

"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6

2023



ENGAGED IN THE MINISTRY OF RECONCILIATION
De Soto Baptist Church

913.585.1026 — www.desotobaptistchurch.org — 8655 Copeland Way, De Soto, KS 66018

The other night at the "Trunk or Treat" there was a young man and his child who were in the right place at the right time. He told me that they often come to play on our playground and that is what they were doing when everyone showed up for the event. He and his son stayed quite awhile and had a hot dog and enjoyed the festivities. Just before he left, he asked me what time church is on Sunday and said that they may come and check us out. You all were a great witness to him.

I'm glad I had the opportunity that night to speak with him and others.

So often in my life I find myself arguing with God's leading as He tries to get me to participate in things like this. I think if I don't have a part to play, I won't be missed. Whether at work or at church or even other functions (like the tree lighting at the city hall), I can talk myself into staying home pretty easily.

The amazing thing is that somehow God is willing to use our feeble efforts for His kingdom. He just needs us to show up. Simply saying hello to an acquaintance or meeting someone new might be the spark that person needs to get them back on the track to a relationship with Jesus.

I saw a lady at the Dollar Store this morning and her t-shirt said, "I'm done peopling for today." It made me laugh for there are days when we would all agree.

And then there's the example of the Apostle Paul. In Philippians 2:17 he speaks of service: "But even if I am being poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrifice and service of your faith, I rejoice and share my joy with you all."

A drink offering. And offering of liquid poured out on the fiery altar or perhaps on the ground. Either way a liquid that is poured out and simply disappears with no evidence it was ever there. That is what I picture Paul saying. It may seem insignificant and ineffectual at the time, but in some way, God makes use of it.

Being poured out. All of me. For...?

For whatever God needs of you.

There are all kinds of events happening between now and the New Year. Thanksgiving potluck, advent readings, tree lighting, cantatas, church meetings, company Christmas parties, church decorating, etc.... Lots of opportunities for us to "pour ourselves out" for those around us. Let's get involved and see how God uses us in the next few weeks.

Sounds like a cool ministry! To show up and eat a piece of pie or a Christmas cookie! But I bet God has a greater plan for you than just that.

Blessings,

Matt



ONLINE WORSHIP—LIVE SUNDAYS AT 10:30 AM

Link to weekly worship services and all past worship services
can be found on our church website:

www.desotobaptistchurch.org

or on our Facebook account



FIND US ON
FACEBOOK

De Soto Kansas Baptist Church

ADVENT WEEKS

Dec. 3rd ~ **HOPE SUNDAY**— 10:30 am Service / Communion and Deacon's Fund Offering

Dec. 10th ~ **PEACE SUNDAY** – 10:30 am Service

Dec. 17th ~ **JOY SUNDAY** – 10:30 am Service / Christmas Cantata 7:00 pm

Dec. 24th ~ **LOVE SUNDAY** – 10:30 am Service



Deacon's & Trustees Meeting

Wednesday, December 6th

6:30 p.m.

Copeland Center Conference Room

From the
Deacons

CHURCH BUSINESS MEETING

Wednesday, December 6th

7:00 p.m.

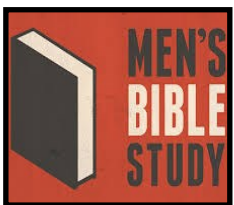
All Members Welcome to Attend!



MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

2nd & 4th Wednesdays of each month at 6:30 pm

Meeting in the Copeland Center



DOERS OF THE WORD WOMEN'S GROUP

All women are invited to Participate in our Doers of the Word Bible Study and Prayer
Group. 2nd and 4th Tuesday 1:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

Subject to change for winter months.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Mary Etta Copeland (913-583-1425)





December 2 – Mayor’s Christmas Tree Lighting 6 – 8 PM

DBC will be providing free hot cocoa and coffee AND operate a craft table for children.



De Soto Baptist Church took on the challenge in providing Christmas gifts for a family. Your generous spirits have made this possible to provide clothing and other necessities as well as a special gift for all members of this family. December 10 – Deadline for Gifts for Adopt a Family. Gifts should be wrapped with family number with name tags attached.

Please contact Mary Gale Kramer with questions.

In addition, we have filled the buckets lining our church aisle with cleaning supplies. These are greatly appreciated by the families at Bethel as those are items that are often overlooked by other donors.



Christmas Cards for the Military

Please bring your signed Christmas cards to church by 12/3.

Messages of encouragement are an added blessing

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CANTATA

Come join us in this new musical celebration of the message of Christmas as well as our Candlelight service in conclusion.

The Service will begin at 7:00 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 17th.

From the shimmering opening chords to the final climactic finish, "O Holy Light" carries singers and listeners through a journey of the celebration of the Light of the world.

Filled with beloved carols and exciting original songs this cantata captures the many moods of Christmas with a fresh voice.

The narration explores God's Light contrasted with the world's darkness, and how the Holy Light of Jesus will never be quenched.



TITHES & OFFERINGS

For submitting Tithes and Offerings to:

DeSoto Baptist Church
PO Box 578 - DeSoto, KS 66018



A MOMENT WITH JO

John 12:26

"If you want to follow to be My disciple, follow Me and you will go where I am going. And if you truly follow Me as My disciple, the Father will shower His favor upon your life." The Passion Translation.

Last month, I mentioned how John and I met the couple that we enjoyed on our Hudson River Cruise in October. What I did not tell you was that when they left that evening from the hotel lounge, a young man came and sat where they had been. I said good evening to him and the three of us visited for awhile. After a short time, he told us his name and we told him ours. Suddenly, I said, "what is your last name?" He repeated it and I told him, "oh my goodness, I have prayed for you for years". Then, he said that he had heard John's name throughout his life. This man's father was John's best friend in high school and we would get together with them when we went to Joplin where John had lived.

This young man asked me had I really prayed for him for years? I told him that his mother had told me he was in a very dangerous occupation and for me to pray, but never tell anyone. And yes, I had prayed for him. He said, "Why would you do that?" I told him, because Jesus loved him and wanted him to be protected. We all began to cry and thank the Lord for His great love. He called his parents and he told them this unbelievable story. One never know where Jesus will lead us, but you know you will have an interesting and joyous trip. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Jo Sweat

Ladies Christmas Brunch & Christmas Goodies Exchange

December 9

11:00am - 1:00pm Church Lower level

Signup sheet for soups & salads will be on the bulletin board.
Every guest brings 3 dozen of their favorite home baked cookies, candy, breads for the exchange and copies of recipe to share

Please RSVP to Linda Lane or Paula Rhodes



DE SOTO FOOD PANTRY Donations Needed

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

MOST NEEDED ITEMS:

- Canned Fruit & Applesauce
- Dried beans
- Cereal
- Peanut butter
- Jelly
- Spaghetti sauce
- Box meals (like Hamburger helper)
- Tuna (canned meat)
- Personal items (shampoo, razors)
- Toilet paper

Donations bins are located at Harps & Great American Bank or can be dropped off at the Food Pantry during regular hours.

If you would like to make a monetary donation, please mail your check to: De Soto Food Pantry, 32905 W 84th, De Soto, KS 66018.

HOURS OF OPERATION:

Tuesdays — 10 am to 12 pm

Thursdays — 4 pm to 6 pm

Saturdays — 9 am to 11 pm

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.



SNACKS FOR STARSIDE

SNACKS FOR STARSIDE has become one of our most appreciated projects for our local schools. School officials, counselors, teachers and children have all expressed the great appreciation they have for this simple project. Many children come from families who simply do not have the resources to provide snacks for their children's snack breaks. We know that often teachers provide snacks from their own pockets because they don't want any child to go without.

These snacks provide a great break in the day's work and help the children focus on their learning. The snacks must be small pre-packaged snacks. Animal crackers, Goldfish, fruit snacks, chips, popcorn, cheese & crackers are best. Please do not provide any foods with peanut butter because of allergies. Also, in trying to get the children to bring more nutritious snacks, they discourage cookies as well - so, **no cookies** -

If you would rather donate some dollars and let others to do the shopping, you can make a **check out to De Soto Baptist Church and put "Starside Snacks" on the memo line.** They can be put in the offering basket on Sundays or sent to De Soto Baptist Church, Box 578, De Soto, KS 66018

Thank you so much for your care and concern for our local schools!



DECEMBER EVENTS

- December 2 – Mayor's Christmas Tree Lighting - 6 – 8 PM - DBC will be providing free hot cocoa and coffee AND operate a craft table for children. Contact Linda Lane if you are interested in helping.
- December 3 - Deadline for Military Christmas Cards
- December 9 - Ladies Christmas Brunch & Christmas Goodies Exchange .
- December 10 – Deadline for Gifts for Adopt a Family Gifts should be wrapped with family number with name tags attached. Please contact Mary Gale Kramer with questions.
- December 17 - Christmas Cantata & Cookie Reception 7:00 PM - There will be a sign up sheet for baked goodies for the reception.

LOOKING FORWARD

- January 21 – Baked Potato Dinner – after church service
- January 19 - 20 Midwinter Mission & Evangelism Conference
- February – **Souper Bowl Sunday** – all donations will be sent to Love Gift



Blessing Bags

The ABW will soon have Blessing Bags available to future visitors of our church. They will contain a small New Testament, a book mark and other items.




College Connections

We currently have 11 students on this list.

Please let Barb Bosworth if you know of a student that should be on our card and encouragement list.

DECEMBER 2023

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|-----|---|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 Mayor's Christmas Tree Lighting 6-8pm |
| 3 First Sunday of Advent - HOPE Communion | 4 | 5 | 6 Deacons & Trustees Meeting 6:30p Business Meeting 7 | 7 | 8 | 9 ABW Outing TBD |
| 10 Second Sunday of Advent - PEACE | 11 | 12 Women's Bible Study 1:00pm | 13 Men's Bible Study 6:30pm | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 Third Sunday of Advent - JOY Christmas Cantata 7 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 Happy First Day of Winter | 22 | 23 |
| 24 Fourth Sunday of Advent - LOVE | 25 MERRY CHRISTMAS | 26 | 27 Men's Bible Study 6:30pm | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31  | | | | | | |

Birthdays & Anniversaries

December 2023

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

Engaged in the Ministry of Reconciliation

De Soto Baptist Church

Matt Burns, Interim Pastor

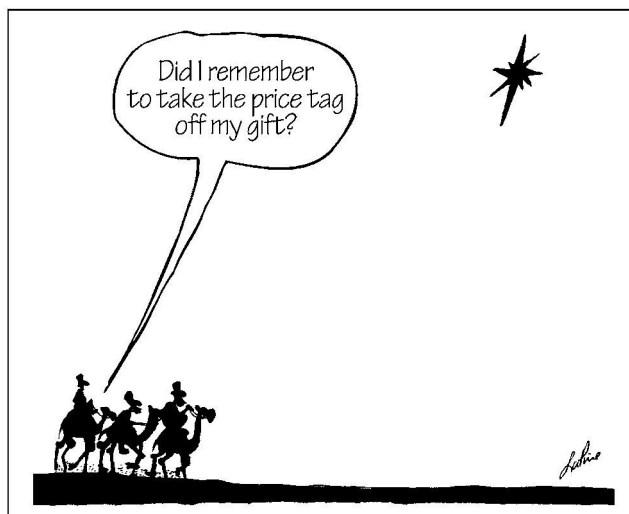
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De Soto, Kansas 66018

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DECEMBER 2023

