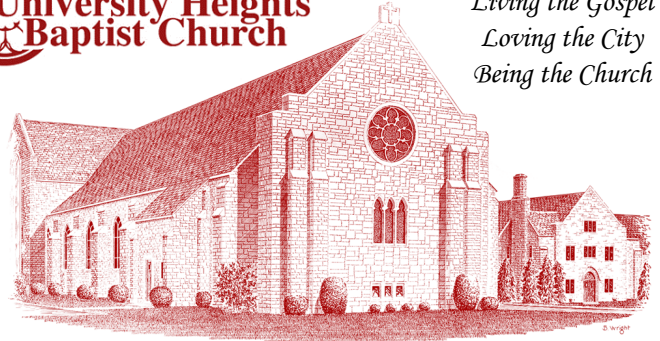


THE CORNER CRIER

1010 S. National Ave
(Corner of Grand & National)
Springfield, MO 65804
Phone: 417.862.0789

University Heights
Baptist Church

*Living the Gospel
Loving the City
Being the Church*



A Church of Thoughtful, Gentle Grace

June 2025

NEWS FROM UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor's Thoughts

June has arrived — the season of warm sunshine, vacations, cookouts, baseball games, and a change of pace. Schools close their doors, families load up their cars for trips, and the longer days invite us to slow down and savor life a little differently.

Summer is fantastic but our faith doesn't take the summer off.

In fact, I believe summer is a beautiful gift God gives us — a season to embrace **rest, renewal, and reaching out** in fresh ways.

First, **rest and renewal**. Summer naturally invites us into a slower rhythm. Take that invitation seriously. Let your body rest, but also let your soul rest. Carve out time to read Scripture on the porch, pray as you walk in the evenings, or simply breathe deeply and remember that God is with you. Jesus Himself often withdrew to quiet places to pray — not because He was weak, but because He was wise. We need that wisdom too.

Second, **staying connected**. I know that summer often pulls us in many directions. Vacations, sports, family plans — they matter, and I'm grateful for the joy they bring! But let's not forget the importance of staying anchored to our church family. Worship when you're in town. Check in online when you're away. Encourage one another with a quick text or a shared prayer. Your presence matters — even in June and July.

Third, **reaching out**. Did you know that summer is one of the easiest times to invite someone to church or into your circle of faith? People are more open in these relaxed months — and we have plenty of things going on that create easy entry points: Serve Springfield Days, youth camp trips, serving days at local mission partners, small groups, church events, and so much more. Who could you invite to come along? Who might need a word of welcome or an outstretched hand? Let's use this summer not just for ourselves, but as a season to share God's love.

Finally, let me say this: **I'm already excited about what's coming**. Even as we rest and refresh, God is preparing us for a meaningful season ahead. This fall, we'll launch new ministry opportunities, dive into a new sermon series, and continue growing as a community. But before we get there, I can't wait to see what God will do next through you and through our church family.

So this June, let's embrace the rhythms of summer — not just as a break from routine, but as an invitation to live fully, rest deeply, and love boldly. I'm grateful to walk this journey with you.

With love and joy,

-Pastor Nolan

FROM JOE MILLER

Summertime: Reach High, Think Big, Work Hard, Have Fun

Every season comes with its own benefits and challenges, even summer. While winter can make us want to stay inside and avoid the weather, summer often feels “happy-go-lucky.” We may find ourselves throwing out the schedule and approaching all things with the optimism of chance. This can be both positive and negative. Approaching life with optimism and a renewed outlook on the road ahead can be a pleasant shift in our mindset. At the same time, living outside our routine can be negative if we forget to live intentionally, particularly if we leave behind healthy habits that keep us moving forward with a life of purpose.

As we enter this new season of the year, here are a couple of things to think about:

One: Embrace Something New

- a) Serve somewhere new. Is there a ministry or non-profit you’ve been thinking about serving, but you haven’t yet made the move? “Just do it!”
- b) Is there a “people group” you need to learn from? This would be a group that is outside your normal circles and can offer a different perspective.
- c) Pick a place, restaurant, coffee shop, etc., and become the pastor of that place. Pray for the people who work there (Obviously, to quote Nolan, “Don’t be weird”).
- d) Dream about the fall. What new vision might God have for you in the coming months? Spend some time meditating and praying for new vision. Write it down --don’t just let it hang out in your head where it might get forgotten!

Two: Stay Focused

- a) Keep a prayer list. Pray for people you already know, but also begin to add new people you meet through the summer. Begin praying for them every day.
- b) Do some prayer walking. Everywhere you go, pray for the people there.
- c) Think about your vision for life. What’s your God-story – and how is your story linked to a God-sized vision for how you can use your time energy, and talents?
- d) What Scripture are you reading this summer? Is it a book of the Bible? Or maybe a devotional book by a trusted author?
- e) Practice Sabbath. Find good rest.
- f) Connect with your community of faith outside of Sunday morning.

To quote the Imagination Movers (a kids’ show that helped me parent every morning while waiting on the bus), “Reach high, think big, work hard, and have fun!”

Blessings,

-Joe

News from University Hope and the UHBC Stewardship Committee Summer 2025 Spotlight and Update

Your generosity continues to bless others in our community! Recently, University Hope was able to support an individual who needed transportation to work. This individual was homeless for over 10 years and suffered a traumatic brain injury. He received housing in the past year and secured a job but had to pay for taxi and Uber rides to work, which significantly reduced his paycheck. University Hope purchased a used scooter for him, allowing him to consistently get to work and rebuild his life. He is currently making monthly payments and will pay back University Hope half of what we paid for the scooter.

We have also received an increase in requests for cab rides through the Family Connection Center for parents needing to travel to appointments for supervised visits with their children in foster care. University Hope has been able to assist multiple times with this request.

Over the past several weeks, University Hope purchased 27 books of bus passes (1,620 passes in total!) to be used by the various organizations we work with, including UHBC, LFCS, and Connecting Grounds.

As always, thank you for supporting transportation needs in our local community. Your willingness to share your resources with others truly makes a difference. If you would like to make a financial donation, please write a check made out to “University Hope” and give your check to the church office or to Jerry Scott or Heather Haynes. Also, please reach out to Jerry or Heather if you have any questions about UHope.

**Grace and Peace,
Jerry and Heather**

MISSIONS & MINISTRY



As of publication date, UHBC has donated a very generous amount of **\$4065** to our North American Missions effort!

This puts us **over** our goal of \$4,000!

This amount will be distributed evenly between ABC and CBF North American Missions work.

We are so grateful for the remarkable generosity of University Heights!

JUNE MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY

Rare Breed Youth Services provides immediate access to basic needs and rapid access to community services for homeless and at-risk youth ages 13 – 24.

We are collecting small personal hygiene items.

(think small for a backpack)

- Soap deodorant
- Toothpaste & toothbrush
- Shampoo
- Feminine hygiene products



Please put the items in the basket in front of the library.

Mission Group Meetings

Tuesday, June 10

Mann Group, 11:30, lunch at Whole Hog

Williams Group, 1pm, Tour of Child Advocacy Center

YOUTH MINISTRY

UHBC YOUTH MINISTRY

UPCOMING SUMMER EVENTS



JUN

- 4th - Walk to Andy's
- 5th - Volunteer Eden Village I
- 11th - Outdoor Games
- 18th - Movie Night
- 19th-24th -Camp
- 25th - No Youth
- 29th - Silver Dollar City

JUL

- 2nd - Mini Golf
- 9th - Nerf Night
- 10th - Volunteer Eden Village I
- 16th - Water Games
- 19th - Pool Night
- 23rd - Rountree Volunteer day
- 30th - Nerf War

AUG

- 6th - Outdoor Games
- 13th - Back to School Bash
- 14th - Niangua River Float Trip (reward day for participating in volunteer days)



From the Library

The UHBC library contains a section of over 200 biographies and autobiographies.

Some of the titles include James Herriott's 4 book series about his life as a veterinarian in York, England. These are now a PBS series, and the titles come from a poem. They are: All Things Bright and Beautiful, All Things Great and Small, All Things Wise and Wonderful, and The Lord God Made Them All.

There are several biographies of Billy Graham as well as his autobiography, Just as I Am. There are books by Ruth Bell Graham, Jimmy Carter, Tom Brokaw, John F. Kennedy, and Lisa Beamer.

Come browse our many interesting titles such as Maya Angelou's Singin' and Swingin' and Gettin' Merry like Christmas.

-Sue Grindstaff, for the Library Staff



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

During the month of May, our children explored the theme of initiative—viewing it through the powerful lens of God's character and His grand story of redemption. They learned that initiative means seeing what needs to be done and doing it—just as God took the first step to restore our broken relationship with Him by sending Jesus. Through Bible passages like John 3:16–17 and Exodus 2:1–10, the children saw how God met our greatest need, and how, being made in His image, we too are called to take initiative to help others.

From Miriam's bold actions to protect baby Moses, to God's ultimate act of love in Christ, our kids were encouraged to notice the needs around them—big and small—and take action with love. These lessons reminded them that their choices can reflect God's love and be part of His healing work in a hurting world. In addition to these spiritual lessons, the children poured their hearts into creating a special Mother's Day video, which was shared during worship on May 11th. Now in its second year, this heartfelt tradition continues to bring joy, laughter, and even a few happy tears to moms and grandmas in our congregation.

As schools in our community wrapped up their testing season, we welcomed summer with our Annual Family Picnic on May 21st! It was such a fun day of fellowship- AND it didn't rain!! Families came together for delicious food, fun activities, and meaningful connection. A highlight for many kids was the giant bouncy slide, which saw hours of excitement, while our brand-new pickleball courts quickly became a surprise favorite among both kids and parents alike.

One of the most moving moments of the month came on the final Sunday, when Robbie Prickett, a soon-to-be sixth grader, came forward to be baptized. His courageous public declaration of faith was an inspiring reminder of how God is actively working in the hearts of all generations in our church. We rejoice with Robbie and look forward to walking alongside him in his faith journey.

Looking ahead, this summer in Children's Church, our kids will dive into an inspiring new theme: Live It Out. Each Sunday, they'll explore a different "one another" command from Scripture—such as forgiving one another, encouraging one another, and living in peace with one another. These lessons will teach them that following Jesus isn't just about head knowledge—it's about letting His Spirit shape how we treat others in real life.

Through these nine weeks, our kids will be challenged to live out their faith in practical, everyday ways—at home, with friends, and in their communities. It won't always be easy, but they'll grow in a safe, supportive environment where questions are welcomed, conversations are meaningful, and God's love is the foundation.

And let's not forget—Wednesday nights are all about fun! From outdoor games and Nerf wars to movie nights and more, our summer schedule is packed with excitement. Be sure to mark your calendars so your kids don't miss a single moment of what's ahead!

We're so grateful for what God is doing in our children's ministry—and we can't wait to see how He continues to move in their hearts this summer.

-Heather Twibell, Children's Pastor

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Some of you have been to the Holy Land and walked the Via Dolorosa. By tradition, this ancient street where Jesus carried His cross has stations along the way where you would stop to pray and remember the events of Good Friday.

Several churches in Springfield use permanent or temporary pictures as a devotional "walk" called Stations of the Cross, especially during Lent.

A small committee is coming together to prepare a permanent display of the Stations for UHBC by next Easter. We will be choosing which events to include, what materials to use, planning placement, writing guides, and perhaps planting flowers. If you are interested in participating, please contact Romona Baker, romonabak@gmail.com.



- | | |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| 5 Jan Bass | 13 Teresa MacAlmon |
| 8 Loren Broaddus | 17 Lisa Porter |
| 8 Preston Hake | 19 Sam Brown |
| 8 Bob Reed | 20 Jon Chamberlin |
| 9 Jim Twibell | 25 Avery Miller |
| 10 Nancy Gayer | 27 Ellen Frederickson |
| 13 Nolan Porter | 30 Harlan Spurgeon |

LOREN TURNS 90!



Join Us to Celebrate!

Saturday, June 14th
2:00 - 4:00 pm
 Cake cutting at 2:30pm

University Heights Baptist Church Fellowship Hall
 1010 S National Ave, Springfield, MO 65804

No gifts please, your presence is the present!
 Cards are welcome.

UHBC FAMILY:
 We are deeply grateful for all the prayers, meals, and kind words of encouragement during my recovery from a car accident!

AND

Thank you for your cards, gifts, and the honor of your presence at our 50th Anniversary celebration June 25th.

God has blessed us richly with your sweet fellowship!

Randy & Sonja Baldwin

Dear University Heights Baptist Church,

Thank you for helping celebrate our fabulous Rountree staff during Teacher Appreciation Week. Our staff loved kicking off our week with a great breakfast buffet. We are thankful for such a supportive community partner.

Sincerely,
 The Rountree Staff

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for all your support over the last two and a half years—for your thoughts, cards, and many prayers. We felt God helping us through each day.

Thank you, too, to the team that provided the reception after the funeral service. Everything meant so much to us.

The Family of Marion Wolf

Summer 2025 at University Heights

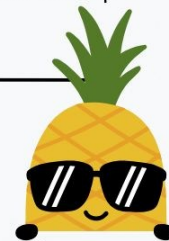
June

- | | | | |
|------|--|-----------|--|
| 1ST | Lifegroups, Worship, Lord's Supper | 18TH | Bible Study, Youth/Kids Movie Night & Last Choir Before Summer Break |
| 4TH | Bible Study, Youth & Kids Andy's | 19TH-24TH | Youth BigStuff Summer Camp at PCB |
| 5TH | Youth Group Serve Springfield Day | 22ND | Lifegroups, Worship, Board Meetings |
| 8TH | Lifegroup, Worship | 23RD-26TH | CBF General Assembly St. Louis |
| 11TH | Bible Study, Youth/Kids Outdoor Games, Choir | 25TH | No Midweek Activities |
| 15TH | Father's Day, Lifegroups, Worship | 29TH | Lifegroups, Worship, Students Camp Presentation |



July

- | | | | |
|------|-------------------------------------|------|---|
| 2ND | Bible Study, Youth Group & Kids Min | 20TH | Lifegroups, Worship |
| 7TH | Lifegroups, Worship, Lord's Supper | 23RD | Youth Group Serve Springfield Day |
| 9TH | Bible Study, Youth Group, Kids Min | 23RD | Bible Study, No Youth/Kids |
| 10TH | Youth Group Serve Springfield Day | 27TH | Lifegroups, Worship, Board Meetings |
| 13TH | Lifegroups, Worship | 30TH | Quarterly Business Meeting, Youth/Kids Nerf Night |
| 16TH | Bible Study, Youth/Kids Water Night | | |
| 19TH | Kids/Youth & Families Swim Night | | |



August

- | | | | |
|------|---|------|--|
| 3RD | Lifegroups, Worship, Lord's Supper | 14TH | Youth Group Serve Springfield Fun Day |
| 6TH | Bible Study, Youth/Kids Game Night | 17TH | Lifegroups, Worship, Promotion Day |
| 10TH | Lifegroups, Worship | 20TH | Regular Wednesday Night Schedule/Programming Resumes |
| 13TH | Summer Celebration Extravaganza - Church Wide Event Featuring Food Trucks, Games, Fellowship, Etc | 24TH | Lifegroups, Worship, Board Meetings Bible Study, Youth, Kids Choir |
| | | 27TH | Resumes |
- Unless otherwise noted, dinner will take place at 5:15 each Wednesday night. Please see the weekly announcements for further details on events and dinner. This is not an exhaustive list of summer events - please see weekly updates throughout the summer.



UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH

(Located at the Corner of Grand & National)

1010 S. National Ave

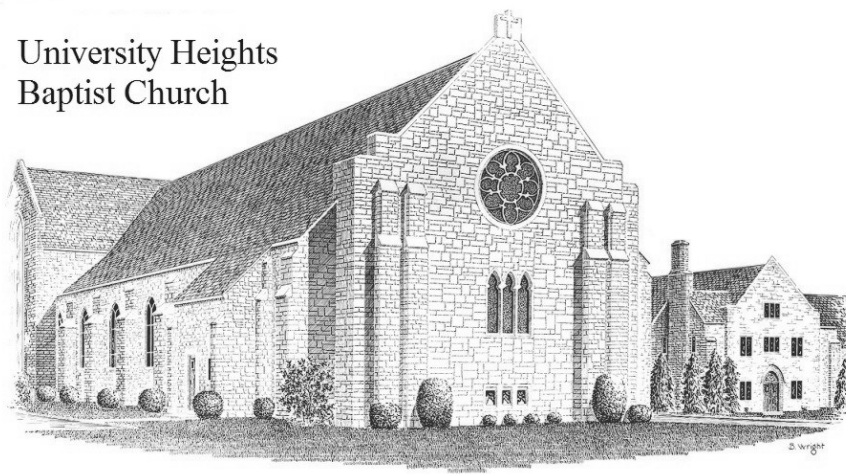
Springfield, MO 65804



Senior Pastor,

Dr. Nolan B. Porter

University Heights
Baptist Church



Give us a call for more information about our services and ministries. 417-862-0789 or visit our website: www.uhbc.org. or email us at uhbc@uhbc.org.