



*"The angel said to them, "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."  
Luke 2:10-11*



## FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN

***"I bring you good news of great joy!"*** This proclamation from the Angels to the Shepherds as recorded in Luke 2:10 was as recorded in that verse proclaimed as Good News for ALL PEOPLE! This is still the Good News for all people today, and we as Christians continue to celebrate it as we accept the Savior mentioned in verse 2:11 as our *personal* Savior. This joy then takes on deeper and eternal significance compared to the short-lived secular celebration. My hope is that the following devotional guide may be used in any way that helps make the message of Advent and Christmas more meaningful to you.



### ***Sharing the Message of Advent***

#### **Week 1: HOPE** – Read John 1:1-8

What is something you have hoped for that never came about? What is our hope in Christ and why is it secure? Sing *"O Come All Ye Faithful"* to indicate your intention to join others this Christmas at the manger to worship the King. Close with prayer.

#### **Week 2: JOY** – Read Matthew 2:7-12

Share a joyous Christmas that you remember. Continue with description of the joy you experienced when you found Christ as your Savior. How does that joy impact your life now? Join in singing *"Joy to the World"* and share in prayer.

#### **Week 3: PEACE** – Read Psalm 23

Describe a difficult time when you were in despair or conflict and yet felt God's peace within you. How does this personal peace within us impact our health and personality? Sing *"Silent Night"* and have a time of family prayer.

#### **Week 4: LOVE** – Read Luke 1:78

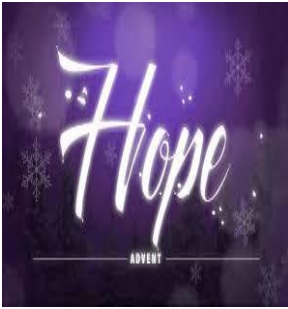
Why is God's love in Christ considered as a gift? Describe a time when you enjoyed receiving a gift and tell why it brought joy. Describe a time when giving a gift brought joy and why. Sing some carols and share together in prayer.

**Christmas Eve or Day** – Read the Christmas Story, with everyone sharing some Christmas memories. Share something special about this Christmas Season and tell why it is/was special. Sing carols and pray together!

**May God bless you all with the true meaning of Christ**

In His love and service ~

*Pastor Richard*



## ***1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent—December 1<sup>st</sup>***

**11 am — Worship Service, HOPE  
& Communion**

The Adult and Youth Choir will join in leading worship.

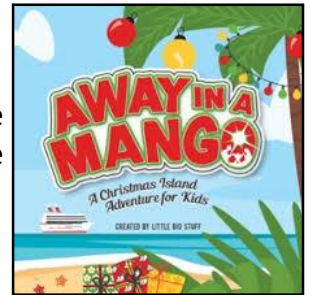


## ***2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent—December 8<sup>th</sup>***

**11 am — Youth Christmas Program**

The Youth and Children will lead worship by performing the musical "Away in A Mango", a story of the birth of the long-awaited Savior, Jesus!

Directed by Emma Brownell, Lilly Champlain  
& Mary Etta Copeland



## ***3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent—December 15<sup>th</sup>***

**11 am — Worship Service, PEACE**

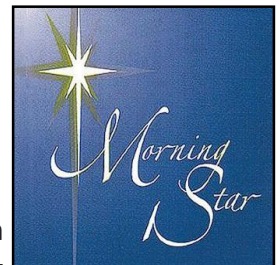
**6:30 pm — Instrumental Christmas Carols**

Anyone who would like to join in playing Christmas carols in the balcony before the cantata please bring your instrument and join us at 12:30 pm on Sunday, December 15 to practice.

**7:00 pm — Cantata & Candle Lighting Service**

Stay afterwards for a time of fellowship & refreshments immediately following the cantata. Volunteers needed to bring cookies & candies.

*Music- Morning Star by Joseph M. Martin*



## ***4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent—December 22<sup>th</sup>***

**11 am — Christmas Visitor from the Holy Land**

Bringing the Christmas Message alive with dramatization





## A MOMENT WITH JO

*"To everything there is a season; and a time for every purpose under heaven . . .  
a time to keep silent and a time to speak." Ecclesiastes 3:1 & 7b*

*"In the multitude of words, sin is not lacking, but he who restrains his lips is wise."  
Proverbs 10:19*

**M**y friend, Diane, and I had just finished our yoga class and were talking and she asked me how John was feeling. I told her we were going to look for a walker, so that he would feel safer when walking outside. She said she would bring one later that day for him to use. When she brought it, she told me she had filed a lawsuit against the doctor, who had nicked the colon of her husband in surgery, who had then died 4 days later with sepsis. She said, "Jo, I am not a Christian like you and I will never forgive him." I wanted to say something healing and true of God, but Father did not let me say anything, except to put my arms around her and say, "I am so sorry."

The next day as I left exercise, I saw a dear woman, Elaine, whom I had not seen for some time. We hugged and laughed and just then, my friend, Diane, who had brought the walker to our home, came by and she greeted her also. As we talked, Elaine told her that she would always remember that a few years ago her family had come to visit and were on their way home when they received news that 4 of their children's' friends had been killed in an accident. She then said, "I will never forget it, when I told Jo, she took my hands and prayed for them. She also said the Lord grieves with us when we have lost someone we love as Jesus did." When I came home, I shared with John what the Lord had done and how sweet it was of Him to have someone else share His goodness and mercy. Isn't our Heavenly Father just so amazing, kind, loving, creative, faithful, and on and on.

P.S. Shortly after returning to FL, we went to our club for dinner and so many of our friends came by to hug us and to welcome us back. Later that night, I said to the Lord, perhaps this is a small example of our arriving in heaven and being welcomed and loved by our Lord Jesus Christ, family, and friends.

*Thank you, dear Jesus, for coming to earth, taking all of our sins upon Yourself, and making the way to the Father by the power of the Holy Spirit so we may spend eternity with you.*

—Jo Sweatt

## PRAYER . . .

*"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and petition,  
with thanksgiving, present your request to God." II Philippians 4:6-7*

**W**hen Paul wrote this to the early church could he possibly have known that De Soto Baptist Prayer Warriors would be reading it centuries later? Two important concepts . . . *anything* and *everything* . . . what a powerful and beautiful reminder that God's loving care for us translates into *hearing* our voices . . . be they anxious or filled with praise and thanksgiving!

—Mary Etta Copeland







Tens of thousands of troops will not be able to spend Christmas with their families and friends this year. Please consider showing Christian love and support for those serving our country by send Christmas Cards with a short note for a service member to read.

**Please place completed cards in designated basket in church foyer no later than Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>**

*Please remember: for security reasons, do not seal the cards in the envelopes and leave the envelopes blank and please do not put any stamps on the envelopes.*



## SAMARITAN'S PURSE—OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

**THANK YOU!** We are so thankful for your partnership in packing shoeboxes. Thanks to you the Middle/High School Youth Class was able to pack and ship 21 boxes this year allowing 21 children to experience the good news and great joy of Jesus Christ. God bless you!



But our work isn't done, please join us in praying that God will use these boxes in a mighty way, that God will open their eyes, minds and hearts to His Gospel allowing them to experience His love through these gifts.



## YOUTH SUNDAY

The Middle School and High School Sunday School class lead in a wonderful time of worship on Sunday November 17th. Suan Sonna, son of Mang Sonna, Directory of Bethel Neighborhood Center in KCK,





## THANKSGIVING to CHRISTMAS

### A Time of Caring and Sharing

The Holiday Season brings to our church family the opportunity to share our love and our blessings in a variety of ways. De Soto Baptist has a history of generosity in caring and helping others who are in need. Thank you so much for your loving and generous spirits. As a community of believers, we are making a huge difference in the lives of many---those in De Soto, in neighboring KCK, and across the world.

Twenty food baskets were delivered to the **De Soto Food Pantry** the week before Thanksgiving. Each basket provided the groceries needed for a traditional Thanksgiving dinner, including a gift certificate to Harps to purchase the meat of their choice. These will be given to families in our own community.



Three **Bethel Neighborhood Center** families have been adopted by various members of our congregation---providing clothing, toys, games, and needs for all members of these families. In addition, we continue with our cleaning supply drive for Bethel; buckets along the aisle are filled with cleaning supplies that are greatly appreciated by Bethel patrons. Mary Gale Kramer and Debbie Maniez have served as the contact and organizational people; we greatly appreciate their leadership.

**Project Christmas** is a local program, designed to provide Christmas gifts for families in the **De Soto** area. One family of four children was assigned to our church, and these gifts are donated by our church members as well.



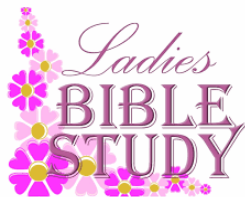
If you have not signed up to "adopt" a child, there may still be some children or parents needing sponsors. Please check the bulletin board in the church narthex to see if we still need sponsors. All of the information on needs and the necessary steps to follow are posted there. The final day to bring your gifts is Sunday, Dec. 8.



A new project for this year was "**Operation Shoebox**," which was developed by Samaritan's Purse, a part of Franklin Graham Ministries. Our Youth Sunday School Class chose to sponsor this drive and packaged 21 boxes to be sent to children around the world.

Your love and concern for the needy and your faithfulness in helping them do not go unnoticed. The Lord loves a cheerful giver, and He blesses those who reach out and bless others. May you experience the great joy of sharing your own bounty with others less fortunate.

*"It is more blessed to give than receive." ~Acts 20:35*



## “DOERS OF THE WORD” Women’s Bible Study

**2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays on each month— 6:30 pm**

*Messy to Meaningful*

If you are interested in becoming part of a lively and fun Bible Study please contact:  
Mary Etta- [maryettablessings@kc.rr.com](mailto:maryettablessings@kc.rr.com) or Karen Wall- [karenwall61@yahoo.com](mailto:karenwall61@yahoo.com)



## MEN’S BIBLE STUDY

**2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays on each month  
6:30—7:30 pm**

Studying the book of ACTS

Led by Matt Burns, meets in the Galyn Weese Room

*“As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another. Prov 27:17”*



## CHURCH BUSINESS MEETING

**Wednesday, December 4<sup>th</sup>  
7:00 pm**

Meeting will be held in the conference room.

*All Members are Invited to Attend!*



## ADULT AND YOUTH CANTATA CHOIR

**Rehearsal on December 1<sup>st</sup> at 10 am & Sing in worship at 11 am**

**Rehearsal December 8<sup>th</sup> at Noon**

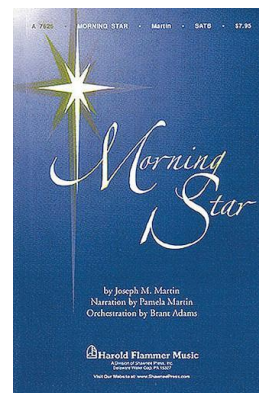
**Rehearsal December 15<sup>th</sup> at Noon**

**Instrumental Christmas Carol Practice 12:30 pm**

*Anyone who would like to join in playing Christmas carols before the cantata bring your instrument & practice.*

**Instruments playing Carols in Loft at 6:30 pm**

**Cantata Performance on December 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm**





## American Baptist Women's MINISTRIES

### AMERICAN BAPTIST WOMEN

Referring back to November newsletter, a **“thank you”** for the returns of inventory forms for work and activities of American Baptist Women . . . and a reminder that we need many more as we organize for continued and improved and expanded involvement in the work of our Lord through involved women of De Soto Baptist!!! ABW is the acronym for ALL women in every congregation affiliated with “American Baptist Churches USA” throughout our Nation and Puerto Rico . . . and the extent of all these involvements and accomplishments for the work of our Lord is monumental!!! We’re asking each reader to relook at last month’s newsletter and fill out the inventory form, with return to Mary Etta Copeland, Karen Wall, or Anita Woywod by **next Sunday** or via email at [maryettablessings@kc.rr.com](mailto:maryettablessings@kc.rr.com)

De Soto Baptist has an outreach equaled by few congregations of our size, and involvement by so many is incredible. But lacking – and **very much needed** – is for some added people to step up in taking the **leadership initiation** of some of these outreaches. While we have an abundance of helpers who always join in the numerous projects and activities, there is a desperate need for leadership to step forward – which is not limited to a single individual but can be in **“Team”** form - so the same leaders of many years aren’t on “overload.” God HAS GIFTED each of His creations, and as Christian women, let us not deny the wonders of HIS work!!! Richard voices the reminder of Isaiah in the Temple and his response to God’s call to leadership with a mindset and response of unworthiness following the death of King Uzziah, . . . followed by a reversal in thought and action, responding to God’s call with his words, **Here am I Lord, send me.** May the voices of De Soto Baptist women join in answering **“YES, LORD, YES, TO YOUR WILL AND TO YOUR WAY. . .”**, that the spreading of HIS Word and Love will NOT be curtailed in our world of great need, both locally and into an ever expanding Mission Field!



# Christmas Tree Lighting

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7TH @ 5:30PM**

<p>5:00pm - 5:30pm</p> <p><b>Holiday Music</b> De Soto High School Band &amp; Madrigals perform</p>	<p>5:30pm - 6:30pm</p> <p><b>Community Supper</b> Rotary Club The Rotary serves their annual soup, chili, &amp; dessert supper. Donations appreciated.</p>	<p>5:30pm - 6:30pm</p> <p><b>Holiday Open House</b> De Soto Arts Council Meet local artists, enjoy treats, &amp; view artwork in the lower level of City Hall</p>
---	--	---

**DE SOTO**  
KANSAS  
City Hall - 32905 W. 84th St

**5:35pm - Watch for Santa!**



**DHS Holiday Choral and Band Concert**  
**Monday, December 16th—7 pm**



## A WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS GATHERING

All women are invited to join us on **Monday evening, December 9**, for an informal Christmas Party. We will meet in Fellowship Hall (basement) for a time of fun and fellowship.

Hot Cider and simple treats will be served.

There is no obligation, but feel free to bring something to share— including your favorite Christmas memory.

We will start at 6:30 and conclude at 8:00.

If you have any questions, contact Karen Wall, 669-1991.



## CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS AND EPIPHANY

**LADIES - ALL LADIES - JOIN US  
COME CELEBRATE A VERY SPECIAL EVENING**



On Monday Evening, JANUARY 13, we will have special celebration of EPIPHANY - the traditional day celebrating the arrival of the Magi to the stable in Bethlehem. This is sometimes called Twelfth Night.

Because the time between Thanksgiving and Christmas is so short this year, we are going to have our Women's Christmas Celebration in January. We will be one week late from the traditional Epiphany date (January 6), but that will not damper our enthusiasm.

We want to make this a most special evening by having Nativity Scenes displayed in Fellowship Hall. We are asking those of our church family to bring nativity scenes/sets that are special to you and your Christmas celebration. You probably will have taken down your home decorations, so, please share your nativity scenes with us on this night.

This will be a GREAT NIGHT OF FELLOWSHIP, but only IF YOU PARTICIPATE. If you have a special nativity set, please let Mary Etta know, and we will plan on you setting your scene up in Fellowship Hall for our celebration on the evening of January 13.





("King's Cakes" are traditionally served at Epiphany Celebrations - we'll do our best!)

**SAVE THE DATE!!**



# December 2019

## De Soto Baptist Church Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> <i>1<sup>st</sup> Sun of Advent</i> <b>Communion</b> 10am-AR & sing in worship Noon-AR, 1pm-YR	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 6:30pm Deacon & Trustees Meeting <b>7pm Church Business Meeting</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 5:30 pm Mayor's Christmas Tree Lighting at De Soto City Hall
<b>8</b> <i>2<sup>nd</sup> Sun of Advent</i> <b>11am Youth Christmas Program</b> Noon-AR	<b>9</b> 6:30 pm Men's Bible Study 6:30 pm Women's Christmas Party	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Pray for Central Region Churches	<b>14</b> 7:30 am Men's Breakfast at Wanda's Café
<b>15</b> <i>3<sup>rd</sup> Sun of Advent</i> 10am Worship at Hillside, Noon-AR <b>7pm Christmas Cantata Presented</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 
<b>22</b> <i>4<sup>th</sup> Sun of Advent</i> <b>11am, Special Christmas Visitor from the Holy Land</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> <i>Christmas Day</i> 	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> <b>NEW YEAR'S EVE</b>				

AR=Adult Cantata Rehearsal YR= Youth Christmas Play Rehearsal

# December 2019

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4 John Hackworth	5	6 <i>Andy &amp; Sun Dee Everett</i> James Balch Ian McPherson	7
8 Linda Conrad	9 Chris Bosworth Wayne Dabbs Jason McDaniel Blake Weese Haley Weese	10 Libby Stone	11 Kelly Hayden	12 Donna Gulley Danny Lane	13 Caitlin Weese	14
15	16 Chris Berola	17	18	19 <i>Larry &amp; Brenda West</i> Noah Cardiff	20	21 Darlene Hackworth Jenna Toner Chris Zimmerman
22	23 Jayma Zook	24	25	26 Paula Jones Margaret Wycoff	27	28
29 Sean Nalley	30 Amy Kinney	31 <i>Sean &amp; Janet Nalley</i>				



## Calendar of Events

### Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> - **Frist Sunday of Advent**

Communion Sunday  
Deacon's Fund Offering Taken  
10 am, Choir Rehearses & sings in worship  
Noon, Adult Cantata Rehearsal  
1-2:30 pm, Kids Christmas Play Rehearsal

Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> - 6:30 pm, Deacons & Trustees Meet  
7 pm, Church Business Meeting

Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> - 5:30 pm, Mayor's Christmas Tree Lighting  
De Soto City Hall

### Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> - **Second Sunday of Advent**

11 am, Youth Christmas Program  
Noon, Adult Cantata Rehearsal

Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> - 6:30 pm, Men's Bible Study, Acts  
6:30 pm, Women's Christmas Gathering

Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> - Pray for Central Region Churches

Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> - 7:30 am, Men's Breakfast at Wanda's Café

### Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> - **Third Sunday of Advent**

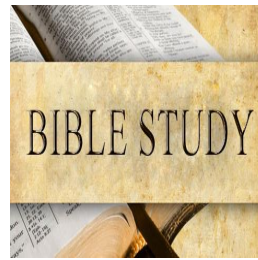
10 am Lead Worship Service at Hillside  
Noon, Adult Cantata Rehearsal  
12:30 pm, Instrumental carol rehearsal  
7 pm, Cantata Performance followed by a time of fellowship & refreshments

### Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup> - **Fourth Sunday of Advent**

Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> - Noon All Church Thanksgiving Dinner  
1-2:30 pm Kids Christmas Play Rehearsal

### Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> - **Christmas Day**

Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> - New Year's Eve



### Men's & Women's Bible Studies

6:30 pm on the  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays

Men - Galyn Weese Room  
Women - Conference Rom

### Finance Report — October, 2019

Bal. Forward	\$ 7,097.28
Deposits	\$ 43,893.00
Disbursements	\$ 26,114.57
Ending Balance	\$ 24,875.71
Imp/Exp Fund	\$ 177,572.78



FIND US ON  
**FACEBOOK**

**De Soto Kansas  
Baptist Church**

### 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.



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



**Church Wi-Fi** is available for all your church needs—log in information is listed on the



Tues 10 am-12 pm  
Thur 4-6 pm  
Sat 9-11 am

## New or Used Children's Books Needed!

Thanks you and all the community support the Food Pantry shelves are stocked. However, they have asked for donations of new or used children's book to pass out to families.

**You can also drop off donations in the blue bucket in the church vestibule or at the Food Pantry during regular hours.** Thank you so much for supporting this vital resource in our community!

*The food pantry is located in the same building as City Hall and the Community Center. Anyone with a DeSoto address or a student enrolled in the DeSoto School District, and that can show proof of residency, is eligible to*

Engaged in the Ministry of Reconciliation

De Soto Baptist Church  
Richard G. Copeland, Pastor  
P.O. Box E  
De Soto, Kansas 66018

Address Service Requested

[www.desotobaptistchurch.org](http://www.desotobaptistchurch.org)  
913.585.1026

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PERMIT #3  
DE SOTO, KANSAS 66018

December 2019

---

