**Rev. Ted Said . . .**

"You Can Not Out Give Rolling Hills"

As I reflect back on 2017, it has been an extremely exciting time for our Church Family. It has been a year of generosity and love, full of building new relationships based on acceptance and compassion. It was a year of building partnerships and literally building new construction. I can easily say, "We gave it our all."

Let's take a look back at some of the highlights . . .

Two new hires! Mich Phillips and Laurie Anderson

Charles Bruffy, speaker Valarie Kaur and Rev. Ted at the One Community event. Rolling Hills hospitality at its finest!

14 church members traveled to Kenya on a service trip with Neema Community Church

More than $31,000 raised for our Easter Offering: Welcome House

Construction began this past summer at Rolling Hills!

In 2017, we cared for one another, laughed together and shared many happy memories!

Relationships, like with the Kansas City Indian Center, continued to strengthen

Service continued to be of upmost importance, as shown in West Virginia.

Soli Deo Gloria,

The Rev. Dr. Ted Pierce
WORSHIP

AIM FOR THE MARK
A New Sermon Series
Beginning Dec. 31

What are we aiming for? What is our target in life?

This 14-week sermon series will examine the life lessons found in the first gospel ever written, Mark. We will look at major life themes to start off our new year.

1/7: Aim for the Mark: Gotta tell somebody.
1/14: Aim for the Mark: Get up and walk!
1/21: Aim for the Mark: Calm down people!
1/28: Aim for the Mark: Rev. Laurie Anderson's commissioning service
2/4: Aim for the Mark: Hey, those are my pigs!
2/11: Aim for the Mark: Who touched me?
2/18: Aim for the Mark: Evil in our world, why?
2/25: Aim for the Mark: The heart, not the stomach.
3/4: Aim for the Mark: Feed me.
3/11: Aim for the Mark: Who is the greatest?
3/18: Aim for the Mark: Getting new eyes.
3/25 (Palm Sunday): Aim for the Mark: Enter with style.
4/1 (Easter Sunday): Aim for the Mark: Don’t be fooled?

STAFF NEWS

Dear Friends,

Approximately four years ago, Woody Brown invited me to serve with the Rolling Hills staff. We were to develop and implement a new design for the deacon ministry. We decided to give it a try and see what happens.

These four years have gone by in the blink of an eye. The Board of Deacons is positive and energetic, proving as Rev. Ted said in a recent sermon “You can’t out love Rolling Hills”. Our Board of Deacons is the most caring and effective a Board of Deacons I have ever experienced.

Working with the Deacons was energizing and meaningful. Now it is time to explore another dimension of retirement. I submitted my resignation to the Session effective January 31.

I have enjoyed working with Rolling Hills and look forward to seeing your ministry move in new and exciting directions. If needed, I will be available to serve in substitute roles occasionally. I remain grateful for the opportunity to serve with you and look forward to what the Lord has in store for us in the future.

Julie and I will continue to be faithful members of the Rolling Hills community as I return to my seat in the sanctuary. I will continue to be available to serve as invited and will work with the Bridge Committee until it’s task is completed.

Yours in Christ,

Tom

The Rev. Dr. Thomas W. Young

WWW.ROLLINGHILLSKC.ORG
We are proud to announce that in three years we have provided 36 scholarships to students in Guatemala, changing the lives and hopefully the future of this wonderful little community that we have so generously supported.

On two occasions, I have met with the young people who we are helping. These students are striving to better themselves and would be unable to do so without help from outside their community. San Gregorio is poor and struggles for things that we consider basic necessities. The men work in the coffee fields for a pittance, making less than $6,000 per year for this back-breaking work. They walk miles to gather wood to cook their food. They live in houses with dirt floors. Most have only an outhouse, and all plumbing is found outside the houses. These young people want more for themselves and for their community. We can help them, with love and grace, to accomplish their goals.

I am pleased to announce that we have met our obligation to fund the just-ended 2017 school year for the youth of San Gregorio Quixaya in Guatemala, and we are beginning the drive to fund the 2018 school year. Our goal is $4000 and everyone can make a difference and help in our effort to continue this ministry. A contribution of $300 will support a child for the next year, but any donation amount will help! Without the generous support of our congregation, this program will end. Although we have support from two of our Session committees, this program was always meant to be a congregational outreach. If you would like to support this outreach at any level, please make a note on your check that the gift is for “Guatemala scholarships.” Cards are available in the office if you would like one.

Thank you for anything that you are willing and able to contribute to this program.

Vickie Menke, Elder
Church & Society Committee
**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Rolling Hills Special Movie Event**  
**Big Sonia**  
**Sunday, Feb. 11 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.**

Holocaust survivor, 91 year-old Sonia Warshawski owned a local tailor shop for more than thirty years. A poignant story of generational trauma and healing, BIG SONIA also offers a laugh-out-loud funny portrait of the power of love to triumph over bigotry, and the power of truth-telling to heal us all. The showing of this movie is appropriate for all ages; an intergenerational event.

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**Blood Drive**
Rolling Hills will host a blood drive on Wednesday, January 3 from 3 to 7 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

**Silver Singles**
Silver Singles will meet at Olive Garden at 11:15 a.m. on Thursday, Jan. 18. For questions, contact Donna Leyda, 913-649-7994.

**Gospel Y3K**
Mic Morris’ Gospel Y3K will start back up on Jan. 7. The topic will be videos of Bishop Spong and his description of the new Christianity of the 21st Century. We hope you can join Mic for this wonderful Sunday morning class. They meet at 9 a.m. in Room A.

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**The 50 FORWARD Club**  
**Shepherd's Center Event**

**iPhone Cell Phone “Teach and Learn” Session**
THE 50 FORWARD CLUB® of Shepherd’s Center Central will hold a “Teach and Learn” seminar for iPhone users on Thursday, January 18, 2018 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Carla Grant will serve as group facilitator and be on hand to help you make the most of the features of your iPhone. A 30-minute lesson will be followed by 90 minutes to ask the instructor and each other questions. Cost is $10.00 and reservation required. Please make checks payable to Shepherd’s Center Central.

When: Thursday, January 18; 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon  
Where: Rolling Hills Presbyterian Church

**Barefoot in the Park New Theatre Matinee**
Join the THE 50 FORWARD CLUB® of Shepherd’s Center Central for a showing of Barefoot in the Park on Saturday, February 17. Cost is $38 (or $48 for non 50 CLUB members). Meet at 11:45 a.m. in the lobby at the New Theatre Restaurant, 9229 Foster, Overland Park, KS. Tickets will be disbursed the day of the show. Payment must be received no later than January 19.

For more information, please contact mdelaney@sccentral.org.

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**Kaleidoscope Dinners are BACK!**

Join your church family on the 3rd and 4th Wednesday evenings for dinner and dialogue.  
Dinner begins at 5:30 p.m.; speaker at 6 p.m. Cost is $5 per person or $15 max. for families.  
The Sermon Series on Mark is the inspiration for these upcoming gatherings.

Jan. 17: Mark 2:1-12  *Forgiveness*  
Jan. 24: Mark 4:35-41  *Dead Calm – Hurricane Relief*  
Feb. 21: Mark 5:1-20  *Mental Health*  
Feb. 28: Mark 6:14-26  *Grieving Evil*  
March 21: Mark 11: 1-11  *The Holy City (Jewish and Muslim dialogue on Jerusalem)*  
March 28: Mark 16: 1-8  “We finish the story” – Where does the gospel go...
NEW 110-Niche Columbarium Coming to Grace Memorial Garden

If you've wandered around the church grounds recently, you may have noticed some big and beautiful changes happening to the memorial garden. This month a gorgeous granite wall with cross and 110 memorial niches will be constructed and available for you to purchase.

For those interested in purchasing a niche in the memorial garden, costs are as follows:

Single Urn Niche: $1,400, Double Urn Niche: $2,400, Double Urn Niche in Cross: $2,900

These prices include the urns and engraving, excluding the internment date. The niches are available to church members, spouses/partners, family members and others (subject to columbarium committee approval).

There will also be a lovely Grace Garden resting place for ashes. Cost for a plaque at the garden is $160.

Please contact the Church Office for more information.

CHRISTMAS OFFERING

Rolling Hills, you've done it again!

As of December 28, 2017, this year's Christmas Offering total is $27,351.95!

Covenant Community Health and Wellness is going to be blown away. Thank you again for your generosity toward your community.

We truly are, A Community of Grace!

Emily and Drue Jennings with volunteers at Covenant Community Health and Wellness.
CHILDREN & FAMILY

Celebration Choir

Celebration Children's Choir meets from 9:30 until 10 a.m. each week. They share their gift of singing with the congregation the second Sunday of each month during the school year. Thank you to all of our sweet singers who participate in our choir. Also, a BIG thank you to our lovely choir gals, Becky Lloyd and Barbara Meyer, you are amazing!

WILD Winter Day!

It’s cold outside so let’s get wild inside. On January 21, stay after church for an animal adventure. Meet in Fellowship Hall for lunch and then we will go to the Children's Center to learn about (and meet) some new animal friends from the Kansas City Zoo (Do you think they will bring a tiger?). A $5 donation per family helps cover the cost of lunch. RSVP to Amy@rollinghillskc.org.

New Year, New Goal for Children's Ministry

There is a verse, 1 Peter 4:10 that says, “Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms.” Children’s and Family ministries aim to share God’s grace with our children and families. Our goal is that kids know they are loved by their church family and God while exploring their faith and experiencing God’s world.

SANTA BREAKFAST

Thank you so much to everyone that helped at the Santa Breakfast. You were all incredible! From the pancake flippers, dishwashers, decorators, drink managers and syrup staff, we couldn’t have done it without you! It was a magical moment for the children and the church! Thanks again! Amy
**January**

Jan. 7: Youth Group  
Welcome New Year!

Jan. 14-15: All Youth Lock in & Tubing  
$40 - more info to come!

Jan. 21: Youth Group  
Scavenger Hunt- Bring a Friend Event

Jan. 28: Youth Group Service Project

**February**

Feb. 4: Service Trip Meeting at 11 a.m. &  
Deposits Due, NO YOUTH GROUP

Feb. 11: Special “Big Sonia” Movie Event at 4:30 p.m.  
followed by RH Youth Group Valentine Cake Wars

Feb. 17: Harvesters Volunteer Opportunity 1-3 p.m.

Feb. 18: Youth Group Lock-In (more info to come)

Feb. 25: Chili/Trivia Fundraiser  
(pending Session approval)

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**Senior High Service Trip Location Revealed!**

Important trip meeting and deposits due on Sunday, February 4, 11 a.m.

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**SEASONAL SNAPSHOTs**
A December to Remember

Arabic Christian Fellowship Party  Hanging of the Greens  Rolling Hills Staff Holiday Lunch

Breakfast with Santa  Middle School Xmas Party  Rolling Hills Carolers

Our Mission is to be
A Community of Grace

Our Vision is to
Love God with all your heart, soul, mind & strength and love your neighbor as yourself.

Our Values are
- Generosity
- Relationships
- Acceptance
- Compassion
- Empowerment
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Rebecca Lloyd
Barbara Meyer
Co-Directors
Celebration Choir

Josh Merlenbach
Organist

Alyssa Toepfer
Youth Choir Director