

# Potwin Post

Sue Ann Seel, Pastor  
NOVEMBER 2024

## TINY HAPPY THINGS

Recently I read something that said we should be aware of the “tiny happy things” that happen in our lives, and thank God for them. I love that thought; “tiny happy things.”

Frequently at this time of the year we make lists and think about all the things we are grateful for, and many times it’s the big things that make that list—family, friends, a good job, a house to live in etc. While it is well and good to thank God for the big things, it is also important to become aware of the little things as well—those tiny little moments that fill our days. Things like—the sun shining through the window on a favorite vase, the smell of hot tea or chocolate or coffee as you bring the warm cup towards your face, the first savory bite of some delicious well prepared meal, the sound of children laughing and playing outside of a school yard, the way your favorite song makes you feel.....all of these are examples of tiny happy things, and if we but stop to notice them, we will discover that God sends them our way all the time.

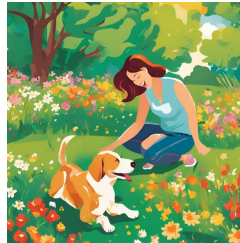
And so, during this month of thanksgiving, I suggest you do just that. I suggest you look for and find those tiny happy things, and write them down, so that when Thanksgiving Day comes and you take stock of all that you are grateful for, you will think of both the big things and the little ones too, and realize that you are blessed indeed.

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Thank you, Lord, for all you have given us—  
even the tiny little things.  
Amen

“O taste and see that the LORD is good;  
happy are those who take refuge in him.”  
Psalm 34:8



# TREASURER'S REPORT

Thank you for your generous contributions to the Peacemaking Offering in the month of October.

## TREASURER'S REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER

BALANCE 9/1/24	\$ 6,733.68
Sept. Receipts	\$ 8,761.87
Sept. Disbursements	\$ 7,303.65
BALANCE 9/30/24	\$ 8,191.90
RESERVE ACCOUNTS	\$ 24,565.96

### 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.

April—Heartland Pres. Center	\$292.10
May—One Great Hour of Sharing	\$246.70
June—Rescue Mission	\$225.90
July—Pentecost	\$222.79
August—Doorstep	\$250.41
September—Lowman Hills Elem.	\$130.00
Meadows Elem.	\$130.00



Megan Edmonston  
 Jayla Edmonston-Netherland  
 Caleb Chermok  
 Dale Schuette  
 Beth Currier  
 Lily Hutchison  
 Libby Adams

6th  
 16th  
 16th  
 18th  
 19th  
 20th  
 24th

**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 December**  
**Potwin Post is November 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**



**NOVEMBER**  
**Topeka Rescue Mission**

The Topeka Rescue Mission is a homeless shelter that has served Topeka, for more than 60 years. TRM is dedicated to providing food, shelter, clothing, training and hope to homeless and impoverished men, women and children. Every little bit goes to help the homeless in Topeka and to assist them in providing the basics plus assist them in personal growth and change.

We come together as a church of Christ to fulfill our pledge to Christ. We act together to live out our mission statement:

*“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.”*

I/we pledge on this day to support the mission of the church in the following ways during 2025:  
(Please remember this is about what you are able and want to give from your heart. Please circle all that apply below)

Regular attendance at worship services  Participate in Bible Studies or other classes as offered

Play in the bell choir/sing with the Spirit Singers, or provide special music

Volunteer in one of the following capacities

Building and grounds upkeep

Fellowship/Dinner preparations

Assist with other mission and outreach activities

Assist with youth activities

Assist with worship services

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Help the church with its financial obligations in the following ways

Give 10% of my income during the year (Tithing)

Give 5% of my income during the year

Give 1% of my income during the year

Give \$\_\_\_\_\_ during the year.

Other \_\_\_\_\_

In Kind donations for mission projects of the church (items for Doorstep, Rescue Mission, Schools, Baby Closet and others)

Pray for the church, the congregation, and our community

Other:

The Session is always interested in hearing ways we can help you participate in the life of the church. Please write any other thoughts or suggestions on the back of this page or a separate page. Then please bring this page to put into the plate during worship on Commitment Sunday, November 24th, 2023. If you are unable to attend worship, please send your page to or leave your page in the church office.

**Thank you for all you do for Potwin Church.  
We couldn't do what we do without you!**



## A PRAYER FOR VETERANS' DAY

All mighty God, Lord of Hosts, we call out to you as the One who is sovereign over all. Watch over and protect our nation's military members and their families. Sustain them with your everlasting arms.

As they serve around the world, we ask that you guard their families and loved ones back home. Provide them with peace and surround them with love as they mourn the absence of their loved one and long for their return. May they find hope and strength in you for the trials of each new day. Be with military children who endure the difficult burden of knowing their father or mother is in harm's way for months on end. Guard these children's hearts and minds despite the loneliness and uncertainty of having a parent deployed.

For each and every veteran who has served our country through the years, we thank you for their sacrifice. Comfort those who struggle in life after war. Help us to honor and care for those who have given so much for us.

Be with our nation's leaders as well, and all those who make decisions for our military. Give them wisdom and discernment in everything they do.

Father God, we long for the day when swords will be beaten into plowshares and spears into pruning hooks. We long for your peace, for your shalom.

In Christ's name we pray, Amen.





## ALL CHURCH THANKSGIVING DINNER

Potwin Family and Friends, we will once again come together to worship and join in fellowship to celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday on Sunday, November 24th after worship. All are welcome as we join in thanks giving for all of the blessings we have received as individuals and as a church family.

Please sign up at church or send an email to Libby at [yoda66675@gmail.com](mailto:yoda66675@gmail.com) if you are bringing a dish to share and the type (main, vegetable, salad, desert) the turkey and beverages will be provided. Please know that your presence is the most important thing, and there will be plenty of food (as always) so come with or without a covered dish but with a smile and thankful heart.

God's Blessings, Fellowship and Nurture Workgroup

Come join with our church family and friends to help  
celebrate this season of Giving Thanks!!!

Our Annual All Church Thanksgiv-  
ing Dinner is Sunday, November  
24th after worship.

The Turkey and beverages will be  
provided. Please bring a dish to  
share and a hearty appetite.

Image by Agata from Pixabay



# NEWS FROM DOORSTEP

It is that time of year when we begin to really focus on our Christmas Adoption Project. By now, the Christmas Bureau is taking applications from families & individuals who need help providing Christmas this year. Before Thanksgiving, we will have our 260 households and we'll be preparing their letters, schedules and compiling wish list items for 821 individuals!

We ended 2023 with little or no inventory on blankets, towels, and hygiene items for the health kits we give to each household. We provide each household Christmas gifts, food, blankets, hygiene items, a household item, school supplies & toys for the children, a puzzle and game, and gift cards. This is quite an undertaking, and we cannot do all of this without the help of our member congregations, individuals, and community groups.

Hopefully you know by now, through our newsletter articles, how much need there is in our community. The increased need for food has remained a constant for a year and half now, and our neighbors are struggling to make ends meet, often needing a hand up with bills, or the very least with food to feed their families. In the first three quarters of 2024, we have already exceeded the food numbers from all of 2023. Doorstep provided 2,031 food orders, providing meals for 5,872 individuals with nearly 130,000 pounds of food!

## **Items we currently need donated for Christmas are: (NEW)**

**Queen & King Size Blankets (New):** Please **NO THROWS**.

We need a total of 260 to provide at least one to each household!

**Full-Size Hygiene Items:** Shampoo, Conditioner, 2-in-1 Shampoo + Conditioner, Bar Soap, Body Wash, Toothbrushes, Toothpaste, Deodorant, Brushes and Combs

**Household Items:** Griddles, Silverware Sets, Dish Sets, Cookware – Saucepans, Sheet Sets (Queen & King), Small Laundry Baskets with cleaning supplies (All-purpose cleaner, laundry soap & softener, dish soap, rags, scrubbing pads, window cleaner) (new)

**Gifts:** Tool Sets, Cologne & Perfume Sets, Body Care Sets (men/women)

**Toys & Games:** Nerf Guns, Lego Sets, Action Figures, Dinosaur toys, Family Board Games, Puzzles,

**Hoodies:** Men/Women/Teens – Varying sizes (Medium – 4X), colors, designs, sports teams, or plain

**Monetary Donations:** to purchase food, gift cards and items we're lacking.

## **Christmas Distribution Volunteer Opportunities**

**(We will start scheduling volunteers in mid-November)**

**Tuesday, December 17<sup>th</sup>** there will be several opportunities from 8:30am – 12:30pm and 12:30pm – 5:30pm. (Lunch provided)

**Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup>** opportunities are available from: 8:30am – 1:30pm and 1:30pm – 7:30pm. (Lunch and dinner provided)

**Thursday, December 19<sup>th</sup>** opportunities are available from 8:30am – 12:30pm and 12:30pm – 5:30pm. (Lunch provided)

We need your monetary donations to purchase the gift cards, food, and any of the above items not donated.

You can mail your tax-deductible donations to:

Doorstep, Inc., 1119 SW 10<sup>th</sup>, Topeka, Ks 66604 or go to our website ([www.doorsteptopeka.org](http://www.doorsteptopeka.org)) to donate by credit card. Please let us know if you attend one of Doorstep's Member Congregations for credit.

**Lisa Cain, Executive Director**

## Doorstep Needs List

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

Men's Underwear, Sock, Shoes & Belts ~ All Sizes

Men's Jeans & T-shirts, Polo/collared & Dress Shirts ~ All Sizes

Kids & Teens (Boys & Girls) – Jeans, Pants, Sweats & Hoodies ~ All Sizes

Women's Bras, Underwear, Leggings & Jeggings ~ All Sizes

Diapers ~ Sizes 5 & 6

Sheet Sets ~ Twin, Queen & King

Blankets & Comforters ~ All Sizes

Washcloths & Hand Towels

Pots & Pans

Toasters, Blenders, Hand Can Openers & Crockpots

(Doorstep will be Closed for Services & Donations October 18<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>)

### Donations Accepted:

Monday – Friday  
9am – 2pm

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

### Food Room Needs:

Peanut Butter (not large jars)

Canned Vegetables ~ All Types

(Green Beans, Corn, Peas, Carrots)

Canned Tomatoes

Chicken Noodle Soup

Dry Pinto Beans – 1lb.

Progresso & Chunky Soups

Canned Beans

(Pinto, Black, Chili)

Vegetable Soup

Pancake Syrup

Pork / Baked Beans

Jelly

Tuna

Ramen

Saltines

Egg Noodles

### Health Kit Items Needed for Christmas Families: (260 Kits Total)

We need to have our kits made up in November and we are starting with zero inventory this year! Ideally, we need the following Full Size Personal Hygiene Items by November 12<sup>th</sup> to start assembling kits: The total quantity needed is listed after the item.

Shampoo + Conditioner (2 in 1) - 173

Bar Soap – 466 bars

Toothpaste - 362

Brushes & Combs – 38 & 379

Bath & Hand Towels (New) – 288 each

Shampoo and Conditioner – 114 each

Body Wash - 27

Deodorant - 298

Toothbrushes (singles or small packs) - 821

Washcloths (New) – 396





## 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**—The TRM/Valeo Mobile Shower Access for the homeless provides a hot shower, clean clothes, food & beverage, mental health screening, health services for pets, city ID services, and many other services. They are deployed every Tuesday and Thursday at a scheduled location and operate from 8AM to 3PM. Current MAP needs are travel size items of the following:

Lotion, Body Wash, Shampoo, Conditioner, Razor Kits, Toothpaste, & Deodorant.

Also needed are: Women's underwear size small (4-6), Men's underwear sizes 30-36, Men's jeans sizes 30-36, Sleeping bags, & Blankets.

*(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)



Let us  
Come to Him with  
**THANKSGIVING**  
Let us **sing**  
**PSALMS**  
**of praise**  
**to HIM!**

Psalm 95:2



# EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CHURCH OFFICE CLOSURE DATES

The church office will be closed Monday November 11th in observance of Veterans Day and also on Thursday November 28th in observance of Thanksgiving. Any messages will be returned when we return to the office.

## BELL CHOIR NEWS

Potwin's Bell Choir has been practicing for the fall season. They hope to play at least once every month. Current members are Sue Ann Seel, Bob Harrison, Cathy Wasinger, Sybil Weigman, Libby Adams, Jane Sewell, Kris Fillmore and Linda Tuller. Gwen Jones continues to direct us and provide challenging pieces to perform! Come hear us play on November 17<sup>th</sup>. You will recognize the song!

## DATES TO REMEMBER & LOOSE COIN INFO

November—Loose Coin Partner: Topeka Rescue Mission

The Topeka Rescue Mission is a homeless shelter that has served Topeka, for more than 60 years. TRM is dedicated to providing food, shelter, clothing, training and hope to homeless and impoverished men, women and children. Every little bit goes to help the homeless in Topeka and to assist them in providing the basics plus assist them in personal growth and change.

**Sunday November 3rd:** Communion Sunday; Daylight Savings Time Ends. Set your clocks back one hour before bed on Saturday November 2nd. Otherwise, you'll end up getting to church an hour early!

**Every Tuesday in November:** Bell Choir rehearsal at 6:00PM. See Gwen Jones for more info if you are interested in participating.

**Monday November 11th:** Church office closed

**Sunday November 24th:** Coffee House Church and All Church Thanksgiving Dinner to be held after worship.

**Thursday November 28th:** Church office closed

## COMMUNION SERVER & COFFEE HOUSE CHURCH

We are in need of a Communion Server for **Sunday November 3rd**. Please use the sign up sheet on the bulletin board in the Sanctuary or contact the church office so we can put your name on the list. Thank you! In lieu of our traditional Coffee House Church treats on **Sunday November 24th**, we will be having our All Church Thanksgiving Dinner. Please see page 6 of the newsletter for additional details.

## 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.



# November 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Sunday Fellowship 9:30AM Sunday Worship 10:00AM  Bell Choir 6:00PM every Tuesday		<b>Church Office will be closed Monday Nov. 11th for Veter- ans Day and Thursday Nov. 28th for the Thanksgiving holiday.</b>			1	2
3 <b>Daylight Savings Time Ends</b>  <b>Communion Server</b> <hr/>	4	5 Election Tuesday  	6	7	8	9
10		12	13	14	15	16
17	<b>Happy Birthday Dale Schuette</b>	<b>Happy Birthday Beth Currier</b>	<b>Happy Birthday Lily Hutchison</b>			<b>Happy Birthday Caleb Chermok Jayla Edmonston- Netherland</b>
24 <b>Coffee House Church</b>  <b>All Church Thanksgiving after Worship</b>  <b>Happy Birthday Libby Adams</b>	25	26	27		29	30

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>.

**NOV. 2024 POTWIN POST**

**Potwin Presbyterian Church**

**400 SW Washburn Ave.**

**Topeka, KS 66606**

**(785) 235-1311**

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