







# **ROLLING HILLS** COMMUNITY CHURCH











# TABLE OF CONTENTS

OUR STORY • 2 PARTNERSHIP • 4 OUR MISSION & VISION • 6 OUR VALUES • 7 OUR BELIEFS • 8 CHURCH STRUCTURE • 10 BUDGET • 13 REACHING OUT • 14 GROWING UP • 16 GIVING ALL • 17 PARTNERSHIP OVERVIEW • 18 STATEMENT ON BAPTISM • 19 NOW WHAT? • 20 NOTES • 21

# OUR STORY

What a journey - What a God! It was the fall of 2002 when our God called out a few to plant what is now "Rolling Hills Community Church." With a core team of 15 people, we began to gather in the Alara Farms apartment clubhouse on Thursday nights to study God's Word and to talk about what church should be in our day and in our generation. During those first three months, God began to bring people to join in His calling and mission. In January of 2003. Rolling Hills Community Church was officially launched. We moved to the Marriott Hotel in Cool Springs and began meeting on Sunday mornings.



In the Spring of 2004, we moved from the hotel ballroom to Carmike's Thoroughbred Theater in Cool Springs. It is incredible how God opened the door to allow His church to meet in the theater. For five years we set-up at 6:30 am, experienced two fantastic worship times, hosted ten



theaters of Kids' Ministry, one coffee shop Student Ministry, and then we would break everything down to be out by noon. It was truly amazing, and each Sunday was a testimony to God's grace and His provision. For five years we never had a contract with Carmike, and grew His church each and every week!

In October of 2007, God called us to take a one-time offering for a place He would show us. We did not know where He was calling us, we just knew we were outgrowing the theater, and God was calling us to a new chapter in the journey. On that one Sunday, this young church, with an average

age of 28, gave over one million dollars. After we stepped out in faith, God revealed this perfect place, "The Warehouse" – a place beyond our Wildest Dreams – over 146,000 sq. feet, complete with three tenants to help offset our payments, sitting on 12.5 acres of prime real estate in the middle of our community. While the building is not the vision, it is an incredible tool to share the love and the grace of Christ with our community and our world! On October 11, 2009, we celebrated our first worship time in our new church home.

# OUR STORY CONT.

### NOLENSVILLE

In January 2014, we took our next step in living out this mission as we opened our second campus in South Nashville. In 2016, we strategically relocated to our current location in Nolensville where we met at Nolensville Elementary off of Rocky Fork Road. In September of 2019, we merged with Revive Church and are now on Nolensville Road in the middle of the community - only God! January of 2023 saw the opening of a brand new facility that seats 400 and has amazing Family Ministry space. Jason Hale serves as the Nolensville Campus Pastor.

### NASHVILLE WEST

Through a series of incredible gifts from the Lord, we launched a third campus by merging with Belmont Heights Baptist Church that met on the campus of Belmont University. The Grand Opening was August 25, 2018. Then, in September of 2019, we merged again with Park Avenue Baptist Church which included gaining an incredible facility off of Charlotte Avenue. Nic Allen serves as Nashville West Campus Pastor.

# COLUMBIA

With the growth in Maury County, we felt God calling us to plant a campus in Columbia. After praying for a Launch Team, a place for our offices, a campus location, and a presence in the city, God blessed us with our fourth campus in Columbia in September of 2021. They met at Riverside Elementary School, just minutes from downtown Columbia, and in the fall of 2023, we moved into our permanent location at 6111 Cayce Lane Columbia, TN 38401. T. Lusk serves as the Columbia Campus Pastor.

### NASHVILLE SOUTH

Haywood Hills Baptist Church approached Rolling Hills about merging, and in the fall of 2022 we were thrilled to add another campus. Located in South Nashville at 255 Haywood Lane, this campus is in the middle of an international community that is prime for many ministry opportunities, including a Community Center. Patrick Hamilton serves as the Campus Pastor and Roberto Pagan is the Campus Associate Pastor/Community Center Director.

## **ONLINE CAMPUS**

In addition to our five physical locations, we have an online campus which is broadcast from our Franklin location during all morning services. We know that one of the first places people "visit" while looking for a church is the website. Pastor Jeff reminds us that the original disciples did not have the internet, but we do, and we are called to leverage all avenues to share the good news of Jesus Christ.

# PARTNERSHIPS

At Rolling Hills, we understand that we are merely one local church in the vast global body of Christ. Our heart is to partner with other churches and organizations who share our same passion for Jesus Christ and His call for us to reconcile the world back to God. As a Southern Baptist church, we appreciate foundational Biblical doctrines such as the "local autonomy of the church," "the priesthood of the believer" and "baptism following one's salvation experience." Also, we contribute to the Cooperative Program which helps support missionaries for Christ throughout the world, church plants, seminaries for raising up the next generation of church leaders, disaster relief teams, and much more.

Along with this, we support and partner with many organizations in our local community and throughout the world. Just as God calls each of us individually, He also asks us, as a church, to be part of something bigger than ourselves. We have a calling to the world, and we can accomplish far more together that we ever could apart.

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

- Ephesians 3:20-21





















# MISSION STATEMENT

"Rolling Hills Community Church exists to bring glory to God by reaching people for Christ and nurturing them in the faith through



that transforms lives in our neighborhoods and throughout the world."

VISION STATEMENT

REACHING OUT, GROWING UP, & GIVING ALL.

# CORE VALUES

- 1. We **LOVE** the Lord our God, first and foremost, and then love everyone around us with the love of Jesus Christ. *John 13:34-35; Matthew 22:37-49*
- 2. We are called to **REACH** as many people as possible in our campus communities and throughout the world for Jesus Christ. *Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8*
- 3. Every person through Christ is a **MINISTER** and essential to this community of believers. *Ephesians 4:11-13; Philippians 1:27*
- 4. We believe this church, as a whole, and each individual member of this body is created to **GROW** spiritually through the filling of the Holy Spirit. *1 Peter 2:1-3; Acts 2:42-47*
- 5. Church is designed to be enjoyable. **JOY** will permeate everything we do. *1 Thessalonians 5:1-18*
- 6. The Message stays the same, but our methods must constantly **CHANGE** in order to effectively impact our world for Jesus Christ. *1 Corinthians 9:22-23*
- 7. Our pursuit is to always bring glory to God by doing everything He has called us and equipped us to do with **EXCELLENCE**. *Colossians 1:28-29; Colossians 3:23*
- 8. **PRAYER** undergirds everything we do. *James 5:16*

# OUR BELIEFS

# STATEMENT OF BELIEFS

St. Augustine said, "In essentials, unity. In non-essentials, liberty. In all things, charity." Because we believe that God can be known to his followers,

In essentials, unity. In non-essentials, liberty. In all things, charity. - St. Augustine we must take great care in making certain we seek to know God as He self-defines, not as we imagine he should be or might be.

Because some things are essentials, RHCC articulates a statement of common belief.

### ABOUT GOD

We believe in one God expressed in three persons-the father, son, and Holy-Spirit.

Matthew 3:16-17, John 14:9-10, 1 Peter 1:2

### **ABOUT JESUS**

We believe that Jesus Christ is God's only son and Savior of the world. *Matthew 1:22-23, John 3:16, Romans 1:3-4* 

### ABOUT THE HOLY SPIRIT

We believe the Holy Spirit lives in every Christian at the moment of salvation, and provides that person with power for living, understanding of spiritual truth, and guidance in doing what pleases God. *John 16:5-15, 1Corinthians 2:12, 1 Corinthians 3:16* 

#### ABOUT THE BIBLE

We believe the Bible is God's inspired word and is the ultimate and final authority on all matters of faith. *Romans 15:4. Hebrews 4:12. 2 Timothy 3:16* 

8

# OUR BELIEFS

#### ABOUT MAN

We believe that man was created by God to be like God, but that man willfully sinned and became separated from God, only to be reconciled through salvation and a fruitful relationship with Jesus Christ. *Genesis 1:27, John 15:4, Acts 4:12* 

### ABOUT SALVATION

We believe salvation, or the forgiveness of sins, is a gift from God to man and comes only by grace through the blood of Christ (His death on the cross). Romans 6:23. Ephesians 2:8-9. Titus 3:4-5

### ABOUT ETERNAL SECURITY

We believe that because God freely gives man eternal life through Christ, followers of Christ have security in their salvation for eternity-not by their own efforts, but by the grace and power of God. *John 10:28-29, Romans 8:35-39, Hebrew 7:25* 

#### ABOUT BAPTISM

We believe baptism by immersion symbolizes the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ and is the public declaration that Jesus is one's Savior. We do not believe that baptism is salvific, or essential to salvation, in nature, but we do believe that it shows our obedience to Christ's lordship in our lives.

Matthew 18:19-20, Romans 6:1-4, Colossians 2:12

#### ABOUT MARRIAGE

We believe that marriage is one of God's greatest gifts. Marriage is defined as the covenant union of one man and one woman for life. A biblical marriage offers us a clear picture of the Gospel story and the relationship between Christ and His church. A wedding ceremony is, in essence, a worship experience accountable to God and His Word.

Matthew 19:4-6, Ephesians 5:22-28, Hebrews 13:4, Romans 1:26-28

# CHURCH STRUCTURE

After studying many different church models, the one thing that emerges is that there is no "right" way, only the "best" way for each individual church. Recognizing God's amazing work among us, His church, and understanding as we grow, God will continue to lead us and guide us. At different stages of growth, we expect that there will have to be changes in our leadership and structure. Thank you, church, for your vision, passion, leadership and commitment. God is truly doing a remarkable work, and He is making an incredible difference for His Kingdom through His church.

# Rolling Hills Community Church is a Christ-centered; Congregation-empowered; Staff-led; Board-protected; Holy Spirit-filled church.

### WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

**CHRIST-CENTERED:** Christ is our True North...the one from whom everything we do originates. His life and His Word are our guides for living, and for serving in our world. Because we believe Christ desires to be the God of everything we are and everything we do, He remains central to the way the church is facilitated on a day-to-day and strategic basis.

**CONGREGATION-EMPOWERED:** The partners of Rolling Hills empower the work of the church through their time, investment, giving, and passion. Partners of the congregation serve in a variety of leadership capacities and heavily impact the direction and work of the church.

For example, we currently have 200 plus Community Group leaders who serve the function of "lay pastors" of the church. As "lay pastors," our Community Group leaders are called to minister to the "flock" entrusted by God to their care. This means that each leader is responsible to disciple, pray for, encourage, keep up with, and love each and every partner of their group – to "pastor" their people. Additionally, our Ministry Team leaders are commissioned to serve and lead the body in doing the ministry of the church.

Our Servant Leadership Team is composed of A6 for men (based on Acts 6) and C3 for women (based on Colossians 3). This team serves the function of "deacons" in the church. The word "deacon" means "servant leader." In Scripture, we first see this leadership demonstrated in Acts 6 when the apostles chose people to lead out in the ministry of the church. At Rolling Hills, these men and women are specifically recruited, vetted, and interviewed to be shepherds of our church family at all our campuses. They **Pray, Care,** and **Serve** our church family as prayer requests and needs arise.

# CHURCH STRUCTURE CONT.

**STAFF-LED:** God has blessed our church with a wonderful staff team. The calling of the staff means this team is to lead the church in the day-to-day operations and ministry of the body. In addition, the staff "pastors" serve the function of "overseers" and "elders" in the church as described in 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1.

All of our staff members can be found on our website at **ROLLINGHILLS.CHURCH/STAFF.** 

**INTERNSHIPS:** Our internship program (referred to as the Rolling Hills Leadership Institute) is designed to empower, equip, and launch young adult leaders to effectively minister in the Franklin and Middle Tennessee area for Jesus Christ. Not only will students in this program learn effective ministry principles, they will be discipled in their faith as they gain practical ministry experience. Our program focuses on hands-on training alongside ministry professionals while also emphasizing leadership development and spiritual formation. Intern candidates need to be one year past high school graduation and can apply to for either spring, summer, or fall internship positions. Candidates for Residency (our one-year leadership development program) must be 21 years of age and be able to express a call to vocational ministry.

**BOARD-PROTECTED:** Rolling Hills Community Church, Inc is a registered 501c3 with the US Government. By law, and like any 501c3, RHCC is overseen by a nine-member Board of Directors. Since its inception, Rolling Hills has had a Board of Directors Team, but the team has expanded to incorporate people to help pray through and prepare for the long-range decisions facing the church. These decisions include matters such as land and facilities, financial oversight, and other strategic decisions involving the church as required by the bylaws of the church/corporation. The members of this team are godly individuals who love God's church and are well-versed in the dealings of church as well as the corporate world. These members serve on a three-year, staggered rotation.

The current partners of our Board of Directors Team at Rolling Hills Community Church can be found on our Leadership insert.

# CHURCH STRUCTURE CONT.

**FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION TEAM:** They serve to oversee all the finances of the church. This team provides accountability and integrity in relation to all church financial and personnel decisions. The sevenmember Finance and Administration Team works in direct cooperation with the church staff in setting the church's budget, as well as, monitoring spending and setting goals. Those serving on our church's Finance and Administration Team are godly people with a great business sense. They serve three-year terms with a staggered rotation.

The current list of members on the Finance and Administration Team at Rolling Hills Community Church can be found on our Leadership insert.

Members of both the Board of Directors and the Finance and Administration Team are nominated by the church staff after prayerful consideration and chosen from within the partnership of Rolling Hills Community Church.

These two governing bodies, alongside the leadership of our pastoral team, direct the scope of ministry at RHCC. The congregation is encouraged to share their ideas and visions for ministry that God has given them with these people. While we are not a church that has business meetings or other venues for decision-making, we value the input of all our partners. Our structure has been developed with the chief goal of empowering our congregation for ministry, not encumbering them with daily decision making.

**HOLY SPIRIT-FILLED:** In determining how to be filled with the Holy Spirit, A.W. Tozer said, "The Spirit-filled life is not a special, deluxe edition of Christianity. It is part and parcel of the total plan of God for His people. You are convinced that in the blood of Jesus when He died on the cross, there was included, as a purchase of that blood, your right to a full, spiritfilled life." For all believers, the Holy Spirit serves as our Counselor, and our lives reflect the Spirit's leadership and gifting when we pray, serve, and go as ministers of the Gospel of Christ.

\$9,610,819 (100%)

## MINISTRY SUPPORT

RH Leadership Pipeline (Internship & Residnecy Program) Central Services (for all campuses) Admin & HR Support Personnel

This is \$800,902 per month or \$184,823 per week

### **BUILDING COSTS**

Mortgage Utilities Insurance Net Rental Income

Church Multiplication A6 & C3 Pastoral Care

**MISSIONS & OUTREACH** Justice and Mercy International (Moldova & Brazil)

Cooperative Programs (Nashville & TN Baptist Conventions) Community Outreach & Partnerships Neighborhood Ambassadors

Counseling

**Community Groups Discipleship Classes** Curriculum Development Equipping & Volunteer Ministry Leadership Training

PRAYER, CARE, AND WORSHIP

Sunday Morning Worship & Programming

# DISCIPLESHIP

Students (Middle School & High School) College & Young Adults

\$1,876,514 (20%) SPIRITUAL GROWTH Preschool and Children (birth through 5th Grade)

# BUDGET (JULY 1, 2024 - JUNE 30, 2025)

BUDGET

\$1,868,279 (19%)

\$1,172,598 (12%)

# \$1,178,022 (12%)

# \$1,174,825 (23%)

\$1,340,581 (14%)

TOTAL MINISTRY BUDGET FOR 2024-2025

# **REACHING OUT**

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

- Acts 1:8

### INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS

In 2008, Rolling Hills launched a nonprofit organization of its own, Justice and Mercy International, or JMI. Justice & Mercy International exists to care for the poor, orphaned, and forgotten people of the world. Specifically, JMI's focus is in two areas of the world: Moldova and the Amazon region of Brazil.

In **Moldova**, JMI's focus is the orphaned and vulnerable. Moldova is the poorest and most victimized of the countries of the former Soviet Union. It is ground zero for human trafficking in all of Eastern Europe. It is also home to thousands of the most responsive, endearing children in the world. JMI runs an orphan/vulnerable child sponsorship program through its partnership with orphanages in the country. This program allows JMI to care for these children through relationships with caring adults that would not otherwise happen. In the summer, JMI conducts summer camps at many of these same orphanages, where kids are able to have fun, learn, experience community, and hear the Gospel. Moldova is a small country with huge need, and the vision of JMI is to touch every corner of this precious nation with the hope of Jesus.

In the **Amazon**, JMI is seeking to make Justice Personal by educating, equipping, encouraging, and caring for the Amazon River people. JMI educates by teaching the principles of the Bible, as well as offering other practical knowledge. In doing so, we believe the people will learn to live with greater purpose, a hope for the future, and in harmony with one another. We equip by offering pastor training and training in musical, agricultural, technological, and other useful fields at the John Paculabo Center. We bring much needed encouragement by traveling to villages, and gathering the people together for singing, soccer games, small group interaction, activities for the children and visits to individual homes. As we educate, equip and encourage we also intend to care for the acutely vulnerable by providing for basic needs, such as food, clean water, and access to medical care, as well as ongoing support for children with special needs. In all things we seek to honor Jesus Christ and love those we serve according to His word.

# REACHING OUT CONT.

For information on how you can be involved in financially supporting JMI through sponsorships and for a list of mission trip opportunities, visit **JUSTICEANDMERCY.ORG.** 

The missions ministry of Rolling Hills exists to provide opportunities for the body of believers to fulfill this calling and to obey the command of Jesus Christ, as recorded in Matthew 28:19-20, to go and teach all nations, baptizing them in His name. In obedience to this calling, Rolling Hills is seeking to provide organized opportunities for ministry in order that we might reach others in our neighborhoods, in our country, and throughout the world.

> Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

- Matthew 28:18-20

### LOCAL MISSIONS OPPORTUNITIES

**Do Good Local** is our local mission initiative to mobilize our people for the good of where God has placed us. As a church, we have identified three major avenues God has called us to make an impact with local missions: **Feeding the Hungry, Restoring the Homeless,** and **Investing in Education.** Our primary mission partners fall under these areas, including organizations like **GraceWorks**, **The Bridge Ministry**, **ShowerUP, Path United**, **4:13 Strong**, **Preston Taylor Ministries**, and **The Homeless Alliance**. Throughout the year, we organize Saturday Serves with family-friendly opportunities to engage and love our community. Each Christmas, we seek to share the gift of Christ at Cool Springs Galleria through The Wrapping Station, offering totally free gift wrapping to our community.

# NATIONAL MISSIONS OPPORTUNITIES

Rolling Hills has served in a variety of places around the country since 2003. Currently, we have several options for National Mission Trips: spring and fall trips correlating with school breaks and Student only trips. We have national-level missions opportunities accross the United States.

Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.

- 1 Peter 2:2-3

### **COMMUNITY GROUPS**

Community Groups are the primary way we, as a church, study and connect with one another. These groups consist of 10-15 people and meet on a weekly basis in homes. We offer a number of Community Groups that meet throughout the week in various locations in Franklin, Nashville, and the surrounding areas. Our groups are open, which means you can join at any time. Go to rollinghills.church/groups to see a list of available groups.

**A NOTE TO PARENTS:** We do not want childcare to inhibit your participation in a community group. RHCC offers a partial reimbursement of childcare expenses to parents if they choose to use it. Information is available from your Community Group Leader. Additionally, some groups offer childcare in the host home.

### CLASSES

Periodically, we offer classes that have definite endpoints including Financial Peace and marriage/parent enrichment. We also offer Care Nights where you will find a variety of topics like GriefShare, DivorceCare, Single & Parenting, Restoring Your Marriage, and Finding Hope for Women.

### RH MEN

RH Men aims to encourage and equip men of all ages to be authentic in their faith, and to never walk alone through whatever storm or season of life they're in. Through men's discipleship groups, Versus and Versus: Equip events, and Sports With A Purpose—we are here to resource and help guys grow into the men that God has called them to be.

### **RH WOMEN**

RH Women is a community of women from all ages and stages, who are tending to those who are seeking, equipping those who are growing, and encouraging women to be fruitful; all for the glory of God! We do this through our women's discipleship groups (The Gathering), care groups, community groups, and women's events.

**GIVING ALL** 

"Using our time, talents, and spiritual gifts to make a difference." Serving is something woven into the DNA at Rolling Hills. It's what we do. There's always a place where you can plug in and help out and serve. Below are some of our serving areas.

**FAMILY MINISTRY:** This area encompasses birth through 12th grade and the ways to serve are just as broad: Small You are the body of Christ. Each one of you is a part of it. - 1 Corinthians 12:27

Group leaders, Worship Teams specific for the environments, greeters at the check-in stations, and more! Join us as we encourage and disciple the next generation for Jesus.

**GREETERS:** Welcome people at our entrances and assist them as they find their way to the kids Welcome Area and to worship.

**PARKING:** A fun crew of men and women who put out signs and cones and enjoy greeting our church family as they arrive.

**FOOD MINISTRY:** This team provides food for those in our church family who are sick, have been hospitalized, or are experiencing a loss.

**USHERS:** This team assists people with seating, passing out pens, and collecting the offering.

**AUDIO:** Can you hear me? Can you hear me now? Obviously, church wouldn't happen without this team!

**VIDEO:** Lights! Camera! Action! This team is responsible for camera operation during the service. You are on duty for an entire Sunday morning, approximately once a month.

**WORSHIP TEAM:** Musicians and vocalists who lead the congregation in worship.

**CHURCH ONLINE:** Serve as an online host to greet the more than 200 people who join us online each week. Or help edit, post, and archive sermons.

**COFFEE:** Help serve up hospitality by setting up coffee for our church family and guests on Sunday mornings.

# PARTNERSHIP OVERVIEW

# **BECOMING A PARTNER**

There is something very special and exciting about being an integral part of a successful team – whether it is in sports, business or the local church. At Rolling Hills Community Church, we are a group of diverse people who are committed to bring glory to God by growing in our relationship with Jesus and reaching our neighborhoods, and ultimately the world, with the love of Christ.

### WHY IS IT SO IMPORTANT TO BE A PARTNER OF THE CHURCH?

- You are making a visible commitment to Christ and His people. Partnership is one way to raise the flag of faith. You state before God and others that you are part of this local body of believers.
- Making a commitment makes a powerful statement in a lowcommitment culture. Joining a church in such an environment makes a counter-cultural statement. It says "I am committed to this group of people and they are committed to me. I am here to give, more than get."
- Church membership keeps us accountable. When we join a church we are offering ourselves to one another as we all grow in our faith.
- For the good of those who are not there yet even those who don't yet know Jesus. Because we reach out and show Christ better as part of a committed, stable community. "By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:35).

### WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO TO JOIN?

There are four steps to becoming a partner of Rolling Hills Community Church:

- 1. BECOME A CHRIST FOLLOWER. A person who has a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus recognizing, that Christ is the only way to heaven.
- 2. BELIEVER'S BAPTISM. When you have accepted Christ as your personal Savior, the Bible is very clear about following Christ in the ordinance of believer's baptism. See the next page for our Statement of Baptism.
- 3. COMPLETE THE EXPLORE CLASS.
- 4. Enter into relationship with Rolling Hills Community Church through a **PARTNERSHIP COVENANT.** This covenant is between you and the entire church joining us together in a commitment of love, encouragement, and mutual support.

# STATEMENT ON BAPTISM

For many followers of Jesus, baptism is one of the believer's first steps of public obedience to Christ. It is not salvific in nature, meaning that baptism is not required for salvation through Christ, but it is an outward symbol of what God has done in the life, heart, and spirit of His followers and naturally follows salvation by grace through faith (*Ephesians 2:8*).

# ROLLING HILLS BELIEVES THAT SCRIPTURE TEACHES THE FOLLOWING REGARDING BAPTISM:

Baptism is an act of obedience to Christ's command (*Matthew 28:19-20*) Baptism symbolizes a death to and cleansing from sin and follows an individual's decision to trust Christ for salvation (*Acts 2:41, 8:12, 10:47-48*).

The only baptism practiced in Scripture was baptism by immersion, identifying the believer with the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ, and was modeled by Christ Himself (*Mark 1:9-10; Romans 6:1-11*).

The sanctity of the Church's practice of baptism is a very important part of identifying with the body of Christ. That's why at Rolling Hills, baptism is a requirement for partnership. For new followers of Jesus, Rolling Hills baptizes by immersion, as modeled to us in Scripture.

We recognize, however, that other Christian denominations sometimes observe varied methods of baptism which conform to their theology and historical practice. If you have experienced "believer's baptism," which follows your personal decision to follow Christ, you have met the requirement of baptism for church partnership at Rolling Hills Community Church. If, however, you were baptized as an infant, Rolling Hills recognizes this as your parents' decision on your behalf and does not signify personally redemptive life change that you have actively sought on your own. Rolling Hills views this, in a sense, as a "baby dedication," the intent of your parents that, one day, you would decide to follow Christ. If you were baptized only as an infant, baptism as an adult should not be viewed as a statement against your parents' personal beliefs regarding baptism, but can be viewed as the fulfillment of your parents' wishes for you at the time they observed this practice in your former church.

All candidates for baptism must meet with a pastor to discuss their baptism decision prior to a baptism service. Baptism Classes are offered periodically as an informal time to learn about this significant step, hear the history of baptism, and provides an opportunity for questions to be answered.

# NOW WHAT?

One of the priorities at Rolling Hills Community Church is to help you grow spiritually in your faith. The best way we do that is to encourage you to be involved in five key aspects of ministry here at RHCC.

### GROUPS

We believe it is a healthy practice of a follower of Christ to gather with a small group of believers to study scripture, encourage one another, and walk forward in Christlikeness together. Our Care Groups, Discipleship Groups, and Community Groups cover a variety of topics in short- and long-term settings to offer diverse opportunities for personal growth, connection, and deepening faith regardless of your season of life. Your involvement will help you develop genuine relationships, find a springboard for ministry in the body of believers, and foster community.

#### WEEKLY WORSHIP

Make Sunday mornings a priority for your own personal time of worship and spiritual nourishment.

#### MINISTRY TEAMS

Join with many other people who serve as Core Team Members in a wide variety of programs and activities every week at RHCC. We want to help you find your area of giftedness and then find a place where you can invest your life in service to God and make a difference in the lives of others.

#### MISSIONS

With mission projects in Nashville, the United States and throughout the world, there is definitely a place for you. Missions are an amazing way to impact others for the Kingdom of God. The amazing part is that you will find that God changes your life many times more than the people you go to serve.

#### **PRAYER & GIVING**

Be praying for your church family. You'll find specific prayer requests on the weekly Partner e-mail. Also, commit to Biblical tithing, giving 10% of your income to God's work. God doesn't need your money, but you definitely need to give it to Him as an act of obedience and spiritual maturity. Through prayer and financial giving, you will soon find your spiritual life blessed beyond measure.

# NOTES




















UPDATED 1/8/2024

