

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: 1st Century Faith

Christmas, 2011, is behind us. The Christmas shopping is history. Packages have been opened. The wrapping paper mountains have all been thrown away. The trips to stores to exchange items for the right sizes, colors and so on is now just beginning. The post-Christmas deals will be appealing. The excitement of the season will begin to ebb and normalcy will return.

What is this “normalcy?” What is Christianity in our culture? Is our Christianity what the apostles and the early church understood it to be?

Christmas on Sunday morning, like we had this year, provides an interesting dilemma for Christians. Families have traditional get-togethers on Christmas to exchange gifts, have dinners together and perhaps observe other annual festivities. But with Christmas on Sunday...do we go to church or do we do the family thing? Which holds precedence for us?

This question doesn't affect just families, it also affects congregations. Some churches cancel their worship services on Christmas morning to accommodate family Christmas gatherings. I heard one person say that it was dumb for churches to have worship services on Christmas morning.

Huh. Apparently the contemporary emphasis for church growth and outreach is to provide an environment that is so socially friendly that we don't even have church. Seems like an odd paradox, but maybe I'm just misreading the situation.

Somehow, I think we might want to rethink our thinking. It seems to me that while God did all the work that makes grace work for us (the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus), we may have somehow taken grace's application in our lives a bit too lightly.

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Jesus tells us that discipleship to him has some large expectations. Luke 14:26, 27 says, “If anyone comes to me and does not hate his father and mother, his wife and children, his brothers and sisters – yes, even his own life – he cannot be my disciple. And anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.”

Discipleship for Jesus was not about convenience, it was about commitment. I'm not really sure that the American culture fosters a concept of discipleship that is consistent with the commitment and sacrifice that is described in the New Testament.

During January I'm going to have five sermons on descriptive ideas of the faith of the church in the first century based upon Acts 2:42-47: teaching, fellowship, communion, prayer and testimony.

Most of us probably have a 21st century faith. Perhaps we should consider returning to a 1st century faith...a normal faith. More Jesus, less me.

Steve

NEW MEMBERS: THE RANDLE FAMILY

We would like to welcome our new members, Scott and Shelby Randle and their children, Maggie (age) and Henry (age). Scott and Shelby were both baptized at Rolling Hills Christian Church on December 18, 2011.

[Scott info...](#)

[Shelby info...](#)

Please take a moment to welcome our newest church members, and add them to your RHCC

directory:

336 SE Baldwin Road, Topeka, 66609

Scott: 785-324-0152; Shelby: 785-324-0151

Church Offerings

Date Offering

Dec. 4:	\$8,572
Dec. 11:	\$4,466
Dec. 18:	\$1,711
Dec. 25:	\$1,744

Dec. Avg. \$4,123

Weekly Budget Requirement: \$2,601

Annual Meeting February 5, 2012

The Rolling Hills Christian Church Annual Meeting will take place the 1st Sunday of February during the Sunday School hour. At that time we will have the selection of our elders & deacons, an update on missions support, and the approval of the budget.

The proposed leadership for 2012 is as follows:

Elders:

Gary Funke Bill Hollingshead
Eric Showalter

Deacons:

Walt Baker Steve Box
Jim Clark Bob Coffman
Bruce Maples David Maples
John McElroy Bruce Smith
Kevin Wohletz

We will publish these recommended names on forms for two Sundays beginning January 8 so the congregation will be able to contribute suggestions and comments regarding these or other suggestions. The final listing of formal nominees for elder and deacon will be published for two Sundays prior to the congregational meeting (beginning January 22).

These will be voted on by the congregation during our annual meeting at 9:00 during the Sunday school hour on February 5.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

No Sunday School January 1!

Due to New Year's Day occurring on Sunday this year, we will not be having Sunday School this Sunday morning. We will have our regular worship service at 10:00 a.m.

Bible Reading Guides

Our Bible Reading Guides are now available in the church foyer. If you follow the guide provided, you will read through the New Testament twice and the Old Testament once over the course of the year. Start off the new year right by taking the opportunity to read God's Word in 2012!

Elder's Breakfast

December 30, January 13, 27

The elders of the church meet for breakfast every other Friday at Steak & Shake at 7:30 a.m. The next meetings are December 30, January 13, and January 27.

Elder and Deacon Board Meeting, January 8, 2012

The Elders and Deacons will meet for a church board meeting on Sunday, January 8, 2012. It will be a \$6 supper at 6:00 p.m.

Church Cleaning for January

We thank our cleaning crews who work so hard to keep the church neat and clean! Cleaning Crew 1 will clean for the month of January.

Men's Breakfast

The men of the church are invited to meet for breakfast at the Hunter's Ridge McDonalds on the last Sunday of each month. This month they will meet on January 29, at 7:30 a.m.

Guest Speaker, Michael O'Hanahan Sunday, February 5



Mick O'Hanahan will be with us for worship on Sunday morning, February 5. He has been with Niños de Mexico for many years, both on-site as the children's facilities in Mexico, as well as their representative to churches in the States. He will update us about the work of Niños and preach for us during our morning service. You can learn more about Mick and the ministry at ninodemexico.org.

Boy Scout Sunday February 12

Once again we will have Boy Scout Troop 52 participate in our worship services on February 12. Rolling Hills sponsors the troop by allowing them to use our facility for their meetings. They have helped us with some grounds improvements over the years and helped with our Trunk N Treat this past Halloween.

During worship we will be able to encourage the boys and their parents by the support of our presence and we will be updated about their activities and achievements.



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NOTES OF THANKS

Linda and I wish to thank the congregation for the Christmas gift given to us during worship. We appreciate your love and thoughtfulness toward us. Some families and individuals have given us some other gifts as well and we are touched by your attention to our family. We have a wonderful church family here at Rolling Hills and we treasure the affection of our brothers and sisters of all ages.

Steve and Linda Seehorn

We would like to thank the church for welcoming us into your family this year! We've

enjoyed participating in services and events, and appreciate the role you've played in our lives. Thanks especially for the Christmas gift, and for your support.

With Gratitude,
Melissa Boutz and Family

I would like to thank my RHCC family for the monetary Christmas gift this year. It was a surprise to me since I only worked two months in 2011 before retiring. Your generosity and support is greatly appreciated.

May God bless you all.
Lynne Maples

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Sisters in Service Ladies Night Out January 13, 2012, 6:30 p.m.

We hope that the ladies will join us for a Ladies Night Out on Friday, January 13, at 6:30 p.m., at the church! We will be showing a movie, and look forward to a fun evening of fellowship.

Ladies Seaside Escape Retreat April 27 & 28

The Seaside Escape ladies retreat is being planned for April 27-28. Sign up in the church foyer if you're interested in attending, and watch upcoming bulletins for updated information.

Woman's World at Manhattan Christian College "One Size Fits All"

There are brochures and posters in the foyer about Woman's World on February 24-25 at the Kansas State Student Union. Keynote speaker will be Thelma Wells, who is a popular speaker from the Women of Faith conferences. Take a brochure for registration and seminar information, or register online at www.mccs.edu. Register by January 31 for the early rate.



NURSERY MINISTRY

It has come to our attention that our nursery has been staffed by primarily only a few individuals over the recent months. While they are happy to help with the nursery responsibilities, we would like to have a few more volunteers to help in this area.

A Nursery Volunteer List will be placed in the foyer for people who are interested in helping in this ministry. Volunteers can sign up on the list, or contact Kay Norris (286-2629), who will be coordinating our Nursery Ministry.

We appreciate Kay's willingness to work in this ministry as well as all those who volunteer to work alongside her with our young children.



SERVING AT ROLLING HILLS FOR JANUARY

WORSHIP ELDER Gary Funke **SONG LEADER** Josh Whisler
SOUND – Bob Coffman **COMPUTER** – Bruce Maples **CHURCH CLEANERS** – Crew 1
COMMUNION PREPARATION – The **Walt Baker** Family

* Communion Meditation # Offering Meditation				
1	8	15	22	29
* David Maples # Ken Lehew Scott Brackey Jordan James	* David Maples # Ken Lehew Scott Brackey Jordan James	* Bill Hollingshead # John McElroy Shawn Perry Howard Purcell	* Bill Hollingshead # John McElroy Shawn Perry Howard Purcell	* Bill Hollingshead # John McElroy Shawn Perry Howard Purcell
BENEDICTION				
Ken Lehew	Ken Lehew	John McElroy	John McElroy	John McElroy
MISSIONS UPDATE				
Arlene Marshall	Eric Showalter	Gary Funke	Linda Dandy	
GREETERS				
Hodges / Hollingshead	Wohletz / L. Maples	Smith / Briggs	Briles / Randle	W. Wright / James
NURSERY WORKERS – 10:00 A.M. WORSHIP				
Marcia James	Karla Morstorf	Lauren Morstorf	Barb Neer	
PRESCHOOL WORSHIP				
Karen Seel & Whitney Desch	Karen Seel & Whitney Desch	Kristi Nei & Brandon Fuller	Karla & Lauryn Morstorf	Kelli Warden
ELEMENTARY WORSHIP				
Kevin & Renee Wohletz	Tracy Briggs	Kelli Warden	Bryan & Melissa Boutz	5 th Sunday Family Worship

Rolling Hills Christian Church

4530 NW Hiawatha Place
(US Hwy 75 & NW 46th St.)
Topeka, KS 66618

Phone: 785-286-0601
Email: office@rhctopeka.kscoxmail.com
Find us on Facebook!

Steve Seehorn, Minister
steve@rhctopeka.kscoxmail.com

Melissa Boutz
Administrative Assistant

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

Fri., Dec. 30: Elder's Breakfast, Steak & Shake, 7:30 a.m.

Sun., Jan. 1: No Sunday School classes

Sun., Jan. 8: Elder and Deacon Board Meeting,
\$6 Supper at 6:00 p.m.

Fri., Jan. 13 & 27: Elder's Breakfast, Steak & Shake, 7:30 a.m.

Fri., Jan. 13: Sisters in Service Ladies Night Out, 6:30 p.m.

Sun., Jan. 29: Men's Breakfast, 7:30 a.m.
at Hunter's Ridge McDonalds

Tues., Jan. 31: Early registration due for Woman's World at
Manhattan Christian College

Weekly:

Mondays at 7 p.m.: Boy Scouts
Thursdays at 9 a.m.: Women's Bible Study

Coming Up in February:

- *All-Church Annual Meeting, Sunday February 5, 2012, 9:00 a.m.
- *Special Guest Speaker Michael O'Hanahan, Niños de Mexico, on
Sunday, February 5 at our 10:00 a.m. worship service
- *Boy Scout Sunday February 12, 2012

The Church says "Thank you!"

The church would like to thank everyone who coordinated and helped with our Christmas Activities:

Thanks to all who brought gifts and toilet paper for Alpha Christian Children's Home, and to Linda Briles and Arlene Marshall for delivering the gifts for RHCC!

Thank you to Linda Briles, Shelby Randle, Ashleigh Mengarelli, and everyone else who helped make the Ladies Salad Sampler a success!

Thanks to Bruce Maples and all who helped him coordinate the caroling at Presbyterian Manor and the viewing of the lights at Winter Wonderland! Thanks also to the Boutz Family for hosting refreshments.

Thanks to John and Gloria McElroy, and anyone else who helped with the planning and leading of our Christmas Eve Service!

**The Pathway is available by e-mail! Simply e-mail us to let us know if you prefer electronic over paper:
office@rhctopeka.kscoxmail.com**