

# Potwin Post

Sue Ann Seel, Pastor  
**AUGUST 2024**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Pastor's Post	1	TRM Needs List	6
Treasurer's Report	2	Kids Activity Page	7
August Birthdays	3	Events & Announcements	8
News from Doorstep	4	August Calendar	9
Doorstep Needs List	5		

## Little Church, Big Heart

### Potwin Presbyterian Church—The Little Church with a Big Heart for Mission

Recently the Session has had to make some changes to some of our mission projects due to agencies making changes or closing, so I thought it seemed like a good time for us all to review who we are as a missional church, and how we live that out as a small church in a big world.

First, several years ago the Session at the time adopted the following mission vision and goals:

#### MISSION GOALS

We feel called by God to serve in the following ministry areas:

1. *Feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, etc. (Matthew 25:31-46)*
2. *Improving the lives of children in our neighborhood, state, country, and world. (Matthew 10:40-42)*
3. *Encouraging human creativity inspired by our Great Creator through music, art, drama, etc. (Genesis 1:1-5)*
4. *Provide a space for the healing powers of Christ to work through us. (John 21:15)*

#### MISSION PARTNERS

At Potwin, we figure rather than trying to re-invent the wheel, we will partner with organizations in the denomination and in the community who are well versed in their area of expertise so that our efforts might go farther than that which the church could accomplish by ourselves. To that end, the Session has authorized the following Mission Partners. We work with these agencies in many ways including publicizing their events and collecting donations of both in-kind and financial to further their goals. In addition, our monthly Loose Coin Offering is used to help our Mission Partners. It should be noted that there are many other worthy organizations out there, but

these are the ones deemed to work most closely with our own mission goals. These agencies and programs include: Presbyterian Mission Agency, Mid Town Community Services, Heartland Camp and Retreat Center, Topeka Rescue Mission, Helping Hands Humane Society, Doorstep, World Central Kitchen, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, The Peacemaking Offering and other national offerings of the PCUSA, and a Back to School Drive for our neighborhood elementary schools.

In addition to these partners, we assist in feeding the hungry through our Blessing Box located at the corner of 500 Washburn.

Watch each month's newsletter to discover the mission partner of the month and help as you can. It will be appreciated. We may be small, but together we can make a difference.

*"Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? <sup>38</sup> And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? <sup>39</sup> And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" <sup>40</sup> And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.'"*

From Matthew 25



# TREASURER'S REPORT

Thank you for your generous contributions to Doorstep "Christmas in July" in the month of July.

## TREASURER'S REPORT FOR JUNE

BALANCE 6/1/24	\$ 8,627.59
June Receipts	\$ 6,079.79
June Disbursements	\$ 7,813.03
BALANCE 6/30/24	\$ 6,894.35
RESERVE ACCOUNTS	\$ 23,830.78

### Potwin Presbyterian Church

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

Find us on Facebook or visit online at

[www.potwinpres.org](http://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

### 2026

Bob Harrison  
Vacant—Youth Elder (1 year term)

Clerk of Session: Gwen Jones

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



## FINANCIAL NEWS—

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

More updates to come soon.

December (2023)—Joy Offering	\$246.51
January—Midtown Comm. Services	\$237.13
February—Doorstep	\$239.52
March—Heartland Camps	\$292.10
April—One Great Hour of Sharing	\$241.70

We have paid our per capita and General Mission pledge in full for 2024.

# Happy August Birthdays



Jane Sewell  
 Madeline Bigham  
 Jody Scott  
 Caitlin Charity  
 Ella Breitenstein  
 Rod Seel  
 Britton Stasiulis  
 Jon Workman  
 Brenda Strobel  
 Brynn Stasiulis  
 Elizabeth Chermok  
 Angela Juarez

3rd  
 5th  
 12th  
 15th  
 15th  
 16th  
 18th  
 18th  
 20th  
 22nd  
 22nd  
 23rd

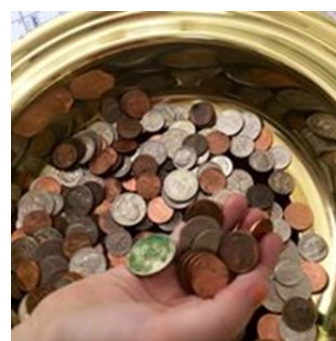
Like God the Father, we celebrate the day you were born!

*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**

## Loose Coin Offering



## AUGUST Back to School Drive

The loose coin offering for August will go towards back to school needs for students at our partner elementary schools, Meadows and Lowman Hill. School principals and counselors will use the funds to provide for youth who need assistance with back to school supplies. In addition, Potwin Church will collect boxes of Kleenex and Chlorox wipes to be shared between the schools—these items are always in need! Please help as you are able.

### Deadline for September

### Potwin Post is August 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.**

# NEWS FROM DOORSTEP



Thank you to everyone who donated to our Summer Cash Bash!!

You have heard us talking about the increased need for food assistance in our community for a year now. We would like to tell you that things have improved, and those numbers are decreasing, but that is not the case. Our neighbors continue to struggle to pay their rent, their high utility bills left from winter or new ones this summer, gas-line to get to work, even car payments or repairs. Our numbers for food assistance remain at an increased level, and hygiene kits will hit a new high this year as well. Our neighbors are truly struggling with the most basic needs of life.

## **In the first 6 months of 2024 (compared to 2023):**

Doorstep has spent \$190,352 on Direct Assistance to Clients (- \$79,721), we have provided 1,423 food orders (- 495), feeding 3,591 individuals (- 1,286) with 79,919 pounds of food (- 21,540), spending \$35,680 on food purchases to keep our shelves stocked to help our neighbors in need (- \$21,145). We have also provided 671 hygiene kits (- 200) spending \$4,941 purchasing those products.

Doorstep was built on neighbor helping neighbor and we are a part of a caring and generous community. Thank you for all the ways you support Doorstep and your neighbors in need; whether you have donated food, clothing and household items, monetarily, gifts for Christmas, participated in one of our events, or shared our information with someone who needed help, you are all very much a part of our Doorstep family and we appreciate your support.

Lisa Cain, Executive Director



## Doorstep Needs List

### **Clothing Room Needs:** (Gently Used, Not New)

Many of our neighbors are in need of basic clothing and home items. Items specially for children are also in high demand. The following items are particularly useful:

- |                              |                         |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| • Clothing                   | • Drapes, throw rugs    |
| • Diapers                    | • Towels and towel sets |
| • Toys                       | • Jewelry               |
| • Small Household Appliances | • Dishes                |
| • Sheets, blankets, linens   | • Pots and pans         |
| • Shoes                      |                         |

\*Due to the small size of our building and redistribution restraints, we are not able to accept furniture of any kind or care seats. To donate these items (gently used and good condition), please contact:

- |                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| • God's Storehouse   | • Giving Tree        |
| • 2111 SW Chelsea Dr | • 3343 S Topeka Blvd |
| • Topeka, KS 66614   | • Topeka, KS 66611   |
| • (785)608-6743      | • (785)408-1392      |

### **Hygiene Items:** (Full Size)

When available, we like to provide items to help our neighbors maintain healthy personal hygiene.

The following are especially useful:

- |                             |                 |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| • Toothbrushes/Toothpaste   | • Deodorant     |
| • Shampoo/Conditioner       | • Body Wipes    |
| • Soap Bars                 | • Combs/Brushes |
| • Feminine Hygiene Products |                 |

### **Food Room Needs:**

We strive to provide our neighbors with nutritious, well-rounded food options. Additionally, we like to offer more than just a quick fix. For many of our clients, we provide meal packages designed to yield three meals a day for five days. While we love any and all food donations, the following items are most common in our meal packages:

- |                               |                     |                         |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| • Macaroni & cheese           | • Jelly             | • Peas                  |
| • Pinto beans                 | • Bread             | • Pork & beans          |
| • Spaghetti & Spaghetti Sauce | • Egg Noodles       | • Crackers              |
| • Canned fruit                | • Rice              | • Peanut butter         |
| • Canned soups                | • Tuna              | • Hamburger (1lb packs) |
| • Ramen noodles               | • Canned vegetables | • Sugar & Flour         |
| • Milk (canned & powdered)    | • Corn              | • Cake mixes            |
| • Cereal (hot & dry)          | • Green beans       | • Cooking oil           |



### **Donations Accepted:**

**Monday – Friday  
9am – 2pm**

1119 SW 10<sup>th</sup> Ave  
(10<sup>th</sup> & Buchanan)  
Use the South Door

## 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**

Canned Proteins (Tuna, Chicken, Sloppy Joe, Beans, etc.)	Men's Jeans Size 30-40
Canned Fruit	Baby Diapers Size 5 & 6
Spaghetti-O's	Baby Toiletries (Lotion, Shampoo, etc.)
Men's Underwear M, L, XL	Men's & Women's Deodorant
T-Shirts 3X-4X	Ibuprofen, Tylenol, Cough Drops, Tums

### **KITCHEN NEEDS**

3 compartment to-go containers	Cutlery packs with napkin, salt, & pepper
Snacks for Sack Lunches	#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

*(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](http://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](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/O6BQ8QXTPLGA/ref=hz_ls_biz_ex)



**WE** can do  
all things  
through  
**CHRIST**  
who strengthens  
**us**  
Philippians 4:13

WEB

# EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## MUSIC NEWS

Bell Choir will resume rehearsals on Tuesday September 3rd at 6:00PM. If you are interested in participating, please contact Gwen Jones with any questions you may have.

## SCHOOL SUPPLIES WISH LIST REQUEST

Our very own Mary Charity is a 3rd grade elementary school teacher at Williams Science and Fine Arts Magnet School. Many teachers find themselves purchasing items for their classrooms out of their own pocket. Please help us support Mary Charity and her students by donating items from her Amazon Wish List. You may view the list by clicking here: [https://amazon.com/hz/wishlist/lz/FDXK763RY7J?ref=wl\\_fv\\_le](https://amazon.com/hz/wishlist/lz/FDXK763RY7J?ref=wl_fv_le)

## IMPORTANT DATES

August—Loose Coin Partner: Back to School Drive

The loose coin offering for August will go towards back to school needs for students at our partner elementary schools, Meadows and Lowman Hill. School principals and counselors will use the funds to provide for youth who need assistance with back to school supplies. In addition, Potwin Church will collect boxes of Kleenex and Clorox wipes to be shared between the schools—these items are always in need! Please help as you are able.

Previously this month's Loose Coin Offering was designated for World Central Kitchen. We will now collect for that organization in May. If you would still like to donate to this worthy cause, please go to: <https://wck.org/donate>.

Sunday August 4th: Communion Server—**Volunteer Needed**

Sunday August 25th: Coffee House Church—Potluck Style.

## COMMUNION SERVER & COFFEE HOUSE CHURCH

Sign up sheets have been posted on the bulletin board in the Sanctuary. We are in need of a Communion Server for **Sunday August 4th**. You may also contact the church office so we can put your name on the sign up sheet for any future dates. Coffee House Church will be potluck style for **Sunday August 25th**. Bring your favorite morning treats to share! 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. Thank you!


## BLESSING BOX & LITTLE LIBRARY

Please help us continue helping our neighbors in need. 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.





# August 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Sun. Fellowship 9:30 AM Sun. Worship 10:00 AM		Bell choir will re- sume practice September 3rd at 6PM. See Gwen Jones for more info.  		1	2	3
4 <b>Communion            Server</b> <hr/>	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Happy Birthday Madeline Bigham					Happy Birthday Jane Sewell
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	Happy Birthday Jody Scott			Happy Birthday Caitlin Charity Ella Breitenstein	Happy Birthday Rod Seel	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Happy Birthday Britton Stasiulis Jon Workman		Happy Birthday Brenda Strobel		Happy Birthday Brynn Stasiulis Elizabeth Chermok	Happy Birthday Angela Juarez	
25 <b>Coffee House Church</b> (Potluck Style)	26	27	28	29	30	31

Visit us online at [www.potwinpres.org](http://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>.

**AUG. 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](http://www.potwinpres.org) & on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/PotwinChurch>.

You can reach us by email at [potwinchurch@att.net](mailto:potwinchurch@att.net)

