

Rolling Hills Christian Church

Vision Sunday Notes

February 7, 2021

There were 28 in attendance in person, with 40 unique visitors (13 named) online at live.rhcctopeka.org.

The minutes from the 2020 meeting were provided in a handout, which also contained the Mission report, proposed budget, and a leadership and budget ballot.

Proposed leaders for the next year were presented on the ballot as follows: Elders Mark Metzler and Joe White.

Budget: See attached for the proposed budget.

Melissa Boutz opened the meeting by leading Seek Ye First.

Joe White welcomed attendees, followed by a song for worship.

Mission Report was shared by Melissa Boutz: As noted in last year's notes, we have reduced the amount of missions we are contributing to, so we can have more impact and direct relationships with the ones we support. In the past, we have directed 10% of the church's income to missions, but this year, we added 1% solely dedicated to our own future Church Plant fund. \$3,300 has been set aside from the mission fund specifically for the Church Plant. We contributed \$15,480 to our regular missions (the Thaproms in Thailand, Manhattan Christian College, the Rogers in Laos, the Lofts with Latin American Ministries, Alpha Christian Children's Home, and the Topeka Rescue Mission. Other non-Harvest Giving totaled \$4,257.24.

Harvest goal was \$12,020, and raised 12,420. This was distributed between King Solomon Christian Camp, Job & Adria Games in Honduras, Alpha Christian Children's Home, the Topeka Rescue Mission, our church plant fund, and local benevolence.

Pastor Matt Brown shared the state of the church and the Community Report. Last year our goal was to see 10 saved, we saw 20 through Church Online. We wanted to see 30% growth. With the pandemic it is hard to know how that goal went, but we do know we average 110 attendees on church online.

Regarding the proposed budget, the special gifts line item includes anticipated updates to building.

The church leadership believes that God is leading us to be a church that plants churches, and last year we set a goal for that to happen in the next 10 years. RHCC is a church plant from 1976, through the CEA. The leadership over the last year continued a desire to grow. We want to grow families. We want to grow connections with one another. We want to be a spirit-filled church, and we want joy to exist here. We want to expand our community outreach and involvement.

The Leadership held a retreat in November 2020, where they conducted a SWOT analysis, which stands for Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats. Some of what follows came from their time planning together.

- Strengths: missions, faith history, welcoming
- Weaknesses: Discipleship process, we didn't know where we were headed (no compass), community outreach wasn't very strong
- Opportunities: Family ministries (kids, students, mothers and fathers), Church Online
- Threats: Burnout and being tired
- How do we move forward with the SWOT: We focus on Discipleship (making disciples that make disciples). Culture of evangelism – having and sharing radical faith. Fight for unity within the Church, not just at Rolling Hills, but the greater Church.

Matt brought our attention to the Mission and Vision of RHCC.

Rolling Hills Mission: We exist to lead people to become fully devoted followers of Jesus.

Rolling Hills Vision: We will make Jesus known so that lives are transformed.

In order to do these, we need to know where we are aiming; we need to find our target. The leadership of the church conducted research on how to reach the entire family, and statistics were shared about generational changes, community demographics, etc. Men of today have found that church is as irrelevant to them as taking the newspaper or having a landline. We have found that the best way to reach the entire family is to reach the father. Children also can drive parents to church. We need to strategize to reach people who aren't being reached elsewhere. Our best chance of reaching the entire family is the father. Because of that, the leadership seeks to narrow our target demographic, aiming to reach the family by specifically reaching men age 30-45 (millennial and genX). This is not to say we are only reaching out to this specific demographic, but it is a goal to reach out to that demographic in order to reach the whole family.

Matt referenced 1 Corinthians 9, in which Paul was willing to do whatever it took to reach people for the cause of Christ.

We need everyone to partner with us in this outreach. As a church we exist to bring hope to the world. The leadership hopes to accomplish this hope in the following ways:

1. Discipleship – we equip followers of Jesus to reach and equip followers of Jesus
2. A healthy culture of evangelism. Stories of impact. Engage the community. Be welcoming, think about the 1st-time visitor. Engage people with love and grace without compromising truth. A healthy culture of evangelism
3. Plant churches that plant churches.

A financial report was shared. The leadership goal is to move forward without further debt. Extra income in the last year has gone toward remodels and Church Online.

An Online Church snapshot was also shared.

The floor was opened for any questions.

Online Comment from Will regarding the proposed target demographic: It's a neglected target most churches aren't even aware of or aim to hit. Plain and simple win the father win the family over to Christ. Thanks Matt.

Online from Amber Holthaus: Can we make sure that even as we strive to meet the needs of none and new members that we do not lose the focus of feeding and helping our own grow. Making sure that our older population are being valued, cherished and looked to learn from. Matt responded that we will definitely keep that in mind as we seek to engage and encourage everyone, and he hopes that everyone will partner with us in reaching all people who are far from Christ.

Online question from Amber regarding church online: Will the message be different than in person. Matt said he will only preach one message.

Online from Tammy: Will masks be required for in-person worship. Yes, to protect those who are here, masks will be required for in person worship.

Joe White and Mark Metzler came forward as the proposed elders for the next year, while Matt Brown closed in prayer.

Per the ballots submitted:

The Budget for 2021 passed with a majority.

Regarding the vote on leadership, Mark Metzler and Joe White were approved unanimously.