## Rolling Hills Christian Church

Volume 42, Number 11

November, 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.

## A NOTE FROM THE ELDERS

Sticks and stones will break my bones, but words will never harm me.

The earliest citation of that old adage is from an American periodical with a largely black audience, The Christian Recorder, March 1862.

Words, Words, Words.

How might we use them? In particular, let us explore two of them today, those being words of discouragement or encouragement.

Webster's Dictionary states that discouragement means:

- 1. To lessen the courage or confidence of
- 2. To hinder by inspiring fear of consequences
- 3. To attempt to dissuade

I believe most of us have heard words of discouragement. I know Shirley and I certainly have during our walk down life's pathway.

When my dad was in the hospital for prostate surgery the operation was a success. As I felt sure I must run an errand, I went on my way. However upon returning, the doctor had discouraging words for me: my Dad had passed away during the short time I was gone. Sometimes discouraging words can bring forth encouraging words. I knew where Dad would now spend eternity.

Let's go back to Webster's and see what he said about the word encourage:

- 1. To inspire with courage, spirit, or hope
- 2. To spur on
- 3. To give hope to.

The Hebrew word encourage translated means to strengthen. The Greek is more complex.

The word encouraged in Acts 27:36 means to be of good cheer or to cheer up. The word in Romans 1:12 means to encourage together. The four times it is used in John 11:19 and 31, and 1st Thessalonians 2:11 and 5:14 convey a strong sense of comfort or consolation. Encouragement strengthens and calls forth renewed commitment, as it states in Phil. 1:12-13

Paul encouraged the believers in Thessalonica to "walk worthy". What does Paul tell all believers in 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17? "Encourage our hearts and strengthen us in every good word and work."

The purpose of encouragement is that we may be strengthened for fresh faith and obedience.

How beautiful then are the gifts God has given us— Rom. 12:5-8. If each of us use our spiritual gifts (and we all should have them because of God's love in us) it would enable each of us to strengthen others, equipping them to win fresh victories in their lives.

In Christian Love, Mel and Shirley Christenberry



# TRUNK OR TREAT, OCT. 31, 5:30-7:30PM

Soon hundreds of children and families will visit Rolling Hills for a fun alternative to door-to-door trick or treating, and there are lots of ways you can help! We will collect many pounds of candy to give out, so bring your candy donations to place in the bins. Help Things 1, 2, and 3 settle their sibling rivalry, and vote with your candy donation. The "winner" with the most candy will get a pie in the face! There are also sign-up lists in the foyer for trunks, parking lot direction, and cookies.

We have 4 bicycles to give away, and need volunteers to sponsor our door prize give-away. Sponsors are needed to coordinate with the winners, deliver the bike, and invite the family to join us for worship. Sign up if you can help in this way!



## ANNOUNCEMENTS



#### Men's Breakfast November 24

Some of the men in our church meet for breakfast fellowship on the last Sunday of each month. All men are invited to join in at 7:30 a.m. on November 24!

## SERVING AT RHCC

#### Cleaning Crew 3 for November

Cleaning Crew 3 is cleaning for the month of November. Thanks to our cleaning crews for all of their hard work!



We can always use more hands on our cleaning crews. Please contact the church office if you can help.

There are many opportunities to serve in the church, including Children's Ministries, Cleaning, Lawn and Building Maintenance, Communion Preparation and Serving, Audio-Visual, Music, and more! Contact the church office for more information.

## WOMEN'S MINISTRY

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

Our ladies' Bible Study meets on Thursday mornings at 9 a.m. We are studying **Dwelling in God's Peace**, by Sarah Young. All ladies are welcome!

#### Ladies' Salad Sampler, Sunday., Dec. 8, 5:30 p.m.

Sisters in Service invite all ladies to our annual holiday Salad Sampler. Bring a salad to share, and enjoy a time of fellowship, with special music provided by Josh Whisler!



## WITH SYMPATHY

We would like to express our sympathy to the family of Michele Pannone, who passed away on Wednesday, October 9.



Arliss Douglass' son-in-law, Will Wolf, passed away on Friday, October 25. We are sorry for your loss.

## TIME CHANGE, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3

DON'T BE LATE! REMEMBER TO SET YOUR

CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER

3. FOR THE END OF DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME!



## CHURCH LEADERSHIP

#### Board Meeting, October 27, 2:00 p.m.

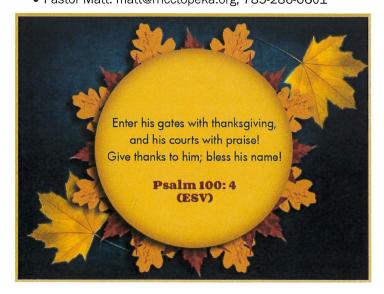
The Elder and Deacon Board Meeting is Sunday, October 27, starting at 2:00 p.m.

#### Church Leadership Contact Information

Please continue to pray for our church leaders. Feel free to contact any board member with concerns or ministry needs:

- 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
- Pastor Matt: matt@rhcctopeka.org; 785-286-0601



# HARVEST WEEKEND, NOVEMBER 23-24

We want to encourage everyone who attends Rolling Hills Christian Church to take part in the Harvest! Harvest takes place each year on the weekend before Thanksgiving, and includes three principle events: Harvest Prayer Chain, Harvest Offering, and Harvest Feast & Celebration.

## HARVEST PRAYER CHAIN

Because prayer is an integral part of what we do, we will pray for the Harvest all day on Saturday, November 23. The Prayer Chain will be held at the church in the church library. Each individual, couple, or family is invited to sign up for a 30-minute appointment, with appointments beginning at 6:00 a.m. and continuing until 12:00 midnight Sunday morning. To assist in your time of prayer and meditation, the Prayer Room will be equipped with Bibles and suggested Bible readings, a list of missionaries, and special requests included by individuals who have been in the room.

A chart of available prayer times will be on the table in the front entry of the church. Please sign your name for a time that you can come and pray for the Harvest.



## HARVEST OFFERING

Each Sunday morning we receive an offering of gifts to be used for the Lord's Purpose, and 10% of those gifts are used for our Missions Ministry for distribution among the missionaries and organizations the church supports regularly.

On Harvest Sunday, November 24, we will receive an additional offering which is given solely for mission work. Our worship service that morning will center around our Harvest emphasis and offering. We will welcome guest speaker Jeff Mulpas, director of Alpha Christian Children's Home, who will share the message that morning.

On this special Harvest Sunday, Thanksgiving envelopes will be provided, and all financial gifts in the Thanksgiving envelopes will go towards the Harvest goal. All gifts not in the envelopes will be applied to our regular offering.

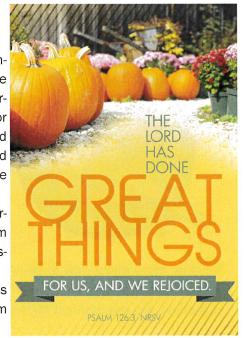
For the time of offering that morning, we receive all of the offerings by laying them before the Lord in a basket on the communion table. Even the smallest children will pass by the table with their offerings. Last year, we raised over \$13,000 as an extra blessing for the missionaries and organizations we support! Be in prayer about how you will bless these missions this year.

## HARVEST FEAST & CELEBRATION

The Harvest weekend will conclude with a Thanksgiving Celebration, beginning at 5:30 p.m. on Sunday, November 24. As we give thanks for the gifts we can use to bless our missions, we also give thanks for fellowship and the opportunity to be together for a Thanksgiving Feast! The church will provide turkeys for volunteers to prepare. These volunteers will also prepare dressing and gravy, and everyone else is asked to provide seasonal side dishes and desserts. If you would like to volunteer to provide a turkey, gravy, and dressing, please sign up in the church foyer or contact Bruce Maples at 785-249-2750.

Following the Harvest Feast, we will celebrate together with a time of worship, learn the total of that morning's Harvest Offering, and also hear again from guest speaker Jeff Mulpas, who will share more about the ministry of Alpha Christian Children's Home in Perry, Kansas.

Make plans now to join us for an amazing weekend of experiencing God's grace and blessing, and seeing how He can use our gifts to further His Kingdom and bless others! We will see you at the Harvest!



## ICOM KANSAS CITY

International Conference on Missions

November 14-17, Kansas City Convention Center

With the ICOM so close to home this year, we have registered as a church so everyone has an opportunity to attend! Church families can register on site at the event, or register in advance at www.theICOM.org. Register with the church code for free registration.

ICOM is a interactive missions conference that will be held in Kansas City, MO on November 14-17. You'll get to meet and talk to missionaries serving all over the world. ICOM exists to encourage those serving on the field, equip those looking for more training on a certain topic, and enlist new workers for the Harvest. This will be a great time for you to see how you can get involved!

We hope everyone will take advantage of the free registration and nearby location, so there will be a sign up in the church foyer to indicate your interest in attending and possibly sharing in a carpool from the church. There are even activities and childcare for children and infants during certain times each day, so parents can take part in the workshops while their children enjoy fun activities within their own age groups in the KidZone!

In addition to church and families attending, our Youth Group plans to attend Student ICOM as a group on Saturday, November 16. Please sign up or speak to April Wells to let us know you're attending and if you need a ride.

THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MISSIONS MIND THE GAP Enbracing the Ci Jeff Fife ICOM President 2019 Brazil River of Life Ministries **Executive Director** MASTER ILLUSIONIS KANSAS CITY CONVENTION CENTER KANSAS CITY, MO **Matt Adams** WORSHIP - FEATURING GUEST SPEAKERS -LEADER Dr. Kang Pyng Lee Visit www.thelCOM.org for all conference info! **REGISTER TODAY!** Visit www.thelCOM.org See you in Kansas City!

Get ready to mind the gap, embrace the city, and gain a passion for missions at the ICOM in KC this year!



## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

The amazing journey of a shoebox gift begins with you and results in evangelism, discipleship, and multiplication.

Each year we begin a season of giving with Christmas shoebox gifts for children in need around the world. Operation Christmas Child, a ministry of Samaritan's Purse, Int'l, collects gifts for children, and through those gifts gains an opportunity to share the Gospel with a child who may have never heard about The Greatest Gift of all, the gift of Jesus to the world.

Though we are no longer a collection site for other groups and individuals to bring their boxes, we will still collect shoebox gifts as a church.

To learn more about how to pack a gift for a child in need, please grab a brochure from the church foyer, or visit SamaritansPurse.org. Shoebox gifts should be brought to the church by Sunday, November 17. If you have further questions, you may contact Melissa Boutz at 785-317-0838, or email Melissa@rhcctopeka.org.

## VOLUNTEER NEEDS



#### Children's Church and Nursery

We have amazing volunteers who prepare and teach Bible lessons for our children each week. Thank you to all who serve in our children's ministry!

If you would like to help serve the families in the church by joining our rotating list of grade school and preschool teachers, or nursery careproviders, please see April Wells.

#### **Facility Team**

The Church Board is working toward establishing a Facility Team who will seek to create a standard for the church building. This includes maintenance projects as well as aesthetics. The committee will report to the board with their suggestions.



If you call Rolling Hills your church home and would like to be considered for this committee, please contact Matt Brown or Kurtis Wells.

## STUDENT MINISTRIES

### Youth Group, Sundays at 4 p.m.

Youth Group for Junior and Senior High School is on Sunday afternoons at 4 p.m. Bring your friends for Bible study and fun group activities!



#### Youth Group to sICOM, Sat., Nov. 16

Student ICOM for Jr and Sr. High students will include main sessions, workshops, mission projects, a ninja challenge, and more, and we want to be a part of it! Activities are from 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.; we plan to carpool to get there and home. Since registration is paid for through the church, all you need is some lunch money. Sign up in the foyer or talk to April Wells if you plan to go for the day! Details will be arranged when we know how many will be attending with the group.

# Church Offerings, September and October Weekly Budget Need: \$3,000

Date	Offering	Date	Offering
9/22	\$1,982	10/6	\$4,121
9/29	\$3,019	10/13	\$1,505
Sept. Avg	\$2,859	10/20	\$1,318

## SERVING AT ROLLING HILLS FOR NOVEMBER, 2019

LEAD ELDER AND DEACON— Joe White and David Maples

Song Leader — Melissa Boutz

PIANIST — Tari Metzler

Sound - David Maples

COMPUTER - Bruce Maples

CHURCH CLEANERS - Crew 3

COMMUNION PREPARATION - Jim Clark

#### \* Communion Meditation

3	10	17	24
* Dustin Mengarelli Kurtis Wells Richard Johnson Mike Denton	* Dustin Mengarelli Kurtis Wells Richard Johnson Mike Denton	* Jim Clark Bill Hollingshead Konner Wells Mark Metzler	* Jim Clark Bill Hollingshead Konner Wells Mark Metzler
MISSIONS UPDATE			
Arlene Marshall	Georgia Ford	Eric Showalter	Sharlene Showalter
GREETERS			
White / Huntsman	R Barnes / Briggs	W Baker / B Barnes	Boutz / Johnson
Nursery Workers		•	
B Johnson / JA Boutz	T Baker / K Flesher	T Briggs / T Smith	B Watson / J Barnes
PRESCHOOL WORSHIP			
Karen Seel	Marcia James/ Megan Perry	Amy White	Karen Seel
ELEMENTARY WORSHIP: Ke	evin and Renee Wohletz		•

# ROLLING HILLS CHRISTIAN CHURCH

4530 NW Hiawatha Place (US Hwy 75 & NW 46th St.) Topeka, KS 66618 785-286-0601 office@rhcctopeka.org

www.rhcctopeka.org Find us on Facebook!

Pastor Matt Brown matt@rhcctopeka.org

Melissa Boutz, Admin. Assistant melissa@rhcctopeka.org

#### Come Join Us!

Sundays:

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

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# COMING UP AT ROLLING HILLS

Sun. Oct. 27 Board Meeting, 2 p.m.

Thurs., Oct. 31 Trunks N Treats, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Sun., Nov. 3 Fall Back—set your clocks back 1 hour.

Nov. 14-16 International Conference on Missions

Sun., Nov. 17 Operation Christmas Child Collection

Newsletter Information due

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

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Sat., Nov. 23 Harvest Prayer Chain, all day

Sun., Nov. 24 Harvest Offering taken during morning service

Harvest Feast and Celebration, 5:30 p.m.

Men's Fellowship Breakfast, 7:30 a.m.

Thurs., Nov. 28 Happy Thanksgiving!

Weekly:

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

Ladies' Salad Sampler, Dec. 8; Christmas Eve Service, Dec. 24

In our next sermon series beginning November 3, Pastor Matt will put us on Airplane Mode as we learn to find silence in the chaos through prayer.

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 Nov. 12, 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

Join in on November 25 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 serves under-served children in North Topeka with weekend food sacks. They meet during the school year on the 1st Thursday of each month, 6 p.m. at Indian Creek Elementary.

