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*See inside back cover!*

**Pompeo on trade war, Syria pullout, North Korea talks**



**"Kansas workers will eventually benefit"**

by **Paul Grimmert**

Mike Pompeo, the U.S. Secretary of State and a former Kansas congressman from Wichita, spoke about some of the key issues he is dealing with as the country's leader of foreign policy during a brief interview Thursday with KMWU.

**Trade War with China**

Pompeo supports President Donald Trump's decision to put pressure on China's leadership through tariffs.

He said the current trade relationship with China is fundamentally unfair, accusing Chinese leaders of charging excessive tariffs and forcing U.S. companies to give up their intellectual property.

"That is unacceptable," he said. "It

■ Please see POMPEO page 3



**Respect Life**

**Parents reject doctors' suggestion; preemie born three months early defies odds and is home for Christmas**

By definition, when a micro-preemie survives and thrives it is a miracle. The hurdles and obstacles and potential problems are substantial.

But even by that standard, Layla Daly's arrival home in time for Christmas after 115 days in the hospital is amazing.

It's not just that she was born three months premature, weighing only 1 pound, nine ounces; or that doctors told parents Vicky Russell and Scott Daly that Russell should undergo a late term abortion because her unborn daughter had a fatal liver problem.

Once her parents said a firm no, Layla was delivered by emergency C-Section on July 28, after Russell developed an infection that threatened the life of the baby. Doctors told the couple that Layla (born at 26 weeks) "might not survive."

"I wasn't allowed to see Layla for five hours while they stabilized her," Russell said. "When I saw her, I was able to reach in and touch her, but I was very

■ Please see LIFE page 8

**Respect Life Section PAGE 8**

**KDHE opens new Office of Vital Statistics in Topeka**



The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) has opened its new Office of Vital Statistics (OVS) to the public in the Curtis State Office Building. The new office will provide an inside entrance, more space and additional conveniences to the public who come to the office for certified copies of vital event records, such as birth, death and marriage certificates.

"The OVS serves approximately 130 walk-in customers daily and 35,000 each year," said Lou Saadi, Ph.D., State Registrar and Director of KDHE's Bureau of Epidemiology and Public Health Informatics. "In our old environment, the space was limited which forced family members to wait in the hall. The new area provides a more family-friendly experience for our customers. There is more room for individuals to wait while their family or friend conducts business with our office."

There will be 4 kiosks which will be used for initial check-in. The individual will complete their application and verify personal identity. The individual will then proceed to the service window where a member of the staff will complete their request.

**First ever Christian airline caters to churches, missionaries**

A Texas non-profit has been granted permission from the Federal Aviation Authority (FAA) to launch a brand-new airline which will cater exclusively to Christian missionaries. "Judah 1" plans to operate out of North Texas Regional Airport (NTRA) and will retail tickets to mission groups and individuals who are seeking transport to remote destinations for missions and evangelism work.

"This is not just a typical airline," said Judah 1 founder Everett Aaron, according to the Herald Democrat. "This is not schedule routes and we are not taking people from Dallas to Vegas. That is not what this is about."

Aaron, who is also an ordained minister, said the entire venture revolved around helping missionaries fulfill their God-given calling. It is about "giving back and helping the world become a better place," he added. "That's what we are about."

Everett revealed that the idea for Judah 1 was birthed out of a dream he had back in 1994.

"In the vision, He showed me airline, aircraft lined up as far as you can see," Everett explained. "They were full of food, medical supplies, Bibles, the engines were fired up and they were ready to go.

■ Please see AIRLINE page 2





## Boy Scouts may file bankruptcy, even as alternative groups thrive

Boy Scouts of America (BSA) may soon be filing bankruptcy. According to various news sources, BSA has hired a law firm to consider their options in the wake of a wave of sexual misconduct litigation filed against scoutmasters in BSA.

At least 140 lawsuits have been filed that allege sexual misconduct by scoutmasters against its child and youth members.

The once iconic American youth organization had already been engulfed in controversy since late 2017, when the group announced that it would begin admitting girls into the Boy Scouts of America.

Then in May of this year – as reported in the Metro Voice – Boy Scouts of America announced they would be changing their name to “Scouts BSA,” which is to take effect in February of 2019.

The drop in membership that the Boys Scouts of America had experienced before their controversial announcements in October of 2017, May of this year and since is expected to continue and accelerate with the latest disclosure of alleged sexual misconduct by some scoutmasters.

With nearly 900,000 adults serving as BSA scoutmasters, it should be noted that a minute and fractionally very small percentage of those scoutmasters stand accused of sexual misconduct.

The Boys Scouts of America, founded in 1910, shows a membership of 2,283,000 youth members and 889,000 registered adult leaders, according to their 2017 Annual Report. That same report, along with BSA Form 990s showed total revenue in 2017 of \$266,653,263 against total liabilities of \$691,878,123 and total assets of more than \$1.3 billion for a net fund balance at the end of 2017 of more than \$633 million.

In the last 24 hours multiple news outlets have cited an unnamed source inside BSA, speaking on condition of anonymity, claiming that Boy Scouts of America is considering bankruptcy. Their financial condition, declining membership and controversial decisions of the last year



would all factor into their possible consideration of bankruptcy.

Those factors alone could lead BSA into bankruptcy. Potential liability for the upwards of 140 lawsuits filed so far against the group for alleged sexual misconduct by scoutmasters could lead plaintiffs in those cases to motion for injunctive relief. A bankruptcy could potentially be used by BSA to try and shield the organization from liability for those claims of sexual misconduct.

### Alternative groups spring up

The growth of faith-based alternative organizations to the Boys Scouts of America is expected to accelerate even more with the mounting allegations of sexual misconduct by BSA scoutmasters and their decision to admit transgender and female children and youth into membership.

Faith-based alternatives to Boys Scouts of America include the Southern Baptist Convention's Royal Ambassadors, the Assemblies of God's Royal Rangers, the Calvinist Cadet Corps and the Knights of Columbus' Columbian Squires.

Trail Life USA is a Greenville, SC, based non-denominational, church-based, Christ-centered and boy-focused organization that boasts more than 250,000 members in 800 Troops in all 50 states. They welcome Christian and non-Christian members. To begin a Troop, churches must agree with the Trail Life USA Statement of Faith that is Trinitarian in doctrine.

Mike Huckabee, former Governor of Arkansas, minister, author and commentator, says, “Trail Life USA will be transformative for millions of young men over coming generations.” The organization is also endorsed by Franklin Graham, Focus on the Family founder James Dobson and Jim Daly, President of Focus on the Family. For more information, visit [www.traillifeusa.com](http://www.traillifeusa.com).

## AIRLINE

continued from page 1

There were people lined up in front of these planes ready to get on them but they wouldn't get on the planes.”

He continued: “So I asked God why won't the people get on the planes... and God said ‘They can't go into the mission field until you get the airplanes. This is what I'm calling you to do.’ So Judah 1 really came about from the Lord showing me the need for mission aviation. And as we researched and did our due diligence, we found out that there was a great need for large commercial aircraft to transport missionary teams into the mission field.”

“It's not just about the preaching of the Gospel,” Everett noted. “We want to see the miracle-working power of the Holy Spirit in action.”

Everett noted that although priority will be given to missionary organizations, secondary services will be offered to partner organizations including the Make a Wish Foundation and the Wounded Warrior Project. The flights will be operated primarily using McDonnell Douglas MD83 and Boeing 767 aircraft, which have a large load capacity for both passengers and cargo.

The airline has said it plans to fly groups of up to 140, without the need for them to catch connecting flights. Aaron noted that up to 50 percent of supplies allocated for relief or missionary work fail to reach their destination due to a number of factors including spoilage, customs check and theft. Judah 1 hopes to change that by flying cargo directly, further equipping those engaging in the Lord's work overseas.

Grayson County Regional Mobility Authority unanimously approved the new airline at a meeting Thursday morning. “Everett, we are tickled to death to have you guys here and are excited for the future,” GCRMA Chairman Robert Brady said. The airport itself also stands to benefit from the new aviation initiative. With a large increase in the flow of people through the airport, directors believe that the FAA may be compelled to change its status to accommodate larger commercial aircraft.

On its website, Judah 1 noted that it has already sent hundreds of mission workers around the world, and declared that it is an aviation ministry dedicated to “fulfilling ‘The Great Commission.’”

Currently operating out of Fort Worth Alliance Airport, the organization added that it has “transported thousands of pounds of cargo” to far-flung missionaries based across the globe. The firm hopes to be fully operational sometime around June 2019.

“We serve missions minded Christian people of all denominations traveling to the mission fields of the world.”

The firm said that it is “very rewarding to know how many Judah 1 and our partners have helped” including the “thousands who have been seen in medical clinics, and the thousands who have accepted Jesus as Lord and Savior.”

“It is our passion to help you reach the estimated two and a half billion people who do not know Jesus and it only takes ‘Your Hands, God's Love, Our Wings.’”

– Will Maule – [faithwire.com](http://faithwire.com)

## Life Lessons From a Little One

### RECEIVING

by Jessica S. Hosman

Christmas has come and gone and it's now when we often reflect on the season, the year, lessons learned and maybe lessons lost.

It's always been important to me that my son know Christmas is not about receiving; it's about giving. We talk about how our giving reflects the greatest gift that God ever gave to us through Jesus. And we pray about creative ways to be an unexpected blessing to others to share His love.

Last month, we decided we'd bless our family barber. You see, he's not just any barber... we're pretty sure he is the world's greatest barber. Not only because he gives an awesome haircut, but because he's an incredible person. He's generous, loving, compassionate, gifted... and funny! He's one of those people who can always put a smile on your face, and one whose presence leaves you feeling better than you did before you entered his shop.

Our last visit to him was a few weeks before Christmas, and we couldn't help but notice that Hillsdale Barber Shop didn't look much different than it had any other day. We secretly plotted how we might help that change. A few days later, when he wasn't expecting it, we hopped into his shop with festive hats, Christmas music blaring and set out to decorate! It wasn't much, but God put it on our hearts and we were excited to give. It's important to note that before we went into the shop, I reminded Zechariah that we were there to bless Martin and that we would not take anything in return (this special barber likes to fill my son's pockets with candy). We finished our mission and Martin was adamant that he was going to give us money to pay for the decorations. Of course, I adamantly refused and sternly reminded Zechariah to do the same. The scene was comical, but I was serious. We came to bless and there was no way we were going to accept any payment for it!

The amusing battle ensued as Martin tried sneaking money into Zechariah's pockets in the similar way he loads him up with



Jessica Hosman

tootsie rolls and gum. My son's curious eyes were on me the whole time, wondering how this would end. I pulled him aside, looked into those precious eyes and told him firmly that this was not acceptable. We would absolutely not take the gift. His smile evaporated as tears began to form. An extremely soft, gentle and sincere plea then came. “But Mommy, God wants to bless us back.” Once, twice, three times he said it. Each time, the emphasis on what God was trying to do, not Martin, grew.

Convicted to silence, I gave in.

When we left, I was disappointed and a little frustrated that my plan had backfired a bit. Here is a man who gives and,

even when we tried to go out of our way to give to him, he received - but then just kept on giving. Turns out, there's a lesson in that for us all.

Perhaps as you are reflecting on the past month and the new year ahead, you've thought of unique ways you'd like to give or bless others. While planning and giving of yourself is great, don't get upset if your well-intended plans

don't go as you thought. God sees your heart, and through it all He has the ultimate plan. There may be circumstances in the upcoming year which arise that are uncomfortable, but perhaps God will allow them simply so you can receive. As I have humbly learned recently from my son, that's not a bad thing. It's a mark of God's love. The gifts of time, support or material blessings may come from people, but it's Him who empowers them to give. Let them. Join with us in giving to others in new year ahead. But don't forget to embrace the gifts He wants to give to you as well. Receive. Be grateful and be blessed.



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# Kansas state parks to offer First Day Hikes



What better way to kick off the New Year than by getting a jump start burning off those extra holiday calories in the great outdoors? Kansas state parks, including several in northeast Kansas, will have free, guided hikes on January first, as part of the nationwide First Day Hike initiative.

The guided First Day Hike is part of a program sponsored by America's State Parks. The First Day Hikes offer individuals and families an opportunity to begin the New Year connecting with the outdoors by taking a healthy hike on New Year's Day. First Day Hikes offer a great way to get outside, exercise, enjoy nature and welcome New Year with friends and family. There are hundreds of scheduled First Day Hikes across the United States. Some Kansas hikes are listed below. More information about the First Day Hike program and other hikes around the United States visit, <http://naspd.org>.

"It's just an amazing way to get things started for a New Year," Linda Lanterman, Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism state park director, said. "It's great for people to get out into nature on the first day of the year. We've found people who go on these First Day Hikes are very likely to come back and do more hiking throughout the year. For many, that First Day Hike has been the first time they've hiked in a state park. It's a fantastic introduction."

All participants in the hikes will receive free "Hike Local" long-sleeved T-shirts. Children must have adult supervision, and leashed pets are also welcome. Drinks and snacks will be provided dur-

ing many hikes in Kansas, though hikers are encouraged to bring their own. Most First Day Hikes will take a family-friendly path, with park staff leading the hikers and educating them along the way. Many hikes will be along the shores of large lakes, rugged woodlands or broad native prairies. Odds of seeing bald eagles and other wildlife are high, so bring your binoculars.

The guided hikes are free but participants need a vehicle permit to drive into the park. Daily passes are \$5 and sold at self-serve stations in the park. Some park offices will be open to sell daily passes or \$25 annual passes. Parkgoers can also purchase a 12-month Kansas State Parks Passport (annual pass) when registering a vehicle.

For more information, visit <https://ksoutdoors.com/State-Parks/Special-Events/First-Day-Hikes>, or visit state parks' facebook pages.

Area First Day Hikes scheduled for Jan. 1, 2019

- Clinton State Park — Meet at park office for the 1pm hike on North Shore Trail. Moderate terrain, up to 2 miles. Ages 5 and up.

- Milford State Park — Meet at group shelter parking lot for 1pm hike on Eagle Ridge Trail. Easy to moderate terrain, 2 3/4-miles. All ages welcome.

- Perry State Park — Meet at Lake View parking lot for the 10am hike on the Nature Trail. Easy to moderate terrain, 2 1/2-miles. Ages 8 and older.

- Pomona State Park — Meet at park office for the 2pm hike around several campgrounds. Easy to moderate terrain, 1.5-miles. All ages welcome.

- Tuttle Creek State Park — Meet at park office for the 10:30am hike on Western Heritage Trail. Easy terrain, 1 to 3 1/2 miles. All ages welcome.

## POMPEO

continued from page 1

hurts Kansas workers."

Since the trade war began, it has been tougher for farmers to find buyers for crops, especially soybeans. That has had a financial impact on many Kansas farmers who depend on trade with China.

But Pompeo says the short-term damage will eventually lead to a better trade situation and that the Trump administration is determined to see its plan through.

"If they would get rid of their tariffs, and they would stop stealing our intellectual property -- those are the simple things (Trump's) asking for," he said. "It's only fair for Kansas workers (for China) to do that."

### Syria Troop Withdrawal

Pompeo also expressed support for Trump's decision to remove all U.S. ground troops from Syria. He said the United States has had extraordinary success in its campaign against ISIS and that it's a good time to bring troops home.

"We will continue to keep the homeland safe from the threat from ISIS, but it no longer makes sense for there to be 2,000 soldiers stationed there," he said. "We can accomplish this mission in a different way."

Pompeo said even with the move, the U.S. will continue to reassure its allies that it is committed to fighting terrorism.

"Our allies know, the United States will always be the ... leader in fighting against terrorism around the world," he said. "We've done it for decades."

### Talks with North Korea

Pompeo said the administration remains hopeful that it can continue to make progress toward the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.

He said that the U.S. is attempting to set up another summit between Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un shortly after the beginning of the year.

In their first summit in June, the two agreed to work toward complete denuclearization, but without announcing any detailed agreement.

Later Thursday, after Pompeo's interview, North Korean state media said the country will not give up its nuclear arms unless the U.S. gives up its nuclear weapons first.

— Kansas News Service

# Lamar Hunt, Jr. to speak at C5Alive POWER Luncheon

Lamar Hunt, Jr., will be the featured speaker at the January 10 C5Alive "POWER Luncheon," which will be held at Harley Town/ Evel Knievel Museum Jan. 10, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Hunt is a member of the founding family of the Kansas City Chiefs, and is also the owner of the Kansas City Mavericks and the Topeka Pilots hockey teams. He is the founder of the Loretto Companies, LLC, a real estate development company, as well as the Loretto Foundation, LLC, a private charitable organization. He also serves on the board of directors of the Kansas City Symphony, and the Bright Futures Fund which helps children attend school.

Hunt graduated from the University of Cincinnati-College Conservatory of Music with a Bachelor's degree in Music and later completed a Master's degree in counseling at Dallas Baptist University. Two of Lamar's passions in life are the beauty of classical music and the promotion of healthy family relationships. He is regularly in demand as a public speaker regarding effective interpersonal relationships.

The cost to attend the luncheons is \$10 for C5Alive members and first-time guests who RSVP, and \$12 at the door. Non-members and other guests pay \$15. C5 luncheons are open to the public and everyone is welcome to attend, organizers said. RSVPs and inquiries can be sent to [info@C5Alive.org](mailto:info@C5Alive.org).

Luncheon meals are catered by Aboud's/Engroff's or other fine

caterers.

Upcoming luncheons include a Speed Marketing Luncheon at Fairlawn Plaza Feb. 14, and a Mar. 14 Leadership Luncheon at Thornton Place featuring Faron Barr as speaker.



Lamar Hunt, Jr.

Thomas Underwood, Executive Director of NOTO Arts District, will be the featured speaker at the April 11 luncheon, which will be held at the Arts Center at 935 N. Kansas Ave. He will have an update

of plans for renovations of the district. EASTERFEST, C5Alive's big annual event, will take place on April 20 this year, the day before Easter as always. The Easter Parade will take place on N. Kansas Avenue from NOTO to Garfield Park, and the Fun Fair will be held again in Garfield Park from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For more details on these and other events, stay tuned to the C5Alive facebook page and website: [www.C5Alive.org](http://www.C5Alive.org)

C5Alive is an organization founded in 2009, dedicated to developing and uniting Christian Leadership in the community, involving business-



Underwood

ness, non-profits and churches.

In addition to monthly "POWER" luncheons held on the second Thursday of each month, C5 also hosts periodic business fairs and other events, including the annual Topeka Easter Parade and Family Fun Fest, held on N. Kansas Avenue and in Garfield Park on the day before Easter.

C5 members may also sponsor luncheons and other events as a way to promote their organizations. For more information about C5, go to [C5Alive.org](http://C5Alive.org), [facebook.com/C5Alive](https://facebook.com/C5Alive), or call 785-640-6399.

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## Trump and the ongoing culture war

A lot of Americans have had enough of a progressively dysfunctional culture that's fueled by the left's chosen narrative for smearing anyone not aboard their socialist express — which is the main reason that Donald Trump is now our president.

Since November 2016, the media and the progressive left have been pounding the same two claims.

The first is that Donald Trump was not really elected, since Hillary Clinton got more popular votes.

The second is that anyone who voted for Mr. Trump or supports him today is a white male supremacist bigot. And probably homophobic and xenophobic to boot. Regardless of actual race or sex.

Regarding the first claim, Hillary's national margin of 2.8 million votes can be explained entirely by California, which has become a one-party, socialist state with enormous potential for vote fraud.

Mrs. Clinton collected 4.3 million more votes in the Golden State than Mr. Trump, and, as Investor's Business Daily noted after the final count, "If you take California out of the popular vote equation, then Trump wins the rest of the country by 1.4 million votes. And if California voted like every other Democratic state — where Clinton averaged 53.5 percent wins — Clinton and Trump end up in a virtual popular vote tie."



There weren't even any Republicans on the ballot in the U.S. Senate race, and no Republicans were running for House seats in nine of California's 53 congressional districts, of which 45 now are represented by Democrats.

It's a good bet that if nothing changes — and it could — all will eventually go Democratic. The DMV now automatically registers people to vote who renew their drivers' licenses regardless of citizenship status unless they opt out, and the state has an estimated 3 million illegal aliens. It's beyond scary that California now accounts for nearly one-sixth of the U.S. House of Representatives. The upside is that it has only two U.S. senators.

So, yes, Hillary is president in California by popular acclaim, but not in the rest of the nation.

The second claim is the left's chosen narrative for smearing anyone not aboard their socialist express. They can't now credibly claim that Democrats have any workable ideas for the economy, so they're waging a culture war pitting identity groups against one another. Actually, they're pitting all identity groups against the dreaded white male bigots. Hence, the "white supremacist" threat will be a constant refrain, along with phony charges of "voter suppression."

It doesn't matter if you're a Hispanic or black or Asian conservative in the



growing #WalkAway movement from the Democratic Party; you are a white male bigot. U.S. Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas was not even included in the National Museum of African American History and Culture. Feminists have been declaring conservative women to be non-female for decades for not worshipping at the shrines of abortion and sexual anarchy.

Well, a lot of people have had enough of our progressively dysfunctional culture, which is the main reason that Donald Trump was elected. Many Americans saw their country being changed beyond recognition into an un-American regime aimed at criminalizing Christianity and common sense while advancing socialism and showing contempt for the economic victims of corporate globalism and technological change. Mr. Trump's genius was in recognizing the enormous hunger for a champion to stop the drift toward an iron-fisted political correctness.

As cultural critic Joseph Epstein wrote this past week in *The Wall Street Journal*, the typical Trump voter wants someone to "make America straight again, make America anything but what it is becoming. Mr. Trump was chosen as a rebuke to the progressivism that has made life in America seem chaotic, if not a touch mad, and that now threatens to take over the Democratic Party."

There is even method to Mr. Trump's frequently caustic tweets. As "Dilbert" creator Scott Adams has written, they reinforce a central point of agreement before moving on to incendiary taunts that enrage the Left and send the media into attack mode. Mr. Adams concludes that the tweets are far more carefully crafted than just bursts of pique.

For a truly in-depth analysis of Mr. Trump's grasp of the American psyche, it's worth spending an hour watching *The Trump Effect: Deprogramming the American Mind*, a remarkable film by Cuban emigre Agustin Blazquez that features a running commentary by author and film maker Laurence Jarvik.

In a sort of *My Dinner with Andre* format, Mr. Jarvik explains, with many visual illustrations, Donald Trump's successful reading of the American character and why his crusade as "deprogrammer-in-chief" against political correctness translated into electoral success.

The presidential election really was about much more than the economy. It actually was all about "making America great again."

If the Democrats mock that message again in 2020, they will do so at their own peril.

— Robert Knight is a *Washington Times* contributor and author of "A Nation Worth Fighting For: 10 Steps to Restore Freedom" ([djkm.org](http://djkm.org)). This column first appeared on *The Washington Times*' website.

## Kelly: more money for schools, Medicaid expansion, welfare, gun control, climate change; restrict faith-based adoption

Kansas Gov.-elect Laura Kelly insists the state budget she's preparing can fully fund the state's schools, expand Medicaid coverage to another 150,000 people and begin to repair a troubled child welfare system — without a tax hike.

The Democrat said Wednesday night she'll lean on experience and relationships built over 14 years in the Kansas Senate to carve out compromises with lawmakers on those priorities.

Yet she described her job as daunting and state government as broken in several key areas.

In little over a month since she beat Republican Kris Kobach in the race for governor, Kelly said she's worked on a budget proposal to put to legislators in January and found serious problems in state government.

"No surprises ... but I am disappointed that the devastation was even worse than I thought," she told a crowd of 200-plus at Washburn University in Topeka. "The problems are broad and they're deep."

Kelly said rosy revenue projections — the state's draw from taxes and fees has beat expectations for 18 months in a row — suggest the ability to deal with "school finances without breaking the bank."

She's braced for a push from conservatives in the Capitol to pass an amendment to the state constitution scrubbing out the demand for "suitable" financing to local districts from the state. Much of the Republican leadership in the state contends that would free lawmakers to decide funding levels without ongoing lawsuits dictating what the state should spend.

She promised to oppose such a move. The state may yet need to add money for aid to local school districts in the wake of a Kansas Supreme Court decision. A plan to add hundreds of millions to that formula in coming years was approved by the Legislature and Republican Gov. Jeff Colyer earlier this year.

But more money may still be needed to account for inflation. Kelly said she's been studying the state budget and recent improvements in tax revenues.

"We will find when the budget comes out we can afford" to cover her top priorities, she said, without raising taxes.

Republicans have already begun to challenge her definition of a tax hike.



Federal tax cuts pushed through by the Trump administration last year had the unintended effect of increasing what a small minority of taxpayers owe the state. Some people simply can't itemize things like they did before.

That's produced a windfall in state revenues. Broadly speaking, Republican lawmakers say failing to rewrite state tax law to return that money amounts to a tax hike.

Kelly sees it differently.

She argued again Wednesday that Kansas policymakers don't yet fully understand the impact of the partial reversal in 2017 of sweeping tax cuts enacted under former Gov. Sam Brownback five years earlier. She also said state officials still need to better fathom how the Trump tax cuts will change state finances.

Only well into 2019, she said, will those things become clear.

"It's at that point we can look" at whether to return the windfall, she said.

Yet she talked confidently about coralling votes in the Legislature for an expansion of Medicaid in line with the federal Affordable Care Act, or Obamacare.

She was vague about how much her plan for that expansion would cost Kansas taxpayers — and suggested it might not cost them anything. But Kelly promised to study other states in search of a model that can work in Kansas.

A fight will come in the Legislature, where conservatives are already girding for battle. In the end, she said Democrats and moderate Republicans — what she calls "the moderate majority" — can push through a plan.

This year's elections replaced some moderates with either conservatives or Democrats. But Kelly said the math is roughly the same as when lawmakers approved expansion in 2016 and came just three votes shy of overcoming a Brownback veto.

The difference this year: "We don't have to override vetoes."

Among other things she said in a rare public appearance since her election:

- She's exploring whether the state must enforce a law passed this year allowing some state-hired faith-based adoption agencies to deny placements with same-sex parents.

- Kelly will collect proposals on what she called "common sense" gun control, but seemed to suggest any proposal won't come soon. "I'm not sure how quickly we can get that policy together and round up the votes."

- Her efforts on climate change will focus on working with the state's congressional delegation and western governors. She also promised to push for more renewable energy use in the state.

- Kelly said tighter welfare rules are part of the reason more kids are landing in foster care. Changing those rules, she said, is "a priority" for fixing DCF.

- She gave Brownback credit for his efforts to deal with the state's dwindling water supply. "The problem is," she said, "there was absolutely no funding, very little funding, put into it."

- Kelly said the state's criminal sentencing practices need dramatic reform and locks up non-violent offenders too often and for too long. "Those people belong in prison no more than you or I."

—ksnewsservice.org

## Bleeding Kansas Series Returns

Dramatic interpretations and talks about the violent territorial and civil war history of Kansas, 1854-1865, will highlight the 2019 annual Bleeding Kansas series, which begins January 27. The programs are held at 2 p.m. Sundays, through March 3 at Constitution Hall State Historic Site in Lecompton, KS.

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 program explores aspects of the state's unique history.

The suggested donation is \$3 adults. Constitution Hall is located at 319 Elmore, Lecompton, KS. For more information, call 785-887-6520 or visit [www.lecomptonkansas.com](http://www.lecomptonkansas.com).



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# FINANCIAL PLANNING

## Close up small business?

Dear Dave,

I have a small business, and I love what I do. Unfortunately, things haven't been going well the last several months. On top of that, I've committed a lot of money to advertising in the coming year. Recently, I got a great job offer from a company that would pay me twice what I'm making now. What do you think I should do?

Hugh

Dear Hugh,

If it were me, I'd want to keep my options open. Closing your business would mean giving up all your customers. I'm not sure that's a good idea when the offer has just been made, and you know so little about the actual job.

If you think this new job is something you might like, why not accept the offer and see if you can continue your other work on the weekends? That would help cover some, if not all, of your advertising commitment. Plus, it would keep some money rolling in if the new job doesn't work out.

If you find you like this new job, then you've got a great income and something you like doing on weekends that pays. If you keep your business open — even on a small scale — there's always a chance it will begin to grow again. Who knows? It might give you the opportunity to jump back into it full-time somewhere down the road!

—Dave

## The key is serving

Dear Dave,

I just accepted my first job in sales. In your mind, what is the key to becoming an excellent salesperson?

Bobbie

Dear Bobbie,

The key to becoming a great salesperson can be summed up in one simple word—serving. I'm not talking about

being subservient. I'm talking about always giving 110 percent towards ensuring customers and potential customers are served well. It's all about being proactive.

Serving means you believe in what you represent, and you're excited about what you have to offer. It means you're determined to give people a great experience. If an issue happens to arise, you'll take care of it quickly and completely. You'll do this in a way that will make them forget it ever happened.

Really, serving is an attitude. You can pressure people if you want, but that's going to lead to a dull and frustrating life of one-shot deals. But if you serve people well, you'll have clients for life and they'll send their friends and associates your way.

Make helping people your first order of business, Bobbie. If you do that, you'll never have to worry about money!

—Dave

## Wait on the honeymoon?

Dear Dave,

My fiancé and I are getting married in three weeks, but he lost his job as an experienced HVAC technician at a hospital a few days ago. Do you think we should still go on a honeymoon, or wait until things are more stable? I'm on Baby Step 3 of your plan, and I make \$56,000 a year. I also have \$7,000 in an emergency fund. He was making \$64,000 a year, and he's on Baby Step 2 with about \$10,000 in car debt remaining. We have \$3,000 already set aside for the trip, plus another \$2,000 we were planning to put toward fixing up his place.

Corina

Dear Corina,

First, congratulations on your upcoming wedding! I hope you two will have long and happy lives together.

Usually, I'm not a big fan of spending



**DAVE RAMSEY**  
Financial author, radio host, television personality, and motivational speaker

**davesays**

when someone loses a job. But I think your situation is a little different than most. You're both serious about dumping debt and getting control of your finances. Plus, you're working together, and you've already got a nice chunk of cash parked in the bank. That tells me you're both wise enough to know the importance of saving.

Your guy can find another job in a couple of weeks, considering his field and experience. Companies everywhere are hiring people right now, and the economy is booming! If he gets out there and really busts it looking for another position leading up to the wedding, I think you two will be fine. He might even be able to work it out to start right after the honeymoon.

You two have some financial padding, his job is an easy one to replace, and his income will be restored soon if he'll just get out there and make it happen. Go on the honeymoon, and have a wonderful time. God bless you both!

—Dave

## Steps taxpayers can take now to get ready to file their taxes in 2019

By Peggy Beasterfield  
Owner, Peggy's Tax and Accounting Service

The IRS reminds taxpayers there are steps they can take now to make sure their tax filing experience goes smoothly next year. Taking these steps will also help them avoid surprises when they file next year.



To help get people the information they need, the IRS just updated a special page on IRS.gov with steps to take now for the 2019 tax filing season.

### Check withholding — do a Paycheck Checkup soon

Since employees typically only have one or two pay dates left this year, checking withholding soon is especially important. Because of the many changes in the tax law, refunds may be different than prior years for some taxpayers. Some may even owe an unexpected tax bill when they file their 2018 tax return next year. To avoid these kind of surprises, taxpayers should do a Paycheck Checkup to help them decide if they need to adjust their withholding or make estimated or more tax payments now.

### Gather documents

The IRS urges all taxpayers to file a complete and accurate tax return by making sure they have all the needed documents before they file their return. This includes their 2017 tax return and:

- Year-end Forms W-2 from employers,


- Forms 1099 from banks and other payers and
- Forms 1095-A from the Marketplace for those claiming the premium tax credit.

Taxpayers should confirm that each employer, bank or other payer has a current mailing address or email address. Typically, these forms start arriving by mail — or are available online — in January. Check them over carefully, and if any of the information shown is inaccurate, the taxpayer should contact the payer right away for a correction.

Taxpayers should keep a copy of any filed tax return and all supporting documents for at least three years. Also, taxpayers using a software product for the first time may need the adjusted gross income amount from their 2017 return to properly e-file their 2018 return.

### Choose e-file and direct deposit for a faster refund

Electronically filing a tax return is the most accurate way to prepare and file. Errors delay refunds, and the easiest way to avoid them is to e-file. Using tax preparation software is the best and simplest way to file a complete and accurate tax return. The software guides taxpayers through the process and does all the math. Combining direct deposit with electronic filing is the fastest way for a taxpayer to get their refund. With direct deposit, a refund goes directly into a taxpayer's bank account. They don't need to worry about a lost, stolen or undeliverable refund check.



## Simplify Your Bookkeeping



Keeping your own books and records can be a real challenge, especially if you aren't well versed in the fundamentals of accounting. When you want help, you can always turn to our dedicated experts.

Struggling with taxes? You're not alone. With help from Peggy's Tax and Accounting Services, you can make sure you master tax season.

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



# opinion

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## Pregnancy centers provide honesty and compassion...and the abortion industry hates it

by Anne O'Connor, JD

We have all heard the familiar adage: if you repeat a lie often enough, people will start to believe it. This is the tactic the abortion industry is using today to attempt to discredit America's pregnancy centers.

In June of this year the U.S. Supreme Court issued its decision upholding the First Amendment rights of pregnancy centers in NIFLA v. Becerra. Since then, abortion industry advocates have accelerated their slanderous claims against pregnancy centers.

As touched on during the National Institute of Family and Life Advocates' (NIFLA) last webcast, the Fake Clinic Campaign had its origins in 1982 with Planned Parenthood. Ironically, this campaign is itself based on fake claims that are often repeated in the media without any fact checking whatsoever.

Despite numerous positive pregnancy center client testimonials, the abortion industry continues to propagate the lie that these life-affirming agencies are "fake" clinics engaged in deceiving women. In reality, nothing could be further from the truth.

The record reveals that there is nothing "fake" about the vital resources provided by America's pro-life centers. The data supporting the good work of these agencies of compassion is overwhelming.

Statistics from the Charlotte Lozier



Institute's 2018 Pregnancy Center Report show:

- There are more than 2,700 pregnancy centers nationwide.
- As one of the largest grassroots movements in America, more than 67,400 volunteers serve at pregnancy centers.
- Pregnancy centers provided 2 million people with free services in 2017, at an estimated community cost savings of at least \$161 million annually.
- About two-thirds of these centers are medical facilities staffed with licensed medical professionals providing free medical services.
- More than 7,500 licensed medical professionals (including nurses, doctors, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, and registered diagnostic medical sonographers) volunteer and freely give of their time and skills.
- 700,000 free pregnancy tests were given.

• \$114 million worth of ultrasounds were performed at no cost to patients.

So why are abortion industry advocates working so hard to vilify pregnancy centers? As pointed out earlier this year in The Hill, the answer to that

question is simple – money.

In 1990 there were approximately 1.6 million abortions nationwide. The latest statistics show that number has decreased to approximately 900,000. At an average cost of \$500 per abortion, that adds up to \$250,000,000 lost income to the abortion industry per year.

America's pregnancy centers are decimating the abortion industry's bottom line. The vicious "Fake Clinic" propaganda campaign attacking pregnancy centers was designed by the abortion industry to protect their death-driven revenue source.

Women are smart. They deserve to know the full extent of all their options from an agency that does not benefit financially from their decision. And that's what pregnancy centers do by sharing the truth about the humanity of an unborn child.

The abortion industry does not like

this truth to be revealed. When women understand their unborn child is far from a "clump of cells," but rather a genetically distinct human being, they most often choose life for their babies.

As the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals held in the Greater Baltimore Center for Pregnancy Concerns v. City of Baltimore case decided earlier this year, "truthful affirmative assertions are not, without more, misleading."

The Court went on to state:

"After seven years of litigation and a 1,295-page record before us, the City does not identify a single example of a woman who entered the Greater Baltimore Center's waiting room under the misimpression that she could obtain an abortion there. What the record does show is affirmative advocacy of abortion alternatives by a lawful non-profit group."

This is what pregnancy centers do, and they do it with honesty, integrity, and compassion. These life-affirming centers provide women with necessary resources that empower them to choose life – day-in and day-out, without any personal gain, without deception, and without hesitation.

As Executive Director Christine Vatuone of Informed Choices in Gilroy, California says, "we come alongside women and help them imagine the possibilities of life."

There is nothing "fake" about that

## WHERE IS GOD IN YOUR NEW YEAR?



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President and  
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A long time ago there was once a King named David. His Kingdom had grown, and he became great in the eyes of his people and surrounding nations. One day he decided to take a census to see how large a Kingdom he had. He was highly regarded as a godly man, but in this case, he neglected God. David's military general questioned the wisdom of the order, but David persisted so the census was carried out. Eventually, David received his numbers and was pleased. However, God was angry and severely disciplined David's neglect and pride.

This ancient story from the Bible reminds me of our day. The mainstream of thought being broadcast to hundreds of millions is to enter a new year without any consideration of God. Through a casual survey of radio stations, articles, news items, podcasts and videos about the upcoming year, most of the content is godless.

The Scriptures give us advice on this saying, "Come now, you who say 'Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit'—yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes." (James 4:13-14)

Neglecting to seek out God's counsel in our decisions, is like not checking the weather conditions before heading out on a trip through the Rocky Mountains in the middle of winter. Logically, it does not make sense. God is our Creator and being so, it seems logical that we should go to Him for help. He is all-knowing. He knows about our problems and the burdens we bear more than we do. He can see them in complete detail, knowing all the facts and solutions. God is all-powerful. No matter the challenges we will face in 2019, they are not too big for God. He is the God of the impossible. The God of miracles. The God of the supernatural. Nothing is a challenge for Him. Additionally, God is mysterious. No one can see Him. He is an unseen Spirit that fills the universe. However, He has sent us a messenger to communicate to us what He is like – Jesus. Do you wonder, "Who is this God I should be involving in my decisions? What is He like?" You can discover first-hand by



learning about Jesus, His only Son, through the books of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John in the Bible. There you will learn about Him through the stories and teachings of Jesus.

What you will discover, is the main reason why we neglect to invite God into our plans, hopes and dreams. It is us. The pride and spirit of independence in our hearts resist yielding to the wisdom of God. The writers and talkers all around us refer to believing in yourself and achieving your hopes and dreams. They encourage this pride and independence. But to receive all that God has for you, you must willingly lay down your life.

Jesus illustrated this, when He suffered and died on the cross. He laid down His life, not for His own interests, but for the interests of God His Father and the multitudes of others, like you

and me. As a result, three days later, He rose again from the dead. When we lay down what we want and choose to follow God's ways, admittedly, there's a high cost to pay, but if we remain faithful, there is also a great blessing.

A prayer for you to pray— "Lord God, as I begin a new year, I apologize for not always putting you first in 2018. I often put my desires and plans first. I am sorry for neglecting you. Today, I begin a new year by choosing to turn from my ways and put my trust in Jesus and follow Him with all my heart, no matter the cost. In Jesus' name. Amen."

Listen to Clint Decker's radio broadcast, *The Unbreakable Truth*, at 2:50am & 10:50am on Upper Room Radio, KFGF 97.7FM, Topeka's local Christian radio station. He can be reached at cdecker@greatawakenings.org



# Liberal and Conservative Lawmakers: The Unlikely Group 'Holding Hands in Prayer' Each Week in DC

by **Abigail Robertson**

WASHINGTON – In this deeply partisan political climate, it may come as a surprise to many that a group of Senate Democrats and Republicans come together each week to pray.

"It is literally the most liberal Democrats and the most conservative Republicans," Sen. Chris Coons (D-DE) tells CBN News. "It's not just the centrist group."

## Best Hour of the Week

Coons, who co-chairs the group with Republican Sen. James Lankford, describes it as the best hour of his week.

"We do two things we don't otherwise do, we listen to each other and we trust each other," continued Coons.

The only non-senator present is Senate Chaplain Barry Black. Each week, a different senator is picked to share a message with the group.

## Sharing and Building Community

"What you're sharing is exactly what an opposition research guy would want to know in your next campaign – your weakness," explains Coons. "How have you fallen short? What's been difficult about your childhood, your marriage, or your public service? These aren't just sort of easy two dimensional – these are folks really sharing of themselves to each other and that's what makes it special, that's what really builds community is risking together – and it's a wonderful experience."



## Lasting Friendships Made Through Prayer

They close each meeting holding hands in prayer. Coons says friendships made in the prayer group have helped improve his working relationships with members.

"Look, it's really tough to throw a punch, at least verbally, on the floor of the Senate or in an interview when that morning you were holding hands in prayer and that's powerful, that's important," says Coons. "It gives you a real insight into someone's walk with the Lord to hear them pray on a weekly basis. It just lays a basis for a very different sort of relationship."

## Yes, Washington is as Divided as You Think

We asked Sen. Coons if, from his per-

spective, Washington is as divided as it feels on the news.

"Yes," he replied. "I'll tell you the thing that's easy to miss is that we've got some incredibly smart and capable senators who all came here intending to make the country better, yet we find it awfully hard to compromise."

One of the trends hurting relationships on the Hill is a lack of social interaction because lawmakers don't live here anymore.

"A generation or two ago, all senators moved their families here. And so they knew each other as parents on the edge of a soccer or baseball field as much as they knew each other as combatants on the Senate floor," said Coons.

## Making Genuine Friends Across Party Lines

"Joe Biden, who preceded me talked a

lot at home about his strong relationships – when I was younger and in politics he'd talk about 'my friend Orrin Hatch,' or 'my friend John McCain' and I thought, oh come on, you guys – you don't share any core political views and I got here and I got the experience and I'd have to say the blessing of serving with, legislating with, traveling with Sen. McCain, Senator Hatch and a dozen other colleagues I came to realize it really is possible to be genuine friends," continued Coons.

Coons says one of his best friends and mentors here is someone with whom he shares no political views, Republican Sen. Johnny Isakson of Georgia.

"If you're willing to do the work, if you're willing to travel together, meet each other's families, you can build amazing relationships here," says Coons.

He admits though, some take a long time to heal – such as the recent Supreme Court confirmation of Justice Brett Kavanaugh.

"There was a particularly heated exchange with Senator Graham who I've traveled with, I've legislated with – I'm fairly close to Senator Graham. And that was a particularly hard moment for me," recalled Coons.

A week later, Graham reached out to Coons with an invitation to meet with Jared Kushner and hear the administration's plan for peace in the Middle East. He admitted it took a few days of consideration before finally accepting.

"I came home, and my wife said 'what are you doing meeting with Lindsey Graham?' and I said, honey, I'm still mad

about the Kavanaugh hearings don't get me wrong – I'm still upset about that. But it was a meeting about peace and my job is to figure out a way to keep working with Senator Graham on the things we care about and are important to our country

Coons hopes in time they can they can overcome the past and reconcile.

"It's hard. It's not easy to get over some of the fights we have here but that's what I think the people of Delaware hired me to do – is to stick to principle on issues of core principle, but work across the aisle and find ways to work together and respect each other," explained Coons.

## The World is Watching

A strong motivation for Coons to work to restore relationships is his awareness that the world is watching.

"In dozens of countries around the world they look at the Senate, they look at the Congress, they look at the United States and they say democracy doesn't work – that's bad," says Coons. "So I remind my colleagues, look, folks, it's not just our kids who are watching. It's our kids, it's the rest of the world, and it's history and we have to show that this is the best way to resolve conflict peaceably and that we can really solve those problems that the average American wants us to tackle."

Coons says he's hopeful that the upcoming divided Congress can force both parties to compromise on major issues that Americans are ready to see resolved.

– CBN

# 3 kinds of students who leave Christianity after high school

"I just don't believe what you believe anymore." These are words that no Christian parent or youth leader ever wants to hear. After this bombshell hits and the shockwaves subside, we wonder if something could have been different. What happened to this student who was so active in church growing up? After all, they never missed youth group. Sadly, this scenario is not the exception. Approximately 50 percent of students will disengage from their faith after they leave home.

While students have to ultimately choose whom they will follow, I think there is a lot we can do to reverse this trend. First, we need to better understand the students who leave their faith behind after graduation. As I've worked with high school and college students over the years and studied the research, there are three basic kinds of students that leave Christianity after high school.

## The Christian Relativist

To understand this first type, meet Jennifer. Jennifer grew up in a Christian home and regularly attends church. Over time, she observes a lot of her friends and older Christians in her life saying one thing, but living another. The takeaway? Christianity is important to people for two hours on a Sunday morning, then it fades into the background the rest of the week.

As time passes, Jennifer comes to believe Christianity is just true for her because this is just what she personally believes and how she was raised. Faith kind of gets quiet in her life as she gets older. Jennifer doesn't want to be judgmental or intolerant of what others sincerely believe. Picking up on the social cues around her, faith

becomes comfortable and private. However, the moment this happens, Christianity loses its power and vitality because true Christianity, at its core, is a public faith. She doesn't risk relationships to tell friends about Jesus or swim against the moral current with her everyday choices. Why rock the boat?

On the inside, the Christian relativist leaves real Christianity behind along the way without visibly casting off the label of being Christian. After all, faith is meant to be private anyway.

## The Drifter

To understand the Drifter, meet Steven. Steven also grew up in a Christian home and regularly attended church. But over time, he began to have questions and doubts about his faith:

- Is God real?
- Doesn't science and evolution put God out of a job?
- How is it rational for me to believe someone can come back from the dead when that goes against all of my experience?
- How do I know God really loves me?
- People are flawed and make mistakes, so how can God write a perfect Bible?
- If God were really good and powerful, then he would not allow this much evil and suffering in the world.
- I have friends who are gay; does God not love them?
- Does everyone who does not believe the way I believe go to Hell forever?

Searching YouTube and Google didn't help, so he began asking the Christians in his life. Unfortunately, he quickly learned that "spiritual" Christians don't ask such



questions in church. Questions and doubts mean you have a lack of faith. So Steven learned to swallow his questions, doubts, and insecurities and came to a place where he really didn't believe anymore. "This can't be true," he thinks. "It doesn't make sense anymore." He pretends to believe to make his family and youth pastor happy.

Steven never wanted this. He just outgrew his childhood faith. It was not big enough for him to take into the next stage of life. He needed more than just coloring pages and Bible stories. The drift continues on past high school, and only then, becomes visible to everyone else when he's in a new community with newfound freedoms. Feeling a mixture of relief and loss, he doesn't have to pretend anymore.

## The Unconvinced

Meet Joey. Like Jennifer and Steven, Joey grew up in a Christian home and regularly attended church. Over time, he begins wrestling with the same unwanted questions and doubts Steven began to ask. Like Steven, he began searching for answers and also learned the hard way that Christians don't ask those kinds of questions. The remedy was simple. He just needed to try harder and have more faith, but this was

not working. Maybe he was not as spiritual as everyone else. His feelings of frustration and isolation grew more intense as time went on, and he began to withdraw from his Christian friends at church.

Then Joey started to find pockets of people online writing blogs and making videos that expressed what he was feeling. They seemed reasonable to him. They were good people. They were smart and funny. Joey came to a point where he thought, "You know what? I don't believe this anymore. It's not worth it. I don't think this is really true." Unconvinced, he now had to choose if he was going to keep his lack of faith to himself or go public with it. Joey was experiencing a crisis of faith. Unlike Steven, he chose not to pretend anymore. He would walk away. Joey began to openly challenge his parents, friends at school, church, and on social media. College would be a new start for him to become his own person who doesn't have to live inside the constricting box of Christianity anymore.

For some students like Joey, this crisis of faith moment sometimes coincides with a significant loss, trauma, relational rejection, parents' separation/divorce, moral failure, or other kinds of catalytic events.

## A Fourth Way: Ownership

What's tragic about the all too common stories of the Christian Relativist, the Drifter, and the Unconvinced, is that this it doesn't have to be this way. God has called students—and all of us—to more. He has called them to boldly follow Jesus and engage our culture with his life-changing message. I wrote *Welcome to College: A Christ-Follower's Guide for the Journey to*

help prepare students for what we know is waiting on them in the college years (and honestly the high school years). I want them to own their faith as they grow into the teenage years so they are ready to live it out for a lifetime.

There is no growth without challenge. As students grow up in the church they need real world tests that challenge their faith while in a safe community of other committed Christians who care about them and can equip them. The "just believe harder/blind faith" approach is not working. More importantly, it's deeply unbiblical. Students need a grown-up worldview that explains their experiences and makes sense of the world around them. At some point, they need to transfer ownership from the church or their parents to themselves. They need to come to a point where they are convinced Christianity is true. Building a lasting faith means knowing what you believe, why you believe it and how to live it out.

Let's not lose heart. Let's pursue this fourth way. I'm convinced students can handle far more than people think they can. I've got good news for you... Christianity is not a fairytale for grown-ups. It's really true, and it's past time we make sure the next generation knows it.

*Jonathan Morrow (DMin, MDiv) is the author of several books including Welcome to College: A Christ-Follower's Guide for the Journey and he speaks nationally on biblical worldview, apologetics, and culture. Connect with Jonathan online at [jonathanmorrow.org](http://jonathanmorrow.org).*





## WHAT SCIENCE TELLS US ABOUT THE DEVELOPMENT JOURNEY JESUS EXPERIENCED IN MARY'S WOMB

The whole purpose of the Christmas season is to celebrate the coming of the Son of God in human flesh, a miracle that eventually led to the salvation of all who would believe on Him and His saving work on the cross.

There's no stronger pro-life message than a young girl from a religiously conservative community getting pregnant out of wedlock and opting to keep the baby, defying the thoughts and beliefs of an entire town.

And that's precisely the story we have in Mary, the mother of Jesus, and the miraculous conception and birth of the Son of God in human flesh.

Thanks to science and the development of modern technology, we now know the kind of development journey that the Creator of the universe went through inside of Mary's womb, as it's the same journey each and every one of us takes in order to enter this world.

This is truly fascinating.

Beginning at the beginning, then, we can confidently say that Jesus became "incarnate," literally "took on flesh," about nine months before that distressing night



outside the Bethlehem inn.

Dr. Keith L. Moore's 2011 textbook *Human Embryology* states: "Human development is a continuous process that begins when an oocyte (ovum) from a female is fertilized by a sperm (spermatozoon) from a male." The *Encyclopedia Britannica's* article on pregnancy puts it this way: "A new individual is created when the elements of a potent sperm merge with those of a fertile ovum, or egg." That fertilized oocyte, called at that earliest stage of development a zygote, is how Jesus began his life on earth, what Christians call the mystery of the "Incarnation," when the "Word became flesh."

At that first moment of conception, Jesus, like everyone at the dawn of his or her existence, had the information encoded in his DNA "sufficient to control the individual's growth and development for an entire lifetime."

Jesus' bodily development would have continued apace from then on. Eighteen days in and his heart would have been forming; around three weeks in and that heart would have begun pumping blood through his body—

blood separate from Mary's circulatory system and of whatever blood type he would have throughout his whole life on earth, a blood type that for all we know would have been different from his mother's as son's blood types often are.

More body parts' formations are noted by Randy Alcorn in his *Pro-Life Answers to Pro-Choice Arguments*: "By thirty-five days, mouth, ears, and nose are taking shape. At forty days the preborn child's brain waves can be recorded . . . By forty-two days the skeleton is formed . . . By eight weeks hands and feet are almost perfectly formed, and fingerprints are developing . . . By twelve weeks the child is kicking, turning his feet, curling and fanning his toes, making a fist, moving thumbs, bending wrists, and opening his mouth."

As if that isn't enough to make you marvel at this miracle, think about this: Before Jesus was born, as He was developing in the womb, He would have been responsive to Mary's voice, listening to her when she spoke, already building a bond with the woman set to raise Him.

An article published in *Newsweek* titled, "Do You Hear What I Hear?" stated that after 32 weeks of gestation in the womb, a human fetus spends half of its time in REM sleep, the brain state where human beings dream. So, while Jesus was in Mary's womb, he was sleeping and dreaming. What does the Son of God dream about? Cool to meditate on, isn't it?

How awesome to think that the Ruler of the Universe, the Lord of Lords and King of Kings, humbled himself to take on human flesh and go through this developmental process just like one of us? He had to grow up, to learn how to properly hold a pencil, to learn His alphabet, to tie His sandals.

This is a testament to how precious the unborn are in the sight of our Lord. He was unborn Himself at one point. This is an important point to ponder this Christmas season, a reminder that those still in the womb have inherent value and rights, and these vulnerable citizens need each one of us to stand up for them and against the scourge of abortion.

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

Jeremiah 1:5



### LIFE

continued from page 1

scared. I have never felt so much love in my life until I laid my eyes on my miracle daughter."

At three weeks old, Layla contracted "a life-threatening infection, necrotising enterocolitis (NEC), which caused part of her bowel to die," according to the *Daily Mail's* Charlie Moore. She underwent emergency surgery and along the way Layla endured 11 blood transfusions.

And then, after surviving all that, Layla contracted a deadly infection sepsis.

But Layla is an amazing child: the baby born smaller than her dad's hand was discharged November 21 in time for the holiday season.

"And to be able to bring her home

in time for her first Christmas is just magical," Russell told Moore. It's like all our Christmases have come at once.

"I was so excited to have her home but at the same time petrified as for the last three months she had been hooked up to monitors. I was scared I wouldn't know if she was OK without them.

"After a long time in hospital you sort of rely on the monitors to tell you when there is something wrong with your baby. You get used to them, so I was a bit freaked out when she didn't have them. But I've calmed down a lot now and I just need to trust my instincts."

So what's planned? "We plan on starting a family tradition and going for a nice walk every Christmas morning."

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## How Former President George H.W. Bush Became Pro-Life Is A Beautiful Story

Last month, former President George H.W. Bush was laid to rest after his passing at the age of 94. While his time in office is packed with many great achievements that positively impacted our nation, perhaps none have more tangible results than the pro-life policies of his administration, which saved the lives of many unborn children.

However, Bush was not always a staunchly pro-life individual. The story of how he came to hold this position is beautiful and should be read by every American.

According to then-president of the National Right to Life Committee Dr. Jack Willke, Bush described himself as “pro-choice” when he was named as the Republican vice-presidential candidate under would-be President Ronald Reagan. Dr. Willke explains that he “briefed” Mr. Bush for hours before there was change of heart.

As soon as he was notified that Bush was named to the ticket, reports Life News, Dr. Willke rushed to the hotel that housed the Republican HQ at the time of the campaign and asked to see the VP candidate. After explaining the reason he was there to Reagan’s campaign manager, Bill Casey, Willke was seated alone with Mr. Bush to make his pro-life pitch.

“Jack stressed to Bush the need to elect Ronald Reagan, he conveyed the complication of having a running mate who supported abortion and suggested to the candidate that he brief him on the abortion issue. Mr. Bush began to share his opinion on the issue, but Jack interrupted him saying that he’d rather hear Mr. Bush’s position on abortion after the briefing,” reports Life News.

“I need four hours to thoroughly brief you,” insisted Willke, to a shocked Bush. “We represent a lot of pro-life

Americans. If we can tell them that you thought this issue was so important, you dedicated a substantial amount of time to be briefed, it will make a favorable impression on our people.”

“You make a valid point. Let’s do it,” Bush answered, according to Willke.

Willke visited Bush’s Kennebunkport, Maine home a few weeks later, this time with a slide projector and a full presentation, which emphasized both “the beauty of life in the womb, as well as the shocking reality of what abortion does to babies and their mothers,” and addressed the key arguments surrounding the issue.

Then came the moment of truth: Willke wanted to know if his pitch had changed Mr. Bush’s position.

“I wasn’t here before, but I am now,” Bush told Willke. “I will support an amendment to the Constitution to forbid abortion and overturn Roe v. Wade, as a state’s rights amendment.”

It’s likely that former President Bush simply didn’t possess the knowledge about the ins and outs of abortion that Willke did, though his heart was obviously soft and his mind open to learning.

These were the days before the Internet when information on everything you could possibly think of wasn’t at your fingertips.

Anyway, the point is, he had his heart and mind opened to the horrors of abortion and he took action accordingly, backing up his pro-life claim with action.

Bush has a rich history and legacy that will live on through his children, grandchildren, and the policies he helped shape, forever.

— Michael Stanley  
GreatAmericanPolitics.com

## Hollywood actress willing to risk it all for pro-life film

Actress Ashley Bratcher has risked her career to star in a film that tells the story of a former Planned Parenthood employee who refused to refer any more babies for abortion after seeing one in progress.

When Bratcher was asked to play the role of Abby Johnson, the former Planned Parenthood employee who is now a pro-life activist, she was told it could end her career.

“I knew from the very beginning, they warned me, they said, ‘You’re probably gonna get blacklisted. This could end your career. I said, ‘I don’t care. It’s worth it,’” she told Fox News’ Ainsley Earhardt.

Bratcher took the role of Abby Johnson in the movie “Unplanned” regardless of the risk because she felt that the project was worth it.

Bratcher told Earhardt during an interview on Tuesday that while she was pro-life before taking on the role, she still had “shades of gray” in her opinion of abortion.

“When I started learning the details she shared of working at Planned Parenthood, it really opened my eyes to



the reality of what abortion really is,” she told Fox News.

As Bratcher learned more about Johnson’s story during the making of the film, she told Earhardt that she learned about her own past as well.

Bratcher’s mother called her while she was on set and confessed that she had been on the table, ready to abort Bratcher when she changed her mind and left the clinic.

“I got up and I walked out and I chose you,” Bratcher recalled her mom saying, “And I never knew that. It blows my

mind.”

The actress had been previously unaware that she had such a close connection with the children whose lives the film hopes to save.

“This movie is not about judgment and condemnation, it’s about mercy and forgiveness,” Bratcher said.

Johnson, whose life the movie is centered around, was one of the youngest clinic directors in the nation for Planned Parenthood, according to the film’s website.

Johnson was involved in over 22,000 abortions and counseled “countless women about their reproductive choices.”

Johnson continued in that role until one day she saw an abortion happening on a sonogram after which she was unable to continue referring women to abort their children.

The movie is slated to be released in March of 2019, and more information about its release can be found on the film’s website.

— Savannah Pointer  
westernjournal.com

## The power of an ultrasound to change a mind and save a life should never be underestimated

It happened when I was scrolling through my Facebook feed one day.

In between posts about the latest football games, I saw it—and it melted my heart.

There was an Ultrasound of not one, but two babies—the latest additions to my Facebook friend’s family.

I have seen my share of Ultrasounds over the years—my darling daughter’s was the most memorable. Lying on the exam table, I looked up at the screen and saw my little one playing with her toes while in utero.

It was an incredible and unforgettable sight.

But I believe this was the first time I have viewed an Ultrasound of twins. The precious preborn babies were clearly visible—and their official age was 14 weeks’ gestation.

In that moment, gazing at that image, it was hard for me to fathom the idea that anyone would view them as unworthy of care and too young to be guaranteed the right to life. It was also hard to accept the fact that babies where I live, in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, can be legally aborted up to 24 weeks’ gestation—10 weeks past the age of the twins in question. It is even more alarming to think about the babies who are aborted up to the moment of birth.

A picture is worth a thousand statistics. It is one thing to hear about nearly one million preborn children being aborted each year. It is quite another to see a prenatal portrait of a baby who lacks protection under the law.

I wonder how many other minds and hearts that Ultrasound touched. From the comments below the photo, it was clear that Facebook friends were astounded at the amazing image.

And it is no wonder that studies show that, when pregnant women are shown an ultrasound of their babies inside supportive pregnancy resource centers, the vast majority will choose life for their children.

Thus it is abundantly obvious why abortion centers do their best to hide



Ultrasounds from their abortion-minded clients. Once a woman sees that miraculous image, her tenuous bond to her child is highly likely to grow stronger. The Ultrasound literally puts a face—a distinctively human face—on what the abortion industry cavalierly refers to as the “choice.”

The experience of seeing that Facebook Ultrasound has also left me to wonder, “How many twins are aborted each year in our country? How many times is the tragedy of abortion actually doubled

through the deaths of two preborn babies at one time?”

In the words of one clergyman, this could be considered a “two-for-one temptation.” Twice the tragedy. Twice the heartache for the mother left behind.

Never underestimate the power of an Ultrasound to change a mind and to save a life. And consider using your Facebook feed as a way to celebrate life at all its stages and at all phases of development.

— Maria Gallagher

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# Advocates: Black Kids Are More Likely to Land In Foster Care, Just One Thing That Needs Fixing

African-American children are much more likely to land in the Kansas foster care system than white children.

A report from Strengthen Families Rebuild Hope, a coalition of organizations and people who have experience with the foster care system, concluded that Kansas falls in line with national trends. But the disparity in Kansas, with black children 75 percent more likely than white children to be pulled from their homes, has gotten worse in the past two years.

Coalition member Tara Wallace said that reflects the strain of having a record number of kids in foster care in Kansas.

“At the rate we’re going,” she said, “this situation is only perpetuating itself.”

Wallace is the president of the Topeka chapter of the Kansas African American Foster Care/Adoption Coalition. She joined five former foster youth, representatives of social workers and the ACLU, the foster parent organization FosterAdopt Connect, the Kansas Association of Community Action Programs, Kansas Appleseed and other individuals with past or current experience working in child welfare to form the coalition’s steering committee.

The report released Thursday morning echoes concerns brought up by a task force examining Kansas foster care and a recently filed federal lawsuit that alleges Kansas has rendered children in its care effectively homeless with frequent moves.

Strengthen Families Rebuild Hope recommended Kansas better support struggling families with improvements to safety net programs such as food stamps and cash welfare.

“Families are on this tightrope,” said Becky Fast, a coalition member who heads the National Association of Social Workers’ Kansas chapter. “When you don’t have food assistance, cash assistance, that our state used to provide, that often knocks them off.”

Preliminary results from a study at the University of Kansas have suggested a connection between restrictions on welfare eligibility and the climbing number of kids in foster care. Gov.-elect Laura Kelly has said reexamining those restrictive policies will be a top priority when she takes office.

The coalition also recommended more investment in foster care prevention services. They range from home-visit programs of at-risk families to drug and alcohol abuse treatment. The group highlighted the Families First Prevention Act, a federal law that can match funds for many of these programs.

The Kansas Department for Children and Families has asked for \$3.9 million from the state budget to put toward Families First-eligible programs, but child welfare advocates say DCF should seek \$30 million from the Legislature.

Finally, the coalition says the Kansas foster care system needs to do better by the kids who end up in state care. The report highlights foster children’s lack of stability in foster care placements — the focus of the November lawsuit — and encourages more and better placements for kids with a variety of needs.

As of last month, there were 7,505 children in foster care in Kansas. Kansas’ ratio of kids in foster care to total kids in the state is nearly double the national average.

On average, they’re spending close to two years in the system. Those who leave care are also coming back in at a higher rate than a federal performance standard.

As of 2017, Kansas had more licensed foster care beds than children in the foster care system, according to a report from the Chronicle for Social Change. That doesn’t include placements with relatives, who can take in family members in the foster system without having to be licensed.

Kansas had 7,367 beds in 2017. DCF says they have recruited additional foster families and set up additional beds in group homes in the past year.

But having more beds than kids doesn’t mean there are enough beds. Some foster homes and group homes are only licensed to take younger kids, or kids of one gender. And some children, such as those with disabilities or records of assaults, have more needs than many foster families are able to meet.

The coalition also recommends lowering social workers’ foster care caseloads. DCF recommends social workers handle 25-30 cases. A Legislative Post Audit report from last year found that from 2014 to 2016, both foster care contractors often had caseloads higher than that.

Fast, of the social workers’ organization, said that puts a nearly impossible strain on social workers that makes them more likely to leave those jobs.

“Those that are hurt, in the end, are children,” she said. “The people who knew them best often leave, and they have to start over again.”

The Strengthen Families Rebuild Hope report joins a number of similar reports and requests advocating for drastic changes to foster care released in recent months. They fall into the lap of Kelly when she takes office in January.

Kelly has listed foster care as one of her top priorities as she comes into office.

Ried said the coalition put together the report with policymakers in mind.

“It was really crafted strategically to give data points to legislators,” he said.

*Madeline Fox is a reporter for the Kansas News Service, a collaboration of KCUR, Kansas Public Radio, KMUW and High Plains Public Radio covering health, education and politics. You can reach her on Twitter @maddyfox.*

- ksnewsservice.org

# Rally and March for Life is in Topeka Jan. 22

Kansans for Life will hold the annual Rally and March for Life in Topeka on January 22. The day will be full of events including educational workshops for teens and adults, an interdenominational worship service and a rally on the south steps of the State Capitol Building.

This is in memory of the 46th anniversary of Roe V. Wade which legalized abortion. Since that day in 1973, 63 million babies have been aborted in the United States.

Registration begins at 8:30 and will include coffee and donuts on the ground floor of the Capitol Visitor Center inside the north entrance. Exhibit booths will be



The crowd swells up at the Kansas Capitol at the 2018 Rally for Life

in the first-floor rotunda. Donated baby items can also be dropped off there.

From 9:30 to Noon visitors can take a tour and watch the Kansas legislature. From 9:30 to 10:30 workshops will be held featuring in Room 3: Joe Patton on

A lunch by donation will be held between 11:30 and 2:30 in the basement of Mater Dei-Assumption Church nearby.

For more information, see the ad in this special Metro Voice Respect Life guide, or visit [www.kfl.org](http://www.kfl.org).

“Preparing for the upcoming Kansas Supreme Court decision.

A Catholic mass will be held at 11pm with a nearby Evangelical prayer service.

The March for Life begins at 12:30 and goes from TPAC at 8th & Quincy to the south Capitol steps. The Rally for Life begins there at 12:45 with elected officials and special speakers.

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**46th Anniversary of Roe v. Wade  
63 million U.S. abortions since 1973**



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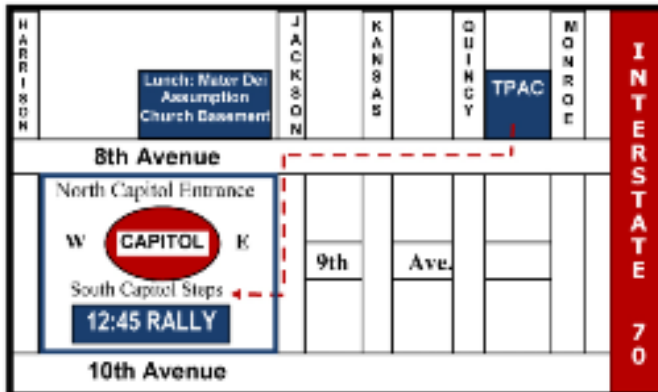
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- 9:00 A.M. "IGNITE" YOUTH PRO-LIFE RALLY:** Topeka Performing Arts Center (TPAC); See map below; Free. For more info, go to [www.archkek.org/ignite](http://www.archkek.org/ignite).
- 9:00 A.M. EXHIBITS:** Capitol Visitor Center & Ground Floor Rotunda; Visit booths. Donate baby items.
- 9 A.M.-Noon CAPITOL EVENTS:** Take a tour. Watch the Kansas Legislature in action. (other activities TBA)
- 9:30-10:30 A.M. WORKSHOPS:** Capitol Visitor Center, Ground Floor, North Capitol Entrance, Rooms 3 & 4 North; "Pro-Life Legislation" (TBA)
- 11 A.M.-12:30 P.M. CATHOLIC MASS:** TPAC
- 11 A.M.-12:30 P.M. NON-DENOMINATIONAL PRAYER SERVICE:** Capitol Visitor Center, Ground Floor, North Capitol Entrance, Room 4 North; Join the March at 8th & Jackson at 12:40 P.M.
- 12:30-12:45 P.M. MARCH FOR LIFE:** FROM TPAC TO SOUTH CAPITOL STEPS, LED BY THE KANSAS KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
- 12:45-1:15 P.M. RALLY FOR LIFE:** South Capitol Steps; Rally with religious leaders, Kansas Knights of Columbus, Kansas elected officials, etc. Hear special speakers.
- 11:30 A.M.-2:30 P.M. LUNCH:** Mater Dei-Assumption Church Basement; Get lunch (for free will donation) or bring one.
- 2:30-3:30 P.M. WORKSHOPS:** Capitol Visitor Center, Ground Floor, North Capitol Entrance, Rooms 3 & 4 North; "Pro-Life Legislation" (TBA)



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## March for Life in Washington D. C. is Jan. 18

The 46th national March for Life, taking place this year on Fri. Jan. 18, 2019, is the World's largest Pro-Life event, held at our Nation's Capital in Washington D. C. Abortion is the greatest injustice of our time and people young and old march each year to end abortion. This year's walk starts at 12 noon at the National Mall, with prescheduled guests, pro-life speakers Ben Shapiro and Abby Johnson.

A rally and Christian concert is scheduled before the walk where the band Sidewalk Prophets will perform. At 1:00 pm the march will go up Constitution Ave. to the Supreme Court and capital building where in 1973 abortion was legalized after the landmark decision was issued in the Roe v Wade and Doe v Bolton cases.

Since Roe v Wade some 60 million children have been murdered in the womb.

## Worst passwords for 2018 announced

For what seems like the umpteenth time, "123456" and "password" are the most commonly used passwords this year.

Those combinations sit in the number one and two spots respectively, according to SplashData, who evaluates millions of leaked passwords each year for its worst 100 passwords list.

Somewhat unsurprisingly, "donald" was a new entrant to the list this year, sitting at number 23 on the rankings. We sincerely hope someone in the White House isn't using this password.

Other illustrious newbies include "111111," which was in sixth place this year, then "sunshine" in eighth, and "princess" in the eleventh spot.

"Hackers have great success using celebrity names, terms from pop culture and sports, and simple keyboard patterns to break into accounts online because they know so many people are using those easy-to-remember combinations," Morgan Slain, CEO of SplashData, said in a statement online.

Here are the top 25 most common passwords for 2018:



1. 123456
2. password
3. 123456789
4. 12345678
5. 12345
6. 111111
7. 1234567
8. sunshine
9. qwerty
10. iloveyou
11. princess
12. admin
13. welcome
14. 666666
15. abc123
16. football
17. 123123
18. monkey
19. 654321
20. !@#%&^&\*
21. charlie
22. aa123456
23. donald
24. password1
25. qwerty123

— Johnny Lieu / Mashable.com

## Native American finds her niche

In life, once in a while, people fall into a position and discover that it was everything they ever wanted to do with their life. That has certainly been the case with Keli Warrior and her position at the Topeka Workforce Center.



Six months ago, Warrior became a Native American Disabled Veteran Outreach Program Representative (DVOP). This means that Warrior spends her days reaching out to Native American Veterans in Kansas, building relationships with them, and directing them to helpful programs offered by the state.

According to Warrior, there are several issues facing Native Veterans in Kansas today. "It can be very challenging," Warrior said. "Historical trauma, not having a voice, being isolated."

She has found it easy to relate to the experiences of the Native Veteran community, especially since she is, herself, both a Native American and a member of the Armed Forces.

Warrior is a member of the Ponca nation and a Specialist in the Army National Guard, part of the 137th Transportation Unit based in Topeka. She has been in the Military for six years, having enlisted seven days after graduating from high school.

"Honestly, I needed a backup plan. My grades weren't the best," she said. "I didn't know if school was the right thing for me, so I chose the military. Thankfully, both of them worked out."

Throughout her own experiences, Warrior has seen racial biases play into the struggles of her community, as well. "There's a stigma to being a Native American," she said. "We get the perception that we're 'the drunk Indian.' Unfortunately, I have come across that."

Even with these obstacles, Warrior has found success in a rewarding career

path, and dedicates her time to helping Native Veterans in Kansas to do the same.

Warrior helps point Native Veterans in the direction of state programs, including the Federal Bonding program. This program provides individual fidelity bonds to employers for job applicants who are/may be denied coverage because of arrest record, history of alcohol or drug abuse, lack of employment history, or dishonorable discharge.

In addition, Warrior often points Native Veterans to programs hosted by the Topeka Workforce Center, including resume building workshops. According to Warrior, the courses on building resumes for federal jobs are especially important to her community because most jobs on Native American reservations are federal, due to reservations being federal land.

"A lot of the veterans I work with tend to be older, their resumes tend to be a little old-school," she said. "So, this program can help with that."

In terms of the work Warrior is doing, she says there are reasons for Kansas Native Veterans to be optimistic. According to her, one of the best parts of doing this job is the people she gets to interact with.

"They're great, they're motivated," she said. "I really love my job."

For more information on programs for Disabled Native Veterans in Kansas, Keli Warrior can be reached at Keli.Warrior@ks.gov.

— KDC

## Lawrence artist has hand in creating footwear for Mahomes & other Chiefs



John Sebelius is an artist in Lawrence and a lifelong Chiefs fan. He got the chance to work with his favorite team for the NFL's "my cause my cleats campaign."

The campaign gives NFL players the chance to promote the charity of their choice by representing them on their cleats. Sebelius designed and painted those custom cleats for 16 Chiefs players.

They wore them recently in a game against the Baltimore Ravens. Sebelius was there to see his work in action.

"It's a huge honor to work with the Chiefs and see a team that I've loved since childhood, and being able to design footwear that the actual players wore against the Ravens. So, it was truly surreal to be at the game last week and see the shoes on the field in action and see Mahomes do some miraculous things wearing the shoes that I designed," Sebelius said.

He says one of his personal favorite designs was on the cleats for Anthony Sherman to support the lone survivor foundation.

Sebelius teaches art to local veterans, so he says he felt a special connection to that pair.

— ksnt.com

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K9 units!  
Firetrucks!  
Antique vehicles!

Food Trucks will be there!  
**FREE to the public!**

**Fun Fair** open 10:00 am - 3:00 pm at Garfield Park! **Live music** at Garfield Park 11:00 am - 3:00 pm!

**Parade** starts at 10:00 am! (From NOTO to Garfield Park) • **Food Trucks** located in Garfield Park!

**Easter Egg Hunt** following parade at Garfield Park playground! • **Vendor Market** open 10:00 am - 3:00 pm!

Dance troupes, martial arts, gymnastics, ballet, demonstrations & more at the **Health Fair!**

Craft stations, Facepainting, Easter photos, Pony rides, Petting zoo, Inflatables, Games & more kid's activities!

Win a Bicycle at the **Football Toss!** • Win Cakes, Pies & Cupcakes at the **Cake Walk!**

For booth, sponsor and parade entry information:  
info@C5Alive.org or 785-640-6399

**Volunteers needed! Contact:**  
info@C5Alive.org or 785-640-6399

**Sponsor packages available for:** • Vendor Market • Food Court • Entertainment Stage • Health Fair

**“Like” us on Facebook**  
Topeka Easter Parade & Family Fun Fair

Presented by



Sponsors:



**Sponsor packages available:**  
info@C5Alive.org or 785-640-6399



Other sponsors: • Rose Muffler & Car Care Center • The Rod Shop • Amerprise - Jim Hanna • Roger Hood Ins. Agency





The Area's Most Complete Guide to the Family-Friendly Events You Want to See!

# 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; fax to 785-235-3340 or enter online at [metrovoicenews.com](http://metrovoicenews.com)**  
**Get your event in **Highlighted in Blue** in print, our online calendar and promoted in social media for only \$29!**

## CONCERTS

**TOPEKA ACOUSTIC MUSIC JAM** - First Sat. of ea. month, 3-5pm, Potwin Presbyterian Church (enter south door), 400 S.W. Washburn: 286-0227 [hagen1525@gmail.com](mailto:hagen1525@gmail.com).

**THE BERRYTON PICKERS** - First Sat. of ea. month, 7-9pm, Berryton Baptist Church. Bring snacks, have fun!

**GRAND O' OPRY** - 2nd & 4th Saturday, 6:30PM-pre-show, 7PM showtime, Ottawa Memorial Auditorium, 301 S Hickory, Ottawa KS. Ph. 785-214-0013

**KANSAS PRAIRIE PICKERS** - Fourth Sun. ea. Month, 1pm, Auburn Community Center. Foot-stomping, hand-clapping tunes. Concessions available

**SPECKS SUNDAY FUNDAY JAM** - Every Sunday 7-11pm, Specks Bar and Grill, 21st and Mission. Musicians / Bands of all ages and genres welcome! Family Friendly and Dog Friendly when held outside. Food available.

**JAM4DAN12** - Jan. 18-20, The Celtic Fox, 118 SW 8th. 3-day music benefit honors Dan Falley & raises scholarship funds to give youth an opportunity to further their musical studies. For info: Facebook @Jam4Dan12

**WINTER JAM 2019** - Jan. 26, 6pm, Sprint Center. \$15. Newsboys United; Danny Gokey; Rend Collective; Mandisa; Ledger; Hollyn. For info: [jamtour.com](http://jamtour.com)

## SPECIAL CHURCH EVENTS

**SENIOR FIT & FUN PROGRAM** - every Mon., Wed., & Fri., 1:30pm, Rolling Hills Christian Church, 4530 NW Hiawatha Place (US Hwy 75 & NW 46th St.) 785-286-0601 or office@rhcc.topeka.org

**SPIRITUAL PAUSE** - Every Wed., 12-12:30pm, Carole Chapel at Washburn Univ. Informal worship service. 785-233-1844

**HARVESTER'S PROGRAM FOR SENIOR CITIZENS** - every second Sat., 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 Menkvelde - which is in turn followed at noon by The Hope House FREE Community Food & Clothing Banks.

**FIRST WEDNESDAY WESLEY CAFE** - First Wed., 6:15pm, Susanna Wesley UMC, 7433 SW 29th. A worship service will follow at 7:00. 785-478-3697 or [www.swumc.org/wesley-cafe-sign-up.html](http://www.swumc.org/wesley-cafe-sign-up.html)

**FIRST SATURDAY BREAKFAST BUFFET** - 7:30 AM - 10:00 AM, Shawnee Heights United Methodist Church, 6020 SE 44th

**"WHY NOT WEDNESDAY"** - every Wednesday 6:10 - 7:30pm from Sep 5 through December 5, Susanna Wesley United Methodist Church, 7433 SW 29th St. For children three years through 6th grade (as of Sep 1).

Explore the Bible, cooking, games, missions, art, science, storytelling/drama. Free program. Children can join at any time during the session. hot meal at 5:30. 478-3697 [jaymie@swumc.org](mailto:jaymie@swumc.org).

**ANNUAL WOMEN'S & MEN'S DAY** - Dec. 30, 11am. St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church, 2222 SE Madison. Dinner served after program.

**NEW YEAR'S EVE SERVICE** - Dec. 31, 7pm, Calvary Lutheran Church, 4211 NE Topeka Blvd.

**WATCH NIGHT SERVICE** - Dec. 31, 9:30pm. Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ, 2420 SE Bellview.

**SURVANT JESUS FEST** - Jan. 5, 7pm, Salvation Army, 1320 SE 6th. Free Food, Free Concert, and Free Entrance! Special appearances from Servant, Leo De La Garza, Eric Torrez (S.B.H.G), Miza, Daniel Wayne and Vronske, Will Cloyse.

**EPIPHANY CELEBRATION** - Jan. 5, 5pm, Kansas Ave United Methodist, 1029 N Kansas Ave. Epiphany Celebration "It Is Well With My Soul", a variety of music and pageantry representing the arrival of the wise men to see the Christ child will fill the sanctuary along with a large collection of nativities. All things chocolate will be served in the parlor. For info, call 785-234-0507.

**TAMMY BOGLE** - Jan. 20, 10:30am, Family of God Church, 1231 NW Eugene. "The Gospel Cowgirl." 785-234-1111 for info

**26TH ANNUAL COMMUNITY CELEBRATION OF REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.** - Jan. 22, 7:30pm. First United Methodist Church, 600 SW Topeka Blvd. Soup supper starting at 6:30. Kevin Willmott speaking.

**FUSION WKND** - Jan. 25-27, 6:30pm. Good News Church, 3819 SW Burlingame Rd. Celebrate with fun, games, community, and God!

**ANNUAL CHILI & VEGETABLE SOUP SUPPER** - Feb. 8, 4:30-6:30pm, KS Ave United Methodist Church, Fellowship Hall, 1029 N Kansas Ave. Adults \$7, Kids 10 & under \$3. Includes chili or vegetable soup, relishes, drink & dessert. Carryout available. Community Invited. 785-234-0507

## SEMINARS & CONFERENCES

**MEDICARE MONDAYS** - First Mon. of ea. month, 1-3pm. Topeka/Sh. Co. Public Library (Auditorium) 1515 SW 10th. Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging and Senior Health Insurance Counseling for Kansas offers Senior health insurance counseling. For info: 580-4545 or [nhoni@tscpl.org](mailto:nhoni@tscpl.org)

**MEDICARE EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR** - Jan. 8 & 22, 2pm. Learn the basics of Medicare and all its options. Seminars are designed for those becoming eligible for Medicare and those considering making a change. Seminar will be held at the Heart Center at 929 SW Mulvane. For info or to sign up: [centuryinsuranceagency.com](http://centuryinsuranceagency.com) or 270-4593 or [info@century-health.com](mailto:info@century-health.com). Snacks & beverages provided.

## FAMILY-FRIENDLY EVENTS

**SHEPHERDS CENTER PICKLEBALL GROUP** - plays Mon. & Wed. Mon. at Countryside UMC, 32nd & Burlingame, from 3-5. Park on the NORTH side & use the furthest WEST door. Follow the hallway to gym. On Wed. at First Baptist, 30th & MacVicar, from 1-3. Park on the WEST side. Gym is right inside the doors.

**SENIOR STRETCHING EXERCISES** - each Mon., Wed., Fri.: 9:30-10:15am, Seaman Community Church, 2036 NW Taylor St. Enter on the east side of Fellowship Hall. No charge. 785-354-8777 or 785-213-6016

**SAFE STREETS COALITION MEETING** - First Wed. of the month, 11:45am-1pm. Great Overland Station. For info: 266-4606 or [jwilson@safestreeets.org](mailto:jwilson@safestreeets.org)

**LIBRARY'S LEARN & PLAY BUS** - Every Tuesday 1-3pm, Auburn Community Center.

**SENIORS NUTRITIONAL LUNCH** - Weekdays, except holidays, at noon at Auburn Civic Center, 1020 N. Washington Street. Minimal cost per person. Reservations/cancellations required 24 hours in advance by calling Meals on Wheels of Jefferson & Shawnee Co. at 295-3980. Each meal includes 1% milk & sugar-free items for diabetics. 215-0064.

**SHAWNEE SWINGERS SQUARE DANCE LESSONS** - Wednesdays, 7pm, Croco Hall, 6115 SE Hwy 40, Tecumseh. Call 785-845-2357. (1st two lessons free)

**COUNTRY AND BALLROOM DANCING** - Thursdays 6-9pm. Croco Hall. Info: Edwina 379-9538 or 478-4760.

**SHEPHERDS CENTER LINE DANCING GROUP** - meets 2nd & 4th Thur, 2-4 at First UMC, 6th & Topeka. Park on the WEST side & use the WEST door. Immediately inside, turn left & walk the ramp to the library, then left to elevator. Push [B] for fellowship hall 785-249-3258.

**SHEPHERDS CENTER HHS WALKING GROUP** - meets 2nd & 4th Thur, 9:30-11 at HHS, 21st & Belle. Entrance for walkers is on WEST side. To walk a shelter dog call Kelsey: 233-7325.

**NOTO MARKET ON FIRST FRIDAYS** - NOTO arts district. Arts, antiques, fine crafts, flea market

**SAVING DEATH ROW DOGS ADOPTION BOOTH** - Every Sat., 11am - 2pm, Petco, 1930 SW Wanamaker. Some Sat. adoption booths are held at PetSmart, 2020 SW Westport Dr. Updates at [savingdeathrowdogs.com](http://savingdeathrowdogs.com)

**SLIDERDAYS** - 12-1pm, Jayhawk Theatre, 720 SW Jackson. Join us every third Saturday for Line Dancing!! Cost: Free-will donation!! 50% of your donation will be applied to the renovation of the Jayhawk Theatre.

**SQUARE DANCE LESSONS** - Saturdays starting September 15th, 10:30am to 12:30pm, Fellowship Hall of Trinity Presbyterian Church, 4746 SW 21st Street. Beginner, Intermediate, or Advanced Dancers come join in FREE dance lessons lead by a certified caller of 20+ years. Questions: 272-2620.

**TOPEKA FOLK DANCERS CLASSES** - Sundays, 2-4pm, 2637 SE 41st St. Dances from 20 countries. No partners or experience necessary. No fee. 215-0968.

**TOPEKA ACAPPELLA UNLIMITED AUDITIONS** - Any Monday 7pm, at Seaman Community Church, Fellowship Hall, 2036 NW Taylor. More female singers are needed to sing four part acapella harmonies. Come be our guest any Monday night. Topeka Acapella Unlimited is a Chapter of Sweet Adelines, International. Call Cindy Patton at 785-640-7403 for more information.

**JAN. CYCLING EVENTS** - Various cycle rides are offered by Kansas Cyclist. For details: [www.kansascyclist.com/](http://www.kansascyclist.com/)

**JAN. OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES** - Outdoor events & activities in Kansas. [www.getoutdoorskansan.org/calendar](http://www.getoutdoorskansan.org/calendar)

**150 CHRISTMAS TREES & ORNAMENT DISPLAY** - Nov. 1-Jan. 1, 10am-4pm Mon-Sat. & 1-5pm Sun. at Territorial Capital Museum, 640 E. Woodson, LeCompton. Over 150 Christmas Trees decorated in antique, Victorian, vin-

tage and theme décor - including turn of the century and WW II era decorations, a barb-wire tree and feather trees. Also tour Constitution Hall, a National Landmark. LeCompton is the "Birthplace of the Civil War, Where Slavery Began to Die." LeCompton was recently named one of the "Best Small Towns in Kansas by Kansas Magazine readers. Christmas Vespers at 2pm Dec. 2. 785-887-6148. [lecomptonkansan.com](http://lecomptonkansan.com)

**TARC'S WINTER WONDERLAND** - Nov. 21-Dec. 31, 6-10pm. Lake Shawnee, 3435 SE East Edge Rd. View dazzling holiday light displays, featuring one million lights, while winding through a 2-mile scenic drive. Advanced Tickets are available: TARC, 2701 SW Randolph, for \$7.00. \$10.00 at the gate suggested donation. 785.506-8720

**WINTER BACK HANDSPRING CLINIC** - Jan. 2, 12-1pm. CAGE Gymnastics, 2925 SW 37th St. 785-266-4151

**DEAR TOPEKA** - Jan. 4, 9:30-10:45am. 212 SW 8th Ave. The Kujima Collective Steering Committee identified an A-Z list of health disparities that impact Black women. Will you help us create The Kujima Report? General body meetings are held the First Friday of every month for 75 minutes. Contact either Chris Omni or Marti Lewis at [info@kujimahealth.com](mailto:info@kujimahealth.com). For info: [deartopeka.info](http://deartopeka.info)

**NITRO MONSTER TRUCK TOUR** - Jan. 5, 1pm & 7pm. Kansas Expocentre.

**"OVER THERE" EXHIBIT** - Through Jan. 6. Topeka Shawnee County Library. Features Americans serv-

ing in WWII.  
**TOPEKA FARM SHOW** - Jan. 8-10. at Kansas Expocentre.  
**NAMI KANSAS MEET & GREET** - Jan. 17, 4-8pm. Goodcents Deli, 4210 SW 21st St. Advocacy for mental health. Get to know the NAMI Kansas staff and learn about its mission of self-help education, support, and advocacy for people with a mental health diagnosis and those who love and support them. Also, learn more about volunteer opportunities.

**RESILIENCE TRAINING GRAND OPENING** - Jan. 19, 9am-3pm, 301 SE 53rd St. Enjoy food, fun, open gym time and special offers. Free.

**MARCH FOR LIFE & RALLY** January 22, 12:30 pm (March for Life from TPAC to Capitol). 12:45 pm (Rally for Life at Capitol south steps). Workshops, displays, etc. from 8:30 am to 3:30pm. For info: [www.kfl.org](http://www.kfl.org), 785-383-8636

**HY-VEE SIMPLE FIX** - Jan. 24, 5-7pm. Register by Jan. 18. For only \$115 and one hour of your time, you can have SEVEN meals ready to serve your family any night of the week. Save time & money because there's no shopping & no cleaning! Each meal serves 4. Choose 5 meals for \$85, 6 meals for \$100, or 7 meals for \$115.

**94.5 COUNTRY BRIDAL FAIR** - Jan. 26-27, Downtown Topeka Ramada. For info and tickets: [bridalfair.94country.com](http://bridalfair.94country.com)

The Great Overland Station, with 34-foot ceilings and ornate glazed terracotta ornamentation, provides an elegant, neo-classical backdrop for the wedding or reception of your dreams!

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## BLEEDING KANSAS PROGRAM SERIES 2019

CONSTITUTION HALL STATE HISTORIC SITE | HISTORIC LECOMPTON  
 2 p.m. Sundays • Suggested donation \$5 adults

A series of talks and dramatic interpretations on the violent territorial and civil war of Kansas and the nation, 1854-1866.

**JANUARY 27** "Kansas Day" by United States Representative Steve Wadkins and Jim Ogle, Executive Director, Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area

**FEBRUARY 3** "Stop the Process! Late-Breaking News from Bleeding Kansas" by Lix Loech, former journalist and adjunct instructor at Northwestern University and The University of Kansas and Bill Noll, professional land surveyor and director, Jefferson County Kansas Public Works Department

**FEBRUARY 10** "War on the Border 1854-1865: Kansas & Missouri" by Ralph A. Montico, II, Esq., author, historian, living historian, and past president and current treasurer of the Jackson County Missouri Historical Society. Books signing follows presentation.

**FEBRUARY 17** "Do Not Hurt: The Early Animal-Rights Movement and 1856 Kansas Free State Vegetarian Settlement" by Diane Bicknell and Aaron Barnhart, author and historian. Books signing follows presentation.

**FEBRUARY 24** "The Battle of Mine Creek: Border War Brutality" by Dr. Carl Graves, historian and educator

**MARCH 3** "They Put Up More than Hay: Joel and Emily Grover, their Barr, and the Underground Railroad" by Judy Sweet, historical researcher and genealogist [PinnalZhaney] and Kerry Alenbered historian and living historian

LECOMPTON CITY

Constitution Hall 5506 Historic Sw  
 379 E. Woodson, LeCompton, KS • 785-887-6021 • [www.lecomptonkansan.com](http://www.lecomptonkansan.com)

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**C5Alive** Developing and Uniting Christian Leadership

- Business • Non-profits • Churches

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

**C5Alive POWER Luncheons are held 2nd Thur. each mo.**

**Jan. 1, 11:30-1 - POWER Luncheon at Harley Town/Evel Knievel Museum.**

**Speaker: Lamar Hunt, Jr.**

Open to the Public! RSVP to [info@C5Alive.org](mailto:info@C5Alive.org) or 785-640-6399

Save the Dates!

- Feb. 14, 11:30-1, **Speed Marketing at Fairlawn Plaza Mall**
- Mar. 14, 11:30-1, **Faron Barr at Thornton Place**
- Apr. 11, 11:30-1, **Tom Underwood at NOTO Arts Center**
- Apr. 20, 10am-3pm, **EASTERFEST at Garfield Park!**

For info: [www.C5Alive.org](http://www.C5Alive.org) or Facebook.com/C5Alive



**1ST MONTHLY YOGA CLASS** - Jan. 26, 1-2pm. Resilience Training, 301 SE 53rd St. VETOGA monthly class with local instructor Stephanie Alvarez. Local gym owner Holly Torrez will host. Suitable for all levels. Free for veterans and military personnel.

**BLEEDING KANSAS 2019** - Sundays from Jan. 27-Mar. 3, 2pm, Constitution Hall Historic Site, 319 Elmore, LeCompton. A series of talks and dramatic interpretations on the violent territorial and civil war history of Kansas 1854-1865. Actors will portray Kansans from this turbulent era. Adm: \$3 adults, \$1 students. Children five & younger free.

**TOPEKA BOAT & OUTDOOR SHOW** - Feb. 1, ExpoCentre

## MEETINGS & CLASSES

**C5Alive "POWER" LUNCHEON** - Jan. 10, 11:30-1, Harley Town/Evel Kneival Museum. Featured Speaker: Lamar Hunt, Jr.

• 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](mailto: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!

**SAVE THE DATE: Feb. 14, 11:30-1, C5Alive SPEED NETWORKING Luncheon at Fairlawn Plaza**

**CONCERNED WOMEN FOR AMERICA MEETING** - Join other concerned individuals to pray and unite in action for Shawnee Co. and our Nation. For info about monthly meetings: 785-260-5659 or [ks.cwfa.org](mailto:ks.cwfa.org).

**HEAT UP TOPEKA** - Free fitness classes; learn and build healthy social & eating habits. Held at Trinity Presbyterian Church, 4746 SW 21st St. Florence Crittenton: 785-233-0516 [www.flocritkans.org](http://www.flocritkans.org)

Sunday: 4-5pm Yoga  
Monday: 12-12:45pm Kickbox Fusion  
Monday: 5:30-6:15pm STRONG by Zumba  
Monday: 6:15-7:00pm Pilates Fusion  
Tuesday: 12-12:45pm Yoga  
Tuesday: 5:30-6:15pm Zumba  
Tuesday: 6:15-7:00pm Cardio Interval  
Wednesday: 12-12:45pm Kickboxing  
Thursday: 12-12:45pm Pilates  
Thursday: 5:30-6:15pm Cardio Interval  
Thursday: 6:15-7:00pm Zumba  
Friday: 12-12:45pm Cardio Strength  
Saturday: 9:00-9:45am Cardio Remix

**TOPEKA TREASURE HUNTERS CLUB** - 3rd Sun. of each month except May, Sep. & Dec., 7pm, Papan's Landing Senior Center, 618 NW Paramore St. Family Memberships include children & grandchildren up to 18 yrs. A place to meet friends to discuss all aspects of Metal Detecting, club business, plus socializing & entertainment.

**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. 286-0467.

**BOYS TRAIL LIFE & AMERICAN HERITAGE GIRLS TROUPE** - Every Mon. 6pm, Cornerstone Comm. Ch., 7620 SW 21st. Faith-based scouting programs, age 5-18. Register at [cornerstonetopeka.com](http://cornerstonetopeka.com). 478-2929.

**TOPEKA MANKIND PROJECT** - Mondays, 6:30pm, 2112 SW Morningside Rd. Supports men in becoming their best selves, including physical, mental & emotional health & wellness. Open to any man. Brian Thomas: [brian.thomas01@gmail.com](mailto:brian.thomas01@gmail.com) or 785-727-9439

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

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

**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.

**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 [ourladyofthefairful@gmail.com](mailto:ourladyofthefairful@gmail.com). Facebook: "Ourladyofthefairful."

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

**MENNINGER BIBLE CLASSES** - Tuesdays 11am-12:30. Amerus Room, YWCA, 225 West 12th. A new study group for Year One of Flo Menninger's course on Four Years through the Bible. Read and discuss Genesis through First Kings. Nominal charge for materials. For info call the YWCA at 233-1750 or Clara Gamache at 785-408-5433. (The Bible study is also taught on Sat. mornings on 101.5 FM radio.)

**FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES Aerie 4319**: First & Third Tue. 7pm; Auxiliary: Third & Fourth Tue. month 6pm, 2941 SE Fremont Street. The Fraternal Order of Eagles is an international non-profit organization uniting fraternally in the spirit of liberty, truth, justice, and equality, to make human life more desirable by lessening its ills and promoting peace, prosperity, gladness and hope. [www.foe.com](http://www.foe.com) 785-266-7307

**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)

**DADDY'S GIRLS EMPOWERMENT MEETINGS** - Do you want MORE... Come Join us for our More Luncheons where Real Women get together: share, learn and

grow to return to our homes, families workplace, churches & other places of influence restored and rejuvenated to pursue God's MORE...at Topeka Public Library, 12 noon, every 3rd Wednesday. Sponsored by Daddy's Girls Inc. Please to RSVP make lunch reservations: [daddysgirlsinc@gmail.com](mailto:daddysgirlsinc@gmail.com) or 785-969-0491

**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 times, locations & register

**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.

**TOPEKA PRAYER GROUP** - Every Wed., 6:30pm, 409 SW Buchanan St. Do you believe that God hears and answers prayers? Do you believe Jesus wants to lead His people by His Holy Spirit? Come join us in prayer as we seek His face for answers and direction. 785-845-1948; [holmie2@sbcglobal.net](mailto:holmie2@sbcglobal.net)

**MACHINE EMBROIDERY CLUB** - 1st Wed., 9am-3pm, Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 2021 SW 29th Street (east door). Anyone with an Embroidery machine is invited to attend, there are no dues or formal meeting agenda. Lunch is on your own. Teach each other, enjoy fellowship & complete projects. Call 379-5159.

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

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

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

**WELLS FARGO FINANCIAL EDUCATION EVENTS** - Blue Moose Bar & Grill, 11:30 AM on the third Thu & Fri each month. Free, but RSVP required. On Thu Brian discusses family wealth strategies. On Fri. Amy discusses wealth strategies that apply to women. 785-271-2536 [Jennifer.Ward@wellsfargo.com](mailto:Jennifer.Ward@wellsfargo.com)

**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.

**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. 233-5762 or [tgstopeka.org](http://tgstopeka.org).

**KINGDOM ADVISORS TOPEKA AREA STUDY GROUP** - 3rd Thu., 11:30am, Northland Christian Church, 3102 NW Topeka Blvd. Christian financial professionals: financial planners, accountants, attorney's & insurance agents invited. 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. For info: 272-1099 or [fostern60@yahoo.com](mailto:fostern60@yahoo.com).

**TOPS (Taking Off Pounds Sensibly)** - Every Fri. 8:30 to 10:00 am at 3221 SW Burlingame Road. 800-932-8677. Support for your weight loss journey. [tops.org](http://tops.org)

**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. Free blood pressure checks the last Friday of every month, and birthday celebrations the 4th Friday. 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. Anne, 272-9249 or [kittens812@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kittens812@sbcglobal.net)

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**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 or biblequizzing.org.

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

**SAVING DEATH ROW DOGS ADOPTION & EDUCATION** – every Sat. 11am-2pm, Petco, 1930 SW Wanamaker.

**UPPER ROOM COMMUNITY** – second Sat., 10 am, Capitol Building

**SUPPORT GROUPS**

**MIDLAND CARE GRIEF SUPPORT** Groups: Building A, 200 SW Frazier Circle

Every Mon., 4-5pm: 12 Week Adult Group for Recent 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

**ABORTION RECOVERY SUPPORT** – Providing services for women & men who suffer from Post-Abortion Syndrome... we can help mend a broken heart! For info: Kay Lyn at KLCarlson20@cox.net.

**AL-ANON FAMILY GROUPS** – for friends & families of alcoholics. For info: 785-409-3072 or topekaalanon.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: 249-9509. All inquiries confidential.

**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.

**"HEALING HEARTS" support group/Bible study** – Sundays 6-8pm. For women whose husbands struggle with pornography addiction or have had affairs. Video & workbook will give you hope for your marriage & emotional healing. For info: Janet Mitchell, 633-4294.

**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.

**COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS/BEREAVED PARENTS GROUP** – Meets 4th Mon. in Formation classroom at Most Pure Heart of Mary, 17th & Stone. Discussion starts 7pm; fellowship & refreshments 8:30. 272-4895

**GRIEF SUPPORT** – First Monday each month, 3:30-4:30pm, 400 SW Oakley. Call Donna Park for info: 783-7527 or valeotopeka.org. Open to public. Free.

**GRIEF SUPPORT** – 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 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. For reservations or info: 785-271-6500.

**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.org.

**EMOTIONS ANONYMOUS:** a 12-step program for those suffering with emotional instability such as depression, anxiety, grief, etc. Meets every Tues. at Grace Episcopal Cathedral, Noon-1pm. For info: Sharon 785-633-7764

**OSTOMY SUPPORT GROUP** – First Tue. each month at St. Francis Health, 1700 SW 7th St. Meeting Room, 2nd floor, 6-7:30pm. Anyone with an ostomy may attend. The goal is to provide education and ongoing support for individuals with an ostomy. Contact Teresa Kellerman at 785-295-5555 for info.

**GRANDPARENT/RELATIVE CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP** – 3rd Tue., 6:30-8pm, 2nd floor meeting room, St. Francis Hosp, 1700 SW 7th. 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, Pozez 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.

**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** – (For updates check www.divorcecare.org) locations and times:

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. (just East of 37th & Croco). Cost: \$10 registration (scholarships available). The video seminar series featuring some of the nation's foremost experts on divorce and recovery topics, combined with support group discussion of the materials. Complimentary child care children up to the fifth grade. Info: 266-7550 or walnutviewcc@att.net.

WED. – 6:30pm, Northland Christian Church, 3102 NW Topeka Blvd. No Cost. 286-1204, www.northland.cc

**GRIEFSHARE** - Every Thur. 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm at Susanna Wesley UMC, 7433 SW 29th St., Mar 1 thru May 24. A Christ-centered program for those who have lost a loved one may be struggling and have questions on how to go forward. The class includes a video, sharing of stories, and a workbook (free). Call Shari Combs at 785-478-3697 for more information.

**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 Univ. setting.

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

**NICOTINE ANONYMOUS** – Every Fri., 6:30pm, Town & Country

**CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUPS** - Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging provides an opportunity for caregivers to get together and share their ideas and feelings.

1st Wednesday of the month, 1pm, Baldwin Methodist Church, 708 Grove... Baldwin City.

2nd Monday of the month, 3:30pm, Topeka public library, Anton Rm.

3rd Thursday of the month, 2-3pm, Topeka Library, Perkins Room

3rd Friday of the month, 12 noon, Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging, 2910 SW Topeka Blvd.

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; Labomaha@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. crtopekaks.org.

**TOPEKA NAR-ANON FAMILY GROUP** – For families & friends who are affected by someone else's narcotic addiction. Every Sat., noon-1:15 pm, rm. A, 1st Baptist Church, 3033 SW MacVicar, enter on S. side, door A. 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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**Dept. of Commerce Announces Poetry & Art Contest**

The Kansas Department of Commerce is partnering with the National Career Development Association (NCDA) to participate in the 53rd NCDA Annual Poetry and Art Contest.

The contest theme is "Using Careers to Break Barriers, Empower Lives & Achieve Equity."

The National Career Development Association promotes career development through its annual celebration of National Career Development Month. Every November, career development professionals are encouraged to celebrate with career related activities including the annual Poetry and Art Contest.

Entries will be judged on how they celebrate and inspire career development with a positive tone while emphasizing the national theme.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Every adult and student enrolled in school is eligible, as well as adult practitioners who are not in school. Contest divisions areas include:

- o Primary - grades K-2
- o Intermediate - grades 3-5
- o Middle - grades 6-8
- o Senior - grades 9-12
- o Adult Student - ages 18 and older, enrolled in school
- o Open Adult – ages 18 and older (student teachers, parents, professionals, etc.)

**REQUIREMENTS FOR POEMS:** Poetic Form: Acceptable poetic forms, e.g. cinquain, free verse, diamante, haiku, lim-

erick, metered, rhyming, blank verse  
Size: Submit each poem on a single sheet of paper 8.5" x 11" in 12-point font.

**REQUIREMENTS FOR ART:**

Lettering: Simple bold lettering is preferred. Captions are to be used to convey the theme, attract attention, and to achieve goals of clarity, vigor and originality. All lettering will be considered part of the design.

**Media:** Category 1 (C1): Standard use of ink, pencil, poster paints, magic marker, acrylics, and oils.

Category 2 (C2): Use of photos, dipart, graphic art software, collage, cut and pasted paper, and mixed media.

Size: All art must be created in 8.5" x 11" format, including matte, to be eligible.

All state award winners will be notified and sent to NCDA by Feb. 20, 2019

The winning entries for each division will be recognized on the NCDA website in May 2019 and displayed at the Annual Global Career Development Conference in June. National winners will also receive a special certificate and a congratulatory gift from the NCDA

Please submit any entries to Jordan.Bickford@ks.gov by January 14, 2019

Submissions may also be sent by mail to: Kansas Department of Commerce, Poetry and Art Contest, 1000 SW Jackson St., Suite 100, Topeka, Kansas 66612



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# entertainment

## Mary Poppins Returns stays true to innocence of the original

Disney's latest reboot of the beloved classic *Mary Poppins*, brims with positive themes that can be seen in the lives of the characters and the songs they sing. Those themes include hope, perseverance, love, encouragement, innocence, imagination and believing in the impossible.

With an all-star cast that includes Emily Blunt as Mary Poppins, Dick Van Dyke as Mr. Dawes Jr., Meryl Streep as Topsy, Angela Lansbury as Balloon Lady, Emily Mortimer as Jane Banks and Colin Firth as William Weatherall Wilkins, *Mary Poppins Returns* is a must-see for families this Christmas.

Quaint, quiet Cherry Tree Lane isn't what it once was. The familiar spark of magic has left the air, and the Great Depression has settled over London like a thick fog.

Young Michael Banks and his sister, Jane, aren't so young anymore. A former painter, Mr. Banks has recently traded in his brushes for a more "adult" job: working part time at the local bank. Michael's wife, Mrs. Banks, has passed away, leaving behind a loving husband, three beautiful children (John, Anabel and Georgie), Jane, and house helper Ellen.

Everyone and every *thing* feels Mrs. Banks' absence. You see, life was simply *lighter* when Mrs. Banks was alive. Things were simpler. But times have changed—not for the better. And a loan that Michael Banks took out to pay for his family's expenses is long overdue, putting even more pressure on the grieving family.

And so the loan sharks arrive at Cherry Tree Lane to collect the *entire* sum, or to repossess the Banks' family home. They're unyielding in their demands, unwilling to give the new widower a break. Mr. Banks has four days, until Friday at midnight, to come up with the money.

It's an impossible task. Unless, of course, the Banks family can remember where that little paper is. You know, the one with all the information about their shares at the bank. But it's not in the study, or in the attic or in the—

Wait—what's *that*? In the air? Right *there!* Don't you see it?

Why, it's *Mary Poppins* of course! She's come to help the Banks family once again.



And maybe, just maybe, she can remind them, in her practically perfect way, that nothing is ever completely lost.

Mary Poppins and a character named Jack (a lamplighter friend of Mary's) teach the children (who, in turn, teach the adults around them) to hold onto their hopes and dreams, even in dimmest of situations. The children also learn that even though their mother is gone, they can cherish her memory in their hearts. They begin to understand the importance of reclaiming the childhood innocence that has been taken from them in the wake of their mothers' death. And the children's faith is renewed as they dream of a brighter tomorrow. In the process, they learn that just because something doesn't make sense, it doesn't mean it can't be true.

Additionally, characters learn a number of other redemptive lessons. They learn how to look for the positive side of every difficult situation (instead of embracing the gloom), to "trip a little light fantastic," to dance in joy when things are foggy, to value what's inside of oneself and to focus on the future more than the past. They're also encouraged not to judge a book by its cover.

Mr. Banks is, understandably, overwhelmed by his wife's tragic passing. He previously vowed to her that he would press on and raise their three children well, but sometimes the stress of being a single father causes him to lash out in frustration (although he almost always apologizes afterward). Mr. Banks is generally good-natured. He loves his children and tells

them so, and he encourages them when he can. Finally, he teaches them to be frugal, kind and courteous. The children, for their part, work diligently to help their father and encourage him in his moments of weakness.

Family, friends and neighbors rally around the Banks family in their most desperate moments, lending a helping hand and reassuring family members that they will never be alone.

As grown-ups we forget. We forget to live. To laugh. To have fun. We're often so caught up in the daily hustle and bustle that life's dreams and joys fall to the wayside. That's one reason we need children—because they teach us, with their little bodies and huge hearts, what it means to live life to the fullest.

And that's also why we need *Mary Poppins*. Because Mary's *new* story teaches us, as she did nearly 60 years ago, that life is what you fill it with. Tragedy will hit, and life will take some unexpected turns, but nothing is ever completely lost. There is always more, if only we will but open our eyes to recognize the blessings all around us.

So perhaps today is the day that we put away our "adult" distractions, whatever they may be, and take some time to sit with the little ones who are closest to our hearts. Maybe today we relearn that life is more than stuff. Maybe today we recall that life is about the people who love us well.

Those are the kinds of lessons this delightful reboot reinforces. *Mary Poppins Returns* reminds us that though circumstances may bring us down, together "there is nowhere to go but up."

**RATED:** PG

**CAST:** Emily Blunt as Mary Poppins; Dick Van Dyke as Mr. Dawes Jr.; Meryl Streep as Topsy; Angela Lansbury as Balloon Lady; Emily Mortimer as Jane Banks; Colin Firth as William Weatherall Wilkins; Lin-Manuel Miranda as Jack; Ben Whishaw as Michael Banks; Julie Walters as Ellen; David Warner as Admiral Boom; Pixie Davies as Anabel Banks; Joel Dawson as Georgie Banks; Nathanael Saleh as John Banks **DIRECTOR:** Rob Marshall **DISTRIBUTOR:** Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures

## MOVIES, STREAMING, BOOKS, MUSIC, INTERVIEWS & MORE!



### streaming

## 'A Series of Unfortunate Events' leads streaming lineup this month

By Michael Foust

My children aren't allowed to watch horror movies. Or scary movies. Or anything that might possibly give them nightmares.

I have theological problems with many films in that genre, and practical problems, too. I like to sleep.

But in recent months my 10-year-old son and I have discovered a quirky series on Netflix -- *A Series of Unfortunate Events* -- that could be labeled "scary" but is more appropriately labeled "goofy" and "hilarious."

It's a mostly family-friendly dark comedy that tells the story of three orphans -- Klaus, Violet and Sunny Baudelaire -- who are sent to live with their strange uncle Count Olaf but soon find themselves on the run from him. Olaf wants their inheritance. They just want a normal life.

The third and final season of *A Series of Unfortunate Events* begins streaming on Netflix Jan. 1.

The series is based on the popular children's books by Daniel Handler (pseudonym: Lemony Snicket) and is aimed at tweens. My tween son loves it. I do, too. In fact, I may laugh at it more than he does. It's funny. And weird. And entertaining.

Neil Patrick Harris stars as Count Olaf, who undergoes so many disguises that you'll lose count. The orphans are the smartest people on the show, although few adults trust them.

The series is wacky but nevertheless provides multiple life lessons. Among them: perseverance and gratitude.

It is rated TV-PG, but it's not perfect. Most of the problems concern immodest dress and scenes that are a bit too scary. The good news: *A Series of Unfortunate Events* is available through the filtering service VidAngel.

Also streaming this month:

**For adults/teens**

*The Indiana Jones series* (Netflix) -- Beginning with *Raiders of the Lost Ark*

and its search for the Ark of the Covenant, Netflix will begin streaming all four *Indiana Jones* films in January. The first two films in the series are rated PG, but that's only because the PG-13 rating had not been created. All four movies are PG-13-worthy. Caution is advised for some language, disturbing scenes and sensuality. Jan. 1.

*The Boy in the Striped Pajamas* (Netflix) -- A German boy and a Jewish boy become friends through a concentration camp fence. Rated PG-13 for some mature thematic material involving the Holocaust. Jan. 1.

*Forever My Girl* (Hulu) -- A country singer tries to win back the hometown girl he abandoned years earlier. Rated PG for thematic elements including drinking, and for language. (Outside of three OMGs, I caught no coarse language.) There aren't many romantic movies as clean as this one. Jan. 14.

**For children**

*Happy Feet* (Netflix) -- A tap-dancing penguin who can't sing learns to cope in a world where singing is essential for survival. Rated PG for some mild peril and rude humor. Jan. 1.

*The Incredibles 2* (Netflix) -- Elastigirl goes on an undercover mission while Mr. Incredible stays home and takes care of the kids. It's a fun film but also has some problems. First, it has mild language, including a "h-ll" and a "d--ned." (Why, Disney, why?). Second, it's a bit too scary at times. Rated PG for action sequences and some brief mild language. Jan. 30.

*Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory* (Amazon Prime) -- A boy from a poor family visits a magical chocolate factory. This film -- the 1971 version -- stars Gene Wilder. Rated G. Jan. 1.

*Prince of Egypt* (Hulu) -- The story of Moses is told through this inspiring and entertaining DreamWorks animated film. Rated PG for intense depiction of thematic elements. Jan. 1.

Other notables: Hulu fans, rejoice! DreamWorks' films are moving to the platform. *Antz*, *Chicken Run* and *Shrek* are among the movies that will begin streaming on Hulu Jan. 1.

*Michael Foust is the husband of an amazing wife named Julie and the father of four small children. Follow his blog, MichaelFoust.com.*

## Kansas singer-songwriter debuts new album and gets song chosen for commercial

Elizabeth Anne Mall, singer-songwriter from Morganville, Kansas, has been working with Los Angeles producer Rob Chiarelli on his Street Lamp Records label while living in northern California. Dec. 8 her 3rd album "L'amour" with the label was released on all digital music sources. Mall is a graduate of Clay Center Community High School and College of the Ozarks graduate in Music Ministry.

In her EP "L'amour" Elizabeth Anne Mall delivers a new batch of heartfelt songs with her trademark simplicity and sincerity. She shines with vulnerable vocals and cello lines on ballads "All I Can Say" and "Carry You." "Welcome Home" showcases a lesser

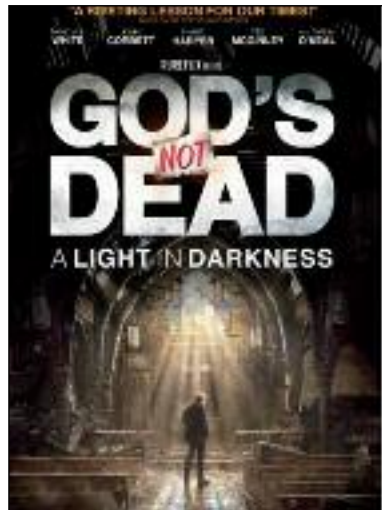
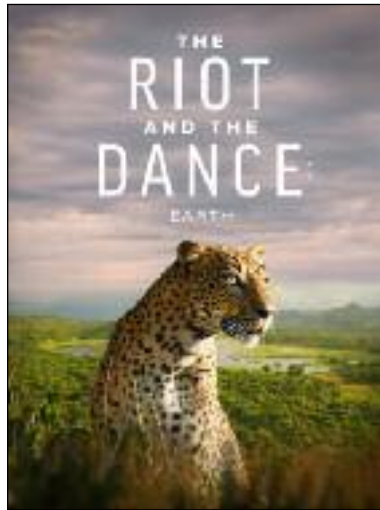


seen upbeat side of Mall, while "Messy Love" is a surprising moody pop song which delivers a haunting-but hope-

ful-message about working through the difficulties of love. "L'amour"

■ Please see SINGER on next page





## family-friendly spotlight

### Hulu's new kid-friendly content tops this month's family-friendly spotlight

By Michael Foust

*Editor's note: This monthly series, "5 Family-Friendly Things," spotlights five family-friendly entertainment choices on film, DVDs, streaming or television.*

A 2018 poll showed that nearly 60 percent of Americans watch streaming television, and most of them have Netflix.

But Netflix's dominance over streaming television could be changing soon. Disney will launch its own streaming service in 2019 -- called "Disney+" -- and eventually will pull all its content from Netflix. Walmart is getting into the game in a partnership with Vudu, and Apple is expected to roll out its own streaming service.

Then there's Hulu, which had only 14 percent of the streaming pie according to that 2018 poll but has made moves in recent months to attract new customers -- including families with kids.

Hulu signed a deal with DreamWorks Animation last year that takes effect this month, when several popular movies make their debut on Hulu.

**Hulu's new family-friendly content leads this month's list of "5 family-friendly things."**

Leading the way this month is the 1998 movie *Prince of Egypt*, which tells the story of Moses and still ranks on my list of favorite movies of all time. Also streaming are *Antz* (1998), *The Road to El Dorado* (2000), *Chicken Run* (2000) and the less kid-friendly *Shrek* (2001). All begin streaming Jan. 1.

It's a big coup for Hulu, which has lagged behind Netflix and Amazon Prime in theatrical family content.

More DreamWorks is forthcoming, according to a Hulu press release which said the service is the "exclusive streaming home to future slates of DreamWorks Animation feature films, as well as iconic DreamWorks library films."

"In addition," the press release said, "Hulu will work with DreamWorks Animation Television to develop original kids & family series for exclusive streaming based on the company's

popular franchises and upcoming feature films. This marks the first time Hulu has partnered with a major studio in a multi-series commitment to debut original kids & family content."

Families who have Hulu are the winner.

Also worth watching this month:

**God's Not Dead: A Light in Darkness** -- Now on Netflix, this film is the third installment in the *God's Not Dead* series but has a different tone than those earlier films. It seeks to build bridges in the culture war. It has a conciliatory ending. It's the best *God's Not Dead* yet.

**The Riot and the Dance** -- If you've ever wished someone would make a nature documentary without an evolutionary framework, then you likely will enjoy this film. The faith-based *Riot and the Dance* is hosted by Gordon Wilson, who travels the globe to show viewers God's amazing creation. Wilson is senior fellow of natural history at New Saint Andrews College, a Christian school in Idaho. *Riot and the Dance* is streaming on all major platforms.

**Indivisible** -- This faith-based film about a military chaplain earned an "A" Cinemascore rating at the box office. It releases on DVD, Blu-ray and streaming platforms Jan. 29, telling the true story of a chaplain whose marriage nearly crumbled after he served overseas. It stars Sarah Drew and was directed by the same man (David G. Evans) who helmed *The Grace Card*.

**Ken Ham on PureFlix.com** -- Answers in Genesis (AIG) and PureFlix.com announced an agreement last year that will allow subscribers of the faith-based streaming service to watch AIG videos. Many of the teaching videos from AIG founder and president Ken Ham are now on the platform. Among them: "Genesis 1:1: The Foundational Verse of the Foundational Book," "Rescuing Our Kids from the Lie" and "The Great Delusion." Learn more at PureFlix.com.

*Michael Foust is the husband of an amazing wife named Julie and the father of four small children. Follow his blog, MichaelFoust.com.*

# The 10 best family-friendly films of 2018

By Michael Foust

Let's face it: It can be difficult to find a movie that the whole family can watch.

Thankfully, though, there were quite a few family-friendly films released in theaters in 2018. Here are my favorite 10:

**Paddington 2** (PG) -- Everyone's favorite Peruvian bear gets framed for something he didn't do -- stealing a book -- and gets sentenced to 10 years in prison. He then warms the hearts of the prisoners with kindness. *Paddington 2* is as good (if not better) than its predecessor. It also is nearly the perfect family film, with tons of great messages for kids (such as: treat others the way you want to be treated). Rated PG for some action and mild rude humor. Live action/CGI.

**Peter Rabbit** (PG) -- Thomas McGregor, the nephew of the infamous Mr. McGregor, tries to keep pesky (and lovable) rabbits out of his garden. This film is not as innocent as the children's books -- there's too much *Looney Tunes*-type violence -- but it's OK for most children and includes solid lessons on forgiveness and reconciliation. (It sparked a controversy with a scene showing the rabbits intentionally shooting a blackberry into the mouth of an allergic Thomas McGregor. He then used an EpiPen.) Rated PG for some rude humor and action. Live action/CGI.

**I Can Only Imagine** (PG) -- A boy grows up in an abusive home to write the hit Christian contemporary song, *I Can Only Imagine*, which was inspired by his father's salvation experience. The film is based on the true story of MercyMe singer Bart Millard, who went from hating his father to being his best friend. It's one of my favorite faith films of all time. Rated PG for thematic elements, including some violence. Live action.

## SINGER

continued from page 16

means love, and this collection of songs is all about love in its many different forms. "This EP honors so many different relationships I've had, the good and the bad, and everything in between." Hard copy CD's of Mall's earlier CD's are available at Mayo's Department Store in Clay Center, Kansas, and "L'Amour" can be pre-ordered there as well.

Street Lamp Records has been mar-

keting her original songs for three years, and has placed one from her 3rd album "Vivre" with the Swedish company Tetra Pak. Tetra Pak has factories in many countries and manufactures containers for foods. The song chosen by Tetra Pak is "A Little Hope," and it fits the company's products, which are used to contain foods and drinks in areas where food storage is difficult. The video can be seen here: <https://youtu.be/64RXIGi9DVk>

Mall is also starting a Masters Degree program at Biola University in Christian

Apologetics. She was awarded a scholarship, based on an essay written about her using original music to address the issue of why God allows evil in the world. A link to her application was song "The Eye of the Storm," written for a College of the Ozarks senior project CD entitled "A Beautiful War." Its subtitle is "Hailey's Song," because it was a tribute to a young girl who was murdered in Springfield, Missouri, during that time period.

family. Rated PG for some action. Live action/CGI.

**Little Women** (PG-13) -- The lives of four sisters -- Jo, Meg, Beth and Amy -- are retold in this contemporary reimagining of Louisa May Alcott's classic novel of the same name. Just like the book and the 1994 movie, we watch the girls mature over a 16-year period. The result is a moving and hilarious remake that is mostly family-friendly. It includes great role models for teens, and tons of great messages, too. Due to thematic elements, this one may be best for tweens and teens. Rated PG-13 for some thematic elements and teen drinking. Live action.

**Nutcracker and the Four Realms** (PG) -- A teenage girl goes searching for clues to a mysterious gift her deceased mother left her. She then enters another realm and finds not only the answers, but her identity in life, too. It's an entertaining film with positive messages on courage, selflessness and discovering your talents. Rated PG for some mild peril. Live action/CGI.

**The Grinch** (PG) -- The green, grouchy Grinch tries to ruin Christmas for the people of Whoville but discovers the holiday isn't based on presents and trees. This new rendition of the classic book is more kid-friendly than previous films -- Grinch isn't as mean -- and it's more Christ-centered, with two Christmas carols heard prominently. Rated PG for brief rude humor. Animated.

**Mary Poppins Returns** (PG) -- It's not as good as the original but it's toe-tapping, kid-friendly fun nonetheless. The movie follows Mary Poppins as she returns to Cherry Tree Lane, where Michael and Jane are now adults and facing repossession of the family home. The film, a celebration of childhood and imagination, perfectly mirrors the look and feel of the 1964 film. Bravo, Disney. Rated PG for some mild thematic elements and brief action. Live action.



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## 4 Surprising Insights Into Life With Parkinson's Disease

Over 1 million Americans live with Parkinson's disease (PD), and while some symptoms are easier to see, such as tremors, stiffness and slowness of movement, there are a range of harder-to-detect non-movement symptoms that can have an impact on daily life.

Recently, the Parkinson & Movement Disorder Alliance (PMDAlliance), a non-profit organization offering programming for those in the Parkinson's disease community, surveyed over 650 people with PD as well as care partners to better understand how non-movement symptoms impact their lives and quality of life.

Here are some of their findings and insights:

1. Parkinson's disease affects more than motor function. Every person with Parkinson's disease may experience different symptoms, both motor and non-movement related.

In fact, nearly all (90 percent) of survey respondents experienced non-movement symptoms, such as:

- Sleep problems (84 percent)
- Cognitive challenges (75 percent)
- Anxiety (65 percent)

- Depression (55 percent)
- Hallucinations (41 percent)
- Delusions (24 percent)

2. Non-movement symptoms can be more challenging than motor symptoms. Of those who experienced, or reported that their loved one experienced, non-movement symptoms, 84 percent felt that they have a negative impact on quality of life, and about half rated them as more challenging or much more challenging to live with than movement symptoms.

In a survey question about their Parkinson's experience, one care partner said, "I wish [other people] knew that Parkinson's looks different in different people. My spouse's motor symptoms are fairly well controlled, but his REM sleep disorder and dementia have made our lives incredibly challenging and exhausting."

3. Daily living is impacted by hard-to-see symptoms. Parkinson's disease changes how patients and their care partners think about the future and cope with day-to-day living.

In fact, non-movement symptoms negatively impacted the ability to:

- Sleep (84 percent)

- Plan for future events (76 percent)
- Socialize (71 percent)
- Make plans with family and friends (70 percent)
- Be intimate with their partner (68 percent)
- Complete household chores (68 percent)
- Run errands (67 percent)

When people with Parkinson's experience non-movement symptoms, care partners are impacted, too. In fact, psychosis symptoms in patients with PD are a strong predictor of increased care partner burden, and those with hallucinations have a 2.5-fold greater risk for nursing home admission.

4. Reporting symptoms is crucial. Even though non-movement symptoms are common, they are rarely reported. For example, more than half of patients will experience hallucinations or delusions associated with Parkinson's over the course of their disease, however, only 10-20 percent of patients and care partners voluntarily report these symptoms to their doctors.

It's important to report all symptoms to a doctor (usually a neurologist), as there are many



different treatment options to address both motor and non-movement symptoms.

"Those with Parkinson's and their families are not alone. Talking to your doctor is just the start of getting support and treatment," says Sarah Jones, CEO of PMDAlliance. "We urge the entire Parkinson's community to continue initiating conversations about symptoms, especially the non-

movement ones that greatly impact day-to-day living."

New educational resources about the onset and impact of non-movement symptoms of Parkinson's can be found by visiting [Pmdalliance.org](http://Pmdalliance.org) and [MoretoParkinsons.com](http://MoretoParkinsons.com).

The survey was sponsored by ACADIA Pharmaceuticals Inc.

- Statepoint

## 6 Signs of Caregiver Burnout

By Anne-Marie Botek

The tasks of caring for an elderly loved one can add up quickly, leaving you exhausted and stressed out. Chances are, if you've been a caregiver for more than a few weeks you've experienced a certain degree of caregiver burnout.

Be on the lookout for these six common signs of burnout. If you find yourself thinking or saying these things, you may want to seek help from your doctor and consider finding some respite care.

### 6 Signs of Caregiver Burnout

1. I just don't feel like talking to or seeing anyone today—even my friends and family.

If you discover that you consistently don't want to interact with people, especially close family and friends, it could be a sign that caring for your elderly loved one is becoming too draining.

2. I used to really enjoy reading mystery novels, but for some reason, even a thrilling 'Whodunit'



doesn't seem to hold my interest anymore.

If your favorite hobbies and pastimes aren't interesting to you anymore, it may indicate that you need a break from being a caregiver.

3. Sometimes taking care of mom is too much—I feel like I want to end it all.

Thoughts of suicide or hurting your elderly loved one are dangerous warning signs of extreme burnout and probable depression. You should immediately seek help from a mental health professional if you find yourself having violent thoughts.

4. I've been eating weirdly lately.

Abnormal eating patterns, whether it's eating too much or not enough might be an indication of extreme stress.

5. I've been sleeping weirdly lately.

If you can't seem to fall asleep at night, or have trouble getting out of bed in the morning, you may be feeling the effects of too much caregiving responsibility.

6. It's been several weeks and I can't seem to shake this cold.

Stress can wreak havoc with your immune system. Illnesses that last longer than they should are a sign of reduced immune system functioning that could be due to your caregiving duties.

Combatting caregiver burnout begins with self care. After all, you and your care recipient will suffer if you've lost the interest or ability to provide quality care. Start by developing some self-care strategies, because caregivers need care too.

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# Taking Steps to Prevent Falls

By Carol Bradley Bursack

(Family Features) When you're young, an injury from a fall may sideline you for a few days or weeks, but a full recovery is usually quick. As you get older, the consequences of falls can become more serious, setting up a sequence of events that can have longstanding implications on independence and health.

It doesn't have to be that way, however. Although falls typically become more common and can be more serious as you age, falls are not a natural part of getting older. In fact, most falls are preventable. Knowing the factors that put you at greater risk of falling and taking proper steps can help prevent falls.

Risk factors for falls in older people include overall health (chronic diseases and physical conditions), environment (hazards and situations at home) and behaviors, such as rushing around or standing on a chair to reach something.

These steps from the experts at the National Council on Aging can help prevent falls:

- Stay active: Exercise helps increase or maintain coordination and muscle tone that can keep you steady on your feet and your reactions sharp. Walking, gardening or taking an exercise class are just a few ways to keep your heart



healthy and your muscles toned.

- Manage underlying chronic conditions: The better your overall health, the lower your risk of falls. Chronic conditions like diabetes, depression, osteoarthritis, obesity and high blood pressure can increase your risk. Managing those conditions by seeing your health care provider regularly, taking medication as prescribed, eating a healthy diet and choosing appropriate exercise can help prevent falls.

- Review medications: Side effects from and interactions with some medications can cause dizziness that can increase the risk of falling. Types of medicine associated with an increased risk include

sedatives and diuretics as well as those used to treat high blood pressure and anxiety. Talk to your doctor about all prescriptions and over-the-counter medicines you are taking.

- Get your eyes checked: Vision changes as you age, so it is important to get your eyes checked once a year to make sure your prescription is up to date and screen for any eye-related diseases like cataracts and glaucoma, which are usually treatable when caught at an early stage.

- Assess your home: Look around your home for potential hazards. Consider enlisting the help of a family member or neighbor who may be more likely to

notice things you don't. Install grab bars in your bathrooms, get rid of slippery throw rugs (or add a rubber backing) and keep passageways inside and outside your

home well-lit and free from clutter and debris.

For more tips and information, visit [acl.gov/fallsprevention](http://acl.gov/fallsprevention).

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## 5 Tips to Shed Those Pounds in the New Year

(StatePoint) Maybe you want more energy, or perhaps you want to lose weight and keep it off for good. Whatever your goals, a new year means a fresh start to become the best version of yourself.

Here are five tips from Nutrisystem experts to get your scale moving in the right direction and support your long-term health.

1. Skip "diet" drinks: Of course, you know not to order the regular cola with your meal, but you figure the lower-calorie diet version is an okay choice. Not necessarily. One recent review of research found that artificial sweeteners often used in diet drinks may not be as beneficial for weight management as intended, and that drinking them regularly may be linked to an increased body mass index. If you want something fizzy, opt for seltzer with lemon or lime. But if you can't stop dreaming of that diet soda, it doesn't have to be completely off-limits. Just try to cut back. Moderation is key!

2. Drink more water: Every part of your body needs water to work properly. When you don't get enough, your body can't perform normal functions, which can drain your energy. More fatigue means less physical activity. Plus, mild dehydration is often masked as



hunger -- prompting you to grab a snack when all you really need is water. Nutrisystem experts recommend drinking at least eight, 8-ounce glasses daily.

3. Slow down: It takes 20 minutes for the "I'm full" signals from your stomach to reach your brain. When you inhale your food, it's much easier to eat more than your body really needs. One review of 23 studies found that fast eaters were about twice as likely to be obese, compared to slow eaters. To help slow down, take smaller bites, chew 10 to 15 times and put your fork down between each bite.

4. Don't eyeball portions: "The super-sized meals at restaurants have given us a skewed view of proper portion size," says registered dietitian for Nutrisystem,

Courtney McCormick.

Even if you're tracking your food intake with an app or food journal, overestimating portions can sabotage progress.

McCormick's solution: Measure portions -- not forever, but for a while at the start. Doing so will help you get a visual of what portions should actually look like. You may also consider eliminating some of the guesswork with a program, such as Nutrisystem, that offers pre-portioned, nutritionally-balanced meals.

5. Reduce stress: Stress can cause your body to burn calories more slowly, which could lead to weight gain, according to a study. Plus, stress increases hormones that stimulate appetite, and the foods you'll crave for comfort tend to be high in fat and sugar. Help manage stress with deep breathing, meditation, exercise, hanging out with friends or listening to music.

More tips on jump-starting your weight loss goals can be found at [nutrisystem.com](http://nutrisystem.com).

With these tips for the new year, you'll be on the road to realistic weight loss achievement and have more energy for your day-to-day life.

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# sports

## Tebow Reflects on How NFL Career Ended: 'God, What Do You Want Me To Do with This?'

By Bryan Chai | westernjournal.com

It's crazy to think that Tim Tebow last threw a meaningful NFL pass nearly seven years ago.

Jan. 8 will mark the seventh anniversary of that memorable play.

And while Tebow has been busting his butt and working hard to become a legitimate baseball prospect, it's impossible to blame the guy for not at least thinking about what it would be like to still be in the NFL.

That's exactly what Tebow was asked to reflect upon when he appeared on the Nov. 28 episode of "Journeys of Faith with Paula Paris."

Paris, a former "Good Morning America" co-host, runs her podcast through ABC Radio. It focuses on how people's faith gets them through the "best and worst of times."

Tebow's NFL career perfectly encapsulates the "best and worst of times" but the former quarterback's faith clearly kept him afloat through it all.

Being a natural competitor, Tebow opened up about how, even today, he sometimes struggles to watch the NFL.

"It's still hard sometimes when I watch games and I'm thinking, 'I can totally do that.' Or, 'I can be doing this or playing here or crushing that,'" Tebow said.

Frankly, Tebow's underselling that fact. Considering that quarterbacks like Nathan Peterman and Cody Kessler have started games for NFL teams this year, it's hard to believe Tebow couldn't still play football in 2018.

To put things in perspective, Tebow's last real shot at playing in the NFL ended with a riveting overtime playoff win over the perennially competitive Pittsburgh Steelers. Players like Peterman and Kessler not only stink as players, neither has sniffed the playoffs.



It would be hard to blame Tebow for feeling shortchanged and bitter about how his football career came to an end. Unsurprisingly, Tebow never felt that way despite the fact that his NFL career "didn't go at all as planned."

"I think God used the highs and the lows for a purpose and you try to embrace that and say, 'OK, God, what do you want me to do with this?' And he opened up baseball as an avenue," Tebow said on the podcast. And truly, baseball has opened up as an avenue for him, with some legitimate chatter about a potential major league call-up.

Tebow also perfectly explained why, through the highs and lows of his career, he doesn't let sports define him.

"What happens when football is over? What happens when baseball is over? What happens when people don't remember my name or who I am? If I found my identity in that, when it's done, I'd be crushed. There's nothing left," he explained.

But if Tebow's true mission were ever to be put in words, one of the first things he said on the podcast captures it perfectly.

"I want to represent Jesus and I want to love people," he said.

Considering all the good Tebow has done personally and through his Tim Tebow Foundation, he's nailed both of those things.

And that is far more important than any sport he plays.

## FROM THE CHEAP SEATS

By Rob Mooney

Christmas has come and gone and I have to say that it was a very good year. All six of my kids were at my home for Christmas, the first time that's happened in probably six or seven years. My daughter-in-law, my three grandchildren and my mom were all also in attendance. Of course that meant that there were presents galore under and around the tree, and I mean way around the tree.



I realize the true meaning of Christmas and that it's not about giving and receiving gifts, but I would have to say that everyone was pleased with the gifts they received. However, I have to admit, there were a few things lacking that I was wishing for. Here is a list of some of the things I didn't get for Christmas:

• A new coach and quarterback in Dallas: I know the Cowboys are cur-

rently 9-6 and have clinched the division, but I think that's a testament to how bad the division is and not how good the team is. The Cowboys defense is rock solid but their offense is horrendous. A division title means that there will be no

changes in coach or quarterback this off-season. Maybe a new offensive coordinator? I'd take that!



• A new defense in Kansas City: We have all seen the defense that the Chiefs trot out on the field week after week and no one is impressed with it. The ONLY way the Chiefs go to the Super Bowl this season is if all of their playoff games are at Arrowhead Stadium. Even then, it's not a forgone conclusion. Teams can and will run the ball on the Chiefs to keep their offense off the field. Sorry

but the blueprint for beating the Chiefs is circulating around the NFL.

• Nice weather and time to hit the local mountain biking trails. Believe it or not, mountain biking is alive and well in Northeast Kansas. However, at this time of the year, dirt trails are often wet due to the freeze-thaw cycle the trails experience. It seems that whenever it is dry enough to ride I don't have the time. Trust me, I am determined to get my new Giant out on the trails more in 2019. (Ok, maybe this one is more of a resolution).

• A bowl game for the Kansas Jayhawks and the Kansas State Wildcats. Neither team is bowling this year but both programs have new coaches and look like they're heading in the right direction. I expect K-State to get to a bowl sooner than KU, but I do believe that within a few years, both programs will be much improved!

• Tickets to a KU basketball game: I keep meaning to buy tickets to a game but I never seem to do it. Oh well, there are many more home

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## 4 Ways to Bring Classic Character to Your Kitchen

(Family Features) In today's stainless steel world filled with clean lines, sharp angles and sleek kitchen accessories, it may seem daunting to achieve the perfect antique style for your kitchen.

While it's true that blending looks from the past with modern-day functionality can be challenging, you don't have to be a famous designer to create the kitchen of your dreams. These tips can help you turn back the clock and design a kitchen with timeless character.

### Strike a balance

When you set out to create your new look, it's easy to go overboard, so remember that moderation is best. Make sure you're choosing items that showcase your individual style while keeping in mind there is a fine line between Victorian Chic and your grand-

mother's cookie jar collection.

In addition to knowing what elements to look for, it's important to consider how the components can be integrated to create a harmonious look. Consider updating antique elements with more contemporary touches to create a fresh, unexpected aesthetic. For example, pair a set of ultra-chic dining chairs with an old wooden dining table passed down through your family or upholster a simple dining bench or window seat with Victorian-patterned fabric.

### Establish a focal point

If you're overwhelmed trying to envision how all the details will come together, many designers suggest the first step is defining the focal point for your kitchen. In many cases, that will be the appli-



ances.

Antique appliances lend themselves to a range of styles, from Victorian to farmhouse to cabin and cottage. While it's possible to purchase refurbished antique models, if you want your appliances to include modern features and functionality, you might consider antique-inspired appliances. For example, Elmira Stove Works offers a line of 1890s-style appliances that deliver the warmth and charm of a bygone era to today's kitchens.

Equipped with the latest in cooking technology, these appliances have been designed to meet the culinary standards of nearly any home chef, and include a selection of customizable ranges, refrigerators, microwaves, wall ovens and matching dishwasher panels. To explore how this line can give your kitchen the perfect vintage feel, visit [elmirstove-works.com/antique/ranges](http://elmirstove-works.com/antique/ranges).

### Add accents with purpose

Once you've established the centerpiece (or centerpieces) for your kitchen, you can add smaller details as you go. Visit antique stores and flea markets to look for finds such as vintage kitchen tools, antique serving platters and cast-iron cookware.

Antiques frequently show some wear and tear, so make sure any items you are planning to purchase are in good condition. Also remember that vintage items can be delicate. If you're planning to put an item to use daily, ensure it's in good working condition and will be up to the task.

### Incorporate rustic elements

Rustic home decor can turn something that was once rugged into something beautiful. An example of this is reclaimed wood accents, which can be functional, attractive and eco-friendly.

Use reclaimed wood to create butcher-block countertops, cabinetry or to design a one-of-a-kind kitchen table. Pine offers the most authentic rustic design, but it can be soft and susceptible to dents. Hickory, alder and cherry can also deliver a cozy, rustic feel. "Live edge" tables and accents, which preserve the natural edge of the wood in the design, are another way to add a rustic but current aesthetic.



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## Happy New Year from your friends at Jackson's!

**Annette's Tip:**

This is the time of year to begin planning this year's garden and getting your seed ordered. Seed catalogs are always interesting to read because virtually every variety offered is wonderful according to the description. However, some of the varieties offered may do better in the North Eastern U.S. while others are developed for Southern growers. Our Midwest climate is one of the most challenging because of the great variances in our climatic conditions. Temperatures, humidity, precipitation, wind speed and cloud cover fluctuate greatly. Before ordering any seed you are not familiar with, and paying the shipping and handling charges, give us a call to see if we stock the seed or to tell you if a certain variety will produce in this region.

**January Tropical Plant Sale!**  
Take 40% off all tropicals  
25% off cactus  
Expires Jan. 31, 2019

**FREE Drawing!**  
Stop in to sign up for drawing for a pair of Kansas Garden Show tickets! Fifty winners will be drawn Feb. 1st!

**Got Cabin Fever?**  
It always feels and smells like spring in our greenhouses!

**CHECK OUT**  
the new 2019 seed packets from Burpee, Botanical Choice, Lake Valley and Livingston. Bulk seed available as well. More than 75 tomato and pepper varieties.



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M-F 8:30-5:30  
Sat 8:30-5:00  
Sun. 10:30 - 4:30



# New Resident Church Guide

- SOUTHWEST TOPEKA BIBLE CHURCH**  
4141 SW 53rd (53rd and Gage)  
Topeka, Ks 66610  
785.266.0100  
Sun. Services: 9:30 Bible Study Classes  
10:45 Worship Service  
www.swtbc.org
- CHRISTIAN CAVALRY MINISTRIES INT.**  
Pastor Beaux Bryant  
c/o Seaman Baptist Church  
2015 NW Buchanan, Topeka Ks 66608  
785-224-5419 • www.church4bikers.org  
Sun. School 9:30 am  
Sun. Service 10:45 am  
Wed. Prayer & Bible Study 7pm
- 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
- NORTHLAND CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
3102 NW Topeka Blvd., Topeka  
286-1204  
Worship Sun. 8:00, 9:30 & 11am  
www.northland.cc.
- INDIANA AVENUE CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
"Grace has dispensed, because Grace has redeemed"  
3510 SE Indiana Ave., Topeka, Ks. 66605  
785-266-7788, www.Indianaavecofc.org  
Bible University - Sunday - 9:30 a.m.  
Classes for all ages.  
Morning Worship - Sunday - 10:45 a.m.  
Midweek Bible University - Wed. - 7pm

- FIRST SOUTHERN BAPTIST**  
1912 SW Gage, Topeka, KS  
272-0443 www.fsbctopeka.org  
Sunday Services:  
8:30 AM Traditional Worship  
9:45 AM Bible study--all ages  
11 AM Contemporary Worship
- TOPEKA BAPTIST CHURCH**  
"Finding NEW LIFE in CHRIST"  
Sunday Worship 9:15 & 10:45am, 6pm  
~ Sunday School for all ages ~  
4500 SW Gage Blvd., Topeka  
785-862-0988  
www.topekabaptist.org
- WANAMAKER ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH**  
"Being and making disciples of Jesus Christ by the power of the Gospel, to the glory of God"  
2700 SW Wanamaker Rd., Topeka  
(785) 272-9323 www.wrbcctopeka.com  
Traditional Sunday Worship 10:30am & 6pm  
Sunday School 9am • Wed. Prayer 7pm
- GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
310 E 8th St (E. US 56 Hwy)  
Overbrook, KS; 785-665-7117  
Elvin Dillard, Senior Pastor  
Sunday School 9 am; Worship 10 am  
www.gccinoverbrook.com  
office@gccinoverbrook.com
- LORD'S HOUSE CHURCH**  
300 SW Roosevelt, Topeka KS 66606  
Pastor Marilyn Hahn McGinnis  
10 a.m. Sunday (Non-traditional Service)  
See "About Us" at our website  
www.kawriverkeruv.com  
Questions? kawriverlordshouse@att.net
- COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
1819 SW 21st St., Topeka  
233-3537 www.CommunityChurchKS.com  
Sun. 9:30am - Sunday School for all ages  
Sun. 10:30am - Worship & Word, Children

- Wed. 6:30pm - Children, Youth, Adult  
~ Nursery care for all services ~
- 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,  
or Scott Bond 423-0406
  - WANAMAKER WOODS NAZARENE**  
Serving Christ - Loving People  
3501 SW Wanamaker Rd • 273-2248  
Dr. L.D. Holmes, Sr. Pastor  
www.wwnaz.org  
Sun. Worship: 9am (Hymns) & 11 am  
Children's Worship 9 & 11 am  
Sunday School 10 am, all ages  
Sun. Evening Various Children's Programs  
6 pm Life Groups; 6:30 pm Teen Service  
Wed. 6:30 pm Adult & Teen Life Groups  
Wed. 6:30 pm Kids University  
~ Nursery care at all services ~
  - GRACE LIFE CONNECTION**  
Living grace inside-out  
in an upside-down world  
Saturdays @ 5:00 PM  
Bible Study Thursdays @ 6:00 PM  
Meeting at Highland Park Baptist  
29th & Pennsylvania, Topeka, KS  
Pastor Pete Whitebird
  - OAKLAND UNITED METHODIST**  
801 NE Chester, Topeka, KS 66616  
235-1010 • oumc@att.net  
Shawn O'Trimble, Pastor  
Sunday School 9:15am, Worship 10:30am  
Children's worship time 10:30am  
Hear us on WREN Radio Sun. 10-11am  
Like us on Facebook!  
All are welcome - Come and see us!
  - HOUSE OF THE LORD CHURCH**  
A Spirit-filled, Word-centered church  
2531 SE Wittenberg Rd., Topeka  
Sunday Worship 11am & 6pm  
Wed. Prayer & Praise 7pm  
785-266-LOVE (5683)  
J. Michael Borjon, Pastor
  - EAST SIDE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
4425 S.E. 29th St., 379-9933.  
Sunday Worship 10:45am & 6:00pm



Reach new residents and seekers by placing your church information in this Church Guide for only \$12!

- AWANA Sunday at 5:45 p.m.  
See our website for info on our Student Ministries & Kid City  
www.esbcks.org
- CHRIST THE KING CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
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5973 SW 25th St.  
Topeka, KS 66614 • 273-0710  
Reconciliation: Sat 3-4pm  
Weekend Masses: Sat 4:30pm  
Sunday 7:30, 9, 11am, 6pm  
www.ctktopeka.org  
Fr. Matthew Schifflbein, Pastor  
Fr. Jaime Zarse, Associate Pastor
  - SEAMAN COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
Independent Christ-Centered Bible Church  
2036 NW Taylor, Topeka, KS  
354-8777 • www.seamanchurch.com  
Adult Sunday School - Sun. 9:30am
  - Sunday Worship: 10:30am  
Children's Sunday School: 10:30am  
Youth group 1st & 3rd Sundays 4-6pm
  - HERITAGE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
1937 NE Madison St,  
Topeka, KS 66616 • 785-506-4594  
Pastor Dale Stockburger  
Sunday Worship: 10 am and 6pm  
Junior Church for kids: Sun 10am  
Wed. Evening Worship: 7pm
  - HARVEST FAMILY FELLOWSHIP**  
Meets at 522 SW Polk  
785-220-5418  
Pastor Rey Rodriguez  
Sun. Worship 10 am  
www.topekaharvest.vpweb.com
  - FAMILY OF GOD CHURCH**  
1231 NW Eugene St.  
Topeka, KS 66608
  - Pastor Roger Randel  
Sunday Worship 10:30am & 6pm  
Wednesday Bible Study 7pm  
234-1111 • FOGchurch.com
  - HIGHLAND HEIGHTS CHRISTIAN CHURCH** 785-379-5642  
Sunday Services: 8:30 and 10:00 AM  
2930 SE Tecumseh Road  
Tecumseh, Kansas 66542  
www.highlandheightsccc.com  
Jars of Clay Children's Ctr 785-379-9098
  - TRINITY REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Holding to the authorized King James Version and the 1689 London Baptist Confession of Faith  
Sunday 10 a.m. Wednesday 6 p.m.  
Pastor Bob Spagnuolo 785-273-3506  
meeting in our home:  
4307 SW 30th Ter., Topeka  
www.TrinityReformedBaptist.org

# classified

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**FOR RENT:**  
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**OFFICE SPACE** available, great for therapists, health and wellness companies, small business owners & more! Complementary desks/chairs furnished. All utilities plus Wi-fi/Ethernet included. \$100 VISA cards to new leases if you mention this classified ad! College Park Office Suites, 2611 SW 17th St. Call or text 785-430-1657. info@cpofficesuites.com  
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**TOPEKA BIBLE CHURCH**  
1101 SW Mulvane, Topeka, KS 66604  
1135 SW College Ave., Topeka, KS 66604  
234-5545 www.discovertbc.com

Leading People to Life in Christ

First Service: 8:00 - 9:10am  
Second Service & Sunday School: 9:30 - 10:40am  
Third Service & Sunday School: 11am - 12:10pm  
Senior Pastor: Jim Congdon

- FOR SALE:**  
**GOLF CLUBS** - a 2013 model Cleveland Driver SL 290, 10.5 Degree, regular flex shaft. Retail \$339, asking \$49, only played a few rounds. New Warrior 10 degree Driver, only hit a few at the range with it, \$39. 640-6399
- WANTED:**  
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**Ed Popkess**

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Thu & Fri 10:00 - 5:00 & Sat 10:00 - 3:00

**WE ARE OPEN LATE EVERY FIRST FRIDAY!**

Coupon for 40% off any one Fairy Garden Accessory



## Activities Continue in NOTO

December was hoppin' in NOTO, and more activities are being planned for coming months

Make plans now to attend the NOTO Arts and Antique Festival, a two-day show and sale event featuring high quality art and antiques from the region and beyond. The festival will also feature an array of workshops offered by local experts on topics related to the arts and antiques. It will be held this year on March 15 & 16 at the Great Overland Station.

Don't forget First Friday, which has been bringing people to the area in record numbers. Besides the Art Walk in NOTO, other North Topeka businesses have begun joining in and coordinating complementary events.

Entertainment can also be found on First Fridays, at various venues during the artwalk up and down the Avenue, as well as streetside vendors. The restaurants, locally owned shops, art galleries and studios have also become favorite art walk destinations.

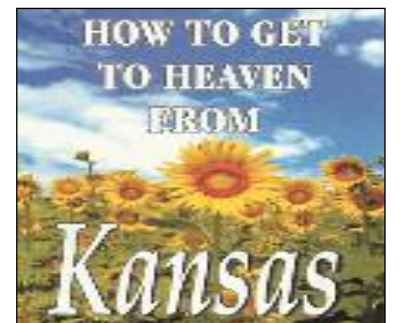


### More North Topeka events:

**EPIPHANY CELEBRATION** – Jan. 5, 5pm, Kansas Ave United Methodist, 1029 N Kansas Ave. Epiphany Celebration "It Is Well With My Soul", a variety of music and pageantry representing the arrival of the wise men to see the Christ child will fill the sanctuary along with a large collection of nativities. All things chocolate will be served in the parlor. For info, call 785-234-0507.

**TAMMY BOGLE** – Jan. 20, 10:30am, Family of God Church, 1231 NW Eugene. "The Gospel Cowgirl." 234-1111

**ANNUAL CHILI & VEGETABLE SOUP SUPPER** – Feb. 8, 4:30-6:30pm, KS Ave United Methodist Church, Fellowship Hall, 1029 N Kansas Ave. Adults \$7, Kids 10 & under \$3. Includes chili or vegetable soup, relishes, drink & dessert. Carryout available. Community Invited. 785-234-0507



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.

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Christian Cavalry M/M

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Sunday Service 10:45 AM  
Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study 7:00 PM

*All are welcome, casual dress ok!*



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