

2ND QUARTER 2026

CIVIC ACTION MINISTRY NEWSLETTER

Oak Ridge Missionary Baptist Church

SAVE THE DATE!

Our next meeting of the year will be on Saturday, June 27th at 10 a.m. at Oak Ridge. If you are interested in joining our ministry, please come. We will have a guest speaker to talk with us about the recent Kansas legislative session and upcoming elections.

Thank you to everyone who came out to support the Nehemiah Action hosted by Churches United for Justice on April 27th. Over 400 people came to support initiatives regarding affordable housing, homelessness, and property tax relief. Our mayor and four county commissioners were in attendance to show our “people power” and demand action.

Community Information:

- Johnson County, Kansas
 - Corson Town Hall – Senator Ethan Corson and other elected officials provide a legislative update. Powell Community Center, 9 a.m.
 - June 27th, July 25th, August 22nd, September 26th, October 24th, November 21st, and December 19th.
 - Second Saturday Democratic Breakfast – June 13, 9 a.m., Powell Community Center, 6200 Martway St., Mission, KS. Presenters will be Cindy Holscher (candidate for Governor) and JCCC Board of Trustees.
 - Second Sunday Town Hall – hear from Senator Sykes and other legislators.

Following Jesus Daily – Matthew 16:24

Ministry Goals:

Provide information on voter registration, elections, legislative issues, and civic engagement activities in the metropolitan area. Also, participate in civic and voter engagement activities.

Election Information:

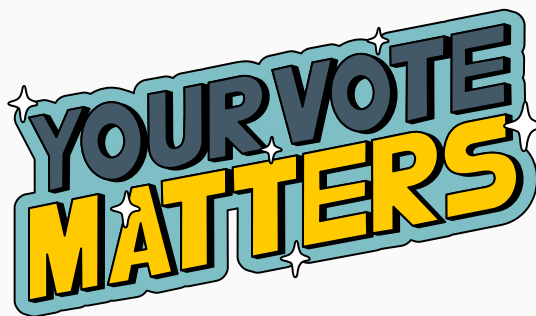


- Primary election – August 4
- General election – November 3
- Kansas
 - Offices on the ballot – All Statewide Seats, U.S. Senate, U.S Representatives
 - 2026 Constitutional Amendment to elect KS Supreme Court justices in August.
 - Constitutional Amendment to provide that only citizens of the U.S. can vote in the State in November.
 - Registration Deadlines:
 - Primary Election – July 14
 - General Election – October 13
 - In person advance voting must begin by:
 - Primary election – July 28
 - General Election – October 27
- Wyandotte County, Kansas
 - Offices on the ballot – five seats for the Unified Government Board of Commissioners (districts 2, 3, 4, 6, and At-large 1).
- Missouri
 - On the ballot (August 4)
 - Replace income tax with expanded sales and use taxes – amendment 5. Opponents fear that it gives state lawmakers too much power to raise other taxes and that it may hurt low-income resident by forcing drastic cuts to services.
 - Revision of process for citizens to amend the State Constitution – amendment 4. If passed, citizen-led constitutional amendments would require majority support statewide and a majority in every one of the state’s eight congressional districts. Currently, a simple majority is needed to pass in order to put policy measures to a statewide vote.
 - On the ballot (November 3)
 - Abortion rights



Legislative Issues:

- Missouri: The Missouri Supreme Court unanimously upheld the state's newly redrawn congressional map. The court also determined that a submitted veto referendum does not automatically suspend the new map, meaning that it remains in effect for the August primary and November general elections. The map significantly alters Missouri's 5th Congressional District (held by Democrat Emanuel Cleaver) by splitting Kansas City into three separate districts, favoring Republicans.
- Kansas:
 - Voters will decide on a constitutional amendment in August that would dramatically change how justices are selected for the Kansas Supreme Court.
 - New laws this legislative session:
 - House Bill 2437 – This new law removes voters from the rolls due to inactivity. It also limits on-line voter registration (including the KSVotes website), to .gov web domains, or state-approved sites. It mandates that the Secretary of State provide quarterly reports on non-citizens receiving benefits to and is therefore anti-immigrant as well.
 - House Bill 2729 – This new law requires that KDHE (Kansas Department of Health and Environment) develop standardized consent forms for individuals seeking to end a pregnancy. The documentation presented to women would include information on fetal development, risks of abortion and alternatives to the procedure. It would also include the discredited idea that a medication abortion could be “reversed.”
 - House Bill 2727 – This new law allows plaintiffs alleging violation of informed consent laws tied to abortions to file lawsuits without first working through a medical malpractice board. Those filing suit could by-pass the review board on the condition that claims were limited to \$5,000 in damages as well as attorney fees and reimbursement for medical costs.



Legislative Issues Continued:

- House Bill 2727 – This new law allows plaintiffs alleging violation of informed consent laws tied to abortions to file lawsuits without first working through a medical malpractice board. Those filing suit could bypass the review board on the condition that claims were limited to \$5,000 in damages as well as attorney fees and reimbursement for medical costs.
 - House Bill 2372 - This new law allows county sheriffs to hold undocumented individuals in jails without a warrant and expands qualified immunity for ICE agents. It creates a new crime for approaching/observing a first responder (e.g. ICE agent), requiring a 25-foot buffer zone around agents engaged in immigration actions, limiting protests and press coverage.
 - House Bill 2731 - This new law adds unnecessary red tape to Medicaid and SNAP that could result in eligible Kansans losing coverage and going hungry. However, some of the most harmful provisions of the bill were removed before it passed, such as more frequent Medicaid renewals.
 - Senate Bill 20 - Enacts the Kansas Consumer Prescription Protection and Accountability Act providing for regulation and registration of pharmacy benefits managers.
 - Senate Bill 361 - Subsidizes private school tuition for families making as much as \$315,000.

Remember: No 3-day grace period for mail-in ballots in 2026

Other Events/Community Resources

- Upcoming Voter Rights Network of Wyandotte County (VRNWC) Programs:
- Saturday, June 13, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., (Doors open at 9:00 a.m.) KS Gubernatorial Forum, hosted by VRNWC and MORE2, Forest Grove Baptist Church, 1417 N. 9th Street, Kansas City, KS 66101.
- Piper Pirate Mobile Food Pantry and Clothing Closet: 10 a.m. – noon
- 3130 N. 122nd St., KCK
- May 9, June 13, and July 11
- No ID, proof of residency, income or need is asked/required.
- Food distributed until it runs out
- Food donations are accepted during this time as well.
- Drive up to the east side of Piper’s District Office building and look for the Food Pantry sign. Food will be brought to your car.

