

# THE PATHWAY

## Our Mission

To worship the Lord Jesus Christ, taking His message of salvation to all peoples and developing the body of believers to maturity in Him. . .

. . .by showing our commitment to one another by declaring fellowship with the Lord and members in this congregation and by encouraging each other through our social interactions in large and small group opportunities.

. . .by meeting together on Sunday as a group to express our praise and adoration to God for the resurrection of Jesus on the first day of the week

. . .by communicating by verbal statement and by personal example of the activity of grace on our behalf which entailed the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus.

. . .by providing opportunities that encourage each of our members to constantly review their faith and grow in their spiritual walk with God.

## A WALK DOWN THE PATH

### On: Merry Christmas to all!

December is upon us. With December comes all the Christmas festivities. We've all managed to survive our Thanksgiving meals and all the leftovers. For those of you who ventured into and out of Black Friday crowds and Small Business Saturday sales... congratulations! Personally, I'll let Linda brave the shopping season while I cowardly sit at home watching basketball and football games...you know...doing "man stuff."

The arrival of December means the arrival of the Christmas season. Last Sunday several enjoyed working together to decorate the church for the Christmas season. Throughout the month we will have reminders of the importance of the Christmas event.

Details of some of our Christmas plans can be read inside this newsletter.

- **The Ladies Salad Sampler will be December 9.** This is a good opportunity for you ladies of our church to invite your unchurched friends and family to an enjoyable evening of light foods and enriched fellowship.
- **Christmas Caroling and Christmas Lights will be December 16.** This is always an enjoyable time of encouraging other people with our caroling and having a fun evening together looking at the Christmas lights at Lake Shawnee.
- **Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion service will be at 6:00 on December 24.** What better way to begin your family Christmas observations than being with your church family for worship, communion, and candlelighting.

Remember to send your Christmas cards to

the church to share with the entire church family. We'll post them on the bulletin board for all to read. Of course, if you prefer you can bring it with you to worship and post it yourself.

We have a couple of giving opportunities this seasons as well.

- **The Topeka Rescue Mission** will be the focus of our congregation's donations. Check out the listing of needs and place your unwrapped gifts under the tree on the stage in the auditorium.
- **Troop 52** will have a collection for Let's Help in our foyer so we can help by bringing mittens, gloves, hats and scarves as well as canned goods to help the boys.
- **December 16 will be a special Sunday morning worship as David Smart will be back to visit us with Christmas music once again.** We'll enjoy his music and contribute a love offering for him on that morning.

Once again, we will have families light Advent Candles each December Sunday worship leading up to Christmas. My theme for December messages this year is "Music of Christmas." Each Sunday's Advent Candle and message will center on the thematic message of a traditional Christmas song.

Christmas points our attention in a special way to the birth of Jesus in our world's history. As a result, we Christians point the attention of the world to the birth of Jesus in our life's history. Our story makes His story come to life today so all can have a truly Merry Christmas.

Steve

## HARVEST AND GIVING UPDATES

Tracy Briggs reported that Undie Sunday collection went well. Open Heart Outreach, which is a local organization donating clothing to children in need, was very pleased with our gifts. A van-load of Christmas boxes for Operation Christmas Child were taken to our OCC drop off point by Arlene Marshall. Thanks to Tracy and Arlene for coordinating these collections!

To date, we have raised **\$9,522.75** for our Harvest collection, which exceeds our goal of \$9,500! All of the donations for Harvest will go to the missionary families and organizations that we support regularly. Of all that is given to our general fund, 10% regularly goes to those missions as well. Thank you for giving so generously!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Church Offerings

Date	Offering
Nov. 4:	\$3,370
Nov. 11:	\$3,005
Nov. 18:	\$2,403
Nov. 25:	\$1,407
<b>Nov. Average:</b>	
	<b>\$2,546</b>
<b>Harvest Giving:</b>	
	<b>\$9,522.75</b>
<b>Weekly Budget Requirement:</b>	
	<b>\$2,601</b>

### Wednesday Study

We are meeting on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. to study *The Creation Answers Book*.

### Elder's Meeting Thursday Dec. 6

The Elders of the church typically meet on alternating Monday afternoons at 3:45 p.m. at Gambino's. However, their next meeting is on Thursday, December 6, at Steak & Shake for breakfast at 7:00 a.m.

### Men's Breakfast at Hunter's Ridge McDonald's December 30

All the men are welcome to join us for our men's breakfast on the last Sunday of every month at 7:30 a.m.

### Church Cleaning for October

Cleaning Crew 2 will clean for December. Thank you for all of your hard work!

### Congratulations!

Congratulations to the Howard and Mengarelli families on their new additions!

**Knox Howard** was born to Erinn Howard on Tuesday, October 30. He was 20 ½ inches long and weighed 7 lbs, 10 ½ oz.

**Keaton Henry Mengarelli** was born to Dustin and Ashleigh Mengarelli on Wednesday, November 14. He was 19 inches long and weighed 6 lbs, 2 oz.

We wish both families the best!

### Baby shower, Sunday, Dec. 2

We will have a baby shower to welcome Knox and Keaton to our church family, on Sunday, December 2, at 2:00 p.m. at the church.



### Church Website

Don't forget to check out our website at [rhctopeka.org](http://rhctopeka.org)!

## CHRISTMAS EVENTS

### Ladies Salad Sampler Dec. 9, 6:00 pm

We hope all of the ladies will make plans to join us for our Salad Sampler, on Sunday evening, December 9, at 6 p.m.! Please bring your favorite salad to share, and an unwrapped gift items for The Topeka Rescue Mission.



the church or placed directly on the "Communications" bulletin board.

### Boy Scouts Collection for Let's Help

The Boy Scout Troop members will place a tree in the church foyer to collect gloves, mittens, hats and scarves for *Let's Help*. They will also collect canned and staple foods for *Let's Help* as well. All of these items should be placed with their tree in the foyer.

### Christmas Caroling and Fellowship Dec. 16

Join us on Sunday, December 16, for a fun evening of Christmas Caroling and fellowship! We will leave the church at 5:30 p.m. to go caroling at Presbyterian Manor, and then we'll look at Christmas lights (Winter Wonderland at Shawnee Lake; please bring \$1 to contribute to admission.) and conclude with refreshments at someone's home. We are still in need of a host home for our time of fellowship after caroling, so please speak with Bob Coffman if you would like to open your home to us! Everyone is welcome to bring snacks and treats to share.

### Charles David Smart, December 16

#### "A Kansas City Guitar Man"

We have once again invited Charles David Smart to come share his music with us, during our 10 a.m. service on December 16. Invite your friends to enjoy his music! A love offering will be collected.

### Christmas Cards

Christmas cards to the church can either be mailed to

### Topeka Rescue Mission Donations

We will be collecting items for the Topeka Rescue Mission. The ladies will collect the items for their Salad Sampler on December 9, but everyone is welcome to participate in the giving! The Rescue Mission asks that gifts be new and unwrapped. Some of the needed items include clothing for all ages and sizes, diapers, toiletries gift sets, bath towels, blankets and sheets, small appliances, and food items. For a complete list of needs, please take a flier from the church foyer, or visit their website at [www.trmonline.org](http://www.trmonline.org).

### Carols and Candlelight Christmas Eve, 6 p.m.

On Monday evening, December 24, beginning at 6:00 p.m., we plan to celebrate the birth of Jesus with a traditional candlelight and communion service. We hope you will make plans to attend, and bring your family and friends!



# THANK YOU!

## Thanks for the Harvest Dinner Crew

We all want to thank Bob Coffman and crew for organizing the Harvest Dinner, setting up tables, decorating tables and cleaning up afterward. Thank you also to all those who volunteered to prepare the turkeys, dressing and gravy as well as to everyone who brought all the delicious food we enjoyed.

We had a great time together and enjoyed the morning message from Barry Feaker and the evening update from Mark DeGroff, both from the Topeka Rescue Mission.

## Thanks to the Christmas Decorators

Several people met together and decorated the foyer and auditorium for Christmas. It looks great! Thank you for giving your time in this way.

## Thank you to Walt Baker for Kitchen Sink Repairs

A big thanks goes to Walt Baker for making repairs to the leaking sink in the church kitchen, and then for breaking the fixed sink, and then for fixing the broken sink. Steve Seehorn reports, "I guess those Okies can do just about anything!"

## Thank YOU for Giving!

Thanks to all who have given so generously to our giving opportunities in November: Undie Sunday, Operation Christmas Child, and Harvest. Your gifts are appreciated!

# We Give Thanks!

## SERVING AT ROLLING HILLS FOR DECEMBER

**WORSHIP ELDER** Eric Showalter

**SONG LEADER** Melissa Boutz, Steve Seehorn 12/23

**SOUND** – Bryan Boutz

**COMPUTER** – Scott Brackey

**CHURCH CLEANERS** – Crew 2

**COMMUNION PREPARATION** – The Bob Barnes Family

\* Communion Meditation; # Offering Meditation

2	9	16	23	30
* Gary Funke # Bruce Maples Jim Eddy Kevin Wohletz	* Gary Funke # Bruce Maples Jim Eddy Kevin Wohletz	* Jim Clark # Bill Hollingshead Paul Brackey Bruce Smith	* Jim Clark # Bill Hollingshead Paul Brackey Bruce Smith	* Jim Clark # Bill Hollingshead Paul Brackey Bruce Smith
<b>BENEDICTION</b>				
Bruce Maples	Bruce Maples	Bill Hollingshead	Bill Hollingshead	Bill Hollingshead
<b>MISSIONS UPDATE</b>				
Gary Funke	Eric Showalter	Arlene Marshall	Gary Funke	Sharlene Showalter
<b>GREETERS</b>				
Boutz / Johnson	Box / Brackey	Briggs / Briles	Coffman / Douglass	Ford / Ford
<b>NURSERY WORKERS</b>				
Linda Briles	Barb Neer	Amber Smith	Cassidy James	Terry Baker
<b>PRESCHOOL WORSHIP</b>				
Karen Seel	Marcia James / Megan Perry	Kristi Nei & Brandon Fuller	Karla & Lauryn Morstorf	April Wells
<b>ELEMENTARY WORSHIP</b>				
Kevin & Renee Wohletz	Tracy Briggs	Claricia Gautier	Christmas (Family Worship)	Bryan and Melissa Boutz

# -Rolling Hills Christian Church

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**Steve Seehorn**, Minister  
steve@rhccctopeka.kscoxmail.com

**Melissa Boutz**, Administrative Assistant

*Come Join Us!*

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

## COMING UP AT ROLLING HILLS

- Sun., Dec. 2:** Baby Showers, 2 p.m.  
**Thurs., Dec. 6:** Elder's Breakfast at Steak & Shake, 7 a.m.  
**Sun., Dec. 9:** Ladies' Salad Sampler, 6 p.m.  
**Sun., Dec. 16:** David Smart at morning worship service.  
Christmas Caroling and fellowship, 5:30 p.m.  
**Sun., Dec. 23:** Information due for January newsletter  
**Mon., Dec. 24:** Christmas Eve service, 6 p.m.

### Weekly:

Mondays at 7 p.m.: Boy Scouts  
Wednesdays at 7 p.m.: Bible study, *The Creation Answers Book*  
Thursdays at 9 a.m.: Ladies' study

### Sunday Mornings in December:

An Advent candle-lighting and reading will take place during our worship service. We use this time to focus on the anticipation of Christ's birth, and the gift of salvation that he brings.

*For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23 NIV*

**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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## Carols and Candlelight Christmas Eve

December 24, 6:00 p.m.

Join us for a traditional candle-light Christmas Eve service, as we celebrate the birth of Jesus and worship Him together!

Communion will be served.



And he will  
be called...  
Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 9:6