

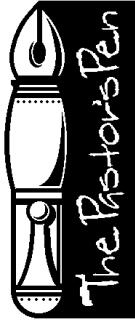
*May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.*

*1 Thessalonians 3:12-13*



ENGAGED IN THE MINISTRY OF RECONCILIATION  
**De Soto Baptist Church**

Pastor, Richard Copeland — Minister of Visitation, Jeff Hodges — 913.585.1026 — www.desotobaptistchurch.org — 8655 Copeland Way, De Soto, KS 66018



## FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN

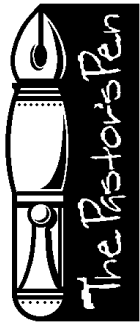
As I begin writing this I can't help but think back to last year and celebrations of Mother's Day and Graduations . . . our travel to Birmingham to witness and celebrate (as several readers also did) the Installation of Lana McPherson as International President of City Clerks . . . our Dedication of expansions including Kitchen remodeling, new Shelter House and Playground . . . preparation of women getting ready for the Regional ABW Conference and extensive planning for our always outstanding VBS . . . a 2<sup>nd</sup> generation now attending VBS where their parents were once the attendees . . . getting ready to attend our National American Baptist Conference at Virginia Beach with the recognition of DBC being in the top 10% of Missions Giving . . . and now looking both back and into the coming months it's with a greater appreciation for the experiences of last year at this time.

Lana has done a notable job, with inclusion of her "Clerks For Christ" Prayer Group even crossing the seas . . . American Baptist Women of Central Region have spent the last year planning for this, the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of their work in Kansas and Oklahoma, with no Conference taking place this year . . . VBS will not take place as in the past . . . Weddings have been put on hold . . . and on and on the story unfolds.

Surrounded by thoughts of all that has taken place and continues to move in a direction we'd not choose, my greatest hope and prayer is that each and everyone of you reading this is doing well under these extremely unusual circumstances in which we live. Walking through this together, in spite of and because of the situation at hand we as Christians are able to magnify the importance of the hope and peace by which we live in Christ . . . truly an opportunity to hold on to the confession of our hope without wavering (Hebrews 10:23)

We may have no answers as to the "why" things are as they are, but we can know that our trust in God brings the assuring trust that He IS in charge. This knowledge then can give a peace that the world cannot give (John 14:27). When I am totally baffled as to why God allows something to take place I always find myself going back to Romans 8:28, a powerful statement of truth and confirmation, with the promise *"For we know that all things work together for good to those who love the Lord and are called according to His purpose."* It's with the confidence of all history that we KNOW that the God of Abraham, Jacob, and Isaac is also our God today and for every tomorrow!!!

Continued on next page . . .



## FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN... continued

While we're having great involvement with our online services – both from within our DeSoto Baptist Family and from many generations of previous attendees and friends from across our country, we do hear the echo “*When will we be able to be in the church building for church again?*” In reality the answer is certainly not simple, with an array of variable factors concerning this. I now have a growing notebook of information collected for some days and weeks now with regard to the many challenges which will require attention and determination, both from American Baptist Denomination offices as well as many others from surrounding areas. Among these are precautions dealing with distancing and determination of new seating patterns with limitations to numbers attending and who can be seated in Sanctuary . . . requirements for mask wearing . . . parts of church which may need to be “off-limits . . . potential new and different cleaning protocols . . . provision of sanitizers and even masks for any who may “forget” . . . what additional help assignments will need to be in place before opening . . . what steps do we need to be ready to welcome “newbies” who may have “found” us via online worship . . . and this is the SHORT LIST!!!! Time to stop . . . Mary Etta says the expanse of current incoming info far exceeds the 600 pages of New Testament Seminary notetaking she typed for me every night . . . and which I still have and use!

Serving with you in love ~ *Pastor Richard*

~ JUST TO BE CLEAR ~

*The church has not been closed, so it doesn't need to be re-opened.  
We have simply stopped worshipping in our buildings for a time  
To protect the health & well-being of our people & our communities.  
The Church does not require a building in order to be the Church.  
What is required is love, compassion, & the presence of god.  
In reality YOU and I ARE the Church!!!*



## WEEKLY WORSHIP SERVICES ONLINE

New worship services posted weekly. Though we cannot physically meet for worship, we are together in prayer and seek to support each of you during this uncertain time. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any prayer requests, concerns or needs during this time.

Link to weekly worship services found on our website at-

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

or on our Facebook account-



**De Soto Kansas Baptist Church**



## A MOMENT WITH JO

*"Then the righteous will answer Him saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink?' And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.'" —Matthew 25:37 & 40*

This very scripture was given in an example to me that I would like to share. A dear friend and I were discussing how much this virus has caused so many people to go to food banks as they are unable to feed their families. We have all seen on TV the lines of cars lining up... 1,000's and 1,000's of people needing help. We talked about the fear one would have if not able to feed your children. This friend told me she had asked the Lord to whom and where she could help. As she was answering calls and emails that come to her place of work there was a call from a woman who asked if there were an organization that would bring food and supplies to her house as she is handicapped from a stroke and brain tumor. My friend asked the woman what she needed and she needed about everything. My friend then asked her where she lived and she told her she would help her. My friend went to Target and bought many groceries, toilet paper, paper goods, cleaning supplies, distilled water and took it to the woman's house in Kansas City, KS. The woman in need was so grateful and continued to thank her. My friend told her she had specifically asked the Lord who He wanted her to help and it was this very grateful woman. My friend calls her every Monday to hear her needs and has Walmart deliver to her home.

I was so touched by my friend's story and began to cry when she shared it with me. I asked her if I may share with all of you and she said, "We are not to share our giving, just do it." I had dragged it out of her and assured her I would not give her name.

How our hearts are touched when we do anything for Jesus. He blesses everyone involved, doesn't He?

— Jo Sweatt



## TITHES & OFFERINGS . . .

THANK YOU!!! To those who have been submitting Tithes and Offerings  
to: DeSoto Baptist Church  
PO Box E - DeSoto, KS 66018



## FINANCE REPORT — MARCH 2020

Bal. Forward	\$ 36,013.53
Deposits	\$ 8,635.00
Disbursements	\$ 16,773.50
Ending Balance	\$ 27,875.03
Savings/Improvement	\$ 196,569.77

THANK YOU FOR  
GIVING BACK TO GOD!

## What's Been Happening...

# CO-VID SHUT DOWN BRINGS IMPROVEMENTS TO CHURCH BUILDING

The Trustees and Deacons have taken advantage of the Co-Vid Shut Down to complete numerous tasks and updates to the church building that have been in consideration for some time.

- Old fluorescent lights in the sanctuary and behind the front stained-glass windows were replaced and a security light was installed.
- The security system was completed to provide video recording of all outside entrances as well as the shelter house.
- New microphones were installed to meet government regulations along with a new amplifier and microphones. (Additional video equipment is to be purchased and installed to continue our weekly service broadcasts as well as an FM broadcast system to allow communication from the church building to car radios in the parking lots.)
- To prevent further incidents of water coming into the basement during heavy rains, downspouts were extended and buried and gutters were upgraded, including the installation of leaf guards.
- A complete deep cleaning of the church was contracted and done. This included a deep vacuuming and shampoo of all carpets and pews; removing all stains and wax where possible; mada-cide anti-viral disinfecting of all areas of the church; polishing all glass surfaces inside and out; and high-dusting of corners and high surfaces.

***Special thanks to our Deacons and Trustees who were responsible for the planning and supervision of these improvements:*** Deacons Doug Opdycke, Jim Ellis, Jeff Hodges, Fred Jones, Danny Lane, and Charles Lawhead; Trustees Jim Ingalls, Rodger Brackett, Jim Brashears, Matt McQuality, John Riffel, Dean Wall, and Darrell Zimmerman.

# Happy Father's Day

## FOOTPRINTS

"Walk a little slower daddy," said a child so small.  
"I'm following in your footsteps and I don't want to fall.

Sometimes your steps are very fast, sometimes they're hard to see;  
So walk a little slower, Daddy, for you are leading me.

Someday when I'm all grown up, you're what I want to be;  
Then I will have a little child who'll want to follow me.

And I would want to lead just right, and know that I was true;  
So, walk a little slower, Daddy, for I must follow you."

*Author unknown*



## LONG-AWAITED PRAYER PATH HAS BEGUN

*“A safe place of natural beauty for people to seek God’s guidance, comfort, and encouragement.”*

Twenty years of visionary thinking and planning is finally taking shape. Mary Etta Copeland has been carrying this plan in her heart and her mind since she received (at a National ABC Conference in De Moines) the confirmation of the necessity of our church being centered in prayer for all situations. Because of the blessing of a large area of land surrounding the church, the idea of a site for a garden or path dedicated to peace, prayer, and communion with God was blooming.

Richard and Mary Etta have had many incidences of people telling them of driving around aimlessly while trying to deal with some great personal problems, desperately needing a safe place to think. But even more, they see this path of prayer as a place for everyone for contemplation, a safe haven, a walking area, a place for teaching as well as finding scripture and prayer guide stations for insight.

Many members of our church family have served on teams or committees to visualize and plan for this prayer path, made possible by many donations and memorial funds of our immediate and extended church family. People who have served on these committees over the years include Karl Beesley, Richard and Mary Etta Copeland, Richelle and Jeff Hodges, Linda Lane, Charles Lawhead, Frances Lawhead, Rose McAninch, Bonnie Montgall, Rick and Monica Walker, Karen Wall, Anita Woywod and Joe Woywod.

Jeff Hodges is the chairman of the present Outdoor Enhancement Team that was responsible for finally staking out and completing the grading and surfacing of the path. Many additions and enhancements are yet ahead, but now we all can enjoy a quiet walk even without those amenities. If you would like to be a part of the planting and upkeep or would like to make a special memorial donation in the form of benches or plantings, or maybe you have suggestions for prayer guides or way stations, please contact Jeff Hodges or Mary Etta Copeland. Feel free to walk along the path whenever you would like.

Great thankfulness and praises to our founders who had the foresight to purchase such a large acreage in anticipation of untold future uses.

*“The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures, He leadeth me beside still waters, He restoreth my soul.” Psalm 23:1-2*

prayer







## DE SOTO FOOD PANTRY

Due to COVID-19, the De Soto Food Pantry will no longer offer in person shopping. However, they will be handing out pre-filled bags including meat to clients at the front door. *Temporary Hours are Wed 6:30-8 pm and Sat 9-10:30 am.*

**Thank you so much for supporting this vital resource in our community!**

**Top 10 Items Needed:** Canned Fruit, Applesauce, Dried Beans, Cereal, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Spaghetti Sauce, Hamburger Helper, Tuna, Personal Items (shampoo, razors) and Toilet Paper

*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 shop.*



## ONE DE SOTO RELIEF FUND

### For citizens of De Soto affected by COVID-19

The De Soto Food Pantry has created a fund called ***One De Soto Relief Fund***. This fund will help our citizens affected by COVID-19. Our greatest need at this time is for monetary donations. Citizens of De Soto affected by COVID-19 can look on the *De Soto Kansas Food Pantry* Facebook page for information on how to apply for a grant from One De Soto Relief Fund.

Donations can be specified to go towards One De Soto Relief Fund or De Soto Food Pantry. Checks can be made to either fund and mailed to 32905 W. 84th, De Soto or dropped off to Lori at Cedar Creek Pharmacy. *Thank you for your support.*



## WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY — Doers of the Word

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of each month at 6:30 pm

Our women's group is designed to be "doers" not just "hearers" of God's Word . . .to learn, to share, to pray for one another; to encourage one another and do good for those within and outside our group. We are studying the book From Messy to Meaningful and we have extra books for any newcomers. No worries about starting late - this is a book you can pick up in the middle with no problems.

To join contact Mary Etta Copeland (583-1425) or Karen Wall (669-1991)



## MEN'S BIBLE STUDY — The Book of ACTS

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of each month from 6:30-7:30 pm

Led by Matt Burns—Meeting temporarily moved to church basement.  
*Social distancing will be observed and face masks encouraged.*

*"As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another." Proverbs 27:17*




# June 2020

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b> Noah Beggs <i>Paul &amp; Wanda Hughes Aubry &amp; Megan Rudy</i>	<b>2</b> Ron Mann	<b>3</b> Caleb Hufford	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Matt Burns Leroy Davis Reta Jenks	<b>6</b> Mary Etta Copeland <i>Leroy &amp; Luella Davis</i>
<b>7</b> Alan & Kathryn <i>Hines</i>	<b>8</b> Caleb McQuality	<b>9</b> Isabell Sipe	<b>10</b> Debbie Chandler <i>Ben &amp; Junelle Woolery</i>	<b>11</b> Devin Hagginbotham Rylee Miller <i>Corey &amp; Tamara Sipe</i>	<b>12</b> Sharon Coatney <i>John &amp; Julie Riffel</i>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> Chad Martin <i>Jeff &amp; Richelle Hodges Fred &amp; Paula Jones</i>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Will Smalley	<b>17</b> Karl & Barb Beesley <i>Paul &amp; Debbie Chandler</i>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> James Ingalls	<b>20</b> Matt McQuality <i>Dale &amp; Sandy Cannell</i>
<b>21</b> Linda Lane <i>Bonnie &amp; Gary Logan</i>	<b>22</b> Linda Lastofka Joyce Lightwine	<b>23</b> Marie Gillihan	<b>24</b> Danny Stone <i>Mike &amp; Bonnie Montgall John &amp; Jenna Toner</i>	<b>25</b> Charlene Prudden	<b>26</b> Brian Brown Whitney Hastings	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> Shawn Pew	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Josh Champlain				

# June 2020

## De Soto Baptist Church Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 6:30 pm Doer's & Men's Bible Study	9	10	11	12	13 Pray for Central Region Churches
14 	15	16	17	18	19	20 
21 	22 6:30 pm Doer's & Men's Bible Study	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				



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

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

JUNE 2020

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May our LORD JESUS CHRIST himself  
and GOD our Father, who LOVED us  
and by his grace gave us eternal  
encouragement and good hope,  
ENCOURAGE your HEARTS and  
STRENGTHEN you in every  
good deed and word.

2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

