

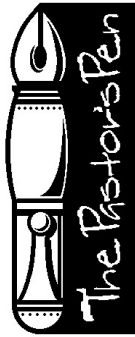


*For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
and his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
~ Isaiah 9:6*



ENGAGED IN THE MINISTRY OF RECONCILIATION

De Soto Baptist Church



From the Pastor's Pen ~

What an incredible year we're bringing to conclusion, with the accompanying thought, "Can we already be in the season of Advent? Where have the months gone?" Looking back we celebrate the many seasons of the year and especially the expanse of our Church activities . . . with significant happenings too numerous to include in this writing. And now as we look forward to Christmas and the coming of Christ into the world, we embark on the journey of Advent . . . the four weeks leading up to Christmas Day.

Each Sunday of Advent will involve special offerings of Music and other sharing to emphasize the theme of the day. **December 2nd** will include our Communion, with the theme of HOPE. On **December 9th** the *Junior Joy Singers* will present their annual program, which this year is "Christmas Express". With direction by 2 outstanding High School students, Emma Brownell and Lilly Champlain, 16 performers will be involved in the production, which will present a great and positive view of the season! **December 16th** will find the Adult Choir presenting the annual Cantata "Bethlehem's Child", followed by Candle lighting and the special Christmas Offering. Cookies for a time of fellowship following will be welcome! My annual dramatization of a Biblical Character in costume will be **December 23rd**, with focus on our application in today's world. What an incredible month of worship and celebration this promises for us as we seek to focus on the celebration of the Christ Child coming into our world and lives.

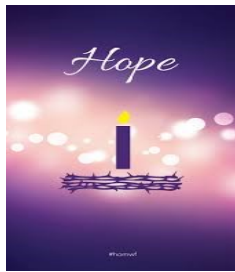
Following are devotions for each Sunday for personal and/or family use, which will help you and your family celebrate the true meaning of Christmas. You can use and adapt them to your individual needs, involving your entire family and making this a special time that throughout the rest of the busy year we sometimes neglect. During our children's growing years we always had an Advent Candle Wreath which we lit on Sunday evenings to magnify and celebrate the true reason of the Season. I would be happy to hear of your creativity and development as you take this journey in your families!

In love and celebration of the God's great gift to us ~

Pastor Richard



Advent Devotionals



FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT—HOPE *Scripture: Psalms 27: 14*

Waiting is never easy, and Christmas is no different. Advent is a season of waiting and preparing, a good time to reflect on the importance of waiting and hoping in our lives. Light a candle or light one candle on the Advent Wreath. Ask everyone to share about some things they hope for in their lives. How does Jesus fit into these hopes?

Sing a Christmas Carol and close with prayer.



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - PEACE *Scripture: Luke 2:13-14*

Light a candle or light three candles on the Advent Wreath. "Peace on earth and good will among men." Why don't we have peace on earth? What brings peace to our hearts in the midst of a troubled world?

Sing "*Silent Night*" and then close with prayer thanking God for the peace we have in our hearts and praying for peace in a troubled world.



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - JOY *Scripture: Matthew 2: 10*

Advent is during the darkest time of the year. Some people do not like winter because it gets dark so early in the evenings. If it is night time turn out the lights for just a little bit then light a candle or two candles on the Advent Wreath. Ask: Why don't we like the darkness? How is spiritual darkness similar to the darkness of night? In what ways does Jesus bring light and joy to our lives?

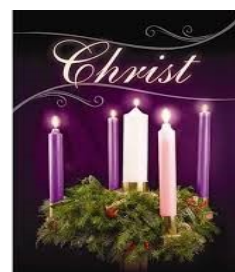
Sing "*This Little Light of Mine*" and a Christmas Carol and close with prayer.



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - LOVE *Scripture: John 3:16*

Light a candle or light four candles on the Advent Wreath. Ask: What is one of the best gifts any family member or friend has ever given to you and why? Why was the gift given to you? Today we celebrate God's love for us which caused Him to give us His best gift . . . His Son. Why is that His best gift? What does that gift mean for each one of us if we accept it?

Sing one or more Christmas Carols and close with prayer.



CHRISTMAS - JESUS *Scripture: John 6:68-69*

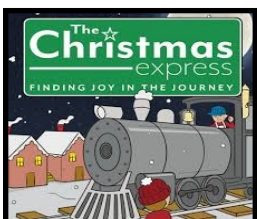
Light a candle to symbolize Christ or light all the candles on the Advent Wreath lighting the center "Christ" candle last. Sing a Carol. Ask: What has been the most meaningful experience for you this Advent and Christmas Season If a child mentions a gift discuss how gifts symbolize the gift of Christ. Why is Christ the most valuable gift of all the Christmas gifts we receive in Christmas wrappings?

Sing some Carols and notice their mention of Hope, Joy, Peace, Love, and Jesus. Be thankful in your heart that Christmas is real to you and celebrate together in some form of prayer.

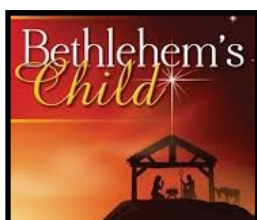
Christmas at De Soto Baptist Church



December 2nd at 11 am – The 1st Sunday of Advent will include communion with the Adult Choir leading us in worship.



December 9th at 11 am – The 2nd Sunday of Advent will feature our Jr. Joy singers, from Elementary, Middle & High School. Always a highlight of this special time of year. This years program is called "The Christmas Express" and is directed by high school students Emma Brownell & Lilly Champlain with assistance from Mary Etta Copeland.



December 16th at 11 am – The 3rd Sunday of Advent will feature the Adult Choir Performing their Christmas Cantata entitled "Bethlehem's Child". The cantata will be followed by candle lighting and a special Christmas Offering. A cookie reception will immediately follow.



December 23rd at 11 am - The 4th Sunday of Advent will find a "visitor" joining us from the Far East. One of the "Wise Men" in beautiful and ornate costume will appear to share his story of that significant journey following the birth of Christ.



*"Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people.
Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you;
He is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you:
You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."
~ Luke 2:10-12*



thank
YOU

22 THANKSGIVING DINNER BASKETS Given to De Soto Food Pantry



A huge thank you goes out to all of our church family who helped in donating Thanksgiving food baskets for the De Soto Food Pantry Thanksgiving-Dinner Drive. Twenty-two bags were delivered to the Chamber Office by Fred and Paula Jones the week before Thanksgiving. Once again you shared your blessings by giving to others.



CHRISTMAS

A Time of Caring and Sharing



Christmas brings us opportunities for providing gifts and greatly needed basic supplies to the families served by Bethel Neighborhood Center in KCK as well as those in De Soto.



Bethel is one of the American Baptist Mission Projects, and each Christmas we adopt two or three families for Christmas presents as well as providing cleaning supplies for the Bethel "supply closet."



Project Christmas is a local program, designed to provide Christmas gifts for families in the De Soto area, and we also adopt one or two of these families to help as well.



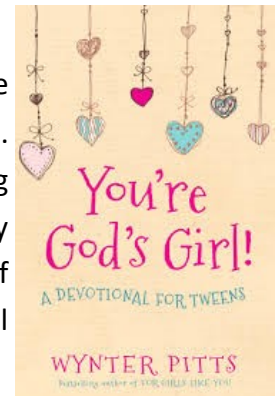
If you have not signed up to "adopt" a child, there may still be some children or parents needing sponsors. Please check the bulletin board in the church narthex to see if we still need sponsors. All of the information on needs and the necessary steps to follow are posted there.

The Lord loves a cheerful giver, and he blesses those who reach out and bless others. Be a part of the DBC "Christmas Spirit" this year, and help spread the love of Christ throughout our neighborhoods.



AMERICAN BAPTIST GIRLS

Girls of Faith have begun to study in our new devotional, "You're God's Girl!" and are enjoying our times of study and discussion. Even though we are using the devotions as our lessons during meeting times, the girls are also encouraged to use it as a daily devotional. Occasionally, we will likely do a lesson that some of the girls have already done on their own, but feel that it will make our discussion time even more meaningful.



It's a busy time of the year for all of us, but we are hoping to be able to schedule a joint meeting with Girls of Grace over Christmas break. We enjoy those times when we are able to do that, but what a blessing that we have enough girls (and leaders!) to meet separately when necessary due to a very active group of girls who are involved in many activities!

ABGIRLS and leaders wish you and yours a blessed, peaceful, and joy-filled Christmas!

- Mary Jo McDaniel



SUPPORT YOUR DE SOTO

FOOD PANTRY

**CURRENT NEEDS: * Soup * Apple Sauce * Tuna * Dry Beans *
* Mixed Fruit or Fruit Cocktail (canned) * Canned Chili * Sugar *
* Cooking Oil * Ketchup * Peanut Butter ***

** Plastic or paper shopping bags for clients **

- There is a blue container in the vestibule of the church for food pantry collections. Monetary donations are gladly accepted as well
- Volunteers always needed, for more information check out the "De Soto Kansas Food Pantry" Facebook page or contact volunteer@commit2community.com
- The food pantry is located in the City Hall and the Community Center building. Anyone with a De Soto address or a student enrolled in the De Soto School District (and can show proof of residency) is eligible to receive food.

Food Pantry Hours: Tues. 10 am-12 pm, Thur. 4-6 pm & Sat. 9-11 am



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Dec 1st – 11 am ABW Christmas Brunch
– 5 pm Mayor's Tree Lighting
- Dec 2nd – Communion Sunday, 1st week of Advent
– 10 am & Noon Adult choir/Cantata Practice
– Noon-3 pm Jr. Joy's Rehearsal
- Dec 3rd – 6:30 pm Doers of the Word
– 6:30 pm Men's Bible Study
- Dec 5th – 7 pm Deacons & Trustees Meet
– 7:30 pm Business Meeting
- Dec 8th – 9:30-11:30 am Jr. Joy's Rehearsal
- Dec 9th – 2nd week of Advent
– 11 am Jr. Joys Christmas Program
– Noon Adult choir Cantata Practice
- Dec 10th – 6:30 pm Doers of the Word
– 6:30 pm Men's Bible Study
- Dec 13th – Pray for Central Region Churches
- Dec 16th – 3rd week of Advent
– 10 am Adult choir Cantata Practice
– 11 am Presentation of Christmas Cantata
- Dec 17th – 6:30 pm Doers of the Word
– 6:30 pm Men's Bible Study
- Dec 23rd – 4th week of Advent
- Dec 25th – Christmas Day
- Dec 31st – New Year's Eve

Sunday School Classes

Sunday mornings from 9:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

- Adult Class led by Charles Lawhead, meets in the conference room upstairs.
- 2nd Adult Class led by Josh Champlain, meets downstairs in AB Girls room.
- Middle/High School Youth lead by Linda Lane, meets upstairs in Galen Weese room.
- Grades K-5 meet downstairs, teachers rotate between Donna Gulley, Vickie Haulmark, and Richelle Hodges.
- Birth—Pre-K class led by Linda Lastofka, meets downstairs in Nursery.

Monday Evening Bible Studies



"The Doers" Monday evenings @ 6:30 P.M.
in the new conference room
Contact Karen Wall or
Mary Etta Copeland



Monday Evenings @ 6:30 P.M.
In the Galen Weese Room
Contact Pastor Copeland

Finance Report for October, 2018

Bal. Forward	\$ 31,054.97
Deposits	\$ 27,536.00
Disbursements	\$ 10,699.60
Ending Balance	\$ 47,891.37
Imp/Exp Fund	\$ 302,858.62



THE SCRIP PROGRAM -

These are gift cards that are available to numerous merchants such as:



Applebee's - Chili's - On the Border - Long Horn Steak House - Borders - Kohl's - Pizza Hut - Panera Bread - Red Lobster/Olive Garden - Wal-Mart.

These merchants donate a portion of each purchase back to our church.

Contact Rick and Monica Walker for more details. Some cards are available immediately. Other merchants may be available upon request. Order today!



Wi-Fi



is available for all your church needs—log in information is listed on the front bulletin board.





CHURCH WEBSITE

www.desotobaptistchurch.org

Find a current copy of the **Church Newsletter**, an up-to-date **Church Calendar**, and under the password protected member section, view the **Church Business Meeting Minutes** and the **Church Directory**.

December 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 11 am ABW Brunch 5 pm Mayor's Tree Lighting
2 Communion 1 st Week of Advent 12 pm Jr. Joys & Cantata rehearse	3 6:30 pm Doers & Men's Bible Study	4	5 7pm Deacons & Trustees Meet 7:30 pm Business Meeting	6	7  NATIONAL PEARL HARBOR Remembrance Day DECEMBER 7	8 9:30-11:30 am Jr. Joys rehearsal
9 2 nd week of Advent 11 am Jr. Joys Christmas Program 12 pm Cantata prac.	10 6:30 pm Doers & Men's Bible Study	11	12	13 Pray for Central Region Churches	14	15
16 3 rd week of Advent 11 am Presentation of Christmas Cantata	17 6:30 pm Doers & Men's Bible Study	18	19	20	21	22
23 4 th week of Advent	24	25  MERRY CHRISTMAS	26	27	28	29
30	31 New Year's Eve					

December 2018

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

James Balch
Ian McPherson
*Andy & Sun Dee
Everett*

Donna Gulley
Danny Lane

Noah Cardiff
*Larry & Brenda
West*

Paula Jones
Margaret Wycoff

Sean & Janet
Nalley

Linda Conrad

Jayma Zook

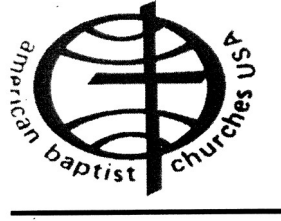
Jenna Toner
Chris Zimmerman
Darlene Hackworth

Sean Nalley

Engaged in the ministry of
reconciliation

De Soto Baptist Church
Richard G. Copeland, Pastor
P.O. Box E
De Soto, Kansas 66018
(913) 585-1026

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December 2018

