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 VOLUME 13 • NUMBER 8

**April 2019**

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**NEW RESIDENT churchguide**



Topeka Baptist Church

*See inside back cover!*

**Kansans for Life to hold annual oratorical contest**



Kansans for Life will hold its 2019 David Gittrich Memorial Oratorical Contest in Salina on April 27 at 1:00 PM at the Salina Public Library.

The Oratorical Contest is for juniors and seniors in high school. Contestants are to research, write, and present an original pro-life speech on abortion, infanticide, euthanasia, or stem cell research. Speeches are to be 5-7 minutes in length. Note cards may be used.

Registration for the contest is due by April 5th. To register, students can send the following information by mail to KFL Oratory Contest, 3301 W. 13th St. N., Wichita, Kansas 67203, or email to [kflleah@gmail.com](mailto:kflleah@gmail.com):

Student's name, age, grade level, full address, phone, email address, school name, contestant's signature (electronic is acceptable), parent's name & signature (electronic is acceptable).

For additional information, a list of rules, and a printable application go to the kfl website, call 800-928-5433, or email [kflleah@gmail.com](mailto:kflleah@gmail.com).

Here is an excerpt from last year's

■ Please see CONTEST page 3



**The Easter Story – Jesus' Crucifixion and Resurrection**

The Bible story of Easter including the Last Supper, Judas' Betrayal, the Crucifixion of Jesus and Jesus' Resurrection.

**The Last Supper**  
*Matthew 26:17-30, Mark 14:12-25, Luke 22:7-23*

The story of the Last Supper is about a wonderful invitation from Jesus to receive his gift! This is a summary about the Last Supper Bible story as told in books of Matthew, Mark, and Luke below. Read more in-depth Bible verses from the Scripture below and use the articles and videos to understand the meaning behind this teachable event in the Bible.

The last supper took place on the first day of Passover, or the Festival of Unleavened Bread. Jesus sent his disciples ahead into the city to prepare a meal to celebrate Passover. Passover is the remembrance of Israel being freed from slavery to Egypt and specifically when the angel of death passed over the homes of the Israelites that had lambs blood over the doors.

As the disciples reclined and ate dinner...

■ Please see EASTER page 12

**EasterFest highlights April celebrations**



April is all about Easter this year. With the annual celebration falling a little later in the spring this year, many are counting on nicer weather for their egg hunts, sunrise services and other family activities.

The sixth annual EasterFest, the Topeka Easter Parade & Fun Fair, will return to North Topeka on Saturday, April 20, 2019. About three thousand people attended

last year to watch the parade, visit the Fun Fair, listen to live music, visit over 70 vendor & exhibit booths, attend the Health Fair and take part in the big egg hunt or other activities.

■ Please see EASTERFEST page 3

**Easter Guide continues - Pg 12**

**Examining Our Value – Part III of a series**

**Where does our true value lie?**

**By Barry Feaker**  
 with Jessica Hosman

*Editor's note: In Part III of a series, Barry Feaker, Executive Director of TRM Ministries, examines life's biggest questions, and how we as individuals, the church and the community can provide value and help solve the issues faced by our society today.*

I was standing by the main doors of the Topeka Rescue Mission, preparing to meet with a large group of leaders who were interested in learning more about current initiatives in place. As I greeted them one by one upon their arrival, I heard Tommy yell my name. He rushed up and gave me a warm hug with his bright and familiar toothless smile. He

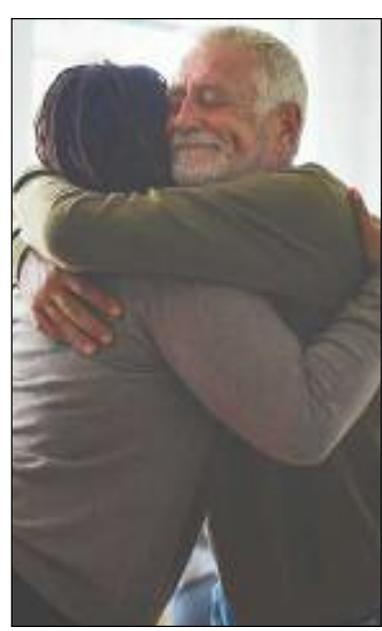
was rugged and extremely worn from years of homelessness and abuse; a stark contrast from the others I was greeting at that same time.

I started my journey at the Topeka Rescue Mission back in 1986. I struggled back then with something that still plagues me today: I am a fixer. For years, I worked in the field of mental health with the objective of fixing problems. I came to the Mission with the same ideal, that I was going to "fix" the homeless. I've learned since then, however, that my role isn't to fix anything. My value is in showing up and letting God do the rest.

Thirty-two years ago, I was looking for a job for Tommy to help with at the Mission. He was a healthy-looking young man at the time with no visible limita-

tions. I couldn't figure out why he was homeless but I set out to fix him by helping him obtain some tools so he could move forward with employment and life. I decided we'd start with the menial task of emptying the trash and running the vacuum. In my mind, anyone could do that. In those days, we had an old canister vacuum cleaner, the heavy ones that roar like an airplane and have to be manually emptied. As he was vacuuming, I closed my office door to answer the phone. To my surprise, a well-known physician and former United States Congressman was on the other line. He was inquiring of how to make a considerable donation to the Mission. I was elated! One hundred dollars was like a million to us back then and this was the first potentially major donation we had received since I had

■ Please see VALUE page 4



## Christian Education Initiative Sounds Alarm on Public Schools

A new coalition of evangelical leaders in the education space just announced a campaign to promote Christian education, all while educating parents and pastors on the dangers that government schools present to children and the church. The effort, dubbed the Christian Education Initiative (CEI), seeks to facilitate a mass "exodus" of Christian families from the public-school system, among other goals.

"Now is the time for like-minded ministries to unite and promote a national movement to expand biblical worldview education," said CEI Chairman Lt. Col. E. Ray Moore (Ret.), founder and president of Frontline Ministries and Exodus Mandate. "We are not government school reformers but are rather encouraging parents to provide a biblically based education for their churches and children."

"Christian children need Christian education," added Moore, a pioneer in the home-education movement who has been working to get Christian children out of government schools for over two decades.

The Christian Education Initiative

has six key objectives. These include rescuing Christian children from government indoctrination; promoting biblical education to churches; returning authority over education from government to parents; expanding Christian education options; training pastors, educators, parents, and others in a biblical philosophy, curriculum, and methodology of education; and helping parents of limited financial means provide a Christian education for their children without involving government.

Members of the initiative include leaders of Renewation, Equipping Teachers International, The Foundation for American Christian Education (F.A.C.E.), The Providence Foundation, Frontline Ministries, Deconstructing the Coliseum, Constitution Leadership Initiative, New Geneva Christian Leadership Academy, Reformed Bible Church, Association of Principled Education Christian Schools (AECEP), Mission to Restore America, Planting Seeds to Renew America, Henricus Colledge, the Nehemiah Institute, The Old Schoolhouse, Family Renewal Ministries, American Transformation Company, and more.

"The worldview shift in America of the past 30 years is the greatest abandonment of the Judeo-Christian faith since our nation's founding," explained

Dan Smithwick, president of the Nehemiah Institute. "Results of Nehemiah Institute's unique worldview assessment, The PEERS Test, provides documented evidence that our nation's government-run educational system is systematically and intentionally erasing our roots to the Christian faith."

Smithwick said this represents the single greatest threat to the future of America's free Republic. "It is time for the Church to make an unqualified decision that local churches will once again, in conjunction with parents, take on full responsibility for the education of their children," he explained, adding that the Church must stop asking the de-Christianized government school system to educate her children.

Many in the movement feel it is way past time for pastors and churches to recognize the danger of allowing Christian children to be indoctrinated and disciplined by an anti-Christian government "education" regime. The architects of America's public-education system were openly hostile to biblical religion and the liberty that stems from it. Leaders in the movement say that Christians who participate in this dangerous system risk losing their children, their freedom, their churches, and their nation.

Alex Newman | [freedomproject.com](http://freedomproject.com)



Alex Newman

## Life Lessons From a Little One

### DEFEAT

by Jessica S. Hosman

My little guy is entering the third season of his soccer career. With current aspirations to be a famous soccer player when he grows up, this is a big deal in our house! This child breaths soccer. In his mind, there's no such thing as too many soccer balls and the need for a break during play. His obvious love for the game shines through during every practice and every game, even when they lose. And, so far, he's had a perfect game record... zero wins. Ever. But, from watching the glow on his face during play, you'd never know. You'd think this child had already won his first Olympic gold medal.

I think maybe my boy has learned a secret that we often fail to remember. It's not always about seeing the victory today. It's about finding joy in the journey along the way.

If we believe in scripture, we know our present sufferings are not worth comparing to the glory that awaits. We press onward for the prize for which God has called us. We know that when we wait upon the Lord we can run and not grow weary; walk and not become weak. But sometimes we are weak. Sometimes we do lose sight of the real prize and become discouraged when we don't see our promised victory today. We focus on the losses and defeat and wonder why our joy has seemed to vanish. Instead of focusing on how many times we lose, we'd do better to focus on recognizing there is a victory that awaits us, regardless of how today may look.

I watch the faces of other kids as they are playing the game. There are others who are laughing and enjoying themselves, but I'm not sure I've seen others that actually skip down the field with a permanent smile during an entire game the way Zechariah does. Even when he's getting corrected by the coach, his countenance doesn't change. He accepts the

discipline and uses it to further perfect his imperfect game. He doesn't get discouraged when he misses a goal or one of his passes get intercepted, he keeps going. And he keeps smiling.

I've known defeat, and I imagine you have as well. Things haven't gone the way we hoped or thought they would. Some of the blows have been sudden and taken our breath away; others have been gradual and altered our dreams over time. The more we focus on the shattered dream or painful present, the weaker we become. Strength is depleted because we allow our joy to slowly fade. The joy fades when we lose sight of our Christ-promised victory because we can't experience it today. And we buy into the lie that every tomorrow will look just the same. But God wants to remind us today that we can find joy in the journey, even when the season has consisted of nothing but loss.

Zechariah has completed two soccer seasons which brought forth consistent loss, week after week. There were a couple tie games that brought a little hope but, in terms of actual wins, he experienced none. Yet his joy throughout the season never wavered. He stayed in the game. He didn't quit and now he's eager to get back out on the field and try again. Maybe they'll win a game or two this year; maybe they won't. To him, it doesn't really matter. He just wants to get out there and do what he loves, regardless of the outcome.

Today, we're in a season. It's not a forever season, though repetitive losses might make it feel that way. It's a season that will one day come to a close. Our attitude towards the season may not alter the outcome, but it will change the journey. Even in defeat, we can win... if we choose joy and if we choose to keep smiling along the way.



Jessica Hosman





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## INMED offers health conference for 'forgotten of this world'

Graceway Church in Kansas City will host a major health conference April 5-6 with the goal of equipping attendees how to better serve the "forgotten of this world."

The Humanitarian Health Conference is sponsored by the Kansas City-based Institute for International Medicine (INMED) and will bring together leading experts in the field, offer hands-on learning opportunities (including simulation), provide courses that offer certification upon completion, present excellent networking settings, and equip learners to take the next step in partnering with the world's most marginalized people.

"Until I attended my first INMED Conference, I was unsure how to utilize my passion for international service," said

past attendee Hayley Stolze of the University of Kansas Medical Center. "However, I walked away from that first conference inspired, connected, and affirmed in my dream to care for the underserved.

"Each year that I attend this conference," Stolze added, "I experience life-changing connections that help me move forward on my path to international service work."

The conference's theme is "Equip, Connect, Go."

INMED is a global health education and training organization that equips and prepares healthcare students and professionals to serve the world's forgotten. It has operated since 2003 provides Continuing Medical Education (CME) credit and

contact hours to attending physicians and nurses.

"The forgotten of the world are people who live on the margins of society," the organization's website says. "Although many remain vulnerable, they each have intrinsic human value. When we partner with them to improve their health, they deserve our very best."

The conference is a "forum for those who want to holistically serve the forgotten of this world," according to the website. It's not only open to those currently working in the medical fields but also aspiring nursing and medical students.

For more information, visit their website: [inmedevents.org/event/2019hhc](http://inmedevents.org/event/2019hhc)

Grace Church is located at 5460 Blue Ridge Cut-off in Kansas City, Mo.

## C5Alive POWER Luncheons to feature local speakers, venues

The April C5Alive "POWER" Luncheon will be held April 11, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the NOTO Arts Center at 935 N. Kansas Ave. Thomas Underwood, Executive Director of NOTO Arts District, will be the featured speaker. He will have an update of plans for new additions and renovations in the NOTO Arts District.



Underwood

The meal will be catered by Aboud's/Engroffs Catering

The cost to attend the luncheon 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).

C5Alive "POWER" luncheons are held on the second Thursday of each month, and meals are catered by Aboud's/Engroffs or other fine caterers.

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 businesses, 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.

## CONTEST

continued from page 1

winner, Stacia Mendoza:

"Choice. That is a word that the proabortion movement loves to use. It sounds so freeing. One would never estimate the immense pain and guilt that could manifest itself from such "liberty."

Choice seems to put the power in the women. But in reality it's more like what I learned at my babysitting class. You can give a child two choices: "Instead of jumping on the bed we can go get ice cream or go watch a movie. Which do you choose?" Although the child ultimately gets the choice, you will get what you want no

matter what: them to stop jumping on the bed. Choice seems to put the power in the chooser, but in all actuality it has never left the hands of the one who manipulates what is being offered."

To read Stacia's full speech, go to page 7 of this issue of Metro Voice.

## EASTERFEST

continued from page 1

Every year, dozens of churches, businesses and non-profit organizations take part in the parade, and dozens more set up vendor booths and kids' games as part of the family fun fair. There have been lots of floats with a variety of themes, and all shapes and sizes of other vehicles, as well as walking entries such as schools, military groups, marching bands and more. The event is coordinated by C5Alive, a Christian leadership offshoot of the Capital City Christian Chamber of Commerce (C5).

Again this year the Easter Parade will be on North Kansas Avenue, from NOTO Arts District to Garfield Park, followed by the Big Egg Hunt in the Garfield Park playground area, put on by First Southern Baptist Church. From 10am to 3pm, vendor booths, food trucks and kid's activities will be happening all over Garfield Park,

inside the shelter-house and inside the gym. This year, even more churches, non-profit organizations, schools and local businesses are expected to enter floats and marching bands, etc., in the parade, as well as set up activity booths at the fun fair.

The Family Fun Fair will consist of activities geared toward children and families, as well as health & wellness vendor booths, vendor exhibits, and more. Live performers will be on hand all day, such as jazz bands, dance troupes, praise bands, solo artists, street entertainers and more.








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New this year is Bingo at the Vendor Market, with great prizes valued at over \$20 donated by the vendors and sponsors. The Ball Toss will be back, with a chance to win one of three new bicycles, and the ever-popular cake walks return as well. The Easter Bunny will be back to take pictures with the kids this year too! Facepainting, pony rides and food trucks are always among the most popular attractions, as well as archery, bubble soccer and of course the free entertainment.

More sponsors and participants are needed for the Vendor Market, Entertainment Stage, Food Court and Health Fair. Volunteers are also needed to help with the entire event.

Major sponsors for the event include Integrity Insurance, Peggy Beasterfeld Tax & Accounting, Metro Voice News, Autumn Home Plus, rezit designs, Health & Wellness Magazine, The Pad Restaurant, Davidson's Funeral Home, Patton & Patton Attorneys, Blue Dot A/C Plumbing & Heating and Capital City Flooring.

For more information, visit [www.TopekaEasterParade.com](http://www.TopekaEasterParade.com), email [info@C5Alive.org](mailto:info@C5Alive.org) or call 785-640-6399.

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## Free Screening of “Being Mortal” to be shown at the Jayhawk Theatre April 16

On Tuesday, April 16, Midland Care will present the film, “Being Mortal,” at the Jayhawk Theatre.

Midland Care has partnered with local organizations, including Stormont Vail Health, Phoenix Home Care & Hospice and The University of Kansas Health System St. Francis Campus, to educate community members about expressing their wishes regarding healthcare.

The investigative journalism program, FRONTLINE follows the renowned New York writer and Boston surgeon, Atul Gawande, as he explores the relationships doctors have with patients who are nearing the end of life.

In conjunction with Gawande’s new book, “Being Mortal,” the film investigates the practice of caring for the dying, and shows how doctors – himself included – are often remarkably untrained, ill-suited and uncomfortable talking about chronic illness and death with their patients.

The 60-minute film begins at 5:45 followed by a 30-minute panel discussion.

This is a free event and open to the public. Water and snacks will be available for purchase.

Doors open at 5:15PM. Entrance is through the double doors on Jackson Street for this event.



National Healthcare Decisions Day (NHDD) exists to inspire, educate and empower the public and providers about the importance of advance care planning.

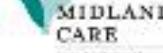
Join us for a screening of the documentary “Being Mortal”  
Tuesday, April 16th, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.  
Jayhawk Theater, 720 SW Jackson St., Topeka, KS 66603

To learn more about this event visit the Stormont Vail Facebook page.

The investigative journalism program FRONTLINE follows renowned New Yorker writer and Boston surgeon Atul Gawande as he explores the relationships doctors have with patients who are nearing the end of life. In conjunction with Gawande’s new book, *Being Mortal*, the film investigates the practice of caring for the dying, and shows how doctors — himself included — are often remarkably untrained, ill-suited and uncomfortable talking about chronic illness and death with their patients.

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## Where does our true value lie?

### VALUE

continued from page 1

become director. I couldn’t wait to hear more. But, as the doctor was talking, I was distracted by the loud vacuum repetitively banging up against my door. The more it happened, the more irritated I became. I was just about to ask Tommy to stop when the engine roar ceased. I was grateful for the reprieve and settled back into my call, only to be met with a deep wail of sorrow rising to a crescendo outside my office door. The volume of hysteria was louder than the obnoxious vacuum had been, and I felt my blood pressure rising. *What would this prestigious man on the other end of the phone think? Was our donation going to be sabotaged?* That’s when I heard the gentle voice of the Lord speak to my heart, “I’ll take care of the doctor; you take care of Tommy.”

I left my office and the phone call obediently, but confused. When I approached Tommy, he exclaimed that the hose had detached from the canister and he was unable to get it back on. I couldn’t believe he wasn’t able to figure out such a simple task but I patiently showed him, as he watched through tears. He picked up where he had left off and continued crying as he did. I was perplexed but felt I had done what was needed.

A couple of days later, my phone rang again. This time, from a case worker calling to check on Tommy. I shared about the previous incident and how incredulous it had been to me. This woman had worked with Tommy when he was a child and asked if I had ever seen him without a shirt on. I had not, but she told if I had, I might understand why he had trouble maneuvering a vacuum. His shoulders, neatly hidden under clothing, were disfigured which prevented him from being able to adequately use his hands.

The woman then gave me a glimpse into Tommy’s childhood. When he was a toddler, his mother worked fulltime to try and provide for their family. While she was at work, her live-in boyfriend would stay home with Tommy. Unfortunately, this boyfriend would easily become irritated with normal toddler antics so he would bundle Tommy up in a winter coat and hang him up on a coatrack... sometimes for the entire day when mom was away. Over time, this recurring torture had cut off the circulation in Tommy’s armpits and caused permanent paralysis to his hands. The case worker shared that his torso and arms were also dotted with perfectly rounded scars. When Tommy cried, the boyfriend would take cigarettes and burn him in attempts to punish.

The case worker knew perfectly well why the situation with the vacuum cleaner caused such anguish within the man she knew from his boyhood. Tommy was in anguish, not over a broken vacuum cleaner, but over disappointing me. My heart sunk and my attitude towards this man immediately changed. I’ve never looked at him the same. But I’ve also never looked at my role and value to the ministry the same.

My job isn’t to raise money, develop a great program or fix anybody. My job is to be as kind as possible to everyone I come in contact with. Everyone has a story. I didn’t

understand back then the ways in which trauma affects our brains and physiologically alters our judgement and ability to do some of the most menial things. But today, I’m learning. I believe, as a nation, we are all learning more in this area. The abuse that Tommy endured as a young boy damaged his brain; not in a way that is obvious to the naked eye, but one that is significant nonetheless. For thirty years, Tommy has stayed at the Mission, under bridges and in abandoned homes. He looks “normal,” but his capabilities as an adult were greatly altered as a result of the suffering he endured as a child. How many Tommy’s are there with different, but similar, stories?

Every time I see Tommy, he makes a point to go out of his way to tell me hello. His bright welcome is usually accompanied by a large hug. A week had passed since that greeting on my way into the leadership meeting. But the image of his face would not leave the forefront of my mind. I didn’t fully know why, but I was eager to see him again. Our paths don’t cross regularly, so I wasn’t sure how I’d find him or how long it would be before our next encounter. My question was answered after just a couple days. I was walking into a Board meeting one evening and I passed



Tommy in the Mission hallway. He lit up like a Christmas tree when he saw me and said what I perceived to be the strangest thing: “Thank you for building these buildings. Thank you for having these programs. Thank you for always being here!” I stared at him, stunned, and told him with deepest sincerity, “Tommy, you inspire me.” The cry within him let out with the same intensity it had over thirty years ago with the vacuum cleaner. I embraced him with a brotherly love as he cried and cried until the shoulder of my shirt was soaked with his tears. I told him I loved him and we both proceeded on with our evenings.

I told the Board members that night about Tommy and the encounter which had just taken place outside of the conference room door. I shared of the great programs, opportunities and services that take place every day at the Mission, but I shared that if we do nothing more but to *be there* for Tommy, we still did something incredibly great.

Who would have been there for Tommy throughout his adult years of struggle had it not been for the Mission? How many more people are in our community, nation and world who are just like him? How many Tommy’s are there in our churches, neighborhoods and schools? And how many just need someone to *be there*? Not to fix them. Not to mold them into someone who meets our “standards.” Just someone to be there, love them and show them through our presence that, they too, are worthy of love. We’re not supposed to try and fix people. We’re just supposed to be there. From there, God does the work.

**“For this is what the high and exalted One says – He who lives forever, whose name is Holy: ‘I live in a high and holy place, but also with the one who is contrite and lowly in spirit...’”**  
– Isaiah 57:15

God lives in a Kingdom and dwells on a majestic and royal throne. But He also



dwells with those who are contrite and lowly in spirit: the broken, powerless, and weak. If we are not willing to go where He dwells, how will we ever fully see and connect with God? The Church is hungry for His Presence, but scripture doesn’t say His Presence dwells within a building’s walls. It says He dwells with those who are broken. We often spin our wheels, working desperately to create programs and systems that will solve a problem or societal crisis, and we get frustrated when those intricately calculated systems fail. We shun the people and shift the blame saying that certainly *they* are the reason our program didn’t work for them. And that it’s not our fault, it’s Tommy’s. But God *dwells with them*. And that’s where He wants us to be.

The Lord’s ministry to people on the earth today is through His people. He uses His Spirit working through people to lead others to Himself, make disciples and develop agents of light within this dark present-world. Those agents of light are then to personify the feet, eyes, hands and heart of Jesus to minister to those broken and contrite in spirit – so they too can see God and be transformed. Unfortunately, we often have it so backwards that we end up repelling people like Tommy by discounting their worth through our actions, or lack thereof. We judge them, just like I judged Tommy thirty years ago, by expecting them to be able to do at least menial employment tasks and rejecting them when they can’t; robbing them of services or support when they don’t. We don’t always realize it but often, with the standards we set, we make people prove their worth in order to receive our support. I’m not saying we shouldn’t establish criteria and guidelines, but if we do so without taking into account the deeper reasons behind the behaviors we see, we’re doing a significant injustice to those God dwells with and calls us to love.

There’s always more to a person’s story beyond what we can see with our eyes. People that are hurting and desperate carry the same emotions and desires as we do; but they also often carry weights and pain from their pasts which are too heavy for any one person to bear.

God wants us to see past the obvious and reach into the depths of their pain with His love.

So many are hurting. And God is calling us to come alongside, rise up with our God-given value and show them their worth.

**That’s really where our true value lies.**

If we fail to do that, we’ve failed at one of the primary reasons He’s called us into His Kingdom.

Together, we can make a difference. Together, we can partner with God in expanding His Kingdom on earth.

Together, we can help Tommy – and so many others like him – not only survive, but truly thrive and discover the reason that they too are alive.

# FINANCIAL PLANNING

## A teachable moment

Dear Dave,

My mom is single, and she co-signed on my student loans for college. Would it affect her credit if I couldn't or didn't make the payments?

Terri

Dear Terri,

Yes, it would. The truth is, your mom shouldn't have co-signed for you in the first place. There's only one reason lenders want a co-signer, and that's because they're afraid the person taking out the loan won't be able to pay back what's owed.

You'll be trashing your and your mom's credit if you don't pay the bills on time. If she co-signed for you, and you don't do the right thing and pay back the loans, she'll start getting phone calls looking for the money, too. I don't think you want to subject your mom to the stress and hassle of collector calls or bad marks on her credit, do you?

Believe me, I understand what hap-

pened. Your mom loves you, and she wants the best for you. She's willing to do whatever it takes to help her daughter succeed. What I want you both to understand going forward is that the idea you have to borrow money to attend college—or do anything else, really—is a myth. There are many ways to get a great education, and find excellent career opportunities, without borrowing a dime. Scholarships and grants are everywhere these days. There's absolutely nothing wrong with working before and during college to help cash-flow an education, or you can begin your studies at a community college where the costs are much less.

In addition to four-year schools and community colleges, anyone looking to further their education shouldn't ignore the possibility of trade or technical schools. At these institutions, you can get valuable training that's highly marketable. Not to mention completing a trade or technical school program usual-



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

**davesays**

ly takes less time and is cheaper than a bachelor's degree.

My goal here isn't to fuss at you or beat you up, Terri. It's just very important you understand what's at stake—now and in the future. My hope is to give you and your mom some good information that will help each of you make smarter, more informed financial decisions down the road!

—Dave

### 0% interest?

Dear Dave,

I know you're against financing purchases. However, is it okay to finance things like furniture at zero percent interest?

Detrick

Dear Detrick,

We just finished an extensive study of more than 10,000 millionaires. Not a single one of these folks said they became rich by borrowing money to buy things at zero percent interest. Since none of those millionaires gave credit for their wealth to zero percent interest financing, and since we know banks charge interest on loans, how is it you think these people are loaning money at "zero percent interest?"

Is it possible the pricing of the item has the interest rate built into it? I think the

chances of that are pretty high. If not that, companies offering this kind of financing have very accurate and highly researched data that tells them the vast majority of people who take out zero-percent loans don't pay off the loans in the specified period of time. Do you know what happens if you don't live up

to the terms of those contracts? It becomes a regular loan, and they back charge you for the interest.

So, on average you're paying for it all. I don't know why you'd want to play with snakes. Snakes bite, and some of them can kill you. Avoid debt like the plague.

—Dave

## Refunds of \$1.4 billion unclaimed by those who have not filed tax returns for 2015

By Peggy Beasterfield

Owner, Peggy's Tax and Accounting Service

Unclaimed income tax refunds totaling almost \$1.4 billion may be waiting for an estimated 1.2 million taxpayers who did not file a 2015 Form 1040 federal income tax return, according to the Internal Revenue Service.



To collect the money, these taxpayers must file their 2015 tax returns with the IRS no later than this year's tax deadline, Monday, April 15, except for taxpayers in Maine and Massachusetts, who have until April 17.

"We're trying to connect over a million people with their share of \$1.4 billion in potentially unclaimed refunds for 2015," said IRS Commissioner Charles Rettig. "Students, part-time workers and many others may have overlooked filing for 2015. And there's no penalty for filing a late return if you're due a refund."

The IRS estimates the midpoint for the potential refunds for 2015 to be \$879 — that is, half of the refunds are more than \$879 and half are less.

In cases where a federal income tax return was not filed, the law provides most taxpayers with a three-year window of opportunity to claim a tax refund. If they do not file a tax return within three years, the money becomes the property of the U.S. Treasury. For 2015 tax returns, the window closes April 15, 2019, for most taxpayers. The law requires taxpayers to properly address, mail and ensure the tax return is postmarked by that date.

The IRS reminds taxpayers seeking a 2015 tax refund that their checks may be held if they have not filed tax returns for 2016 and 2017. In addition, the

refund will be applied to any amounts still owed to the IRS or a state tax agency and may be used to offset unpaid child support or past due federal debts, such as student loans.

By failing to file a tax return, people stand to lose more than just their refund of taxes withheld or paid during 2015. Many low- and moderate-income workers may be eligible for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). For 2015, the credit was worth as much as \$6,242. The EITC helps individuals and families whose incomes are below certain thresholds. The thresholds for 2015 were:

- \$47,747 (\$53,267 if married filing jointly) for those with three or more qualifying children;
- \$44,454 (\$49,974 if married filing jointly) for people with two qualifying children;
- \$39,131 (\$44,651 if married filing jointly) for those with one qualifying child, and;
- \$14,820 (\$20,330 if married filing jointly) for people without qualifying children.

Taxpayers who are missing Forms W-2, 1098, 1099 or 5498 for the years 2015, 2016 or 2017 should request copies from their employer, bank or other payer. Taxpayers who are unable to get missing forms from their employer or other payer can order a free wage and income transcript at IRS.gov using the Get Transcript Online tool. Alternatively, they can file Form 4506-T to request a wage and income transcript. A wage and income transcript shows data from information returns received by the IRS, such as Forms W-2, 1099, 1098, Form 5498 and IRA contribution information. Taxpayers can use the information from the transcript to file their tax return.

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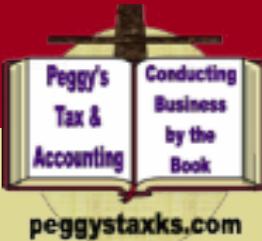


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But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an overflowing stream. - Amos 5:24



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# opinion

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## SPEAK UP! by Stacia Mendoza, winner, 2018 Kansans for Life Oratory Contest

A few weeks ago, I was competing in a forensics tournament at a local school. I have this weird obsession with schools and I like to see what signs they put in their hallways, what the layout is, and get a sense for the overall culture it seems to have.

As I was waiting outside my room, I was studying a list of euphemisms that students have made: "Don't say heavy, say big-boned; don't say jail, say correctional facility; don't say abortion, say sending a baby to heaven."

I was stunned. How could they reduce such a brutal and inhumane procedure to such a pleasant phrase? Sending a baby to heaven seemed to hide all of the horrors of abortion. It glossed over the death of a child, and the pain and the guilt of a mother. I couldn't get it out of my mind and the more I thought about it the more I realized that the small little poster acted as a microcosm of the bigger issue in the abortion industry: the manipulation of language.

To understand this further we must first notice when the abortion industry begins to warp words, review what has happened in other societies when words begin to change, and finally discover the truth of abortion that is buried under all that jargon.

I went on the Planned Parenthood website and looked up how to get an abortion, for research purposes only, of course. I learned that you got prepped for an abortion, had the abortion, then went home. After much more searching, I found what Planned Parenthood actually said hap-



pened during that procedure. "A combination of medical tools and a suction device gently take the pregnancy tissue out of your uterus."

Am I missing something here? I scrolled up and down the entire page and couldn't find the word baby or even fetus once. By using medical diction like pregnancy tissue, they are able to completely hide the fact that an already developing baby is being vacuumed out of its mother's womb. It puts them at a scientific distance — cutting off the natural human bond with babies. If I, someone who is rather educated on the issue of abortion, has trouble realizing that pregnancy tissue is code word for a human baby, then how are scared pregnant teenagers supposed to make a well-educated choice about what to do with their child?

Choice. That is a word that the pro-abortion movement loves to use. It sounds so freeing. One would never estimate the immense pain and guilt that could manifest itself from such "liberty." Choice seems to put the power in the women. But in reality, it's more like what I learned at my babysitting class. You can give a child two choices: "Instead of jumping on the bed we can go get ice cream or go watch a movie. Which do you choose?" Although the child ultimately gets the choice, you will get what you want no matter what: them to stop jumping on the bed. Choice seems to put the power in the chooser, but in all actuality, it has never left the hands of the one who manipulates what is being offered.

This idea of twisting words, changing the meaning, isn't a new one. We can see the consequences of a society with controlled language in two classic dystopian novels. In the book 1984 by George Orwell, he crafts a society in which the government has deliberately eradicated words so that it is impossible to even express concepts such as freedom or civil disobedience. Winston, the story's protagonist, reflects on their language saying "Every year fewer and fewer words and the range of consciousness always a little smaller."

In the book *The Giver* by Lois Lowry, death has become "Release to Elsewhere," to the point where death isn't even a concept. During a "Release Ceremony," Jonas sees his father sing to a baby, give him a lethal injection, then throw him in the trash to be Released to Elsewhere. This society has twisted their words so much so, that the killing of a baby is socially acceptable, if not honored, simply because it goes by a different name: "sending a baby to Heaven" softens it, but doesn't change the reality.

Those words don't tell you that one-third of my generation has been aborted; those words don't tell you that the birth control injection that they give to women is what they use as punishment for sex offenders in the state of California; those words don't tell you that if we were to have a moment of silence for every child aborted, we would be silent for ten years; those words don't tell you that the suicide rate for women having an abortion is six times higher than that of women who give birth. And those words can't even begin to tell

you the hurt, the hate, the helplessness that follows those women around for the rest of their lives.

Pregnancy tissue. It sure didn't seem like pregnancy tissue to Abby Johnson, former Planned Parenthood director, who left her position after she assisted in an abortion where she saw the baby's perfectly developed backbone be sucked from the mother's womb into the tube after the baby had kicked and fought against the vacuum. It was not a choice for the over 25 women who testified in the Whole Women's Health vs. Hellerstedt Supreme Court case vehemently stating that choice or consent was not part of their experience.

At the end of the day, everyone in this room understands that life deserves to be fought for from conception until natural death; to protect the life of the mother and the child. But, unfortunately, there are words deceiving the public about what abortion actually is. We have the facts. Now, we need the passion to go out and fight for what we believe in. For me, as a writer, seeing the abuse of words that results in the manipulation of strong women, is what makes me want to stand up and speak out. I want to use my words to strip down the linguistic shell that guards the brutal truth about abortion and build up a culture of life.

Anastacia ("Stacia") Mendoza is a Senior at St. James Academy, Lenexa, Kansas. The KFL 2019 junior/senior high school statewide oratory contest is April 27 in Salina. For more information and to register go to "upcoming events" on [kfl.org](http://kfl.org). Registration must be turned in by April 5 to qualify.

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## THE DANGER OF RELIGION



CLINT  
DECKER  
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"Come on. Let's go!" Every Sunday morning, including every Easter, since I was three years old all six of our family were rushing out the door to church. In the early years, dad was driving with us, later on he was already there because he was the pastor.

From those toddler years until I was 20, I had been to-and-through everything related to church; Sunday services, vacation Bible schools, youth group meetings, church membership, baptism, communion, and the list goes on. However, no one except my mother ever talked with me about where I stood with God, and that was one conversation. Everyone else, including me, must have assumed I was in good standing with the Lord. Boy was I wrong. If I would have died as a youth, I am not sure what I would have said if God would have asked me, "Clint. Good

to see you! Tell me, why do you think I should let you into this heaven I have built? Beautiful isn't it?" My mind would either have gone totally blank or I would have quietly mumbled my list of church achievements.

Jesus once said, "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?' And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness'" (Matthew 7:21-23).

Notice how these people thought because they were involved in church activities and doing good, that it was okay between themselves and Jesus. However, to their surprise on Judgment Day, they learned they had it all wrong.

What was the problem? Look at Jesus' response to them, "I never knew you." As the people approached Jesus, He looked at them carefully and did not recognize any personal relationship with them. They were complete strangers. There was no love between them. No friendship. Nothing.

This was a picture of me. Every



Sunday I was in the presence of Jesus. I read His Word. I was baptized in His name. I joined His church. I even prayed in His name. Yet, I never loved Him. I never considered Him my King, my Lord, my Savior . . . my friend. I had nothing but empty religion.

But praise God! Rather than letting me wait until Judgment Day to learn this, He opened my spiritual eyes, called me to Himself and transformed me into a new man. Today I can confidently say, "Jesus is mine and I am His."

For over 400 years, the United States has had the name of Jesus preached across it. We have heard how He suffered, died on a cross, and three days later rose again from the dead. This Easter message is not new to us, nor does it cost us anything to be religious and go to church in America . . . but it costs you EVERYTHING to

know and follow Jesus. Do not be surprised on Judgment Day. Do you love Him?

A prayer for you to pray – "Lord God, examine my heart. Point out if I do church and religious things out of obligation, to seek favor with you or to receive praise from others? Search me. Do I really love you Lord Jesus? Are you really my Savior and my friend? Today, I turn from religion and to You. Forgive me of my sins and help me to know you personally for the first time. In Jesus' name. Amen."

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



## Historian explains why Founding Fathers set up the Electoral College

Presidential historian Doug Wead explained why the Founding Fathers created the Electoral College during a recent interview with “Fox & Friends.”

“Balance. Checks and balance and to give everybody a vote,” he said.

“We could have the mainstream media and Hollywood and Silicon Valley all just go to a ballroom at the Ritz Carlton in Santa Barbara, California, lock the doors, pick the president and the country would be at peace.

“But the people in the rest of the country get to participate, too.”

Wead said the founders wanted America to be a republic, not a direct democracy.

He also asserted they wanted to protect those in the minority by giving them more adequate representation.

“They wanted representation. It’s a republic. They didn’t want the minority view to be squashed,” he said.

“Socialism is defined by Isaiah Berlin and others — the reason it squashes free speech is because ultimately the speech of the community is more important than the speech of the individual. And our constitution is our law.

“George Washington said that the Constitution was a guide that he would never abandon. Beto O’Rourke says it’s outdated.”

Wead also said it’s unlikely the

Electoral College will be dissolved and accused liberals of seeking a scapegoat for their 2016 election loss.

“It’s not going to happen,” he said. “This is back to 2016. First it was Comey’s fault. Then it was the Russians’ fault.

“Now it’s Thomas Jefferson’s fault. It’s the U.S. Constitution is the problem.”

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—Nick Givas

## Constitution Under Siege: The Electoral College Battle

by **George Filiiu**

“Every vote should count.”

To many that sounds fair. It sounds right. But is it?

“The Electoral College is wrong. The person who gets the most votes should be president.”

Does that sound right to you?

The answer to that varies but falls under one fundamental belief which is do you believe America to be a democracy or a republic. From that divide, you will understand the main difference between what conservatives are trying to preserve and what liberals are trying to fundamentally transform.

During the 2000 Presidential Election, many in the media and the left believed that Al Gore would win the Electoral College and Bush would win the popular vote. This was the last time the media and the Left staunchly defended the Electoral College while lying the groundwork for the very assault on it. It was after this election that I started studying what the Electoral College is and its importance.

So what is the Electoral College? Each state is afforded a certain number of votes, the amount of senators (2) combined with the amount of representatives in the house (which varies according to population). This makes the minimum amount of votes a state gives as three. These votes are determined by the popular vote each state making the winner the President of the United States.

The emphasis on States is important. Each state in America has different needs and desires. Each state under the Electoral College gets to choose which candidate they want as president by majority vote. (That’s the democracy in the republic you hear about.) The candidate that gets the



most votes (270 at this time) from these states wins the Presidency. Under this system, each state matters and therefore the people of each individual state are important.

Under a popular vote, the one with the most votes wins. It’s simpler and therefore easier to circumvent most people. That means cheating is easier. Also ignoring large sects of this country also becomes expedient.

Elections are expensive. Under the popular vote, the middle is ignored because all a candidate need win is the big cities of the east and west coast. The Midwest, the Southwest, and parts of the South will no longer matter because their votes won’t win elections. Look at the state of New York. NYC rules the state, and the Democrat Party rules NYC with an iron fist.

Under a popular, every vote counts. That sounds great, but not every vote should count. “Every four years, the dead rise and vote democrat in Chicago,” the old joke says. The truth is sadder; in that, in many big cities, the dead vote. Add to

that the millions of illegal aliens that vote. Then add to that those who vote more than once. Then add to that all those miraculous ballots that appear in bags which were handily put to the side in case needed to overturn an election barely won by a Republican which was how Al Franken won his seat in the Senate and many Republicans lost elections in 2018 they won on election night. Every vote counts. In the past election, some counties had more people vote in them than actually lived there by the thousands. Obviously, they all voted Democrats.

Once you put all those numbers together, it’s easy to see popular votes are easily doctored, and elections can easily be stolen. This is especially true because of an outwardly bias media who is out to cover for those on their side of the political aisle and dredge up the basest stories from the most unreliable sources to bury their competition. Many are willing to accept this because they want their candidate to win no matter what the cost. But what happens, when it’s someone they don’t like? At that point it doesn’t matter,

## The Electoral College protects the minority

By **Donna Carol Voss**

The sad lot of the Electoral College is that what you see isn’t what you get. Like the counter-intuitive fact that a tire blowout on the right requires a steering wheel correction to the left, the EC works backwards. What appears to deprive the populace of its power to decide a president is the very mechanism that preserves its power. It works that way because this isn’t a democracy; not a pure one.

“Pure democracy” is just another phrase for “mob rule.” Dictatorship of the majority means 51 percent of the citizenry rule the other 49 percent. That minority has no rights except those the condescending majority grants. It works well for those in the 51 percent, not so much for those in the 49. Plato knew it, and James Madison, who knew his Plato, did too. Plato and Madison both recognized that justice and liberty for the minority is possible only when power is shared between groups in society.

Plato’s “Republic” heavily influenced Madison and the other framers to devise a Constitution that protected the minority. Plato held that the ideal, i.e., just, form of government was one in which power was shared correctly between workers, warriors, and rulers. Madison held that the ideal, i.e., American, form of government was one in which power was shared correctly between judges, lawmakers, and rulers.

Inspired as it is, our Constitution protects the minority while preserving the best of democracy: we the

people elect representatives to run the government (republic) and we do so by majority vote (democracy). Ergo, this is a democratic republic. Ergo, an Electoral College.

The purpose of the Electoral College is to balance voting power across states so no one region of the country can gain too much control. If a president is elected by a simple majority of votes, a candidate who is wildly popular in one region (e.g., Ted Cruz in Texas, Mitt Romney in Utah) can ignore smaller regions and campaign only where large majorities are possible. Or a candidate who kills in California and New York can write off “flyover country” completely.

If, however, the Electoral College elects a president, a candidate who is wildly popular in one region must also prevail in a number of sub-elections to win. The Electoral College ensures a better result for the country as a whole than the democratic power play wherein 51 percent of us matter and 49 percent of us don’t.

Think of the Electoral College like the World Series. One person-one vote equates to the World Series Champions being determined by total number of runs scored. If the Dodgers win the first game 10-0, and the Yankees win the next four games 1-0, the Dodgers win the series. Even though the Yankees bested the Dodgers in four games, it doesn’t matter because the Dodgers scored 10 runs to their 4. One anomalous game decides the whole series. Without the Electoral College, a few heavily populated states decide the whole election.



because the republic is dead, and the government class rules us all without any checks or balances.

Ignorance is the greatest ally to the enemies of our Constitution. The reason so many are in favor of abolishing the Electoral College is that we have an Education system controlled by the Left who purposely keep their students from learning the importance of America’s greatness and what is needed to keep her free. Our institutes of education have become indoctrination centers of leftist

ideology (socialism, humanism, atheism, etc.). Generations of children have become adults with no real understanding of our Constitution, and its greatness.

The Constitution is under siege. The States lost the battle for the Senate. Now the states may lose the battle of the Electoral College. We lose this and we lose the right to choose our leaders. The Republic needs you and me to educate the ignorant and show them why our founders were all against Democracies and why they chose a Republic instead.



## How to benefit the most from summer camp

by **Children's Ministry Magazine**

Plan now to make your kids' summer camp experience life-changing — before and after the fun

Every summer churches everywhere send kids off to camp for life-altering experiences. Kids meet friends, mentors, and most important, God. But when camp is just one more thing in a long list of summer programming events, its potential as an awe-inspiring God experience may dwindle like the dying embers of a campfire.

A recent survey of churches participating in camp and asked them to identify best practices for making camp a truly unforgettable, faith-filled experience for kids.

What we learned is that by planning far ahead and being intentional in how you approach camp before and after, your kids will get an experience far more valuable than the cost of a camp reservation. Let's unpack these great ideas and our timeline.

### PREPARE RESOURCES

Camp creeps up on you exactly when a million other things are vying for your attention. Before you realize it, dates aren't on the calendar and money isn't saved. Plan and prepare today to build support and foster a focus on experiences-not

logistics.

- People are relationship resources. Plan to attend camp with your kids, and recruit enough people from your church who'll go so the connections kids make and confidences they gain don't get lost when they come back home. Our survey found that one of the most effective ways to keep the camp experience alive is for campers to bring a piece of it home—in the form of their counselors!

- Money makes it happen. Finances should never prevent a child from attending camp. Camp is something that can change kids' lives—so promote it and do whatever's necessary to get kids there. Here's how some churches do it.

- Offer savings options. One children's pastor encourages parents to open a "savings account" through the church in January. Parents put \$5 (or another small amount) per week in the account, so by the time kids sign up for camp the financial burden is gone or greatly lessened. This option is especially helpful for families with multiple campers and those facing financial hardship.

- Award scholarships. If people in your church are willing to send kids to camp, ask them to consider funding a camp scholarship account. Offer the option to donate in a lump sum or on a weekly basis. Estimate the number of kids who'll need financial help using the number of kids needing help the previous year and multiplying it

by 20 percent. You may wish to pad this amount to purchase needed camp supplies for kids who are financially challenged as well. Then create a poster to chart the total donations weekly and hang it in a central location.

- Time: Keep it on your side. Communicate early with your church families. Give them as much information up front as possible—camp details, schedules, cost, special requirements, and so on. Emphasize the dates so parents can arrange vacations and schedules accordingly.

### PREPARE CAMPERS

Experienced camp counselors know most kids aren't freely willing to jump into camp services or programs on the first day of camp. Most kids need to warm up to the idea of camp itself and the array of new faces. But you can prepare kids' hearts by gradually "warming them up"—long before they arrive at camp.

- Awaken kids' desire for God. Intentionally prepare kids spiritually for their camp experience, say leaders who are committed to camp. Build kids' anticipation by training them to think about what God has planned for their lives. Pump them up for the camp's theme. Encourage

kids to talk about their hopes and dreams. Use lessons that focus on God's plan for us and on unforgettable Bible heroes who did amazing things and that tie into the camp's theme. Invite guest speakers whose lives have been changed because of camp experiences.

- Prep kids' suitcases. Before you meet

Participation—Gradually lengthen and emphasize worship and prayer times in your children's services as camp approaches. Talk to kids in sermons or small group lessons about what worship looks, sounds, and feels like.

P.B.J.S.—One pastor says he did a series on "P.B.J.S." to help his kids prepare for camp. The spiritual focus

was to remind kids to have daily "Prayer, Bible reading, Journaling, and Solitude with God." He used this approach to stir kids' hearts for what God would do at camp. During each installment of the series, the pastor had kids eat a peanut-butter-and-jelly sandwich as a physical reminder of what they committed to do spiritually.



kids' spiritual needs, it may be necessary to meet their physical needs. Practically speaking, if kids aren't prepared with the appropriate supplies for camp, they'll be miserable, embarrassed, frustrated, and inhibited in their openness when it comes to God experiences. Don't stop at providing a recommended supplies list, check with all parents—especially those struggling with the financial costs of camp—to ensure their kids will have everything they need. Help those who need it.

- Get spirit. Many camps have a theme and are team-oriented. Stoke your campers' excitement about the fun to come by encouraging them to dress in their team colors on certain days and by advertising the camp's theme in your ministry. Play team-oriented games and encourage kids to cheer for each other.

- Prepare kids for worship. Kids will most likely have many hands-on experiences, which lead to experiential learning and worship. If the camp your kids attend has prolonged times of worship and prayer, prepare your kids to engage in worship and prayer so they won't be disoriented or disengaged.

### KEEP THE FIRES BURNING

Eric Jensen, author of *Teaching With the Brain in Mind*, says that for the brain to truly comprehend new information, kids must have "settling time." This means kids get an opportunity to process what they've learned and experienced at camp, without being immediately inundated with new material or lessons upon their return. Settling time is so valuable for kids to absorb camp experiences that churches should optimally plan on giving kids this "space"—at least a one-week period with no new lessons or topics—as a part of the follow-up camp experience. Here are more ways to maximize camp once kids come home.

- Bring camp home. While campers are away changing their perspective on life, things at home haven't changed. Coach campers to keep their zeal for God alive. Remind them that their openness to worship and prayer and their determination to stand up for what's right doesn't have to stop just because they're back home. It's normal for their initial excitement to wane; what's important is that they keep the experiences close to their heart.

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# Why summer camp is great for kids

by KEVIN EAST

Having worked in camps for over 20 years, and now with a full house of kids myself, I want to equip parents across the country who are looking to send their children to camp.

Summer camp is almost as American as apple pie and baseball. Movies have tried to document the uniqueness of this experience. Unfortunately, I've yet to see one that came close to pinpointing why a healthy week at summer camp is so good for a child.

When I simply take the words "summer" and "camp" and use them in the same sentence, my mind quickly jumps to mosquitos, tents, canoes, smores, and Kumbaya. Sadly, I think most picture the same thing, which falls way short of what a week of summer camp could be.

I realize for many with small kids, the idea of allowing your child to camp can be scary. Over the years, though, I have seen far too many success stories. A child who was scared, fearful or just simply didn't want to be at camp, often turns into the camper who loves it the most. There's a reason for this.

If I had to narrow it down to my top five reasons camp is so great for kids, here is what they would be:

## 1. It's an opportunity to disconnect.

- Share the change. Have kids share with someone important in their lives the changes they made with God. If the camper kept a journal, challenge the camper to share parts of it with someone trustworthy who'll be excited about what he or she experienced.

- Find a friend. Have campers find a friend from camp who'll help them be accountable to the choices and commit-

"Have you ever: played lazer tag in the woods, jumped off a 25 foot high ropes platform, jumped on a "blob" in a pool, or been on the back of horse? Most would say no. These experiences -- done safely -- are priceless."

Our culture is loud. I don't mean loud as in volume level. Our culture is loud in that there is all sorts of ambient noise going on all the time. Between school, sports, homework, cell phones, video games, Facebook -- to name a few -- kids today can be spread so thin they are ready to break.

When they come to camp, they turn in their cell phones, unplug their music, and begin to breathe deeply again. It is very fun to see kids surprised by a sunset, or in awe at the sound of crickets at night. Within the first two days at camp, you can begin to see the walls of protection come crashing down.

2. It's a great place to be known.

Most wouldn't admit it, but we all want to be



known. When you sleep in the same cabin with seven or eight other campers over a period of 6 days, great friendships can be formed. These friendships can become such a support throughout the year as life unfolds.

The relationship with the counselor should be the best one. I continually hear great stories of campers opening up to their counselors and sharing their souls with them. When they do, there is such a sense of relief. They can be known, and loved for who they are.

3. It's a new adventure to be experienced.

Have you ever: played lazer tag in the woods, jumped off a 25 foot high ropes platform, jumped on a "blob" in a pool, or been on the back of horse? Most would say no. These experiences -- done safely

-- are priceless. And when a child conquers a new adventure at camp, they quickly store it away as a reminder of their courage.

4. It's a great way to gain confidence.

Even high school students can be scared at the idea of going to camp. I've talked with seniors in high school who were homesick. However, when they get through it and realize they did it, it is great to see what it does to their countenance. When a child does an activity they never thought they would do, they walk taller, as if they've found their new armor.

Being away from their parents, making new friends, trying new activities -- these all help in the child gain confidence as they grow up.

5. They just might be transformed.

This is the main reason why I would want my child to go to camp. I believe God speaks to us through: His creation, His Word, and His people. When a child gets away from home, is surrounded by God's creation, and is taught the truth of scripture, they could be transformed. I tell the staff of our youngest kids camp quite regularly to take care of our future summer staff.

As a parent, I want to fill my bag full of "tools" to help me share with my kids who Jesus is. Camp is one of the tools I plan to use.

— By Kevin East. Boys & Girls Clubs of East Texas.

ments they made.

- Keep the connection. One counselor got a camper's address and sent him a card once a month for the following year. The camper couldn't remember the special speaker at camp, but he did remember the year that his counselor prayed for and believed in him.

- Partner with parents. Inform parents by sharing what kids experienced individ-

ually. It's easier to follow through on what God has done in a child's life if parents have an idea what happened. Give parents a "talk sheet" with questions to ask their kids to extend faith growth. And don't forget to post kids' camp photos on your Web site while they're at camp so parents can see what their kids are doing.

- Build on what kids learned. If campers learned how important it is to regularly read their Bibles and pray, give kids opportunities to do these things in your ministry. Create an accountability program that involves parents.

- Let kids share their stories. Many churches we talked to said they didn't place great importance on small group time-even if they slotted time specifically for these relational interactions. Provide opportunities for campers to share stories with others in small groups-this style of growth is beneficial and very important.

- Make time for play. What helps the kids bond with their camp counselors? A common quote among the children's pastors I hang with is, "If you play with them, you earn the right to pray with them." Fun and play breaks down barriers at camp-and it works at home, too.

- Integrate new ideas. If your kids really enjoyed a certain style of teaching or tool for learning at camp, try to fit it into

your ministry and incorporate it into weekly services or lessons. Seeing how others do ministry-and learning from kids' reactions is a huge part of any children's minister's education.

- Partner with your church. If you want your congregation to back camp financially or to support it as a meaningful experience, have campers share stories of how God changed their lives. Show video. Share scholarship information (numbers, not names). You'll highlight the benefits of camp and give campers an opportunity to solidify their experiences.

## STOKE THE FIRES

To prepare kids for camp, take steps to make it an experience-not just an event.

- Assemble a team. The best approach to anything worthwhile in ministry is a team approach. Find trustworthy people to do what you can't. Recruit "influencers" who can create a marketing timeline and generate growing excitement.

- Review curriculum. Evaluate your cur-

riculum to determine whether it supports your goals for the skills kids will walk away with from camp. Pay particular attention to the calendar just before and after camp. Look for connections between what kids will experience and everyday life transformation.

- Recruit early. Which leaders or parents should you talk to now about going to camp, so they can arrange their schedules? Talk to your current leaders to start with, since they already have a relationship with campers and will be engaged in their lives after camp is over. Choose people who are relational rather than task-oriented. Those who are relationally gifted will enhance campers' relationships with God and others.

- Aim high. Make efforts early on to get your pastor, board members, or other known influencers to commit to visiting camp. These individuals can become some of your most vocal advocates for the camp experience.

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## Prayer breakfast speaker advises on how to leave an intentional legacy

This year's featured speaker at the Kansas Prayer Breakfast, on Wednesday, March 20th was David McAlvany. McAlvany is CEO of the McAlvany Financial Companies, International Collectors Associates, ICA Europe, and McAlvany Wealth Management.

In talking about his book, "The Intentional Legacy," McAlvany shared his own personal failures and successes as a "Prodigal Son," who returned home to start over with purpose. He presented a strategy for "reverse engineering" your life and legacy. McAlvany presents a redemptive ethic for family prosperity based on love, forgiveness, and non-contingent relationships.

McAlvany said a person's legacy is not determined by possession, but by the many choices that are made throughout life.

"You may have a little," he said. "You may have a lot. Your legacy is about what you do with those resources. You get what you get, and it's up to you to do something with it."

"It's far more than the assets on a balance sheet, or shares or ounces of gold. Legacy is the expression of your values in the



daily choices you make — what you live for, who you live for and how that takes shape in the little choices that tell your story."

McAlvany encouraged the audience to "finish well," and urged his listeners to consider their legacy, saying their life is not just their own, but it is for all the people in it.

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## Capper Foundation returns to original corporate name

The Capper Foundation was founded in 1920 by Arthur Capper and continues building abilities and expanding quality programs, services, support, advocacy and opportunities for people of all ages with a range of disabilities across Kansas. In 2005, the organization signed an affiliate agreement with a national organization, Easterseals, Inc., and operated with the name Easterseals Capper Foundation, yet remained a separate Kansas nonprofit corporation governed by its own Board of Trustees. A strategic decision has been made by the organization to end the affiliate agreement with Easterseals, Inc. effective April 15, 2019.

Through research and feedback from long-time supporters, the organization found there was brand confusion and the benefit of brand association had diminished over time. The organization felt that this change would allow them to continue to focus on the local needs in Kansas communities, while ensuring and clarifying to the public that all of the money raised here stays in Kansas to support the mission and services.

As the renowned Kansas nonprofit organization approaches its 100th Anniversary in 2020, it will return to its roots and corporate name Capper Foundation. This is the corporate name registered with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

The organization will move forward with a fresh new look and updated mission and vision statements. The mission of Capper Foundation is to build abilities and empower people of all ages living with disabilities. Capper Foundation's vision is that every person is valued and enjoys access, independence and opportunities to advance their hopes and dreams.

Capper Foundation plans to celebrate its 100th Anniversary in 2020 with 100 Stories to Celebrate 100 Years. Anyone who has been impacted by their programs and services is invited to share their story. To submit, email [100stories@capper.org](mailto:100stories@capper.org) or call 785.272.4060 x 187.

The organization says its staff includes 320 skilled professionals who provide support and services to over 2,000 persons served with over one million hours of service.

Charity Navigator recognized the organization with its highest 4-star rating for the sixth consecutive time, indicating it outperforms most other charities in America.

Jim Leiker, Capper Foundation President & CEO, said, "We are very proud

of our long, meaningful history and our positive, life-changing impact on so many individuals with disabilities, their families and communities for nearly a century. Now, we are excited to move forward as Capper Foundation and continue building abilities and capabilities together with individuals with disabilities, their families, volunteers, donors and community partners. When everyone is empowered and included, we all win."

The organization's headquarters is located at 3500 SW 10th Avenue, Topeka. For more information call 785-272-4060 or visit [easterseals.com/capper](http://easterseals.com/capper).



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# Landscaping tips for Spring

by **Matt Maurer**

Put your sweaters and blankets away and dig deep into your drawer to find your landscaping clothes. It is time to feel the warm sunshine and get your hands dirty.

Add these five landscaping tips into your spring project plans to improve the appearance of your property, increase the value of your home and - best of all - make your neighbors jealous!

**1. Clean up** - The first thing you must do to prepare for any spring landscaping project is to clean up the lawn, beds and garden. Pick up all branches that may have fallen



during the winter, leaves and debris that may be on the lawn, in the garden or beds, and clean up the area you are preparing to work with.

**2. Plant and feed** - If you plan on planting new grass seed or installing sod, make sure you do not apply any pre-emergent with the early spring lawn treatment. Just apply a balanced organic based fertilizer in these areas.

If you plan on waiting until the fall to do your annual grass planting or sod installation, then I advise you to apply a crabgrass barrier pre-emergent plus fertilizer to the lawn.

A natural pre-emergent plus fertilizer is corn gluten meal.

For all plants and garden vegetables, make sure the soil is in the proper condition for planting. I would advise a soil test before planting anything to make sure you know what nutrients the soil is deficient in.

Add organic matter or compost to the soil at the



time of planting to improve the soil structure and to promote deeper roots. This will mean less stress from insects, disease and heat. It will also result in a lower water bill, as you'll need to water these areas less.



**3. Sharpen your mower blades** - If you winterized your lawn mower and didn't sharpen the mower blades, sharpen them now. There are plenty of professionals that can do this for you for a fee of around \$20 to \$30. If you plan on doing this yourself then make sure to remove the spark plug before attempting to take the blades off.

Sharpening your mower blades will help you cut the grass instead of tearing it. Tearing the grass blades can cause an unsightly tan or brown color to a freshly cut lawn. It also can promote fungus development.

**4. Set a higher mowing height** - Make sure to mow your grass high. For warm-season grasses, such as Bermuda or St. Augustine, the height should be 3/4 inch to 1 inch after being cut. For cool-season grasses, such as bluegrass or fescues, the height should be 2-1/2 inches to 4 inches high after being cut.

**5. Mulch** - Apply a 4-inch layer of fresh mulch over all beds to help reduce the amount of weeds that will pop up. Hand pull or carefully spray a glyphosate product such as Roundup on any weeds that have emerged after mulching.

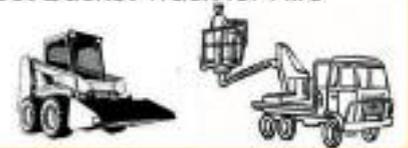
If you would like to use a natural non-selective weed control, then try using a vinegar or citrus oil based product. Be very careful not to spray any desirable plants though.

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## EASTER

continued from page 1

ner with Jesus, he explained to them that one of the twelve of them would soon betray him. One by one the disciples denied that it would be them, including Judas who would be the betrayer. Jesus responded that the person who betrays him will have a terrible fate and that indeed, it was Judas.

Jesus prayed and thanked God for the meal. He then broke the bread and shared the wine with the disciples and explained to them how the bread was a symbol of his body, broken for them, and the wine a symbol of his blood which would be poured out for their sins to be forgiven. This is where the church's tradition of communion comes from.

After the meal, Jesus became like a servant and washed the feet of the disciples. Peter did not feel right having Jesus wash his feet but Jesus said that He was doing it to be an example to them. Now the disciples would be able to wash each other's feet, meaning they could be servants to all.

### Judas Betrays Jesus

John 18:1-13, Luke 22:1-6, Luke 22:47-54, Matthew 26:47-56, Mark 14:43-50

The Bible Story of Judas betraying Jesus is found in all four gospels. This powerful story is well known in Christian theology as one of the most significant events of disloyalty. There are several explanations as to why Judas betrayed Jesus, including bribery and demonic possession, that vary among the gospel accounts.

The Gospels imply that Jesus anticipated and permitted Judas's betrayal. One interpretation is that Jesus allowed the betrayal because it would allow God's plan to be achieved and another that regardless of the betrayal, Jesus was eventually fated for crucifixion as part of God's plan.

During the meal of the Last Supper Jesus predicts that "one of you will betray me" referring to Judas. Judas leaves the supper and goes to the Roman authorities who are looking to arrest Jesus. He accepts a bribe of 30 silver and agrees to take them to Jesus. Judas knew that Jesus and the disciples would go to a garden near Jerusalem and led the soldiers there, stating "Whoever it is I kiss, he is the one; take him into custody, and lead him away under guard." Leading the group into the garden, Judas sees Jesus with his disciples and approaches him. "Greetings, Rabbi!" Judas says, and he kisses Jesus very lightly. "Fellow, for what purpose are you present?" Jesus responds. (Matthew 26:49, 50) Answering his own question, Jesus says: "Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?"

As the soldiers move toward Jesus, the apostles recognize what is happening. "Lord, should we strike with the sword?" they ask. (Luke 22:49) Before Jesus can respond, Peter uses one of the two swords that the apostles have and attacks Malchus, a servant of the high priest, cutting off his right ear.

Jesus caresses the ear of Malchus, healing the wound. He then teaches an important lesson, telling Peter: "Return your sword to its place, for all those who take up the sword will perish by the sword." Jesus is willing to be captured, for

## The Easter Story...continued

he explains: "How would the Scriptures be fulfilled that say it must take place this way?" (Matthew 26:52) This then leads to the trial and Crucifixion of Christ.

### Crucifixion of Jesus

Matthew 27:1-54, Mark 15:1-40, Luke 23:1-48, John 19:1-30

The crucifixion of Jesus is recorded in the New Testament books, known as the Gospels - Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. This Bible story is the central summary of the saving Gospel of Jesus. Jesus had prophesied of his death in Matthew "from that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life." Jesus understood that his life would be required as a sacrifice for the sins of man.

At the height of his ministry and miracles, many Jews came to believe in Jesus as Messiah, the Son of God. Jewish leaders feared Jesus because of his growing followers. With the help of Judas Iscariot, Roman soldiers arrested Jesus and he was put on trial for claiming to be the king of

the moment of his last breath, the earth shook, the temple curtain split from top to bottom, and the tombs of saints opened and their bodies raised from the dead.

The crucifixion of Jesus was a part of God's plan from the very beginning of the birth of Jesus. The sin of mankind would require a sacrifice. The sinless life of Jesus was lived and given so that man could receive salvation and eternal life in heaven.

### Resurrection of Jesus

Matthew 28, Mark 16, Luke 24, John 20

The resurrection of Jesus Christ is the foundation of the Christian faith. Without the resurrection, the belief in God's saving grace through Jesus is destroyed. When Jesus rose from the dead, he confirmed his identity as the Son of God and his work of atonement, redemption, reconciliation, and salvation. The resurrection was a real, literal, physical raising of Jesus' body from the dead.

Jesus was arrested, tried and found guilty of claiming to be a king. His body was hung on a cross between two thieves. After his death, Jesus' body was wrapped in linen clothes and placed in a tomb with a large stone rolled across the opening. On the third day, an early Sunday morning, Mary Magdalene and another Mary came to the tomb and found it empty. Sitting on the rolled away stone was an angel of the Lord who told them to not be afraid because Jesus had risen. As the women left to tell the disciples, Jesus Christ met them and showed them his nail pierced hands.

Both the Old and the New Testament speak of the truth of the Jesus being raised from death - Jesus testified of his resurrection before he died on the cross and his disciples witnessed his body after the resurrection. Below are the Bible verses and Scriptures that both prophesize of the resurrection and testify of its reality after Christ's death.



the Jews. According to Roman law, the punishment for rebellion against the king was death by crucifixion.

The Roman governor Pontius Pilate was reluctant when it came to the punishment for Jesus. Pilate could find no wrong in Jesus, yet he wanted to give the people what they wanted, and that was the death of Jesus. Pilate washed his hands in front of the crowd to symbolize that he was not taking responsibility for the bloodshed of Jesus and then handed Jesus over to be beaten and lashed. Jesus had a crown of thorns thrust on his head and made to carry his cross along the pathway to the hill where he would be crucified. The location of Jesus' crucifixion is known as Calvary, which is translated from "a place of skull".

Crowds had gathered to mourn and watch Jesus' death. Jesus was nailed to the cross between two criminals and his sides pierced by a sword. While Jesus was mocked, one of the criminals asked Jesus to remember him and Jesus responded: "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise." Jesus then looked to heaven and asked God to "forgive them, for they do not know what they do." When taking his last breath, Jesus spoke: "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit...it is finished."

Extraordinary events marked the death of Jesus. The sky was completely dark for three hours as Jesus hung on the cross. At

## EASTER EVENT SCHEDULE



LENTEN SERVICES – Wednesdays through Apr. 10, 7pm. Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 3625 SW Wanamaker. Light dinner at 5:30pm.

LENTEN SERVICES – Thursdays through Apr. 11, 7pm. First Lutheran Church, 1234 S.W. Fairlawn. Soup dinner at 5:30pm.

LENTEN BREAKFAST SERIES - Tuesdays through Apr. 16, 7:30am. Highland Park United Methodist Church. Freewill offering accepted.

EGG HUNT - Apr. 6, 10am. Grantville United Methodist Church, 3724 South St, Grantville. Refreshments & games, too. Preschool through 5th grade. grantvillechurch@grantvilleumc.com

ADULTS ONLY EASTER EGG HUNT - Apr. 7, 2pm. Lake Shawnee Park Shelter House #3. Eggs will include candy, gift certificates to local businesses, free drink coupons; Grand prize is carnival cruise for 2. \$30 per person, \$50 per couple. Light snacks, cash bar. The theme is retro 80's. ttfamily.org/events

EGG HUNT - Apr. 13, 10-11am. Calvary Lutheran Church, 4211 NW Topeka Blvd. 1 year old through 4th grade. Make cookies, and other fun activities.

EGG HUNT – Apr. 14, 3-5pm, Fellowship Bible Church, 6800 SW Urish.. Easter Story, games, etc

MOONLIGHT EGG HUNT - Apr. 18, 8pm. Shawnee North Community Center. Bring your flashlight! \$10. For info: penny.stormann@snco.us or 785-286-0676

WALK WITH JESUS – Apr. 19, 6-7pm & 7:20-8:20pm, 1100 Kasold Drive, Lawrence. An Easter event for families guides you through Jesus' last days on earth. Experience: Jerusalem for Palm Sunday, Sit down for the Last Supper Discover the sacrifice of Good Friday, And...celebrating freedom at the empty tomb. Free event, pre-registration suggested to reserve a time slot. Sponsored By Christ Community Church. Ticket/Registration at EventBrite

6th ANNUAL EASTERFEST: TOPEKA EASTER PARADE & FUN FAIR – Apr. 20, 10am-3pm, North Kansas Avenue & Garfield Park. Topeka's annual Easter Parade will begin at 10am at the tracks in NOTO and proceed north on Kansas Avenue past Garfield Park. Egg Hunt begins right after the parade at the playground in Garfield Park. Food Trucks will be on hand and the Family Fun Fair, Vendor Market with Bingo, and Health Fair will be 10-3 in Garfield Park, in the Shelter House & in the Gym, including vendor booths, children's games, food, facepainting, pony rides, laser tag, bubble soccer, cake walk and more. Bands, gymnastics, ballet and other entertainment will be on hand. For info: info@C5Alive.org or 640-6399.

EGG HUNT – Apr. 20, 5:10pm, Topeka Bible Church, 1135 SW College Ave. Egg Hunt is between two Easter Services at 4 and 5:30pm.

EASTER SERVICE & BREAKFAST - Apr. 21, Breakfast 8:30am; worship 10am. Rolling Hills Christian Church, 4530 NW Hiawatha Place. rhctopeka.org

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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; mail to Metro Voice, P.O. 5724, Topeka, KS 66605; fax to 785-235-3340 or enter online at 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.

**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 Commu-nity 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.

**GOOD VIBRATIONS: A 60'S REVIEW - Mar. 30, 3pm.** Jayhawk Theatre. Topeka Acapella Unlimited plus special guests DoubleStuf Quartet. \$20 general admission, \$15 each for groups of 8 or more. Part of the proceeds will benefit theatre restoration. Tickets: jayhawktheater.com. For info: 785-383-3649

**DWIGHT YOAKAM** - Mar. 31, 7:30pm. TPAC. \$45. ticket-master.com

**BLUE HEELER BAND** - Apr. 7, 4:30pm. Community Church, 1819 SW 21st St. Rhythm and Blues style Gospel. Freewill offering.

**ANDY MCKEE IN CONCERT** - Apr. 13, 7:30 pm. Acoustic guitarist Andy McKee returns to White Concert Hall, Washburn University. Tickets \$28 available at www.OnStageLive.org.

**MUSIC... JUST WHAT THE DOCTOR ORDERED** - Apr. 14, 3pm. First United Methodist Church, 600 SW Topeka Blvd. Freewill offering.

## 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@rhctoepka.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 Menkveld - 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-up1.html.

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

**BIBLE STUDIES** - Sundays 6pm, Bethel Baptist, 4011 N. Kansas Ave. "The Lies and the Agenda of the Devil in Our Culture and Nation" and also a ladies' study: "Read the Bible for Life." Contact 785-286-0467 or bethelbaptist17@yahoo.com. betheltopeka.org

**FISH & SPAGHETTI LUNCH** - Mar. 30, 11am-2pm, St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church, 701 S.W. Topeka Blvd. \$6 per meal. Bake sale, novelty, jewelry and miscellaneous items also will be available

**COMMUNITY DINNER** - Apr. 3, 5-6:30pm, Tecumseh United Methodist. Ham and potato casserole, vegetable, bread, dessert and drink. Freewill donation. to-go orders available.

**EGG HUNT** - Apr. 6, 10am. Grantville United Methodist Church, 3724 South St. Grantville. Refreshments & games, too. Preschool through 5th grade. grantvillechurch@grantvilleumc.com

**FATHER-DAUGHTER DATE NIGHT - Apr. 6, 5:30pm.** Topeka Bible Church, College Ave Building. Bring your daughter, granddaughter, niece, or any special young lady in your life. Includes corsage, photo, dinner, live music, and dancing. \$40 per couple. discovertrc.com

**LENTEN BREAKFAST SERIES** - Tuesdays through Apr. 16, 7:30am. Highland Park United Methodist Church. Freewill offering accepted.

**LENTEN SERVICES** - Wednesdays through Apr. 10, 7pm. Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 3625 SW Wanamaker. Light dinner at 5:30pm.

**LENTEN SERVICES** - Thursdays through Apr. 11, 7pm. First Lutheran Church, 1234 S.W. Fairlawn. Soup dinner at 5:30pm.

**FISH FRYS** - Fridays through Apr. 12, 5-7pm. Mater Dei-Assumption Catholic Church, 204 SW 8th. Adults \$8, children \$4.

**EGG HUNT** - Apr. 13, 10-11am. Calvary Lutheran Church, 4211 NW Topeka Blvd. 1 year old through 4th grade. Make cookies, and other fun activities.

**EGG HUNT** - Apr. 14, 3-5pm, Fellowship Bible Church, 6800 SW Urish.. Easter Story, games, etc.

**EGG HUNT - Apr. 20, 5:10pm, Topeka Bible Church, 1135 SW College Ave.** Egg Hunt is between two Easter Services at 4 and 5:30pm.

**EASTER SERVICE & BREAKFAST** - Apr. 21, Breakfast 8:30am; worship 10am. Rolling Hills Christian Church, 4530 NW Hiawatha Place. rhctoepka.org

**LADIES' CONFERENCE** - Apr. 26, 6pm & Apr. 27, 10am, Bethel Baptist, 4011 N. Kansas Ave. Beth Weedor,

author & missionary to Liberia is guest speaker. \$30 includes dinner & refreshments. RSVP by April 21 to 785-286-0467 or bethelbaptist17@yahoo.com betheltopeka.org

**ANNUAL SPRING DINNER** - Apr. 27, 4-7pm, Grantville United Methodist Church, 3724 South St. Menu is Ham or Chicken Casserole, Vegetables, Salads, Pie and Rolls. Free will offering. Bazaar, Crafts, Cake Walk and Bake sale 3-7 p.m. 785-246-3621 grantvillechurch@grantvilleumc.com

**DAUGHTERS OF THE KING CONFERENCE - Apr. 27, 9-4pm.** Topeka Bible Church, Mulvane Lower Auditorium. When women see themselves as daughters of the King, they understand their roles as single women, wives, mothers, widows, etc. \$12 per person includes lunch and materials. Childcare available for kids 0-5. discovertrc.com

## 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 nholm@tsclpl.org

**MEDICARE EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR** - Apr. 9 & 23, 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 or 270-4593 or 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@safestreets.org

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

**EAST TOPEKA FARMERS MARKET** - Tues. 3-7pm, Topeka Housing Authority, 2010 SE California.

**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** - Wednesday's, 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 HHHS WALKING GROUP** - meets 2nd & 4th Thur, 9:30-11 at HHHS, 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

**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.

**DOWNTOWN TOPEKA FARMERS MARKET** - Saturday's through Nov., 7:30am-noon, 12th & Harrison. The open-air market is full of fresh fruits and vegetables, herbs, arts & crafts, flower, home-baked goods and more.

**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.

**APR. CYCLING EVENTS** - Various cycle rides are offered by Kansas Cyclist. www.kansascyclist.com/

**APR. OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES** - Outdoor events and activities. www.getoutdoorskansas.org/calendar

**SCIENCE IS A BLAST** - BROWNIES - Mar. 30, 8:30am-12:30pm, Forest Park, 3158 SE 10th St. Price: \$10 to \$15. The Midnight Science Club (www.midnightscienceclub.com) is coming to Topeka to work with Brownies on their Home Scientist Badge. This is a 4 hour event including lunch and a show from Wizard IV.

**JUSTICE FOR ALL SEMINAR** - Mar. 31, 1-5pm. Christ Covenant Church, 2312 Harvard Rd. Lawrence. Abortion debate and dialogue interactive seminar. Pizza lunch provided. For registration: jfaweb.org

**SWING DANCE LESSONS** - Apr. 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30. Jayhawk Theatre, 720 SW Jackson St. Topeka Swing Dance continues beginner & advanced classes from 7 to 8pm. From 8 to 8:30, students will have time to practice, ask questions, and social dance. Tickets \$5. Water and snacks will be available. Dress in layers so you can remove sweaters, etc., as you warm up. No partner or prior dance experience needed. Wear shoes that will allow you to slide. All ages invited. For tickets or info: jayhawktheatre.org

**EMPOWERED TO CONNECT CONFERENCE - Apr. 5-6, 9am to 5pm, Fairlawn Church of the Nazarene.** Topeka Rescue Mission Ministries hosts two days of practical teaching in a safe and supportive community as we work to equip families, churches, and professionals to better serve children impacted by trauma, using principles of Empowering, Connecting and Correcting to reshape young minds and bring long-term healing into families. Provided free of charge. Register at trmonline.org/volunteer/special-events. Questions: volunteer@trmonline.org or (785)354-1744 ext. 393.

**TULIP TIME 2018** - Apr. 5-22, Old Prairie Town at Ward Meade Park, Ted Ensley Gardens, Doran Rock Garden

**CAPITAL CITY PET FESTIVAL** - Apr. 6, 10am-3pm, Helping Hands Humane Society. Register at the HHHS gift shop or call Justin Broker at (785) 233-7325.

**JOURNEY FOR SIGHT 5K WALK/RUN & 10K RUN - Apr. 6, 8am start, Combat Air Museum, Forbes Field.** Funds raised support Lion's Club Eyeglass Procurement Programs. Register online at topekalions.org, or in person at Gary Gribbles Running Sports (or raceday at 7am)

**STROLLIN FOR THE COLON 5K RUN/WALK** - Apr. 6, 8:30am. Cedar Crest, Governor's Mansion 1 SW Cedar Crest Rd. \$20 per person. Colon cancer survivors register free. Register at active.com or for info: estarker@kmcpa.com or 785-409-9633

**BERRYTON KIWANIS PANCAKE FEED** - Apr. 6, 7am-12pm. Berryton United Methodist Church. Silent auction and plant sale.

**SUNFLOWER SOCCER HORNBAKER'S EASTER EGG HUNT** - Apr. 6, 8:30am, 4829 NW 17th St. A fun event, free including soccer, face painting, bouncy houses, and Egg Hunt. info@sunflowersoccer.org 785 233 9700

**YOUTH PROJECT TWEED RIDE - Apr. 7, 1-5pm.** A fundraiser to support The Youth Project. Meet at Great Overland Station for a leisurely ride through Downtown Topeka & NOTO dressed in your best tweed or vintage attire. Tickets are \$25 per individual or \$50 per family.

**ADULTS ONLY EASTER EGG HUNT** - Apr. 7, 2pm. Lake Shawnee Park Shelter House #3. Eggs will include candy, gift certificates to local businesses, free drink coupons; Grand prize is carnival cruise for 2. \$30 per

person, \$50 per couple. Light snacks, cash bar. The theme is retro 80's. tffamily.org/events

**TULIP TIME FESTIVAL AT THE LAKE** - Apr. 7, 10am, Ted Ensley Gardens, 3650 SE West Edge Rd. \$5. Stroll the gardens to see 60,000 multi-colored tulips & other spring flowering bulbs. Vendors, live music, food trucks. 785-251-6800

**SEMI-ANNUAL GARAGE SALE - Apr. 7 & 8, 8am-12noon, First Christian Ch., 1880 SW Gage, (enter from 19th and Stone).** Antiques, kitchen ware, games, books, puzzles, electronics, Christmas, furniture, something for everyone. Proceeds used for community and youth activities. Sponsored by Seeker Class at First Christian Church.

**PREPARING YOUR ESTATE PLAN** - Apr. 9, 3pm, Edward Jones, 3100 SW Huntoon. Learn about what to consider when creating your will; the benefits of trusts in estate planning; how to help reduce taxes on your estate; how insurance can help protect your family. (785) 273-0110 Valerie.Nelson@edwardjones.com

**CBMC LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE DAY AT CLOVER CLIFF RANCH** - Apr. 11, 9am-3pm, Clover Cliff Ranch, 826A U.S. Highway 50, Elmdale, KS. Bring your team, a friend, or colleague and let our renowned speakers inspire the leader within you and provide real world advice and insights. Register at kc.cbmc.com

**C5Alive "POWER" LUNCHEON - Apr. 11, 11:30-1, at NOTO Arts Center.** Ex. Dir. Tom Underwood will speak about coming changes to NOTO Arts District.

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

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

SAVE THE DATE: May 9, 11:30-1, C5Alive Power Luncheon

**TULIPS AT TWILIGHT** - Apr. 12-28, 6-10pm, Old Prairie Town. See more than 40,000 tulips illuminated by candle light and more than 30 lighted displays. Live music and Old Prairie Town building tours on Friday and Saturday evenings. \$5 donation; children 5 and under free. For info: 785-251-6991

**DIABETES HEALTH FAIR** - Apr. 13, 12-4, Central Park Community Center, 1534 SW Clay. Hosted by the Emerald City Cosmopolitans. Free. Demonstrations, vendors and speakers. For vendor or questions: Lindsay Ransom-Engelken at 785-438-0552 or lindsay.ransom@sunflowersoccer.org. https://portal.clubrunner.ca/101323.

**7TH ANNUAL BRIDGE2BRIDGE 5K RUN/WALK** - Apr. 13, 8-10am, Downtown Topeka. Traverse sidewalks, streets, bridges in this urban experience. Course is USATF certified. 8 age categories. All ages welcome. See Bridge 2 Bridge 5K Run & Walk facebook event page

**BRIDGE 2 BRIDGE 5K RUN/WALK** - Apr. 13, 8am-12pm. Downtown Topeka. Visittpeka.com

**BALLET MIDWEST PRESENTS COPPELIA** - Apr. 13, 7:30pm & Apr. 14, 1:30pm. TPAC. \$20. Tickets through Ticketmaster or at TPAC

**BALLET MIDWEST: MY FIRST BALLET: FAIRYTALES AT THE TOY SHOP BALLET** - Apr. 13, 1:30pm. TPAC. \$20. For info: balletmidwest.net

**WALK MS 2019** - Apr. 13, 9-2pm. For info and registration: nationalmssociety.org or facebook.com/walkms

**SHOP SMALL TOPEKA** - Apr. 13, 10-5pm. Ag Hall at Kansas Expoentre. 70 vendors, make & takes, yummy food, crafts, clothes, giveaways, and more

**SCREENING OF "BEING MORTAL"** - Apr. 16, 5:30-7:30, Jayhawk Theatre. A screening of the documentary "Being Mortal." The investigative journalism program FRONTLINE follows renowned writer and surgeon Atul Gawande as he explores the relationships doctors have with patients who are nearing the end of life. The film investigates the practice of caring for the dying, and shows how doctors are often remarkably untrained, ill-suited and uncomfortable talking about chronic illness and death with their patients.

**2019 NATIONAL NIGHT OUT PLANNING MEETING** - Apr.

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

**Apr. 11, 11:30-1 -- "POWER" Luncheon at NOTO Arts Center, 935 N. Kansas Ave.**

**Featured Speaker: Ex. Dir. Tom Underwood**

Open to the Public!

RSVP to info@C5Alive.org or 785-640-6399

Save the Dates!

- Apr. 20, 10am-3pm, **EASTERFEST** featuring the Easter Parade on N. Kansas Ave and Fun Fair at Garfield Park!
- May 9, 11:30-1, POWER Luncheon: Details to follow

For info: www.C5Alive.org or Facebook.com/C5Alive

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17, 6:30 pm, Topeka & Shawnee Co. Library. First meeting to organize NNO on August 11. Come register your neighborhood event and share ideas.

**MOONLIGHT EGG HUNT** - Apr. 18, 8pm. Shawnee North Community Center. Bring your flashlight! \$10. For info: penny.stormann@sncu.us or 785-286-0676

**WALK WITH JESUS** - Apr. 19, 6-7pm & 7:20-8:20pm, 1100 Kasold Drive, Lawrence. An Easter event for families guides you through Jesus' last days on earth. Experience: Jerusalem for Palm Sunday, Sit down for the Last Supper Discover the sacrifice of Good Friday, And...celebrating freedom at the empty tomb. Free event, pre-registration suggested to reserve a time slot. Sponsored By Christ Community Church. Ticket/Registration at EventBrite

**6th ANNUAL EASTERFEST: TOPEKA EASTER PARADE & FUN FAIR** - Apr. 20, 10am-3pm, North Kansas Avenue & Garfield Park. Topeka's annual Easter Parade will begin at 10am at the tracks in NOTO and proceed north on Kansas Avenue past Garfield Park. Egg Hunt begins right after the parade at the playground in Garfield Park. Food Trucks will be on hand and the Family Fun Fair, Vendor Market with Bingo, and Health Fair will be 10-3 in Garfield Park, in the Shelter House & in the Gym, including vendor booths, children's games, food, facepainting, pony rides, laser tag, bubble soccer, cake walk and more. Bands, gymnastics, ballet and other entertainment will be on hand. For info: info@CSAAlive.org or 640-6399.

**PANCAKE BREAKFAST AND SILENT AUCTION** - Apr. 20, 7-11am, First Christian Ch., 1880 SW Gage. \$6. Proceeds used for Sunflower Lions Club Vision Screening for small children, and purchasing eye examinations and eye glasses in the Topeka community. For more info contact Lion Vern Failor at vffailor@gmail.com

**KIWANIS COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE** - Apr. 24, 2-6pm, Shawnee Heights First Station at 53rd and California. For info: betty.snoddy@gmail.com

**DISNEY ON ICE: FROZEN** - Apr 25-27. Kansas Expocentre. For info: Box Office: 785-251-5552  
Order Tickets: 800-745-3000

**SHOOTING FOR SUCCESS** - Apr. 27, 9am. Ravenwood Lodge. Competitive shooting event. topekatiba.org

**CAM PANCAKE FEED** - Apr. 27, 7am-12pm. Combat Air

Museum. All you can eat pancakes, celebrity pancake flippers, entertainment, a fly-in market, and admission to the museum.

**4TH ANNUAL TRAIN FESTIVAL** - Apr. 27, 10-3pm. Atchison Railroad Museum, 200 South 10th.

**54TH ANNUAL BLINTZE BRUNCH AND JEWISH FOOD AND CULTURAL FAIR** - Apr. 28, 9am - 1:30pm, Temple Beth Shalom, 4200 S.W. Munson. Advance tickets \$12 at Briman's Jewelers, 734 S. Kansas Ave.; Einstein's Outdoor Outfitters, 1820 S.W. 10th Ave.; and temple office. Tickets at the door: \$15. Age 5-12 \$6.

**STATE OF KANSAS HOLOCAUST COMMEMORATION SERVICE** - April 29, 1pm. Ramada Hotel, 420 SE 6th. Speaker will be Holocaust survivor Gitla Doppelt. Clergy, choirs, students and political leaders are scheduled to participate. Reception will follow.

**6TH ANNUAL SAFE KIDS DAY AT THE ZOO** - May 4, 9am-3pm. Topeka Zoo.

**23RD ANNUAL CELEBRATION WALK** - May 10, 6pm. Free children's activities, live music and release butterflies in memory of loved ones. Luminaries will be placed on the grounds and can be purchased for \$10.00 in memory of anyone you would like to remember. For info: midlandcareconnection.org/19walk or 785-232-2044

**YOUTH FOR CHRIST GOLF CLASSIC** - May 10, 11:30 reg.; 12:30 shotgun start, Lake Shawnee. Several sponsorship levels available. Lots of prizes! 232-8296 or tyfcoffice@gmail.com or topekayfc.org

**MOTHERS DAY WEEKEND FLOWER/PLANT SALE** - May 11, 8am-12pm. Auburn Civic Center, 1020 N Washington.

**MEETINGS & CLASSES**

**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.

**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.flocritkansas.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.

**BOY'S 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. 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 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 ourladyofthefaithful@gmail.com. Facebook: "OurLadyoftheFaithful."

**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 785-266-7307

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ond 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

**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, Great Overland Station 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.

**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 [tgestopeka.org](http://tgestopeka.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. [kingdomadvisors.org](http://kingdomadvisors.org) or [Jim.Hanna.james.c.hanna@ampf.com](mailto:Jim.Hanna.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, Wana-maker Rd Baptist Church, 2700 SW Wanamaker. Doing Good for Others: Knitting & Crocheting for Local Charities, free yarn, needles, hooks & patterns. All are welcome. Amie, 272-9249 or [kittens812@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kittens812@sbcglobal.net)

**BIBLE QUIZZING** - 1st Sat. Learn God's Word & have fun with area Christian youth age 9-19. YFC/YEA style quizzing & rules. 913-593-6427 or [biblequizzing.org](http://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 Buchannan. 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](mailto:KLCarlson20@cox.net).

**AL-ANON FAMILY GROUPS** - for friends & families of alcoholics. For info: 785-409-3072 or [topekaalanon.org](http://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](mailto: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](http://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.

**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: Charla, 286-2329; Jennie (English/Spanish) 231-0763.

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

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

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

**DIVORCARE PROGRAMS** - (For updates check [www.divorcecare.org](http://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](http://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](mailto:walnutviewcc@att.net).

**WED.** - 6:30pm, Northland Christian Church, 3102 NW Topeka Blvd. No Cost. 286-1204, [www.northland.cc](http://www.northland.cc)

**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 Church

**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; [Laboomaha@att.net](mailto:Laboomaha@att.net).

**CELEBRATE RECOVERY** - Every Fri., 6pm, 1912 Gage Blvd. A Christ-centered program, based on 8 principles found in Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. Applying these Biblical principles, become free from addictive & dysfunctional behaviors. [crtopekaks.org](http://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.

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# entertainment

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## ‘Apollo 11’ is a splendid celebration of achievement and God’s creation

By Michael Foust

Apollo 11’s mission to the moon was among the greatest achievements in world history, but – sadly – it wasn’t captured with today’s high-definition video cameras.

Instead, we’re left only with grainy footage showing Neil Armstrong stepping on the moon and Walter Cronkite describing the action.

Then again ... maybe not.

A new documentary, appropriately named Apollo 11 (Rated G), brings that 50-year-old mission to life thanks to a newly discovered batch of 65mm film and more than 11,000 hours of uncatalogued audio recordings – most of which we’ve never seen or heard.

The result is a 90-minute movie that nearly has the appearance of being filmed yesterday and makes you feel like you’re living in 1969.

It’s among the best documentaries I’ve seen and – minus two moments of coarse language – is squeaky-clean for the entire family.

It was directed and edited by Todd Douglas Miller, who is best known for his work on another documentary, Dinosaur 13. He said he wanted to avoid using the footage the public already had seen.

“I’m such a fan of space films, and when we started this project, I was seeing everything again ad nauseum, so I knew what was out there,” he told the entertainment site MoveableFest.com.

Miller succeeded in his quest. For example, the iconic black-and-white film of Armstrong stepping down the ladder isn’t even in the movie. Instead, we watch a color film that was recorded inside the lunar lander by his crewmate, Buzz Aldrin.



drinking coffee on the beach, lining up at concession stands, waking up in a Florida campground, and cramming together on a hotel balcony – all ready to see history being made. It happened when coffee was 5 cents, beehive hairstyles were in, and everyone wore crazy-looking glasses. (Yes, those details are in the film, too.)

Apollo 11 is a must-see film for those who lived

through it and those who are just learning about it in school. It’s inspiring and educational, and it contains a few edge-of-your-seat moments you likely didn’t expect. It’s a celebration of achievement, teamwork and our shared humanity.

It also raises a few worldview questions, led by Buzz Aldrin’s pronouncement that the mission was a symbol of the “insatiable curiosity of all mankind to explore the unknown.” But why do we have this insatiable desire to explore? Perhaps it’s because God planted within us a hunger to discover what’s out there. Perhaps it’s because God’s universe is so incredible it’s worth exploring. Or perhaps it’s because we have the imago dei – the image of God – that gives us the ability to build rockets and learn more about what God’s creation.

Whatever the reason, Apollo 11 is worth watching.

Content warnings: The film contains no violence or sexuality and two coarse words (h-ll heard in the John Stewart song Mother Country, and a muffled “d-n” by Collins from space when he says he feels “d-n good.”

*Entertainment rating: 4 out of 5 stars. Family-friendly rating: 4.5 out of 5 stars.*

The rest of Apollo 11 follows a similar pattern, as we enjoy never-before-broadcast footage of event after event. Instead of grainy television footage of the launch, we’re treated to an up-close 65mm footage of the rocket lifting from the pad and piercing the clouds. That alone is worth the price of admission.

The movie also succeeds because it has no narrator. We only hear the astronauts, the Mission Control workers, and, of course, Cronkite. His booming, nostalgic voice sets the tone.

“It’s three hours and 32 minutes until man begins the greatest adventure in his history,” Cronkite says at the beginning “If all goes well, Apollo 11 astronauts Armstrong, Aldrin and Collins are to lift off from pad 39A out there, on the voyage man has always dreamed about.”

At the beginning of the movie, we watch the mammoth Saturn V rocket make its way to the launchpad on the crawler-transporter. Later, we see the astronauts donning their suits and climbing into the capsule. The movie ends with the world celebrating their return.

Yet it’s the minuscule details, recorded on once-forgotten footage the day of the launch, that makes the documentary entertaining: Americans



## “Leaving Neverland” documentary alleging sexual abuse by Michael Jackson stirs controversy

[Editor’s Note: This is the first in a 3-part series on children and sexual abuse. Part 2 is *How Child Molesters Think and Act and How to Protect Children from Them*. Part 3 is *12 Steps to Protecting Children from Sexual Predators*. The Metro Voice does not endorse HBO or *Leaving Neverland*. If Metro Voice readers view *Leaving Neverland*, age appropriate viewer discretion is advised.]

On March 3rd and 4th HBO premiered a four-hour, two-part feature titled *Leaving Neverland*. The documentary features two men, now in their 30s, Wade Robson and James Safechuck. They allege Jackson sexually abused them for years from when they were 7 and 10-years-old.

According to Nielson, as of March 12th, one week after parts one and two were released, they had been viewed 6.12 million times. That makes *Leaving Neverland* the most viewed documentary in the last decade and the third most viewed one ever.

Jackson reportedly settled a multi-million-dollar lawsuit in 1993 filed by another child accuser for \$23 million without ever admitting guilt. That same year Jackson’s own sister, Latoya Jackson, publicly alleged that the accusations were true, which she later recanted.

### Previous Lawsuit and Prosecutions Against Jackson

In 2003, Jackson was arrested on charges of sexual assault and abuse of other children. He was eventually acquitted in 2005 on all counts. His legal team included Johnny Cochran, the attorney who represented O.J. Simpson in his murder trial.

Jackson’s family issued a blistering denial of the allegations in *Leaving Neverland*, calling the documentary a “public lynching.” They also stated, “We are furious that the media, who without a shred of proof or single piece of physical evidence, chose to believe the word of two admitted liars over the word of hundreds of families and friends around the world who spent time with Michael, many at Neverland, and experienced his legendary kindness and global generosity.”

The Jackson Family statement also called Safechuck and Robson perjurers.

“The creators of this film were not interested in the truth. They never interviewed a single solitary soul who knew Michael except the two perjurers and their families.”

Jermaine Jackson, one of Michael’s brothers, appeared on Good Morning America and called the allegations “nonsense.” He also defended Michael’s admitted practice of having young boys sleep with him overnight in his bedroom, calling them innocent “slumber parties.”

### Allegations “Devastating and Credible”

Despite Jackson’s acquittal in 2005 – four years before his death in 2009 – and his family’s vehement denials, the court of public opinion seems to have reached a different verdict. The liberal Washington Post called the film “devastating and credible.” The equally liberal New Yorker magazine called it “horrifying and unforgettable.”

While sales of Michael Jackson’s songs continue on music websites, such as Apple Music and Spotify, some radio stations in the United States and worldwide have pulled Jackson’s songs from their playlists. Others have called for boycotts of his music. Since his death, Jackson’s estate has generated \$2.4 billion in income.

### Lawsuits Against Jackson’s Estate and HBO

HBO released a follow-up 58-minute show titled *Oprah Winfrey Presents: After Neverland*, hosted by Winfrey and featuring Robson, Safechuck and the film’s director, Dan Reed. The audience was made up of hundreds of victim survivors of childhood sexual abuse.

In 2016 Robson filed a lawsuit against the estate of Michael Jackson for damages. It was dismissed in 2017 and is currently under appeal. The Michael Jackson Estate has filed a \$100 million lawsuit against HBO.

For those who have been sexually exploited, molested or assaulted, confidential help is available at the National Sexual Assault Hotline at (800) 656-HOPE (4673) or online at rainn.org. Missouri’s Child Abuse and Neglect hotline is (800) 392-3738. The Kansas Child Abuse hotline is (800) 922-5330.

## Christian singer Matthew West drops music video for ‘Unplanned’ song

On Friday, Christian singer Matthew West debuted the music video for his brand-new song, “Unplanned” releasing the track a few days before the premiere of the movie by the same name.

West wrote the song to accompany the upcoming movie “Unplanned,” a \$6 million project chronicling the experiences of Abby Johnson, a former Planned Parenthood clinic director who left the nation’s largest abortion provider after watching a pregnancy termination in real time via ultrasound.

In a statement following the song’s release, the “Do Something” singer said he wrote it “from the perspective of someone seeing their newborn baby for the first time.”

“I tried to capture the feelings I



month the movie was made “for such a time as this,” noting the myriad pro-abortion laws advancing in various states across the country.

“We couldn’t have foreseen the rapid developments that are suddenly coming to a head,” he explained, “but we serve a God who could, and did.”

The most effective way to put a stop to abortion, Konzelman added, is to “collectively decide abortion is wrong, and act upon that decision.” He hopes “Unplanned” accomplishes that goal.

“Unplanned” debuts in theaters nationwide Friday, March 29. For more information about the movie or to purchase tickets, click here.

—cbn.com

had when I first heard my own daughter’s heartbeat, the overwhelming sense of life that is precious, a life that is a miracle, and a life that is a gift,” West said. “I hope this song moves you the way it moved me.”

Chuck Konzelman, director for the Pure Flix film, told Faithwire last



## family-friendly spotlight

### ‘Breakthrough’ leads 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.*

Labeling a film “the best faith-based movie” you’ve seen doesn’t always help.

On one hand, some skeptics of faith films might pay attention and watch it. On the other hand, skeptics also might consider it a backhanded compliment -- sort of like calling a restaurant “the best Taco Bell around.”

A new faith-based film, *Breakthrough* (PG), opens in theaters April 17. And while it does rank among the best faith-based movies I’ve seen (it’s in my Top 5) it’s also simply a great movie -- *period* -- and would hold its own against the leading inspirational mainstream films ever made.

It tells the true-life story of a Missouri teenage boy named John Smith who falls through an icy pond and is under water for 15 minutes before he is pulled to the surface. Without a pulse, he is taken to the hospital and considered dead when his mother begins praying over his body. He regains a heartbeat -- 45 minutes after he fell in the pond -- and recovers.

It stars Chrissy Metz (*This Is Us*) as the mother, Joyce Smith, and Topher Grace (*Spider-Man 3*) as her pastor, Jason Noble. DeVon Franklin produced it, with NBA star Steph Curry and Samuel Rodriguez of the National Hispanic Christian Leadership Conference serving as executive producers. Fox 2000 Pictures is releasing it. Metz, not surprisingly, is outstanding.

**Breakthrough leads this month’s list of “5 Family-Friendly Things.”**

The movie’s miraculous plot will have its doubters, but it has the medical documentation to support it. Mainstream newspapers and television stations covered the real-life story when it took place in 2015.

*Breakthrough* shows the mother struggling to build a close relationship with her son, who was adopted from Guatemala.

“The number one takeaway it that prayer works [and that] love wins,” Franklin told a panel of Christian media members in March. “When you think about it, why would Joyce pray that hard? It’s because of her love. And I think that’s just so powerful!”

The movie has no sexuality and only minor language (two instances of h-ll and a couple of OMGs.) It is rated PG for the mature content including peril.

**Also worth watching this month:**

**‘The Pilgrim’s Progress’** -- This animated film re-tells the famous story by John Bunyan of a man named Christian who journeys from the City of Destruction to the Celestial City. It stars John Rhys-Davies (*Raiders of the Lost Ark*, the *Lord of the Rings* series), Ben Price and singer Kristyn Getty as the narrator. It is in theaters for two nights only: April 18 and 20.

**‘Jesus: His Life’** -- This eight-part, four-week History Channel series examines the life of Christ through the eyes of people who knew him: Joseph, John the Baptist, Mary the mother of Jesus, Caiaphas, Judas, Pontius Pilate, Mary Magdalene and Peter. It mixes drama with interviews from 20-plus religious leaders. Unfortunately, a couple of the experts question the biblical account, but -- thankfully -- the evangelical voice is represented. Among the evangelical scholars: Asbury Seminary’s Ben Witherington, who sides with Scripture every time. *Jesus: His Life* concludes the Monday before Easter.

**‘An Interview with God’** -- A depressed journalist named Paul Asher lands the interview of a lifetime with God, who agrees to three one-on-one sessions, 30 minutes apiece. Now on Netflix, *An Interview with God* was one of the best and most thought-provoking faith-themed films of 2018. It’s not a perfect movie, but it stands out with its acting and plot. Brenton Thwaites (*Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales*) plays the journalist and David Strathairn (*Lincoln*) plays the role of God. It is unrated.

**‘Popular Mechanics for Kids’** -- Two teenagers travel the world to explain science and technology to children. Topics covered include the Arctic, the space station and slime (*of course!*). More than 40 episodes of this entertaining and educational series are now streaming on 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.*

# ‘Jesus’ debuts on the History Channel

Millions may be tuning in to the History Channel this weekend to catch the premier of the latest biopic on the life of Jesus.

Little understood outside of those who believe in His name, Jesus is seen as one of history’s most controversial personalities. Was he a good man spreading love and peace? A rabble-rouser stirring rebellion? A charlatan deceiving the masses both then and now? Was he something else? These are questions the world likes to ask.

Easter seasons have spawned numerous Bible-related media projects. 2013 saw Mark Burnett’s and Roma Downey’s blockbuster *The Bible* series draw huge television audiences -- 100 million viewers. Their *Son of God* film hit theaters in 2014. CNN’s *Finding Jesus* investigative documentary series ran in 2015 and 2017.

So what’s different about History Channel’s *Jesus: His Life* in 2019? This one tells the story through the eyes of eight people intimately involved with him...friends and antagonists:

- Joseph, his earthly father, who protected him
- John the Baptist, who publicly presented him



- Mary, his mother, who raised him
- Caiaphas, who sought to eliminate him
- Judas, who betrayed him
- Pilate, who condemned him to die
- Mary Magdalene, who supported him
- Peter, who died serving him

The series blends dramatic reenactments with commentary from scholars and faith leaders. Some series commentators question the Bible’s accuracy. Others support its plausibility.

Who was Jesus, really?

What are the alternatives? If Jesus’ claim to deity was true, he would be the Lord. If it was false and he knew it, he was lying. If he didn’t know it was false, he had serious delusions, perhaps paranoid schizophrenia or paranoia proper.

Jesus’ claim to deity -- that he asserted it has substantial support -- sets him apart from great moral teachers. Either he was a

liar, or a lunatic, or the Lord.

Was he a liar? If so, he died for that lie. Few, if any, would willingly die for something they knew was a hoax. Would you? Both believers and skeptics have considered Jesus a paragon of virtue.

Was Jesus a lunatic? His teachings about love, forgiveness, respect, and interpersonal relationships are often used as a basis for mental health today. He had a genuine concern for others, a cool response under pressure, and a great love for his enemies as he said from the cross, “Father, forgive them; for they don’t know what they are doing.” If Jesus was insane, what must we be?

If he was not a liar and not a lunatic, we’re left with the alternative that he was the Lord, as he claimed. Evidence for his resurrection supports this conclusion.

Who is Jesus, really? Why not examine the evidence and decide for yourself? *Jesus: The Life* could help you start exploring this. I also encourage you to investigate how to know him personally. These are the two most important questions I’ve ever tackled.

Premieres March 25.

—ASSIST News Service

## REVIEW: ‘Captain Marvel’ is different, and that’s good

By Michael Foust

My seven-year-old daughter won’t get to watch the newest superhero movie, *Captain Marvel*. There’s too much violence. And a bit too much language. It deserves its PG-13 rating.

But that doesn’t mean I didn’t think about her while watching *Captain Marvel* this week.

That’s because this newest film in the Marvel franchise gives us something that’s been lacking in so many blockbusters: A lead female character who isn’t sexualized, who isn’t objectified, and who isn’t judged based solely on her looks. The camera doesn’t ogle her figure. It spotlights her talents.

Unlike the lead actresses in the *Transformers* franchise, she doesn’t run around half-naked. And unlike the lead actress in the 1997 hit *Titanic*, she doesn’t get fully naked, either.

In fact, sex and romance aren’t even a sub-plot in *Captain Marvel*. This superhero doesn’t have eyes for anyone. She’s too busy battling the bad guys.

She has other role model-like qualities, too. She’s courageous. She’s caring. She’s selfless. She battles evil with integrity. She stands for what’s right.

In other words, she’s the type of super-



hero you wouldn’t mind your daughter emulating when she and her friends are dressing up and playing make-believe.

Thankfully, the movie’s plot is pretty good, too.

*Captain Marvel* follows a woman named Vers (played by Brie Larson) from the planet Hala who crash lands on Earth in search of her race’s long-time nemesis: the shape-changing Skrulls. There could be a dozen or more of these lizard-faced creatures on the loose, and it’s going to be difficult finding them. That’s because they have chameleon-like qualities and can appear as anything: an elderly woman, a middle-aged man, even a baby.

The Skrulls -- we’re told -- are trying to take over the galaxy, and Vers and her Kree people are out to stop them.

But something strange happens during Vers’ journey on our planet. She bumps

into people who know her. They say she disappeared, long ago, and was presumed dead. They then surprise her with another shocker: Her name isn’t Vers. It’s Carol Danvers.

The film is set in 1995 -- get ready for a trip down memory lane -- and is a prequel to the *Avengers* films. This means we learn the origins of a host of Marvel factoids. (Such as: Why does Nick Fury of S.H.I.E.L.D. fame wear an eyepatch?)

Vers/Carol Danvers isn’t the only new character in the film. A hilarious cat named Goose also makes an entrance.

The violence in *Captain Marvel* is average for a superhero film, but it’s less than that of the *Avengers* series and *Black Panther*. That’s the good news. The bad news for families: There are about 16 coarse words (details below).

I can’t recommend *Captain Marvel* for young children. But for older, mature ones, it’s a lot of fun.

Rated PG-13 for sequences of sci-fi violence and action, and brief suggestive language.

*Content warnings: About 16 coarse words: h-ll 5, d--n 3, a-- 3, s--t 2, OMG 2, b----rds 1.*

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## Don't Die Before Your Time – Find Your Purpose and Bring Forth New Life

By Linda Goldfarb

*"For to me, living is for Christ, and dying is even better. Yet if I live, that means fruitful service for Christ. I really don't know which is better. I'm torn between two desires: Sometimes I want to live, and sometimes I long to go and be with Christ. That would be far better for me, but it is better for you that I live" (Philippians 1:21-24, NLT).*

As we enter spring, the time of year when all of God's creation is bringing forth new life, I take pause and ponder, what if one of God's creations said "No! I refuse to bring forth new life – I'd rather just die?" You might think that's just silly. If a plant was perfectly capable of producing a branch, and from that branch a bud and from that bud a flower and from the flower perhaps some fruit, why would it refuse?

Why, indeed?

Maybe, it's been a hard winter and the struggle to survive has just about nipped it in the "bud" – excuse the pun. There's another chance that a new flower has been planted next to it and the feeling of inferiority is overwhelming. Maybe it doesn't like the competition. Could it be the thought of growing in the same garden again and again has become boring? Of course not. A plant will continue to grow and produce fruit as long as its lifeblood is maintained and it is provided with the proper nutrients to perpetuate life. It really doesn't have a choice. Humans, on the other hand, are quite a different story.

Today's garden is full of God's children who refuse to live. That choice is what separates us from the other creatures on the planet. Adam and Eve's choice is why we suffer as we till the ground or give birth to our children. Cain's choice is why we have a divided land. Throughout history individual choice has stood out as a tool God uses to make a point, open an eye, or touch a heart, and He still uses it today.

Do you realize when you get up out of bed in the morning, it's a choice? When you walk to the mailbox and say hello to your neighbor, it's a choice. The same is true for those who back themselves into a corner, cutting the outside world off and refusing to be "tools of choice" for God. It's always a choice: "to be a tool or not to be a tool."

Have you thought of yourself as a tool before? As I pray, I ask God to make me into a usable vessel – a tool for His purpose. I don't place restrictive guidelines in my request. For example, I don't tell Him not to make me a broom because I hate cleaning. It's His will, His timing, but I have to make the choice to be available.

Too many believers today are choosing to die before their time. They don't see their usefulness and therefore sit around getting stagnant, waiting for the end to come and ease their "suffering". How sad! Hey, if you're still here, you

Imagine getting to a place in your life where you would feel blessed whether you lived or died. That is exactly where Paul was in Philippians 1:21-24. Up to this point in his life, he had faced

imprisonment, beatings, and false accusations, to name a few challenges. He was running for his life, yet he still maintained a willingness to continue on course sharing the "Good News" until God decided to remove him from his situation. Paul was the ever-sharp pruning shears; no matter the thickness of the branch, or the thorns he had to go through, he remained steadfast looking toward the goal.

Maybe that's where we fail today – we have no goal! Maybe we are living day to day spiritually with no direction or "tool" recognition. If we don't recognize our purpose, it's hard to judge our effectiveness. Without guidelines or a measuring stick, we most often see failure. The suggestion of failure plants the seed of uselessness and from uselessness comes – nothing. Therefore, our spirit gives in to the weak flesh and ceases to be a tool at all. We settle to just be – and we die before our time.

Here is some encouragement; life does not need to be that way. If we choose to discover our purpose, God will surely open doors and windows of opportunity. Never allow age or physical condition to be a determining factor in your effectiveness. Just as "beauty is in the eye of the beholder," effectiveness is in the heart of the believer. Choose to be a Paul; he never wore a watch but was always on time. He lived his entire ministry with a thorn in his side. He did not prepare his speeches but always said the right words. My goodness, he didn't even have someone telling him what to wear, yet he continued to impact lives in every level of society. He recognized his



purpose, relied on the prompting of the Holy Spirit, and stayed on task until he was removed from it, literally.

**To answer the question "How do I recognize my purpose?" walk this way...**

**1. Write down things you enjoy doing. (Most people find their gifts are what they enjoy doing in the first place.)**

**2. Spend time daily in God's Word. (Seek clarity of purpose and open windows of opportunity.)**

**3. Enlist the prayer of godly individuals who will hold you to task. (Accountability)**

**4. Be ever diligent in looking for the open windows. (Don't wait to be asked - step out and take action. If it's where God wants you to be, He will affirm you through your spirit and**

**through others.)**

I believe if we take to heart this action and apply it to our lives, we too will live with the anticipation of Paul: "For to me, living is for Christ, and dying is even better. Yet if I live, that means fruitful service for Christ. I really don't know which is better..." (Philippians 1:21-22, NLT).

Will you choose to "live" for Christ today? Choose to be a source of strength for others around you in the midst of your challenges. When you feel the weight of the world on your shoulders, maybe it's because you are trying to carry the load alone. Reach out and share the load. As believers we are all heading to the same destination. And, most importantly, don't give up on life because of your circumstances; excel in spite of them.

## Seniors Can Head Off Diseases by Drinking More Water

Not drinking enough water is a common but under-recognized problem among American seniors that puts their health at risk, researchers say.

"So many health issues are related to inadequate hydration," including urinary tract and respiratory infections, frequent falls and other problems, said study author Janet Menten. She is a professor of nursing at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA).

One problem in determining sen-

iors' hydration levels is a lack of a gold standard of assessment. In this study, the researchers investigated whether a method called salivary osmolality could be used to check hydration levels in older adults.

Salivary osmolality compares the ratio of water to certain chemicals that occur naturally in saliva. It can be measured using a simple, noninvasive device called an osmometer.

The study of 53 people, aged 65 or

older, in Los Angeles found, overall, seniors had higher osmolality (that is, greater dehydration) than younger adults. Seniors' dehydration was higher in the morning than the afternoon, and it was a bigger problem for those with limited mobility, the findings showed.

Interviews with participants pointed to a major reason for higher osmolality in the morning: Many avoid drinking water so they will not have to urinate during the night.

The study was recently published online in the journal SAGE Open Nursing.

"Many seniors are underhydrated for a period of time, and when they are exposed to a virus or bacteria they are more likely to develop an infection, such as urinary tract infections, pneumonia or other respiratory diseases," Menten said in a UCLA news release.

"And they will be treated for the infection, but the underlying underhydration will not be recognized," she added. "Thus, an opportunity to educate the individual about adequate fluid intake is missed."

Up to 40 percent of older people who live in the community may be chronically underhydrated, the researchers said.

Dehydration accounted for a 5 percent increase in preventable emergency department visits between 2008 and 2012, and adults older than 65 have the



highest hospital admission rates for dehydration, according to the U.S. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.

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# How to Reduce Health Risks by Understanding AFib

(Family Features) Oftentimes, seeking to improve your health starts at your core – your heart. One common condition to be aware of is atrial fibrillation (AFib), which is a quivering or irregular heartbeat that can lead to blood clots, stroke, heart failure and other heart-related complications.

Currently impacting up to 6.1 million Americans, AFib is projected to double by 2030, according to the American Heart Association. One in three individuals is at risk for developing AFib over the course of his or her lifetime, and the likelihood of developing the condition increases by almost 40 percent after the age of 55.

The average person living with AFib has a five-fold increase of experiencing a stroke than someone with a regular heartbeat. However, proper diagnosis and treatment can help reduce the chances of associated heart health complications, including stroke.

The first step toward managing AFib and preventing serious health complications is gaining knowledge about the condition. The experts at the American Heart Association are working to elevate awareness with these facts:

### Causes

While in some cases the cause is unknown, AFib can be the result of damage to the heart's electrical system from other conditions such as longstanding, uncontrolled high blood pressure, obesity, smoking and heart disease. For example, smokers are 20 percent more likely to develop AFib than nonsmokers.



### Symptoms and signs

A person living with AFib may have symptoms like a fluttering heartbeat, but he or she may not have symptoms at all. Nearly 80 percent of people who report having AFib note they did not experience symptoms, which can lead to the condition being overlooked or confused with other conditions, such as anxiety.

“Atrial fibrillation can be challenging to diagnose,” said Dr. Georgeanne Freeman, a board-certified family medicine doctor and American Heart Association volunteer expert. “If you are feeling out of the ordinary, whether it's a racing pulse or irregular heartbeat associated with shortness of breath and fatigue, it's time to speak with your doctor to learn your risk for AFib and lower your chance for stroke.”

Other common symptoms include dizziness, weakness, faintness or confusion; fatigue when exercising; sweating and chest pain or pressure.

### At-risk populations

Anyone, at any age, can develop AFib. People over age 50, those with high blood pressure or other forms of heart disease and those with a family history of the condition are at highest risk and should discuss their medical history with their doctors.

People of African, Asian or Hispanic ancestry are typically less likely to suffer from AFib. However, research suggests that those with African or Hispanic ancestry living with AFib have a higher risk of death when the condition is combined with another factor such as heart failure or high blood pressure.

### Risk factors

While some people living with AFib are unaware of the condition due to not experiencing symptoms, it causes the heart to beat erratically, stops blood from moving through the heart efficiently and may result in pooling or clotting. The clot may block blood flow to the brain, causing a stroke. Risk factors such as age, high blood pressure, heart failure, diabetes or medical history contribute to individuals' five-fold risk of stroke.

### Treatment options

Although most primary care providers claim to have general knowledge of AFib, there are still challenges in their abilities to diagnose it. The treatment goals start with a proper diagnosis through an in-depth examination performed by a medical professional, health care provider or cardiologist. The exam usually includes questions about the individual's medical history and often a test such as an EKG or ECG

to determine heart rate, rhythm and other information. If you have AFib, understand your options for medications and discuss with your doctor. Anyone on anticoagulants should carry information and be able to alert medical professionals in an emergency that he or she is on blood thinners.

To learn more and to access AFib tools and resources, visit [heart.org/AFib](http://heart.org/AFib).



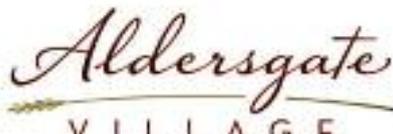
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# sports

## Tennessee men are building something special in Knoxville



The Tennessee Volunteers' started the season with 10-game win streak and their best start to a men's basketball season in more than a decade.

Coach Rick Barnes has the Vols seeing increasing national acclaim, thanks in large part to Jordan Bowden, the Vols' 6-foot-5 junior.

Ask Bowden what's driven Tennessee as high as a No. 1 national ranking this season, however, and he won't list himself. In fact, he won't even list his teammates. Or Barnes. Or anything especially related to basketball, really.

For him, and for the Volunteers who, for once, opened with as much promise as the school's eight-time national-champion women's team, a lot of this 2018-19 success can be attributed to something that happened in a pool of water.

On Nov. 18, three days before UT routed Louisville at the home of the Brooklyn Nets to improve to 5-0 on the year, Instagram played host to a series of photos from Bowden, senior forward Kyle Alexander and sophomore star Grant Williams, the 2018 SEC Player of the Year and Tennessee's All-American leading scorer. Each image showcased

what the UT trio now suggests is a symbol of the Vols' success: the baptisms of Alexander and Bowden.

At the time of the ceremony, the Volunteers were already ranked No. 5 in the nation. Yet Barnes, who entered the year in search of his first Final Four appearance since 2003, told reporters afterward that "what happened with Kyle Alexander and Jordan Bowden is far more important than any win we've ever had." Not only did that resonate with the two young men who submerged themselves in proclamation of a faith in Jesus, but it verbalized the unique chemistry of Barnes' best UT team yet.

"I think the whole 'audience of one' thing has really kind of struck our team hugely," Alexander says. "I know guys have really taken that to heart, just playing for God and the abilities He gave us."

If the mentality sounds similar, like an echo of recent professional sports teams who've pointed to Jesus and even showcased in-season baptisms alongside championship-caliber performances, that's just fine by Barnes, who Bowden calls a "God man" and whose son, Nick, serves as a Middle Eastern

## FROM THE CHEAP SEATS

By Rob Mooney

For sports fans, this is the best time of the year. The weather is warming up, the NBA is gearing up for the playoffs, we're in the midst of March Madness and major league baseball is upon us. Actually, several games in by the time you read this. Let's try to hit all of it.

Is it just me or was the excitement surrounding this year's NCAA basketball championship tournament less than normal? I'm sure there was plenty of excitement over in Manhattan before the Wildcats found out that Dean Wade wasn't going to play in the tourney. A foot injury kept Wade out of the last three games of the season, which, incidentally, was his last for K-State. The result was a first-round loss to 13th seeded UC Irvine. Not exactly what the Big 12 regular season champs were hoping for.

Over in Lawrence, the expectations weren't very high for the Jayhawks. Most fans were hoping for a trip to the Sweet

16 in Kansas City where a possible matchup with North Carolina and former coach Roy Williams awaited. The Tar Heels did their part, but Kansas wasn't able to make it out of the 2nd round. Not too many people were shocked when they lost in the 2nd round to Auburn.

In sports, you can't blame your lack of success on injuries or circumstances, although that seems to happen quite often. No, you have to have the philosophy of the next man up. Both KU and K-State did that this year. Both teams stepped up when they faced adversity and they became better because of it. I expect both teams will be right in the middle of it again next season!

The NBA playoffs will seem a bit odd this year with LeBron James being absent from them. The Lakers failed to make the playoffs and James will be sitting at home from the outset this year. I really have to wonder what the Lakers are going to do

next year. It's hard to believe, but they were actually worse this year than last year. James is at a point in his career that he needs to have some quality players around him and there just isn't much in the cupboards out in Los Angeles. It will be an interesting off-season for them. The Golden State Warriors will be battling to remain the champs, but there are a lot of teams capable of dethroning them this year. Should be an exciting playoffs.

Finally, the Royals have opened their season hoping to improve on last year's 58-104 record. It's hard to believe that the Royals are just 4 years removed from a World Series Championship. There are a couple of things I don't quite understand. First, Brad Keller was the Opening Day starter. Last year he was 9-6 with a 3.08 ERA. That's not really too confusing. After all, he did pitch pretty good last season and it sounds like he pitched well this spring. No problem. However, I am scratching my head at the decision to keep Terence Gore on the major league roster. He has one skill....speed. He can't hit, he can't field. I'm not sure using a roster spot for him is the best option, but I guess that's why Ned Yost is the manager and not me.

Anyways, looking forward to a fun baseball season!

missionary. But it's as much an exercise of team-building around a shared lifestyle as it is a collection of personal journeys to faith.

Take Alexander, for instance. Here's a young man whose parents brought him to church, but, like many his age, he never personally made belief in Christ an everyday priority while he was growing up.

be his fellow Volunteers.

"They offered the chance to get baptized [at The Walk], and I had the form in my room, and I've always wanted to do it," he said. "I just never filled it out because I hate being the center of attention, as bad as that sounds. But then one day Bowden was like, 'Hey, I'm thinking about getting baptized this weekend, so

can y'all be there for me? And I said, 'I'll do you one better. I'll get baptized with you.'"

So there they were, with a pool of water — two young men who decided they wanted not only to be teammates on the court but brothers in Christ — sealing a bond and building something special in Tennessee.



"When you're younger, you don't really understand it," he said. "You're like, 'OK, as long as I don't kill anybody, I'll go to Heaven and everything's going to be good.'"

Once he got to know Barnes, however, Alexander realized that faith could, in fact, be life-changing. As he began exploring The Walk, a Sunday night college-oriented service at Sevier Heights Baptist in Knoxville (about five minutes from the UT campus), he also began studying the Bible alongside the Vols' head coach.

"Sometimes when I go to talk to him one-on-one," Alexander says, "he brings out Scriptures and the Gospels, and it kind of gives you a different view on things."

Taking the next step — public proclamation of faith through baptism — was still challenging, seeing as though Alexander didn't grow up knowing and, thus, talking about Jesus. But that's where community came in, and his community just so happened to



Playoffs are here!

**Topeka Sizzlers**  
Basketball

This high-scoring, exciting ABA team is coached by KU legend Calvin Thompson



(816) 536-4667 • hoopservice@aol.com  
Get tickets & schedule at [TopekaSizzlers.org](http://TopekaSizzlers.org)

**Youth Project's "Tee Off for Youth"**  
21st Annual Golf Tourney  
Sponsored by Reser's Fine Foods

**Friday June 14**  
**4 Person Scramble**  
7:30 AM Registration, Breakfast Burritos  
8:00 AM Shotgun Start  
Village Greens Golf Course - Ozawkie, KS

**Two \$500.00 Guaranteed Closest to the Pin Prizes!**  
Sponsored by Reser's Fine Foods

**Cash Prizes - 2 flights, 2 places**  
Men's Longest Drive, Closest to Pin  
Women's Longest Drive, Closest to Pin

**Lunch 11:30-1:30 • Awards at 1:30**

Entry Fee Includes: Green Fees, Cart & Lunch  
\$400 = Team  
\$100 = Individual Golfer  
\$425 = Team + Hole Sign  
\$100 = Hole Sign

Call 273-4141 to register or go to [TYPGolf19.wodifylive.com](http://TYPGolf19.wodifylive.com)



## YFC Golf Classic is a Tournament of Champions For Teens

Topeka Youth for Christ's 2019 Annual Golf Classic will be held on Friday, May 10th at the Lake Shawnee Golf Course. The four-person, 18-hole scramble begins with a shotgun start at 12:30 PM.

The YFC Golf Classic helps YFC build transforming relationships with teens through a variety of ministry programs designed for today's teens, like Juvenile Justice Ministry, City Life Clubs, YFC Core and YFC Camp.

YFC reaches young people everywhere, working together with the local church and other like-minded partners to raise up lifelong followers of Jesus who lead by



their godliness in lifestyle, devotion to prayer and the Word of God, passion for sharing the love of Christ and commitment to social involvement.

Every day at thousands of community centers, high schools, middle schools, juvenile institutions, coffee shops, and local hangouts,

YFC staff and volunteers meet with young people who need Jesus.

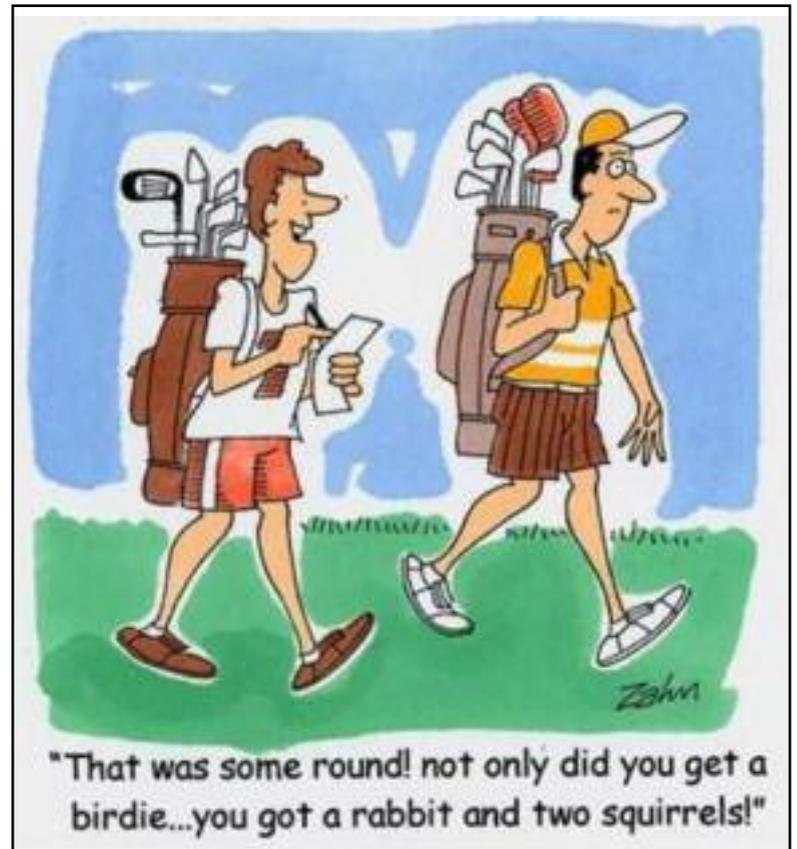
To sign up for the YFC Annual Golf Classic Tournament go online to [topekayfc.org/golf\\_classic/](http://topekayfc.org/golf_classic/). Awards and prizes will be given for first and second low teams, scored in two flights of players.

Individuals will receive awards and prizes for closest to the pin, longest drive, and longest putt. The entry fee for the fundraiser is \$500 per team or \$125 per individual. The fee includes green fees, cart for two, a box lunch, two mulligans, Gary Woodland Hole and great door prizes! Individual and corporate sponsorships are still available.

For more information please call (785) 232-8296, or email [info@topekayfc.org](mailto:info@topekayfc.org). You may also find more information at [www.topekayfc.org](http://www.topekayfc.org).

*"Success in golf depends less on strength of body than upon strength of mind and character"*

– Arnold Palmer



*"What other people may find in poetry or art museums, I find in the flight of a good drive."*

– Arnold Palmer



**YOUTH FOR CHRIST ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC**

**Tournament of Champions for Teens**

**MAY 10, 2019**

**SUPPORT MINISTRY TO AREA TEENS**

**LAKE SHAWNEE GOLF COURSE**  
**4 PERSON/18 HOLE SCRAMBLE**

**ENTRY FEE: \$500 PER TEAM OR \$125 PER INDIVIDUAL**

**REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 11:30 A.M.**  
**SHOTGUN START: 12:30 P.M.**

**YOUTH FOR TOPEKA CHRIST**  
 GIVE LIFE TO YOUR STORY

**TO SIGN UP SPONSOR GO TO:**  
[www.topekayfc.org](http://www.topekayfc.org) or call 785-232-8296

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THE 16TH ANNUAL  
*Rod Rogers*  
**MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT**

**Dub's Dread Golf Course**  
 12601 Hollingsworth Rd.,  
 Kansas City, KS

**Fill out and mail in, or call 913-461-8527**

**The 16th Annual ROD ROGERS Memorial Golf Tournament**  
 Benefiting KU Cancer Center  
**FRIDAY, June 1, 2018**

**Registration & lunch: 10:30-12:30 • Driving Range Balls Provided**  
**Shotgun Start: 1pm • Dinner & Awards Banquet: 6-8pm**  
 Sponsored by Midwest Distributors, Inc. • Dinner: Tom Callahan

Team Registration	\$500.00	_____
Hole Sponsor Package <i>(Includes 1 Team, Dinner for all and Signage)</i>	\$1,000.00	_____
Hole Sponsor Only (Dinner & Signage Only)	\$500.00	_____
Beverage Cart Sponsor	\$100.00	_____
Cart Sponsor	\$50.00	_____
Single Player	\$125.00	_____
Tickets for Dinner/Auction Only	\$ 20.00	_____
I cannot attend, but enclosed is my donation:	\$	_____
<b>Total Enclosed: (Due by May 22)</b>	<b>\$</b>	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Check is enclosed in the amount of	\$	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Discover <input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard <input type="checkbox"/> Visa	\$	_____
Name	_____	
Card #	_____	Expires _____
Signature	_____	

**Make checks payable to KC Cause and mail to:**  
 Marylyn Rogers Owens, 6921 Greeley Ave., KC, KS 66109

# New Resident Church Guide

- 1. 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
- 2. 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
- 3. TOPEKA BIBLE CHURCH**  
1101 SW Mulvane St., Topeka  
785-234-5545  
Worship: 8:00 - 9:30 & 11am  
Sunday School & Bible Studies:  
9:30 & 11am  
www.discovertbc.com
- 4. NORTHLAND CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
3102 NW Topeka Blvd., Topeka  
286-1204  
Worship Sun. 8:00, 9:30 & 11am  
www.northland.cc.
- 5. 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

- 6. 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
- 7. 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
- 8. 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
- 9. 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
- 10. 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
- 11. 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 ~
- 12. BUCK CREEK COUNTRY CHURCH**  
Meeting at Buck Creek School House  
5 mi. east of Perry on Hwy 24, 13th & Phillips Rd.  
Childrens Sunday School - 8:30 a.m.  
Worship Service - 9:00 a.m.  
Contacts: Logan Barnett 785-597-5498,  
or Scott Bond 423-0406
  - 13. 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 ~
  - 14. 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
  - 15. 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!
  - 16. 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
  - 17. EAST SIDE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
4425 S.E. 29th St., 379-9933.  
Sunday Worship 10:45am & 6:00pm



- 18. CHRIST THE KING CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
Voted 2015/16 Best Church in Topeka!  
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.cktopeka.org  
Fr. Matthew Schifflbein, Pastor  
Fr. Carter Zielinski, Associate Pastor
- 19. SEAMAN COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
Independent Christ-Centered Bible Church  
2036 NW Taylor, Topeka, KS  
354-8777 • www.seamanchurch.com  
Adult Sunday School - Sun. 9:30am  
AWANA Sunday at 5:45 p.m.  
See our website for info on our  
Student Ministries & Kid City  
www.esbcks.org
- 20. 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
- 21. HARVEST FAMILY FELLOWSHIP**  
Meets at 522 SW Polk  
785-220-5418  
Pastor Rey Rodriguez  
Sun. Worship 10 am  
www.topekaharvest.vpweb.com
- 22. FAMILY OF GOD CHURCH**  
1231 NW Eugene St.  
Topeka, KS 66608  
Sunday Worship: 10:30am  
Children's Sunday School: 10:30am  
Youth group 1st & 3rd Sundays 4-6pm
- 23. 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
- 24. 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

Place your classified ad with us! 785-235-3340 or Voice@cox.net, or metrovoicenews.com

Payment in advance required: \$12 for the first 25 words; 25 cents for each add'l word.  
(classified ads also go immediately online)

- SALES EVENTS:**
- SEMI-ANNUAL GARAGE SALE** - Apr. 7 & 8, 8am-12noon., First Christian Ch., 1880 SW Gage, (enter from 19th and Stone). Antiques, kitchen ware, games, books, puzzles, electronics, Christmas, furniture, something for everyone. Proceeds used for community and youth activities. Sponsored by Seeker Class at First Christian Church.
- PANCAKE BREAKFAST AND SILENT AUCTION** - Apr. 20, 7-11am, First Christian Ch., 1880 SW Gage. \$6. Proceeds used for Sunflower Lions Club Vision Screening for small children, and purchasing eye examinations and eye glasses in the Topeka community. For info: Lion Vern Failor at vfailor@gmail.com

- SERVICES:**
- PAINTER** - professional handyman, semi-retired: interior-exterior, decks, wall repairs, wallpapering, wood rot, plumbing, etc. Call Bill at 785-438-9458
- FOR RENT:**
- ROOM FOR RENT** - \$425 per month, includes all utilities & free secure wi-fi. Female tenant only. Available April 1st. Call 785-249-1913
- BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY**, entrepreneur/franchise, coffee boutique, professional offices, etc. 3200 sq. ft., distinctive GEM Bldg. downtown (on historic register). Reasonable rent, 16 ft. ceilings. 785-233-9930
- 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

**FOR SALE:**



A very nice 2 BR, 2 bath, remodeled Mobile Home with 8' X 22' add-on to make a large living/dining area! 1100 sq. ft. Open floor plan, ceiling fan, wood-burning fireplace, refrigerator, dishwasher, storage building with electricity, double carport, large covered front porch/patio. Separate utility/laundry room. Near 45th and Adams: 783 SE Ridgeview Dr - located in a very nice, clean, friendly South Topeka manufactured home park with neighborhood pool, club house, park area/playground for children and storm shelter (Ridgewood Estates), community activities, with a park across the street. Shawnee Heights School District. Remodeled and upgraded. Easy living, low housing costs! Price reduced to sell at \$8,900. Possible lease to own option with \$1000 or more down payment, then about \$200/mo for about 4 years. 785-640-6399

**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



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1730 N. Topeka Blvd.

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Family Owned & Operated for over 100 years  
1035 North Kansas Avenue  
Topeka, Kansas  
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For ALL your Fairy Garden Accessories & plants

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919 North Kansas Ave in North Topeka (NOTO)

Come see our FAIRY FANTASY Displays at  
**TULIPS AT TWILIGHT FESTIVAL**  
Ward Mead Park April 12th—28th

www.faerietalegardens.com 785.220.1477  
Thu & Fri 10:00 - 5:00 & Sat 10:00 - 3:00  
**WE ARE OPEN LATE EVERY FIRST FRIDAY!**

## North Topeka again to host EasterFest celebration

For the third year in a row, North Topeka will host the Topeka EASTERFEST celebration April 20.

The Easter Parade will begin at the railroad tracks in NOTO Arts District and proceed north past Garfield Park, which is the site of the Family Fun Fair. The parade starts at 10am, and the Fun Fair continues at Garfield Park until 3pm.

About three thousand people are expected to visit the Egg Hunt, Fun Fair, Vendor Market, Health Fair Food Trucks & exhibit booths, and listen to live music.

The Fun Fair will consist of activities geared toward children and families.

New this year is Bingo at the Vendor Market, with great prizes valued at over \$20 donated by the vendors and sponsors.

The Ball Toss will be back, with a chance to win one of three bicycles, and the ever-popular cake walk returns as well.

The Easter Bunny will be back to take pictures with the kids this year too, along with acepainting, pony rides and a petting zoo.

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:

C5Alive "POWER" LUNCHEON – Apr. 11, 11:30-1, at NOTO Arts Center. Ex. Dir. Tom Underwood will speak about coming changes to NOTO Arts District. Cost: \$10 for C5 members & first-time guests who RSVP, \$12 at the door; • \$15 for non-members & repeat guests. • RSVP to info@C5Alive.org, so we know how much food is needed! Open to the public

MOONLIGHT EGG HUNT - Apr. 18, 8pm. Shawnee North Community Center. Bring your flashlight! \$10. For info: penny.stormann@snco.us or 785-



286-0676

SUNFLOWER SOCCER HORNBAKER'S EASTER EGG HUNT - Apr. 6, 8:30am, 4829 NW 17th St. A fun event, free including soccer, face painting, bouncy houses, and Egg Hunt. info@sunflowersoccer.org 785 233 9700

LADIES' CONFERENCE – Apr. 26, 6pm & Apr. 27, 10am, Bethel Baptist, 4011 N. Kansas Ave. Beth Weedor, author & missionary to Liberia is guest speaker. \$30 includes dinner & refreshments. RSVP by April 21 to 785-286-0467 or bethelbaptist17@yahoo.com betheltopeka.org

ANNUAL SPRING DINNER – Apr. 27, 4-7pm, Grantville United Methodist Church, 3724 South St. Menu is Ham or Chicken Casserole, Vegetables, Salads, Pie and Rolls. Free will offering. Bazaar, Crafts, Cake Walk and Bake sale 3-7 p.m. 785-246-3621

**Dr. John E. Chance**

Capitol City Chiropractic

Hours:  
Mon-Thu: 9 AM - 6 PM  
Fri: 9 AM - 12:30 PM

785-234-0900 • www.capcitychiro.com  
1835 N. Topeka, Ste. 209, Topeka, KS 66608

**TRM MINISTRIES**

**TOPEKA RESCUE MISSION MINISTRIES**

**FAITH WITH ITS SLEEVES ROLLED UP**

Main: 785.354.1744  
Non-Cash Donations: 785.357.4285  
Volunteer Services: 785.354.1744 ext. 393  
Boutique on the Boulevard: 785.478.5744  
Thrift Store: 785.235.9094  
TRMonline.org

600 N Kansas Ave  
Topeka, KS 66608

P.O. Box 8350  
Topeka, KS 66608

*Come and be a part of what God is doing at*

**Family of God Church**

1231 NW Eugene St.  
Sunday 10:30am & 6:00pm  
[FOGchurch.com](http://FOGchurch.com)

**IN GOD WE TRUST**

**Biker Sunday...Every Sunday!**

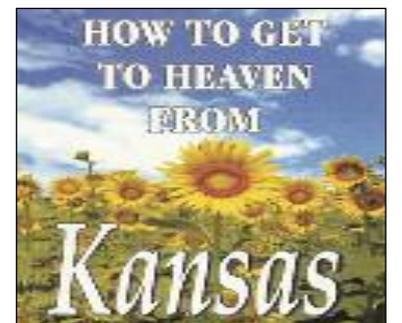
**Christian Cavalry Ministries Int.**  
c/o Seaman Baptist Church  
2015 NW Buchanan, Topeka, KS 66608  
785-224-5419  
[www.church4bikers.org](http://www.church4bikers.org)

**FOR JESUS WE RIDE**

Christian Cavalry M/M

Sunday School 9:30 AM  
Sunday Service 10:45 AM  
Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study 7:00 PM

**All are welcome, casual dress ok!**



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.



**6th ANNUAL**

**April 20th**

# TOPEKA **EASTER** PARADE AND FAMILY FUN FAIR

**Sat., April 20, 10 am - 3 pm**

*It all takes place on N. Kansas Avenue and at Garfield Park!*

*Police vehicles!  
Library Fun Bus!  
Firetrucks!  
Antique vehicles!*

*Food Trucks  
Vision Screenings  
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 Bunny photos, Pony rides, Petting zoo, Inflatables, Games & kid's activities!

**Bingo** at the Vendor Market! • Win a Bicycle at the **Ball Toss!** • Win Cakes & 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

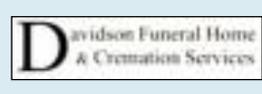
Presented by



Sponsors:



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



• Bethel Community Church • Rose Muffler & Car Care Center • The Rod Shop • Jim Hanna • Roger Hood Ins. Agency