

In This Corner

“Dare to Think for Yourself”

By BOB ROBISON, PASTOR  
*First Christian Church*

Nicodemus was a man who didn't just blindly follow the crowd. Not even the most powerful crowd in his place and time. This was a man who dared to think for himself.

Position and power were integral parts of Nicodemus' life. He was a Pharisee, an expert in the laws of the land, and the Law of

God. And he was a member of the Sanhedrin which was akin to our Supreme Court. But Nicodemus didn't simply "stay in step" with these people of high places. He dared to listen, to think, to ask questions, and learn.

And then came Jesus. Jesus of Nazareth. A man of no fame or position. The son of a carpenter. And now an itinerant teacher. This Man traveled through the country, teaching, performing miracles, interacting with the lowly, the unclean, the sinner. But He became the 'talk of the town' wherever Hewen't

even though He told people not to tell anyone about the amazing things He had done and was doing.

The blind could see and the lame could walk. The deaf could hear and the palsied limbs were restored. The sick were healed, demons were cast out, and some, though death had claimed them, lived again. At least that's what people were saying.

The Pharisees didn't want to hear it. This was a threat to their 'status quo'. They were trying to find away to get rid of this man Jesus. Permanently. But

Nicodemus went to see Him. "Rabbi," he said, "we know that you are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do, unless God is with him" (John 3:2). But he went in the darkness of night so that he wouldn't be seen by others of the Pharisees. Still, he went. He went because he dared to think for himself.

It's easy to follow the crowd. Easy to go with the flow. Easy to let someone else do the thinking. But it isn't wise. There are those that are always striving to lead others astray; striving to lead them (us!) down the

'primrose path' to embrace their views and their ways of thinking. The freedom to think for oneself isn't welcome here. Listen and fall in line is the name of the game!

Jesus responded to Nicodemus with some challenging things, one of which was the need to be "born anew" if one wants to experience the kingdom of God (John 3:3). This, of course, refers to the transforming work of the Holy Spirit within those who accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. Talk about change! Here one recognizes the true Source of

life and wisdom and turns away from the cacophony of the crowd. Here one dares to think for herself or himself.

Read a book that pricked your conscience or challenged your faith? Preacher said something that challenged where or what you are? Dare to think it through rather than tossing it aside. Pray about it. Listen to the Lord. Seek the truth. And realize it is here, as it was for Nicodemus, that we begin to experience the growth that leads us ever closer to the One Who went to the cross for each of us.

LEGAL S

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IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF GREENWOOD COUNTY, KANSAS

In the Matter of the Estate of SHARON KAY PLATT, Deceased.

Case No. GW2026-PR-000021 (Petition pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 59)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are notified that on July 17, 2026, a Petition for Issuance of Letters of Administration was filed in this Court by Kyle A. Platt, heir of Sharon Kay Platt," deceased, requesting Letters Testamentary be issued to Kyle A. Platt.

All creditors are notified to exhibit their demands against the Estate within the latter of four months from the date of the first publication of this notice, as provided by law, and if the identity of the creditor is known or reasonably ascertainable, 30 days after actual notice was given as provided by law, and if their demands are not thus exhibited, they shall be forever barred.

Kyle A. Platt  
Paul E. Dean, #18395  
Putnam & Dean LLC  
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Attorney for Petitioner

USD #386

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Superintendent Dallas Woolf recognized the custodians for making the buildings look great and the township for mowing along the roads and grading.

Amanda Schild recognized Olivia Adams for all of her help with enrollment and Mason Martin for helping troubleshoot wiring at the elementary school.

Jannette Luthi made a motion to accept the Safe and Secure schools grant. Shane Watts seconded the motion. Motion carried. 5 yes, 0 no.

Jannette Luthi made a motion to approve the Ele-

mentary Student Handbook as presented for the 2026-2027 school year. Shane Watts seconded the motion. Motion carried. 5 yes, 0 no. Ty Gaines made a motion to approve the Jr/Sr High Student Handbook as presented for the 2026-2027 school year. Shane Watts seconded the motion. Motion carried. 5 yes, 0 no. Ty Gaines made a motion to approve the USD 386 Staff Handbook as presented for the 2026-2027 school year. Shane Watts seconded the motion. Motion carried. 5 yes, 0 no. Ty Gaines made a motion to set the RNR hearing for September 14, 2026, at 5:30 p.m., with the Budget hearing to follow at 5:45. Amy Hind seconded the motion. Motion carried. 5 yes, 0 no.

Amy Hind made a motion to select Shane Watts and Jannette Luthi to serve on the 2026-2027 Negotia-

tions committee. Ty Gaines seconded the motion. Motion carried. 5 yes, 0 no.

Ty Gaines made a motion to select Amy Hind to serve as the 2026-2027 KASB Delegate to represent USD 386. Shane Watts seconded the motion. Motion carried. 5 yes, 0 no.

Amy Hind made a motion to approve the USD 386 Facilities Usage Agreement as presented. Ty Gaines seconded the motion. Motion carried. 5 yes, 0 no.

Information items discussed were DCS/Survey results, sewer lines, Elementary cooler, scoreboard, District Needs Assessment, and FFA Agreement.

Principal Amanda Schild gave an update on MES maintenance projects.

Superintendent Woolf gave updates on the beginning of the school year Jr/Sr High Open House and

Coaches/Parent meetings.

Amy Hind made a motion to go into executive session with Board and Administration for 5 minutes to discuss personnel matters according to the non-elected personnel exception under KOMA, to discuss an individual employee's performance, with the open meeting to resume at 7:45. Shane Watts seconded the motion. Motion carried. 5 yes, 0 no.

Ty Gaines made a motion to approve Lucie Celte as PreK-3 Aide for the 26-27 school year. Jannette Luthi seconded the motion. Motion carried. 5 yes, 0 no.

Amy Hind made a motion to go into executive session for 20 minutes with the Board and Superintendent to discuss negotiations, regarding the teacher contract pursuant to negotiations exception under KOMA, with the open meeting to resume at 8:08 in the meeting room. Shane Watts seconded the motion. Motion carried. 5 yes, 0 no.

Amy Hind made a motion to go back into executive session for 20 minutes with the Board and Superintendent to discuss negotiations, regarding the teacher contract pursuant to negotiations exception under KOMA, with the open meeting to resume at 8:34 in the meeting room. Ty Gaines seconded the motion. Motion carried. 5 yes, 0 no.

Jennifer Watts made a motion to go back into executive session for 10 minutes with the Board and Superintendent to discuss negotiations, regarding the teacher contract pursuant to negotiations exception under KOMA, with the open meeting to resume at 8:50 in the meeting room. Ty Gaines seconded the motion. Motion carried. 5 yes, 0 no. No action was taken on the final three executive sessions..

Jannette Luthi made a motion to adjourn. Shane Watts seconded the motion. Motion carried. 5 yes, 0 no. The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

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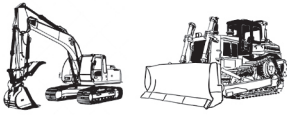
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