

Topeka/Lawrence EDITION

The Area's Most Complete Event Guide



CHRISTMAS TREE DISPLAY

Page 13

# metr VOICE

FREE!  
TAKE ONE!

DOWNTOWN HOLIDAY GUIDE



50+ LIFESTYLES GUIDE



CELEBRATING FAITH, FAMILY AND COMMUNITY IN NORTHEAST KANSAS

Celebrating 15 years!

VOLUME 16 • NUMBER 3

November 2021

VISIT US AT [facebook/metrovoicenews](https://facebook.com/metrovoicenews)  
or [metrovoicenews.com](https://metrovoicenews.com)

TO ADVERTISE, CONTRIBUTE, SUBSCRIBE OR RECEIVE BULK COPIES, CALL 785-235-3340 OR EMAIL [VOICE@COX.NET](mailto:VOICE@COX.NET)

## NEW RESIDENT churchguide



See inside  
back cover!

## Social Security Announces 5.9% Benefit Increase



Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits for approximately 70 million Americans will increase 5.9 percent in 2022, the Social Security Administration announced today.

The 5.9 percent cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) will begin with benefits payable to more than 64 million Social Security beneficiaries in January 2022. Increased payments to approximately 8 million SSI beneficiaries will begin on December 30, 2021. (Note: some people receive both Social Security and SSI benefits). The Social Security Act ties the annual COLA to the increase in the Consumer Price Index as determined by the Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Some other adjustments that take effect in January of each year are based on the increase in average wages. Based on that increase, the maximum amount of earnings subject to the Social Security tax (taxable maximum) will increase to \$147,000 from \$142,800.

■ Please see **SOCIAL SECURITY** page 2

## Salt and Light



## How to Be Salt and Light and Expect God Moments

By **Jack Redmond**

I love going to church. Not just mine, but the many churches I have visited or spoken at over the past two and a half decades. But even more important than "going to church" God's wants us to "be the church!"

"How do I do that?" you ask. Simply put, it's all about loving and serving people. Yes, this includes our church family, but even more "to be the church" requires us to love and serve people outside the church walls. I wrote about this in my book, "God's Team —

Unleashing the Full Power of the Church."

### SALT AND LIGHT

*"You are the salt of the earth. You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden."* — Matthew 5:13a, 14

Salt is a universal ingredient used in food preparation and preservation. As a seasoning, salt takes existing food and makes it taste better by both adding flavor and bringing out the existing flavor

within the food. Bottom line is that it makes food taste better.

As a preservative, salt helps prevent decay and preserve the goodness of food. Before refrigeration, meat and fish were "salted" to keep them from quickly spoiling. This allowed fish or meat to be kept for weeks or months to provide ongoing nutrition.

Salt is kept in a saltshaker or container. While in the container, it is neither flavoring nor preserving. It must be poured out of the shaker or container

■ Please see **SALT AND LIGHT** page 3

## Ten-digit dialing now required



You'll now need to include the area code when making most phone calls in Kansas or the call won't go through

Kansans that live in area codes 785 or 620 are now required to use 10-digit dialing when making local calls. This change will make it easier for persons in crisis to reach the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline.

Last July, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) approved 988 as the new abbreviated number for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. As a result, any area code that uses the 988 prefix in telephone numbers is mandated by the FCC to adopt 10-digit dialing. That includes Kansas area codes 785 and 620, which cover the majority of the state. In total, 82 area codes in 36 states will make the change.

It takes time to get in the habit of using 10-digit dialing (example: 785-XXX-XXXX), so a practice period was estab-

■ Please see **DIALING** page 2

## DROP-OFF SITES TO OPEN FOR OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

More than 4,000 locations will open to collect Operation Christmas Child shoebox gifts for the Samaritan's Purse project. Volunteers are preparing to collect shoebox gifts during National Collection Week, Nov. 15 — 22, offering a curbside option.

Operation Christmas Child has been collecting and delivering shoebox gifts—filled with school supplies, hygiene items and fun toys—to children worldwide since 1993. This is a project that everyone can still be a part of, even with COVID-19 restrictions.

Individuals, families, and groups still have time to transform empty shoeboxes into fun gifts. The project partners with local churches across the

globe to deliver these tangible expressions of God's love to children in need. Find a step-by-step guide on the How to Pack a Shoebox webpage.

"In the midst of the pandemic, children around the world need to know that God loves them and there is hope," said Franklin Graham, president of Samaritan's Purse. "A simple shoebox gift opens the door to share about the true hope that can only be found in Jesus Christ."

Participants can find the nearest drop-off location and hours of operation as they make plans to drop off their shoebox gifts. The online lookup tool is searchable by City or ZIP code.

■ Please see **SHOEBOX** page 2





## Patton and Patton Law Firm celebrates 40 years

The law firm of Patton and Patton, Chartered, is celebrating 40 years of serving Topeka and the surrounding area. The Topeka office is in the revitalized downtown at the Townsite Tower.

“The future of Patton and Patton is bright because of our people,” Joe Patton said, “Jesus only gave us one command, to love one another, and we do that by celebrating excellent service to our clients. The firm is proud to have been serving the people of Topeka for 40 years. We are excited about the momentum of Topeka.”

In addition to Joe, who is Senior Partner of the firm, Patton and Patton has Mike Patton, Joey Patton, Matt Patton, Abby Peoples, and Elizabeth Pendergrass.

Patton began his law career in 1977

after graduating from Washburn Law School; some of the high points being:

- Patton and Patton’s story is of a home-grown entrepreneurship success story starting in October of 1981.
- Headquartered in Topeka, the firm now has a branch office in Lenexa.
- The firm now offers innovative client service in diverse legal fields, including personal injury, nursing home negligence, estate planning, and long-term disability insurance claims.

The senior Patton has also served the community in other ways as well:

- Election to the Kansas House of Representatives as State Representative from Topeka, Past President of Safe Streets Advisory board, Lifetime Member of the Optimist Club, member of the Christian Legal Society, Allied Attorney of the Alliance



Defending Freedom, and Founder of Kansans for Life.

- Handling cases in courtrooms across Kansas and Missouri, Joe was named the National Academy of Personal Injury Attorneys Top Ten Attorney in 2020 for the State of Kansas, named American’s Top 100 Personal Injury Attorneys, and co-

authored, with his son Mike, the book “Every Person’s Guide to Saving Thousands of Dollars: Your Auto Accident Claim.”

For more information contact Joe Patton at 785 640 7405 (cell) or 785 273 4330 (work) or [joe@joepatton.com](mailto:joe@joepatton.com).

## SHOEBOX

continued from page 1

Signs at each location will identify the drop-off.

Those interested in more information on how Operation Christmas Child is making adjustments during its

National Collection Week can visit the organization’s Important COVID-19 Updates webpage for the latest information and answers to Frequently Asked Questions.

Operation Christmas Child, a project of Samaritan’s Purse, seeks to demonstrate God’s love in a tangible way to children in need around the

world and, together with the local church worldwide, to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. Since 1993, Operation Christmas Child has collected and delivered more than 188 million gift-filled shoeboxes to children in more than 160 countries and territories.

## DIALING

continued from page 1

lished. Callers were encouraged to begin using 10-digit calling since April 24, 2021. Any calls dialed with 7-digits would still go through during this practice period.

Beginning October 24, 2021, callers in 785 and 620 area codes must use 10-digit dialing or the call will not go through. The only exceptions are any three digit abbreviated numbers available in the community, such as 911. Callers will still dial 1 + the area code and telephone number for all long distance calls.

## SOCIAL SECURITY

continued from page 1

Social Security and SSI beneficiaries are normally notified by mail starting in early December about their new benefit amount. Most people who receive Social Security payments will be able to view their COLA notice online through their personal my Social Security account. People may create or access their my Social Security account online at [www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount).

Information about Medicare changes for 2022, when announced, will be available at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov). For Social Security beneficiaries receiving Medicare, Social Security will not be able to compute their new benefit amount until after the Medicare premium amounts for 2022 are announced. Final 2022 benefit amounts will be communicated to beneficiaries in December through the mailed COLA notice and my Social Security’s Message Center.

The Social Security Act provides for how the COLA is calculated. To read more, please visit [www.socialsecurity.gov/cola](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/cola).

Beginning July 16, 2022, callers can reach the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline by calling 988. Until then, callers will continue to dial 1-800-273-8255 (TALK).

Callers living in the 913 area code have already been using 10 digits.

More information about the change to 10-digit dialing is available on the KCC’s website <https://kcc.ks.gov/> and from telephone providers.

<b>First Southern Baptist Church</b> <b>1930 SW Gage Boulevard Topeka</b> <b>Topeka, KS 66604</b>  Monday, Nov. 15, 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 16, 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 17, 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 18, 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Friday, Nov. 19, 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 20, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 21, 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Monday, Nov. 22, 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	<b>Northland Christian Church</b> <b>3102 NW Topeka Boulevard</b> <b>Topeka, KS 66617</b>  Monday, Nov. 15, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 16, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 17, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 18, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Friday, Nov. 19, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 20, 9 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 21, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Monday, Nov. 22, 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	<b>Auburn Christian Church</b> <b>1351 N Washington</b> <b>Auburn, KS 66402</b>  Monday, Nov. 15, 2:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 16, 2:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 17, 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 18, 2:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Friday, Nov. 19, 2:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 20, 10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 21, 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Monday, Nov. 22, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
<b>Rock Creek Bible Church</b> <b>5257 Highway K92</b> <b>Meriden, KS 66512</b>  Monday, Nov. 15, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 16, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 17, 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 18, 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 17, 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 18, 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Friday, Nov. 19, 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 20, 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 21, 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Monday, Nov. 22, 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	<b>Cross Road Community Church</b> <b>512 S Mason Street</b> <b>Scranton, KS 66537</b>  Monday, Nov. 15, 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 16, 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 17, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 18, 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m. Friday, Nov. 19, 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 20, 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 21, 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Monday, Nov. 22, 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	<b>First Baptist Church</b> <b>404 Juniper Drive</b> <b>Holton, KS 66436</b>  Monday, Nov. 15, 8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Monday, Nov. 15, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 16, 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 16, 4:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 17, 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 18, 5:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 17, 8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 18, 1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Friday, Nov. 19, 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Friday, Nov. 19, 5:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 20, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 20, 3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 21, 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 21, 4:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday, Nov. 22, 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Monday, Nov. 22, 10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.





**All Insurance Access, LLC.**  
Auto-Home-Life-Commercial  
**Brittany Elliott- Agent**  
3706 SW Topeka Blvd.  
Suite #411  
Topeka, KS 66609  
Office: (785) 267-0707  
Fax: (785) 266-9154  
Cell: (702) 205-0132  
Email: [Belliott@aiatopeka.com](mailto:Belliott@aiatopeka.com)  
[AllInsuranceAccess.com](http://AllInsuranceAccess.com)

**HELPING YOU PROTECT WHAT'S IMPORTANT TO YOU!**



**Integrity Insurance**  
Business Home Auto Life  
DAVE RAMSEY  
elp endorsed local providers

**2047 SW Topeka Blvd | Ste C | (785) 233-5401**  
**411 North 4th St | Burlington, KS | (620) 364-1300**



## Gas prices hit high not seen since Obama administration

The Biden administration has reached another milestone related to its energy policy, say experts. U.S. gas prices have now hit a new seven-year high.

As of Oct. 27, the national average for a gallon of regular gasoline rose to \$3.394 from the prior day's \$3.389 and up from last month's average of \$3.189, according to AAA.

Prices range from lows of \$3.09 in the nation's heartland of Missouri and Kansas to \$4.56 in California and \$3.54 in New York. The western midwest and south have the lowest prices. Prices have more than doubled since the decade lows experienced during the Trump administration.

One of the first acts of the Biden administration was to stop fuel pipeline construction in the U.S. The action caused the loss of billions of dollars in investments by energy companies and the loss of 100,000 jobs.

"We haven't seen prices this high since September of 2014," states Andrew Gross, AAA spokesperson.

Other expensive markets include



Hawaii (\$4.29), Nevada (\$3.93), Washington (\$3.87), and Oregon (\$3.78).

San Francisco gasoline prices, which according to AAA on Tuesday averaged \$4.73 for a gallon of regular unleaded, appear poised to hit an all-time record high.

GasBuddy head petroleum analyst Patrick De Haan said in a tweet late Monday that gasoline prices in San Francisco were just 1.2 cents shy of a new

all-time high.

"It will be the first city to set a new record high for #gasprices since 2012," De Haan predicted.

The Biden administration has faced sharp criticism over rising gasoline prices, but it has "no immediate plans" to tap into emergency reserves or limit energy exports outside the United States, the Energy Department told CNBC this week.

## Parking meters to be active again on downtown side streets

Beginning November 1, 2021, side street parking in downtown Topeka will become metered on weekdays during business hours. This change impacts metered parking spots on side streets located one block east and west of S Kansas Ave. between 6th and 10th avenues.

Parking on Kansas Ave. in downtown Topeka will remain free for up to two hours per day during business hours during the week. If you exceed two-hour parking on Kansas Ave. in one day during the week, you are subject to a ticket. All parking downtown is free between 6:00 p.m. and 7:59 a.m. on weekdays and on Saturdays and Sundays.

This change was made after an in-depth study found street parking downtown is often times being utilized by those who work downtown. The City's goal is for street parking to be available for visitors and community members who shop and dine downtown.

In a letter signed by Downtown Topeka, Inc. (DTI) officials Rhiannon Friedman

and Scott Gales, they said they support the move to begin metering.

"Parking directly impacts businesses, visitors, and residents of downtown Topeka. The proper maintenance of these assets is necessary for our community to continue to thrive and attract new businesses and residents alike. We appreciate the level of detail and dedication that has been put into the parking study completed by city staff. DTI agrees that these improvements and next steps will continue to help support the recruitment and

retention of businesses and resident's downtown," said Friedman and Gales.

Costs downtown are \$0.50 per hour or \$1.00 per hour, depending on the meter. Prices and time limits are listed on the meters. You can pay with a card by using the free Passport Parking mobile app. You can also pay with coins.

These changes do not impact City of Topeka parking garages. Parking passes for City garages can be purchased online. A parking map including meter rates can be viewed at [topeka.org/parking/](http://topeka.org/parking/).

## C5 will host luncheon at National Guard Museum

The November C5Alive "POWER" Luncheon will be held on Veterans Day, Nov. 11, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the National Guard Museum at Forbes Field.

SGM Jeremy Byers, who served as historian for the Adjutant General Office, will be the featured speaker.



site: [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

The cost to attend a C5 luncheon is \$10 for C5Alive members and first-time guests who RSVP, and \$12 at the door. Non-members and repeat 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. The next monthly C5Alive "POWER Luncheon" will be held December 19 at the Natifairlawn Plaza mall, and will feature a Christmas celebration.

For more details on these and other events, stay tuned to the C5Alive facebook page and web-

held on the second Thursday of each month, C5 also hosts periodic business fairs and other events, including EASTERFEST, the annual Topeka Easter Parade and Family Fun Fest, held on N. Kansas Avenue and in Garfield Park on the day before Easter (cancelled for 2021).

The group also hosted a Fall Fest this year on October 9 at The Vinewood venue.

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.

**"OLDEST COMPANY, LOWEST PRICES"**

**HUTTON MONUMENTS, INC.**

**201 SW Topeka Blvd**

**785-354-7005**

**[huttonmonuments.com](http://huttonmonuments.com)**



**SERVING KANSAS  
SINCE 1873**



**Since 1987  
with 7 locations**

**Prices You  
Can Afford**

**Chapel Oaks Cremation  
& Funeral Services**

**Susan Pettit Hutton  
Asst. Funeral Dir.**

**235 SW Topeka Blvd  
785-783-7753  
[chapeloaksne.com](http://chapeloaksne.com)**

## SALT AND LIGHT

continued from page 1

and mixed in or rubbed into meat or fish to either flavor or preserve.

In the same way, to change lives, we must get in direct contact with people in their everyday lives. Don't overcomplicate or overthink it – just do it! Two simple ways you can do this are:

1. Support an existing effort – whether through your local church or a community organization, sign up, show up and love and serve people.

2. Expect "God moments" – this is when you bump into people either on purpose or by random occurrence where you can encourage, help, share your faith or simply be nice to people. Be open and see what God will do!

—Jack Redmond is an author, speaker and serves on staff at Christ Church in Montclair and Rockaway, NJ. He can be reached or followed on social media @jackwredmond.

**Personalize Your Child's Christmas**

Customized Candy Bars

**HERSHEY'S!**

Season's Greetings

Childrens Books

Holiday Greeting Cards

Holiday Promotional Gifts

**Personally Yours**

Unique Gifts & Accessories For Any Occasion

Custom Candy Bar Wrappers  
Promotional Items  
Wedding Invitations & Accessories  
Party Favors & Accessories  
Gifts & Licensed Sports Prints  
Personalized Children's Books

Lori Welch • [pyours@att.net](mailto:pyours@att.net)  
(785) 357-0090

**PyGiftsandFavors.com**



# FINANCIAL PLANNING

## And baby makes 3

Dear Dave,

My wife and I are expecting our first child in a couple of weeks. I bring home \$35,000 a year teaching at a local high school, and she just completed her master's degree in speech therapy. She has a job waiting for her after the baby is born, and they are being very flexible about when she starts. I have heard you tell some people to leave just \$1000 in savings for Baby Step 1, and use any other saved cash to pay off debt. But I am concerned about the new expenses we will have once the baby is home. Should we hang on to our savings, so we have extra cushion for those costs or if something unexpected happens?

David

Dear David,

Congratulations! I know you two are excited to welcome a little one into the world.

In your situation, I'd advise pushing the pause button on the Baby Steps for now. Forget about paying down debt, until mom and the baby come home, and you're sure everyone's healthy and safe. You could even hang on to it all until she decides to start work. But the bottom line is if everybody's okay, the baby and all those connected expenses—like formula, diapers, and daycare—just become part of a regular monthly budget.

Your wife is going to be making pretty good money once she starts her job. And the truth is babies are not all that expensive. There are costs involved in having kids,



**DAVE  
RAMSEY**

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

**davesays**

but it's not like we're talking thousands of dollars a month out of your budget just because you had a baby. Can you buy lots and lots of things for a baby? Can those things cost a ridiculous amount of money? Of course! The list of things you could buy goes on and on. But a healthy, new baby doesn't need much, and having one at home isn't going to break the bank.

I think any financial fear or uncertainty you may be experiencing right now will disappear once you've got a couple months of adjusting your budget and getting used to the new normal under your belt. Then, when you and your wife decide it's time to start her career, you can begin paying off debt in a really big way! —Dave

## Sounds suspicious to me

Dear Dave,

My husband and I have a rental property in South Carolina we want to sell. The current renters' lease is up in December, but our property manager tells us the renters won't let anyone in the home, not even just for photos to post online due to COVID-19. How do you think we should handle this situation?

Tracy

Dear Tracy,

I don't know much about current COVID-19 restrictions in South Carolina, but this sounds suspicious to me. I'm also thinking your property manager is kind of a wuss, but I have the spiritual gift of cynicism.

I'm old school, and if I own a house, I'd like to go in it any time I want—within reason, of course—if renters are in there. They have the legal right of quiet enjoyment, meaning I don't get to show up at all hours and harass them. But I'm not letting

them stiff-arm me and use COVID-19 as an excuse. I mean, tenants thinking they have the right to give the landlord and owner zero access? Maybe places like the Socialist Republic of California allow this kind of crap, but most states have common sense, plus reasonable tenant and landlord protections. Yeah, the whole feel of this makes me think there's something very wrong going on inside this house.

I can imagine your frustration, Tracy. It makes me angry just thinking about it. If they've got a sick child or adult in the home, or someone's out of work but actively looking for a job, then I'll show a lot of compas-

sion and back off a little. I'll try to work with them to resolve things in a way that's good for everyone. But if they're just playing games or misbehaving and using COVID-19 as an excuse on top of that, I'd have no problem removing them.

I think you need to dig a little deeper on this one. Check the current laws in South Carolina, especially any laws concerning a possible eviction moratorium and get in touch with a good real estate attorney. There are times when we're called upon to be understanding and generous. But I have very little tolerance for someone who tries to take advantage of me.

—Dave

## The 401(k) / IRA IQ Quiz

By Ryan Shumaker  
Smartvestor Pro at  
The Retirement Team



While we've entered the season of giving, there is one place that many are likely giving far more than they should: the Internal Revenue Service. As we've pointed out in previous articles and constantly talk about on our radio show, taxes are very different and often times much higher on retirement account withdrawals after you've retired and started Social Security. Because of this, many are paying more than their fair share in taxes. If you are someone that doesn't believe you've given the government enough of your money, there is an option to make gifts to reduce the debt at <https://www.pay.gov/public/form/start/23779454>. Surprisingly over \$1.6 million was donated last year and nearly \$1.3 million so far this year!

If you're someone that doesn't want to give the taxman more than their fair share, you may want to take our 401(k) / IRA IQ Quiz. It is designed to flush out the biggest mistakes people make with retirement account distribution planning. Each question highlights a situation that could lead to the demise of your 401(k), IRA, or other retirement savings if you aren't careful.

1. Do you have most of your retirement savings in a company 401(k), 403(b), or 457 retirement plan?  
☐ YES ☐ NO
2. Do you have company stock in your 401(k)?  
☐ YES ☐ NO
3. Is your retirement plan one of the largest assets you own?  
☐ YES ☐ NO
4. Have you recently left your company, retired, or will you be retiring soon?  
☐ YES ☐ NO
5. After you retire, will you be leaving your retirement account with your former employer?  
☐ YES ☐ NO
6. Will you be taking a lump-sum distribution from your company plan at any time?  
☐ YES ☐ NO
7. Will your retirement account sav-

ings pass according to the terms in your will?

☐ YES ☐ NO

8. Have you named a trust to be the beneficiary of your retirement plan?

☐ YES ☐ NO

9. Is your estate the beneficiary of your retirement plan?

☐ YES ☐ NO

10. Will you be leaving your retirement assets to your spouse?

☐ YES ☐ NO

11. Have you put off instructing your beneficiaries what to do – and what not to do – with your retirement plan when they inherit it?

☐ YES ☐ NO

12. Do you want to be able to control the payouts on your retirement account(s) after your death to prevent your beneficiaries from squandering the money?

☐ YES ☐ NO

13. Will you be inheriting a retirement account from anyone?

☐ YES ☐ NO

14. Are you 100% confident that your bank, broker, financial advisor, or mutual fund company will have all the necessary documentation on your retirement account(s) that your beneficiaries will need?

☐ YES ☐ NO

15. Are you unsure of the exact amount that the IRS requires you to withdraw from your retirement account, and when?

☐ YES ☐ NO

16. Do you own a life insurance policy?

☐ YES ☐ NO

17. Will you be rolling cash, stock, or other property over from one retirement account to another?

☐ YES ☐ NO

18. Has it been more than a year since you last updated the beneficiary forms for every retirement account you own?

☐ YES ☐ NO

19. Will you need to tap into your retirement saving before you reach age 59½?

☐ YES ☐ NO

20. Have you heard of the Roth IRA but taken no steps to find out more or set one up yet?

☐ YES ☐ NO

Total Marked YES: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Marked NO: \_\_\_\_\_

Now that you've been through the quiz, take the total number of 'yes' answers and multiply them by 5. This represents the approximate percentage of your retirement savings that will probably go to the U.S. Treasury. The total number of 'no' points multiplied by 5 represents an approximation of how much you and your family will likely keep on average without having a strategic tax plan in place.

Percentage IRS is likely to keep: \_\_\_\_\_

Percentage I am likely to keep: \_\_\_\_\_

If you feel that the percentage the IRS is likely to keep is too high or percentage you are likely to keep is too low, consider speaking with a financial professional that is proficient in tax efficient retirement planning. There are a lot of worthy charities and causes you can give to this holiday season that most would consider more deserving than the IRS.

Other great articles about retirement, investing, and tax reduction can be seen at [RetireTopeka.com/blog](http://RetireTopeka.com/blog).

*Material discussed is meant for general/informational purposes and is not intended to be used as the sole basis for any financial decisions, nor be construed as advice to meet your particular needs. Portions of this material are excerpted from Ed Slott's book "The Retirement Savings Time Bomb ... and How to Defuse It." Please consult a financial professional for further information.*

Investment advisory services offered through Next Generation Investing, LLC.

Securities offered through World Equity Group, Inc. member FINRA and SIPC.

Next Generation Investing, LLC, & The Retirement Team are not owned or controlled by World Equity Group.

Insurance and annuities offered through Ryan Shumaker, KS Insurance License #10359614.

Ryan can be contacted at 785-228-0222 or [RetireTopeka.com](http://RetireTopeka.com).



—THE—  
**RETIREMENT  
TEAM**

Best TOPEKA 2020

RetireTopeka.com | 785-228-0222



Advisory Services offered through Next Generation Investing, LLC.  
Securities offered through World Equity Group, Inc. Member FINRA and SIPC.  
Next Generation Investing, LLC and The Retirement Team are not owned or controlled by World Equity Group, Inc.



## Six Questions to Help You Make Your Open Enrollment Selections

By Jim Hanna

In the fall, many employers offer an open enrollment period – a window of time to select your benefits package for the coming year. It's easy to overlook this opportunity and maintain the status quo, but this could be a costly mistake given the significant role benefits play in your financial life. This year resolve to review your options with a fresh perspective. Consider the following six questions to get started:



Hanna

1. Have you experienced a major life change recently?

If you're on the verge of having a child, recently had a child graduate from college and enter the workforce, or the job status of you or your spouse has changed, reconsider your health insurance options to accommodate your current situation. If you are experiencing or anticipating major health expenses, you might decide to choose a health plan with a lower deductible. Or perhaps you may decide you are better off paying a lower monthly premium with a higher deductible.

How do your employer's benefits selections compare to those offered through your spouse's employer?

Employers change their offerings from time to time, so make it a priority to compare your options every year. If you're considering changing healthcare providers or opting in for legal assistance, check to see if the professionals you currently work with are covered under the new plans. If not, consider the cost and whether you want to work with someone new as you make your decisions.

3. Is a Health Savings Account (HSA) worth considering?

If you choose a high deductible health plan, you may be able to set up a Health Savings Account (HSA). With an HSA, you contribute pre-tax dollars into the account. The money can be used to pay out-of-pocket costs (such as deductibles and co-pays for medical services) that are not covered

by your health insurance.

4. Is there value in a Flexible Spending Account (FSA)?

Out-of-pocket costs not covered by insurance, ranging from deductibles and copays to prescription drugs, eyeglasses and dental work, can be reimbursed through an FSA. By directing pre-tax dollars into this account, you can reduce your net out-of-pocket costs. However, unlike HSAs, these dollars do not carry over from year to year. Any leftover money is lost, so you'll want to plan in advance to determine an appropriate amount to save in the account.

5. Are there other benefits I should contemplate?

Benefit options vary by employer. Depending on where you work, you might have the ability to enroll in benefits such as dental coverage, eye exams, legal assistance, term life insurance or other specific services that may be useful. Carefully weigh these options to see if they are cost effective.

6. What are your financial goals?

Kick off open enrollment season by reviewing your financial goals. If you're married, talk to your spouse and realign on key priorities for the next year. Having a clear vision can help you evaluate benefit options with your lifestyle and financial situation for the coming year at the forefront. If you would like additional support, consult a financial advisor before you finalize your enrollment form.

*Jim Hanna, CFP®, MBA, CKA®, is a Private Wealth Advisor and a Certified Kingdom Advisor with Heart Financial Partners a financial advisory practice of Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC, in Topeka, KS. He specializes in fee-based financial planning and asset management strategies and has been in practice for 27 years. To contact him: [ameripriseadvisors.com/james.c.hanna](mailto:ameripriseadvisors.com/james.c.hanna), 785.357.6278 x19, 601 S Kansas Ave., Topeka, KS 66603.*

*Investment advisory products and services are made available through Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC, a registered investment adviser.*

*Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC. Member FINRA and SIPC.*

*© 2021 Ameriprise Financial, Inc. All rights reserved.*

*File #3710384- (Approved 09/2023)*

## IRS releases "Dirty Dozen" scams list

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

The Internal Revenue Service has concluded the "Dirty Dozen" list of tax scams with a warning to taxpayers to watch out for schemes peddled by tax promoters, including syndicated conservation easements, abusive micro-captive insurance arrangements and other abusive arrangements.

The IRS warns people to be on the lookout for promoters who peddle false hopes of large tax deductions from abusive arrangements. These "deals" are generally marketed by unscrupulous promoters who make false claims about their legitimacy and charge high fees to boot. These promoters frequently devise new ways to cheat the system and market them aggressively. Some taxpayers play the audit lottery hoping they don't get noticed.

To fight the evolving variety of these abusive arrangements, the IRS recently created the Office of Promoter Investigations (OPI) to focus on participants and the promoters of abusive tax avoidance transactions. OPI coordinates service-wide enforcement activities. The best defense for a taxpayer approached by a promoter is to show caution: if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

These aggressively marketed abusive arrangements wrap up the IRS's annual "Dirty Dozen" list and include the following:

### Syndicated conservation easements

In syndicated conservation easements promoters take a provision of tax law for conservation easements and twist it through using inflated appraisals of undeveloped land and partnerships. These abusive arrangements are designed to game the system and generate inflated and unwarranted tax deductions, often by using inflated appraisals of undeveloped land and partnerships devoid of a legitimate business purpose. More information can be found at IRS increases enforcement action on Syndicated Conservation Easements.

### Abusive micro-captive arrangements

In abusive "micro-captive" structures, promoters, accountants or wealth planners persuade owners of closely held entities to participate in schemes that lack many of the attributes of insurance. For example, coverages may "insure" implausible risks, fail to match genuine business needs or duplicate the taxpayer's commercial coverages. But the "premiums" paid under these arrangements are often excessive and used to skirt tax law. Additional information can be found at IRS offers settlement for micro-captive insurance schemes; letters being mailed to groups under audit. Recently, the IRS has stepped up enforcement against a variation using potentially abusive offshore captive insurance companies domiciled in Puerto Rico and elsewhere.

### Potentially abusive use of the US-Malta tax treaty

Some U.S. citizens and residents are relying on an interpretation of the U.S.-Malta Income Tax Treaty (Treaty) to take the position that they may contribute appreciated property tax free to

certain Maltese pension plans and that there are also no tax consequences when the plan sells the assets and distributes proceeds to the U.S. taxpayer. Ordinarily gain would be recognized upon disposition of the plan's assets and distributions of the proceeds.

### Improper claims of business credits

Improper claims for the research and experimentation credit generally involve failures to participate in, or substantiate, qualified research activities and/or satisfy the requirements related to qualified research expenses. To claim a research credit, taxpayers must evaluate and appropriately document their research activities

over a period of time to establish the amount of qualified research expenses paid for each qualified research activity. Taxpayers should carefully review reports or studies to ensure they accurately reflect the taxpayer's activities.

### Improper monetized installment sales

Promoters find taxpayers seeking to defer the recognition of gain upon the sale of appreciated property and organize an abusive shelter through selling them monetized installment sales. These transactions occur when an intermediary purchases appreciated property from a seller in exchange for an installment note. I



- Multiple Year Tax Returns
- Tax Problem Solutions
- IRS letters

**Call Peggy at:  
785-286-7899**



[peggystaxs.com](http://peggystaxs.com)



**Helping families plan for the anticipated and the unexpected since 1971**

**Call today for your no-obligation consultation!  
(785) 266-6002**

**[www.lordsfinancialplanning.com](http://www.lordsfinancialplanning.com)**



Securities and investment advisory services offered through Gradient Securities, LLC (Arden Hills, MN 856-991-1539). Member FINRA/SIPC. Gradient Securities, LLC (a SEC Registered Investment Advisor) offers investment advisory services under the d.b.a. of Gradient Wealth Management. Gradient Securities, LLC and its advisors do not render tax, legal, or accounting advice. Insurance products and services are offered through Lord's Financial Planning. Lord's Financial Planning is not affiliated with Gradient Securities, LLC. James R. Lord, LORD'S Financial Planning, and Gradient Securities, LLC are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any government agency. Exclusive rights to this material belong to GPS. Unauthorized use of this material is prohibited.

Meet your future with confidence.



**Jim Hanna, CFP®, MBA, CKA**  
Private Wealth Advisor  
Certified Kingdom Advisor  
[james.c.hanna@ampf.com](mailto:james.c.hanna@ampf.com)  
[ameripriseadvisors.com/team/heart-financial-partners](http://ameripriseadvisors.com/team/heart-financial-partners)

**785.357.6278, Ext. 19**  
601 S Kansas Ave  
Topeka, KS 66603

**Ameriprise Financial**

Ameriprise Financial is not affiliated with any religion or faith-based financial advisor organization. Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards Inc. owns the certification marks CFP®, CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ and CFP (with plaque design) in the U.S. Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC. Member FINRA and SIPC. © 2021 Ameriprise Financial, Inc.



# opinion

Got an Opinion? Share it with the Metro Voice!  
go to facebook/MetroVoiceNews, or email Voice@cox.net

**metro  
VOICE**

MANAGING EDITOR



**Lee Hartman**  
LHartman3@cox.net

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

**Nick Hartman**  
**Dwight Widaman**

ADVERTISING CONSULTANTS

**Lee Hartman**  
785-640-6399; Voice@cox.net  
**Sydney Hanna**  
sydneykatharineh@gmail.com  
**Darcy Childs** 785-249-6203  
childs.darcy@gmail.com

NEWS & FEATURES

Sydney Hanna, Carolyn Cogswell, Rob Mooney, Marie Asner, Alan Goforth, Clint Decker, Michael Foust, John Altevogt, Dwight Widaman, Lee Hartman

LAYOUT & DESIGN

Joe Boothe, Lee Hartman, Dwight Widaman

Metro Voice is published monthly and serves the communities of Topeka, Lawrence, and other communities in NE Kansas. It is available primarily by bulk and subscription distribution to over 500 locations, including grocery stores, churches, schools, restaurants, bookstores, libraries, businesses and other retail outlets. Yearly subscriptions are available by mail at a cost of \$24.95. Written materials submitted become property of Metro Voice. The content of this publication, including all stories, advertising or other graphic symbols, may not be reproduced in any way, shape or form for commercial purposes or added to any web site without the express permission of Metro Voice. Advertising in MV is open to anyone wishing to reach the Christian community and the family market with family-friendly advertising. MV reserves the right to refuse any advertising deemed unsuitable. Topeka Metro Voice is a member of the Christian Newspaper Association and the Evangelical Press Association.



CONTACT INFO

Offices: 2611 SW 17th St. (by appt.)  
Correspondence & Payments:  
P.O. Box 5724, Topeka, KS 66605  
Phone/Fax: 785-235-3340  
Voice@cox.net  
MetroVoiceNews.com  
facebook.com/metrovoiceneeds



## Why Freedom Is in Serious Jeopardy

By Dennis Prager

There are many ways in which to divide humanity — the decent and the indecent, the happy and the unhappy, the cowardly and the courageous, those who lead and those who follow, etc.

Two major divisions that are less often noted but highly consequential are between those who want to control others and those who have little interest in controlling others, and between the related categories of those who are comfortable with being controlled by others and those who detest being controlled by others.

Those who seek to control others and those who seek to be controlled by others would seem to be on opposite ends of the political spectrum. But they are not. Both groups are overwhelmingly populated by individuals on the Left.

They currently dominate four of the five English-speaking countries (the United Kingdom may be the one exception). The ease with which Australians, Canadians and New Zealanders have accepted the loss of liberty in their respective countries has been the saddest and most frightening development since the rise of totalitarianism in the early 20th century.

Even sadder and more frightening has been the acceptance of authoritarianism by half of the American people. America has been the beacon of liberty in the world. America was the country to which France gave the Statue of Liberty. America has been, as President



Abraham Lincoln characterized it, “the last best hope of Earth.” America’s self-image has been that of a “sweet land of liberty” and of “the land of the free and home of the brave.”

Then came a new virus (one with a survival rate in the 99% range for nearly all age groups except older adults who are also very sick), and suddenly, in the name of “public health,” no amount of suppression of liberty, no matter how irrational, has been resisted by the majority of Americans or almost any citizens of the other English-speaking countries.

The citizens of Australia’s biggest states are not allowed to leave their homes for more than a few hours a day, not allowed to congregate with other citizens even outdoors, not allowed even to speak with one another outdoors. For more than a year and a half, Australians have not been allowed to leave their country without

the express permission of their government, which will decide whether they have a good enough reason. And, of course, church services are forbidden. Australians, Canadians and New Zealanders, most of whom are thoroughly secular, have only contempt for their compatriots who wish to attend religious services.

In many arenas of life, most Australians have fewer rights than most Soviet citizens did. Like Australians, Soviet citizens could not leave their country without permission, but they were allowed to leave their homes, to speak with people in the street and to visit dying relatives in hospitals.

Meanwhile, a large percentage of Americans support a president of the United States who offers government and an enormous number of private-entity workers a choice between getting vaccinated — no matter how

young they are, and whether they already had COVID-19 — or losing their job. In other words, many Americans support firing any unvaccinated fellow citizens who work for the government, the medical professions or privately owned companies with 100 or more employees.

Half of America supports a president who portrays the other half of America as an enemy, their fellow Americans as people for whom they should have hatred. No American president has ever given as divisive a speech as the one in which President Joe Biden announced his vaccine mandates (something he denied wanting to impose only nine months ago, in December of 2020). Lincoln, despite the Civil War, a war in which more Americans were killed than in all other American wars combined, called on Americans to have “malice toward none.” Biden, as mean-spirited a president as this country has ever had, has called for malice toward 100 million Americans, declaring, “our patience is wearing thin.”

There is a three-pronged left-wing assault on liberty: in the name of public health (COVID-19); in the name of “anti-racism”; and in the name of saving the planet (climate change). By ratcheting up fear and hysteria, the Left is using each to end individual liberty, including freedom of speech, for the first time in American history.

Will the Left succeed?

Unless Americans fight the Left as hard as the Union fought the slave states, the answer is yes.

## Thank you. Two Simple Words.



**CLINT DECKER**  
President and Evangelist  
with Great Awakenings, Inc.

**hopefortoday**

Early in our marriage while we were eating dinner one evening, I said to Kathe “Thanks for dinner, honey.” She responded a little surprised so I followed up with, “You have taken the time to put it together and it tasted great so I think you deserve a thanks.”

One of the easiest ways to celebrate Thanksgiving is by sharing a simple “thank you” with someone who has served us. On the public platform our culture seems to do fine with this. It is normal for celebrities and politicians to express thanks while the cameras are rolling and crowds gathered. However, what are we like when our

guard is down and have nothing to gain? In those moments how often do we express “thank you” to our spouse, parents, children, co-workers, friends or classmates?

Thankfulness is a character issue. It is about humility. When we say “thank you,” we are lowering our self and elevating another. When we do that, we are giving people a sense of dignity. We are honoring their act of service toward us no matter how insignificant or routine it may seem to them or others.

Thankfulness is also about awareness. In order to give a “thank you” it requires that we shift the focus from our own world to someone else’s. It is where we hit the pause button in our busyness for a moment and acknowledge what someone has done on our behalf. It is a simple act of courtesy that is polite and the mark of a true gentleman or lady.

The life altering effect of Jesus’ suffering, death, burial and rising again from the dead is dependent on our attitude toward thankfulness. It takes a



sense of awareness to realize all that Jesus did for you and the people of the world. Awareness is required to realize it was done because you are a sinner and need a Savior. And after you are aware of this it takes humility to say “thank you” for all He did. In that moment, life-change happens because you have lowered yourself and exalted Jesus in your heart. The Scripture says, “Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name” (1 Chronicles 16:8).

A prayer for you - “Lord God, help us to be a thankful people. Open our eyes to be aware of what others have

done for us, both in our homes and from strangers among us. Then give us humility to lower ourselves and exalt others with a simple thank you. Greatest of all, help us to thank you for saving sinners just like us. In Jesus’ name. Amen.”

*Clint Decker is President of Great Awakenings. Hope for Today is a nationally syndicated column.*

*If God used one of Clint’s columns to impact your life, share your story at cdecker@greatawakenings.org.*



# We Must Never Get Used to the New Cultural Craze

By Dr. Michael Brown

In their landmark 1990 book *After the Ball: How America Will Conquer Its Fear and Hatred of Gays in the 90's*, gay strategists Marshall Kirk and Hunter Madsen laid out a brilliant plan for changing American attitudes towards homosexuality. They stated that “to desensitize straights to gays and gayness, inundate them in a continuous flood of gay-related advertising, presented in the least offensive fashion possible. If straights can’t shut off the shower, they may at least eventually get used to being wet.



the obvious pronouncement of, “It’s a boy!” or “It’s a girl!”). And, since people can actually change the sex on their birth certificate, you must be asked for the data on your original birth certificate. As I’ve asked countless times before, what kind of madness is this?

The CDC is asking these questions because there are biological differences between men and women. And in many cases, those biological differences are of great medical importance.

Today, however, even to ask the question, “Are you male or female?” is to walk into a cultural minefield.

We must not get used to this or accept it as normal. Ever.

Years ago, when doing research for *A Queer Thing Happened to America*, I first came across the concept of having your gender “assigned” at birth, as if it was the arbitrary decision of the doctor, as in: “Let’s assign this kid to be male.” (We are not talking here about less than 1 percent of the population that is intersex but about obvious, undeniable males and females.)

As I wrote back in the book, “First, the concept of having multiple ‘gender identities’ is now acceptable (which means that you might consider yourself male and female and even something else, not biologically but psychologically). Second, it is now widely accepted in many GLBT circles that you are not born male or female but you are assigned a gender at birth (by society, through the medium of your parents and the doctors). There is even a regulation concerning this in the San Francisco Unified School Policy: ‘Transgender students shall not be forced to use the locker room corresponding to their gender assigned at birth.’”

Many readers shook their heads in disbelief when reading this, thinking, “This will never become mainstream.”

Well, think again. Mainstream it is.

The next box on the CDC website asked, “How do you currently describe yourself?”, offering four choices: Male, Female, Transgender, I Prefer Not to Say.

And why, pray tell, does the CDC even need to know? How will this help you self-check for the Coronavirus?

Yesterday, my wife Nancy was looking for nutritional information about vegetables, which linked to her the well-known Living Strong website. There, on a page dealing with health and nutrition, she read, “The number of servings of vegeta-

Corps, earning praise from outlets like the Washington Post, which celebrated the “organization’s first-ever female four-star admiral.”

Except that Levine is a biological male who identifies as female. Yet this is somehow a breakthrough for women? Isn’t it really a slap in the face of other women, since the first “female” to reach this rank is not a female at all?

Sorry, but I refuse to accept this as the new normal, let alone celebrate this as some kind of big moment for women. Not a chance.

Even more seriously, parents are still reeling over the news that Loudon County School officials allegedly covered up the



bles you need depends on your age and sex assigned at birth, according to the USDA.”

Even Living Strong cannot simply say, “Your sex,” since “sex” is now as malleable as your mind. As for your “sex assigned at birth,” it appears to have some importance after all. Otherwise, why even refer to it anymore.

To say it again, we must not accept this as normal. Ever.

What about the latest news concerning Richard “Rachel” Levine? He has now been promoted to four-star admiral in the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned

rape of a girl in what should have been the privacy of a school bathroom, all for the cause of transgender activism.

As reported by the Daily Wire, “On June 22, Scott Smith was arrested at a Loudoun County, Virginia, school board meeting, a meeting that was ultimately deemed an ‘unlawful assembly’ after many attendees vocally opposed a policy on transgender students.

“What people did not know is that weeks prior on May 28, Smith says, a boy allegedly wearing a skirt entered a girls’ bathroom at nearby Stone Bridge High School, where he sexually assaulted

Smith’s ninth-grade daughter.”

Yet it was Smith’s outrage when others did not believe his report that drew the attention of our government, with Attorney General Merrick Garland calling in the FBI to investigate parents like Scott Smith as potential “domestic terrorists.” We must not accept this as normal!

And what about describing women as “non-prostate owners,” since all other descriptions have either become ambiguous or are deemed bigoted? There is no way we can accept this as normal, just like we cannot accept “chestfeeding” displacing “breastfeeding” or agree with the idea that “some men menstruate.” Never!

Things have actually become so extreme that Barri Weiss, a liberal feminist “married” to her female partner, is calling out today’s cultural craziness, saying to Brian Stelter on CNN, “Well, you know, when you have the chief reporter on the beat of COVID for The New York Times talking about how questioning or pursuing the question of the lab leak is racist, the world has gone mad.

“When you’re not able to say out loud and in public that there are differences between men and women, the world has gone mad.

“When we’re not allowed to acknowledge that rioting is rioting, and it is bad, and that silence is not violence, but violence is violence, the world has gone mad.”

Very well said!

The world has gone mad, which is why I continue to use scare quotes when referring to gay “marriage,” not to insult gay couples, but to refuse to accept this as “marriage.”

And that’s why, as much as there were other things I would rather write about, yet again, I needed to raise my voice.

I urge you, my friend. Do not accept this as normal.

## Point the thumb, not the finger

By Chester Elton

“Point the thumb, not the finger!”

That’s a phrase my new friend, Tom Finn, loves to say when talking to people he coaches about accountability and the lack of progress most leaders make in empowering their talent.

Today’s talent rightfully demands more than good benefits (like medical, dental, and parental leave). They want personalized support, mental health care, and professional development opportunities. He calls this the Talent Empowerment movement.

“I tell everyone I work with you are the CEO of YOU. You are in charge of your career, how you treat your customers, partners, and colleagues. My role is to support you, to empower you, and to help you grow,” Tom told me on our latest episode of the Anxiety at Work Podcast.

His main message is that we all need to take action to empower our talent at every level. And if work triggers anxiety for you, there are ways to take back control and reevaluate your career plan and who you spend most of your time with. Thankfully, Adrian Gostick and I find managers and companies

out there who genuinely care about employee wellbeing, rather than using it as a buzzword, and for them we are grateful.

Tom has worked in the employee benefits world his entire professional life. But the lack of real progression didn’t hit him until his career—defined by leading a team of 75 with \$1.3 billion in business—left him with nothing to write in his gratitude journal.

“I was in my 20’s and I was completely over my skis,” he said. “I couldn’t tell you how nervous I was all the time in dealing with people significantly older than me and feeling the imposter syndrome. You just have this feeling that you’re not good enough to be doing your job. And with little support and help from the company at the time, despite my asking, I was left with severe anxiety, not gratitude, for my job and so-called success.”

Tom did eventually receive help to manage his work-related anxiety and imposter syndrome feelings in the form of a professional coach.

“The coaching experience truly transformed and changed my life. I can’t stress that enough. I felt empowered to take hold of my wellbeing, my

happiness, and my career. I became the CEO of me.”

Today, Tom is the CEO and co-founder of LeggUP. He’s working to make professional and mental health coaching the next big transformation in employee benefits. He is a big believer in moving away from talent management to talent empowerment and from workplace hierarchies to inclusive experiences. Like Adrian and I coach the executives we work with, Tom’s office is a safe place to talk about anxiety and mental health at work. He encourages his employees and everyone to follow three main principles: Connect, Engage and Grow. Connect with communities who bring you happiness, engage in a lifetime of learning in topics you love, and find your purpose so you can continue to grow.

Listen to my latest podcast episode with Tom Finn. And check out LeggUP, which helps companies empower their people through an integrated professional coaching and mental health platform offered to all employees as an inclusive benefit called Talent Insurance.

On the podcast we dive into how we often self-sabotage ourselves when we feel a loss of control at work. And we



talk about how culture is the ultimate company game changer.

Every great athlete has a coach. Every great business person can benefit from coaching as well.

Do you have a coach—a friend, mentor or professional to help you through the challenges of your working life? If not, what’s your plan to find someone to help you?

*Chester Elton is the author of "Anxiety at Work" & "Leading with Gratitude", Member Marshall Goldsmith 100 Coaches, Executive Coach, Keynote Speaker, and Founder of the #findyourgratitude Community. His "Gratitude Journal" can be found on Linked In.*





# How Youth in Foster Care Can Achieve School Success

“There are a number of reasons why these students struggle in school,” says Jacqueline Huscroft-D’Angelo, Ph.D., MS, MS, BS, Research Associate Professor at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, College of Education and Human Sciences, Special Education and Communication Disorders Department.

Dr. D’Angelo cites factors that contribute to poor academic outcomes for youth in foster care, including:

- Multiple foster care placements. With each placement and school change, youth can fall one and a half grade levels behind in core skills they need to excel. Lack of consistency and constant changes cause these youth to miss out on forming relationships and connections with peers and teachers, receiving support to improve academic performance, and enriching their school experience with extracurricular activities.

- Competing priorities. For youth who have experienced foster care, other concerns such as their safety and wellbeing can take priority over educational goals. “Unfortunately, education may be a lower priority based on what is going on in the child or teen’s life outside of school,” says Dr. D’Angelo.

- Lack of support from caregivers. Based on their own experiences, caregivers may not prioritize the importance of academic performance or promote academic achievement in the home.



## Students Could Face Devastating Outcomes Without Additional Support

As a result of ongoing challenges and difficulties, middle school and high school students are more likely to have poor academic performance, experience school failure, and drop out. Just over half of youth in foster care received their high school degree in 2020, and only 3% will continue to higher education and earn a college degree.

Youth who don’t graduate from high school face poor overall life outcomes, including:

- Homelessness
- Limited employment options; higher unemployment

- Physical and mental health challenges
- Substance abuse
- Early parenthood

“We have to figure out how to keep these kids in school,” states Dr. D’Angelo. “With the right support, we can help them do better in school and feel better about themselves as learners. We can help improve their lives through education.”

## Signs a Student is Struggling

Caregivers should be aware of certain behaviors by age group and be prepared to seek help immediately.

Behaviors to watch for in younger children:

Trouble engaging in learning and staying on task

- Excessive crying
- Not completing schoolwork or homework

- Acting out/aggression
- Impulse control issues
- Attention-seeking behavior: frequently out of their seat, shouting, disturbing other students

Behaviors to watch for in older youth:

- Isolating from others/withdrawing from friends and family
- Tardiness to class
- Skipping classes
- Failing grades
- Not completing schoolwork and/or homework

“Kids in foster care don’t want to be stigmatized or to be pitied by teachers and other kids,” Dr. D’Angelo explains. “They want to be treated the same as other kids – and challenged academically, too.”

## How Caregivers Can Support Youth in Their Care

Caregivers must make education a priority and stress how education can help youth improve their lives.

continue to underscore the importance of education.

- Set aside time to discuss school. Ask questions that allow them to talk openly about the school experience and their feelings. Tease out positive experiences from the school day.

## Managing School Transitions

If the child in your care is starting a new school or is transitioning to middle or high school, try these tips to make this big change easier. All these strategies can help kids feel connected.

1. Work with the school and child welfare agency for guidance on how to support the child in your care.

2. Make sure the school has a copy of the student’s records. This important information can alert educators if the student has special educational needs.

3. Tour the school in advance with your student. Review the school schedule to know what is going on and how things will work.

4. Be sure to include the student in conversations about coursework and credits.

5. Plan for student involvement in extracurricular activities. Make sure they can participate. Address barriers that may prevent participation (cost, transportation, uniforms, etc.).

6. Identify a go-to person at the school that can help the student feel comfortable and included.

7. Advocate for additional resources on the child’s behalf. Make sure the child has what they need.

**Life**  
CHRISTIANS FOR LIFE, INC.  
EVERY LIFE COUNTS  
INFO@HEARTOFAMERICAWALL.ORG  
785-267-5777  
P.O. Box 3856, TOPEKA, KS 66604

*T.H. Peterson*  
Photography  
20 Years Experience  
Weddings  
Seniors  
Newborns  
Families  
785.793.2492 | 785.213.0812  
tommy@thpetersonphoto.com

**Christian Family Adoption**  
Austin K. Vincent  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
785-234-0022  
akvlawgm@gmail.com  
For more information visit: [Christianfamilyadoptionks.com](http://Christianfamilyadoptionks.com)

**Alpha Christian Children's Home & School**  
[www.alphachristianchildrenshome.com](http://www.alphachristianchildrenshome.com)  
WHAT WE DO:  
1. Share Christ to offer hope and healing  
2. Provide a Christian family safe haven  
3. Help the kids get caught up in school  
HOW YOU CAN HELP:  
1. Pray  
2. Volunteer  
3. Refer Children in Need To Us  
4. Monetary & Food Donations  
Find out more by calling  
785-597-5235  
Located East of Topeka  
15017 27th Street  
PO Box 727  
Perry, Kansas 66073



# Why Adopt? 23 Reasons to Adopt a Child

Adoption is a very personal decision for prospective parents to make. It's impossible to say there is one reason why people adopt — because, in actuality, every family is different, and every family chooses adoption for different reasons.

Whether you're a pregnant woman considering adoption or a prospective adoptive family, you may wonder what some of these reasons to adopt are. Prospective parents can then determine if they have one of these reasons for adoption, and a prospective birth mother can use them to understand more about the kinds of people she can choose to adopt her child.

The journey birth mothers and adoptive families take together and the opportunity a child has to live their best life is what makes adoption so special.

If you're a prospective birth mother considering adoption, you can connect to one of our experienced professionals today by completing this online form. You can also find a complete guide to the adoption process here.

For our amazing adoptive families, here are some of the common reasons to adopt a child today:

1. Due to infertility, some couples cannot have a biological child.

This is one of the most common reasons that prospective parents choose adoption. In many cases, they have tried to have a child the natural way and struggled through months and even years of infertility treatments that have ultimately failed. So, they decide to pursue adoption as a different way to become parents.

2. Some women are facing medical conditions that make it dangerous to carry a pregnancy.

In addition to infertility, some women have conditions that make pregnancy impossible or ill-advised. Whether it's a condition that she's been aware of since she was young or something she developed during a previous pregnancy, these conditions could endanger her life, and so she chooses adoption as a way to become a mother.

3. They don't want to pass down genetic disorders or diseases.

In other cases, some couples may be fully capable of conceiving and having a healthy pregnancy, but they're worried about their child being born with genetic diseases. Some parents with disorders or diseases know that there is a high chance of passing them along to their child, so they choose to adopt instead.

4. They are a single parent and want to start a family.

When a person is ready to become a parent but doesn't have a partner to start a family with, they may decide that adoption is right for them. Instead of going through fertility treatments to have a biological child, they decide that adoption will provide them what they want — a chance to be a parent, no matter if there's a genetic connection or not. Why adopt? Because family is much more than biology — family is love.

5. They are a same-sex couple and want to become parents.

Similarly, LGBTQ couples cannot have genetically related children naturally. The IVF process will only allow one parent to be genetically related to the child. So, one good reason to adopt a child is that adoption creates a way for these couples to become the parents they have always dreamed about being.

6. They want to give a child a loving home.

Whether they choose to adopt domestically, internationally or from the foster system (or an older child who is related to them), prospective adoptive parents recognize that there are many children who don't have the safe, loving and supportive home environments they need. This is one of many reasons to adopt. Knowing that they can provide the family that this child needs, prospective adoptive parents decide to pursue the adoption process.

7. They want to help pregnant women considering adoption continue to pursue their life goals.

Prospective adoptive parents know just how much dedication having a child demands, and they know that many prospective birth mothers have other plans for their lives than raising a child. Therefore, by adopting a baby, prospective adoptive parents can help a young woman achieve her personal goals, like finishing school or advancing in her career.

8. They support educational financial aid for birth mothers, like through American Adoptions' birth mother scholarship.

Similar to the reason listed above, many prospective adoptive parents want to help better the situations of women who have found themselves facing an unplanned pregnancy. They then specifically choose American Adoptions because of our agency's pledge to help those women who want to continue their education through our scholarship program.

9. They want to help a friend or family member who isn't in a position to raise a child.

Sometimes, people know a pregnant woman who is not ready to raise a child and is looking for someone to adopt her baby, which is a great reason to adopt. In other situations, a relative or friend may be unable to care for an older child and needs someone to give them a better life through adoption. In either of these cases, prospective adoptive parents may step up to adopt the child from that person they already know.

10. They want to help one of the thousands of children in the U.S. living without permanent families.

There are more than 400,000 children in foster care in the United States, and some of them are awaiting adoption. These children have usually been through traumatic events in their lives and are in desperate need of a

supportive family who can give them a permanent home. People who are moved by these children's plights usually decide this is their reason to adopt.

11. They want to give a child born in another country a chance to thrive.

It's estimated that, worldwide, there are 15 million children who are waiting for a family through adoption. The scope of

need is massive. Many families respond to this need through international adoption — the process of parents from the U.S. adopting a child from a different country. Why adopt this way? Because every child should know what it feels like to be a part of a family. When parents adopt internationally, they meet a big need and give a child an opportunity to thrive.

12. They want to raise an older child rather than an infant.

If prospective parents don't want to raise

a child from infancy, this could be a reason to adopt. Perhaps prospective parents are more interested in or prepared for raising a teenager and are more excited about those challenges than the challenges that come with raising a baby from birth. No matter what age of the adopted child, parents are giving them a family that they didn't have before.

13. They want to choose the gender of their child.

While some adoption agencies do not

Have you ever heard the phrase, "I will do that when I get around to it"?

WELL, HERE'S YOUR "ROUND TOIT":

## ESTATE PLANNING

You need a plan to set your mind at ease and ensure a **strong future for your family.** Contact Patton & Patton to get answers to:

- Where will my assets go?
- Do I need to designate a guardian?
- Will my loved ones be able to make healthcare decisions for me?
- Do I need a Will?

Scan the code to learn more!



SCAN ME

**'ROUND TOIT**

# PATTON & PATTON

(785) 246-9399 | [PattonAndPatton@gmail.com](mailto:PattonAndPatton@gmail.com)  
534 S. Kansas, Ste 1120; Topeka, Kansas 66603





## Celebrate the Holidays in Downtown Topeka!

As we enter the Holiday season, Downtown is looking better than ever! People are getting in the Christmas Spirit!

Christmas shopping in Downtown Topeka can be fun, with all the unique shops and a bit of nostalgia in the air. It might remind you of a time when shopping was more exciting, more personal, and less of a chore.

Following are some tidbits from some of your friendly downtown merchants. Why not take a trip downtown and visit them?

### A Full-Service Florist & Gift Shop

Absolute Design by Brenda, 629 S. Kansas Avenue, offers hand-selected flowers and exquisite designs with delivery throughout the Topeka area. They have an expansive line of gifts, jewelry and home decor for all your holiday and year-round needs.

This locally-owned Topeka florist delivers courteous, professional service and the highest quality floral and gift items around. Their experienced designers can create floral designs that will complement any occasion and meet your budget and style expectations as well. Daily delivery service is



available to all local funeral homes, hospitals and nursing homes.

You can even save \$5.00 by using the coupon on this page!

You can also order or wire flowers 24 hours a day at the website: [www.absolutedesignbybrenda.com](http://www.absolutedesignbybrenda.com).

### Taking chocolate to a new level

Owners Nick & Terry Xidis at Hazel Hill Chocolate, 724 S. Kansas Avenue, have been a staple in Downtown Topeka for years.

Hazel Hill, Terry's grandmother, is a symbol of their dedication to a family tradition of "the best in everything they do." Nick is the third generation chocolatier, and they use only the finest ingredients, chocolate, fresh

cream and butter, to produce hand-made treats that explode with flavor.

Lately, Nick has been making hand-crafted chocolate from cacao (coco beans) that import from around the globe. Much like fine wine, each cacao origin produces a unique flavor profile in the finished chocolate.



"There are only a couple of hundred companies in the US that hand craft chocolate," Nick said. "We just put a new bar out made from cacao from the Semuliki Forest in Uganda. It's a 72% cacao dark chocolate that has a delightful flavor."

It's not just Topekans that delight in Hazel Hill chocolates.

"In 2019, three of our handcrafted chocolate bars won bronze in the International Chocolate Awards Americas competition," Nick said. "In 2020 our sea salt caramel won the gold medal in the Chocolate Alliance competition. Both of these competitions include entries from more than 400 craft chocolate professionals."

Whatever your preference may be – handmade chocolate truffles, home-style fudge, crispy-creamy caramel apples or something else – at Hazel Hill they fashion delightful treats for every palate.

Need a gift basket, gift box, or just a few delicious chocolates to go? They'll take care of all the packing and shipping, too!

### When you need a break

For your coffee emergency, go Downtown to Juli's Coffee and Bistro – a locally owned, woman owned, Veteran owned and operated coffee shop offering legit house coffee and all manner of espresso drinks.

Now featuring "Made in the USA" coffee grown and roasted in Hawaii, with aloha flavors like toasted coconut, chocolate and vanilla macadamia nut. Buy a bag to take home!

See the new place at 911 S. Kansas

Avenue, having relocated from 8th Street. The new space has easier access – no more stairs to the front door. Local favorites are still available, like the Turkey Lurkey and house made Cranberry Almond Chicken Salad for lunch. Fresh salads, wraps and tasty paninis make it perfect for casual dining. Daily house made specials keep it fresh and exciting.

Check out the menus online at [www.juliscoffeeandbistro.com](http://www.juliscoffeeandbistro.com) and order online, pay online and then pick up, or use Eatstreet delivery.

The owner and staff at Juli's want to



take this opportunity to thank the Topeka community for their undying support since 2016. Despite the pandemic and relocation Juli's remained OPEN normal hours and kept 80% of their staff on payroll throughout the pandemic. Community matters and that is the reason Topeka has been home for 6 generations of the Bistro family. Remember 911 Kansas for Great Coffee, Better Food and Happy Holidays!

### Delicious treats for all to enjoy

Shana Cake opened at 435 S Kansas in 2015. Over the past couple of years there have been a few changes, but the most important thing has remained unchanged; we are as committed to providing your family gluten-free, allergy-friendly treats today as Kelly was when she opened the doors 5 years ago.

We have a variety of cupcakes, cookies, muffins, breads, and other treats that are free of gluten, dairy, soy, nuts, tree nuts, artificial colors and flavors, preservatives, and GMO's.

**HAZEL HILL**  
chocolate traditions

Open  
Tue - Sat.  
10am-8pm  
724 S. Kansas  
785-215-8833  
[www.hazelhillchocolate.com](http://www.hazelhillchocolate.com)

**SHANA CAKE**

Free of  
Artificial Color  
Artificial Flavor  
Preservative  
Soy  
Wheat

Casein  
Dairy  
Gluten  
GMO  
Nuts

Many items available egg-free!

435 S. Kansas Ave  
Topeka, KS 66603  
[Michelle@ShanaCake.com](mailto:Michelle@ShanaCake.com)  
785 - 408 - 1272  
[www.shanacake.com](http://www.shanacake.com)

Bread, Cookies, Cupcakes, Cakes, Treats, Pie crusts, Pizza crusts, Egg noodles & More!  
Special Orders Available!



**Christmas & Seasonal  
Gifts • Fresh Bouquets  
Jewelry • Home Decor  
Permanent Flowers**

**\$5.00 OFF**  
any purchase of  
\$25 or more!

**Absolute Design by Brenda**  
a unique full-service  
florist and home design shop  
[AbsoluteDesignByBrenda.com](http://AbsoluteDesignByBrenda.com)  
785-266-7999  
629 S. Kansas Ave.

**Juli's**  
Coffee and Bistro

**Coffee and Lattes**  
.....  
**Breakfast and Lunch**  
.....  
SOUP, SANDWICHES, SALADS + WRAPS  
.....

order  
online @  
[juliscoffeeandbistro.com](http://juliscoffeeandbistro.com)

911 S. Kansas Avenue - Downtown Topeka  
785-228-2001 • [julisorders@gmail.com](mailto:julisorders@gmail.com)  
Mon. - Fri. 8am - 4pm • Sat. 8am - 2pm





Most of our products can also be made egg-free, and we strive to offer vegan goods daily. We love feedback from our vegan customers, so we can bake more of the treats you are craving.



ing.

One of our favorite compliments is when a new customer tells us they can't tell our treats are gluten-free. We love having customers that have no dietary restrictions return simply because they enjoy our delicious treats.

Special orders, such as cakes, specific flavors of cupcakes, or special treats are welcome and orders can be placed online at [www.shanacake.com](http://www.shanacake.com) or by calling us at (785)408-1272.

#### Diamonds are Forever

With the Christmas season in full swing, you'll find many specials and gift ideas at David's Jewelers, 623 S. Kansas - a family business that has



served Topeka for four generations, with over 50 years in business.

Diamond rings, pendants and earrings usually top the list but they also offer vivid colored gemstones in unique settings, watches, clocks, statues and fine crystal.

"Gifts can start at \$20.00 and go from there," said Mitzi from behind the counter at David's. "We will be glad to help you find that special gift for that special someone."

## Holiday Memories, Events, & Gift Ideas!

### Check Out Some of the Upcoming Holiday Events & Activities

While you're making your way around the downtown area, check out all of the new things to look at on both sides of the street

There are lots of new features! And watch for these downtown events and opportunities during the holiday season:

**CHICAGO** – Nov. 4, 8pm, TPAC



**FIRST FRIDAY ART MARKET** – Nov. 5, Downtown and NOTO arts district. Arts, antiques, fine crafts, flea market items, snacks & beverages, entertainment and more.



**MIRACLE ON KANSAS AVENUE PARADE** – Dec. 4, 3pm, Downtown. Lighted Holiday Parade starts at 6pm.



**VETERANS DAY PARADE – SUNFLOWER SALUTE** – Nov. 6, Downtown Topeka.



**BALLET MIDWEST'S THE NUTCRACKER** – Dec. 10-12, TPAC. Tickets available at the TPAC box office or Ticketmaster.com. For info: 785-234-2787

**THREE DOG NIGHT** – Nov. 11, 7pm, TPAC

**FRIDAY FLICKS: ICE AGE** – Nov. 12, 6pm, Evergy Plaza

**THE NUTCRACKER BY KANSAS BALLET ACADEMY**– Dec. 15, 18, 19, TPAC. Tickets available at the TPAC box office or Ticketmaster.com. For info: 785-234-2787



**GINGERBREAD HOMES FOR THE HOLIDAYS** - Nov 19 - 9am-7pm; Nov 20 - 9am-5pm; Nov. 21 - 11am-4pm. TPAC, 214 SE 8th Ave. View and bid on elaborate gingerbread houses. Families, students, youth groups and scout troops, etc. can build their own. Holiday Boutique - crafts, gifts and more; Sweet Tooth Lane - delicious fresh baked goods and homemade candy. Meet Santa. Adm. \$5. 785-234-2787. [TopekaPerformingArts.org](http://TopekaPerformingArts.org)

## David's Jewelers

623 South Kansas Avenue ~ Topeka, Kansas ~ Since 1968

Where quality and affordable prices are a family tradition.

Serving Downtown Topeka since 1968, David's Jewelers still considers quality to be a family tradition. They offer custom designed jewelry because each customer is one of a kind. They also offer in-store jewelry, watch and clock repair.

"We will be glad to help you find that special gift, from \$20 and up!"

**Register to Win a \$2500 Diamond Pendant!**

Drawn on Christmas Eve. No purchase necessary.

David's is open seven days a week. Holiday Hours expand as Christmas approaches. Gift certificates & free gift wrap available.

Call for information at 785-234-4808 or 785-234-3771

(785) 234-4808 • [davidsjewelers.topekaks.com](http://davidsjewelers.topekaks.com)

## For Breakfast and Lunch it's...

**HANOVER PANCAKE HOUSE**

1034 S. Kansas Avenue - (785) 232-1111  
[www.hanoverpancakehouse.com](http://www.hanoverpancakehouse.com)

**Hanover Pancake House...need I say more?**





## Celebrate the Holidays in North Topeka!

**THE PAD RESTAURANT**

*Try our lunch specials Monday - Friday!*

234-3596  
1730 N. Topeka Blvd.

**Davidson Funeral Home & Cremation Services**

Family Owned & Operated for over 100 years  
1035 North Kansas Avenue  
Topeka, Kansas  
(785) 233-4088

Ed & Carolyn Popkess, Owners

*"Stick With The Best!"*

**HERMAN'S BEEF & SAUSAGE HOUSE**

823 N.W. Gordon St. Topeka, KS 66608  
(785) 233-7328

We Specialize In Meat & Deli Items

*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)

**TRM MINISTRIES**

**TOPEKA RESCUE MISSION MINISTRIES**

**FAITH WITH ITS SLEEVES ROLLED UP**

Main: 785.354.1744  
Donate: Text **TRMgive** to **77977**  
Non-Cash Donations: 785.357.4285  
Volunteer Services: 785.354.1744 ext. 393  
[TRMonline.org](http://TRMonline.org)

Mail Donations to:  
600 N Kansas Ave  
Topeka, KS 66608  
OR  
P.O. Box 8350  
Topeka, KS 66608

The First Friday Art Walk on November 5th you will be able to come see the newest show at the Arts Center, Topeka Parks & Green Spaces posters with unveiling of new, NOTO-themed poster. Exhibition remains on display through November 27.

First Friday - Topeka Arts District has become an attraction to Art Lovers and History Buffs alike with beautiful scenes of art and history. The restaurants, locally owned shops, art galleries and studios have become a favorite art walk destina-

tion.

Hours are 10 am to 9 pm. Visit the NOTO Arts Center to pick up a map of participating businesses and view the newest exhibit at the Morris Gallery.

Entertainment can also be found on First Fridays, at various venues during the artwalk up and down N. Kansas Avenue, as well as streetside vendors. The restaurants,

Then on November 18th at 6pm there is a Life Drawing Session at Noto Arts Center. There will be a live model for artists to



**MERIDEN ANIMAL HOSPITAL**

**Jeffrey F. Van Petten, DVM**  
Veterinary Acupuncture & Chiropractic Care  
Member - AVMA, IVAS, AVCA

7146 K-4 Hwy, Meriden, Ks  
785-484-3358 • Phone answered 24 hours  
[staff@Meriden-Animal.com](mailto:staff@Meriden-Animal.com)

PHONE: (785) 286-2390 FAX: (785) 286-2393  
TOLL FREE: (800) 894-2390 EMAIL: [RICH@TARWATERS.COM](mailto:RICH@TARWATERS.COM)  
MOBIL: (785) 224-6295

**TARWATER FARM & HOME SUPPLY**

**RICH TARWATER OWNER**

4107 N TOPEKA AVE  
TOPEKA, KS 66617

BECAUSE OF THE CUSTOMER... WE EXIST!

**SMJ SHANE M. JONES & ASSOCIATES, P.A.**

**COUNSELING YOU CAN TRUST**

Areas of expertise:

- Marriage & Relationships
- Depression
- Anxiety
- Adoption
- Addictions
- Grief-Loss
- Foster Care

2708 N. Topeka Blvd., Ste. 202  
Topeka, KS • 785-266-7732

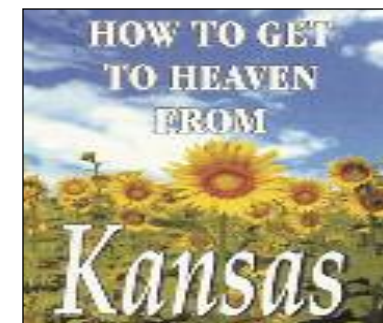
5040 Bob Billings Parkway, Ste. B  
Lawrence, KS • 785-832-8838

[www.shanemjones.com](http://www.shanemjones.com)

work from. Bring your own materials or we have some you can use. Wine and cheese will be provided. 21+ event. Purchase your ticket as attendance is limited. <https://explorenoto.org/event/life-drawing-session-3/>

A Celebration of Winter is a six-week vendor & craft market presented by Donaldson's Jewelers on Saturdays: Nov. 20, 27, and Dec. 4, 11 and 18. There will be a wide variety of arts, crafts, antiques & gifts, as well as special Santa visits every Saturday. Performances by local schools will also be featured.

You can also visit 3rd Friday's NOTO Night Out! Many Merchants are also open longer hours on Second Saturdays.



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.



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

# the events calendar

**FREE LISTINGS! E-mail your events to: [Voice@cox.net](mailto:Voice@cox.net); mail to Metro Voice, P.O. 5724, Topeka, KS 66605; fax to 785-235-3340 or enter online at [metrovoicenews.com](http://metrovoicenews.com)**  
**Get your event **Highlighted in Blue** in print, our online calendar and promoted in social media for only \$29!**

## CONCERTS

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

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

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

**GRAND O' OPRY** – 2nd & 4th Saturday, 6:30PM-pre-show, 7PM showtime, Ottawa Memorial Auditorium, 301 S Hickory, Ottawa. Tickets are \$10 and only at the door. Ph. 785-214-0013, email [grandoopry@gmail.com](mailto:grandoopry@gmail.com).

**MERCY ME IN CONCERT** – Oct. 30, 7pm, Cable Dahmer Arena, Independence, Mo. Get your tickets with 10% Discount! Use promo 74C10 during checkout: <https://zhetix.fun/cities/Independence>

**CHICAGO** – Nov. 4, 8pm, TPAC

**BOOTH BROTHERS CONCERT** – Nov. 5, 7pm, Wanamaker Woods Nazarene Church, 3501 SW Wanamaker. Freewill offering. Doors open at 6pm. (785) 273-2248. [www.naz.org](http://www.naz.org) E-mail [wwoodsnaz@wnnaz.org](mailto:wwoodsnaz@wnnaz.org)

**THREE DOG NIGHT** – Nov. 11, 7pm, TPAC

**INSPIRE COUNTRY NIGHTS** – Nov. 27, 6pm, Heritage Country Cowboy Church, 15767 S. Topeka Ave., Scranton, KS at Four Corners. Christmas worship with Mary James, Melissa Perez and Dan Blackwood.

**ZACH WILLIAMS CHRISTMAS** – Dec 4, 7pm, Landon Arena.

## SPECIAL CHURCH EVENTS

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

**SENIOR SOLO'S** – Every 3rd Tuesday from 3 to 6 p.m. at First Assembly Church, 500 SW 27th St, downstairs Fellowship Hall. Games & Fellowship, lots of Laughter & Fun. 785-817-3071.

**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 – followed at noon by The Hope House FREE Community Food & Clothing Basks.

**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](http://www.swumc.org/wesley-cafe-sign-up1.html).

**FIRST SATURDAY BREAKFAST BUFFET** – 7:30 AM – 10:00 AM, Shawnee Heights UMC, 6020 SE 44th

**INSIDE OUT FELLOWSHIP** – Every Saturday, 6:30pm. Faith Temple Church, 1162 SW Lincoln. For info: 785-380-7031 or [rhaggertyjr@hotmail.com](mailto:rhaggertyjr@hotmail.com)

**HARVEST DINNER, BAZAAR & BAKE SALE** – Friday, October 29th, 4:30pm-6:30pm, Kansas Ave United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 1029 N Kansas Ave. \$8.00 - Chicken Fried Steak, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Corn or Green Beans, Salad, Roll, Pie & Drink. Carry-Out Available. For more information, call 785-234-0507 or email [kaumc@att.net](mailto:kaumc@att.net).

**DRIVE-THRU TRUNK OR TREAT** – Oct. 30, 1-3pm, Christ Lutheran Church.

**TRUNK OR TREAT** – Oct. 31, 3-5pm, Topeka Baptist Church.

## FAMILY-FRIENDLY EVENTS

**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.

**TOPEKA TWILIGHT LIONS BRANCH CLUB** – 4th Mondays at 5:30pm, Norsemen Brewing Co., Visitors welcome.

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

**MARKET MONDAYS** – Monday 3-7pm through October, Every Plaza. A farmers market and artisan market helping to increase access to fresh, locally produced foods and other products.

**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.

**TOPEKA SWING DANCE** – Tuesdays, 7-8pm, Swing Dance Lessons, no partner required, Jayhawk Theatre, 720 SW Jackson. [www.topekasingdance.com](http://www.topekasingdance.com).

**CARBONDALE FARMERS MARKET** – every Wed. 4-6pm in Carbondale City Park. Vendor-grown or vendor-produced. For vendor information, call Mary at 836-7887.

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

**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 west door. Immediately inside, turn left & walk the ramp to the library, then left to elevator. Push [B] for fellowship hall 785-249-3258.

**FIRST FRIDAY ART MARKET** – Downtown and NOTO arts district. Arts, antiques, fine crafts, flea market items, snacks & beverages, entertainment and more.

**MOVIES AT EVERY PLAZA** – Second Fridays til fall  
**DOWNTOWN TOPEKA FARMERS MARKET** – Saturday's April 3 to Nov. 7, 7:30am-noon, 12th & Harrison. The open-air market is full of fresh fruits and vegetables, herbs, arts & crafts, flower, home-baked goods

**LAWRENCE FARMERS MARKET** – Sat. 7:30-11:30, 824 New Hampshire St. Open April 10-Nov. 20

**TOPEKA ACAPPELLA UNLIMITED AUDITIONS** – Topeka Acapella Unlimited is looking for female singers who would like to sing four part acapella harmonies. Come be our guest via Zoom at our guest nights to meet the Director and learn more about our chorus. Topeka Acapella Unlimited is a Chapter of Sweet Adelines International. Call Cindy Patton at 785-640-7403 for information on how to receive a Zoom invitation

**SQUARE DANCING** – Shawnee Swingers has monthly dances and sponsors lessons in the Fall. Call or text 785-845-2357; [shawneeswingers@gmail.com](mailto:shawneeswingers@gmail.com). On Facebook: Shawnee Swingers Square Dance Club. [wesquaredance.com](http://wesquaredance.com)

**HARVESTERS MOBILE FOOD PANTRY**, 1st & 3rd Saturdays, 2-3pm, Shawnee Heights UMC parking lot.

**TERRITORIAL CAPITAL MUSEUM** – Now Open, 640 E Woodson, Leocompton. (785) 887-6148 [www.lecomptonkansas.com](http://www.lecomptonkansas.com) [historiclecompton@gmail.com](mailto:historiclecompton@gmail.com)

**FREE MOBILE FOOD DISTRIBUTION** – Fourth Tuesday through November, 9am, 1231 NW Eugene St. Randel Ministries, Inc., in partnership with Harvesters and Family of God Church will be conducting its monthly food distribution. No ID or proof of income required, first come first served. Distributing several tons of fresh produce and other items to families in need. (785) 234-1111 [www.RandelMinistries.com](http://www.RandelMinistries.com)

**GARY'S PUMPKIN PATCH & FALL FESTIVAL** – Sept. 18-Oct 30, Fri. – Sat. – Sun., 5991 17th St. Grantville, KS. 8 Acre Corn Maize, Pig Races, Corn Pit, 2 Jumping Pillows, Giant Slides, Animals, and more. Home Made Curly Fries, Hamburgers, Brats, Turkey Legs, Apple Cider Slushy and new attractions this year!. [garysberries.com](http://garysberries.com), [garysfarmfest.com](http://garysfarmfest.com)

**HAUNTED WOODS** – Oct. 8, 9, 15, 16, 22, 23, 29 & 30, 8-11pm. Forest Park, 3158 SE 10th St. Annual guided Half-Mile Trail of Terror populated with Monsters; Zombie Laser Tag!! 234-8024 TopekaHauntedWoods.com

**COME TO THE Elmont Opry!** 50th Year! Two Great Shows!

**Nov. 12 at 7 pm & Sat. Nov. 13 at 1 pm**

**Great Country Music by all your favorites!**

Most shows sell out! Get your tickets early!

Doors open 90 minutes early for snacks/meals/desserts!

Elmont Methodist Church • 6635 NW Church Ln. (1 mile East of North Highway 75 on NW 62nd St.)

\$10/ticket! Call 249-0908 for reservations

**The Nutcracker**

A Topeka holiday tradition since 1977

**Ballet MIDWEST** Est. 1977

**December 10, 11 & 12**

Topeka Performing Arts Center

[balletmidwest.net](http://balletmidwest.net)

**TOPEKA PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**

**TRUNK OR TREAT** – Oct. 29, 6-9pm, Stormont Vail Event Ctr.

**TOYS FOR CHRISTMAS CAR SHOW** – Oct. 30, 10-2, Dugout, 17th & Fairlawn. Bring toy donations, see cars and trucks. Trunk or Treat for the kids.

**FREE MOVIE: "Is Genesis History?"** – Oct. 30, 6pm, Highland Heights Christian Church, 2930 SE Tecumseh Rd. (Documentary) Where can reliable, well-researched answers be found? IS GENESIS HISTORY? is a comprehensive documentary that delves deeply into biblical, historical, and scientific frameworks to explore everything from geology to biology to astronomy to archeology ... and much more. IS GENESIS HISTORY? shines new light on our origins, providing a positive argument for Biblical Creation and the Flood. Two competing views ... one compelling truth. Available for Children: A Veggie Tales Movie. Doors open at 5:30 pm - Movie begins at 6pm. Free Movie Snacks Provided. For information, call 785-379-5642.

**FREE BREAKFAST LAST SUNDAY EACH MONTH** – Oct. 31, 8am-12pm, VFW Philip Billard Post 1650, 3110 SW Huntton. Free breakfast to all that come through the door. Pancakes, sausage, eggs, coffee, juice and some times biscuits & gravy. Donations are accepted and will go to helping vets in the Topeka area. [vfw1650seniorvice@gmail.com](mailto:vfw1650seniorvice@gmail.com); 785-383-2997

**150 CHRISTMAS TREES & ORNAMENT DISPLAY** – Nov. 1-Jan. 1, 10am-4pm Wed-Sat. & 1-5pm Sun. at Territorial Capital Museum, 640 E. Woodson, Leocompton. Over 170 Christmas Trees decorated in antique, Victorian, vintage and theme décor – including turn of the century and WW II era decorations, a barb-wire tree and feather trees. Also tour Constitution Hall, a National Landmark 785-887-6148. [lecomptonkansas.com](http://lecomptonkansas.com)

**ELECTION DAY** – Nov. 2: Vote in person or drop off bal-lots at the election office or polling place by 7 pm.

**VETERANS DAY PARADE** –SUNFLOWER SALUTE – Nov.

6, Downtown Topeka.

**TAILS ON THE TRAIL** – Nov. 6-7, Shawnee North Comm. Ctr. Dog-friendly 5k run, 1 mile walk and family event! This is a fundraiser for Helping Hands Humane Society. Register: [helpinghands@hhhstopeka.org](http://helpinghands@hhhstopeka.org)

**FALL BACK** – Nov. 7, 2am. Daylight Saving Time ends. Set your clocks back 1 hour. Be on time for church!

**C5Alive "POWER" LUNCHEON** – Nov. 11, 11:30-1. at the National Guard Museum at Forbes Field. SGM Jeremy Byers, who served as historian for the Adjutant General Office will be the featured speaker.

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

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

• Please RSVP to [info@C5Alive.org](mailto:info@C5Alive.org), so we know how much food is needed!

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

**SAVE THE DATE: C5 POWER Luncheon**, Dec. 119, 11:30-1, C5Alive CHRISTMAS Luncheon at Fairlawn Plaza Mall.

**BLIZZARD BASH DEMO DERBY** – Nov. 11-14, Expocentre. [info@stormontvaileventscenter.com](mailto:info@stormontvaileventscenter.com). Sky Zone Box Office: 785-251-5552

**FRIDAY FLICKS: ICE AGE** – Nov. 12, 6pm, Every Plaza

**ELMONT OPRY** –Nov. 12 at 7pm and Nov. 13 at 1pm, Elmont UMC, 6635 NW Church Ln. With Special Guests. Doors open 90 minutes early for lunch or dinner. Tickets \$10 – call 785-249-0908.

**GINGERBREAD HOMES FOR THE HOLIDAYS** - Nov 19 - 9am-7pm; Nov 20 - 9am-5pm; Nov. 21 – 11am-4pm. TPAC, 214 SE 8th Ave. View and bid on elaborate gingerbread houses Families, students, youth groups and scout troops, etc. can build their own. Holiday Boutique - crafts, gifts and more; Sweet Tooth Lane - delicious fresh baked goods and homemade candy. Meet Santa.

**C5Alive** Developing and Uniting Christian Leadership

• Business • Non-profits • Churches

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

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

**Nov. 11, 11:30-1: "POWER"**

**Luncheon at National Guard Museum at Forbes Field featuring SGM Jeremy Byers**

RSVP to [info@C5Alive.org](mailto:info@C5Alive.org). Open to the public.

Save the Dates!

- Dec. 9: **CHRISTMAS** Luncheon at Fairlawn Plaza
- Jan. 13: **POWER** Luncheon
- Feb. 10: **Valentine** Luncheon at Fairlawn Plaza

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



Adm. \$5. 785-234-2787. TopekaPerformingArts.org

**CASA HOMES FOR THE HOLIDAY'S TOUR** — Nov. 20 & 21. Tour tickets are \$20 at the door or \$15 in advance at [www.casaofshawneecounty.com](http://www.casaofshawneecounty.com). COVID-19 precautions will be taken

**FESTIVAL OF TREES** — Nov. 22 - Dec. 4, 10-6, Fairlawn Plaza. Features trees & wreaths beautifully decorated by talented designers. silent auction and Sweet Shoppe featuring fabulous homemade treats. For info: [www.silfestivaloftrees.com](http://www.silfestivaloftrees.com)

**TARC's WINTER WONDERLAND** — Nov. 24-Dec. 31, 6-10pm. Lake Shawnee, 3435 SE East Edge Rd. View dazzling holiday light displays, featuring one million lights, while winding through a 2-mile scenic drive. Advanced Tickets are available: TARC, 2701 SW Randolph. 785.506-8720

**ZOO LIGHTS** — Nov. 27 to Dec. 30, 5pm, Topeka Zoo. Visitors will stroll around the zoo and enjoy twinkling lights, dazzling displays, festive activities, and of course... Santa Claus! 2 and under free; \$6 for children; \$8 for adults.

**FREE BREAKFAST LAST SUNDAY EACH MONTH** — Nov. 28, 8am-12pm, VFW Philip Billard Post 1650, 3110 SW Huntoon. Free breakfast to all that come through the door. Pancakes, sausage, eggs, coffee, juice and some times biscuits & gravy. Donations are accepted and will go to helping vets in the Topeka area. [vfw1650seniorvice@gmail.com](mailto:vfw1650seniorvice@gmail.com); 785-383-2997

**LADIES DAY OUT** — Dec. 4, 10-3, Ag Hall

**MIRACLE ON KANSAS AVENUE PARADE** — Dec. 4, 3pm, Downtown Topeka. Tree-lighting at 5:30pm, lighted parade at 6pm. [www.topekpartnership.com/events/](http://www.topekpartnership.com/events/)

**BALLET MIDWEST PRESENTS The Nutcracker** — Dec. 10-12, at TPAC. 45th annual presentation of this holiday favorite. Tickets through Ticketmaster or at TPAC

**FRIDAY FLICKS: HOME ALONE** — Dec. 10, 6pm, Every Plaza

## 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](mailto:ks.cwfa.org).

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

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

**DEAF WORSHIP SERVICE** — 3rd Sun., 3pm, Faith Lutheran Church, 17th & Gage. Also, every Sun.

9:30am service is interpreted.

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

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

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

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

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

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

**OUR LADY OF THE FAITHFUL** — 1st Tues., 6:30pm Mass followed by Dinner, Most Pure Heart of Mary Catholic Church. A Catholic group for those in their 20-30s. Michelle Ann 580-3071 or [ourladyofthefairful@gmail.com](mailto:ourladyofthefairful@gmail.com). Facebook: "OurLadylOfthFaithful."

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

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

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

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

**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)

**VIP LUNCHEON FOR SENIORS** — Every Wed., 10:45 Bible Study and meal at Noon, Topeka Church of the Brethren, 3201 NW Rochester Rd. (1 mile north of Dillon's North). FREE lunch with Christian fellowship, devotions & entertainment provided by Topeka North Outreach. Free will donations accepted. For info: 785-224-8803 or [vip@topekanorthoutreach.org](mailto:vip@topekanorthoutreach.org)

**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, Indian Creek Elementary School, 4303 NE Indian Creek Rd. Volunteers gather to assemble Weekend Snack Sacks for low-income students. No assembly in August. 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

*myj*  
M A R Y J A M E S

5-Time Inspirational Country Music Female Vocalist of the Year & Speaker

# INSPIRE COUNTRY NIGHTS

## Christmas & WORSHIP

### November 27, 2021

*Schedule*

6 pm - Worship with Melissa Perez/Danl Blackwood

7 pm - Christmas & more! Mary James

Worship with **Melissa Perez**

and guitarist, Danl Blackwood

MARYJAMESMINISTRIES.ORG

"WITH Jesus YOU CAN RISE ABOVE & LIVE A WINNING story"

**Heritage Country Cowboy Church**  
15767 S. Topeka Ave.  
Scranton, KS  
Four Corners

Visit Historic Lecompton and see the **LARGEST Christmas Trees and Ornaments DISPLAY** in the Midwest!

Open Nov. 1 to Jan. 1 • Mon. - Sat.: 10am to 4pm • Sun.: 1 - 5pm

Over 170 trees decorated in antique, Victorian, vintage and theme décor — including turn-of-the-century and WW II-era decorations, a barb-wire tree, feather trees, and many more unique decorations!

**Christmas Vespers**  
Dec. 5, 2pm

While there, tour

- Constitution Hall
- Territorial Capital Museum
- National Landmarks

**HISTORIC LECOMPTON**

**Civil War Birth Place** **Where Slavery Began to Die**

**Kansas & National Historic Landmarks**

Lecompton Turnpike Exit • 10 miles East of Topeka on U.S. 40 & 24

[www.LecomptonKansas.com](http://www.LecomptonKansas.com)



the education, knowledge & interest of the membership & the public in family history, genealogical records & research. 233-5762 or tgstopoka.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: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)

**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. Anne, 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 GREAT LIGHT AGLOW** — For meeting info contact Vickie Lynch at [greatlighttopeka@gmail.com](mailto:greatlighttopeka@gmail.com).

## 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. Info: 785-232-2044 ext.341

**CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUPS** - Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging provides an opportunity for caregivers to get together and share their ideas and feelings. 2nd Monday of the month, 3:30pm, Topeka public library, Anton Rm. 3rd Friday of the month, 12 noon, Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging, 2910 SW Topeka

**ABORTION RECOVERY SUPPORT** — Providing services for women & men who suffer from Post-Abortion Syndrome. Kay Lyn at [KLCarlson20@cox.net](mailto:KLCarlson20@cox.net).

**AL-ANON FAMILY GROUPS** — for friends & families of alcoholics. 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. All of our programs have moved from in-person to virtual.

Caregiver support group via Skype 9:30am every other Wednesday. Email Hayley Young at [hdyoung@alz.org](mailto:hdyoung@alz.org) or call 785.379.3067 for the meeting link and other info.

Caregiver Support Group via Google Hangouts, 4:30pm every other Wednesday. Email Hayley Young at [hdyoung@alz.org](mailto:hdyoung@alz.org) or call 785.379.3067 for the meeting link and other info.

**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.

**CELEBRATE RECOVERY** - Every Mon. 7-9pm at Topeka First Church, 500 SW 27th, Bldg 'B'. Healing our hurts, habits, and hangups. Learning to grow in a Christ-like maturity.

**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** — 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 at (785)230-6730.

3rd Thurs., 11am, Lunch After Loss, Paisano's Ristorante, Fleming Place, SW 10th & Gage Blvd. 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

**FIBROMYALGIA & CHRONIC FATIGUE SYNDROME SUPPORT GROUP** — 2nd Tue., 7-9pm. First Congregational Church, 17th and Collins. For info: Randy at 785-969-4038 or [TopekaCFS@outlook.com](mailto:TopekaCFS@outlook.com).

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

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

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

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

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

**DIVORCECARE PROGRAMS** — (For updates check [www.divorcecare.org](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.

**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. [crtopeka.org](http://crtopeka.org).

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

**TOPEKA NAR-ANON FAMILY GROUP** — For families & friends who are affected by someone else's narcotic addiction. Every Sat., noon-1:15 pm, rm. A, 1st Baptist Church, 3033 SW MacVicar, enter on S. side, door A. [www.naranonmidwest.org](http://www.naranonmidwest.org)

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

FOR MORE CALENDER  
ENTRIES VISIT

[WWW.METROVOICENEWS.COM](http://WWW.METROVOICENEWS.COM)

## Lecompton has Midwest's largest Christmas trees and ornaments display

Experience the holiday magic of Christmas when visiting Historic Lecompton. Visitors can see an indoor display of over 150 trees decorated in antique, Victorian, vintage and theme decor - including turn of the century and WW II era decorations. Among the many trees is a barb-wire tree, a feather tree, a Victorian Costume tree and many more unique decorations.

At the same time, visitors can also tour Constitution Hall, a National Landmark. Lecompton is known as the "Birthplace of the Civil War,



Where Slavery Began to Die." Lecompton was recently named one of the "Best Small Towns in Kansas" by Kansas Magazine readers.

## ADOPTION

continued from page 9

allow prospective adoptive parents to choose the gender of their future child, there are some professionals that do offer this path for parents. If prospective parents were to have a child on their own, they wouldn't be able to choose the gender; with adoption, they sometimes can, even though it may result in a longer wait time.

14. The adoption process has more potential for success than infertility treatments.

When hopeful parents consider their family-building options, they often look at which one has the best chance of succeeding and bringing the child they have longed for into their life. They may choose adoption because of this. Why adopt? With adoption, they know they will have a child at the end of the process, whereas infertility treatments don't provide that same guarantee.

15. They want to adopt a stepchild.

Not all adoptions occur through agencies; some adoptions occur between people that know each other. Stepparents who already have a parent-child relationship with their stepchild may wish to create a legal relationship, ensuring their parental rights and their child's rights to inheritance, insurance and more. It's also a way to bring a blended family together, which is a great

reason to adopt.

16. They want to adopt an adult they have a long-established parent-child relationship with.

Similarly, not all adoptions involve children. Adult adoptions exist to create legal relationships between two adults that have an existing parent-child relationship. For example, adult adoptions can be used for a parent's new spouse after the other parent's death, or a foster child who has aged out of the foster care system but still has a strong connection with their former foster parents. Choosing to complete an adoption gives both parties a legal connection and benefits that they would not have had before.

17. They want to help balance population growth.

Sometimes, people want very badly to be parents but don't want to add another human being onto a planet that's already struggling to support the existing population. Instead, to become parents, they decide to adopt a child that has already been born, doing their bit to alleviate the population crisis.

18. They want to incorporate multiple races, cultures or ethnicities into their family.

It's no secret that the United States (and the world) is becoming more multicultural; it is estimated that by 2055, there will be no single racial or ethnic majority in the U.S. Many people are excited about the

The Christmas display will be offered from November 1 to January 1. The display and museum is open 10 am to 4 pm Wednesday through Saturday and 1 to 5 pm Sunday.

A Christmas Vespers will be offered December 5 at 2pm.

Many interesting historical sites in the area can be seen on a walking tour, starting from the Territorial Capital. There are also unique shops and eateries in this quaint little town.

For more information on the display and the museum, go to [lecomptonkansas.com](http://lecomptonkansas.com).

opportunity to learn about different cultures, and some even want to incorporate those into their own family through a transracial adoption. Adopting a child of a different race or culture is not anywhere near as uncommon as it used to be; in fact, many prospective adoptive families feel that creating a multicultural family is a great opportunity for all involved.

19. They feel called to adopt, for religious or other reasons.

Why adopt? Sometimes, it's a sense that you need to do something bigger than yourself. Many people choose adoption because they feel like it's what they were meant to do. It may be because of religious teachings or ethical values, or maybe it's a conviction they've had for years.

20. They decide becoming parents is more important than becoming pregnant.

This is a common idea among adoptive parents, especially those who have struggled to conceive on their own. After soul-searching, they realize that their goal is not to experience pregnancy but to become parents and add a child to their family — and they don't need to be pregnant to do so.

21. They know others who were adopted or have adopted and see it as a positive way to grow a family.

Adoption is more common than you may think, and many people know someone who has adopted or is an adoptee. One reason for adoption is that, seeing the beauty of a family built in this way, hopeful parents are inspired to choose adoption, as they know just how wonderful the process is for all involved.

22. They were adopted and want to give the same experience to someone else.

It's not at all uncommon for people who have been adopted to eventually adopt their own children later in life. They are living proof of the opportunity that adoption can provide and, knowing that there is no difference between a biological and adoptive parent's love, they decide to give a child the same positive experience that they had.

23. They just "want to."

Sometimes, prospective adoptive parents cannot fully articulate what it is about adoption that interests them. They have no other reasons to adopt besides just "wanting to," whether it's a new desire or a desire they've had forever. For some people, adoption is just something that seems natural for them to do.

These are just a few of the reasons to adopt that people consider when deciding which parenthood path to take. Of course, you may have other reasons to adopt a child that are not listed here — and that's great. Every person's situation is different, as are their individual reasons for adoption.



# entertainment

## Dune is one of the most highly-anticipated sci-fi films in years

Frank Herbert's epic Dune, published in 1965, is (arguably) to sci-fi what Lord of the Rings is to fantasy. This sweeping saga encompasses a riveting tale of politics, revolution, religion, love, loyalty and interstellar civil war as one young man slowly dons the mantle of messiah that has been thrust upon him.

If that sounds like a lot to cram into one movie, it is. This film's 2.5 hour adaptation only makes it through about half of Herbert's first book in the series.

Dune has famously resisted translation to the cinematic format. The 1984 version, directed by none other than David Lynch, has been both mocked and adored—the latter for its pure absurdity at certain points. A miniseries in 2000 paid closer attention to the source material yet largely failed to generate adulation among the Dune faithful.

And now Canadian director Denis Villeneuve (Blade Runner 2049, Arrival) has stepped up to the plate. It stars an ensemble cast including Timothée Chalamet, Rebecca Ferguson, Oscar Isaac, Josh Brolin, Stellan Skarsgård, Dave Bautista, Stephen McKinley Henderson, Zendaya, David Dastmalchian, Chang Chen, Sharon Duncan-Brewster, Charlotte Rampling, Jason Momoa, and Javier Bardem.

### So what's the Dune story?

Duke Leto Atreides knows he's walking into a trap.

But he has little choice.

The galaxy's Emperor has instructed the Duke's noble House Atreides to assume stewardship of the most important planet in the empire: Arrakis. Dune, the Desert Planet, as it's known.

The sands of Arrakis blow hot and barren across its vast wasteland. But the sand also mingles with the universe's most precious commodity: spice. The spice of Dune is not only a powerful hallucinogenic; it also enables Spacing Guild Navigators to bend time and space, making interstellar travel possible. Without the spice, there is no space travel—no trade, no empire, no anything.

Nothing matters more than spice.

Receiving Arrakis would seem to be a great boon to House Atreides. But the planet's oversight is being taken from the House Harkonnen, led by its grotesquely bloated Baron. He's none too happy to have his monopoly given to another House—even if that supposed gift is part of a bigger plan on the part of the emperor to wipe out the increasingly formidable House Atreides.

Indeed, the myriad armies of House Atreides—led by the fierce soldiers Gurney Halleck and Duncan Idaho—have barely arrived in the capital city of Arrakeen when the trap begins to snap shut. And brutally so. It seems the Duke's lineage—represented by his son Paul, who's barely come of age—will be wiped out.

### Awaiting their messiah

But all is not as it seems on Dune. Beneath the shifting, sweltering sands, harbored in island-like rock outcroppings in the deep desert, an indigenous people known as the Fremen await the coming of a messiah. It's been foretold that he will lead them into glorious battle against their out-



world oppressors, securing their freedom.

Whispers among the people even suggest that young Paul Atreides could be that long-awaited savior and deliverer.

If, that is, the heat, the Harkonnens and the sandworms don't kill him first.

The film is filled with positive elements, including loyalty, the seriousness of faith, oaths and more.

Duke Leto is a man and leader of nobility and honor. Morally speaking, House Atreides is the polar opposite of House Harkonnen. Leto knows that the emperor's "gift" is not what it seems; he knows the Harkonnens quite likely lie in wait for him; yet he obliges his emperor and prepares to receive the stewardship of Arrakis anyway—bravely taking a place of leadership on a brutal world surrounded by equally brutal rivals.

The Duke deeply loves his son, Paul. Speaking of leadership, he tells Paul, "A great man doesn't seek to lead. He's called to it. And he answers." Then the Duke adds, "And if your answer is no, you'll still be the only thing I ever needed you to be: my son."

Paul has, not surprisingly, has received the best martial tutelage from the legendary warriors Duncan Idaho and Gurney Halleck. Indeed, both of these men strive to train, equip and encourage Paul to be prepared for any threat. At one point, Gurney charges into hand-to-hand combat training with the young man after Paul says he's not in the mood. "Mood?!" Gurney exclaims. "What's mood got to do with it? You fight when necessity arises, no matter what the mood." And as the Harkonnens bring the fight to the House Atreides, Gurney and Duncan both serve heroically in defense of their liege.

The Duke has a longstanding love relationship with Lady Jessica, his concubine. Indeed, the Duke regrets never having married her (which he says to Jessica at one point). Jessica's loyalty to and love for Paul likewise is as fierce as Duke Leto's.

The Fremen, we learn, are a mysterious, semi-nomadic desert people who live by their own code of honor. At times it's a deadly one.

One character, Dr. Liet Kynes, is an Imperial Planetologist who also serves as the Judge of the Change—the handover of power between the Harkonnens and the Atreides. She is supposed to be steadfastly neutral, but she, too, ultimately proves a heroic character when the Harkonnens attack.

In fact, there's no shortage of heroism here all around—from the Duke, to Paul, to Jessica, to nearly all of the major Atreides characters—as they try to resist getting caught in the trap that's been set for them.

### Dune and its religious aspects

Two distinct streams of spiritual belief mingle throughout the story of Dune.

Jessica is a member of a shadowy-but-influential female religious order known as the Bene Gesserit. But she's sought to train Paul, illicitly, in the ways of her religious tradition.

The Bene Gesserit have a variety of abilities. First, they use something called the Voice, which exerts powerful mind control over those who hear it. Second, we hear whispers of these soothsayers ability to foresee the future—as well as of their limited ability and boundless determination to shape it.

The Bene Gesserit form an organized religious force that plays an important role in sustaining and affirming the Emperor's power. But it's equally clear that the Bene Gesserit have their own agenda at work, too. As a whole, they're not depicted as a force for good, but a group to be feared and distrusted because of their shadowy, duplicitous ways.

In some respects, you could perhaps identify loose narrative parallels between the Bene Gesserit's depiction here and the medieval church's intertwined (and sometimes compromised) relationship with political. The Bene Gesserit sect has largely been corrupted by power but is ruthlessly determined to hang on to it.

The second religious thread in the story is the Fremen's religion. These desert-dwelling people's faith is depicted in a more pure and holistic way. If the Bene Gesserit are corrupt, the Fremen seem to be true believers in their convictions.

The Fremen, as mentioned above, have a prophecy about a leader who come from off-world to liberate them. Paul, some of them think, could be that longed-for spiritual liberator.

### Dune and parallels to real religion?

Though both the Bene Gesserit religion and that of the Fremen are fictional ones, it's not hard to draw parallels between existing belief systems in our world. Here, religion serves, paradoxically, as both the sustainer of the status quo and the spark of revolution coming against it.

There's plenty of fodder for discussion in that tension, which I suspect is exactly what Herbert intended. And Villeneuve has captured that tension effectively here. But families with younger fans of the book may want to think carefully before seeing this version of Frank Herbert's iconic story.

Dune is perhaps the most highly-anticipated sci-fi film since the original Star Wars.

Given the inherent density of Herbert's seminal novel, I suspect that this spectacularly filmed movie will still appeal more to those who've read the book than those who haven't. More so than his predecessors, however, Villeneuve has managed to capture the essence of the story, the tale of a young man thrown into a brutal world and called to be its unlikely savior.

—ADAM R. HOLZ

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



## Newsboys say they'll tour until they're 80: 'We're just getting started'

Michael Tait says he's spent most of his life "on the road" while traveling in a bus from city to city and performing in arenas both big and small.

Until last year, that is.

Tait, the current lead singer for the Christian band Newsboys who got his start as a member of DC Talk, remained at home for most of 2020, unable to tour because of the pandemic and searching for a way to channel his energy.

"It was a bit freaky," Tait said. "I was like, 'Will it ever be the same again?'"

Tait wrote 60-65 songs during the pandemic and picked the best ones for the Newsboys' newest album, Stand. One of those songs, Magnetic, features a message about God's infinite love and has been on Billboard's Hot Christian Songs chart for more than a dozen weeks.

Tait and his bandmates believe it's one of the best albums ever from the group, which launched in 1985 with Peter Furler at lead vocals. Tait, 55, became the frontman in 2009.

He said he has plans on touring until he's at least 80 -- similar to the members of the Rolling Stones.

"Here we are all these years later, still doing it and we're not quitting -- because Mick Jagger was 80 years old still doing it," Tait said, joking about the Rolling Stones

singer, who is 78 and still touring. "We're just kids."

The Newsboys embarked in early October on their latest tour, which will take them to more than 25 cities.

Tait and his bandmates are known for their love of live performances.

"It's everything that I am. I love it. I love seeing people smile. I love serving people," Tait said. "... I enjoy watching mom and dad come with Bobby and Jennifer or Lequan and Tavon and be blessed. It's fantastic."

Drummer Duncan Phillips called touring "the best life in the world if you're built for it."

"When you're called to what you do, they say you don't work a day in your life. I just love touring," Phillips said. "I love what I do. I love playing drums. I love meeting people. ... You get to a venue, then you get this energy -- this kind of symbiotic energy from the crowd. There's nothing better than playing a full house, no matter if it's 1,500 people or 15,000 people."

The theme of the new album, Tait said, is simple: "God is still in control, and God is still good."

Phillips, too, believes the band will be touring for years to come.

"We're just getting started," he said.

### Fruit Favorites Gift Box

**ONLY \$23.99\***

Special, limited-time offer!

**SAVE \$15!**

Reg. Price ~~\$37.99~~

**Call 1-877-253-7255 to order item 296X or Visit [HaleGroves.com/H2YN33](https://www.halegroves.com/H2YN33)**

\* Only \$23.99 (reg. \$37.99) plus \$5.99 shipping and handling per pack to 48 contiguous states. Some restrictions may apply. IC: H2YN33





## Minno is the 'Disney Plus' for Christian kids -- and it's excellent

By Michael Foust

I deleted Disney Plus from my television the other day -- much to the consternation of my 9-year-old daughter.

She enjoys shows about ponies and princesses. Unfortunately, though, her eyes (and thumb) stumbled upon a program that boasts kid-friendly cover artwork but unbiblical, adult-centric themes.

"So ... what can I watch?" she asked in a tone that assumed there was no reasonable answer.

"Minno," I replied.

One week later, she had yet to complain.

Minno is a relatively new Christian streaming service that launched in 2019 and includes something the major mainstream streaming platforms can't offer: 100 percent family-friendly content informed by a biblical worldview. There's no coarse language. There's no violence or sexuality.

And since it was created by Christians, all of the content also includes positive messages.

With a targeted age of preschool through elementary school, it's one of the best family-friendly streaming platforms on the market -- especially for Christian households with children.

It's like a Bible-centric Disney Plus. It includes a mixture of classic and original content, like VeggieTales, What's in the Bible, Friends and Heroes, Micah's Super Vlog, Cocoa Talk and Jungle Beat.

Minno CEO and co-founder Erick Goss -- a former Amazon executive -- said his goal in launching the platform was to give parents streaming tools to facilitate discipleship and Bible-focused conversation.

"Most of the time you feel compromised when someone's watching a subscription service like Netflix or Disney Plus," Goss told me. "And Minno is a place where you can feel at home. ... We really want to look at ourselves as a partner for Christian parents."

Before a program enters the Minno lineup, Goss said, it must pass a 32-point checklist. Every title, he said, must be

"theologically appropriate," offer "good production values" and be entertaining.

This means the "cheesy" factor on Minno is -- thankfully -- low.

"Our perspective is: Everything that's Christian isn't good," he said.

If you're looking for content that is not only biblical but also excellent, Goss' words may be music to your ears.

Visit GoMinno.com.

Also worth watching during the next month:

**Journey with Jesus** (Theaters) -- Tony Evans and his two daughters -- Chrystal Evans Hurst and Priscilla Shirer -- retrace the earthly steps of Jesus while visiting historical sites throughout Israel. It's a gripping film that's educational and inspiring. It will be in theaters for three nights: Nov. 15, 16 and 17. Visit JourneyWithJesusMovie.com.

**Sabina** -- (Theaters) -- It's a dramatic retelling of the story of Sabina Wurmbrand, who converted from Judaism to Christianity and then risked her life to share the gospel throughout Germany -- including with Nazi soldiers. It's rated PG-13 for thematic content, some disturbing images and violence. It will be in theaters for three nights: Nov. 8, 9 and 10. Visit SabinaMovie.com.

**Among the Stars** (Disney Plus) -- It's a six-part series that follows NASA astronaut Chris Cassidy as he embarks on a trip to the International Space Station. The documentary was filmed over the span of two years and is capped by Cassidy's trip to space, which took place in March 2020 at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. Rated TV-PG.

**Paw Patrol: The Movie** (DVD, On-Demand) -- A young boy named Ryder leads his team of search-and-rescue dogs to save Adventure City from their nemesis, Humdinger, who is now the mayor. It's one of the most kid-friendly movies you'll ever watch. It's already streaming on-demand, and releases on DVD Nov. 2. Rated G.

*Michael Foust has covered the intersection of faith and entertainment more than 15 years. He is the husband of a wife, Julie, and the father of four small children.*

## An Evening With Chevy Chase Comes to TPAC

Light up your holidays with Chevy Chase live on stage plus audience Q & A following a 30th anniversary screening of National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation. After the showing of the holiday classic on the big screen, the celebration will continue with actor Chevy Chase (Clark Griswold) sharing stories from his career and the making of his classic movies and legendary television programs. It's all happening at the Topeka Performing Arts Center on December 23rd at 7 PM. Tickets go on sale Friday, October 29th at 10AM and can be purchased at Ticketmaster.com or the Box Office.



Chase is an original member of NBC's Saturday Night Live. He was the trailblazer who turned SNL success into

Hollywood mega-stardom. The movies Caddyshack, National Lampoon's Vacation, Fletch, and Three Amigos all contributed to making Chase a worldwide household name. Fans can expect the unexpected as Chase shares a no-holds-barred trip down memory lane in this exclusive evening with a comedy legend.

Christmas with the Griswolds has never been more beloved! National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation was ranked #2 on Esquire's list of "The 40 Best Christmas Movies" of all-time. Chestnuts and eggnog recommended!

## Hitch A Ride On The Color Express

They say when God closes one door, he opens another. In author/illustrator Danielle Williams's case, he opened a full-sized stained glass window. Williams's children's book, Hitch A Ride On The Color Express will be published by Flying Ketchup Press in early October, and may be purchased at [www.FlyingKetchupPress.com](http://www.FlyingKetchupPress.com), area Target Stores, and Barnes and Noble.

It is a story about a little boy named Chuck, a creative but slightly messy little boy. In his room, he imagines his art becomes a train to The Colorful Places. With his friends Lion, Hippo, and Giraffe, he discovers that colors are something more than what he originally thought, and that your imagination can take you anywhere. Williams admits she used her son as a bit of a character sketch for the main character of the book.

Williams has a BEA in Animation from the Massachusetts College of Art & Design. She has taught art as a Continuing Education instructor for the Kansas City Art Institute, and also taught art for private schools in both Massachusetts and Kansas. In 2016, she completed her Master's in Teaching and Learning. Now she is writing books for the very young readers, with an emphasis on kinetic learning and imagination.

"I had always wanted to write a children's book, but I didn't know what to write about. Then during my teaching years, I started to notice that the standard classroom curriculum for teaching to young children didn't work for every kid. It sparked an idea for a book," shared Williams.

Although she would work on the book from time to time, she didn't start to put it as a priority until she encountered one particular student who was struggling to learn his colors in kindergarten.

"Our classroom set-up for teaching colors completely failed that student, and at that point, I knew what my book was going to be about and how to write it," said Williams.

Granted she had her purpose and theme at that point, getting the book to the point of getting published took her a journey of 10 years.

"Originally I wanted the book to simply be a rhyming book about colors. I loved Dr. Seuss growing up. Green Eggs and Ham was my favorite book. I can remember the day it was read to us in school like it was yesterday. I couldn't wait to get to the library and check the book out to read it myself," said Williams. Where The Sidewalk Ends, and Falling Up, by Shel Silverstein are also two books that had a strong impact and influence on Williams.

"I loved the poem 'Something Missing' as a kid," recalled Williams citing her favorite poem by Silverstein.

Imitating Dr. Seuss rhymes pattern, Williams continued working on her book while teaching. That door started to close when she was diagnosed with breast cancer.

"I continued teaching during my first round of treatments and the cancer briefly went into remission. It was then that I really started to concentrate on my book. I had it completed, the writing, in a short amount of time," shared Williams. Her cancer treatment was working well and stabilized her.

"That's when I met Polly McCann. It was 2015-16, and I was teaching secondary art classes at Maranatha. I had asked Polly to do the illustrating for me. Polly read the book. She said it was good but needed some work, and we would talk about it at another time. So, I started rewriting the book," replied Williams.

In 2018, Polly McCann opened Flying Ketchup Press in North Kansas City. She approached Williams about publishing her book.

"I was thrilled! We'd gone out for coffee, and sitting there at the table we talked about publishing the book," said Williams. She showed Polly the rewrite. Polly said they would need to work together more on fine tuning the writing. However, she wanted Williams to do the illustrations for it.

With faith, prayer, and the determination pushing her onward to finish and publish her book, Williams continued while undergoing cancer treatment.

"I decided to work on the illustrations while I was working on fine tuning the writing with Polly. She taught me how to look at the writing through the eyes of the reader, and not just through my eyes," explained Williams.

Although the writing of the book had taken some time, Williams admitted that it was actually the illustrating that she found the most challenging.

"I tried doing it digitally at first. The first time I had completed part of it, and then the computer crashed. Nothing was retrievable. The second




time I had gotten farther digitally illustrating the book. I was very comfortable using the software I had, and was able to really finely define the illustrations. Then the software I was using stopped working and was not able to be upgraded or replaced. Again, everything I had done was non retrievable. Another year of work and time gone," said Williams.

Williams met with McCann to discuss how best to continue with the illustrations, McCann suggested cutting out the illustrations instead of creating them digitally.

"Working with Polly in the studio, I cut out the paper illustrations. I had done that type of work in college cutting out paper for animations. This time the illustrations had to be cut out and taped onto the paper, not an animation board. It turned out beautifully. It was difficult and very detail oriented, but it was a true artist's work. Polly has a big heart, she was so supportive through the entire process," said Williams.

The final rewriting was completed in April of 2021. Not only was Williams told by McCann that her book was now ready to be published, she was also told by her doctors that her cancer was back in remission. A dual celebration she completely cherished.




## INSPIRE THE WORLD PUBLISH YOUR BOOK TODAY WITH

**THE MOST RESPECTED  
FULL-SERVICE  
PUBLISHING FIRM**

Hard cover and digital distribution  
Custom designs and illustrations  
Full Publicity and Promotion Campaign

Your book made available at all major secular and specialty Christian bookstores including: Amazon, iTunes, Barnes & Noble, and many more.



**Christian Faith  
PUBLISHING**

Call today for your Free Publishing Kit!  
**888-860-0106**





# 50+ Lifestyles

## A Guide to Enjoying Life in the Best Years

### How Comparing Medicare Plans Could Save You Money

Medicare's Open Enrollment period gives everyone with Medicare the opportunity to make changes to their health plans or prescription drug plans for coverage beginning Jan. 1, 2022. Don't delay, the Open Enrollment period ends Dec. 7.

#### Comparing Plans Can Be Easy

Medicare plans can change year to year – even your current plan may be changing. Medicare.gov makes it easy to compare coverage options, shop for plans and feel confident about your choices. You can do a side-by-side comparison of plan coverage, costs and quality ratings to help you more easily see the differences between plans. If you choose a new plan for 2022, you can

enroll right there. If your current coverage still meets your health care needs, you don't have to do anything.

Open Enrollment (Oct.15-Dec. 7) is your chance to compare your choices for the year ahead and to see if you could save money all year long.

Here are some things to consider when shopping for Medicare coverage:

- Check if your doctors are still in-network and your prescriptions are on the plan's formulary.
- The plan with the lowest monthly premium may not always be the best fit for your health needs.
- Look at the plan's deductible and other out-of-pocket costs that factor into your total costs.
- Some plans offer extra benefits, like

vision, hearing or dental coverage, which could help meet your unique health care needs in 2022.

#### Medicare is Here to Help

Here are three ways you can compare plans:

- Find plans at Medicare.gov, where you can see estimates for all your prescriptions.
- Call 1-800-MEDICARE. Help is available 24 hours a day, including weekends.
- Help in your community is also available. You can get personalized health insurance counseling at no cost to you from your State Health Insurance

Assistance Program (SHIP). Visit [shiptacenter.org](https://www.shiptacenter.org), or call 1-800-MEDICARE for your SHIP's phone number. Many SHIPs also have virtual counseling available.

Medicare Open Enrollment ends Dec. 7. Now is the time to act if you want to enroll in or make changes to your Medicare health or prescription drug plans for coverage beginning Jan. 1, 2022. If your current coverage still meets your needs then you don't have to do anything. Remember, if you miss the Dec. 7 deadline, you will likely have to wait a full year before you are able to make changes to your Medicare coverage.

For more information, visit [Medicare.gov/plan-compare](https://www.Medicare.gov/plan-compare) or call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users can call 1-877-486-2048. Help is available 24 hours a day, including weekends. If you need help in a language other than English or Spanish, let the customer service representative know the language.

More information about Medicare is also available on the Medicare Facebook page and by following @MedicareGov on Twitter. Information provided by the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services.

—Family Features



**Grace Home Care**  
It's Good to Be Cared For.  
It's Great to Be Cared About!

We are a caring and compassionate provider of in-home services, including:

- Companion Care
- Homemaker Services
- Personal Care
- Transportation

**2021 BEST OF HEART CARE LEADER** **2021 BEST OF HEART CARE PROVIDER** **2021 BEST OF HEART CARE EMPLOYER**

**785-286-2273 • [www.gracehomecare.com](https://www.gracehomecare.com)**

**Aldersgate VILLAGE**  
RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

Independent Living  
Assisted Living  
Memory Care  
Skilled Nursing Care

Rehabilitation Services  
Sub-acute Program  
Transportation

**Call (785) 478-9440 or visit [aldersgatevillage.org](https://aldersgatevillage.org)!**  
**7220 SW Asbury Drive | Topeka, KS 66614**

**CPAP**  
Supplies & Services LLC

**Specializing in all your CPAP needs**

**785-289-3188**

**2905 SW Gage Blvd., Topeka, KS**

**metro VOICE**  
**[metrovoicenews.com](https://metrovoicenews.com)**

**Check Out Our Newly Redesigned, Mobile-ready Breaking-news Website.**

ASSISTED LIVING MEMORY CARE INDEPENDENT LIVING HOME CARE

**aPlace for Alice**

**Find the right senior living option for your mom or dad with our personalized process**

A Place for Mom simplifies the process of finding senior living at no cost to your family. Our service is free, as we're paid by our participating communities and providers.

**aPlace for Mom.**  
THE PLACE FOR SENIOR LIVING ADVICE

**Connect with us at 1-888-675-0810**

ASSISTED LIVING MEMORY CARE INDEPENDENT LIVING HOME CARE

**FREEDOM. TO BE YOU.**

**If you think oxygen therapy means slowing down, it's time for a welcome breath of fresh air.**

Introducing the Inogen One family of portable oxygen systems. With no need for bulky tanks, each concentrator is designed to keep you active via Inogen's Intelligent Delivery Technology.® Hours of quiet and consistent oxygen flow on a long-lasting battery charge enabling freedom of movement, whether at home or on the road. Every Inogen One meets FAA requirements for travel ensuring the freedom to be you.

- No heavy oxygen tanks
- Ultra quiet operation
- Lightweight and easy to use
- Safe for car and air travel
- Full range of options and accessories
- FDA approved and clinically validated

**Call 1-888-920-4130 for a free consultation and info guide.**

**inogen**

MKT-P0253



## 6 Special Ways to Celebrate Grandparents

Ask anyone to recall their most treasured childhood memories, and you're likely to hear tales about time spent with loved ones, grandparents in particular. As an adult, you may find yourself wondering how to help your kids create those magical moments with their grandparents.

However, strengthening their bond with a beloved grandparent may be easier than you think.

Take a trip back in time. Asking your grandparents about the good ol' days may seem cliché, but it's a wonderful way to discover new reasons to appreciate your elders as unique individuals with intriguing perspectives. Encourage your kids to ask their grandparents what life was like during their youth or how they imagined life in the 2020s would be. They can compare notes on their bucket lists; they might even find something to cross off the list together. If you share a love of history, talk through the family tree and capture all the stories that define your family through the years.

Share a meal or dessert. It may seem like a small gesture but making a point to share a meal or dessert with a grandparent, especially one who lives alone, can have a marked impact. In a comfortable, family setting like Cracker Barrel, you can gather together over authentic homestyle cooking while using the time for your kids to catch up with their grandparents and share stories. End the night with a classic, kid-friendly favorite like a Dirt Cup Dessert. Spar with spoons and hunt for all the gummy worms hiding in the delicious cup of cookie crumble "dirt."

Hit the road together. It's often said that there's no better way to get to know a person than to travel together. Pick a new place and make it an adventure to remember for your kids and their grandparents. Map out the route together as a



family, choosing the landmarks, activities and pitstops you want to make along the way. Be sure to document the journey as a precious keepsake for yourself and your kids, and package those memories in a photobook or scrapbook as a gift for the next birthday or holiday.

Create a care package. If distance keeps you apart, you can still find creative ways for your children to spend time with their grandparents. Assemble a package with some of their favorite treats, mementos, activities or games from your local old country store and plan to open the package together virtually on a phone call or video chat.

Relax in a rocker. Settling into a comfy seat and rocking your cares away only gets better when you share the moment with someone dear to your heart. Gather your kids to sit back, relax and enjoy a thoughtful conversation with their grandparents while soaking up the time and simply unwinding together.

Engage in a little friendly contest. Tap into your children's playful side and competitive spirit with some good-natured game time. Help them choose an easy but engaging game, like the beloved peg game found on tables at Cracker Barrel, to share with their grandparents. Play best of five or create a tournament and play rounds against other family members, too.

Find more ideas for celebrating warm memories of the past and encouraging your kids to spend wholesome quality time with their grandparents at crackerbarrel.com.

— Family Features

## Senior Living Made Simple

After a lifetime of hard work and responsibility, it's time to relax and enjoy yourself. And that's what life at Holiday Retirement is all about. We provide seniors with a comfortable home they don't have to maintain, a satisfying enriching life among a community of their peers, and a sense of comfort and belonging. It's the ideal setting for seniors who are ready to simplify their lives and live a better lifestyle. If that's the retirement you've envisioned, we invite you to discover all that Holiday has to offer.

When Holiday Retirement was founded in 1971, they set out to create a lifestyle unlike anything seniors had ever experienced before; cheerful communities filled with friendly accepting neighbors, a team dedicated to the happiness and well-being of each resident, innovative activities programs and opportunities for fun and personal growth, and all the chores and details of daily life taken care of.

Thornton Place is one of Holiday Retirement's many communities across the country that serves seniors. Imagine freedom from the daily stressors that life can bring. Just outside the door of your own apartment is a community forged on people and relationships. We create that extra sense of family that you can't find anywhere else.

What truly makes Thornton Place feel like home? Our people! Our associates are more than employees they are part of a family that is compassionate forward thinking and value driven. The special things we do make each resident feel at home. We dedicate ourselves to the happiness of our residents. We also offer Peace of Mind for residents, family, and friends. We foster a genuine feeling of fam-

ily, and our communities just wouldn't be the same without them.

Let us do the cooking! Perfectly balanced, chef prepared meals and an enjoyable dining experience are two of the most important factors in determining where you or your loved one will live, so we ensure our menus offer a variety of choices while still providing homestyle favorites. Each meal is carefully planned to meet the unique nutritional needs of our residents to support longer, healthier lives. Meals are served in our comfortable dining rooms where friendly wait staff serve residents and their family or friends. Our dining and hospitality team take tremendous pride in our meals, a highlight of the all-inclusive lifestyle at Holiday Retirement. From our daily menu to special chef showcase features, dining in a Holiday Retirement community makes good days even better. Our dining team goes above and beyond to create home cooked traditional holiday meals, birthday dinners, and themed events like luaus and barbecues.

We welcome your four-legged friends! Our residents make countless new friends here, but that doesn't mean they have to leave their old friends behind. We value the bonds that seniors have with their pets and are delighted to have dogs and cats as part of our community.

Expand your horizons through our life enrichment program. It is a proven fact that engaged seniors live richer, more satisfying lives. At Holiday Retirement, we've put together a comprehensive program of activities and events especially designed to stimulate the seven dimensions of wellness: physical, emotional, spiritual, intellectual, creative, social, and vocation. We

focus on the whole person, enriching your mind, body, and spirit and helping to make many areas of your life better.

Leave the driving to us! We have complimentary scheduled local transportation. Our residents love letting our drivers transport them to their scheduled appointments, errands, and offsite destinations for planned activities.

Our lifestyle is more affordable than you think. Considering the comfortable home we offer at Thornton Place, it's understandable that you might assume life here is costly. But many seniors discover that it is no more expensive to live here than it was in their previous home, and for some, it's even more affordable. We invite you to compare your current costs of living with our all-inclusive, monthly rent. You'll find a helpful cost-comparison calculator on our website: [holidayseniorliving.com](http://holidayseniorliving.com). We think you'll be pleasantly surprised.

Are you stubborn about keeping your independence for as long as possible? Well.... we are too! At Thornton Place, our business is to help older people live better, age more successfully and stay independent for as long as possible. We know that good food, good neighbors, good friends and good opportunities for social engagement and physical activities can make for good living. Since Holiday Retirement was founded almost 50 years ago, we've been known as a great value for the dollar and a trusted, experienced brand. As America's largest collection of independent living retirement communities, we're proud that over 30,000 older adults call our communities home and we'd love for you to join us!

Call today and schedule a visit!

**PHOENIX**  
HOME CARE & HOSPICE  
*New Beginnings and Dignity in Life's Journey...*

- Hospice •Home Health
- Privately Paid Services
- Comprehensive Disease Management

"When I thought I could not live *independently* in the comfort of my own home... I did with Phoenix Home Care & Hospice!"

**For more information call  
(785) 260-6444**

[www.phoenixhomehc.com](http://www.phoenixhomehc.com)

Get off the fence and call TODAY to schedule your visit!

CALL: 785-228-0555

THINKING ABOUT MOOOVING?

**HOLIDAY**  
RETIREMENT

**Thornton Place**  
Independent Retirement Living

2901 SW Armstrong Ave Topeka, KS 66614  
785-228-0555 [www.thorntonplace.com](http://www.thorntonplace.com)



# sports

## Former NFL DT Albert Haynesworth after receiving new kidney: 'I'm a sinner, but I know God's plan'



Albert Haynesworth, once a dominating force along NFL defensive lines, felt powerless.

It was less than a decade after a football career that saw him reach two Pro Bowls with the Tennessee Titans, he named the 2008 Sporting News Defensive Player of the Year, and become the highest-paid defensive player in NFL history for a time. Haynesworth was coughing uncontrollably, his oxygen levels were low and his stomach had swelled significantly. His kidneys were failing.

"I couldn't breathe," he told The Athletic recently. "I couldn't lay down. I felt like I was drowning lying in a bed. I had to sit up in bed, tried to sleep that way. I couldn't catch my breath. I drove myself to the hospital. My kidneys were shutting down."

In July 2019, Haynesworth had turned 38 the previous month, and his doctor suggested he make a public plea for a kidney donor due to his previous NFL fame.

The 15th overall pick out of the University of Tennessee in the 2002 NFL Draft was reluctant because he thought many fans didn't like him. His infamous on-field incident that resulted in a suspension, and his failure to live up to his massive \$100 million free-agent contract with Washington, had, in his mind, made him an outcast. Eventually, he agreed to the suggestion and posted about his situation on Instagram.

To his surprise, according to The Athletic, more than 1,000 people called the Kidney and Pancreas Transplant Center at Vanderbilt University to express interest.

"It was an eye-opening experience for me," Haynesworth told The Athletic. "Like, I'm not hated. There are a lot of people who love you and appreciated what I did."

One of the interested donors was Zach Penny, a physical therapist assistant who had served patients on dialysis. He read about Haynesworth's predicament, applied to be a donor, and a year later was discovered to be a match.

Penny had a childhood similar to Haynesworth's. Penny had grown up in Fouke, Arkansas, largely to a single father with a strong Christian faith who sought to pass that faith on to his children. "My job is in service to others," Penny's father,

Wesley, told The Athletic. "I can't think of any better way to support the love of Christ than to be in service of others."

Meanwhile, Haynesworth was raised in Hartsville, South Carolina, by his mother, Linda. She too instilled a strong faith in her son.

Her mission as a South Carolina Department of Corrections officer, she says, is to "make people aware of truth and righteousness, and the Word of God."

Penny and Haynesworth — who also spent 11 days in an ICU in 2014 due to two brain aneurysms — tried to find a time to do the procedure. It was delayed late in 2020, then again as Haynesworth was hospitalized yet again with COVID-19.

Finally, surgery was scheduled for April 15, 2021. Penny was secure in his faith and in the decision God had led him to.

"It was just like a normal day for me, something I was meant to do," he said. "I felt I was just doing something as kind as buying someone's meal in a drive-through or opening a door."

The surgery was successful. The two patients were able to meet each other and

## LB Jordan Hicks shining for Cardinals after difficult offseason, finding fulfillment in Christ

Arizona Cardinals general manager Steve Keim called linebacker Jordan Hicks shortly after the NFL draft with news Hicks did not want to hear: Zaven Collins, the team's first-round pick, was taking Hicks' starting spot immediately. There would be no competition and there was nothing Hicks could do about it.



The seven-year veteran and team captain did not hide his disappointment. He asked for a trade that never materialized and did not attend any of the Cardinals' offseason workouts, including mandatory minicamp.

When it became clear Hicks' situation wasn't going to change, he got to work and helped the team's young linebackers — including Collins — as much as he could.

"This is where we're sitting right now," Hicks said in July. "Show up every day with a smile on my face and be the best teammate I can be."

However, the week before the regular season began, Hicks was told the plan had

been altered. He was going to be a starter after all.

Seven weeks in, the Cardinals are the only remaining undefeated team in the league and Hicks is a key reason why. He is tied for second on the team in tackles with 44 and is one of only three players to register

multiple sacks.

From Week 3 to Week 6, he played every snap for a defense giving up only 16.3 points per game, tied for the fewest in the league. Arizona ranks fourth in the NFL in yards allowed per game with 316.7.

Battling toe and ankle issues, Hicks managed only two tackles in a Week 7 blowout of the Houston Texans, but he did still start the game. He's started every game he's played since the 2016 season, including all 16 each of the past two years with Arizona, where he signed a four-year deal as a free agent in March 2019 following four years in Philadelphia.

Selected by the Eagles in the third round of the 2015 draft out of the University of

Texas, Hicks became a regular starter in his second season and helped the Eagles capture their first Super Bowl in 2017. He started the first seven games of the year before suffering a season-ending Achilles injury.

Hicks has not missed a game since joining the Cardinals and posted a combined 268 tackles his first two years in Arizona. Now, despite the frustrating offseason, he once again finds himself anchoring a team with Super Bowl aspirations.

Throughout his career, Hicks has expressed his strong faith, calling himself a "Follower of Jesus Christ" on social media. In 2018, Hicks wrote in an article for The Increase that he finds freedom in giving the glory to God.

"Nothing I do is for my own glory or by my own power," he wrote. "Everything I've done, everything I've been given and blessed with has come from Him. When we surrender our lives and the things we hold onto or want to take credit for, we become free. When we finally surrender those strongholds, we discover peace."

bonded over faith, family, gratitude and their love for SEC football. Haynesworth took to Instagram again, this time to express his appreciation. He made sure to use the hashtag "#GodisGood" and said, "This is one of the happiest days of my life next to the birth of my kids. We need more people in the world like Zach. I'm striving to be like him."

He even called Penny his "living Angel."

Penny feels the same about his new friend.

"I'd give Albert my second kidney if it was allowed," he told The Athletic. "He's such a good guy. I think I'd do anything for him. And it's likewise, he'd do the same for me."

As she often does, Haynesworth's mother, Linda, brought a fresh perspective to the ordeal.

"It made [Haynesworth] realize none of us have forever in this world, and while we are here, we need to prepare for where we are going to spend eternity," she told The

Athletic. "It made him realize more about what he should be doing and how he should be responding to certain things. It made him get more in touch with himself."

Haynesworth went through a time in 2010, after the death of his brother in a motorcycle accident, that left him nearly

hating God. That's all beginning to change now.

"I'm a sinner, but I know God's plan," Haynesworth told The Athletic. "He puts me through things not to test my faith but to make me stronger."

### BREAKING BAD SPORTS CARDS LLC

We Break Online!

Buy, Sell & Trade Highly Gradable Cards, Memorabilia and Collectibles

112 SW 6th Ave., Suite 304  
Topeka, KS 66603  
785-431-8627

### DIGITAL MARKETING & LEAD GENERATION

Jeremy Poling • 785-249-1863 • [info@topfueldigital.com](mailto:info@topfueldigital.com)

### JAMES NORWOOD

REALTOR - LETS TACO BOUT BUYING OR SELLING YOUR HOME

1931 Sw Gage Blvd.  
Topeka Ks 66604

c: 785.438.7731  
o: 785.246.6955  
f: 785.246.6870

[jnorwood@reecenichols.com](mailto:jnorwood@reecenichols.com)  
<https://jnorwood.reecenichols.com/>

ReeceNichols  
TOPEKA ELITE, L.L.C.

### JML

ENGRAVING  
SUBLIMATION  
IMPRINTING

Discover our creative approach to promoting your business, recognizing achievements or giving personalized gifts.

[jmlengraving.com](http://jmlengraving.com) | 785-217-5701

Mon-Fri 10 am-6 pm | 623 Topeka Ave | Lyndon, KS 66451

Top Notch Service | Creative Ideas | Fast Turnaround





## 3 Rooms Perfect for Adding Focal Points

You don't have to be a design expert to create an inviting living space, but with some simple tricks, you can create a home that looks like it's been styled by a pro.

One way to make a room feel more inviting and comfortable is identifying a focal point to anchor the decor and create a natural, beautiful flow. Without a focal point, a space can feel awkward and disjointed.

These inspirational ideas for using focal points in three popular living spaces can add comfort and beauty that makes you feel right at home.

### Kitchen

As the heart of the home, the kitchen



deserves special attention to make it a welcoming space where you can enjoy spending time. Depending on your design, you'll discover there are numerous ways to incorporate a focal point in

a kitchen, whether it's bold cabinetry, an island featuring a natural stone countertop or stand-out appliances that make a statement.

The wall space is also a smart place to draw visual attention. An accent wall is an option if you have the space, but the backsplash is another spot where you can make a big impact.

### Living Room

The main function of a fireplace is to provide warmth, but it's also a perfect element to use to create a focal point that exudes comfort and style. Make your fireplace stand out while also adding an intimate touch by using brick or stone.

As an alternative, you can accent a fireplace with a bold wall treatment. Floor to ceiling brick or stone converts an average wall into an eye-catching focal point, giving a room a natural, yet striking, edge.

From handmade to glazed bricks and everything in between, Glen-Gery's line of more than 600 brick and stone products offers a diverse array of colors, textures and sizes, providing homeowners the ability to emphasize their focal points while also reflecting their desired design aesthetic.

### Bathroom

It may be one of the smallest living spaces in a home, but the bathroom sees enough traffic that it's worth making it a visually appealing place to be. Even with a diminutive footprint, the bathroom presents numerous options for a focal point, from an intricate wall material to vibrant lighting fixtures and everything in between. Given their relative size, the shower or tub may be a practical focal point; the vanity offers similar appeal. If you prefer a scaled but equally impactful approach, consider highlighting a smaller element, like a stunning vessel sink, or an unexpected element such as a brick or stone accent wall.

Find more ideas to suit your style at [glengery.com](http://glengery.com).

### Create a Look That's Uniquely You

Your home, and more specifically its style, should be a reflection of your personality. Consider a few ways to get started:

#### Set the mood

Give careful consideration to the overall mood and atmosphere you want to create for your home, both inside and out. Consider contrasting options like a sleek modern masterpiece or a relaxing coastal-inspired sanctuary. Weighing these kinds of options helps point you in the right direction to find the perfect color scheme and textures.

#### Mood-board magic

Look to magazines and online resources like social media and design blogs for ideas and styles that resonate with you. Browse freely and dream big at

first but be sure to review regularly to identify a common denominator. Ultimately this can help you articulate exactly what you want. You can also explore how different products work in your home by using a virtual designer, such as Glen-Gery's Picture Perfect.

### The real deal

To get a real-life feel for your new space, visit model homes and design centers, and look closely and critically at the colors and materials used. This can provide a tangible sense of how those styles may work in your home.

— Family Features



**We prep, pack & package your home or office with care!**

*No Stress — Leave it to Us!*

**I Pack The House**  
785-260-3774  
[IPackTheHouse@gmail.com](mailto:IPackTheHouse@gmail.com)



**GENERAC®**

**Prepare for power outages with a Generac home standby generator**

**REQUEST A FREE QUOTE!**  
**855-400-1401**

**FREE**  
7-Year Extended Warranty\*  
A \$695 Value!

Limited Time Offer - Call for Details

**Special Financing Available**  
Subject to Credit Approval

\*To qualify, consumers must request a quote, purchase, install and activate the generator with a participating dealer. Call for a full list of terms and conditions.

**10% OFF Furnace Check**  
(5% Off Parts)  
Time to change your filters! Coupon Expires Dec. 31, 2021

**DEBACKERS, Inc.**  
Since 1949  
Heating - Cooling New Construction & Replacement Systems  
232-2916 • 1520 E. 10th St.

**Bodine's Pest Control** Call 228-9962  
BBB Free estimates!  
• Business & Residential  
• Honest & Reliable Service  
• Licensed and Highly Trained  
[bug-man@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bug-man@sbcglobal.net)  
Ask about our Total Home Care Package!  
GOD FIRST • VETERAN OWNED  
Mention this ad for 10% OFF! 

**O'NEILL EXCAVATING INC.**  
913-683-9619  
Excavation Utilities / Drain Cleaning / Dump Truck  
Residential / Commercial / Agricultural

**Eric O'Neill**  
[oneillexcavatinginc.com](http://oneillexcavatinginc.com)  
[facebook.com/wrcinc](https://facebook.com/wrcinc)




**A & J Home Repair, LLC**  
Contact 785-506-2444 today! 

**Decks • Windows • Fencing • Flooring • Remodels**  
**Plumbing • HVAC • Electrical • Landscaping**  
**Tree Removal • Lawn Care • Snow Removal**



# New Resident Church Guide

## 1. 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

## 2. CHRISTIAN CAVALRY MINISTRIES INT.

Pastor Beaux Bryant  
Call about new meeting location for current services.  
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: 9:00 & 10:30 am  
Livestream at 9:00 am  
Sunday School & Bible Studies:  
9:00 & 10:30 am  
www.discovertbc.com

## 4. NORTHLAND CHRISTIAN CHURCH

3102 NW Topeka Blvd., Topeka  
286-1204  
Worship Sun. 9:00 & 10:45 AM  
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.wrbctopeka.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; 785-670-6456  
Elvin Dillard, Senior Pastor  
Sunday School 9 am; Worship 10 am  
www.gccinoverbrook.com  
office@gccinoverbrook.com

## 11. COMMUNITY CHURCH

1819 SW 21st St., Topeka

233-3537 www.CommunityTopeka.com  
info@CommunityTopeka.com  
Sun. 8:30am - Sunday School for all ages  
Sun. 10:00am - Worship & Word  
Sun. 10:00am Youth Service  
~ 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. OPEN ARMS OUTREACH MINISTRIES COGIC

1 (785) 232-3463/41 (785) 217-5560  
Sunday School 10:00, Worship 11:30  
In person or conference call:  
(712) 770-4749 / 583229  
2401 SE 11th St., Topeka KS 66607  
Supt. S. C. Mitchell, Pastor

## 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  
AWANA Sunday at 5:45 p.m.  
See our website for info on our  
Student Ministries & Kid City  
www.esbcks.org

## 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  
Sunday Worship: 10:30am  
Children's Sunday School: 10:30am  
Youth group 1st & 3rd Sundays 4-6pm

## 20. HERITAGE BAPTIST CHURCH

1937 NE Madison St,  
Topeka, KS 66616 • 785-506-4594  
Pastor Dale Stockburger  
Sunday Worship: 11 am and 6pm  
Sunday School: Sun 10am  
Wed. Evening Worship: 7pm

## 21. HARVEST FAMILY FELLOWSHIP

Meets at 522 SW Polk  
785-220-5418  
Pastor Rey Rodriguez  
Sun. Worship 10:30 am  
www.topekaharvest.vpweb.com

## 22. FAMILY OF GOD CHURCH

1231 NW Eugene St.  
Topeka, KS 66608

Pastor Roger Randel  
Sunday Worship 10:30am & 6pm  
Wednesday Bible Study 7pm  
234-1111 • FOGchurch.com

## 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

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

# 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)

## WANTED:

**SECRETARY** - Small Law Firm Hiring Secretary/Receptionist Part-Time or Full-Time. Duties: Answering Phone, Scheduling Clients, Completing Forms, Typing Some Legal Documents and Letters on Word Perfect Computer System, Extensive Filing, Excellent English Skills Required, Professional Demeanor. Flexible Hours. Send Resume to Office Manager: 112 SW 6th Street, BOX 102, Topeka, Kansas 66603

**FACILITIES MANAGER**- Cair Paravel Latin School is accepting applications for a full-time Facilities Manager. The Facilities Manager is in charge of building maintenance, performing small janitorial duties and loving our 95-year-old school building as much as we do. Knowledge of heating and air conditioning systems, plumbing and basic construction is a plus. Please contact Melody Congdon at 785-232-3878 or at mcongdon@cpls.org.

## FOR SALE:

**GENERAC** Standby Generators provide back-up power during utility power outages, so your home and family stay safe and comfortable. Prepare now. Free 7-year extended warranty (\$695 value!). Request a free quote! Call for additional terms & conditions. 1-855-400-1401

**HONEY** for sale, local, new crop. Tecumseh area. Pick up or we deliver. All types of honey products. Call Prairie School Honey 785-215-5280.

## FOR RENT:

**OFFICE SPACE** available, great for therapists, health & wellness companies, small businesses & more! Complementary desks/chairs furnished. All utilities plus Wi-Fi/Ethernet included. \$100 VISA cards to new leases if you mention this ad!

College Park Office Suites, 2611 SW 17th. Call or text 785-430-1657. info@cpofficesuites.com

**CHURCH BUILDING** for rent for a church or church plant on Sunday mornings, and at night during the week for a midweek service. 1201 NW Central Ave, Topeka, KS 66608. Call/text 785-633-3264 or email joeh@jtopeka.org

## \$500 HIRING BONUS

Transportation Coordinator

Accounts Receivable Specialist

Direct Support Professionals

Paid training, great benefits



Serving People with disabilities since 1972

3401 SW Harrison St, Topeka, KS 66611  
EOE www.slitopeka.org

Kimber Wright  
Designer & Owner  
785-230-1942

"Come to my booth at the Downtown Farmers Market!"

Kimber Wright Jewelry

Handmade • Unique • Inspired

kumquat62@gmail.com

## TOPEKA BIBLE CHURCH

1101 SW Mulvane, Topeka, KS 66604  
1135 SW College Ave., Topeka, KS 66604  
234-5545 www.discovertbc.com



Worship Service: 9:00 & 10:30 am  
Livestream at 9:00 am  
Sunday School & Bible Studies 9:00 & 10:30 am  
Senior Pastor: Jim Congdon



KFGB 97.7 FM  
Upper Room Radio

Local Christian Radio

Listen at work!

UpperRoomRadioOnline.com



Listen to

"The Voice of Faith"

RADIO BROADCAST

With Rev. Max L. Manning

Sundays — 9 am WIBW RADIO 580 AM  
Daily (Mon—Fri) — 10 am KFGB 97.7 FM

www.global-missions.com

PO Box 161 Topeka KS 66601

785-232-2992 or 785-231-8183



## Apple caves to Chinese Communists, bans Bible apps

Apple is giving in to pressure from the Chinese government and removing Bible apps from its app store in the communist nation. Chinese officials claim the apps violate laws that prohibit the use of religious text or material. It is also removing the Quran, even as the government has placed over a million ethnic Uyghurs in concentration camps.

The New York Times reported earlier this year that Apple takes down apps in China if deemed off-limits by the Chinese government. Topics that apps cannot discuss include Tiananmen Square, the Chinese spiritual movement Falun Gong, the Dalai Lama, and independence for Tibet and Taiwan and Christian themes.

"According to Apple, our app Quran Majeed has been removed from the China app store because it includes content that requires additional documentation from Chinese authorities," said Quran Majeed's developer, Pakistan Data Management Services. "We are trying to get in touch with the Cyberspace Administration of China and relevant Chinese authorities to get this issue resolved."

The Council on American-Islamic Relations, a Washington, D.C.-based Muslim advocacy group, accused Apple of enabling genocide and called on the company to reverse its decision.

"By obeying the Chinese Communist Party's order to remove Bible and Quran apps from its platform in China, Apple is enabling China's religious persecution, including the ongoing genocide of Uyghur Muslims," said Edward Ahmed Mitchell, national deputy director. "This decision must be reversed. If American corporations don't grow a spine and stand up to China right now, they risk spending the next century subservient to the whims of a fascist superpower."

The Chinese government has doubled down on its extreme measures over the last few years to crack down on religious groups in the country. The communist government took Christian WeChat accounts offline in May, telling users that it violated China's "Internet User Public Account Information Services Management Provisions" and that accounts had been blocked and suspended.



Other Bible apps were eliminated from China's App Store, and hard copy versions were no longer able to be purchased online. China's government removed a 6-year-old Chinese Bible app called WeDevote after it had been downloaded 10 million times. Popular American Bible apps such as YouVersion are also not available in the Chinese app store.

China has been accused of human rights violations, and even genocide, against the mostly Muslim Uyghur ethnic

group in Xinjiang. It also has at least 100 million Christians who live in fear of their faith being made public.

Earlier this year the BBC reported that Uyghur imams had been targeted in China's Xinjiang crackdown.

Apple declined to comment, but directed the BBC to its Human Rights Policy, which states: "We're required to comply with local laws, and at times there are complex issues about which we may disagree with governments."

### Sunbelt Fruit Medley

Full of Vitamins C & A

**NOW ONLY \$19.99**  
Was \$40.99  
**FREE Shipping\***

**1-855-865-0969**  
**Visit [PittmanDavis.com/P2YF66](http://PittmanDavis.com/P2YF66)**

Only \$19.99 (reg. \$40.99), plus FREE Shipping. Satisfaction completely guaranteed. Order by December 17, 2021 for GUARANTEED Christmas delivery. IC: P2YF66

\*Free standard shipping to the 48 contiguous states.

### Hegarty Piano Studio

Custom Piano Lessons in Studio, in Your Own Home, or on Zoom

**Miss Nancy Hegarty**  
Owner & Teacher  
**785-766-8439**  
NancyJames124@ProtonMail.com  
101 North Michigan Street, #48; Lawrence, Kansas, 66044  
*Serving the community since 1987*

[www.HegartyPiano.com](http://www.HegartyPiano.com)

### Donaldson's JEWELERS

Family owned, full line jewelry store and repair shop  
*Home of Dave Horn Jewelry Repair & Design*  
Online Store at [www.donaldsonsjewelersks.com](http://www.donaldsonsjewelersks.com)  
**902 N Kansas Ave. in NOTO Arts District • 785-273-5080**

### #sleevesrolledup

# TRM MINISTRIES

Visit [TRMonline.org](http://TRMonline.org) or check us out on Facebook

**TOPEKA RESCUE MISSION MINISTRIES**

To donate: text **TRMgive** to **77977**

### K. KIRK NYSTROM, Attorney

**Wills • Powers of Attorney  
Estate Planning • Probate • Trusts**

- Free Parking
- Evening & Saturday Appointments
- Emergency Hospital Visits

*"30+ years Experience"*

112 SW 6th Street, Suite 102  
Topeka, Kansas 66603  
**785-235-6977**  
[k.nystrom@att.net](mailto:k.nystrom@att.net)  
[www.nystromlaw.net](http://www.nystromlaw.net)

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

### BARRY L. STERLING

LICENSED INSURANCE AGENT

**STERLING SELECT**  
DIVERSIFIED FINANCIAL SERVICES

1419 SW ARGYLL ST.  
TOPEKA, KS 66611  
[BARRY@STERLINGSELECT.NET](mailto:BARRY@STERLINGSELECT.NET)  
OFFICE: 785-260-0166  
CELL: 785-813-9692

**20 years experience**  
at SuperCuts  
(17 as a manager)

**Karen Sivertson**  
is now at  
**HAIRSLINGERS**  
bringing  
32 years of  
experience as a  
Cosmetologist.

*"I work with men, women and kids, specializing in haircuts, hair coloring, permanents, beard trimming & facial waxing. I enjoy working with the entire family and love seeing their smiling faces when they leave."*

**APPOINTMENTS AND WALK-IN'S**

**For appointment, please call 785-233-4247**  
**Hairslingers - 1406 SW 17th St., Topeka**



