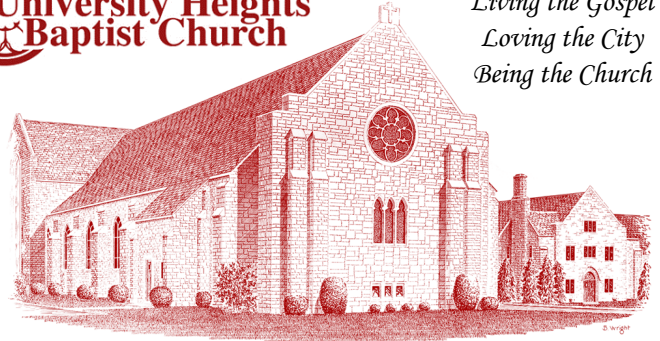


THE CORNER CRIER

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



*Living the Gospel
Loving the City
Being the Church*



A Church of Thoughtful, Gentle Grace

March 2025

NEWS FROM UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor's Thoughts

Turning the Calendar, Turning Toward Hope & Possibility

As February gives way to March, I'm reminded of how much a change in seasons can shift our perspective. The cold, gray days of winter begin to soften, and the first glimpses of sunshine remind us that spring is on its way. There's something hopeful about this transition—a sense that new life is just around the corner. In many ways, this mirrors where we are as a church. We are rooted in the rich soil of our tradition and history, yet we are also turning our faces toward the hope and possibility of the future.

This past month, we've celebrated the ways God is at work among us. We've welcomed new people and guests into our worship services, and it's been a joy to see our church family grow. Each new face reminds us that God is still drawing people to this community of faith. We've also celebrated new church members who have joined us on this journey, as well as those who have taken the step of following Christ in baptism. These moments are a testament to the life-changing power of the gospel and the faithfulness of God.

As we look ahead, I'm filled with excitement and anticipation. Spring on its way reminds us that Easter is around the corner. Holy Week is always a special time in the life of our church—a time to reflect on the sacrifice of Christ, to celebrate His resurrection, and to invite others to experience the hope we have in Him. From Palm Sunday to Maundy Thursday, to Easter Carnival Saturday, and Easter Sunday, we'll have opportunities to gather, worship, and share the good news of Jesus. I encourage you to invite friends, family, and neighbors to join us for these meaningful services. One of the things I'm most grateful for is the way our Sunday school classes (or Lifegroups, if that's your preferred nomenclature) are connecting us to one another and to God. These small groups are more than just meeting time—they're spaces where we grow in faith, support one another, and live out the call to love God and love our neighbors. If you're not already part of a LifeGroup, I encourage you to take that step. It's a wonderful way to deepen your faith and build relationships within our church family.

I'm also inspired by the ways our church is serving and growing in our capacity to serve. Whether it's through local missions, global partnerships, or acts of kindness in our community and through your personal connections, we are living out the love of Christ in tangible ways. Your generosity and willingness to serve are making a difference, and I'm excited to see how God will continue to use us in the days ahead.

Finally, I want to highlight the important work of our Building for Mission and Ministry Team. Serving on that team are Melissa Hall, Josh Haynes, Cindy Hogan, Curtis Jones, & Jerry Jones. As we look at our building, we're not just thinking about bricks and mortar—we're thinking about how our space can support and enhance our mission to make disciples and serve our community. This team is prayerfully considering how we can steward our resources to create a space that reflects our values and supports our ministry for years to come. They are hard at work and will have ideas to present over the coming months. Please feel free to reach out to me or one of the members of the team if you would like to share your ideas and thoughts.

As we turn the calendar from February to March, let's also turn our hearts toward hope. Let's celebrate where we've been, embrace where we are, and look forward to where God is leading us. Together, we are a church rooted in the best of tradition, alive in the present, and filled with hope and possibility for the future.

Pastor Nolan

FROM JOE MILLER

Lent begins on Wednesday, March 5th. The Lent season is one of my favorite periods in the Christian year, primarily because it points us to the “main event” of Christianity – the resurrection of Jesus. The first Easter was the beginning of something new. The early followers of Jesus shared an amazing message which drew people to Jesus. It wasn’t about heaven and it wasn’t about hell. It wasn’t about doctrine or theology. Their message didn’t even involve sin. It was about an event. Their confidence was built on something they had seen with their own eyes: a Messiah who had not stayed dead!

Traditionally, Lent began as a practice for new believers as they prepared to be baptized on Easter. Since Christians practice faith in community, the whole church began fasting, reflecting, and preparing for Easter. For those Christ-followers who were further along in their faith, Lent was a way to remember their own baptism and faith journey. It became a time when the church took on some new “holy habits” and left behind worldly habits to focus on Jesus. During Lent we can follow the example of the early followers of Jesus and use these 40 days to refocus on Christ’s sufferings and rethink how we are to take up our own crosses of sacrifice for the cause of Christ. This season I want to encourage you and I to begin to practice one new thing as we travel the way of the cross and wait for the "main event" of Easter.

Let's practice:

- *The value of all people.*
- *"Watering" our souls with prayer, Scripture, and community.*
- *Turning down the noise.*
- *Patience.*
- *Active listening.*
- *Meeting new people.*
- *Speaking up against injustice.*
- *Choosing hope.*

-Joe

MISSIONS & MINISTRY



Mission Group Meetings

Tuesday, March 11

9:30am Hackett/Williams Group

1pm Mann Group

M & M wants to thank everyone who supported our collection efforts the last two months for **Safe to Sleep**, **Grand Oaks** (Souper Bowl), and **Diaper Bank of the Ozarks**!

These are all wonderful organizations who do so much good in our community, and we are so grateful for such a generous community of faith.

-Pat Wolf, M&M Director

WELCOMING EVERYONE TO A BIGGER TABLE.

uhbc.org

SUNDAY MORNING LIFE GROUPS - 9:15AM
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP - 10:30AM
WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY - 6PM

Have you seen our new sign on the corner of Grand & National?

Invite your friends and neighbors to the table at UHBC! Everyone's got a place here!

#buildingabiggertable

University Hope 2024

The following is an overview of all the ways University Hope was able to serve our local friends with transportation needs in 2024:

5,034 People Served!

- \$5,000 Bus Passes
- \$5,727 Car Repairs
- \$831 Taxes and Licensing
- \$120 Cab Rides
- \$500 Gas Cards

Total Spent in 2024 = \$12,178.00

Total Donations for 2024 = \$10,145.00

(\$7,145.00 UHBC Members & Missions Board + \$3,000.00 CFO Grant)

Balance as of 1/1/2025 = \$10,357.21

Thank you for your support of University Hope. As we continue to serve in 2025, please consider making a financial donation. You can write a check made out to "University Hope" and drop it off in the church office or offering plate.

Grace and Peace,

Jerry Scott and Heather Haynes

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS

The month of February was all about Uniqueness. I am created in the image of God and have unique potential and worth. God is one of a kind—with no beginning and no end.

Everything God has created is unique, including people. Every person is an original reflection, made in the image of God. UNIQUENESS has to do with learning more about yourself so you can make a difference in your family, community and in the world. It's about teaching kids that even though they are young, they are still called to use these unique gifts from God to further his kingdom and show others how to be more like Jesus.

Miss Linda started the month in Psalm 139:1-14 where King David has just written a psalm about God's love for us. Since the beginning, we were created in the image of God. God knew and formed the deepest parts of us. The bottom line this week was that God made you, knows you, and loves you no matter what.

In week two Miss Sonja taught the children that God made them to make a difference. She shared the story of Moses from Exodus 3-4:15. Moses had been through a lot in his life. He was born as an Israelite but raised in the Egyptian Pharaoh's household, and when he grew older, Moses sinned and ran away from his home. Yet God saw Moses and had created him for more than he could ever imagine. Even though Moses didn't see how special he was, God used Moses to make a difference in the lives of so many people.

We also participated in the "Soup-er Bowl" by donating 18 cans of soup after cashing in their Bible Bucks that they earned through the past month by demonstrating the fruits of the spirit, bringing a friend to church, bringing their bible with them and memorizing scripture throughout the month.

After missing several meetings together due to the snow, we ended the month in 1 Timothy 4:12, where we learned about Timothy and the work he did with Paul. Timothy was young, and he could have let that stop him from helping Paul carry out the mission of sharing Jesus with others. Yet Timothy chose to be brave and let God use him to teach others about Jesus in spite of his age. Our bottom line this week was that our kids can make a difference right now. In fact, we all can.

Although we missed a few chances to host our Valentine's Day Party, we finally got to celebrate on Sunday, February 23rd. The kids had a blast enjoying snacks, doing crafts, and competing in a lively game of Musical Chairs. It was also a wonderful opportunity for me to witness some great character moments—like when kids showed kindness, both as gracious winners and losers. One moment that stood out was when a child, having reached the chair first, chose to step aside to let someone else win without causing a fuss. (I'm looking at you, Robby Prickett!). It was a great morning and I hope your kiddos enjoyed it as much as I did!

-Heather Twibell, Children's Pastor

From the Library

The library at University Heights has a nice selection of reading material with categories to suit the entire family! Here is a list of the classifications for your next visit.

- ◆ Children's Easy Readers
- ◆ DVD-based Bible Studies
- ◆ Youth/Junior Fiction
- ◆ Youth/Junior Non-Fiction
- ◆ Adult Fiction
- ◆ Adult Non-Fiction
- ◆ Reference





Ann Davis 2
 Donna Sherrill 2
 Shirley Dodds 3
 Susie Hall 3
 Jan Hockensmith 3
 Eli Roberts 7
 Naomi Kirchner 8
 Tom Dixon 10
 Jerry Scott 12
 Nancy Broaddus 13

Emerson Hake 13
 Billie Lang 13
 Kelsey Stockton 14
 Reese Stockton 14
 Kevin Hogan 15
 Anita Hunter 19
 Matt Roberts 22
 Sally Brice 23
 Gary Hall 27
 Jerry Mackey 28
 Elliot Miller 30



MARCH at U Heights 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Ozarks Festival of Faiths 2-5
2 Youth-Led Worship The Lord's Supper	3	4	5 Dinner 5:15pm Bible Study 6pm Kids Activities, 6pm	6	7	8
9	10	11 M&M Meetings Hackett/Williams 9:30am Mann Group 1pm	12 Dinner 5:15pm Bible Study 6pm Kids Activities, 6pm	13	14	15
16	17	18	19 Dinner 5:15pm Bible Study 6pm Kids Activities, 6pm	20	21	22
23 Board Meetings, 4pm	24	25	26 Dinner 5:15pm Bible Study 6pm Kids Activities, 6pm	27	28	29
30	31					

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH

(Located at the Corner of Grand & National)

1010 S. National Ave

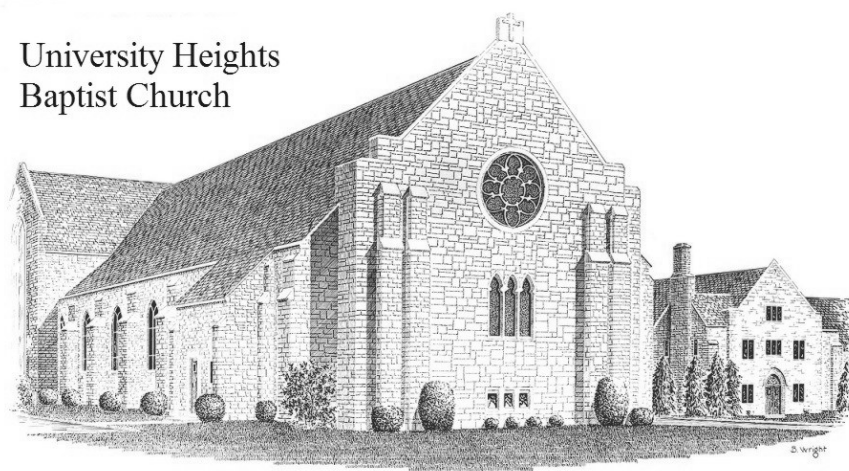
Springfield, MO 65804



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.