

THE PATHWAY

Our Vision

We are becoming a beacon of faith, drawing people to Jesus

Our Mission

We will serve Jesus by touching people's lives and teaching them to have Kingdom-minded hearts.

Our Values

- * **Welcoming:** We meet you at the door and receive you as one of our family.
- * **Family:** We encourage families of all ages and stages, and those in need of families, to be a part of our church family.
- * **Christ-centered:** We focus our worship, our teachings, and our lifestyle choices on Jesus.
- * **Scripture:** We encourage everyone to have an understanding of The Bible as God's inspired communication to all.
- * **Prayerful:** We communicate to God in prayer to strengthen our relationship with Him.
- * **Supportive:** We support and uplift each other through our prayers, fellowship, and service to one another.
- * **Evangelism:** We share the message of salvation both locally and globally.

A WALK DOWN THE PATH

On: Stumps

Over the past two or three years, Linda and I have had several long needle pine trees die in our yard. Some of the trees I had someone help me cut down and drop. Some of the trees I dropped myself. After the chain saw has done its work getting the trees down, the chain saw goes to work cutting the trees up to be burned or carted off. Linda has been real helpful collecting the brush from the trees as I attack the branches with the saw. (April helped some, as well.)

When Linda and I were young and lived in Wichita, a large cottonwood tree in our yard was struck by lightning. We only had enough money for a tree company to drop the tree and its branches to the ground, so that's what we did. Our back yard looked like a dense jungle six feet high. I borrowed a chain saw one weekend when my folks visited us, and Dad and I went to work on the tree while Mom and Linda dragged branches. We stacked everything we could. During the winter I'd go outside every couple of days with my ax, sledge hammer, and wedges, and split wood from that tree. We'd burn it in our fireplace to the enjoyment of our little girls and Linda and me. I rather enjoyed the winter wood splitting exercise in the cold air.

Now, however, it all doesn't seem quite as enjoyable. Taking down those dead trees and cleaning up the resultant mess wears me out. My back starts hurting, my legs get tired, I gasp for air, my hands ache, the time drags, and I constantly think of my comfy old recliner downstairs in front of the TV.

Well, the trees are all down, the brush is all cleaned up, and grass is beginning to regrow where the burn piles were. Yet, something still remains...the stumps.

Those stumps are a constant reminder of how grand the trees once were. The grandkids made "castles" back in those trees, and put wood platforms in some branches for what they considered their tree houses. Those trees are

gone. It took nearly 30 years for those trees to grow, and we have many other trees that are still quite healthy, large, and growing. But those stumps remind me that once the tree fungus hit them, some died in as little as one or two years.

Those stumps are lessons of what time can produce, and how quickly a disease can cause a fatal problem.

Christians can be long lived trees or we can be stumps. We can grow tall in faith and spread our influence to provide shade and protection. But we also must be wary of diseases that can cause the deterioration of our faith. When we become lax in our disciplines, casual with our pursuit of Bible knowledge, lazy in our prayers, greedy with our desires, and so on, then we are in danger of becoming sick in our spirits. I've known a lot of believers who slowly changed over time and eventually became stumps. Sometimes a new growth would rise from that stump, but frequently that stump simply shows what once was.

Well, those stumps in my yard will disappear just as soon as I can get a stump grinder in. Then, I'll replant some trees and get them started for the next 30 years.

Those brothers and sisters who are great, noble trees of faith that we admire, did not become that overnight. And in fact, they probably don't think of themselves in those terms, because they see themselves as still growing. Whether you are a relatively new growth, or have grown impressively in your faith, be aware that allowing a little disease to infect your systemic spirit can become a big problem. So be a healthy, grand tree for the Lord, and avoid becoming a stump.

"Find One" this year to shelter under your branches.



Steve

Church Offerings for March/April

Date	Offering
Mar. 26	\$2,800
Apr 2	\$4,179
Apr. 9	\$2,260
Apr. 16	\$1,807

Mar. Avg: \$2,634

Weekly Budget Requirement: \$2,803



UPCOMING SERMON SERIES: JEHOVAH@HEAVEN.ORG

For our next sermon series, Steve will be taking us through a series of messages about God's Word to the Prophets.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEETINGS

The Deacon and Elder Board Meeting will be held Sunday, May 7, with a \$6 Supper at 6 p.m.

MISSION MINISTRY

CEA Annual Meeting, RHCC Recognition, Friday, May 5



The Christian Evangelizing Association Annual Meeting will take place on Friday, May 5, in Salina. The meeting begins with a catered supper at 6:30 p.m. (no charge for the meal). During the meeting this year, Rolling Hills will be recognized as one of CEA's Legacy Churches, having been planted over 25 years go. We need to respond for reservations; please let Steve Seehorn know by Sunday, April 30, if you can attend.

North American Christian Convention, June 27-29

The North American Christian Convention is close to home this summer, and we hope you will make plans to attend! Held June 27-29, the NACC will be in Kansas City, at the Kansas City Convention Center. Check the church foyer for registration information, or register online at www.gotonacc.org.

NEWSLETTER NOTES

Published monthly, our newsletter has been going out the last week of the month. For future issues, we plan to have it out earlier in the month, in order to allow you to receive information pertinent to the upcoming month a bit earlier. Please have all newsletter info to Melissa by the 3rd Sunday of each month. For June, information is due Sunday morning, May 21. The newsletter with serving information can also be found on our website, rhcctopeka.org.

SERVING AT RHCC

Cleaning Crew 3 for May

The Joe White Cleaning Crew (Crew 3) is cleaning for the month of May. Thanks to the volunteers on the cleaning crews for all of their hard work keeping the church neat and clean!

NEW PHONE NUMBER

For your information, please add the phone number for Linda Hanshaw to your church directory: 785-338-3172.

STUDY THE WORD

There is a weekly Bible study available on Tuesday evenings at 7 p.m., led by Steve Seehorn. Read the Bible in 2017 with the Holman Christian Standard Daily Chronological Bible, **Reading God's Story**. Join in at any time; this study will continue through the year. The switch to Tuesdays continues through August.

CONGRATULATIONS, GRADUATES!



Congratulations to Brett Whisler on his upcoming graduation from Rockhurst University, with a Master of Science in Business Intelligence & Analytics. His announcement is posted in the foyer.

BAPTISMS

There was a special family baptism held in April, as Barb Neer's family chose to become baptized at RHCC. Barb's oldest son, Brett, performed the baptisms. Congratulations to Barb's parents, Joe and Joanne Neer, and her sister Debra, on their decision to follow the Lord! The family resides in Emporia.



COFFEE #OUR FELLOWSHIP
Coffee on Sundays
 Beginning on Sunday, April 23, we will have coffee available in the foyer during the Sunday School hour.

MEN'S MINISTRIES

Men's Breakfast, Last Sunday of the Month

All men are invited to a men's breakfast on the last Sunday of each month, 7:30 a.m. at the Hunter's Ridge McDonald's. The next meeting is on Sunday, April 30.

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

Sisters in Service Spring Tea, Sunday, April 30, 2 p.m.

All ladies and guests are invited to the church for a time of food and fellowship on Sunday, April 30, at 2 p.m. Please help us plan accordingly by signing up in the foyer by Sunday, April 23.



Ladies' Bible Study

The Ladies' Bible Study meets on Thursday mornings at 9 a.m. All ladies are welcome to participate.

Tanglewood Care Home Ministries

Sisters in Service helps with Bingo the 2nd Thursday of each month at 1:45 p.m. They need small items for prize donations. Please place items in the basket in the foyer.

Topeka Rescue Mission

We have a volunteer opportunity at the Topeka Rescue Mission on the 4th Tuesday of every month, at 9 a.m. We hope to see you there on April 25 and May 23.

Operation Backpack, 1st Thursdays @ 6 p.m.

Topeka North Outreach packs bags of food for children in need the 1st Thursday of every month, at 6 p.m. at the Mathis Learning Center. You are welcome to help pack backpack bags on Thursday, May 4.

Mother's Day, May 14

Happy Mother's Day on May 14! We will have a small gift for all mothers at church that day.



YOUTH MINISTRIES

VBS Meeting, Sunday, April 23, After the Worship Service

The VBS meeting has been rescheduled for after the worship service Sunday, April 23. This meeting is for all interested in being involved with a Summer Vacation Bible School. We will work toward deciding a date and format, and form a leadership team for the event. Please join in to help make VBS possible this year!

Youth Group, Sundays, 6:30 p.m.

Junior and Senior High youth meet at 6:30 p.m. on Sunday evenings at the church.



KSCC 2017, Early Registration Due April 23

King Solomon Christian Camp for Summer 2017 is coming soon! Early registration is due to the church **Sunday, April 23**, and the church will pay 1/3 of the early-bird rate (Amount in parenthesis is the rate for church members, with checks payable to RHCC.).

The registration rate will increase after this date.

Campers usually register based on the grade they're entering in the fall. Any adults (parents) who would like to attend camp are invited and encouraged to do so. Pick up a registra-

tion form in the church foyer when they are made available, or visit www.kingsolomon.cc.

- Day Camp, June 3, \$30 (\$20)
- 1st & 2nd Grade, June 15-16 OR July 20-21, \$70 (\$47)
- 3rd & 4th Grade, June 11-13 OR July 16-18, \$90 (\$60)
- 5th & 6th Grade, June 19-22 OR July 10-13, \$160 (\$107)
- Jr. High, June 26-30, \$190 (\$127)
- Sr. High, June 5-9, \$190 (\$127)

2017 Spring Graduates

If you are aware of any RHCC Students graduating this Spring, please inform the church office so we can be aware and recognize our graduates.

EASTER THANKS

We had a great turnout for Easter breakfast. Thanks to Bruce Maples for coordinating the morning which included Dustin and Ashleigh Mengarelli for organizing the cooking crew. Thanks to everyone who helped set up tables, decorate the tables (that looked terrific!), served tables while folks were eating, and helped tear down and set up for church. It was a really enjoyable morning.



SERVING AT ROLLING HILLS FOR MAY

WORSHIP ELDER — Eric Showalter

SONG LEADERS — Melissa Boutz

PIANIST — Tari Metzler

SOUND — Bryan Boutz

COMPUTER — Bruce Maples

CHURCH CLEANERS — Joe White, Crew 3

COMMUNION PREPARATION — Melissa Boutz

* Communion Meditation; # Offering Meditation

7	14	21	28
* Kurtis Wells # David Maples Konner Wells Paul Brackey	* Kurtis Wells # David Maples Konner Wells Paul Brackey	* Jim Clark # Bob Coffman Walt Baker Bruce Smith	* Jim Clark # Bob Coffman Walt Baker Bruce Smith
BENEDICTION			
David Maples	David Maples	Bob Coffman	Bob Coffman
MISSIONS UPDATE			
Arlene Marshall	Georgia Ford	Eric Showalter	Sharlene Showalter
GREETERS			
Boutz / Johnson	Lehew / D Maples	B Maples / Wohletz	Marshall / McElroy
NURSERY WORKERS			
K Snyder / B Watson	L Seehorn / C Wohletz	K Flesher / T Baker	T Briggs / I Boutz
PRESCHOOL WORSHIP			
Karen Seel	Marcia James/ Megan Perry	Amy White	Karla & Lauryn Morstorf
ELEMENTARY WORSHIP			

Rolling Hills Christian Church

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Find us on Facebook!

Steve Seehorn, Minister
steve@rhctoepka.org

Melissa Boutz, Administrative Assistant
melissa@rhctoepka.org

Come Join Us!

Sundays:

9:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Worship Service

COMING UP AT ROLLING HILLS

Sun., Apr. 23: VBS Meeting, After the Worship Service
King Solomon Christian Camp Registration DUE

Sun., Apr. 30 5th Sunday Family Sunday
Sisters in Service Spring Tea, 2 p.m.

Sun., May 7 Board Meeting, 6 p.m.

Sun., May 14 Happy Mother's Day!

Sun., May 21 June Newsletter Information Due

Weekly:

Tuesdays: Bible Study, 7 p.m.;
Thursdays: Ladies' Bible Study, 9 a.m.;
Mondays, Wednesdays, & Fridays: Senior Fit & Fun, 1:30 p.m.;
Sundays: Jr./Sr. High Youth Group, 6:30 p.m.

Coming Soon: Summer Camps; Vacation Bible School

**The Pathway is available by e-mail, and is on our website!
Simply e-mail us to let us know if you prefer electronic over paper.**

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Easter Breakfast, April 16