.

#### Question:

I plan to retire in spring of 2015. How soon can I file for my Social Security benefits?

#### Answer:

You can file four months before you plan to receive benefits. Go ahead and apply now if you plan to retire when winter's frost finally lets up. To apply, go to [www.socialsecurity.gov/appllytoretire](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/appllytoretire). Applying online has never been easier—you can do it from the comfort of your home. All you need is 15 minutes and Internet access.

### DISABILITY

#### Question:

I was wounded while on military service overseas. What are the benefits for wounded warriors, and how can I apply?

#### Answer:

Through the Wounded Warrior program, Social Security expedites processing of disability claims of current military service members or veterans disabled while on active duty on or after October 1, 2001. Also, service members and veterans who have a Veterans Administration compensation rat-

ing of 100% Permanent and Total (P&T) may receive expedited processing of applications for Social Security disability benefits. Keep in mind, this expedited process applies to only the application for benefits. To be eligible for benefits, you must meet Social Security's strict definition of "disability," which means:

- You must be unable to do sub-

stantial work because of your medical condition(s); and

- Your medical condition(s) must have lasted, or be expected to last, at least one year or to result in death.

You can apply online at [www.socialsecurity.gov/applyfordisability](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/applyfordisability) or call our toll-free number, 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

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## senior news briefs

**BINGO** - Jan 3, 3pm, Fairlawn Heights Assisted Living, 5400 SW 7th. 0272-6880.

**LIFEFEST** - Jan. 8, 10am-12:30pm, Covenant Baptist Church, 5440 SW 37th St. Seniors ministering to seniors - celebrating with fellowship, fun, food, learning & entertainment. Greg Bullion, Health Educator of Genstler Eye Center, will speak about the ways the Lord has led in the mission field as well as now at home. If transportation is needed, call 354-4994 or 478-1729

**HARVESTER'S PROGRAM FOR SENIOR CITIZENS** - every second Saturday, at Christian Lord Ministries, 2421 SE California. Call 266-4979.

**VIP LUNCHEON FOR SENIORS** - Every Fri., Noon, North Topeka Baptist Church, 123 NW Gordon. FREE lunch with Christian fellowship, devotions & entertainment provided by Topeka North Outreach. For Info: 286-1370.

**ADVENTURE'S IN LEARNING** - Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27. For those over 55. For info: Shepherd's Center 267-0248

**GRANDPARENT/RELATIVE CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP** - 3rd Tue., 6:30-8pm, 2nd floor meeting room, St. Francis Hosp, 1700 SW 7th. Join for support, information, etc. For info: Sharla, 286-2329; Jennie (English/Spanish) 231-0763

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Panel 1: A man is lying in bed, looking distressed. A woman (his mother) is standing by his side, looking at him. Speech bubble: "YOUR MOTHER TOLD ME YOU BROKE THE NEW NEIGHBOR'S WINDOW PLAYING BASEBALL"

Panel 2: The man is still in bed, looking up at the woman. Speech bubble: "'BROKE' IS SUCH A HARSH WORD"

Panel 3: The man is still in bed, looking up at the woman. Speech bubble: "OKAY, WELL, LET'S GO"

Panel 4: The man is still in bed, looking up at the woman. Speech bubble: "YOU'RE GOING TO APOLOGIZE AND MAKE IT RIGHT"

Panel 5: A dead man is walking towards the man in bed. Speech bubble: "DEAD MAN WALKING HERE! WE GOT A DEAD MAN WALKING!"

Panel 6: The man in bed is looking up at the dead man. Speech bubble: "TIME TO WALK THE GREEN MILE?"

Panel 7: The man in bed is looking up at the dead man. Speech bubble: "SIGH"





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# Koyotes get two matches on 2014 Delete Blood Cancer Donor Drive

The Kansas Koyotes were recently notified that two donor matches were found from donors at last season's Delete Blood Cancer Donor Drive.

Koyotes owner Nick Baumgartner was elated, and wrote an open letter to fans which was posted on Facebook.

"I want to thank the fans who registered and everyone who was involved!" Baumgartner said. "I feel like we're already 2-and-0 this year!"

The news and information you want...on-line.

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# FROM THE CHEAP SEATS

by Rob Mooney

When I look back on 2014, there are many things that pop into my mind. Personally, not much happened in 2014 other than the fact that I switched jobs and moved back to Lawrence and my oldest son moved his family to Northern Italy for a three year tour with the United States Air Force. Actually, now that I see that on paper, I guess quite a bit happened, it just doesn't seem that way because it happened over a two month span.

In the world of sports, I guess 2014 will be remembered as a year of change as well. First off, there are the domestic violence issues that plagued the NFL, such as Ray Rice knocking out his girlfriend in an elevator in Atlantic City. He was indefinitely suspended by the NFL and cut by the Baltimore Ravens. Although the suspension was eventually overturned, he has yet to sign with another team.

Then there is Adrian Peterson of the Minnesota Vikings who was suspended for the remainder of the season after he pleaded no contest for spanking his 4-year-old son with a switch. I'm not going to say much about this because I will get on a rant many won't agree with EVEN THOUGH the Bible commands us to discipline our children. If Peterson or anyone for that matter spans a child anywhere other than the backside, that's child abuse and I'm all for bringing them down. However, a few swats on the backside when a child does wrong will do the job.

What about that idiot Donald Sterling who was suspended for life and forced to sell his NBA team when he was recorded making racial comments. That's a tough one because his rights were clearly violated when

someone recording him without his consent. I thought everyone was entitled to their opinion. I'm not defending him I just think that in this day of political correctness, we may go too far from time to time.

The year wasn't all that bad. I will never forget the improbable World Series run that the Kansas City Royals put together. What a ride. As Royals fans, we always hoped they would make the playoffs but it just seemed so far-fetched. Were they a legitimate World Series team? I don't know but they got hot at the right time and sometimes that's all that matters.

Of course, there are my Cowboys, who have turned in a 12-4 season and made the playoffs. Now, by the time you read this they may be done, but that's not the point. By the way, how can the Seattle Seahawks finish with the same record after losing to Dallas and still get home field advantage in the playoffs? Just curious.

But let's look ahead to 2015. Many people make New Years' resolutions to lose weight or stop doing certain things. What are some things that Christians should resolve to do? First, maybe we should all follow Paul's lead when he said, "I must die daily." We should renew ourselves daily, not just at the beginning of the year. How can we do that? Well, we can start by reading the Bible on a daily basis. The Bible says "search the scriptures." We can renew our spirits by increasing our prayer time. "Ye have not because ye ask not." There is power in prayer. We can renew ourselves by telling others about the saving grace of Jesus Christ. Take a stand and let people know what Jesus has done for you and what He can do for them.

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## Tips to Heat Your Home Affordably this Winter

(StatePoint) Climate control accounts for almost half the energy use in a typical U.S. home and is also the largest energy expense for most people - but it doesn't have to be. With a few simple solutions, you can be friendlier toward your wallet and the environment this winter.

### Weather-Proof Your Home

Cracks, gaps and joints can cause drafts that will undermine your heating

efforts and send your utility bill through the roof. Caulking, insulating and weatherstripping can help curtail the waste so you can enjoy a warmer, more comfortable winter.

Older homes may lack sufficient insulation. Based on where you live and how you currently heat your home, a contractor can help you determine whether your attic, floors and walls need more insulation.



### Investigate Heating Alternatives

More than one million U.S. homes are currently heated with pellets, and it's no wonder why -- pellet stoves eliminate 75 percent of the carbon emissions associated with fossil fuel heating. That's roughly three times the impact of driving a hybrid car and saves consumers \$400 to \$1,500 or more each year, according to the Hearth, Patio & Barbecue Association. Plus, some state and local municipalities even offer a tax credit for heating all or part of a home with biomass fuels.

Additionally, because pellets are made from renewable resources like residual forest waste and agricultural byproducts, they absorb nearly as much carbon growing as they give off when burned, making them carbon neutral, according to the Pellet Fuels Institute.

To maximize cost savings, look for a high efficiency, free-standing pellet stove, like the XXV from Harman Stoves. This stylish pellet stove delivers controlled heat thanks to its distinct cast iron details and advanced room-sensing technology, which automatically adjusts heat output to maintain a consistent room temperature.

You can also cut costs by replacing a drafty, masonry-built fireplace with an insert, like the Harman Accentra 52i which offers powerful and consistent heat with low maintenance and fuel-saving technology.

To learn more about energy efficient, cost-saving alternatives for home heating, visit [www.harmanstoves.com](http://www.harmanstoves.com).

### Dress for the Weather

Your extremities are where heat is lost from your body. While wearing gloves indoors is impractical, you should definitely cover up your feet. Invest in a good pair of slippers and some warm socks to keep your feet and the rest of you warm. By dressing warmer indoors, you will be able to keep the overall central heat temperature

down, resulting in real cost-savings.

### New Windows

Heat loss through windows can account for a whopping 10 to 25 percent of your heating bill, according to the Department of Energy. If you have older, single pane windows, it may be

time for an upgrade. Look for double-pane windows that are ENERGY STAR qualified. It's a one-time expense with a true return on investment.

You don't need to feel chilly or uncomfortable in order to lower your energy bills. Take steps to improve your home's energy efficiency.



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**HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM YOUR FRIENDS AT JACKSON'S**

**Annette's tip**  
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**January Garage Sale**  
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www.greatIAMchurch.com

## 2. CHRISTIAN CAVALRY MINISTRIES INT.

Pastor Beaux Bryant  
3851 South St., Grantville, KS 66429  
1-800-673-3633  
www.church4bikers.org

## 3. TOPEKA BIBLE CHURCH

1101 SW Mulvane St., Topeka  
785-234-5545  
Worship: 8:00 - 9:30 & 11am  
Sunday School & Bible Studies:  
9:30 & 11am  
www.discovertbc.com

## 4. NORTHLAND CHRISTIAN CHURCH

3102 NW opeka Blvd., Topeka  
286-1204  
Wed. 6:15 pm: Children/Youth/  
Adult programs  
Worship Sun. 8:00, 9:30 & 11am  
www.northlandcctoepka.org

## 5. FAIRLAWN CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

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730 SW Fairlawn Rd., Topeka, KS  
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Sunday Youth Group 10:50am  
Adult & Children's Sun. School 9:15 & 10:50am  
Sun. Eve Youth Activities 6pm

## 6. FIRST SOUTHERN BAPTIST

1912 SW Gage, Topeka, KS  
272-0443 www.fsbctoepka.org  
Sunday Services:  
8:30 AM Traditional Worship  
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## 7. TOPEKA BAPTIST CHURCH

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## 8. WANAMAKER ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH

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(785) 272-9323 www.wrbctoepka.com  
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Sunday School 9am • Wed. Prayer 7pm

## 9. GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH

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Elvin Dillard, Senior Pastor  
Sunday School 9 am; Worship 10 am  
www.gccinoverbrook.com  
office@gccinoverbrook.com

## 10. LORD'S HOUSE CHURCH

300 SW Roosevelt, Topeka KS 66606  
Pastor Marilyn Hahn McGinnis  
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www.kawriverkeruv.com  
Questions? kawriverfordshouse@att.net

## 12. BUCK CREEK COUNTRY CHURCH

Meeting at Buck Creek School House  
5 mi. east of Perry on Hwy 24, 13th & Phillips Rd.  
Childrens Sunday School - 8:30 a.m.

Worship Service - 9:00 a.m.  
Contacts: Logan Barnett 785-597-5498,  
Scott Bond 423-0406, Jack Snively 760-3513

## 13. WANAMAKER WOODS NAZARENE

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Dr. L.D. Holmes, Sr. Pastor  
www.wwnaz.org  
Sun. Worship: 9am (Hymns) & 11 am  
Children's Worship 9 & 11 am  
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## 15. OAKLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Children's worship time 10:30am  
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## 16. HOUSE OF THE LORD CHURCH

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## 17. HIGHLAND HEIGHTS CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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## 18. SOUTHWEST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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## 19. SEAMAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

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354-8777 • www.seamanchurch.com  
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Sunday Worship: 10:30am  
Children's Sunday School: 10:30am  
Youth group 1st & 3rd Sundays 4-6pm  
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## 20. HERITAGE BAPTIST CHURCH

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## 21. HARVEST FAMILY FELLOWSHIP

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Pastor Rey Rodriguez  
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## 22. NEW CITY LIFE CHURCH

5221 SW West Drive  
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Sunday Services - 10:00 am  
Pastor Kathy Crofford

## 23. EAST SIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

4425 S.E. 29th St., 379-9933.  
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AWANA Sunday at 5:45 p.m.  
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cents for each add'l word.  
(classified ads also go immediately online)

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** - Caring Pregnancy  
Options has some openings for volunteers.  
Please call 785-249-6130 for info or stop by our  
office, 2041 SW McAlister Ave, Mon - Thur 10-5.  
Ask for Kathy Hart.

**FEMALE ROOMMATE** - Busy career woman  
has bedroom for rent. \$350/month includes utili-  
ties. Call 249-1913

**OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE** - Executive  
Suites available at College Park Office Suites,  
2611 SW 17th. Shared lobby, workspace, break-

room, etc. From \$150-\$300 per month. Virtual  
offices also available. Call 430-1567 or email  
info@collegeparktopeka.com

**MASSAGE FOR HEALTH** - Massage by Anne  
Murphy: Swedish, Sports, Deep Massage.  
\$70/hr. Call 272-5755. New Clients Welcome!  
Relax and enjoy!

**GOLF CLUB FOR SALE** - New 2013 model  
Cleveland Driver SL 290, 10.5 Degree, regular  
flex shaft. Retail \$339, asking \$99. 640-6399  
**PROPERTY MANAGER** - Christians for Life is  
looking for a volunteer to fill the position of  
Property Manager for the Heart of America  
Memorial Wall for the Unborn.

**KANGAROO GOLF CART FOR SALE** - Self-

propelled push cart for your golf bag. Kangaroo  
Hillcrest model. \$1100 new, asking \$75. Needs  
new battery. Call 640-6399.

**VOLUNTEER WRITERS NEEDED** - Metro  
Voice needs volunteer writers or interns who can  
serve as area correspondents for church and  
community news around the metro area. Call  
235-3340 or email voice@cox.net. Some perks  
involved.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** - Metro Voice needs  
volunteers to help distribute papers to churches  
and other locations in Topeka. Call 235-3340 or  
email voice@cox.net. Some perks involved.

**GOSPEL SINGER**: I sing gospel for donations  
only. (big band, country, etc.). Call 785-220-1636.

**WORDS DELIGHT & PICTURES PLEASE**  
Photography and Composition  
by Richard Nelson - 785-273-6050

## HELP WANTED

Metro Voice needs full  
or part-time sales reps  
to call on businesses  
and non-profits to help  
with their advertising.

Email voice@cox.net

**TOPEKA BIBLE CHURCH**  
1101 SW Mulvane, Topeka, KS 66604  
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Second Service & Sunday School: 9:30 - 10:40am  
Third Service, Xenos Service & Sunday School: 11am - 12:10pm  
Senior Pastor: Jim Congdon

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# Welcome...

## TO NORTH TOPEKA!

**North 75 Barbershop**  **Ron & Lacy**  
 Tue-Fri 8-5:30  
 Sat 8-1  
 1904 N Central Avenue 233-4281

**THE PAD RESTAURANT**   
**Every Monday, 3 pm - closing:**  
**35% OFF Burgers!**  
 234-3596  
 1730 N. Topeka Blvd.

**IN GOD WE TRUST**  
  
**FOR JESUS WE RIDE**  
**Christian Cavalry M/M**  
**Biker Sunday....Every Sunday!**  
**Christian Cavalry Ministries Int.**  
 3851 South Street, Grantville, KS 66429  
**785-286-2488**  
**www.church4bikers.org**  
 Sunday Service 10:00 AM  
 Wednesday / Praise and Prayer 7:00 PM  
 Monday Bible Study 6:30 PM  
*All are welcome, casual dress ok!*

**Topeka Rescue Mission**  
*"Faith with its sleeves Rolled Up"*  
  
 Main: 785-354-1744  
 Non-cash Donations: 785-357-4285  
 Volunteers, Tours: 785-354-1744 ext. 393  
 Finances: 785-354-1744 ext. 316  
 Policies, Speakers: 785-354-1744 ext. 315  
 Thrift Store (1312 N. Kansas): 785-235-9094  
**www.trmonline.org**  
 600 N. Kansas Ave.  
 Topeka, KS 66608  
 P.O. Box 8350  
 Topeka, KS 66608

**MERIDEN ANIMAL HOSPITAL**  
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 www.davidsonfuneral.com



**NOTO**  
 NORTH TOPEKA ARTS DISTRICT  
 NOTO Community Arts Center  
 935 N Kansas Ave, Topeka, KS  
 Register for classes at notoartsdistrict.com  
 For information: 785.608.6738 or email  
 NOTOartscenter@gmail.com

PHONE: (785) 286-2390 FAX: (785) 286-2393  
 TOLL FREE: (800) 894-2390 EMAIL: RICH@TARWATERS.COM  
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**Topeka Rescue Mission Thrift Store**  
 1312 N. Kansas Ave. • 235-9094  
**Great Prices! Open Tue. - Sat. 10am - 5pm**  
**NEW ITEMS ADDED DAILY** Household Items & Linens • Furniture • Jewelry  
 Clothing--Clean & Like NEW! • Home Decor  
 Electronics, Music, Videos & Games • Toys  
**NEXT WAREHOUSE SALE**  
**at 206 NW Norris**  
**Mark your Calendar Feb. 5-6, 7am-3pm**  
 To Donate to The Topeka Rescue Mission,  
 please take items to the Distribution Center  
 401 NW Norris, M-F, 8am-3pm or Sat., 8am-Noon  
 Questions about non-cash donations? Call 357-4285  
**www.trmonline.org**  
*"Faith with its sleeves Rolled Up"*  


## The Pad restaurant offers discount app

The Pad Restaurant, 1730 NW Topeka Blvd, has instituted a new program to give more value to their customers.

One of the ways in which they hope to do that is by partnering with the company Paid2Save, to bring convenient discounts to customers. Paid2Save offers an App (downloadable on smartphones) which will give information about the restaurant as well as offering specific discounts, redeemable on certain days of the week.

They will be offering different discounts as time progresses so customers who download the app can keep checking for special offers. Paid2Save also has discounts to other participating businesses as well.

We hope that this helps show our appreciation to all of our customers as well as add some new faces to our dynamic customer base, so feel free to tell a friend and spread the savings! Stop in and see me or call for any suggestions or questions that you might have in helping make this a successful endeavor.

To download the App get on your smartphone, go to either PlayStore for

Androids or AppStore for iPhones, and search Paid2Save. Then click download and follow the prompt until you have successfully completed the download. The Pad's store # for this App is 2517986. You will need this in the downloading process in order to find their offers. For more information call the Pad at (785)234-3596.

## North Topeka area offers a variety of activities and events

The North Topeka area has many activities and events going on in the coming month. Here are a few more scheduled events:

**NOTO MARKET ON FIRST FRIDAYS** – NOTO arts district. Enjoy arts, antiques, fine crafts, and flea market items.

**SUNRISE OPTIMIST CLUB** – Every Tue., 6:30am, Sunrise Optimist Complex, 720 NW 50th St. For info: Gary, 246-1291.

**TOPEKA RESCUE MISSION WAREHOUSE SALE** – Feb. 5&6, 7am-3pm, 206 NW Norris St. All sales benefit the programs of Topeka Rescue Mission.


**ANNUAL PANCAKES & SAUSAGE BREAKFAST** - Jan. 31, 7-11am, Seaman Community Church, 2036 NW Taylor. Also juice, milk, coffee. Cost: \$5. 354-8777

**UPWARD BASKETBALL AND CHEER** - beginning soon at Northland Christian Church. For info: 286-1204.

**C5Alive "POWER" LUNCHEON** – Jan. 8, 11:30am-1pm. Brickyard Barn Inn, 4020 NW 25th St.

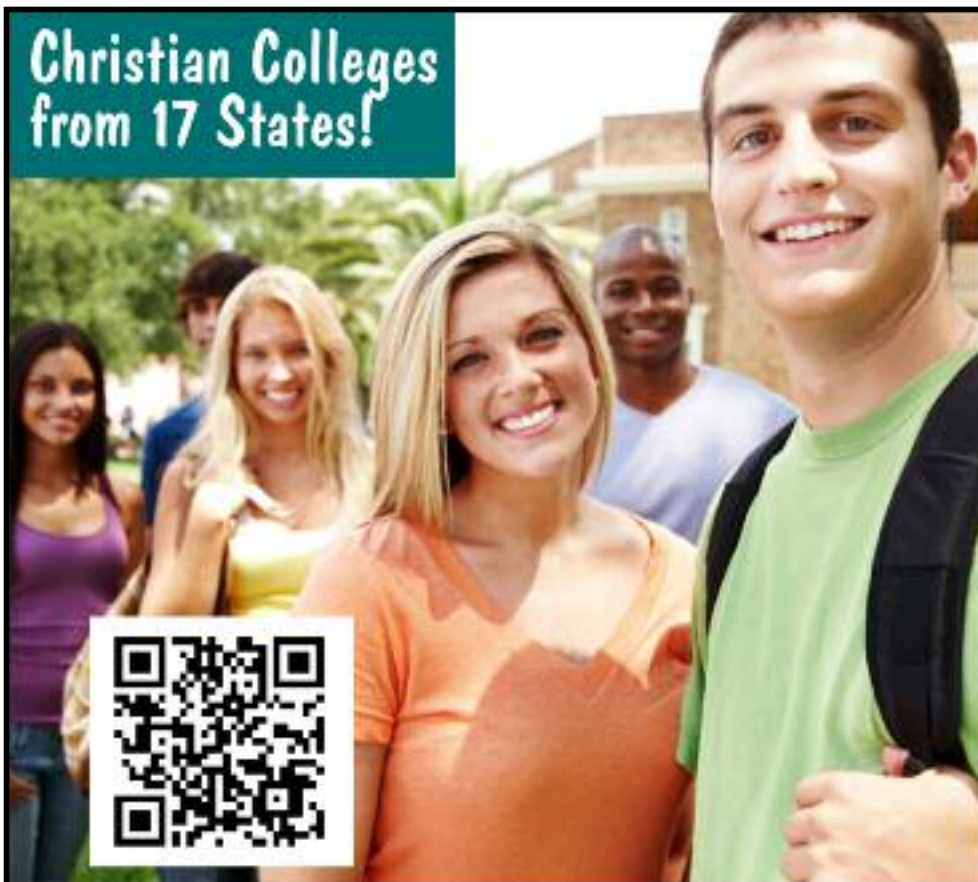
- Cost: \$10 for C5 members & first-time guests who RSVP, \$12 at the door
- \$15 for non-members & repeat guests.
- Please RSVP to info@C5Alive.org, so we know how much food is needed!

Open to the public – Put POWER in your life with great food, great speakers and great company! Invite a friend to join you!

  
**Capitol City Chiropractic**  
**Dr. John E. Chance**  
 1835 N. Topeka, Ste. 209  
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 Th 9am - 12pm  
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from 17 States!



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In Suburban South Kansas City—Just East of Overland Park

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