April, 2019

# 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 Kingdomminded 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.

# Church Offerings for Feb/ March

 Date
 Offering

 2/24
 \$3,491

 Feb. Avg: \$3,177

3/3 \$1,100 3/10 \$3,280 3/17 \$2,574

Weekly Budget Requirement: \$3,009

## A WALK DOWN THE PATH

#### On: Cracked Windshields

The other day Linda headed to Derby to help our daughter Amy with a garage sale to help with funding her mission trip to Africa this summer. At some point the windshield on her car began cracking. She called me and I told her we'd get it fixed after she returned home (which I of course forgot about because I started watching Big 12 basketball games).

This morning (Monday) she reminded me of the crack because as she was driving here in town, the crack was growing. So, I called a glass repair shop and scheduled a replacement repair for Tuesday afternoon in case Linda leaves town to help with her sister later this week.

It occurred to me that sometimes cracks develop in the windshield that protects the comfort of my lifestyle. I've gone through the same basic routines for the past 44 years. At age 23, following my graduation for Ozark Bible College, Linda and I (with the help of my parents) moved to Wichita, Kansas to begin a nine-year ministry with Riverlawn Christian Church. My title was Associate Minister and I did a lot of different stuff, wore a lot of different hats and made a lot of great friends. The church grew, my ministry grew, my responsibilities changed, and I had to learn to do things that weren't being taught anywhere.

In 1984 Linda and I were contacted by Rolling Hills Christian Church in Topeka. We drove up and met with some members at an Italian Restaurant that Claude Wright really enjoyed on the south side of Topeka. Afterward, we drove to the church location and met with the pulpit search committee. Short story...we were hired and moved our family of three young daughters to Topeka.

We worked hard to keep the doors open for the first two or three years. We began growing. It was a lot of work, hard work, time consuming work. The county had zero percent population growth, but our congregation grew between six and nine percent each year. We began two worship services, had youth interns, children interns, music interns. We expanded our building with a plan for the future. Things were looking great and I nearly dislocated my elbow patting myself on the back. Then things began to unravel.

The economy changed dramatically, and companies moved out taking many of our members, most of which were in leadership positions. Key people died, and I buried many friends. Other things took place and more membership shifted. I watched my ministry identity unwind. I struggled to emotionally cope with the changes, and the decisions that were necessary to regroup and stabilize our efforts.

New people began to engage with us. New and younger leadership have been added. New ideas and willing volunteers have joined our efforts to improve our ministry efforts and have a vision for our future direction.

During all this process I realized that I had lost the enthusiasm of my younger years. I no longer have the endurance or ambition this congregation needs and deserves in order to impact our community. I am no longer exhibiting an influence that engages people to be bigger in their faith. I realized, this windshield is cracked. It's time for a replacement.

So, a few years ago, I began talking to our leadership about the need for me to retire and step away, allowing a new man with an energetic heart for the Lord to step in and lead us into a future with unlimited potential. We are poised to advance. It's time to replace this windshield.

The first Sunday of May will conclude my full-time ministry. We'll remove the windshield that no longer accomplishes its purpose and find a solid and good-working replacement which will permit us to safely move forward. I want to be sure that everyone knows how much I love this church and will do whatever I can to help the new pastor to succeed in his efforts of leader-ship.

Support the Search Team with prayers and words of encouragement. Support all the volunteers who continue to keep the church's ministries functioning effectively. Be in every worship service. Be faithful in your stewardship. Love and support "Pastor Future" with the same love and support you gave our family. We still belong to Rolling Hills, just as you still belong to us. We just need a new part so we can arrive well at our destination. God bless you all.

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## Announcements

## WOMEN'S MINISTRY

#### Ladies' Bible Study, Thursdays, 9 a.m.

The God You May Not Know: This is a new study starting every Thursday morning at 9 a.m. Join us on the journey from knowing about God to KNOWING God. Please bring friends and neighbors; this will be very inspiring.

## MEN'S MINISTRY

Men's Fellowship at McD's, 3/31, 4/28, 7:30 a.m.

Many of the men in our church meet for breakfast fellowship on the last Sunday of each month at the Hunter's Ridge McDonald's. All men are invited to participate.

## SERVING AT RHCC

#### Cleaning Crew 2 for April

Cleaning Crew 2 is cleaning for the month of April. Thanks to our cleaning crews for all of their hard work!

#### **Prizes for Tanglewood Bingo**

There is now a container for monetary contributions for Tanglewood Bingo, for those who prefer not to shop or don't know what to give. Sisters in Service hosts Bingo at Tanglewood Care Home on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursdays each month. They welcome small gifts and snacks to use as prizes. Prizes and financial contributions can be placed on the counter in the church foyer.

Save Your

Items for Our Rummage Sale

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

#### Garage Sale Fundraiser, June 7-8

We will be joining in the Woodgate HOA garage sale Friday and Saturday, June 7-8. All proceeds will go to the Topeka Rescue Mission. We will need volunteers to help with this event. Donations to be sold will be accepted starting June 2. (We appreciate

with this event. Donations to be sold will be accepted starting June 2. (We appreciate donations, but please do not bring items early due to storage constraints.) Everything not sold will be donated to the Rescue Mission. More details are coming soon.

## CHURCH LEADERSHIP AND TRANSITION TEAM

#### **Leadership Transition Team**

A group of Deacons, Elders, spouses of both, and members of the congregation are meeting weekly as a transition team, working toward Steve's retirement. They will continue to meet through the month of May, working toward filling the upcoming vacancy.

The search team has finalized and gone live with both our church profile as well as our job description for the Sr. Minister position. They have already begun the process of reading resumes and considering applicants.

Please continue to pray for this group, and of course, for God lighting the path for our next minister.



#### Elder and Deacon Board Meeting, April 14, 6 p.m.

The next Board Meeting will be held at 6 p.m. on 4/14.

#### **Church Leadership Contact Information**

We have a great team of deacons and elders who take care of the church in many ways. If you need to reach one of the church leaders, give them a call:

- Mel Christenberry, Elder: 785-383-6458
- Bill Hollingshead, Elder: 785-319-9211
- Eric Showalter, Elder: 785-224-4994
- Joe White, Elder: 785-506-4715
- Kevin Wohletz, Elder: 785-250-3157
- Walt Baker (text only): 785-220-6721
- Jim Clark: 785-249-3461; Bruce Maples: 785-249-2750
- David Maples: 785-249-0507; Kurtis Wells: 785-220-8449
- Dustin Mengarelli: 620-724-2877

# STEVE'S RETIREMENT WEEKEND, MAY 4-5

After 35 years with Rolling Hills Christian Church, Pastor Steve will retire at the beginning of May. Though we are sad to lose him as lead pastor of RHCC, we celebrate with the Seehorns as they begin a new journey in life. Make sure to join in the festivities surrounding Steve's upcoming retirement!

#### Retirement Reception, Saturday, May 4

#### 1-3 p.m. Garfield Park Shelter House

Come wish Steve well with a special reception at Garfield Community Center, 1600 NE Quincy St, Topeka, 66608.

#### Sunday Morning Worship, May 5, 10 a.m.

We will welcome some special guests, including former interns and "Timothy's", for Steve's final Sunday as lead pastor.

Our Pastor's

Our Pastor's

#### Fellowship Lunch, May 5

Following the morning worship service on May 5, we will have a carry-in fellowship lunch.

Meat, drinks, and table service will be provided. Church families, we are expecting many out-of-town guests. Be sure to bring plenty of sides and desserts to share!

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## YOUTH MINISTRY

#### **Youth Group**

Youth Group for Jr. and Sr. High students meets on Sunday afternoons at 4:00 p.m.

Though we do not currently have one regular leader, youth group continues to meet weekly, sometimes at the church and sometimes rotating to different homes, for times of fellowship and learning. All jr. high and high school students are encouraged to attend!



#### Sonshine Boxes, Due April 14

Let's encourage our college students as the semester draws to a close! Bring treats and notes for 2 students. Boxes will be assembled and distributed Sunday morning, April 14.

## EASTER, APRIL 21

Make plans to join us for a very special Resurrection Sunday! Our celebration will begin at 8 a.m. with a brief worship service, with singing and a time of devotion. If weather permits, this service will take place outdoors. Then we will enjoy our annual Easter breakfast, starting at 8:30 a.m., with food prepared by Dustin & Ashleigh Mengarelli.

The Pic and Bow will be here to share a concert during our regular 10 a.m. worship service. It is always a wonderful treat to hear from Charles David Smart and Michelle Gawith as they glorify the Lord and encourage the church.

You won't want to miss the Easter Celebration at Rolling Hills Christian Church on Sunday, April 21!



The Pic and Bow members Charles David Smart and Michelle Gawith share fun and dynamic energy — world class musicians with very different backgrounds coming together for the sheer joy of music and sharing it with others. Together, they create a distinctive and quality musical experience.

— thepicandbow.com

## SERVING AT ROLLING HILLS FOR APRIL, 2019

**WORSHIP ELDER** — Mel Christenberry

**Sound** - Bryan Boutz

Song Leaders - Melissa Boutz

COMPUTER - Jim Clark

PIANIST — Tari Metzler
CHURCH CLEANERS – Crew 2

**COMMUNION PREPARATION** - Marshall

<sup>\*</sup> Communion Meditation; # Offering Meditation and Benediction

7	14	21	28
David Maples     Eric Showalter     Walt Baker     Zander White	* David Maples # Eric Showalter Walt Baker Zander White	* Bruce Maples     # Kurtis Wells     Mike Denton     Konner Wells	* Bruce Maples # Kurtis Wells Mike Denton Konner Wells
MISSIONS UPDATE			
Eric Showalter	Sharlene Showalter	Arlene Marshall	Georgia Ford
GREETERS			
Marshall / McElroy	Mengarelli / L Seehorn	Neer / Metzler	Smith / Holthaus
Nursery Workers			
Tracy Briggs / Kay Snyder	Brenda Watson / Tammy Smith	Linda Seehorn / Joan Barnes	Betty Johnson / JoyAnne Boutz
PRESCHOOL WORSHIP			
Karen Seel	Marcia James/ Megan Perry	Amy White	Anna Seehorn
ELEMENTARY WORSHIP: Kelli Warden			

# -Rolling Hills Christian Church

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www.rhcctopeka.org Find us on Facebook!

Steve Seehorn, Minister steve@rhcctopeka.org

Melissa Boutz, Administrative Assistant melissa@rhcctopeka.org

#### Come Join Us!

Sundays:

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

#### THE PATHWAY (USPS 005048)

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# COMING UP AT ROLLING HILLS

Sun., April 14: Palm Sunday (Children's Church

classes will help begin our worship service with the waving of palms.)

Sonshine Boxes assembled

Board Meeting, 6 p.m.

Sun., April 21 Easter Morning Worship, 8 a.m.

Easter Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.

Concert with The Pic & Bow, 10 a.m.

May Newsletter Information Due

(Newsletter information is due on the 3rd Sunday of each month.)

Sun., April 28 Men's Fellowship at McDonald's, 7:30 a.m.

#### Weekly:

Thursdays: Ladies' Bible Study, 9 a.m.
Mondays, Wednesdays, & Fridays: Senior Fit & Fun, 1:30 p.m.;
Sundays, Youth Group, 4 p.m.

#### Coming Up:

- May 4-5: Pastor Seehorn Retirement Events
- June 6-7: Church Yard Sale

The Pathway is available on our website!

Simply e-mail us to let us know if you prefer not to receive a paper copy.

# COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

#### **Tanglewood Care Home Ministry**

Sisters in Service will help with Bingo on April 9 at 2:15 p.m. Extra help is always appreciated! They continue to need small items for prizes, and there is a collection basket in the foyer for donations.

#### **Topeka Rescue Mission**

PALM

Sunday

Join in on April 23 at 9 a.m. for an ongoing volunteer opportunity currently served by the Sisters in Service at the Topeka Rescue Mission.

#### Operation Backpack with Topeka North Outreach

Operation Backpack packs food sacks on the 1st Thursday of each month, at Indian Creek Elementary. The next food sack-packing is April 4.

