

Potwin Post

Sue Ann Seel, Pastor
APRIL 2024

Loving Our Neighbors

A few Sundays ago, a man who was most likely one of our neighborhood unsheltered persons came in the back door during worship. One of the Elders got up and went to assist him. It turns out he wanted to use the restroom—one of the most basic human needs. The Elder showed him to the restroom. After he came out, he went back to her and asked the most interesting question. “Do you have to be baptized to come to church here?” She told him that he was welcome to come to church with us, baptized or not, and that he was welcomed to stay. He opted not to do that and went on his way. This occurred just before Passing of the Peace, and as we were doing that, one of our young adults came to me and asked, “Where did that man go? I wanted to greet him.” I told her that he was gone and then she said the most amazing thing. “I hope he knows we love him. Do you think he knew we love him?”

Do our neighbors, **of any kind**, know we love them? What a powerful question. And one whose answer is most important, because if they don't, are we really doing our job as a church? Are we really ambassadors for Christ if they don't?

Do they know? And which ones are neighbors? Let's turn to Jesus for the answer to that question.

The Parable of the Good Samaritan

²⁵An expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he said, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” ²⁶He said to him, “What is written in the law? What do you read there?” ²⁷He answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all

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your strength and with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself.”²⁸ And he said to him, “You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.”²⁹ But wanting to vindicate himself, he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”³⁰ Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and took off, leaving him half dead.³¹ Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side.³² So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side.³³ But a Samaritan while traveling came upon him, and when he saw him he was moved with compassion.³⁴ He went to him and bandaged his wounds, treating them with oil and wine. Then put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him.³⁵ The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, ‘Take care of him, and when I come back I will repay you whatever more you spend.’³⁶ Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?”³⁷ He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”

Let us pray that all of our neighbors see the love of Christ coming from us. In His name we ask it, Amen.



TREASURER'S REPORT

Thank you for your generous contributions to Heartland Presbyterian Camping and Retreat Center in the month of March.

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR FEBRUARY

BALANCE 2/1/24	\$ 1,345.43
Feb. Receipts	\$ 13,045.67*
Feb. Disbursements	\$ 8,066.21
BALANCE 2/29/24	\$ 6,324.89
RESERVE ACCOUNTS	\$ 20,519.16

*Includes sale of BRKB stock: \$4,120.00



FINANCIAL NEWS— Per Capita for 2024 is \$37.00; please add this to your regular giving, if you are able and if you have not done so as of yet. This assessment is used to fund the work of our Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly offices. Thank you to those of you have already sent in your Per Capita.

Many thanks for your continued generosity towards our Mission Partners and Loose Coin Offerings. See updated giving totals below.

December—Joy Offering	\$246.51
January—Midtown Comm. Services	\$237.13
February—Doorstep	\$239.52

Potwin Presbyterian Church

400 SW Washburn Avenue
Topeka, KS 66606
(785) 235-1311

Find us on Facebook or visit online at

www.potwinpres.org

Sue Ann Seel, Pastor
Libby Adams, Pastoral Assistant
Gwen Jones, Music Director
Angela Juarez, Office Assistant

Session:

Sue Ann Seel, Moderator

2024

Gwen Jones
Libby Adams

2025

Cameron Charity
Grant Nutter
Joyce Black
Vacant—Youth Elder (1 year term)

2026

Bob Harrison

Clerk of Session: Joyce Black
Treasurer: Linda Tuller
Financial Secretary: Erica Marshall
Building Coordinator: Pat Abbey

Personnel:

Cameron Charity

Sunday School Team—Sue Ann Seel, Gwen Jones
Adult Bible Study—Sue Ann Seel
PNK Youth Representative—Gwen Jones



Audrey Trask
Cassie Wright
Maia Strobel

2nd
4th
9th

Like God the Father, we celebrate the day you were born!

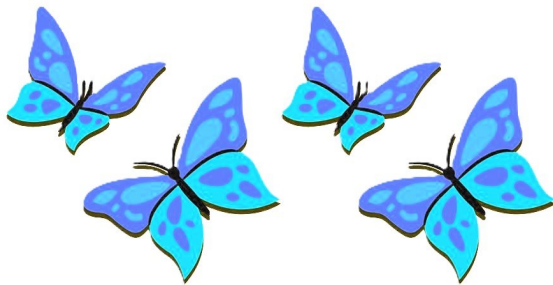


If we don't have you or one of your loved ones on our birthday list, and you would like to be included, please email Angela or the church and let us know.



Please pray for our at home Friends

Janet Lafferty



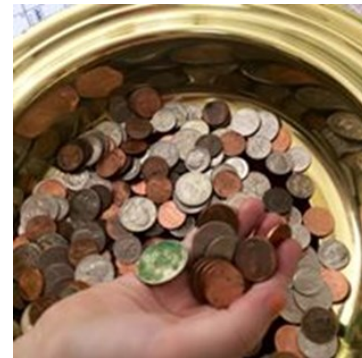
Deadline for May

Potwin Post is April 20*

Please email your submissions to Angela Juarez arp0371@gmail.com or potwinchurch@att.net.

****Any submissions received after the deadline WILL NOT be included in the next Potwin Post. No exceptions.***

Loose Coin Offering



APRIL

One Great Hour of Sharing

One Great Hour of Sharing is an offering of the Presbyterian Church USA that makes the love of Christ real for individuals and communities around the world who suffer the effects of disaster, conflict, or severe economic hardship, and for those who serve them through gifts of money and time. One Great Hour of Sharing funds make possible disaster relief, refugee assistance, development aid and more.

A NOTE FROM THE ADAMS FAMILY

In March, we received this note with a very generous contribution from the Adams family. We offer our heartfelt thanks for the blessings and work of Ken and Bev and offer our sympathy as they mourn their passing.

Dear Potwin Members,

In memory of Beverly and Kenneth Adams, please accept this donation to be used as needed for the church's mission. My siblings and I agree that Potwin Church and its membership has shaped our lives in many positive ways over multiple decades. Many thanks and God bless you all.

Dan Adams & siblings: Cheryl, Steve, Michael, & Rhonda



PRAYING TOGETHER

One of the most powerful things we can do as individuals and as congregations is to lift up our prayers and laments together. It may not seem like much, but it is a very powerful thing to do. This is why I strongly encourage all of you to find some time to pray daily—prayers of praise and thanksgiving and prayers of concern and intercession—for church members, for friends and family, and for the world. So simple, and yet so effective.

You may avoid such prayer times because you feel that you don't know how to pray, but despite what you may think or have heard, it really isn't that hard.

17th century author Matthew Henry once said that prayer is "*lifting up the soul and pouring out your heart!*" I think that is such a powerful description! Prayer is lifting up your soul and pouring out your heart. That's it. That's all you have to do. The Spirit takes it to God from there.

And praying together as a congregation, whether in person or separately from home, makes those prayers all the more powerful. This is why we pray during worship and why we send out the monthly prayer lists—so that we can join together to pray for those people and those situations. Likewise, this is the reason our Prayer Circle meets on **Thursday afternoons at 1:30PM in the Abbey Room**—to pray on behalf of the congregation. We would love to have you join us if you are able. You don't even have to pray out loud if you don't feel comfortable doing that. Just be with us to help lift our prayers to the Lord. Please contact Pastor Sue Ann if you are interested in being part of the Prayer Circle.

Prayers do work...we don't understand where or how or what God has planned, but we know that they work. And what a blessing, to be able to take all our joys and concerns to the Creator of the Universe.

Lord, hear our prayers.



NEWS FROM DOORSTEP

This is a busy month for Doorstep!

First, **April 1st – April 15th** we are having a fundraiser with ***Play it Again Sports*** where you can take your quality used sports gear and equipment to their location in **Fairlawn Plaza Mall**, let them know it is for Doorstep's fundraiser, and at the end of the month Doorstep will receive the proceeds! We have tried to time this event with 'spring cleaning'! You can recycle equipment you no longer use or need, free up space in your home, and make money for Doorstep, all at the same time!

The **Annual Banquet and Quilt Drawing** will be held on **Tuesday, April 23rd** at 6:30pm. We will have dinner, honor our volunteers, and celebrate the work we did in 2023! Dinner will be taco bake, chips, salad & dessert. RSVP to Doorstep (785-357-5341) by April 19th. We have 13 quilts from wall hangings, baby, KU, K-State, the KC Chiefs and more! Location TBD.

Friday, June 28th is the date of our inaugural **Golf Tournament for Doorstep!** Flyers and information are available on our website: www.DoorstepTopeka.org

The **7th Annual Neighbor Helping Neighbor Walk/5K Fun Run** is scheduled for Saturday, October 12th @ 9:30am.

Doorstep, Inc. Endowment Fund brochures were sent to your clergy in March. Help Doorstep continue helping your neighbors in need into the future by including Doorstep in your Legacy and Planned Giving. Brochures are also available at Doorstep and on our website: www.DoorstepTopeka.org/legacy-giving/.

Lisa Cain, Executive Director



Doorstep Needs List

Current Doorstep Needs ~ March 2024

Clothing Room Needs: (Gently Used, Not New)

Men's Jeans, Belts & Underwear

Men's Shoes

Boys Jeans & Slacks (All Sizes)

Boys Shirts (Sizes 4 - 10)

Girls & Teens Jeans (All Sizes)

Girls Shirts (Sizes 18 month - 10)

Diapers - Size 5

Sheet Sets: Twin, Queen & King (especially Queen)

Pots & Pans

Donations Accepted:

Monday – Friday
9am – 2pm

1119 SW 10th Ave
(10th & Buchanan)
Use the South Door

Hygiene Items: (Full Size)

Shampoo, Conditioner, Bar Soap, and 2-n-1 (Shampoo + Conditioner)

Food Room Needs:

The need for food assistance remains high. Please help us stock our pantry shelves to continue to provide for our neighbors in need.

We need the following food items:

Spaghetti O's & Ravioli
& canisters)

Jelly (any flavor)
Powdered Milk

Tuna Oatmeal (packets
Canned Milk



TOPEKA RESCUE MISSION NEEDS LIST

Donations can be brought to the Distribution Center at 401 NW Norris, Monday—Friday 8:00AM to 3:45PM. To speak with our Distribution Center, please call (785)357-4285.

DISTRIBUTION CENTER NEEDS

Peanut Butter	Jelly	Canned Proteins (Tuna, Chicken, Sloppy Joe, Beans, Etc.)
Canned Soups/Stews	Pasta Sauce	Tomato Paste/Sauce
Men's/Women's Underwear M, L, XL		Men's Jeans Used or New Sizes 30-34
Silverware	Cough Drops	Shampoo/Conditioner
Razors Men & Women	Shave Cream Men & Women	Size 7 Diapers
Foot Powder	Hair Brushes	Travel Size Toothpaste
Travel Size Shampoo	Travel Size Conditioner	Travel Size Lotion
Pots and Pans	Toilet Paper	Plastic Grocery Bags

KITCHEN NEEDS

3 compartment to-go containers	Cutlery packs with napkin, salt, & pepper
Bottled beverages (water/soda)	#10 cans of vegetables
Aluminum foil pans with lids	

MAP NEEDS

Women's underwear size small (4-6)	Men's underwear sizes 30-36
Men's jeans sizes 30-36	Sleeping bags & blankets
Travel size deodorant, conditioner, lotion, soap, & shampoo	

(Additional Mobile Access Partnership needs list items can be purchased on Amazon and shipped directly to TRM using the link below.)

www.trmonline.org/needslist

Visit the link below to purchase items from the TRM Amazon Wish List.

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/O6BQ8QXTPLGA/ref=hz_ls_biz_ex







*(Tentative schedule for the **Spring 2024**. Watch your emails, our Facebook page, website, and newsletter for more details to be released as we get closer to these dates.)*

April—Loose Coin: One Great Hour of Sharing

Sunday Apr. 7th—Communion Sunday—Pat Abbey

Wednesday Apr. 10th—Session Meeting 6:30PM

Saturday Apr. 13th or 20th (TBD)—Neighborhood Nights Movie. More details will be sent out once a date has been set.

Sunday Apr. 28th—Coffee House Church—Mark Works

May—Loose Coin: Project Restore Hope

Sunday May 5th—Potwin's 135th Birthday; Communion Sunday—Beth Shaw

Wednesday May 8th—Session Meeting

Sunday May 26—Coffee House Church—volunteer still needed



EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

****Please note that the deadline for future newsletter submissions has been changed to the 20th of each month unless otherwise noted. This slight adjustment has been made to compensate for delays being experienced within the postal service. If you have any questions, please contact Angela Juarez at arp0371@gmail.com. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.****

SAVE THE DATES

April—Loose Coin: One Great Hour of Sharing

Wednesday April 10th: Session Meeting 6:30PM

Saturday April 13th or 20th: Neighborhood Movie Night. Watch for more details to come soon.

Sunday April 28th: Coffee House Church—insert volunteer name here

COMMUNION SERVER & COFFEE HOUSE CHURCH VOLUNTEER

Sign up sheets have been posted on the bulletin board in the Sanctuary. Communion Server for **Sunday April 7th is Pat Abbey**. Please contact Pastor Sue Ann or Debi Harvey (Communion Steward) if you are interested in future dates. You may also contact the church office so we can put your name on the sign up sheet. The Coffee House Church volunteer for **Sunday April 28th is Mark Works**. Please use the sign up sheet on the bulletin board in the Sanctuary or contact Libby Adams (Fellowship & Nurture Chairperson) or the church office so we can put your name on the sign up sheet for future dates. Thank you!

BLESSING BOX & LITTLE LIBRARY

Our Blessing Box and Little Library are being constantly refilled to meet needs in our neighborhood. Many in our neighborhood have been assisting us in this effort. Thanks to all who contribute to these local missions. Remember our blessing box when you shop as it is always in need of items. You may bring the items into the church or place them in the box itself.



APRIL 2024

Visit us online at www.potwinpres.org or find us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/PotwinChurch>.
 You can also find us on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/@potwinpresbyterianchurchto7915>.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Sun. Fellowship 9:30AM Sun. Worship 10:00AM		Rehearsals every Tuesday unless otherwise noted. Bells—6:00PM Choir—7:00PM		The Neighbor- hood Movie Night will be on either April 13th or 20th. Watch for more details to come soon.		
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		Happy Birthday Audrey Trask		Happy Birthday Cassie Wright		
7 Communion Server Pat Abbey 	8	9	10 Session Meeting 6:30PM	11	12	13
		Happy Birthday Maia Strobel				
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 Coffee House Church Volunteer Mark Works 	29	30				

APR. 2024 POTWIN POST

Potwin Presbyterian Church

400 SW Washburn Ave.

Topeka, KS 66606

(785) 235-1311

Potwin Presbyterian Church is a safe and sacred place to worship God where Christ's love is revealed through actively and joyfully sharing, caring, and giving to others in our congregation, community, and world.

You can find us online at www.potwinpres.org & on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/PotwinChurch>.

You can reach us by email at potwinchurch@att.net

