



## Lessons from Sesame Street

For decades now children of all ages have had a creative access to learning through watching Sesame Street. I can remember watching it with my siblings smiling along, singing the catchy songs and enjoying all the different characters and neighbors as they interact with one another.

As I've gotten older I now realize that we can learn so much more from Sesame Street than our 1,2,3's and A,B,C's. I love the fact that Sesame Street welcomes everyone. It's a place where a Big Bird, a Snuffleupagus, a Grouch, a Cookie Monster, and other characters of all colors and all ages coexist. On Sesame Street, the neighbors care about and learn from one another. They know one another because they are actually out on the street meeting and greeting one another. Though Sesame Street is a fictional place, I can't help but think about how amazing it could be if we, right here in the neighborhood of Dawson UMC could turn this into a beautiful reality.

What would it look like...what would it feel like for our church stoops to be a gathering place, a place of acceptance, a place of relationship for all people in our neighborhood to sing, play, learn and pray? I believe that is what God has called us to do...it is what Jesus taught us to do, and it is what our mission statement inspires us to be as "a vital heart of the community where all people are invited to experience God's love as they grow in faith".

We have been invited to be a part of something great. I encourage and invite you to read the following information about the **Good Neighbor Experiment** and prayerfully consider how you too can make a difference as we strive to bring love to life.

Pastor Amy



### The Good Neighbor Experiment

The Good Neighbor Experiment (GNE) is a 12-month program including 4 one-day retreats, 4 six-week study groups and 12 months of coaching through the leadership and expertise of

[www.neighboringmovement.org](http://www.neighboringmovement.org) by SoCe Life. GNE is for church and faith communities desiring to reconnect with their literal neighbor. Over the 12 months of this program participants will gain a

*theological framework of church as neighbor and live out practical neighbor in their context. The two primary focuses of the program are discipleship and neighbor. Discipleship is the inner work of the individuals and faith community to love God. Neighbor is the ability to engage neighbors through abundance and intention. Through GNE churches will find inspiring practical ways to love God and love neighbor.*

You can participate by agreeing to be part of the main cohort group which will require attending the day retreats that will meet one Saturday, every three months at Calvary UMC, Wichita for one year. Upon the completion of each retreat, you will then share what you have learned through leading/facilitating a six-session small group study at Dawson UMC. Or you can simply agree to be a participant in the small group study sessions as a learner. If you are interested in becoming a part of this enriching experiment or for more information, please see Pastor Amy or Ted Branson.

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF

Mark 12:31



**Come One, Come All  
Lets Celebrate Fall!**

Mark your calendars now for our Neighborhood Fall Festival and Block Party on October 21. Plans are being made for this great family friendly event that include fun, food and fellowship. To find out how you can help, please see Pastor Amy, Carissa Guinty or Sheryl Kauffman.



**PRAISE IN THE  
PARK  
This Sunday  
September 3rd  
10:45 AM**



**Join us under  
the pavilion in  
Robinson  
Park. Just west  
of the church  
parking lot.**



**Tuesday Morning Bible Study**  
This group meets every Tuesday at  
10 A.M. Everyone is welcome to  
join us Tuesday mornings.  
Come study with us!

**\*\*\*Volunteer Opportunity\*\*\*  
Laundry4Learning**

Teachers around the country estimate that nearly one in five students struggle with access to clean clothes. This seemingly small barrier can leave a significant impact on a student's academic experience. It is also believed that these students are more likely to struggle with absenteeism, a critical issue impacting an estimated five to ten million students each year.

The Laundry4Learning program was established by the Mending Place, a local church in our neighborhood to assist the students and families at Anderson Elementary to help improve attendance rates through the simple act of laundry. We have been invited to share in this outreach ministry by volunteering as laundry assistants to wash, dry, fold or perhaps even mend clothing each Monday thru Thursday at Anderson Elementary. If you are interested in serving in this manner, please contact Pastor Amy.





We are scheduled for Family Promise the week of Sept 24th and then again around Nov. 12. We will be needing food items as part of our co-host support of this ministry. There will be a sign up sheet and list of needs in Findley Hall.

<http://www.familypromisewichita.org/>

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## BLESSING BOX

We are also in need of nonperishable food items for the Blessing Boxes. Small containers of laundry soap, single rolls of TP, baby wipes, and other sundries are welcome.

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## Growing Together – Day of Service

On Sunday, October 8, once again we will be taking it outside! It is going to be a great morning as we will worship through service. The morning will begin at 9:00am in Findley Hall with a light breakfast, followed by a short time of praise and worship. We will then depart from our church and travel over to Anderson Elementary School, 2945 S Victoria, to show God's love as we "dig in" and spruce up their courtyard area. A light lunch will also be provided. This is a church-wide, intergenerational day of service, no matter your age or abilities, there will be something for you to do, even if its providing prayer and encouragement from the sidelines. Besides working outdoors, there will be inside jobs available in the church kitchen to assist with preparing lunch and clean-up. As we draw closer to the day of service, more specific information will be made available. Come and grow together with us!



## OCTOBER 5TH - 7TH

IT'S TIME TO START GATHERING THOSE UNNEEDED, UNWANTED, ITEMS THAT ARE JUST IN THE WAY AND GET THEM READY TO BRING TO THE CHURCH (PRICED IS VERY HELPFUL). YOU CAN BEGIN BRINGING YOUR ITEMS THE WEEK BEFORE THE SALE. WE WILL NEED FOLKS TO HELP SET UP FOR THE SALE AND ALSO HELP THE DAYS OF THE SALE. WE WILL ALSO HAVE A BAKE SALE IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE SALE (CANDIES, COOKIES & QUICK BREADS SELL WELL). IF YOU CAN HELP OR BRING STUFF FOR THE SALE/BAKE SALE, THERE WILL BE SIGN-UP SHEETS SOON OR PLEASE CONTACT SHERYL KAUFMAN OR THE CHURCH OFFICE FOR MORE INFORMATION.

THE HOURS OF THE SALE WILL BE 8 - 5 ON THURSDAY & FRIDAY OCTOBER 5TH & 6TH AND 8 - 2 ON SATURDAY OCTOBER 7TH. WE WILL BEGIN SETTING UP AT 9 AM ON SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 30TH AND WILL WORK EACH DAY UNTIL IT IS SET UP.



The Change for Change collected in September will go to the Brookside Food Pantry.

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled.

2 Corinthians 10:3-6



## 3D DINNERS AND DISCIPLESHIP CLASSES

for persons of all ages will resume on Wednesday, September 7. Dinner will be served at 5:30 with intergenerational activities to follow. The evenings activities will conclude at 7:00pm.



Come join the adult Sunday School class as we begin a new study. We meet in the conference room at 9:30 AM every Sunday. We have very in-depth, relevant and lively discussions of the weekly lessons.

You are welcome to join us anytime, grab a cup of coffee or juice and a donut in Fellowship Hall and come study with us.



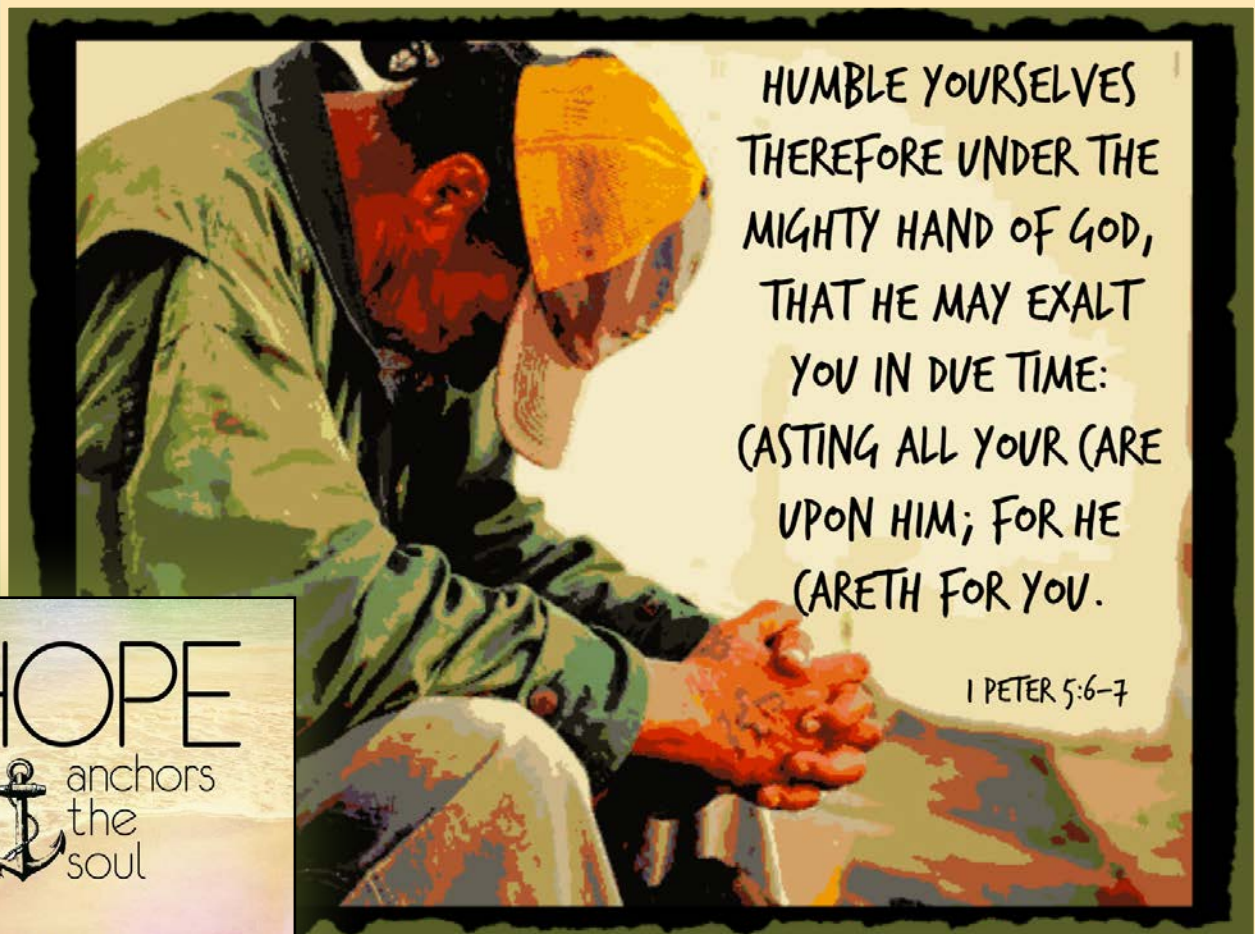
Come sing with the Choir  
We will meet on September 27th and discuss our next season and sing a few songs. If you have never sang with us and would like to, please join us Wednesday September 27th @ 7 PM.

Make a joyful noise  
to the LORD  
Psalm 100:1



*As the Scriptures  
say, "If you want  
to boast, boast only  
about the LORD."*

2 CORINTHIANS 10:17-18



HUMBLE YOURSELVES  
THEREFORE UNDER THE  
MIGHTY HAND OF GOD,  
THAT HE MAY EXALT  
YOU IN DUE TIME:  
CASTING ALL YOUR CARE  
UPON HIM; FOR HE  
CARETH FOR YOU.

1 PETER 5:6-7

