



BLEEDING KANSAS PROGRAM Page 17

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*Happy New Year*



Page 24

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NEW RESIDENT churchguide



First Southern Baptist Church

See inside back cover!

National Parks announce free admission days



Great Smoky Mountains National Park

All national parks will be offering free admission to anyone who wants to enter on five different days in 2023.

- Here are the fee-free days for 2023:
- Jan. 16 — Martin Luther King Day
- April 22 — First day of National Park Week
- Aug. 4 — Anniversary of the Great American Outdoors Act
- Sept. 23 — National Public Lands Day
- Nov. 11 — Veterans Day

While some of the more than 400 national parks that are open daily are

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America Is Increasingly "Kinless"

By Tanner Garrity

There's an old Italian saying, A tavola non s'invечchia, which translates to "At the table, one does not grow old."

What does it mean? That a meal with friends and family can rejuvenate the soul. Sharing in bread and laughter with people who care about you is as energizing as it is

elemental. It's a necessity for human beings of any age.

It's especially important for the oldest among us, who often don't have the same consistent or casual access to company, and according to recent research are trending lonelier than ever. This depressing reality has a concrete impact on the health of seniors; as New York

Times reporter John Leland wrote earlier this year, "The human brain, having evolved to seek safety in numbers, registers loneliness as a threat."

The lonelier people get, the sooner they die. Loneliness can compound one's risk of high blood pressure, heart disease and

■ Please see KINLESS page 2

Respect Life

Special Section

PAGE 8

Time-and-temperature phone line is still a thing



A Topeka time and temperature phone number that many local residents have memorized over the years will hang on at least a while longer.

For 81 years Topekans have called 785-233-6471 to get the current time and temperature. First offered in 1941 by Merchant's National Bank, the service has been provided the past 31 years by Larry's Short Stop at 3834 S.W. Topeka Blvd.

■ Please see TIME& TEMP page 3

Jordan to develop competing site to Israel where John baptized Jesus

The Jordanian government is considering plans for a \$100 million makeover of the site where many believe John the Baptist baptized Jesus.

King Abdullah and the Jordanian government are listening to proposals for the development of the "Pilgrimage Village of the Baptism Development Zone," located on the east bank of the river. The plan for a tourist city on what currently is

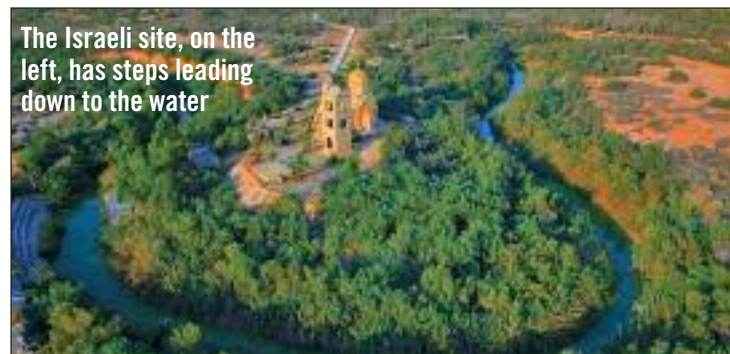
designated as a UNESCO World Heritage site is controversial and could include souvenir shops, boutique hotels and botanical gardens.

Across the Jordan in Israel is Qasr al-Yahud which also commemorates the baptism event. The Yardenit, just south of the Sea of Galilee, is another site commemorating the baptism of Jesus.

Although the baptism site on the

■ Please see JORDAN page 2

The Israeli site, on the left, has steps leading down to the water



# New warming centers open in Topeka

Many residents have been left with no heat during the freezing temperatures, but local organizations are helping the community stay warm.

As life-threatening cold set in, the Topeka Rescue Mission saw the need for a warming station in Topeka.

On Dec. 22, they opened a warming center in a building just a block away from their facility at 206 NW Norris. It's open to anyone who needs relief from the elements, offering cots, chairs and a hot cup of coffee.

"When they knew that we were possibly going to be at capacity yesterday, the breakthrough house

opened up and they have been in overflow with us," said La Manda Broyles, Topeka Rescue Mission Executive Director. "And instantly, volunteers and people supported them as well. So, I think it just takes one to start an action, then others follow suit."

Even though the warming center only has enough space for 30 people, a partner opened their doors as well. The Break-Through House has opened up as a second warming center to handle overflow.

The Salvation Army, located at 1320 SE 6th St., is also providing a warming center for families in the city from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cameron Taylor, emergency assistance case

manager, said providing these services for the community is the right thing to do.

"Being able to support the community and those folks that are having to deal with the extreme cold weather," said Taylor. "It's an opportunity for them to get warm, stay warm, bless them that way."

The warming center is also serving hot meals Monday through Friday from noon to 1 p.m. for all families. Taylor said the lunches are a great way to provide resources for those who need that extra help during times like this.

In partnership with the City of Topeka and Topeka Rescue Mission, United Way of Greater Topeka is



looking for individuals willing to potentially respond to the need for volunteers.

Volunteers who are interested in

this opportunity can go to [unitedwaytopeka.galaxydigital.com/need/index](http://unitedwaytopeka.galaxydigital.com/need/index), or email contact Jess Barraclough at [jnb@unitedwaytopeka.org](mailto:jnb@unitedwaytopeka.org)

## JORDAN

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Jordanian side draws around 200,000 visitors every year, the proposed development could attract up to five times as many pilgrims ahead of the 2,000th anniversary of the biblical event. The site was visited and covered by Metro Voice in the article, "The Other Holy Land."

Anita Widaman, the publisher of

KC Metro Voice, has been to all three sites, including the Jordanian commemoration of the event. "I cannot say for sure which site it was," she says. "What I do know is that for the guests on our annual tours to Israel, stepping into the water and being baptized or doing it a second time, is a very special moment filled with a lot of emotion."

Widaman says that it is one of those unique moments on a tour to Israel.

The initial phase is estimated to cost about \$15 million and as much as \$100 million when it's completed by 2029. The project would incorporate the site's natural landscape heritage in honor of its historical and biblical significance, according to Kamel Mahadin, the architect behind the development.

"We are talking about rustic stones and pebbles in architectural designs that preserve the place's pristine nature and ensure that the

sanctity and spirituality that existed 2,000 years ago are not trampled on by any development," he said. "We are not talking about a high-tech landscape."

Located about 30 miles west of Amman, the Jordanian capital, the baptism site is best known as a possible location where John the Baptist declared Jesus to be the "Lamb of God" as depicted in the first chapter of the gospel of John.

The Baptist World Alliance, a

global Baptist coalition, has been named as one of nine faith organizations to build a welcome outpost at the future site. The first phase is expected to be completed in 2023. Although UNESCO has officially designated it as a World Heritage site, scholars have said it's not clear whether the exact location falls on the Jordanian or Israeli side of the river, which has long been the source of a tourism dispute between the two countries.

## KINLESS

continued from page 1

obesity, while contributing to anxiety, depression and cognitive decline.

Unfortunately, the latest demo-

graphic research suggests that loneliness is becoming increasingly institutionalized, as a collision of demographic developments have ushered in an age of "kinlessness."

The term refers to aging adults with no close family members to rely on. There are close to a million "kinless

seniors" spread across the United States with no partners, no children, no siblings. They often live alone, celebrate holidays alone and rely on appointments with doctors or encounters with cashiers to interact with other people. The pandemic hit this cohort extremely hard.

Coastal living, board games, not eating hot dogs. It's all in here.

Why are kinless seniors, also referred to as "solo agers" or "elder orphans," suddenly so common? "All the pathways to singlehood have grown," as one sociologist recently told the Times. Relative to previous American generations, Baby

Boomers have low marriage rates, high divorce rates, fewer children and longer lifespans.

It's a deeply disturbing trend, and one that could explode in the next quarter-century, as Gen X assumes its senior status and even Millennials push past the age of 55. Neither generation has the divorce rate of Baby Boomers (which is so prodigious that researchers came up with the phrase "gray divorce") but that's partly because millions in that age group just dodge marriage entirely.

Living partnerless can be empowering for a select few. Consider: a professor living in a walkable, well-connected area, who can rely on friends for favors, or new experiences with new faces. But that sort of cinematic existence is difficult to come by. Studies indicate that partnerless people are less engaged with communities. They're less likely to take in concerts, volunteer their time, play tennis or attend religious gatherings. Instead, they fall into a sort of plodding rhythm, which only accelerates their mental and physical

decline.

They have to tackle the brunt of that decline on their own. Kinless seniors receive less weekly caregiving than their peers. That's not to say that partners — let alone siblings who live a state or two away — are always nursing extraordinaires when their significant others are suffering. But love goes a long way. And even just having another set of eyes or ears around the house (as one's balance starts to go, and stairs become precarious) can literally save a life.

It's possible, as knowledge of kinlessness grows in the coming years, that younger generations will reconsider the nuclear family models they've regarded with skepticism for years. As for the seniors among us — those kinless, or those heading there — younger Americans would do well to mimic the Italians (who, incidentally, have more centenarians that almost any other country among their ranks) and make sure to make time for those who need it most. No one grows old at the table, yes, unless the rest of the seats are empty.

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# Church attendance is all over the place, but mostly down

Although most Protestant churches have resumed in-person services, overall attendance continues to lag behind pre-pandemic levels, a new Lifeway Research survey found.

“While there are a handful of exceptions, we can definitively say that churches in the United States have reopened,” said Scott McConnell, executive director of Lifeway Research. “While masks began to rapidly disappear in many settings in 2022, churchgoers have not reappeared quite as fast.”

Nearly 100 percent of churches met in person in August, according to the report. That number is up from 75 percent in July 2020 and 98 percent in August of last year. In April 2020, around the time the lockdowns began in the United States, the number of churches meeting in person dropped as low as 10 percent.

Although almost all church doors are open for in-person worship, not all congregants have returned. Attendance in churches is at 85 percent of what it was in January 2020, before the lockdowns began. That’s up from 73 percent in August of 2021 and a low of 60 percent in January 2021, meaning current church attendance is at the highest level in the last two



years.

Pastors aged 65 and older were more likely to report attendance between 30 to 50 percent of January 2020 levels, compared to pastors between 18 and 55 years of age who were more likely to report attendance greater than pre-lockdown levels. Female and black pastors also were more likely to report lower attendance levels than before the lockdowns. Additionally, evangelical pastors were more likely, at 29 percent, to report higher attendance compared to pre-lockdown levels than mainline pastors, at 16 percent.

The responses also varied on re-

gion and denomination, showing pastors in the Midwest and South were more likely to report higher attendance than pastors in the Northeast. Baptist, Pentecostals non-denominational pastors were more likely to report greater attendance levels compared to January 2020 than Methodists, Lutherans, Presbyterian/Reformed and Christian/Church of Christ pastors.

According to a recent Pew Research study, the American Christian population could drop below 50 percent by 2070 based on current trends.

—Dwight Widaman / MV

## TIME & TEMP

continued from page 1

But after the service station was acquired by new owners, it was an-

nounced the phone number would be discontinued at the end of January.

Some local residents and businesses rallied to save the service, and the new owners of the service station

had a change of heart, said Randall Hinton, a spokesperson for Weather-Fone Co., which provides the equipment for the service.

The line still receives about 2,000 calls per day.

## PARKS

continued from page 1

free all the time, around 100 of them require an entrance fee.

The free days only cover the entrance fees to the parks and do not cover the costs of certain activities such as camping, boat launches, transportation or special tours.

The National Park Service recorded just over 297 million recreation visits in 2021 – over 60 million more than in 2020.

The top five most visited parks were Blue Ridge Parkway, Great Smoky Mountains National Park,



Lake Mead National Recreation Area.

Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Gateway National Recreation

Area and Lake Mead National Recreation Area.

## C5Alive POWER Luncheon to address social problems

The January C5 POWER Luncheon will be held January 12, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at The Peak, 1930 SW Gage Blvd. The featured speaker will be Tamika Sellars, who will speak about her service to vulnerable populations, seeing the cup half-full, and striving to make a difference in someone’s life daily.

The cost to attend a C5 luncheon is \$10 for C5 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. RSVPs and inquiries can be sent to info@C5Alive.org.

“POWER” luncheons are held on the second Thursday of each month. The next one will be held on Feb. 8, also at The Peak, and will feature Joe Patton.

C5Alive is part of the Capital City Christian Chamber of Commerce (C5), an organization dedicated to developing and uniting Christian leadership in the community: businesses, non-profits and churches.

C5 also hosts other periodic events, including **EASTERFEST**, the annual Topeka Easter Parade and Family Fun Fair, held on N. Kansas Avenue and at **Great Overland Station** on the day before Easter. Find details at Topeka Easter Parade on facebook. The annual **Topeka Fall Fest** will be on October 7, 2023 at



Sellars

**The Vinewood.**

C5 members may also sponsor luncheons and other events as a way to promote their organizations.

For more information about C5, go to [www.facebook.com/C5Alive](http://www.facebook.com/C5Alive), [C5Alive.org](http://C5Alive.org), or call 785-640-6399.

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# The fascinating history of air travel in the Midwest

When we think of air travel today, we think of the airports around the country, and we think of the number of flights that go through Chicago or Atlanta. We think about Boeing producing the jets we know today in Seattle or Charlotte, of Airbus in Europe, in London and Paris, but without “Flyover Country” much of what we know about air travel would be missing.

From the traveling flying circuses of Kansas during the 1920s and 30s, to the great fliers that came from the Midwest like Amelia Earhart and Charles Lindbergh, our region has been central to air travel. Much of that history can be seen in the TWA Museum at the Charles B. Wheeler airport, previously known as the Kansas City Municipal Airport.

In the early years of air travel, especially with mail contracts, the aircraft had limited range. They landed for fuel, as well as to avoid bad weather. The Boeing Stearman biplane of the 1930s had a range of 505 miles, not enough to get it from Chicago to Denver, so cities like Kansas City were hubs for airplanes needing to refuel. Even the Ford Trimotor, one of the first passenger aircraft, was limited to 575 miles, hardly enough to get it from New York to California, non-stop. Even



Municipal Airport  
Kansas City, MO

today, most of the piston-powered private aircraft are still limited to ranges of about 1000 miles, requiring stops for refueling, and it is why the airports of the Midwest are fueling stops for races like the Powderpuff Derby, won by fliers from the Midwest.

Missouri native six-star General John J. Pershing brought airplanes to the military, chasing Pancho Villa in Mexico. Later, he oversaw all US forces in the Great War, otherwise known as World War One, including the fledgling Army Air Corps.

Charles Lindbergh's aircraft, the first aircraft to fly the Atlantic non-stop, was paid for by businessmen from St Louis and that is why the aircraft was named the Spirit of St Louis. Emilia Earhart one of the first female pilots who made history by flying the Atlantic and setting

speed records, was a native of Atchison. During World War II, Stearman from Wichita and the St Louis Aircraft Companies competed to build trainers for the US Army Air Corps.

In Kansas City, there were two main airports, divided by the Missouri River. Kansas City Municipal Airport was dedicated on August 17, 1927, by Charles Lindburgh. It served as the main Kansas City airport, being close to the downtown area. In the early days, it was also the headquarters for TWA, Transcontinental and Western Airlines. However, it was not the first airport. On the other side of the Missouri River was Fairfax Field, an airport that began operating in 1921. In the 1930s, due to industrial expansion, it became the military transport hub, and for a time during and after World War II it served as a reserve Air Force base. Adjacent to Fairfax was the NAA plant where from 1940 through 1945, 6,608 of the total 9,889 B25s manufactured for the war were produced.

Boeing at its Wichita plant developed and produced 1,644 B-29s, beginning in 1944. This aircraft was so developed, with pressurized cabins, electronic machine guns, high altitude operation, payloads, range, and speed, that more money was spent developing the B-29 than was spent in the entirety of the Manhattan Project that developed the bomb that ended the war, being dropped by B-29s. Boeing lost many of its best test pilots in what became known as the “Battle of Kansas”.

There were other airports in the area including Mid Continent Airport built in 1951 and Grandview Airport, which was leased to the US

Army in 1944 to become Richards Gebaur Air Force Base. The New Century Airport near Gardener, Kansas used to be the Olathe Naval Air Station, a joint operation between civilian and military operations, and there are several smaller local airports.

## Served by many airlines

The Midwest has been served by a wide variety of airlines. Following World War II, Kansas City served as the headquarters for TWA and Braniff. Trans World Airlines (TWA), owned by Howard Hughes, was responsible for breaking Pan American's grip on international travel with its long-range Lockheed Constellations, and Braniff was re-

disappeared with a failed attempt to buy it from majority shareholder, Carl Icahn. At that point, American Airlines took over the overhaul shop at KCI.

Kansas City has seen the likes of Eastern Airlines which is now part of Delta, Continental Airlines operating with United; Frontier Airlines, Southwest Airlines, Northwest Orient which is part of Delta; Alaska Airlines, Ozark Airlines, American Airlines, Pan Am Airlines which is part of Delta, US Airlines, Spirit and others. The Airline industry has changed dramatically, with the larger airlines consolidating, and contracting with some of the smaller carriers like Sky West contracted for shorter smaller flights.



sponsible for opening some of the first airline routes to South America. Mid-Continent, another Kansas City hometown airline, was merged with Braniff in 1952, following the flood in Kansas City that devastated both Kansas City and Fairfax airports. After the flood, TWA moved its overhaul base from Fairfax to Mid-Continent Airport, the airport that later became Kansas City International. The International Air Transportation Association still uses the old designator code MCI for Kansas City's primary airport.

In 1966 Howard Hughes lost control of TWA, making it a public airline. In 1970, the TWA Overhaul Base at what was then Mid-Continent Airport was one of Kansas City's largest employers with nearly 6,000 workers. TWA had Stewardess training in Shawnee Mission, Kan. In 1972, Kansas City moved its air traffic to KCI and in 2001, TWA

The Boeing 747s are gone except in cargo aircraft, replaced by twin-engined aircraft of Boeing and Air Bus, while smaller airlines use aircraft manufactured by Lear, Cessna, Beechcraft, and Bombardier, many of which are headquartered in Wichita.

## The history of KCI and kitchen plates

Kansas City International, designed to be one of the most passenger-friendly airports, boasted the shortest distance from curb to plane, employing systems of seamlessly moving people through its three circular terminals. It was also known for advanced fuel delivery for aircraft, and other amenities making it an architectural wonder.

The original architect used kitchen plates to demonstrate his design. The sole drawback in the

■ Please see AIR TRAVEL page 20

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# New program aims to simplify housing assistance in Topeka

The City of Topeka and community partners on Tuesday launched a new program that aims to create a more collaborative community approach to ensuring equity and access to housing and shelter in Topeka.

The program, known as Equity Access Shelter (E.A.S.), will enhance homeless services to ensure all people receive rent assistance with a single point of access. E.A.S. is located within the City's Housing Services Division.

"No longer does a person needing rent assistance have to call multiple agencies to try to get help. One phone number means individuals are able to access help quickly, and without further trauma," said Carrie Higgins, Senior Program Administrator for the City of Topeka. "E.A.S. uses an assessment to score each individual's level of need, as well as coordinated entry to assist those individuals based on prioritization."

E.A.S. partners include Catholic Charities, Community Action, Community Resources Council, Doorstep, Let's Help, Salvation Army, Topeka Housing Authority, Topeka Rescue Mission, and Valeo.

The program was initiated by Topeka City Councilwoman Christina Valdivia-Alcala, and in-

spired by the housing first model and the national Built for Zero movement.

"The E.A.S. program is needed in Topeka now. Staff has been working hard on the initiative for a year. Topekans are ready to learn more so they can have faith the city is doing all possible to address the chronic unsheltered and overall homeless crisis we are experiencing. Equity. Access.



Shelter., is based on a model similar to Built for Zero, and it's cru-

cial all organizations that partner with the city understand real and lasting reduction in homelessness is possible working together with the single point of entry and the vital importance of consistent data, tracking and sharing information to help make this program a success," said Councilwoman Valdivia-Alcala.

E.A.S. has a dedicated staff member with years of social

work experience in Topeka. The goal is for the program to expand in the future to include clothing, food, and other services.

To contact E.A.S. to request rental assistance, call 785-368-9533, or email [EAS@topeka.org](mailto:EAS@topeka.org). Walk-ins are also welcome at the City's Holliday Building, which is located at 620 SE Madison Avenue.

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[info@C5Alive.org](mailto:info@C5Alive.org)

## Entire Bible to be read out loud at Capitol on Jan. 7

Culture Shield Network is sponsoring Keeping Faith in Kansas - Reading the Entire Bible Out Loud, on January 7th, from 12:30-2:30 p.m. at the Capitol Building in Topeka.

The Entire Word of God will be read out loud, joining other states on the same day.

Enter on north side street level and come to 2nd floor Rotunda. For more information, contact: [cultureshieldnetwork@gmail.com](mailto:cultureshieldnetwork@gmail.com) or call 316-516-0777.



# FINANCIAL PLANNING



## DAVE RAMSEY

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

davesays

### MY MOTHER-IN-LAW MOVED IN - HOW'S IT GOING TO WORK

Dear Dave,

My husband and I have always gotten by. We both make about \$40,000 a year, we each turned 50 last month, and we only have a little bit of debt. Recently, my mother-in-law moved in with us due to health issues. Since that time, we have been struggling financially due to the added expense of having her with us. We love her and want her to be here, but we are unsure how we will continue to make things work. Can you help?

Renaye

Dear Renaye,

It's completely understandable that your mother-in-law moving in tightened things up for you guys — to a point. What it has also done is trained a spotlight on the fact you

and your husband need to start behaving better with your money. That means living on a written, monthly budget, and telling your money where to go instead of “getting by” and wondering where it all went.

That sound you hear is a phone ringing, and it's your wake-up call. If I were you, I'd pick up. That call's saying you two have been disorganized and a little sloppy with your finances in the past, but you've made just enough money to get away with it. Now, you're going to have to get serious and get organized, because you've chosen to take care of her. Don't get me wrong, it's an honorable decision you've made to bring her into your home. But it also means some changes have to be made in terms of the day-to-day finances around your place. You're going to have to sit down with your husband and separate the wants from the needs.

The good news, Renaye, is that with a budget you can analyze, in detail, the need to cut expenses, generate extra income — or both. But for this thing to work, you've got to create a little margin. Because if you continue to just wander along without a plan, you're going to have a real mess on your hands.

God bless you folks.

— Dave

### Is there any way to protect yourself against inflation on a day-to-day basis?

Dear Dave,

All the talk on the news about inflation is a little scary. Is there any way to protect yourself against it on a day-to-day basis?

Garret

Dear Garret,

When people start talking about inflation, it seems like there are always some who want to start collecting gold, fill every container they own with gasoline and stick their cash under their mattresses. But listen, you can prepare for inflation and address the results without being

panicked.

You are still in control of your money, inflation or not. You'll be able to make sure your money is going toward the right things, while being able to find places where you can cut spending, if you're living on a written, monthly budget. If you're noticing the prices of things like food and gas rising in your area, you'll need to adjust your budget to account for this. That way, you'll know exactly what you're working with, and it will help you avoid any nasty surprises. If you're really feeling the pinch and want to save even more, look for specific ways to lower your grocery bill or save money on gas. Maybe it's time you switched to generic brands, or started a carpool into work. If you find great deals on canned food and things you can stock your pantry with—I'm talking about stuff you'll

actually use—go ahead and buy a little extra. Just make sure you've budgeted for it before heading to the grocery store. You'll want to already know exactly what you're going to spend, so you don't get swept up into impulse buying.

Like it or not, inflation is a thing. If you plan on retiring one day, it's pretty much guaranteed that the cost of a loaf of bread, a tank of gas and even a cup of coffee will have gone up by then. The best way to protect yourself against inflation that's bound to happen is to invest your money—and the sooner the better. But remember, if you still have debt other than your mortgage, and don't have an emergency fund of three to six months of expenses, you need to take care of those things first!

— Dave

## Beneficiary Mistakes Can Cost a Fortune

By Ryan Shumaker  
Smartvestor Pro at  
The Retirement Team



Beneficiary designations are important in determining where certain assets of an estate will end up.

Many think that a will or trust is what determines where everything goes. This is not necessarily true, and it's a big mistake to make this assumption.

A last will and testament generally determines where items titled in your name will go. Items like real estate, cars, bank accounts, stocks, and bonds are included in a will. It is important to realize, though, that some assets are owned by contract rather than title, and those don't pass through your will unless there are no beneficiary designations.

Assets that are financial contracts can be annuities, life insurance, IRAs and other retirement accounts. Each of these contracts may have a beneficiary designation. This designation says who you want to name to receive any proceeds at death. If your will says everything goes to cousin Susie, and your beneficiary designations say Uncle Ed, and all of your assets are in contract assets, it will all go to Uncle Ed.

Here is a real-life example. Anne Friedman, before she got married and had children, named her sister as the beneficiary on her retirement account.

Later, she got married and had children, but the beneficiary designation was never changed. When Anne, a former principal, died suddenly of a massive heart attack 27 years later who do you think got her retirement account? Most would say her husband, but a Supreme Court ruling mandated that it all go to the sister. The court stated that, although it was probably her intent to leave the money to her husband and children, the beneficiary designation trumps any other written legal document.

Remember, forms cannot be changed after a death occurs; you get no second chance to get it right. Many attorneys often focus on what are called probate assets and don't review financial contracts outside of probate. Those are typically handled by financial professionals. This is an important area where the financial professional and the estate planning attorney need to be on the same page.

If you have grandchildren, another important issue is the default language on beneficiary forms. Do you know the difference between per capita and per stirpes? If not, pay attention. Mark's grandfather David had three children, Douglas, Donald and Lois. He named them as equal beneficiaries on several retirement accounts. Unfortunately, Donald died before his father. The account was divided two ways between Douglas and Lois when David passed away. Since the default language was per capita, divided equally among surviving heads, Donald's children

were entitled to nothing. If the words “per stirpes” were used when the beneficiary form was filled out, Donald's children would have gotten Donald's share.

We have seen a frighteningly high number of families make mistakes when it comes to beneficiary forms and created a 15 point checklist to help ensure the forms are filled out correctly. This checklist is available free of charge from our office.

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

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

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## Passing Down Financial Values

By Jim Hanna

According to a recent study from Ameriprise Financial, eight in 10 people say passing on their financial values to the next generation of their family is important to them.\* That's with good reason. Financial wisdom is a gift that can have life-long rewards and last longer than a monetary gift. If you're looking to impart financial values to your children, here are nine ways to get started.



Hanna

1. Teach financial awareness. Expose your kids to real-life money management scenarios early on. Let them know that bills must be paid each month. Explain why you save for unexpected expenses as well as larger purchases. It may surprise them to learn that it costs money to borrow money. Remove the mystery of how money changes hands and why it's important to be careful with it. Instill confidence that they can be good earners and use their earnings in productive ways.

2. Provide guardrails. Give your child the opportunity to learn limits, even if your own resources are plentiful. Help them identify the difference between what they want and what they need.

3. Help them save. Encourage your kids to save at least a portion of what they earn through allowance, chores, or a part-time job. Show them how small steps can take them far. Like any habit, saving takes practice before it becomes second nature.

4. Show as much as you tell. Your children are watching where you invest your time and money. See that your actions align to the messages you want your kids to receive.

5. Involve kids in charitable causes. Children learn valuable lessons by helping others who are less fortunate. Allow them to choose a charity to support. Volunteer and fundraise together. Encourage them

to set aside a portion of their own money that they can donate to causes they care about.

6. Promote balance. Help kids see that money is a means to an end, rather than an end itself. Impart the necessity of making money, but not at

the expense of everything else that is important.

7. Prepare them for inheritance. According to the Ameriprise survey, only 19% of parents who intend to leave an inheritance are willing to share financial details with their heirs.\* Yet keeping heirs in the dark may create confusion and misunderstandings. An estate plan is a great example of financial discipline and generosity. Adult children can benefit from knowing about the strategies you use to preserve and grow generational wealth. They may need guidance on what happens when money is passed on, including how to set up an inherited account and how to manage and grow a financial windfall.

8. Keep the conversation going. Money talks don't need to be one-sided lectures. Let your kids ask questions. Ask them about their own financial goals and dreams. Be a resource as they grow.

9. Refer them to the experts. Expose them to books, podcasts, and people who can teach them how to be financially savvy. When they become adults, introduce them to your financial advisor. With insight into financial planning in action, they'll be more apt to apply these principles to manage their own finances.

\*Ameriprise Money & Family study (2022)

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## IRS announces delay for \$600 reporting threshold

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

The Internal Revenue Service has announced a delay in reporting thresholds for third-party settlement organizations set to take effect for the upcoming tax filing season. As a result, third-party settlement organizations will not be required to report tax year 2022 transactions on a Form 1099-K to the IRS or the payee for the lower, \$600 threshold amount enacted as part of the American Rescue Plan of 2021.



As part of this, the IRS released guidance outlining that calendar year 2022 will be a transition period.

The American Rescue Plan of 2021 changed the reporting threshold for TPSOs. The new threshold for business transactions is \$600 per year; changed from the previous threshold of more than 200 transactions per year, exceeding an aggregate amount of \$20,000. The law is not intended to track personal transactions such as sharing the cost of a car ride or meal, birthday or holiday gifts, or paying a family member or another for a household bill.

Under the law, beginning January 1, 2023, a TPSO is required to report third-party network transactions paid in 2022 with any participating payee that exceed a minimum threshold of \$600 in aggregate payments, regardless of the number of transactions. TPSOs report these transactions by providing individual payee's an IRS Form 1099-K, Payment Card and Third-Party Network Transactions.

The IRS also noted that the existing 1099-K reporting threshold of \$20,000 in payments from over 200 transactions will remain in effect.



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# Pregnant women have four options

The topic of adoption has been in the news a lot lately. Adoption is a significant and celebrated part of the family culture. Abortion activists and the liberal media, it would seem, are more in favor of pet adoption than child adoption. As a matter of fact, for every adoption referral Planned Parenthood makes, 133 babies are aborted, according to their 2109 annual report in which abortions increased by 2.6% and adoption referrals dropped by 37.6% (LifeNews, 2/22/21).

Regardless of the circumstances surrounding the conception, pregnant women have (at least) 4 options: abort the child, raise the child, surrender the child at a safe haven, or go through the adoption process.

In The 40 Film, an interviewee

discusses common reasons women do not want to have a child. They stem more from age, mental and financial stability, and lack of support more than going through the pregnancy itself. This would cause one to think that adoption would be the best solution. But now we're

So this argument asserts that if abortions are unavailable, "forcing" a woman to give up her child creates an undue burden. This reasoning is short-sighted in this age of choice and resources. In research done by Gretchen Sisson (nymag.com, 12/21), of 956 abortion-seeking women who were denied abortion access, 90% chose to parent.

So why is abortion access so important again? Of the 10% who still did not

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

Jeremiah 1:5



hearing that adoption is too daunting, too expensive, too painful for the mother. In other words, the mom's mental health and finances trump the child's life.

want to raise a child, they chose adoption.

Admittedly, adoption (like abortion) could trigger guilt, trauma, or remorse. That is why healing for both is important.



Adoption, however, preserves life and enables moms to be proactive rather than reactive.

Adoption may be a painful ex-

perience, but it's positive. So, if it's choice you're looking for, taking away the abortion option still leaves mom with 3 other choices.



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# Annual Rally and March for Life to be held in Topeka



Kansans for Life will hold the Annual Rally and March for Life in Topeka on January 24, 2023.

The day will feature numerous events including educational workshops for teens and adults, an interdenominational worship service and a rally on the south steps of the State Capitol Building.

The special day is in memory of the 50th anniversary of Roe V. Wade that legalized abortion.

Since that day in 1973, over 70 million babies have been aborted in the United States. Roe was found unconstitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court in June of 2023. The decision returned the abortion debate back to the states.

Registration for the march and rally runs from 8:30 a.m. until 11 and will include coffee and donuts in the hallway just south of state capitol Visitor Center inside the north entrance. Exhibit booths will be in the first-floor rotunda. Donated baby items can also be dropped off there.

Free workshops will be held from 9:00 to 10:00 in the Capitol Visitor Center auditorium on several topics including how to lobby your.

A Catholic mass will be held at 10:30 a.m. at the Topeka Perform-

ing Arts Center. A non-denominational prayer service will also take place at 10:30 at the Visitor Center classroom and auditorium.

A lunch by donation will be held between 11:30 and 2:30 in the basement of Mater Dei Assumption Church nearby at 8th & Jackson.

The March for Life begins at Noon and goes from TPAC at 8th & Quincy to the south Capitol steps. The Rally for Life will run from 12:15 to 1:15 with elected officials and special speakers on hand.

This year, much attention will be placed on voters rejecting the Value Them Both Amendment to the State Constitution in the Kansas legislature. The amendment failed by a wide margin after a smear campaign funded by millions of out-of-state pro-abortion forces.

Because of the failure of the Value Them Both Amendment, existing bans on late-term and taxpayer-funded abortions are now in danger of being rendered unenforceable. Furthermore, violent live dismemberment abortions can continue and threatens these lifesaving limits:

- Parental consent for minors seeking abortion
- Informed consent, alerting

• Abortion clinic sanitation and safety standards

Even with the overturning of Roe, the pro-life community is needed like never before to protect life in Kansas.

The Annual Rally and March for Life in Topeka will bring considerable attention to the issue this year.

For more information visit [www.kfl.org](http://www.kfl.org).

—Dwight Widaman

## Rally & MARCH for LIFE!



### Tuesday, Jan. 24 Kansas State Capitol

8:30am–11am Registration

9-10am Workshops

10:30am Non-denom Service in Visitor Center

10:30am Catholic Mass at TPAC

Noon March to Capitol

12:15pm Rally • 2:30–3:30pm Workshops

In addition to the March and Rally, events include pro-life educational booths, capitol tours, visiting legislators, and attending general legislative sessions and committees.

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# Small Steps Open Doors to Adoption

There are approximately 113,589 children and teens in foster care in the U.S. who need loving, permanent forever families, as reported by the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS).

That number includes approximately 500 Kansas children waiting to meet their forever families, ac-

ording to Adopt Kansas Kids.

These are children who have experienced abuse, neglect or other serious family challenges during their short lifetimes.

There is a sense of urgency to match these youth with loving adoptive families as soon as possible so they can grow up in permanent family.

## Power of Adoption

The 2022 theme of National Adoption Month was “Small Steps Open Doors,” which highlighted the powerful impact of youth engagement and how simple actions build relationships. During National Adoption Month in November, KVC Kansas helped facilitate 60 children’s and teen’s adoptions throughout the state.

Individuals from all walks of life and all kinds of backgrounds can adopt children and teens from foster care. In addition, many people are surprised to learn that adopting a child, teen or sibling group from foster care is essentially free of cost as the adoption costs are funded by the state. Find heartwarming stories and profiles of children who need to be adopted at [adoption.kvc.org](http://adoption.kvc.org) and [adoptuskids.org](http://adoptuskids.org). These profiles include photos, bios and videos.



During Fiscal Year 2021, AFCARS reported of those youth waiting to be adopted:

- 52% are male and 48% are female
- 43% are white, 21% are Black or African American and 23% are Hispanic (of any race)
- Seven years old is the average age
- 22% are between 13 and 17 years old

• Average time in foster care is approximately 34 months

## Small Changes Add Up

Since 2005, KVC has matched more than 5,300 children with loving, forever families. KVC’s adoption work is done in partnership with the Kansas Department for Children and Families and Adopt KS Kids.

For more information, visit [kvc.org](http://kvc.org).

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

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

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

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

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

It was an incredible and unforgettable sight.

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

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

A picture is worth a thousand statis-



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

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

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

Thus it is abundantly obvious why abortion centers do their best to hide Ultrasounds from their abortion-minded clients. Once a woman sees that miraculous image, her tenuous bond to her child is highly likely to grow stronger. The Ul-

trasound literally puts a face—a distinctively human face—on what the abortion industry cavalierly refers to as the “choice.”

The experience of seeing that Facebook Ultrasound has also left me to wonder, “How many twins are aborted each year in our country? How many times is the tragedy of abortion actually doubled through the deaths of two preborn babies at one time?”

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

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

—Maria Gallagher

# Kansas is Still Bleeding

By Ryan Bomberger

Humanity loves circles. We keep repeating the same patterns of dehumanizing behaviors over and over again.

The recent failure to pass the Value Them Both Amendment, via a voter ballot initiative, would have affirmed there is no "right to abortion" in Kansas' constitution. It would have enabled legislators to pass bills that protect women and their babies from the violence of abortion. With massively funded out-of-state opposition and misinformation, amplified by an unapologetically pro-abortion news media, it was defeated by a nearly 20 percent margin. Sadly, this isn't surprising.

But this battle is eerily reminiscent of another fight for human equality: Slavery.

In 1854, pro-slavery politician Stephen Douglas' Kansas-Nebraska Act repealed the 1820 Missouri Compromise which disallowed slavery north of the 36th parallel. This anti-human bill created a nation that was half slave, half free. Of course, everyone knows that a house divided against itself cannot stand.

The Kansas-Nebraska Act allowed states to decide on the personhood of fellow human beings. Either we're all created equal or we're not. As always, anytime one group of humans gets to decide the value of other humans, things go terribly wrong. The Act brought turmoil to Kansas as both pro-slavery and anti-slavery forces de-

scended upon the state to sway the vote. Hmmm. Sound familiar?

The years-long conflict from 1854-1861 led to a reported 56 deaths among both sides (a slight majority of deaths were among the anti-slavery faction). It was called Kansas Bleeding. Ultimately, Kansas joined the Union and became a free state. In other words, it ended up on the right side.

But that failure to peaceably resolve a crucial question about our humanity led to an even greater conflict – the Civil War.

We're not fighting a civil war right now but a deeply moral and spiritual one. Yes, we're seeing the pro-abortion faction act out in violence with their "Summer of Rage," burning down pregnancy centers, terrorizing pro-life politicians and judges, and threatening pro-life organizations across the nation. Even with those heinous acts, we can't lose sight of the blood of the nearly million killed each year by failing to love them both. In Kansas, 22 are killed each day by an industry saturated with the blood of the most defenseless. Where's the moral outrage? Where's the moral courage?

Aside from the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod (Kansas District), Kansan Catholic Dioceses, and the state Southern Baptist Convention, there were no other denominations in direct public support of the Amendment's campaign effort.

Evil flourishes when churches are silent about abortion.

According to the United Methodist News, The United Methodist Church of the Resurrection held a sort of town hall albeit with a confusing mix of pro-abortion and pro-life speakers. Where is the moral certitude? The pastor, Reverend Adam Hamilton, read a letter written by his mother who rejected abortion and considered him her "greatest blessing." The pastor, strangely, went on to say he's "pro-life with a heavy heart" yet wouldn't say if he would vote for the amendment. Nothing like a pastor unsure of his moral convictions regarding the greatest injustice of our time.

Dr. Brenda Shoup, an OB/GYN and wife of one of the church's pastors, advocated for abortion in cases of "fetal abnormalities or ailments" saying: "But as a medical professional, we have to at least offer them termination of this pregnancy." Actually, no you don't. (That mentality would've included a number of my godbrothers and godsisters with Down Syndrome. They were better off loved, not better off dead.) Perhaps she should dialogue with the American Association of Pro-Life OBGYNs (or AAPLOG). They have a very different take on the moral responsibility of medical professionals.

The town hall pushed the notion that



abortion is simply a lot of gray areas. If only Scripture said anything about the "shedding of innocent blood," or about "my body my choice," or about being created "fearfully and wonderfully" regardless of being (humanly) planned or unplanned.

I guess I'm a result of one of those "gray areas," being conceived in rape but adopted in love. I'm tired of morally ambiguous Christian churches and leaders pretending the commercialized slaughter of the innocent and the exploitation of women is merely a personal preference. To the ones who boldly teach and live from a biblical worldview...thank you. You are the salt and light that this earth needs.

There is no gray area with human worth. There certainly was no gray area with the inhumane institution of chattel slavery in our country. Kansans missed a valuable opportunity in a post-Roe

America to set a course in the right direction this time. It's not, however, the last chance to right a wrong. Keep on fighting, pro-life advocates, through pregnancy care centers, through maternity homes, through adoption agencies, through the legislatures, through the courts, and yes, through the Church.

We know defeat happens, but it can make us stronger. Don't give into the media hype and the heartbreaking pro-abortion celebrations. Keep fighting for truth through everyday encounters and acts of compassion. Keep believing that this nation, this House, can be united in belief and practice that we're all created equal.

Slavery was abolished. No more compromises. No more voting campaigns. So be encouraged that victory happens. Galatians 6:9 reminds us that none of our blood, sweat and tears are ever in vain.

## Uber Driver Persuades Pregnant Woman Not to Get an Abortion

The new adoption-centric movie Lifemark has been used by God to impact countless women facing unwanted pregnancies, including a woman who was talked out of an abortion by her Uber driver, according to the filmmakers behind the faith-based project.

The movie, which releases on DVD, digital and other home video platforms on December 13, tells the story of a high school student who is given the opportunity to meet his birth mom for the first time. The film includes messages about adoption and abortion and was produced by the same filmmakers who made War Room, Overcomer and other hit faith-based movies.



"One of our favorite [stories about] Lifemark was we were contacted by an Uber driver who picked up a young lady [and] realized that she was going to have an

abortion," executive producer Alex Kendrick told Christian Headlines. "And en route, he began talking to her because he had just seen Lifemark, and he began talking to her

about the way it impacted him and [he] encouraged her to see it. By the time they got to the [abortion clinic] location, she changed her mind."

Stephen Kendrick, another executive producer, said the woman "not only chose to have the baby, but she gave her life to Christ."

"And then they reconnected her to her family that she was estranged from in another state," he said.

Lifemark opened at No. 7 at the box office. It stars Kirk Cameron, Raphael Ruggero, Dawn Long, Marisa Lynae Hampton and Rebecca Rogers.

It has a perfect score of 100 percent by Rotten Tomatoes critics.

Stephen Kendrick calls it an "inspirational family-friendly movie" that promotes the "value of life in the womb."

"We're hoping it will not only save a lot of lives, but we're hoping that it will inspire a lot of believers to support adoption in their local communities, whether they adopt a child [or] whether they support other friends that are adopting," Stephen Kendrick told Christian Headlines. "We've got some friends that God led them to adopt [but] they could not afford it at all. But believers surrounded them and started giving and supporting them, and just beautifully came alongside them, and provided what they needed."

# Pro-life, pro-family Republicans actually won massive victories in the midterms

By Raymond Wolfe

A lot of blame is going around after the Republicans' "red wave" failed to materialize in November.

One of the most common arguments is that opposition to abortion and the LGBT agenda, particularly same-sex "marriage," made it impossible for Republicans to win, and that the GOP must "moderate" itself to compete in future elections.

This, unsurprisingly, is standard in the mainstream media and from the radical LGBT and abortion lobbies, dedicated as they are to undermining life and the family.

It's also cited by pathetic Republicans, often trying to mask their failures or push a subversive agenda within the party, like Minnesota gubernatorial candidate Scott Jensen, who blamed pro-life efforts after his eight-point loss.

The midterms were mostly about "an intrusion into a person's autonomy," he claimed. "In the future, I think the lesson is clear — at least it should be to Republicans," Jensen said. "If you infringe on someone's freedom ... you'll probably lose."

Mitch McConnell may have had something similar in mind when he argued that Republicans underperformed because they "frightened" moderates with "negativity" and "excessive attacks." Those sentiments may have influenced his breathtaking betrayal of the conservative base this week with his tacit support of the "Respect for Marriage Act."

Homosexual activist and Trump adviser Ric Grenell recently played on the same theme when he chastised conservative Rep. Chip Roy for opposing homosexual "marriage." "Gay marriage is legal, Chip," Grenell said. "In fact, your state won't let gay conservatives attend the Texas GOP convention."

"We win by addition not subtraction," he insisted.

But abandoning God's law isn't the savvy strategy that the woke mob and their Republican enablers would make it seem — and the midterm elections actually proved it.

While there may not have been a national "red wave," the midterms saw stunning victories for some of the strongest pro-life and pro-family conservatives in the country, including in battleground states.

Of the 13 Republican governors up for re-election this year who signed abortion restrictions, none of them lost re-election and all of them won by double



digits except for Gov. Brian Kemp of Georgia, who crushed Stacey Abrams by 7.5 points.

Governors from Iowa to Wyoming who signed abortion "trigger" or heartbeat bans won by an average of about 25 points.

In North Carolina, Republican congressman Rep. Ted Budd prevailed in the state's hard-fought Senate race running on a strong social conservative record: He voted with Family Research Council 100 percent of the time, voted against the "Respect for Marriage Act," and co-sponsored multiple federal abortion bans.

That gave the left plenty of ammunition, but Budd still beat the Democrats' nominee, Cheri Beasley, and by nearly twice the margin of victory for RINO North Carolina Sen. Thom Tillis in 2020. Tillis voted this week to betray marriage.

In neighboring South Carolina, Republican Gov. Henry McMaster won in a 17-point blowout, the largest victory in a South Carolina governor's election since 1990, though polling showed a much closer race.

A pro-life, pro-family firebrand, McMaster declared his opposition to same-sex "marriage" days before the election and said he would enforce South Carolina's laws upholding traditional marriage if the Supreme Court returns the issue to the states.

And in Texas, Attorney General Ken Paxton, a staunch opponent of child "sex changes" and abortion, pledged the unthinkable: that he would defend a state law banning sodomy that was blocked by the Supreme Court in 2003.

Paxton won by nine points — nearly three times his victory margin in 2018 — defying media speculation about a tight race.

In fact, despite Grenell's chiding, Texas voters rewarded Republicans with a clean sweep of statewide offices even

after the Texas GOP adopted a platform condemning homosexuality as an "abnormal lifestyle choice."

Budd, McMaster, and Paxton weren't outliers.

Unabashed social conservatives won a string of notable victories last month, and while Democrats did better than expected in some states, their far-left social agenda failed them around the country, including in purple states like Ohio, states like Indiana and West Virginia that recently banned abortion, and even liberal strongholds like New York.

This actually isn't surprising. Polling consistently shows that voters are fed up with the LGBT movement, that homosexual "marriage" doesn't have the overwhelming support that backers claim, that Republican voters still oppose it, and that voters often agree with strict abortion laws. According to exit polls from the midterms, 50 percent of voters think that society's values on sexuality and gender are "changing for worse," and Republicans won them by around 80 percent. Just 26 percent believe that America's sexual norms are improving.

**Florida's red wave: All about 'the values'**

Perhaps conservatives' most impressive victories were in Florida, long a perennial swing state and one that President Barack Obama carried twice.

But last month Gov. Ron DeSantis won re-election by 19.4 points — the largest margin of victory in a Florida governor's race in 40 years — defeating Democratic congressman and former Gov. Charlie Crist by more than 1.5 million votes.

DeSantis won his first term in 2018 by just 32,463 votes. In November, however, he dominated even longtime Democratic bastions, including Miami-Dade County, which voted for Biden by seven points but broke for DeSantis this year by 11 points.

"Thanks to the overwhelming support of the people of Florida, we not only won election, we have rewritten the political map," DeSantis declared on election night.

The popular Republican governor didn't realign Florida by compromising with the woke left. Instead, he put opposition to LGBT ideology at the center of his campaign, although it made him a top target of the international media.

In March, DeSantis signed a bill banning homosexual and transgender propaganda in public elementary schools. When Disney declared its hostility to the law, he led a successful push to strip the company of its special tax status in the state.

DeSantis also prohibited gender-confused males from competing in women's and girls' sports and cracked down on homosexual clubs hosting drag queen shows with children. Last month, the Florida Board of Medicine voted to prohibit doctors from providing "gender-affirming" surgeries and drugs to minors, a move that DeSantis strongly encouraged. In 2021, he vetoed hundreds of thousands of dollars in tax funding for pro-LGBT groups.

With his pro-family record, DeSantis won re-election by wider margins than every incumbent Democratic governor this year, including potential presidential hopefuls like Gov. Gavin Newsom of California and Gov. J.B. Pritzker of Illinois.

Republicans in Florida benefitted from record surge in registered voters that DeSantis presided over and which is widely attributed to his handling of COVID-19 and education. Fighting back against pro-LGBT wokeness may also have endeared him to Hispanics, who largely reject the radical LGBT agenda and powered his landslide victory: "Majority-Hispanic counties in Florida voted to re-elect Gov. Ron DeSantis over Democratic opponent Charlie Crist by a margin of 11 percentage points. These same counties favored Biden over Trump in 2020 by a margin of 8 percentage points."

Beyond the governor's race, Florida Republicans crushed Democrats up and down the ballot at historic levels.

Sen. Marco Rubio won re-election by 17 points against a better-funded challenger who hammered him for opposing the "Respect for Marriage Act" and rape and incest exceptions for abortion. The nation's top LGBT lobby group, the Human Rights Campaign, gave Rubio a "zero" rating and smeared him as "a

threat to every LGBTQ+ person in Florida," to no avail.

Florida Attorney General Ashley Moody cruised to re-election with 61 percent of the vote while actively challenging the state's constitutional protections for abortion.

Republicans won every statewide office in the Sunshine State for the first time since Reconstruction and even picked up super-majorities in the state legislature — the first time either major party has done so in modern history.

According to an analysis by fivethirtyeight.com, the GOP also overperformed in 23 of 25 House races with a Democrat on the ballot, netting four new seats and helping Republicans clinch a majority in the House of Representatives.

"We are not hiding who we are," conservative state Rep. Randy Fine said about Florida's red shift. People are "coming for the values," he said.

Republicans' massive victories bode well for further efforts to curb LGBT ideology and abortion in Florida. DeSantis has pledged to "expand pro-life protections" beyond a 15-week ban and a parental consent law that he already signed. His office has reportedly focused on a heartbeat bill, according to USA TODAY Network-Florida.

## Red waves in Iowa and Ohio

There was also a red wave in Iowa, another swing state that backed Obama twice.

Republican Gov. Kim Reynolds blew out her Democratic opponent by almost 19 points, six times her previous margin of victory. Reynolds ran on a decidedly pro-life, conservative record: She defunded Planned Parenthood and signed multiple pro-life laws, including Iowa's six-week abortion ban, which she has vowed to defend after the reversal of *Roe v. Wade*.

The first-term governor additionally barred taxpayer funding for "sex changes" and spearheaded the state's ban on gender-confused males in women's sports. Like DeSantis, she gutted COVID jab and mask mandates and critical race theory in schools.

Reynolds campaigned explicitly against the "woke agenda" and leaned into the abortion issue, exposing her challenger as an extremist who supported aborting a baby "right up until the moment it's born."

Republicans won a series of other historic wins in Iowa that observers described as "the end of an era."

■ Please see VICTORIES on next page

# A Kansas clinic is offering abortion pills prescribed by out-of-state doctors

A Kansas clinic began connecting abortion patients with out-of-state doctors in a bid to increase appointment availability. It comes after a judge struck down a state law banning telemedicine abortions.

The Planned Parenthood clinic in Wichita has begun allowing patients who visit the clinic in-person to obtain abortion pill prescriptions from out-of-state doctors.

These new telehealth abortion services come less than a month after a pivotal court ruling that blocked a state law banning doctors from prescribing abortion-inducing medication remotely.

The move is expected to expand abortion access in Kansas, which emerged as an unlikely abortion refuge after the U.S. Supreme Court overturned *Roe v. Wade* and many nearby states banned the procedure.



Clinics have said they don't have nearly enough capacity to see a growing influx of out-of-state patients.

Planned Parenthood Great Plains, which operates three Kansas clinics, said telehealth appointments with out-of-state doctors will enable them to see more patients. Previously, the

Wichita clinic only offered abortion appointments up to a few days per week and primarily relied on flying in doctors from out of town because of a shortage of local physicians willing to handle abortion cases.

Pro-life advocates have argued that telemedicine abortions should be il-

legal because of the potential for medication abortion complications that would require a doctor to be present to treat.

After the court ruling last month blocking the state's telemedicine abortion ban, Kansans for Life said it expects more decisions rolling back abortion restrictions following the August vote rejecting an amendment that would have stripped abortion rights from the state constitution.

While last month's ruling by a Shawnee County District Court judge could be appealed, legal experts say the fate of the right to telemedicine abortion care in Kansas is more favorable now than before the August vote.

"If the amendment had passed, then the ban on telehealth abortions would be valid," said Richard Levy, a constitutional law professor at the

University of Kansas. "But since the amendment did not pass, the decision by the district court is maybe not unassailable, but highly unlikely to be reversed."

"True to form, the abortion industry is once again putting its own profits and convenience ahead of safeguards for the health of women and girls," said Danielle Underwood, KFL Director of Communications in a media release from the organization.

"This time, abortionists are heartlessly pursuing their goal to perform larger numbers of abortions by withholding direct and needed physical care of an onsite physician. Once again, this has sadly become another 'I told you so' moment as women and babies in Kansas will be the ones who suffer from these actions."

## VICTORIES

continued from page 12

Iowa's last Democrat in Congress, Rep. Cindy Axne, fell to Republican state lawmaker Zach Nunn, who voted for the six-week ban. Iowa has sent at least one Democrat to the House since the 1990s.

Republicans also finally ousted 10-term Democratic Attorney General Tom Miller, the longest-serving state attorney general in U.S. history. Miller, 78, refused to represent Reynolds in abortion-related cases. His opponent, Republican attorney Brenna Bird, promised to defend Iowa's pro-life laws and blasted Miller for freeing a "transgender" child sex predator.

Iowa's nine-term Democratic Treasurer Michael Fitzgerald, the country's longest-serving state treasurer, lost to a GOP rival as well.

And for the first time since 1973, Republicans won a super-majority in the Iowa Senate, giving them power to approve Reynolds' appointments to state boards and agencies "without Democratic interference," according to the Associated Press.

Conservatives did even better in formerly swing-state Ohio.

Gov. Mike DeWine, a more moderate Republican who nevertheless signed a six-week abortion ban and every other pro-life law that has made it to his desk, won re-election by 25 points, well above his 3.7-point victory four years ago.

Ohio Attorney General David Yost,

who faced blistering media attacks for questioning the story of a 10-year-old's out-of-state abortion, defeated his Democratic rival in a 20-point landslide. Yost had immediately moved to reinstate Ohio's six-week ban after the reversal of *Roe v. Wade* and sued to block Biden's LGBT and job mandates.

As in Florida, Ohio Republicans won super-majorities in the state legislature. "We achieved a level not reached in more than 70 years," Republican state Senate President Matt Huffman said.

According to cleveland.com, "Republican leaders in both chambers will now have the power to fast-track bills, circumvent the public's ability to block legislation by referendum, and override gubernatorial vetoes."

Ohio lawmakers have said that they may move to pass a ban on abortion throughout pregnancy in the coming months.

In another crucial victory for pro-lifers, Republicans maintained a conservative 4-3 majority on the Supreme Court of Ohio, sweeping all judicial races by double digits. The court is currently considering a challenge to the six-week abortion ban.

What's more, Republican Senator-elect J.D. Vance won Ohio's high-profile U.S. Senate race, defeating radical Democratic congressman Tim Ryan by a larger-than-expected 6.5 points in spite of Ryan's huge spending advantage. Vance backed a federal abortion ban, though he said that he supports rape exceptions, and pledged to protect children

from "gender transitions" and LGBT ideology. He distanced himself from the "Respect for Marriage Act" on the campaign trail.

### Abortion fails Democrats around the country

In Indiana, the first state that passed an abortion ban after the reversal of *Roe v. Wade*, Democrats were sure that abortion would get them across the finish line.

"Many people that I have met through door-knocking that identify as a libertarian or a lifelong Republican have said, 'I'm done, I'm done,'" claimed one Democrat running for the state House.

She got blown out by 16 points though, and Republican actually expanded their super-majority in the state senate.

"I wasted 14 months of my life," said Indiana Democratic Senate candidate Tom McDermott, who ran on abortion and lost by 19 points. "I'm probably done in politics."

In West Virginia, the other state that passed a sweeping pro-life law in the run-up to the midterms, Republicans secured their biggest legislative majorities in "modern history," according to the Associated Press:

Republicans tightened their grip on the West Virginia Senate and House of Delegates, adding historic gains to their supermajorities in the general election. [...] Eight years since taking control of both chambers for the first time in eight decades, the GOP now has its most lop-

sided advantage in the Legislature in modern history.

Those gains may help pro-lifers tighten abortion restrictions further and eliminate exceptions in the current ban.

In Louisiana, Democrats boasted that abortion was "playing a major role in energizing women voters" and predicted "considerable shifts" away from the GOP due to multiple near-total abortion bans that took effect in the state this summer.

Republicans massively over-performed in Louisiana, with every Republican congressman winning by no less than 48 points.

In Montana, Republicans won a super-majority in the state legislature this year for the first time in the history of Montana's modern constitution, allowing them to refer constitutional amendments directly to voters or call a convention to rewrite the state constitution, which the Montana Supreme Court has interpreted to protect abortion. North Carolina and Nebraska Republicans also appear to have expanded their legislative majorities enough to pass new abortion restrictions.

Running on a progressive social platform failed Democrats not only in swing and red states, but even in far-left bastions like New York and Oregon.

In the New York governor's race, woke tyrant Gov. Kathy Hochul made abortion "the defining issue of her campaign," spending millions of dollars in ads slamming Republican nominee Lee Zeldin for his pro-life voting record.

Hochul ultimately eked out the nar-

rowest victory for a governor in New York since 1994, winning by 5.7 points—18 points less than Gov. Andrew Cuomo in 2018.

As New York Democrats fixated on abortion, Republicans made major inroads with minorities and in the New York metropolitan area. The GOP nearly ended Democrats' super-majority in the New York Senate, over-performed in most U.S. House races in the state, and ousted four Democratic congressmen, including Democrats' national campaign chairman.

Something similar happened in cap-sizing Oregon, where Democrat Gov.-elect Tina Kotek focused her desperate campaign on abortion and won by three points in a state that Biden carried by 16.

Republicans, meanwhile, stripped Democrats of their super-majorities in the Oregon legislature, and as in New York, significantly over-performed in congressional races, flipping a blue district with a candidate who supported a heartbeat bill.

Pro-lifers and social conservatives did have disastrous nights in a handful of winnable states, most notably Pennsylvania, Michigan, and Arizona, and saw mixed results in Kansas, Nevada, and Wisconsin. But those losses were more complicated than the left makes them out to be and, as a following article in this series will explain, were in no small part thanks to Democratic tricks and intra-party sabotage.

—Raymond Wolfe | LifeSiteNews.com

# opinion

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## Did the Pro-Life Movement Make a Bad Bargain?

By David French

The midterms were hard for pro-life Americans. In every state where abortion referendums were on the ballot, the abortion-rights side prevailed, even in red states such as Kentucky and Montana and a swing state, Michigan. The overturning of Roe v. Wade helped keep the Senate blue. It almost stopped the Republican Party from taking the House. Exit polls indicate that abortion was just behind inflation as the most important issue for voters — and 76 percent of those who made abortion their top issue chose Democrats.

The election was further evidence of a persistent reality that pro-life Americans like me have to absorb, understand and respond to with reason, intelligence and compassion: Pro-life views are less popular than arguments for choice. The same exit polls that showed abortion was a priority for voters indicated that 59 percent of respondents said abortion should be legal in all or most cases. Only 36 percent said it should be illegal in all or most cases.

The most pro-life position (illegal in all cases) was the least popular of all. A mere 10 percent of Americans agreed. I've been a pro-life activist and attorney my entire life, and even I don't agree with the 10 percent. I believe in abortion bans with exceptions for the life and physical health of the mother, and with carefully drawn exceptions for rape and incest.

These electoral losses do not mean that members of the pro-life movement should regret the Supreme Court's ruling in Dobbs. Those of us who fought in the legal trenches to overturn Roe believed that it was both constitutionally unsound and fundamentally unjust. The Constitution was never intended to



prohibit the state from protecting unborn life.

But technical legal arguments against Roe are not the same as the moral arguments against abortion. Reversing Roe didn't ban abortion but instead greatly expanded the ability of the elected branches of government to regulate and restrict it. Yet the bargain the pro-life movement made with Trumpism to end Roe is now costing it dearly as the argument moves from the courtroom to the hearts and minds of everyday voters.

The ethos of the Trumpist-dominated Republican Party is fundamentally incompatible with the ethos of a healthy pro-life movement. The reason is simple: Trumpism is centered on animosity. The pro-life movement has to be centered on love, including love for its most bitter political opponents.

From the beginning of the MAGA movement, its culture was clear. It was pugilistic. It was vengeful. And when it captured the Republican Party, it put thoughtful and compassionate pro-life Americans in a terrible bind: If you reject Donald Trump, you reject the chance to nominate and confirm judges who could overturn Roe. Embrace him and you empower a hateful man, and hateful men can do great harm.

When faced with that dilemma, I chose to reject Mr. Trump — and not because I wavered one inch from my pro-life convictions. I rejected him because of those convictions. I rejected him because a Catholic taught this lifelong Protestant what a culture of life truly meant.

I was 26 years old when I read Pope John Paul II's "Evangelium Vitae." It's not long, and you don't even have to read all of it to grasp its essence. It's summed up in a single phrase: "the incomparable and inviolable worth of every human life." That's it. That's the core of the pro-life position. Each person is of incomparable worth and should be treated as if he or she is of incomparable worth, from conception until natural death.

That fundamental moral truth has profound implications for law and policy. It also has profound implications for how we treat one another. It forecloses hatred. It forecloses animosity. It mandates love, compassion and care.

I'm a fallen, flawed person, and I don't live up to that high standard. But I do try, and there was no way that I would ever support a man or movement who rejected such values, who mocked kindness as weakness.

Donald Trump deserves credit for nominating the judges who

helped reverse Roe. But something else happened during his presidency. For the first time since the Carter administration, the American abortion rate actually went up. For the first time in 30 years, the number of abortions increased.

The abortion rate fell during the pro-life Reagan, Bush and Bush presidencies. It fell during the pro-choice Clinton and Obama presidencies. Yet it increased under Donald Trump.

Under Mr. Trump, the culture of life lost ground. It's wrong to impose monocausal explanations on complex social phenomena. It's thus wrong to blame Mr. Trump entirely for this change. But it's worth asking, why now? Why, after 30 years of declines, has abortion become more common? Why, in the immediate aftermath of Mr. Trump, has the pro-life movement been dealt such significant electoral defeats?

I think at least part of the answer to the political question is that the pro-life movement has tied itself to a Trumpist political movement and Trumpist leaders who often radiate incompetence and malice. No, not everywhere. Walk into a crisis pregnancy center and you'll often meet some of the best people you'll ever know. These are the folks who walk with young, frightened women through some of the most difficult days of their lives. These are the people who love mother and child, and show what it truly means to understand each person's "incalculable worth."

Even in politics, when the pro-life movement ties itself to decency and competence rather than strife and hate, it can enjoy electoral success. Ohio's Mike DeWine and Georgia's Brian Kemp both signed heartbeat bills, and they both won re-election handily. We don't know how pro-life referendums would fare

■ Please see PRO-LIFE page 20

# Reflect on Last Year and Look Ahead to the New Year

How is your heart at the start of this New Year? Are you feeling sentimental over the past year, excited about the New Year, or a little of both? I usually find myself feeling a mix of melancholy and anticipation. I love the lights of Christmas and am sad to see them taken down and packed away. On the other hand, once the holiday is over, I am anxious to discover what the New Year has in store.

All of this leads me to feel unsettled or off-kilter, in need of solid ground to steady my emotions and prepare me for the road ahead. The solution is to put it all in God's hands, but that is oh-so-easier said than done!

Whether you are anxious or excited, I encourage you to take a healthy, reflective approach with me and invite God into the process as you reflect on the past year and look ahead to the new year.

Going through these steps should calm any unsettled feelings and bring you peace and assurance that God has everything in His hands. We'll even establish prayers for the New Year!

## Reflect on Last Year

Let's get going. Work through each step carefully, letting God bring things to mind.

**Step 1: Identify 3 things that happened last year that you are thankful for.** Gratitude lifts our spirits and reminds us of where our help comes from.

16 Rejoice always, 17 pray without ceasing, 18 give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 ESV)

**Step 2: Identify 3 prayers God answered last year.**

I can't even tell you the magnitude of answered prayers I experienced last year. I remember jumping up from my office chair, raising my hands in the air, and praising God with awe and wonder . . . and a trembling voice. God is so faithful, and He keeps pouring out His love, despite my lack of faith that He will do so.

If you find it difficult to remember prayers God answered, that's OK. Give it some time: Let the concept roll around in

your mind for a few days. I would be very interested in hearing what prayers God answered in your life last year!

I sought the LORD, and he answered me

and delivered me from all my fears. (Psalm 34:4 ESV)

But truly God has listened; he has attended to the voice of my prayer. (Psalm 66:19 ESV)

When we are unsure of the future, it helps to remember God's faithfulness in the past. Be sure to write down these answered prayers.

Now let's turn our sights to the year ahead.

## Look Ahead to the New Year

Shift your focus now to the present and the future.

**Step 3: Start with gratitude.** What are you grateful for right now, this very day? Try to list three things.

**Step 4: Identify prayers for the New Year.** What are your hopes for the year to come? Try to identify at least three specific hopes. Write them down, and turn them

into prayers. These can become your foundational prayers for the New Year.

I encourage you to listen for God's leading and to be bold in your prayers. If you have "prayer block" (like writer's block), check out this prayer for the new year.

2 "Thus says the LORD who made the earth, the LORD who formed it to establish it—the LORD is his name: 3 Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known. (Jeremiah 33:2-3 ESV)

Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. (Hebrews 4:16 ESV)

**Step 5: Rest in God's love and care for you.** No matter what tomorrow brings, Jesus is by your side, guiding you and upholding you. Which of these verses did you need to hear today?

*fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God;*



*I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. (Isaiah 41:10 ESV)*

You might look up Zephaniah 3:17 on your own.

*18 When I thought, "My foot slips," your steadfast love, O LORD, held me up.*

*19 When the cares of my heart are many, your consolations cheer my soul. (Psalm 94: 18-19 ESV)*

—diggingdeeperwithgod.com

# The City of Man or The City of God?



**CLINT DECKER**

President and Evangelist with Great Awakenings, Inc.

## Speaking Truth

During 2022, the ravages of drugs tore through America, from the opioid to the fentanyl crisis. Inflation persisted, increasing the cost of goods and services and put immense pressure on households and businesses. Death also reigned upon us causing historically high death rates along with multitudes suddenly dying. In city after city, the lawless became more lawless; the evil, more evil.

Revelation is a book in the Bible that reveals future judgements to come upon mankind. It says, "Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great! She has become a dwelling place for demons, a haunt for every unclean spirit, a haunt for every unclean bird, a haunt for every unclean and detestable beast." (Rev. 18:2)

Babylon is the city we have all lived in during 2022.

This ancient city is famous for at least three historical points. First, it was the location of the infamous tower of babel. The place where the nations joined together to build a tower to reach the heavens and become like God, until He destroyed their tower and brought confusion to their language. Second, the most notorious leader was King Nebuchadnezzar, who built Babylon into an expansive empire, conquering nation after nation. Third, Nebuchadnezzar led Babylon to lay siege to Jerusalem, destroying it and capturing its people.

Eventually, Babylon's pride and glory in itself, brought about its own downfall. Babylon, which once was a servant of God, became His enemy. And 70 years after it conquered Jerusalem, Babylon fell to its enemies and was destroyed on the crucible of its own ego.

The historical city of Babylon eventually grew to become a spiritual picture of the godless cities of mankind. The city of Babylon is the city of man.

These are places where man joins together with others of like minded-

ness, to pursue the evil desires of his heart. The worldly success they enjoy becomes the envy of other cities. The city grows in all things evil and lawless, glorifying itself and feeling as if they are god-like.

The people of this world, live in the city of Babylon. They are places built on the foundation of man's own wisdom and knowledge. The evidence of man as architect is clear. Confusion and chaos abound. Crime, immorality and division existing in neighborhood after neighborhood, while corruption lives in the halls of power.

But as we move into 2023, there is something important to note. There is another city, one that was built strategically in opposition to the city of man. It is the city of God, and was established by the risen Lord Jesus Christ.

This city serves the desires of the Lord God, the Creator of heaven and earth. The citizens have turned from their sin, placed their faith in Christ and walk in holiness and love for one another. The city is marked by truth, service, peace, joy, kindness and much more. The Lord indwells each of them through His Spirit and is always with them. Ambassadors from this



city go out day by day into the city of man, warning and imploring their residents to flee the city. They plead with them to find refuge in the city of God, as each of them once did. Sometimes their message is received, other times it is rejected and they are cast out of the city.

In 2023, the city of God will continue expanding, seeking to rescue those from the city of man. One day Babylon will fall. The judgement of God will prevail and the city of man will be no more. Yet, the city of God will remain forever, as its Lord and King will. If you are part of the city of man, living for yourself and your own desires, leave at once! Come to the city with a sure foundation, whose

builder is God Almighty. Come through His Son and the doors of grace and mercy will be opened to you.

A prayer for you. "Lord God, open the eyes of people to see what city they live in. Bring them to flee the city of man and run to the city of God. Let them leave behind their selfish ways and yield to the just and holy ways of their Creator. In Jesus' name. Amen."

—Clint Decker is President of Great Awakenings and Speaking Truth is a nationally syndicated column. Please share your comment with Clint at [cdecker@greatawakenings.org](mailto:cdecker@greatawakenings.org) and follow his blog at [clintdecker.blogspot.com](http://clintdecker.blogspot.com).

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## Activities continue in NOTO during winter

Activities continue in NOTO during the winter months.

The Story of NOTO in Art is a project that is in the works for the Kansas Avenue bridge and the grassy area east of Veteran's Park. These areas will tell the NOTO Story with bridge murals and sculptures. You can help support this project with a donation to the Heidi Trejo Memorial Fund:

<https://explorenoto.org/support/heidi-lynn-norris-trejo-art-fund/>

First Friday Art Walk hours are 10 am to 9 pm. First Friday Art Walk & Market is the first Friday of every month. The North Topeka Arts District has become an attraction to Art Lovers and History Buffs alike with beautiful scenes of art and history. 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, locally owned

shops, art galleries antiques and studios have become a favorite art walk destination.

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

Make plans now to attend the NOTO Arts and Antiques Festival in March, featuring an array of workshops offered by local experts. Deadlines for applications to exhibit are in February.

The SEASONS Annual Fiber Juried Show is also coming up March 3-April 29 at NOTO Arts Center in the Morris Art Gallery.

The NOTO Arts Center is closed until February 1, and has begun construction on the base-ment for the NOTO Arts Center Artist Cooperative. It is scheduled to be completed by September 2023. You can make



a general donation today to help support this project, and/or to support the NOTO Arts District in general at <https://explorenoto.org/support/>

For more information visit <https://exploreNOTO.org>

### Other North Topeka events:

**SENIORS PITCH CLUB** - Every Tuesday 1 pm at Garfield Community Center. First visit free then a dollar per visit for coffee and replacement cards

For more information visit <https://exploreNOTO.org>.

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

**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. For info: 785-224-8803.

**OPERATION BACKPACK** - 1st Thurs., 6pm, Indian Creek Elementary, 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.

**FREE MOBILE FOOD DISTRIBUTION** - 4th Tue. through Nov., 9am, 1231 NW Eugene St. Randel Ministries, Inc., in partnership with Harvesters and Family of God Church will have its monthly food distribution. No ID or proof of income required, first come first served. Distributing fresh produce and other items to families in need. 785-234-1111 [www.RandelMinistries.com](http://www.RandelMinistries.com)

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# the events calendar

**FREE LISTINGS! E-mail your events to: [Voice@cox.net](mailto:Voice@cox.net); mail to Metro Voice, P.O. 5724, Topeka, KS 66605; fax to 785-235-3340 or enter online at [metrovoiceneeds.com](http://metrovoiceneeds.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 Community Center. Foot-stomping, hand-clapping tunes. Concessions available

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

**GRAND OTTAWA OPRY** - 2nd & 4th Saturday, 5:30PM-pre-show, 6PM showtime, Ottawa Memorial Auditorium, 301 S Hickory, Ottawa. Tickets are \$15 and only at the door. Ph. 785-241-6762, email [grandootpry@gmail.com](mailto:grandootpry@gmail.com)

**BOP DADDIES NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY** – Dec. 31, 7pm, The Vinewood. Doors open at 6. Cash bar & snacks available! Tickets: \$10 at the door or at the historicvinewood.com. 785.260.6772

**THE BASH** – Jan. 7, 7pm, The Vinewood. Doors open at 6. Cash bar & snacks available! Tickets: \$10 at the door or at thehistoricvinewood.com. 785.260.6772

**WILDER HORSES** – Jan. 13, 7pm, The Vinewood. Doors open at 6. Cash bar & snacks available! Tickets: \$10 at the door or at thehistoricvinewood.com. 785.260.6772

**REWIND BAND** – Jan. 21, 7pm, The Vinewood. Doors open at 6. Cash bar & snacks available! Tickets: \$10 at the door or at thehistoricvinewood.com. 785.260.6772

**LAZY WAYNE BAND** – Jan. 27, 7pm, The Vinewood. Doors open at 6. Cash bar & snacks available! Tickets: \$10 at the door or at thehistoricvinewood.com. 785.260.6772

**4CLOSURE** – Jan. 28, 7pm, The Vinewood. Doors open at 6. Cash bar & snacks available! Tickets: \$10 at the door or at thehistoricvinewood.com. 785.260.6772

## SPECIAL CHURCH EVENTS

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

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

**HOPE HOUSE FREE COMMUNITY CLOTHING BANK** – Wed. 6-8pm and Sat. 12-3pm, Oakland Church of the Nazarene: 939 NE Oakland

**HARVESTER FREE MOBILE FOOD DISTRIBUTION** - 2nd Saturday each month, 1:30-3pm, Oakland Church of the Nazarene: 939 NE Oakland

**FREE WEEKLY COMMUNITY PANCAKE BREAKFAST** – Sundays 8:10 to 10:30am, at Oakland Church of the Nazarene: 939 NE Oakland, followed by church services at 10:45am with Pastor Jeanette Cook

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

**INSIDE OUT FELLOWSHIP CHURCH** – Every Sunday 12pm service; Every Tuesday 7:30pm service. Location: 2020 SE 21st. For info: 785-380-7031 or [io@insideoutinc.net](mailto:io@insideoutinc.net) or [www.insideoutinc.net](http://www.insideoutinc.net)

**MIQRA RETREAT FOR YOUTH** – Jan. 14, 1pm & Jan 16, 11am, Grace Cathedral, 710 SW 8th. MIQRA (meek-rah) is a weekend retreat for youth that focuses on

the Bible and allows teens to discover what's in it, why we should care, and how to read it. Sign-up here: <https://bit.ly/EDOKSessions>

## 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.

**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 [nhonl@tscpl.org](mailto:nhonl@tscpl.org)

**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.

**TOPEKA SWING DANCE LESSONS** - Tuesdays, 7-8:45pm, no partner required, Jayhawk Theatre, 720 SW Jackson. <http://jayhawktheatre.org/events>

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

**FIRST FRIDAY ART MARKET** – Downtown and NOTO arts district. Arts, antiques, fine crafts, flea market

items, snacks, beverages, entertainment and more.

**TOPEKA ACAPELLA UNLIMITED AUDITIONS** –Topeka Acappella Unlimited is looking for female singers who would like to sing four-part acappella harmonies. Topeka Acappella Unlimited is a Chapter of Sweet Adelines, International. Call Cindy Patton at 785-640-7403 for info

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

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

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

**FREE MOBILE FOOD DISTRIBUTION** – 4th Tue. through Nov., 9am, 1231 NW Eugene St. Randel Ministries, Inc., in partnership with Harvesters and Family of God Church will have its monthly food distribution. No ID or proof of income required, first come first served. Distributing fresh produce and other items to families in need. 785-234-1111 [www.RandelMin-](http://www.RandelMin-)

## BLEEDING KANSAS

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- JANUARY 29** "Kansas Day" "If I Went West, I Think I Would Go to Kansas": Abraham Lincoln, the Sunflower State, and the Election of 1860"  
by Jonathan Earle, Ph.D., Dean, Roger Hadfield Ogden Honors College Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.  
*Special introduction by Suzanne Walker, District Attorney, Douglas County, Kansas.*
- FEBRUARY 5** "The U.S. Army's Response to the Unrest in Kansas - 1855-1861"  
by Robert J. Smith, Ph.D., Director, Fort Riley Museum, Ft. Riley, Kansas.
- FEBRUARY 12** "John Brown, a lit match in a tinderbox"  
by Grady Arwater, Site Administrator, John Brown Museum and State Historic Site, Osawatomie, Kansas.
- FEBRUARY 19** "John H. Matthew and 'The Lecompton Swindle'"  
by T. Kevin Griffin, Major (Retired) & MA
- FEBRUARY 26** "Steamboats on the Kansas River"  
by Kendall C. Gutt, Major (Retired) author; retired senior professor, Combat Studies Institute, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. (Books signing following talk)
- MARCH 5** "An 1869 Conversation with General Robert E. Lee"  
by Lane Smith, renowned historical interpreter.  
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Save the Dates!  
• Feb. 9: POWER Luncheon, 11:30-1: Joe Patton  
• Mar. 9: POWER Luncheon, 11:30-1: TBA

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



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

**HOPE AND HEALING ACADEMY** harnesses the power of horses to transform the human spirit. They are expanding services to address the needs and experiences of first responders and members of the armed forces. For info, call 785-224-4232 or go to [www.hopeandhealingacademy.com](http://www.hopeandhealingacademy.com).

**OVERCOMER'S OUTREACH ANONYMOUS RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUP** — Mondays 6:30-7:30pm, at Be Filled Of South Topeka, 200 Airport Rd, Bldg. 818 Suite 1. Led by Pastor Bill Ritchey. 785-817-2802

**BINDING UP THE BROKEN HEARTED** — Sessions offered for women who suffer from the after-effects of abortion. All the women who lead these sessions have had an abortion and have received healing from God's Word. For info, contact local Healing Hearts representative Shelly Brush, First Southern Baptist Church at [shelly.b@healinghearts.org](mailto:shelly.b@healinghearts.org). All communication is confidential and secure.

**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** is a support group for families and friends of alcoholics. For information on meetings in the Topeka area email [ais-topeka@kansas-al-anon.org](mailto:ais-topeka@kansas-al-anon.org) or call 785-215-1045. All correspondence is confidential

**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.

**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

**CAREGIVERS GROUP** — Caring Hearts of Hope meet every other Tuesday from 6-7pm at Highland Heights Christian Church. This group will root its encouragement in God's word and prayer as well as conversation and sharing and is open to all those who care for others with illnesses such as Alzheimers, dementia, cancer or other debilitating illnesses or injuries. For dates and info, go to "Weekly Class List" at [www.highlandheightscc.com](http://www.highlandheightscc.com) or call 785-379-5642.

**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.

**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.

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

**PRISON OUTREACH MINISTRY** — Every Tue., 7-9pm, Topeka Women's Prison, 815 Rice Rd. Reaching out to those who can't come in, finding freedom behind bars, inspiring inmates to seek salvation during a difficult time. Providing support & guidance through the Holy Spirit to offer strength. Director: Don Garner, 286-0489 or [faithfamilylifeministries@gmail.com](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. [crtopekaks.org](http://crtopekaks.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. 816-453-0884 or 816-966-0927

Send your calendar events to [voice@cox.net](mailto:voice@cox.net)

# Hobby Lobby CEO David Green Shares Secret Behind Success

David Green, the CEO of the craft and art store Hobby Lobby, recently talked to actor Kirk Cameron about his new book 'Leadership Not by the Book' and the Biblical principles that turned the company into a multi-billion-dollar enterprise.

Green said that success came when he kept God at the center of his business ventures and his family.

"I think that what we're trying to do is... to consider what would God do in everything we do," Green said. "[J]ust like caring about our people, and not just there to make a dollar no matter how we did it, or what we did, but we really want to make sure that we center our thoughts about other people, and I think that's what has helped us in our pursuing what God would have us to do."

One way that the owner decided to honor God and employees is to close on Sundays, just as Chick-fil-A's founder Truett Cathy decided to do, so people could have a day of rest and observe the Sabbath if they choose.

"Well, you wouldn't think that's common sense. But for us it is common sense because it allows people to go to church or to have a day off, have a day of rest and it goes back to do we care about your family? Well, you need a day off," Green stated.

He added that by investing in people before profits he has seen the bottom line "take care of itself." Green states that the company's philosophy has shown in Hobby Lobby's retention rate.

"We have all of our officers have, on average, have over 25 years experience. So we're really proud of the fact that we've been able to retain people, and that's really healthy for us is to retain people for the long haul," Green said.

He also explained to Cameron what it means when he wrote, "give the true owner" the vote.

"I think ...whether you have a large business or not sometimes in life you... are making decisions and we try to find a way to let God vote before we do anything of any



size," Green said.

"For instance, if someone offers to sell me some property or something, I may throw a number out there that... it's a miracle if it works. So I want to make sure that when I'm going forward because we can make a lot of things happen. We don't want to make a lot of things happen. We want to make sure what we do God agrees with," he added.

For Green, as he plans to give away ownership of his business, he reiterates God's sovereignty over the company.

"I think that, that I need to focus on family and to make sure that the business is here to where that it is here 150 years from now, and that's how come we've set up our business to where really it's a ministry and we really don't have ownership the way we've set it up, but it as a ministry," Green told Cameron.

Green recently announced that he would step away from the company. He said that he had "chosen God," and also hopes that the change will allow Hobby Lobby to continue to be successful.

"When I made the decision to give away my ownership, similar to Patagonia's Yvon Chouinard, it allowed us to sustain our mission and purpose," Green wrote in an op-ed for Fox News.

"Wealth can be a curse and, in most cases, if you drill down on it,

wealth is a curse in terms of marriage, children and things of that nature," Green added in the op-ed. "So we're stewarding our company and, therefore, our children come to work, and they get what they earn... it's a paradigm change from ownership that can really wreck a family.

"Well-meaning attorneys and accountants advised me to simply pass ownership down to my children and grandchildren," he added. "It didn't seem fair to me that I might change or even ruin the future of grandchildren who had not even been born yet."



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

# Abortions in Texas drop 97% after Roe reversal

Recently released data shows that abortions committed in the state of Texas have decreased by 97 percent since the overturning of Roe v. Wade.

Based on data reported by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission, 68 total abortions were committed in the month of July in Texas compared to the 2,533 babies who were killed in January.

Although the number of abortions reached slightly more than 3,000 during the months of March and April, the statistics show that numbers steadily decreased beginning in May. There were 2,596 fewer abortions committed in July than there were in June.

Of the women who sought abortions between January and July, less than 100 were married. Sixty of the 68 unborn babies who were killed in July were the children of unmarried women.



Most of the abortions committed during these seven months ended the lives of babies at up to eight weeks' gestation. Two were committed on babies at 9-10 weeks gestation, one at 11-12 weeks, two at 13-14 weeks, four at 15-16 weeks, and five at 17-20 weeks. No babies were killed past 21 weeks.

Most of these abortions were non-surgical.

The last section of the data detailed how many abortions were committed "due to a medical emergency or [the] woman's health." From January to July, 15 abortions were committed for a combination of a medical emergency and the

health of the mother.

However, 2,533 babies were killed for neither reason in January. Similarly, 2,596 were aborted for neither reason in June, while 67 were victims of the same fate in July.

"Overall, July's data reveal the success of our Pro-Life laws," Texas Right to Life wrote in a December 1 press release. "Legal elective abortion is no more in the state of Texas, and lives are being saved at unprecedented levels. However, we must remain vigilant at all times. The abortion industry will seize every opportunity possible, legal or not, to continue waging war against preborn children."

"We cannot let them feel encouraged or comfortable at getting away with 67 elective abortions. That is why we are prioritizing passing legislation that holds abortionists accountable for their lawlessness. Texans need to show them

that 67 is still too many, and we will not stop until every innocent human life is protected in Texas."

The 97-percent decrease in abortions comes after the Texas Supreme Court overruled a lower court judgment which blocked the enforcement of legislation to criminalize illegal abortion activity. Starting in July, the pro-life regulation took effect, including a trigger law prohibiting abortion throughout pregnancy. Breaking the trigger law can result in life imprisonment and up to \$100,000 in fines.

In September 2021, the state became the nation's first to implement a ban on abortion once an unborn baby's heartbeat can be detected. Less than six months later, data showed the number of abortions committed in the state had decreased by roughly 60 percent during the first month that the Texas Heartbeat Act was in effect.

—LifeSiteNews.com

## AIR TRAVEL

continued from page 14

20th Century was its distance and transportation to and from Kansas City and the spread-out commercial districts and towns around it. When it was built, its runways (free from flooding) represented a giant step forward from Kansas City Municipal and Fairfax Airports, and the fact that the runways could be expanded to their present two-mile length was a big plus over airports surrounded by dikes and levees.

However, after 9/11, the demands of security required change. Kansas City International was one of the

few airports in the US originally not using the TSA for security, as the demands of multi-gated terminals required more manpower that could be offered through the TSA. Further, much of the infrastructure was aging, whether it was inter-terminal buses, the general upkeep, and maintenance. So, Kansas City devised a plan to upgrade based on airline funding, not tax increases.

With the newly redesigned and built KCI is scheduled to open March 3, 2023, local buzz will rightly turn to the history of flight and the important role Kansas City and the Midwest have played.

The history of air travel is part of

the future, as well as the past in the Midwest, from the B2 aircraft housed at Whiteman Air Force Base in Knob Noster, Mo., the helicopters at Marshall Field in Fort Riley, the aircraft manufacturing in Wichita and St. Louis, to the airports large and small that serve everyone in the country. From the men and women that work in the industry to the crop dusters that spray our fields, air travel is a large part of our lives, and we are an integral part of its future.

—Bob White is a Kansas City-area resident and history writer for Metro Voice. Read his other stories below. Search his name for more.



When its new airport opened, KCI featured unique "curb to gate" access which became untenable after 9/11.

## PRO-LIFE

continued from page 14

in their states, but we know that when a politician combines a strong support for life with other obvious qualities, then the pro-life politician (and his or her pro-life positions) can prevail.

As the pro-life movement absorbs the harsh lessons of the

2022 elections (including the surprise defeat of the Kansas abortion referendum in August), it should comprehensively re-center on the heart of "Evangelium Vitae." That means it cannot limit its compassion and concern to abortion alone. It cannot make common cause with spite and hate.

Yes, that means preserving life in the womb. It also means pro-

viding aid and comfort to mothers in distress. But that's just the start. If you have regard for your neighbors, born and unborn, do you not owe them honesty and kindness? If you are a political figure, do you not also owe them basic competence? Shouldn't your entire ethos reflect a concern for the weak and vulnerable in our midst?

Moreover, how many people

will believe your assertions of care and concern if you're a liar and a hypocrite, or support liars and hypocrites? Will people feel valued if they're personally attacked and publicly despised?

The sheer force of law cannot end abortion. Even where it is prohibited, mothers can find ways to end a pregnancy. Not even the best (or most draconian) policy can replace the neces-

sity of millions of Americans demonstrating — through word and deed — to friends and foes alike that every pregnancy is a blessing and that each and every person is of incalculable worth. That must be the message because that's the morality. There is no other path to a culture of life.

—David French is a senior editor at The Dispatch and a contributing writer for The Atlantic.

# Safe Kids Kansas Announces new Take it from a Teen Video Challenge

Safe Kids Kansas, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment and program sponsor State Farm announce an opportunity for Kansas high schoolers to share their knowledge on safe driving and passenger practices. The Take It from a Teen video challenge is a unique way to reach teens with important road safety information that can prevent injuries and save lives. Each winning applicant/team will receive \$100.

"The video challenge will be a great way for high schoolers in Kansas to use their creativity while spreading a positive message that could help save lives," said Cherie



Sage, Safe Kids Kansas State Director. "We look forward to seeing what interesting, fun and humorous videos Kansas teens can create!"

Students can create a 45-60 second

video that answers one of the following questions:

- How would you tell your friends to slow down while driving?
- How would you tell your friends to buckle up?
- How would you tell your friends not to text and drive?
- How would you tell your friends not to drive under the influence?
- How would you tell your friends not to drive with too many teens and not enough seatbelts in the vehicle?

Videos must be submitted to Safe Kids Kansas via email by Friday, January 20, 2023. Submissions must include age, address and the county of the participant. The videos will be

judged based on the relevancy of the content, creativity, adherence to the time limit and contest rules. Six winners will be chosen and notified by email, and presentation of the check will be worked out. Winning videos will be shared on Safe Kids social media in the coming weeks.

## About Safe Kids Kansas

Safe Kids Kansas is a non-profit

coalition of partners and local coalitions across the state dedicated to prevention of unintentional childhood injuries. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment serves as lead agency of the coalition. Safe Kids Kansas is part of Safe Kids Worldwide network. For more information, visit [safekidskansas.org](http://safekidskansas.org) or follow @safekidskansas on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

# Music legend embraces faith: 'I read the scriptures a lot, meditate and pray'

Music legend Bob Dylan reveals in a new interview that he reads the Bible and prays "a lot," enjoys listening to church music and considers himself a person of faith.

Dylan, 81, is a 10-time Grammy winner who transformed music in the 1960s with a blend of folk and rock. He was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1988. Dylan recently released a book, *The Philosophy of Modern Song*.

Asked by *The Wall Street Journal* what he does to relax, Dylan mentioned old television shows before turning the conversation to religion. "I've binge-watched *Coronation Street*, *Father Brown*, and some early *Twilight Zones*. I know they're old-fashioned shows, but



news shows, so I don't watch them. I never watch anything foul-smelling or evil," Dylan said. "... I'm a religious person. I read the Scriptures a lot, meditate and pray, light candles in church. I believe in damnation and salvation, as well as predestination. The Five Books of Moses, Pauline Epistles, Invocation of the Saints, all of it."

they make me feel at home. I'm not a fan of packaged programs, or

Epistles, Invocation of the Saints, all of it."

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# 7 ancient financial tips from Proverbs still ring true

Can wisdom from the ancient texts of Proverbs apply to the fast-paced financial world of the 21st Century? After all, they were written over 2,700 years ago.

Ask someone from the millennial or Generation Z crowds about tech-related topics and you'll likely get an encyclopedia of knowledge pouring forth. Ask those same cohorts about a financial decision or money-related matter and you just might get a deer-in-the-headlights look.

Over two-thirds of people ages 18-41 have "financial topics they want advice on," a Harris Poll found earlier this year, "but aren't sure how to get it." And given that 70 percent of millennials and 65 percent of Generation Z live paycheck to paycheck, it's not hard to imagine what types of financial advice might be needed.

Unfortunately, that last set of statistics shows that hiring a financial coach at an average of over \$250 per hour is out of the question for most of those seeking advice. Lest you despair, I have good news on where to find invaluable, free financial advice, available at your



fingertips. It's liberally dispersed throughout an ancient work called the Book of Proverbs.

Here are just a few of the financial bits of wisdom that Proverbs offers.

## 1. Choose Diligence Over Laziness

Warnings against sloth and laziness pepper the Proverbs, many of them directly contrasting the sluggard with an ant, whose industrious nature works hard in the summer to store up food for winter. No one wants to be compared to a sloth, and many of us would likely pat ourselves on the back and contend

we are not lazy bums. But Proverbs painfully points out some finer, overlooked aspects of slothfulness, such as a tendency to be wasteful, to take it easy and take multiple breaks, and to do a lot of talking rather than taking action and completing a task.

"In all labour there is profit: but the talk of the lips tendeth only to penury," says Proverbs 14:23.

Like those who go into debt, Proverbs tells us that those who chose the way of sloth will be the servants in society, not the rulers, and will be overcome by poverty rather than riches.

Those who are diligent in their business, however, will be society's influencers, "standing before kings" and increasing in profit and material wealth.

"He becometh poor that dealeth with a slack hand: but the hand of the diligent maketh rich," says Proverbs 10:4.

## 2. Pick a Partner with Good Work Ethic

One of the best financial investments a person can make is to choose a financially savvy spouse. Proverbs 31 famously paints a picture of this by describing a woman who does her husband good, not evil, by being an industrious worker who

wisely considers a large purchase before investing her money, isn't wasteful, and even runs and operates her own home business ventures.

A virtuous spouse, Proverbs says, is worth far more than rubies—but industry is part of virtue.

"She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life. She seeketh wool, and flax, and worketh willingly with her hands," says Proverbs 12-13.

## 3. Think Long Term

For those who live paycheck to paycheck, thinking long term seems like the last thing to consider on the list of life worries. The good news is that preparing for the future doesn't have to be difficult. According to Proverbs, it can be as simple as maintaining friendships on which we can fall back upon for help in times of trouble. Keeping our business and financial affairs in good order is another way to prepare for hard times.

Additionally, we should consider that our children and grandchildren are also likely to encounter hard financial times. Preparing a nest egg or inheritance for them ahead of time, Proverbs tells us, is the mark of a good man.

"A good person leaves an inheritance for their children's children, but a sinner's wealth is stored up for the righteous," says Proverbs 13:22.

## 4. Avoid Get-Rich-Quick Schemes

It may sound exciting and easy to "make \$90 an hour working from home," but Proverbs suggests that being hasty to get rich leads to poverty and want.

"Good planning and hard work lead to prosperity, but hasty shortcuts lead to poverty," says Proverbs 21:5.

Those who faithfully do their work, however, will abound with blessings.

## 5. Pursue a Lifestyle of Integrity

Young people are often encouraged to sow their wild oats and enjoy life early on, but such riotous living may have negative financial consequences. Love of food, drink, and a free-wheeling lifestyle can lead an individual to spend extravagantly, eventually leading to poverty, Proverbs tells us.

Those who pursue righteous living, however, avoid extravagant lifestyles and practice honesty in their business dealings, not willing to take a bribe or lie in order to increase in wealth. Living a life of integrity promises great rewards, among which are "riches, and honour,

and life," Proverbs tells us.

Furthermore, in times of political turmoil and trouble, it is a righteous, upright life—not riches—that deliver an individual from death.

## 6. Avoid Loans

Borrowing money for school, cars, and homes has become the American way of life in recent years, even to the point that borrowing is now common even for basic living expenses. In fact, over 50 percent of Americans say they have more than \$1,000 in credit card debt.

Proverbs warns against such debt, cautioning that those who borrow become servants to those who lend. This is likely why Proverbs also cautions against taking responsibility for another's debt. Such an action may seem kind, but chances are that person will never be able to pay, leaving you stuck as the servant of debt in their place.

## 7. Be Generous

While Proverbs warns against taking responsibility for another's debt, it does encourage us to be generous givers. Indeed, one might even say that Proverbs advances the idea of a giving principle: those who hoard and try to make sure they have enough to live on themselves will find that they're grasping to make ends meet. But those who give freely to others, particularly the less fortunate, will find themselves overflowing with great blessings and plenty.

## The Bottom Line

These seven financial principles are diverse and broad, but there is one component underlying each of them: wisdom. In the eighth chapter of Proverbs, wisdom is personified as a woman calling to individuals to forsake their foolishness and seek her instead. Those who do so, she promises, will reap not only material rewards, but moral ones as well:

Riches and honour are with me; yea, durable riches and righteousness. My fruit is better than gold, yea, than fine gold; and my revenue than choice silver. I lead in the way of righteousness, in the midst of the paths of judgment: That I may cause those that love me to inherit substance; and I will fill their treasures.

In essence, those of us who want to do well in financial matters will follow this "one simple trick": seeking wisdom.

—Foundation for Economic Education  
/AnnieHolmquist



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## One-Day Home Projects to Do In the New Year

As the new year approaches, many people will begin considering their resolutions. Some will choose to focus on setting health and fitness goals, while others may identify DIY projects to improve and organize their homes. But why make DIY projects part of your New Year's resolution when you could easily complete them before the year's end? Check out five home projects that can be completed in one day before the new year arrives.

### Refresh the Wall Paint

If there's one area in desperate need of a refresh, painting is a great place to start. With the right planning (and an early start), you can easily paint a room in a day. Purchase the materials you need, including primer, the paint color of your choice, brushes and rollers, and a high-quality painter's tape like FrogTape Multi-Surface painter's tape. Made with PaintBlock Technology, FrogTape ensures crisp and professional paint lines, so there will be no time wasted on touch-ups.

Once you have your supplies, tape the walls, apply primer and paint away. In just one day, a fresh coat of paint will have the room feeling brand new.

### Enhance the Entryway

Your entryway should give your

guests a warm welcome. A few simple solutions for sprucing up this area are organizing shoes, hanging up coats and adding a pop of color by laying a rug at the door. If you have the space, time and budget, you could consider larger improvements such as adding a bench, shoe storage or a coat rack. Complete the look by adding decorative pillows to the bench or adding frames to the wall.

### Replace Bathroom Accessories

One way to make a space look more contemporary is to update the hardware and fixtures. This works particularly well in bathrooms where showerheads, faucets, towel bars and cabinet handles can be swapped out for matching, on-trend matte black or gold finishes. Other small, easily replaced items include shower curtains, towels, bathmats, soap dispensers and toothbrush holders. These swaps may seem minor to make, but they can make a big difference in the look and feel of the room.



### Organize Cabinets, Drawers and Shelves

Once the hardware has been replaced on cabinets and drawers, open them up and get things in order. Start by going through what you have and deciding what can be eliminated. Clearing out clutter is particularly important for open shelves that are visible in the room. Once you've decided on what to keep, replace items in an organized manner so they're easy to find going forward. Sorting out these small spaces can help keep things running smoothly into the new year.

### Rearrange a Bedroom

Sometimes you just need to look at what you already have with a fresh perspective. Rearranging the furniture in a room can make it feel brand new. It can be as easy as switching which side of the bed the nightstand is on or moving the dresser to another spot on the wall. Best of all, this approach doesn't require spending money on new items or supplies – all you need is your creativity and imagination!

For more DIY inspiration, visit [frogtape.com](http://frogtape.com).

With so many DIY projects that can be done in just one day, there's no need to wait until 2023 to give your home the refresh it deserves.

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# entertainment

## The 10 Best Family Movies and TV Series of 2022

Americans returned to normal in 2022 following a worldwide pandemic—and they also returned to the theater.

At least eight movies during 2022 grossed more than \$200 million domestically compared to only three that crossed that mark the previous year. The number of movies that grossed at least \$100 million (17) also was significantly higher than in 2021 (11).

Thankfully, there were quite a few family movies in the mix, including animated and real-life flicks. There were also several great television series.

Here are the 10 best family movies and TV series of 2022, listed in alphabetical order. (For our list of the 10 best Christian movies of 2022, click here.) If anything on our list troubles your senses, then give Clearplay or VidAngel a try.



### 1. Bad Guys

A gang of “bad” animals – a wolf, tarantula, snake, shark and piranha – discover that “being good” is more rewarding than being bad. The film is based on the Scholastic book series of the same name and follows their journey from a life of crime to a life of kindness. It includes solid messages about second chances, temptation and generosity. Rated PG for action and rude humor.

### 2. Good Night Oppy

NASA sends a rover named Opportunity to Mars for a 90-day mission and is surprised when the mission lasts 15 years. The documentary includes interviews with engineers and scientists and features recreations of the rover’s voyage on the red planet. The film isn’t faith-based but nevertheless testifies to the wonders of God’s creation (Psalm 19:1). Rated PG for minor language.

### 3. The Lord of the Rings: The Rings of Power

A young elf named Galadriel defies the king in order to hunt the elusive and evil Sauron. This groundbreaking television series serves as a prequel to The Lord

of the Rings movies and is based on the appendices of the J.R.R. Tolkien books. Jennifer Salke, head of Amazon Studios, told Variety that the series is something a “family can watch.” She added, “The line we’ve been using is ‘If you’re old enough to read the books, you’re old enough to watch the show.’” It’s rated TV-14.

### 4. Lyle, Lyle, Crocodile

A timid middle school boy named Josh finds the encouragement he needs when he befriends a singing crocodile. The catch? That crocodile, Lyle, won’t sing around anyone but Josh. The film is based on the 1965 children’s book of the same name by author Bernard Waber. It includes positive messages about friendship, encouraging others, unconditional love and overcoming fear. Rated PG for mild peril and thematic elements.

### 5. Luck

An 18-year-old woman who calls herself the “unluckiest” person in the world gets a new perspective on life when she visits the “Land of Luck,” where lucky pennies are made in a factory. The film includes solid messages about adoption (the lead character grew up in the foster system), selflessness and perspective. The movie’s primary message – good things can be born out of bad moments – is straight out of Scripture (Romans 8:28). Luck is rated G.

### 6. Minions: The Rise of Gru

A mischievous 11-year-old boy named Gru sets out to prove he deserves a slot in the famous criminal gang known as the “Vicious 6.” The film is the backstory to the Despicable Me franchise, although it doesn’t include the redemptive message of those earlier films. Even so, we learn how Gru became friends with the Minions and how he met his sidekick, Dr. Nefario. It’s the funniest family film of the year, even if it’s short on positive messages. This one is a lot like the old Looney Tunes series – shallow but hilarious. Rated PG for some action/violence and rude humor.

### 7. Paws of Fury

A lovable dog named Hank is sent to a town of cats to serve as its samurai and protector. Of course, cats hate dogs – and this cat-centric town lets its feelings be known. Even worse:

Hank has very few samurai skills. This hilarious parody/spoof is loosely based on the 1970s film Blazing Saddles yet largely remains in family-friendly territory. The film includes solid lessons about loving others, especially loving those who look different. Rated PG for action, violence, rude and suggestive humor and some language.

### 8. The Sea Beast

A young stowaway girl (Maisie) slips onto a sailing ship in hopes of hunting a sea monster that has ravaged mankind, only to discover that the giant creature has a gentle, friendly side. The film has a similar premise to Pete’s Dragon with the adventure of a swashbuckling flick. It was directed by Chris Williams, who also helmed Big Hero 6 and co-directed Moana. Rated PG for minor language.

### 9. Sonic the Hedgehog 2

A speedy blue hedgehog named Sonic teams up with a red-furred creature, Knuckles, to battle the evil Dr. Ivo Robotnik. The film is a sequel to the 2020 box-office hit Sonic the Hedgehog – one of the last pre-pandemic films – and includes solid messages about family, responsibility and forgiveness. It also has an implied adoption theme. Sonic the Hedgehog 2 is hilarious and fun. Rated PG for action, some violence, rude humor and mild language.

### 10. The Wingfeather Saga

A family – the Igibys – battle evil in a fantastical world of monsters and otherworldly creatures. The series is based on the bestselling books by Andrew Peterson and is the largest crowdfunded animated family series of all time. It includes the voices of Jodi Benson (The Little Mermaid) and Kevin McNally (Pirates of the Caribbean). It offers families something that is rare: a faith-driven, kid-friendly fantasy series. It’s the year’s best television series for families. The Wingfeather Saga can be viewed on the Angel Studios app and platforms.

—Michael Foust | ChristianHeadlines.com



## 3 Things You Should Know about 5000 Blankets, the Faith-Based Film about Homelessness



Cyndi is an optimistic, outgoing mom who only wants what is best for her husband, Bobby, and young son, Phillip. She organizes birthday parties. She makes sure they’re in church. She tends to her son’s needs at school.

On the surface, they’re living a near-perfect life as a family in Fort Worth, Texas.

But all that changes when Bobby suffers a mental breakdown at a party and then at work. It makes him unable to communicate. It’s as if -- she says -- there’s a “darkness hanging over him.”

The situation grows direr when Bobby hops in his vehicle and drives away without telling his family where he is going. He doesn’t answer his phone. He doesn’t respond to messages. Cyndi suspects he is living on the streets, homeless and seemingly hopeless.

Will he ever return?

The new faith-based movie 5000 Blankets (PG-13) follows the story of Cyndi, who initially fails in her attempt to find Bobby but is inspired to help Fort Worth’s homeless community.

Here are three things you should know:

1. It’s Inspired by a True Story

5000 Blankets is based on the true story of Cyndi Bunch, whose husband, Phillip Sr., suffered a schizophrenic breakdown two decades ago and ran away to live on the streets. (Phillip Sr. had stopped taking his medication.) At the time, her son Phillip Pruitt was five years old.

“I didn’t really know what was going on at the time because my

mom was hiding a lot of it,” he said. At first, the young boy only wanted to help his dad. But when he learned about other homeless people on the streets, he wanted to help them, too.

Phillip’s goal was to collect thousands of blankets for the homeless of Fort Worth, Texas. He even gave his mother his piggy bank.

Phillip’s goal led to the founding of a non-profit homeless charity, Phillip’s Wish, that collects not only blankets but also much-needed items for the homeless community.

2. It’s about Faith, Hope and Love

The film tackles a tough subject, mental illness, with sensitivity and compassion. We watch as Cyndi’s husband, Bobby (his movie name), suffers a mental breakdown at work. (Through images and sound, we experience what he experiences.) Moments later, he’s standing on the building rooftop, apparently ready to jump to his death, when Cyndi calmly persuades him to walk to safety. Within minutes, though, he drives away in the family vehicle, perhaps never to be seen again.

“My husband is not well,” she tells the police, who respond by saying they can do nothing because he “left on his own volition.”

But Cyndi refuses to give up on her husband. She hangs “missing person” fliers around the city. She searches the streets. She interviews the homeless, asking if they’ve seen him. As she talks to Fort Worth’s homeless – and as she listens to her son – she is inspired to collect blankets for the community.

■ Please see 5000 BLANKETS page 29





## Need a replacement for Netflix and Disney Plus? Try Pure Flix

Not so long ago, retailers would advertise products as “new and improved” if they had tweaked the ingredients and wanted former customers to give the product another try. Minus a few historical blunders -- 1985’s “New Coke,” for example -- it often worked.

That “new and improved” label comes to mind when discussing the “new” version of the streaming service Pure Flix, which was launched by top Christian media executives in 2015 as a faith-based type of Netflix before being purchased by Sony in 2020.

The old version of Pure Flix was popular among a niche audience. But the “new and improved” Sony-owned version of Pure Flix is even better and should cause former customers to try it again.

So, what’s different now?

First, the library of titles has dramatically expanded. That’s because Sony’s Afirm Films is home to some of the most well-known faith-based movies in recent years, including those from the Kendrick Brothers. (*Lifemark*, the latest Kendrick Brothers movie, made its home video debut on Pure Flix.) Lee Strobel’s *The Case for Heaven* is on Pure Flix, and Cathy Lee Gifford’s *The Way* is coming soon.

Second, Pure Flix has launched an impressive list of original titles starring big-name talent. *Legacy Peak*, which tells the story of a family fighting for survival after their airplane makes an emergency landing, features Lucas Black of *NCIS: New Orleans*. *Live + Local*, a genuinely funny comedy series about a Christian radio station, stars Dave Coulier of *Full House* and *Fuller House*. *Saved by Grace*, a dramatic series about angels interceding in the daily lives of individuals,

features Jennifer Taylor of *Two and a Half Men*. All total, Pure Flix is releasing 10 original movies and series in 2022, with 15 scheduled for 2023. In plain language: There is far less cheese and far more quality. (The Pure Flix original *Strong Fathers, Strong Daughters* is Hallmark-like -- and one of the best family films of the year.)

Third, Pure Flix is improving just as other streaming services are growing coarser. Sure, you can find family-centric titles on Netflix and the like, but it’s a lot like searching for healthy food options at McDonald’s. There just aren’t many choices. (By comparison, Pure Flix offered 190 holiday-themed movies and shows for the 2022 Christmas season.)

For children, there’s *VeggieTales*, *Superbook* and *Hermie & Friends*, among others.

New titles are introduced each month.

“There’s not a lot of services that” offer family-friendly content, Pure Flix CEO Michael Scott told me. “Pure Flix is that alternative.”

Scott encourages families to ask: What are we putting into our minds through our media choices?

“The more I watch [family-friendly content],” he added, “the more I feel energized, the more I feel closer to God, the more it makes me think about spiritual themes and think about my family.”

The service offers a seven-day free trial. Visit [Pureflix.com](http://Pureflix.com).

Also worth watching this month: **The Wingfeather Saga** (Angel.com) -- A family (the “Igbys”) seeks safety from evil as they take a stand against a mysterious ruler, Gnag the Nameless. This excellent family-friendly animated series is based on the novels by Christian

## MercyMe album hopes to heal ‘a divided body of Christ’

Bart Millard and his MercyMe bandmates began writing some of the songs on their latest album in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic, long before the nation was divided over issues that now dominate the headlines.

Millard, though, believes the album’s release in 2022 had been God’s plan all along. Titled *Always Only Jesus*, it is the 11th studio album by MercyMe and urges Christians to keep Jesus — and only Jesus — at the center of their lives.

Of the album’s 10 tracks, about half were written during the pandemic.

“It feels like we just stumbled on to a very important record,” Millard told me. “It’s perfect timing with an album titled *Always Only Jesus* when we’ve got a divided body of Christ that needs to be reminded of the one common denominator we should all have. And so



it was definitely a God thing. It was kind of weird.”

MercyMe and Chris Tomlin are on a joint winter tour.

The album’s title track references a Christ-centric theme (“every breath I’m breathing will be filled with praise”) as does the album’s first radio single, *Then Christ Came*, which testifies of Jesus’ power (“You are the one I was made for”). That latter single is rising on Billboard’s Hot Christian Songs and Christian Airplay charts.

“We have friends that have kind of drawn some pretty harsh lines in the sand and become very passionate about certain things,” Millard said, referencing hot-button issues. “... Some of them were like, ‘Man, how do we recover from this?’”

Millard said he has seen friendships “severed” during recent years.

“[It’s] heartbreaking,” he said. “... And now that we’re kind of going back to normal, you either have some [people] pretending it never happened, some walking it back or some trying to explain, ‘Well, this is why I said this.’ ... But the one thing we do know is that we all have to be able to agree that we are still pursuing Jesus.”

Millard compares the pandemic-driven divisions to divisions between denominations that are split over tertiary issues.

## Mark Wahlberg’s faith-based “Father Stu” rereleased as PG-13

Some viewers stayed away from Mark Wahlberg’s faith-based movie “Father Stu” earlier this year because of its strong language. The true story is back in theaters, but this time in a PG-13 version.

The movie received high marks for its transformational theme of grace and redemption. Based on a true story, it was originally aimed at non-Christian audiences with those themes in mind but some in the faith community felt they couldn’t get beyond the gritty language.

We took out all 200 and some-odd swears,” Wahlberg told media outlets. “And the film is still as powerful. Given the nature of the R-rated movie, lots of families didn’t feel comfortable with their children seeing it, but they really wanted them to get the message. To see Stu’s journey and the struggle that he went through to find his calling, we felt, was really important for people of all ages to see.”



Wahlberg portrays Father Stuart “Stu” Long, a former boxer who moves to Los Angeles in hopes of becoming a movie star. One mop commercial later, Stu’s showbiz days come to an unceremonious end and he instead sets his sights on Carmen, a Sunday school teacher who seems immune to his bad-boy charms. Hoping to woo her into a relationship, he starts attending church regularly. Things take a drastic turn when Stu gets into a motorcycle accident and in the aftermath of his recovery, decides to become a Catholic

priest and devote his life to helping others.”

Wahlberg especially wants young boys to see the movie.

“We want to prevent kids from making a lot of the same mistakes that we made — certainly mistakes that I made,” he said. “So anything that we can do to kind of show them an easier path to serving God and just being positive, productive members of society.”

The actor, who is a devout Catholic himself, previously said it was “his calling” and his “mission,” to get this movie made.

“The reason why Father Stu was so effective was because he was authentic,” Wahlberg said about the inspiration for the film. “He was speaking the truth from experience, and that’s invaluable. He’s such a remarkable man. It was an honor for me to portray him in the film and to tell his story.”

musician/author Andrew Peterson. It’s a groundbreaking series that is a cross between *The Lord of the Rings* and the world of *Narnia*. It also is crowdfunded. Visit [Angel.com](http://Angel.com) to discover viewing options.

**I Heard the Bells** (Theaters, Home Video) -- One of the most famous men in 1800s America, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, pens a famous Christmas carol following a life-altering tragedy. It is the first dramatic movie from Sight and Sound Films, which was launched by the popular company, Sight and Sound Theatres, which makes Broad-

way-style Bible-based musicals. This faith-based film is unrated and contains no coarse language or sexuality. Visit [IHeardTheBellsMovie.com](http://IHeardTheBellsMovie.com).

**Good Night Oppy** (Amazon Prime) -- NASA sends a rover to Mars with an expected lifespan of 90 days but gets an incredible 15 years of work out of the hard-working machine. It’s a fascinating documentary that tells the story of Opportunity, which roamed the Mars surface from 2004 to 2018. Rated PG for some mild language. (We hear d--n a few times.)

**Lyle, Lyle Crocodile** (Home Video) --

A singing crocodile befriends a middle school boy who is lonely and needs a friend. This live-action film is based on the 1965 children’s book of the same name by author Bernard Waber. It includes solid lessons about friendship and courage. Rated PG for mild peril and thematic elements. It also has three OMGs. (Clearplay offers a filter.)

*-Michael Foust has covered the intersection of faith and entertainment for 20 years. He is the husband to Julie and the father of four young children.*

# 50+ Lifestyles

## A Guide to Enjoying Life in the Best Years

### How Cold Weather Activities Can Impact Heart Health

Clearing sidewalks and driveways of snow may be essential to keep from being shut in, however, it's important to use caution when picking up a shovel or starting the snowblower. Research shows many people face an increased risk of a heart attack or sudden cardiac arrest after shoveling heavy snow.

In fact, snow shoveling is among the physical activities that may place extra stress on the

heart, especially among people who aren't used to regular exercise, according to the American Heart Association's scientific statement, "Exercise-Related Acute Cardiovascular Events and Potential Deleterious Adaptations Following Long-Term Exercise Training: Placing the Risks Into Perspective – an Update." Numerous other scientific research studies over the years have also identified the dangers of shovel-

ing snow for people with and without previously known heart disease.

"Shoveling a little snow off your sidewalk may not seem like hard work," said Barry Franklin, Ph.D., FAHA, lead author of the scientific statement, long time American Heart Association volunteer and a professor of internal medicine at Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine. "However, the strain of heavy snow shoveling may be as, or even more, demanding on the heart than taking a treadmill stress test, according to research we've conducted. For example, after only 2 minutes of snow shoveling, study participants' heart rates exceeded 85% of maximal heart rate, which is a level more commonly expected during intense aerobic exercise testing. The impact is hardest on those who are least fit."

Franklin said winter weather in general can contribute to in-



creased risks. Cold temperatures may increase blood pressure while simultaneously constricting the coronary arteries. Those factors, combined with higher heart rate from extra physical effort, may increase the risk for acute cardiac events. There are even studies showing an increased risk for heart attacks among people using

snowblowers. Similar to the exertion of pushing a shovel, pushing a snowblower can raise the heart rate and blood pressure quickly.

"The impact of snow removal is especially concerning for people who already have cardiovascular risks like a sedentary lifestyle or obesity; being a current or former smoker; or having diabetes, high cholesterol or high blood pressure; as well as people who have had a heart attack or stroke," Franklin said. "People with these characteristics and those who have had bypass surgery or coronary angioplasty simply should not be shoveling snow."

If you experience chest pain or pressure, lightheadedness, heart palpitations or irregular heart rhythms, stop the activity immediately. Call 911 if symptoms don't subside shortly after you stop shoveling or snowblowing. If you see someone collapse while shoveling snow, call for help and start Hands-Only CPR if they are unresponsive with no pulse.

Learn more about cold weather and cardiovascular health at Heart.org.

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# What's the Difference Between Nurse Practitioners, Physician Assistants and Doctors?



Doctors are in increasingly short supply these days, so it's not uncommon for patients to spend more time with physician assistants (PAs) and nurse practitioners (NPs) than their actual MD. This trend has sparked controversy among physicians and patients alike. While so-called "mid-level providers" like NPs and PAs are undoubtedly essential for filling gaps in the healthcare system, there is some concern that these men and women are tasked with responsibilities that are beyond the scope of their training and expertise.

Angela Golden, DNP, immediate past president of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners, doesn't see this as an issue. "There is a healthcare provider shortage all over the United States," she points out. "Since 80 percent of nurse practitioners practice in primary care, we are an excellent source for healthcare."

While this may be true for general medical care, others are concerned that doctors delegate too many specialized tasks to mid-level providers. NPs and PAs are trained in using and interpreting a wide range of diagnostic tools to diagnose and treat acute, episodic and chronic conditions, therefore it can be difficult to ascertain where their expertise begins and ends.

## Understanding the Differences Between Healthcare Professionals

First, it's essential to understand what separates a mid-level provider from a full-blown physician. Just because a healthcare worker doesn't have "MD" or "DO" following their name doesn't mean they are not capable of offering quality care, accord-

ing to Golden. NPs, for example, are typically required to attend a four-year nursing program, obtain a doctoral or master's degree, and go through a national certification process. A great deal of real world experience is gathered throughout this process, and they also undergo periodic peer reviews and participate in continuing education courses.

PAs have similar requirements. Specific duties vary by care setting and state laws, however typically physician assistants complete at least a masters level education and over 2,000 clinical practice hours in advance of certification. A certifying exam is necessary within six years of completion of the PA degree. Only after completion of the certification exam is a PA eligible for state licensure and allowed to practice care.

As a result, NPs and PAs can execute a diverse array of medical care tasks. They can order and conduct diagnostic tests and lab work, perform in-office procedures, prescribe med-

ications, and diagnose and treat health conditions like high blood pressure, injuries, infections and diabetes. Depending on the regulations of the state in which they're practicing, mid-level providers either work under the direction of or in collaboration with a physician.

The fact that NPs and PAs spend more quality time with individual patients often facilitates candid communication. Thus, these providers can gain valuable insight into patients' specific care needs. "We have years of experience working with patients one on one and developing critical listening skills," says Margaret Dean, a geriatric NP and assistant professor of nursing with the Texas Tech School of Medicine. While their true strength lies in the realm of primary care, some NPs and PAs also pursue specialized training in areas such as gerontology and women's health.

However, there are definite differences between doctors and nurses. Kathryn Boling, MD, a primary care physician with Mercy Medical Center in Lutherville, Maryland, started out as an NP before becoming a doctor. "Physicians are better trained," Boling admits, citing the extensive residency period that doctors are required to go through after their years of schooling and the fact that far more physicians undergo specialized training in a specific area of practice.

## Quality Care is Key

As healthcare providers look for

creative ways to meet the needs of an aging population, patients and caregivers will need to use common sense when it comes to deciding whether a care provider is safe and effective—regardless of his or her title. Older adults in particular are prone to putting doctors on a pedestal, but such deference can be detrimental to their care if they blindly trust an MD or won't take direction from an NP.

"Patients are smart," says Boling. "They can usually tell if their provider—whether an NP or MD—is a good fit and cares about them.

If they have an NP or PA that is attentive and takes good care of them, then they should trust that person."

In the end, the quality of care a patient receives determines whether a healthcare provider is a good match. If a patient's needs are too specialized or complex, any level of medical professional should be comfortable with asking for assistance or providing a referral to another provider who is more knowledgeable.

*From Anne-Marie Botek at agingcare.com*



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# sports

## Rams WR Cooper Kupp finds ultimate purpose in honoring God



The 2021-22 season was one Cooper Kupp will never forget. The L.A. Rams star won the receiving triple crown by nearly rewriting the NFL record book with 145 catches, 1,947 yards and 16 receiving touchdowns in the regular season. His two touchdowns in the NFC championship game sent the Rams back to the Super Bowl, which happened to be in their

home stadium. And there, he earned Super Bowl MVP honors with eight receptions for 92 yards and two touchdowns, including the game-winning TD catch with 1:25 remaining.

Throughout the season — and his entire career — Kupp pointed to Christ. During his media availability before Super Bowl LVI, Sports Spectrum asked Kupp if he

## FROM THE CHEAP SEATS

by Rob Mooney

When I was a kid growing up in Wichita, one of the things that we used to do was go watch the Wichita Wings indoor soccer team and the Wichita Wind hockey team. I remember the Kansas Coliseum in all its glory as people cheered for our beloved home teams. We lived in Park City and the Coliseum was literally 5 miles away from us. I remember taking the back road to every game to avoid the “traffic.” However, the venue only held around 9,000 people so looking back on it I guess the traffic wasn’t all that bad.

I remember the Wings playing against their hated rivals, the St. Louis Steamers and later the Kansas City Comets. We attended Wings games mostly while I was in high school. After graduating in 1987, I gradually stopped going and when I moved to Emporia in 1988, I had all but forgotten the Wings



and indoor soccer.

A few years later I read that the MISL (Major Indoor Soccer League) had folded in 1992 and that the Wings had moved to the National Professional Soccer League. The Wings would later fold after the 2001-2001 season. At the time of their demise, they were the oldest professional soccer franchise in America!

As I was searching the internet a couple of weeks ago, you could imagine my surprise when I saw that the Wings had been resurrected. After an extensive deep dive, I have not been able to determine when they actually came back or much about their league because their website is all over the place. But they’re back and we’re going to attend a game on December 30th. They play at Hartman Arena, which looks like it’s just a remodeled Kansas Coliseum. I’m looking forward to introducing my

two youngest kids to indoor soccer.

I’m sure that it will be a trip down memory lane for me because it’s been 35 years since I’ve been to an indoor soccer game. Same team, same building, even the fan group, The Orange Army, is up and running. The names will be different.

Gone will be the likes of Norman Piper, the first Wing. Kevin Kewley, Roy Turner, Mike Dowler and Kim Rontved, Eric Rasmussen and who could ever forget Chico Borja. It was a lot of fun to meet up with friends at the games. I think we may have spent more time walking around trying to talk to girls than we did watching the team play. They are definitely some of my favorite memories from high school.

So we’ll go to Wichita and watch the game, check into a hotel room and see if we can find a Bionic Burger and Taco Grande restaurant before we head home to Lawrence. Who knows, we might even join the Orange Army while we’re there! No matter what we do, it’ll be interesting to see how my family reacts to indoor soccer.

I wonder if Crazy George will be there??

could identify a lesson God taught him throughout the record-breaking year.

“I think the thing that He has taught me is that you will find that you are most fulfilled, you will find

the most joy, when you are rooted in your purpose, and specifically rooted in His purpose for you,” he said.

As the Rams went on to win Super Bowl LVI, “Cooper Kupp” became

a popular search term, and many readers found our story on Kupp’s ultimate purpose, published on February 9. It ranks No. 4 among our most-viewed stories in 2022:

—[sportspectrum.com](https://www.sportspectrum.com)

## NBA Coach Prays on National TV with Colleague Whose Father Died

A social media video depicting a well-known NBA coach praying with a colleague on national television is going viral for what it depicts: A Christian leader comforting a friend in his loss.

The video shows Phoenix coach Monty Williams shaking hands and speaking to Houston’s Stephen Silas on the court seconds after

Silas’ team won 111-97. Silas’ father, former NBA player and coach Paul Silas, passed away three days prior to the game.

In the video, Williams embraces Silas and then prays for him for nearly 30 seconds.

The video was posted on social media by Jason Romano of Sports Spectrum. Romano called Williams

the “real deal.”

“Beautiful display of love and empathy,” Romano wrote.

The television broadcaster called Williams a “class act” for his action. Williams was the 2022 NBA Coach of the Year.

“Monty... True, Authentic, Man of God,” one person wrote on Twitter.

“This is the greatness of sport. Life is bigger than ball,” another person wrote.

An outspoken Christian, Williams was profiled for a recent edition of Sports Spectrum, which covers Christian athletes and coaches. Williams remained humble during the interview.

“On a really good day, I’m pretty average at coaching. I know that. I’ve been around the great ones, and I kind of know I’m not that,

and so I rely on the Lord to do what He’s gonna do through me,” Williams told Sports Spectrum. “The only thing I know that I can do every day is serve others, and that’s basically the foundation of my coaching.”

A lifetime of service, Williams said, is what “Jesus mandated.”

“One of my anchor verses is Colossians 3:23, doing my work as ‘unto the Lord and not unto man.’ Another anchor verse for me is Matthew 6:33: ‘Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness and all these things will be added unto you.’ Those two



verses help me in my coaching because no matter what’s going on, a big win or tough loss, I know that I’m there to do God’s will. I don’t do it well, and I fail daily. But that’s my reference point. That’s my lighthouse. In doing that, my goal is to serve and to elevate people as best I can.”

—[Michael Foust | ChristianHeadlines.com](https://www.christianheadlines.com)

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# Pope Francis laicizes America's best loved pro-life priest, Fr. Frank Pavone

America's best loved pro-life priest, Fr. Frank Pavone, the National Director of Priests for Life as well as the President of the National Pro-Life Religious Council, has apparently been laicized (dismissed from the priesthood) by order of Pope Francis.

Catholic News Agency (CNA) reported that a December 13 letter from the Pope's representative in America – Papal Nuncio Archbishop Christophe Pierre – sent to all bishops in America says that Fr. Pavone was laicized for “blasphemous communications on social media” and “persistent disobedience of the lawful instructions of his diocesan bishop.”

In a separate statement, the papal nuncio wrote that the Prefect



of the Dicastery for the Clergy – the head of the Vatican's department dealing with priests – said that there was “no possibility of appeal” of the decision.

“Father Pavone was given ample opportunity to defend himself in the canonical proceedings, and he was also given multiple opportunities to submit himself to the authority of his diocesan bishop,” explains a separate statement attached to Pierre's letter. “It was determined that Father Pavone had no reasonable justification for his actions.”

According to CNA, which confirmed the letter with several bishops, the statement calls Fr. Pavone “Mr. Pavone.” “Since Priests for Life, Inc. is not a Catholic organization, Mr. Pavone's continuing role in it as a lay person would be entirely up to the leadership of that

organization,” the statement says.

The statement noted that the decision on the matter by the Dicastery for the Clergy was issued on November 9, but Fr. Pavone had not heard of the decision from the Vatican until CNA called him for comment.

Faithful Bishop Joseph Strickland of Tyler, Texas, had a response

to the news:

“The blasphemy is that this holy priest is canceled while an evil president promotes the denial of truth & the murder of the unborn at every turn, Vatican officials promote immorality & denial of the deposit of faith & priests promote gender confusion devastating lives...evil,” he said on Twitter.

## 5000 BLANKETS

continued from page 24

The film includes plenty of faith-based moments. We see her at church. We watch as her pastor visits the home and encourages her to allow the congregation to assist the family's needs. (Because of her husband's absence, she is forced to sell their house and find a job outside the home.) Eventually, Cyndi stands before the congregation and gives her testimony, urging the body of Christ to help her collect the thousands of blankets that are needed.

The film is a lived-out example of what the Apostle Paul described in 1 Corinthians 13: “Three things will last forever – faith, hope, and love – and the greatest of these is love.” Cyndi had faith and hope in spite of her circumstances. She loved Bobby in spite of what he had done. She found purpose in the midst of a gut-wrenching tragedy.

The movie, brilliantly written, urges us to have compassion for Bobby, the homeless, and their families, all at the same time.

“We didn't ask for any of this,” she tells her son, “but we get to choose how we react.”

3. It's about the Image of God in All of Us

5000 Blankets soars in its depiction of the homeless. They're not problems to be brushed aside but, instead, image-bearers of God who need grace and mercy. Asked what his biggest challenge is in reaching the homeless, Phillip Jr. says it's “making people see what they usually try hard not to see.”

We watch as Cyndi's character is transformed. During the film's opening scenes, she ignores a homeless man who knocks on her vehicle window, requesting money. (Phillip rolls his window down and hands him a dollar.) It's only when the issue is personalized that Cyndi changes her attitude. She takes a middle-aged homeless woman to a late-night diner. She invites two homeless men to a spaghetti fundraiser. She learns about their past, their life, and their dreams. She also learns more about their path to homelessness. (One homeless woman says she gave up on life after her husband died.)

5000 Blankets is Rated PG-13 for thematic material involving mental illness. It has no coarse language.

—Michael Foust / ChristianHeadlines.com

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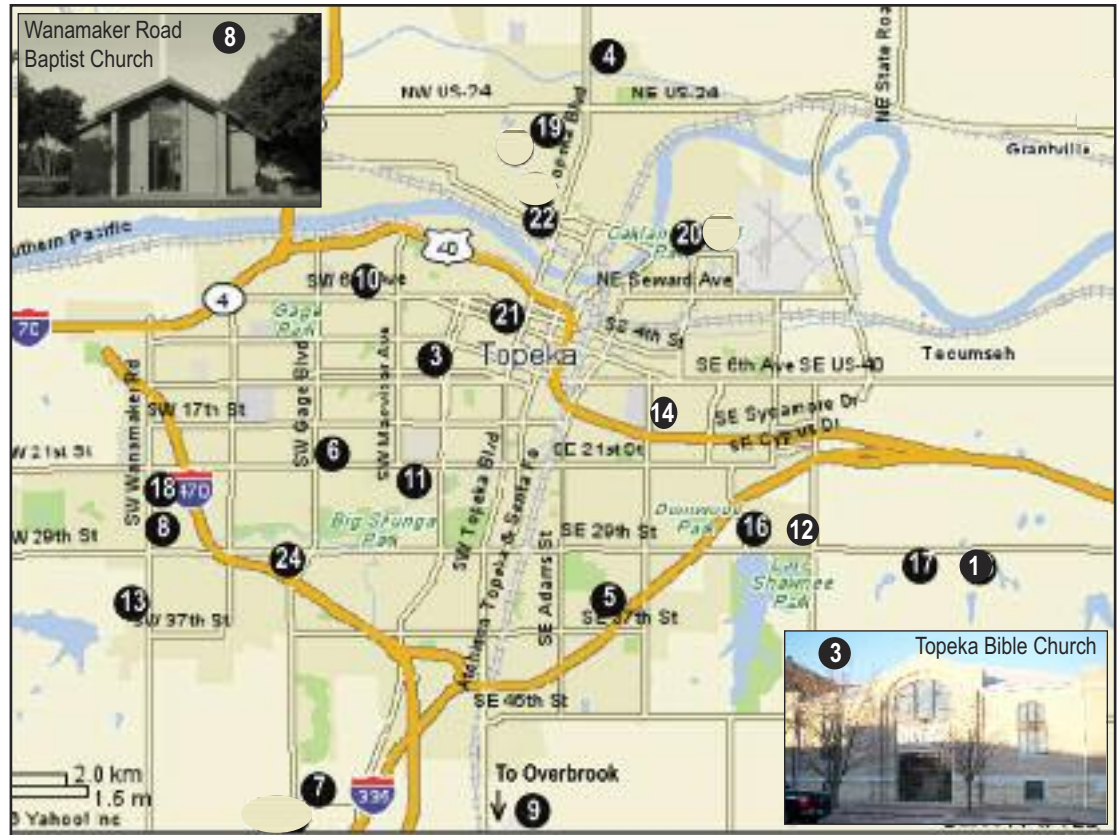
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 6 pm Life Groups; 6:30 pm Teen Service  
 Wed. 6:30 pm Adult & Teen Life Groups  
 Wed. 6:30 pm Kids University  
 ~ Nursery care at all services ~

## 14. OPEN ARMS OUTREACH MINISTRIES COGIC

1 (785) 232-3463/41 (785) 217-5560  
 Sunday School 9:30, Worship 11:00  
 In person or conference call:  
 (712) 770-4749 / 583229  
 Bible Study Tue & Wed conference call  
 2401 SE 11th St., Topeka KS 66607  
 Supt. S. C. Mitchell, Pastor

## 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

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**KFGB 97.7 FM**  
 Upper Room Radio

## 17. EAST SIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

4425 S.E. 29th St., 379-9933.  
 Sunday Worship 10:00am & 6:00pm  
 AWANA Sunday at 5:45 p.m.  
 See our website for info on our Student Ministries & Kid City  
[www.esbcks.org](http://www.esbcks.org)

## 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.harvestfamilyfellowshiptopeka.org](http://www.harvestfamilyfellowshiptopeka.org)

## 22. FAMILY OF GOD CHURCH

1231 NW Eugene St.  
 Topeka, KS 66608  
 Pastor Roger Randel  
 Sunday Worship 10:30am & 6pm  
 Wednesday Bible Study 7pm  
 785-234-1111  
[FOGchurch.com](http://FOGchurch.com)

## 24. TRINITY REFORMED BAPTIST

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](http://www.TrinityReformedBaptist.org)

**Topeka Bible Church**  
 Leading People to Life in Christ  
 1135 SW College Avenue  
 and 1101 SW Mulvane  
**785.234.5545**  
 Sunday services, Sunday school, and Bible studies  
 at 9 and 10:30 AM • Livestream at 9 AM • [discovertbc.com](http://discovertbc.com)

**VOICE OF FAITH RADIO BROADCAST**  
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 Sundays — 9 am WIBW RADIO 580 AM  
 Daily (Mon—Fri) — 10 am KFGB 97.7 FM  
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 PO Box 161 Topeka KS 66601  
 785-232-2992 or 785-231-8183

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## WANTED:

**ASSISTANT EDITOR** – Research articles & event info online & on phone. Some writing & editing. Some updating files, social media posting, possibly some deliveries. Mostly work from home. Could be part-time hourly wages, or contract services basis. Call 785-640-6399

**PART-TIME ACCOUNT REP** – Work your own hours. Call on businesses, churches & non-profits about their advertisements in Metro Voice. Generous commission on all ads you place; no base. Voice@cox.net

**VOLUNTEER WRITERS** – Metro Voice needs volunteer writers or interns for church and community news around the area. Call 235-3340 or email voice@cox.net. Some perks. involved.

**FEMALE SINGERS WANTED** – Topeka

Acapella Unlimited is looking for female singers who would like to sing four part acapella harmonies. Topeka Acapella Unlimited is a Chapter of Sweet Adelines, International. Call Cindy Patton at 785-640-7403 for more information.

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

**DELIVERY PERSON** – Metro Voice needs someone to help distribute papers to churches and other locations in Topeka, a couple days a month, using your own car. Call 235-3340

## FOR SALE:

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

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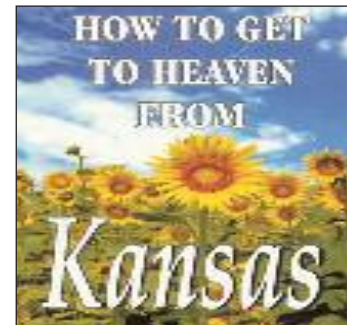
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EOE www.slitopeka.org

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



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.

**Alpha Christian Children's Home & School**  
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
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Find out more by calling  
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**Brittany Elliott- Agent**  
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**#sleevesrolledup**

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THE CAPITAL CITY CHRISTIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PRESENTS

# 8TH ANNUAL TOPEKA EASTER FEST

EASTER PARADE + FAMILY FUN FAIR!



It all takes place at Great Overland Station and on N. Kansas Avenue!

Fun Fair open 10 am - 3 pm at Great Overland Station, with Live Music 10:45 am - 3 pm!  
 Parade starts at 10 am at Garfield Park and goes to the tracks in NOTO. Big Egg Hunt follows parade at 11 am at Great Overland Station! Food Trucks open 9 am - 3pm at Great Overland Station.  
 Vendor Market and Health Fair open 10 am - 3 pm at Great Overland Station, with craft stations, face painting, Easter Bunny photos, Petting Zoo, Inflatables, Carnival Games, Cup Cake Walks, Health products & demonstrations, Dance, Gymnastics, Ballet, Vision Screening and more!

**Volunteers needed! Contact:**

info@C5Alive.org or 785-640-6399

**For booth, sponsor & parade entry information:**

info@C5Alive.org or 785-640-6399

Funds raised will be shared with a local non-profit serving local kids



Funds raised will be shared with a local non-profit serving local kids

**SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 2023 • 10 AM - 3 PM**

TopekaEasterParade.com • "Like" us on Facebook: Topeka Easter Parade & Family Fun Fair