

**March 31, April 1 & 2**

**Hosted by Sunset Hills**

**Volunteers Needed**

**Please see Traci Gilmer if  
you'd like to volunteer.**



**PRAIRIE PASTORS**  
CONFERENCE

## Sunset Hills Baptist Church March 2025 Newsletter



Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect. — The Apostle Paul, Romans 12:2.

You can't go back and change the beginning, but you can start where you are and change the ending. — C.S. Lewis

When I attended karate classes with my son Ben, I was honestly intimidated at the knowledge base required to move from one student rank to the next. Still, in a couple of years I found myself standing on a medals platform being crowned with a second-place award in my weight class in Colorado Springs.

It's because I changed my mind about one tactic. Just one discipline made the difference. The key for me was to avoid trying to overpower my opponent by sheer force. I had to relax and respond to the flow of the match. That sounds poetic, doesn't it? But let's be clear; I knew I'd rarely face an opponent and engage in a Bruce Lee vs. Chuck Norris extravaganza. I had to learn another strategy, change my moves to deliver what were best in response to my opponent, and how to guide my opponent into situations that would allow me to score more points than they did.

The big deal? Change the way you think about the match. Implement the changed strategy to produce changed results.

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We're about to enter a full month of messages on positive transformation and how to sustain it to build God's Kingdom. Minds might even change as we examine how God transforms families, spiritual warfare, our attitudes, and so much more as described in the book of Ephesians.

One changed tactic could bring an unexpected season of growth in your walk with Jesus and the community at Sunset Hills. I hope you'll join us for the journey!

-- Pastor Steve

### Upcoming Sermon Schedule

3/2	TRANSFORM: Salvation into New Life	<i>Ephesians 2:1-10</i>
3/9	TRANSFORM: Reconciliation into New Society	<i>Ephesians 3:1-13</i>
3/16	TRANSFORM: Sanctification into New Standards	<i>Ephesians 4:1-13</i>
3/23	Guest Speaker Rev. Dr. Priscilla Eppinger, Executive Director of the American Baptist Historical Society	
3/30	TRANSFORM: Family into Strategic Powerhouse	<i>Ephesians 5:22-6:9</i>

### Adult Sunday School March News - Ron Reed

The study of the late Dr. Charles Stanley's *The Promises of God* continues. We'd love to have others join us from 9:00 to 10:00 Sunday mornings in the lower-level doubles classroom.

If you would like to meet with or talk to Rev. Steve during the week, please feel free to call or email at 719-330-3536, [stevewamberg@yahoo.com](mailto:stevewamberg@yahoo.com). You may also call the office at 402-391-0820 Monday-Friday from 8:00 - 1:00 to make an appointment.

Convenient times include Saturday mornings or Sunday morning after the worship service.

It is time for the annual America For Christ (AFC) Offering once again. This year's theme is ***Grace upon Grace in Times of Turbulence*** inspired by the Ephesians 4:32 (NIV) text; *Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.* This passage stresses the importance of letting go of anger and moving forward with love. Just as Matthew 6:14-15 stresses that our heavenly Father will forgive us if we forgive others. God's love for us, even in times of despair, never wavers.

The American Baptist Home Mission Societies (ABHMS) aims to raise \$1,000,000 or more to support American Baptist missions and ministries across the United States and Puerto Rico. Our goal is \$1,400 to go toward that goal and we have five Sundays to reach the mark during the month of March.

Our faithful giving is a powerful expression of our commitment to share in Christ's love, hope, and grace with those in need throughout the United States and Puerto Rico.

Pastor Rick Wheatley  
Missions Committee



### Men's Study Group March News - Ron Reed

The study of *The Israel Course - Christians United for Israel* continues in March. After this study is completed, please watch for the invitation to join us for our next study.

### Vision Statement

Communicate the love of God so all may experience the joy of a relationship with Christ.

### Mission Statement

Build disciples by empowering each church participant to practice personal and congregational mission to reach people in our everyday lives.

## Stewardship Ministry March News - Ron Reed

Your contacts are Marvin Vanosdall, Grounds Leader; Doug Larsen, Facilities Leader; and Cindy Combs, Events Leader should you have anything that needs attention.

Repair of our sewer line will soon be made. Unfortunately, it required two companies to initially clear the blockages, one had the necessary ability. The initial costs totaled about \$4,000. A camera scope of the cleared line revealed an issue with a pipe coupling and a break which needs to be repaired before spring thaw so mud doesn't get in the line. This repair estimate is \$4,319.50. If our church family would like to help with the costs, it would be appreciated.

We welcome Mandy Hawk as our new janitor. Mandy also cleans for her church.

Saturday, April 26 at 9:00 a.m. will be Spring Cleanup. We will need all the help we can get for the grounds and building tasks.

Date	Attendance	Giving
February 2	66	\$5,483.00
February 9	27	NA
February 16	54	\$6,431.07
February 23	52	\$3,935.23

## SHBC Financial Scoreboard

<b>January Income</b>	<b>\$19,902.00</b>
<b>January Expenses</b>	<b>\$14,130.00</b>
<b>YTD Income</b>	<b>\$19,902.00</b>
<b>YTD Expenses</b>	<b>\$14,130.00</b>

3 Mark Caughey  
7 Cheryl Arnold  
7 Carol McCormick  
12 Traci Gilmer  
14 Rev. Bob Molby  
18 Lidia Barrientos  
18 Yaquelin Barrientos  
30 Ashley Rhedin



### Bible Study

Join Rev. Steve on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. for Bible Study. All are welcome.



## Happy Anniversary!

15 Bob & Lou Riggs 56 Years  
22 Pedro & Joy Okoruwa 35 Years

**Monthly Prayer Meeting**  
**Monday, March 3**  
**6:00 p.m.**

**The next Family Gathering**  
**Friday, March 7 from 6:00—8:00 p.m.**  
**A sign-up sheet is in the narthex.**

**Chili/Soup Cookoff**  
**Bring your best and we'll vote on our favorite!**

**Women Mentoring Women**  
**Monday, March 10 & 24**  
**6:30 p.m. with dinner at 6:00 p.m.**



Daylight Saving  
Time Begins on  
Sunday, March 9.  
Be sure to **Spring Forward!**

Wednesday, March 12 & 26  
9:30 a.m.

**RetroActive**

“Youth Group for Adults”

## Prayer Requests and Concerns

### Health Concerns

Marshall via Cheryl A.	Carson via Dot N.	Brooks via Dot N.	Brenda/Keith Baker
Jan Ramy via Carol V.	Shirley via Jill G.	Cheryl Arnold	Ron Reed
Noah Hamlin	Millie via Jill G.	Ruth Steele	Deb Vetter
Dan Allman	Linda via Cindy C.	Jenny via Annie W.	Carol via Rita V.
Mike & Steve via Jim H.	Dave via Rita V.	Shirley via Rita V.	Jill via Dot N.
Steve Combs	Mike Minarick	Jessica via Amber D.	Carol M. co-worker
Marshall via Annie w.	Dr. Kanchan Lodhia via Nalini A.		

### Other Concerns

Continue to pray for those in mourning (including Woods family, Kathy Koppenhaver)  
Continue to pray for those with ongoing mental and physical health problems  
Pray for safe travels for those who are traveling now and for those who travel for a living  
Continue to pray for the safety of those who are living alone and for those who are lonely  
Pray for our church family and our Pastor and church leaders and groups  
Pray for those seeking employment opportunities/advancements  
On-going prayers of well-being for shut-ins and military personnel  
Pray for our country.

Confidential prayer requests may be left in the prayer box on the wall in the narthex.  
Reminder: There is a box for praises and ideas next to the confidential box.

For regular prayer requests, please text or call and leave a message for Dot North at 402-658-6401, emails may not be seen in a timely manner. She will confirm that your request was received, and it will be sent out to the prayer chain. Your requests are very important to us.



**Sunset Hills Baptist Church**  
**Ministry Council Minutes**  
**February 16, 2025 – Via Zoom**

**Attendees:** Rev. Steve Wamberg; Moderator, Diane Workman; Church Clerk, Becki Pike; Growing, Rev. Jason Workman; Caring, Gary Peterson; Operations, Ron Reed, Others Present, Doug Larsen, Scott Darden

**Devotion/Prayer** – Rev. Wamberg

**Operations** – Ron Reed

- Finances: Rev. Jason Workman - interim
  - ◇ Finance had their first full-team meeting on February 10.
  - ◇ Telly Woods has resigned as bookkeeper. Someone has already been asked to take this position, and they are currently deciding.
  - ◇ Pastor Jason and Scott Darden are also looking at new software for the treasurer and bookkeeper. They are currently trying a trial with Aplos. So far, this looks like it will fit all our church's needs. This app will cost around \$100 a month but has other options that it can be used for.
  - ◇ Going to look at ways to build up the Sabbatical Savings account.
- Stewardship: Ron Reed
  - ◇ Sewer line will need to be replaced before spring so mud will not get into the line. We currently have a bid from Eyman. A motion was made by Ron Reed and seconded by Gary Peterson. The motion passed to have Eyman complete the work and funds will come out of Capital Projects.
  - ◇ Ron Reed will be gone while having knee surgery and Doug Larsen will be covering all the inside facility needs.
  - ◇ Carpet cleaning will resume in March and April.
  - ◇ Spring cleanup will be on Saturday, April 26.
  - ◇ A new janitor has been hired.
  - ◇ Marvin Vanosdall has had the rusted trash bin in the parking lot replaced.
  - ◇ Cindy Combs has been working on organizing and cleaning the storage closet in the fellowship hall and is asking for donations of clear tubs. To help with rodent issues, all dishes will need to be cleaned before and after use. Cindy is also cleaning out the refrigerator and has asked that all items put in the fridge have a name and date on them.
  - ◇ The fellowship hall will be used for baby and wedding showers on April 26 and May 3. Going forward, a facility use agreement will need to be signed.
- Safety and Security: Rev. Jason Workman
  - ◇ A new camera has been installed in the main lobby. Additional ones are coming.

**Caring** – Gary Peterson

- Shepherding Ministry: Amber Dale – No updates.
- Pastor/Staff Relations Ministry: Gary Peterson – No updates. Plan to meet next month.
- Prayer Ministry: Dot North – No updates.

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**Growing** – Rev. Jason Workman

- Discipleship Ministry: Vacant
  - ◇ LaShawnda Wood's last Sunday teaching will be March 2. We're looking for a fourth teacher.
  - ◇ Pastor Steve and Pastor Jason are looking into a new discipleship program on building relations.
  - ◇ Jason will be sending out another email regarding the meeting in March for background checks and training.
- Worship Ministry: Rev. Jason Workman
  - ◇ Easter week is being planned and organized. Maundy Thursday music will be taken care of by Annie and Pastor Steve. On Easter Sunday, Dan and the praise team will be doing the music.
- Mission/Outreach Ministry: Terry Anderson
  - ◇ We will be hosting the Prairie Pastors Conference again and organization is underway. Groups that meet at the church during that time may be asked to make other arrangements.

**Closing Prayer:** Gary Petersson

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**Missions and Outreach Ministry – Terry Anderson**

March is the month to collect the America for Christ Offering. We have a goal of \$1,400, to be received during the five Sundays in the month. This offering aims to provide financial support to American Baptist churches and affiliated organizations across the United States and Puerto Rico, enabling them to carry out various ministries and community support initiatives. Contributions to this offering have historically impacted thousands through various programs, including support for marginalized children and disaster relief efforts.

Locally, we will take part in the Dr. Seuss Reading Program at Pine Elementary School. Some in our congregation have volunteered to read to the pupils, who range from pre-kindergarten through fifth grade. Later in March, we will prepare to promote our special Easter activities in April, including the Easter Egg Hunt for youth after our Easter morning service.