

"Grace Upon Grace" is this year's America For Christ Offering theme. The scripture verses for this year is taken from **John 1:16-17** - "From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ."

God's grace is expansive. Filled with abundant references to grace as God's light, the scriptures reflect a brilliant spectrum of rich hues that manifest God's favor, blessing, and kindness. Folks God's work is never done. Our gifts to the AFC support regions, churches and community organizations across the United States and Puerto Rico. Yes, many ministries right here in America.

Our goal and challenge this year is \$1,400. Take an envelope home with you, pray and ask God what you can give. Can we count on your generosity once again? We have met our challenges in the past and I know we can do it together once again.

Pastor Rick

Grace UPON Grace
America for Christ Offering 2023

Sunset Hills March 2023 Newsletter



Defining "Revival." Maybe.

I never knew until this week that "revival" may not be the proper term to use for what has transpired/is transpiring at Asbury University. (It's not revival unless it's sanctioned by people with YouTube channels and 800 numbers? Gimme a break.)

Here's the bottom line, as best I can tell from video and as witnessed in person by a dear friend of half a century. Her husband is on Asbury staff, and she has served as one of the event ushers/gatekeepers. Her observations:

1. God alone is being glorified.
2. People (students were the first in this category, I believe) are confessing personal sins and repenting.
3. It is not an event built on hype or emotionalism, but on the work of the Holy Spirit bearing witness to Jesus.

Kind of like God is shaking the house for bigger things coming.

I am among many in my generation who have been praying for revival. (Or, in the parlance of some current pundits with a cynical bent, a "chapel service extension.") We're a bunch of old Jesus freaks who noticed that the culture today looks a lot like the culture we knew half a century ago. We knew we needed prayer, and figured this generation of students would appreciate the same.

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I'm not stopping those prayers just because I don't have a good grip on the event's nomenclature. Nor would I stop because some misguided media figure (Christian or mainstream) plays Monday morning quarterback on a move of God.

That's why I pray fervently for Sunset Hills that we hunger afresh to be a community of Jesus where God alone is glorified; where we are actively repenting from **and abandoning** sin. And, where our faith is not built on working ourselves into a frenzy but instead on the move and active presence of the Holy Spirit.

Please join me this month in prayer for the above. Glorify God. Repent where you need to. Walk in fresh obedience. Time to move forward in the Word and ways of Jesus. Getting real with God is too important.

-- Steve Wamberg

Upcoming Sermon Schedule

| | | |
|----------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| March 5 | The Confession and the Kingdom | <i>Mark 8:27 – 9:1</i> |
| March 12 | The Need-to-Know Basis | <i>Matthew 22:23-33</i> |
| March 19 | When We Become Dangerous | <i>John 11:17-44, 12:9-11</i> |
| March 26 | Going for the One | <i>Luke 15</i> |

Prairie Pastors Conference

Sunset Hills will once again host the Prairie Pastors Conference on March 27, 28 and 29. If you would like to help with set up or clean up for the MMBB catered dinner on Monday evening or the catered breakfast on Tuesday morning, or setting up on the mornings of the 28th and 29th by putting out coffee and snacks and making sure things are stocked and cleaned up, please call the office or let Diane Workman know. Thank you.

Pastor Staff Relations Committee March Update - Ron Reed

Rev. Steve and Annie will continue to serve in the Interim Pastor position as the 90-day probation period has past. We are thankful that God called them to Sunset Hills, and that they answered His call.

Your PSRC members are Nancy Berney, Jason Rich, Denise Vanosdall, Linda Wheatley, and Ron Reed. We encourage our church family to bring to any member ideas that will benefit our church, as well as, concerns that are on your hearts. We assure you they will be addressed in a timely manner.

The Men's Study Group March Update - Ron Reed

We welcome Pastors Rick Wheatley and Steve Wamberg, who are now attending our Tuesday evening discussions from 6:30 to 7:30. If others would like to join in, please contact Pastor Bob Molby, Don Zak, Marvin Vanosdall, Bob Slechta, Pastor Rick Wheatley, Pastor Steve Wamberg, or Ron Reed so we can get the Zoom link invite sent to your email address on Tuesdays.

Stewardship Ministry 2023 Team March Update - Ron Reed

We are in serious need of a new leader for this ministry. I will partner with whoever answers God's call to serve in this capacity until they are able to assume the responsibility. Please contact me if you like to know more about this position.

Adult Sunday School March Update - Ron Reed

We have had wonderful attendance for the current study; Dr. Charles Stanley's, **Life Principles To Live By**. You are invited to the class. We meet from 9:00 to 10:00 on Sunday mornings in the lower level Doubles Classroom, which you'll find at the end of the short hallway after you take a right turn from the stairwell. Please, come and grow in faith and fellowship with us.

Bible Study

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



| Date | Attendance | Giving |
|-------------|------------|------------|
| January 29 | 53 | \$4,096.00 |
| February 5 | 67 | \$4,540.00 |
| February 12 | 55 | \$4,285.00 |
| February 19 | 64 | \$3,666.25 |
| February 26 | TBD | TBD |

| SHBC Financial Scoreboard | |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| January Pledges | 154% Effective |
| YTD Pledges | 154% Effective |
| YTD Income | \$15,710 |
| YTD Expenses | \$12,605 |

3 Mark Caughey
7 Cheryl Arnold
7 Carol McCormick
12 Yvonne Swearingen
14 Rev. Bob Molby
22 Lillian Richards
30 Ashley Rhedin



Women Mentoring Women
Wednesday, March 1, 15, and 30
6:30 p.m. with dinner served at 6:00 p.m.
See Shawnda Woods or Jacque McDuffie for more information.

22 Pedro & Joy Okoruwa 33 Years
Happy Anniversary!

Prayers for Health, Healing, and Strength

Please pray for the NE Regional Search Committee

| | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Kim Wille | Deanne Caughey | Mike Loeffler | Bob Molby |
| Linda Hedrick | Paul Marine | Nancy Berney | Amber Dale |
| Glenn & Linda Kilpatrick | Jacque McDuffie | Yvonne Swearingen | Betty Prokop |
| Jack & Carol Welch | Patty Martin | Barb Ganey | Mark & Ruth Steele |
| Nancy Quinnette | Dan & Marge Todd | Dick & Norma Larsen | |

On-going prayers of well-being for shut-ins and military personnel.

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 prayers are very important.

Sunset Hills Baptist Church
Ministry Council Minutes
February 20, 2023

Attendees: Diane Workman, Moderator; Jason Workman, Safety/Security; Don Zak, Worship; Ron Reed, Pastor/Staff Relations; Dot North, Prayer; LaShawnda Woods, Discipleship; Doug Larsen, Treasurer

Devotion and Prayer - Pastor Jason

Monthly Treasurer Report – Doug Larsen: Report was briefed and approved.

- Discipleship** – VBS will be held on June 10. The theme is *Glow*.
- Shepherding** – The new meal ministry made 48 meals. A budget to purchase food will be needed. We hope to bring back in-person visits.
- Music and Worship** – Pastor Jason will now be the ministry leader.
- Pastor/Staff Relations** – The ministry is looking for ways to improve suggestions from the church family.
- Stewardship** – There is a need to cut down two dead trees. A spring cleanup will be scheduled soon. We need volunteers to help with the Prairie Pastors Conference on March 27-29.
- Mission Outreach** – Our mission for March is the America for Christ offering. The goal is \$1,400.
- Prayer** - World Day of Prayer is Friday, March 3. The church will be open for prayers from 11:45 – 12:45 and from 6:00 – 6:30.

There will be a potluck on Sunday, July 30th, and a midyear budget meeting.

Next Meeting – Monday, March 20, at 6:30 p.m. An additional meeting will be held on Saturday, March 25 for ministry leaders to review each ministries’ responsibilities.

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.

Prayer Ministry Update – Dot North

We have some opportunities to help with prayer beyond the regular prayer chain prayers. Please consider helping with or taking part in some of these opportunities:

- Sunset Hills Baptist Church is observing the International Baptist World Day of Prayer on March 3. Please join in this worldwide prayer opportunity either at 11:45-12:45 and/or again at 6:00-6:30.
- If you are on Facebook, you can participate in the ***Pray with Camp Merrill on Mondays!*** Search for Churches Helping Churches ABC Nebraska and it is on the Moses Merrill Camp & Conference Center section. You can post a prayer in the comments for Camp Merrill Mondays!
- If you attend Sunset Hills, you can now post any confidential/private praises and prayers in a box in the Narthex. This is not intended to replace the prayer chain requests that you receive. It is intended for a way for prayers that are private and confidential to still be prayed over by prayer warriors. The praises and prayers will be prayed over without being read or seen by any earthly being. They will be burned or shredded after being prayed over.
- There is also a box for suggestions and comments just to the right of the Confidential Praises and Prayers box. Both boxes are hanging on the wall just beside the bulletin board over by the entrance to the women's restroom. Please let us know if you would like to help with anything. Please give ideas of how you would like to help to be a disciple for our Lord and Savior. Are there any gifts that you are blessed with that you would like to use to help spread the Gospel? Please encourage others to utilize their gifts also! Sunset Hills is all of us, not just a few of us.
- If you are aware of anyone that wishes to receive the prayer requests, please let Dot North know.

Volunteers are needed to help with projected activities and projects of the Prayer Ministry. Projects that need coordinators and/or one time volunteers:

- ***Prayer Chain Coordinator***
- ***Caretaker of the "Private Praises and Prayers" Box***
- ***Monthly Prayer meeting (first Monday evening of the month)***
- ***"Sitting With God" Prayer Service (every 3-4 months if possible)***
- ***Baptist World Day of Prayer - International Women's is first Friday in March celebrated annually in over 170 countries.***
- ***National Day of Prayer – Annual day of observance held on the first Thursday of May, designated by the US Congress when people are asked to "turn to God in prayer and meditation."***
- ***Special emphasis prayer gathering(s) and/or prayer study***

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Moses Merrill Camp and Conference Center

Please visit cammerrill.com for more information, deadlines to register, cost, etc.

More information available on the slatwall in the narthex.

Upcoming Events

| | |
|---------------|------------------------------|
| March 10-12 | ABC-NE Youth Retreat |
| April 14-16 | Wild at Heart Men's Retreat |
| April 21-23 | Scrapbookers Retreat |
| May 6 | Camp Open House 1:00 - 5:00 |
| June 2-4 | AB Women's Conference |
| August 11-13 | AB Men's Conference |
| October 9-11 | ABC-NE Pastor's Fall Retreat |
| October 13-15 | Scrapbookers Retreat |
| October 27-29 | AB Women's Fall Retreat |

Summer Camp 2023

| Camp Session | Dates | Grades |
|-----------------|--------------|----------|
| Mission Camp | June 11 - 16 | 7 - 12 |
| JAM Camp | June 11 - 13 | 1 - 6 |
| Mid-High Camp | June 18 - 23 | 7 - 9 |
| Music and Drama | June 25 - 30 | 4 - 12 |
| Day Camp | June 26 - 29 | 1 - 6 |
| Junior Camp | July 9 - 14 | 4 - 6 |
| Senior High | July 16 - 21 | 9 - 12 |
| Family Camp | July 28 - 30 | All Ages |

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Please contact Dot North, Pastor Steve Wamberg, or place your ideas and suggestions in the new church suggestion box, if you would like to help or have any ideas. We would also like to give a big thank you to those who are on the prayer chain and to everyone that helps in so many ways!

We wish to again offer our inadequate humble but heartfelt thanks to Deanne Caughey for her wonderful service as Prayer Chain Coordinator. She has retired due to health issues. Please keep Deanne, Mark, and family in your prayers. Thank you also to Deb Vetter, who assists in calling people who prefer to receive prayer requests by phone. Deb has also volunteered to call and visit with homebound individuals to stay in touch with them and let them know we care about them.