

SCENE



SEWING AT SURREY HILLS

The cheerful sound of women chatting can be heard from a room in the church as they stitch away using their skills for the Lord. But while they enjoy themselves there is serious sewing going on. The Sewing For A Purpose group meets every Monday from 10-2 under the leadership of Donna Kaye Brady, who started the group around Christmas, 2023. The group is comprised of about ten women, some who are not members of SH. Pictured above are (Back left to right) Judy Hall, Bernice MacDonald and Gail Langston. (Front left to right) Judy Austin, Donna Kaye Brady, who teaches knitting, and Gail Moser. Not pictured are members Wanda Goolsby, Nancy Bird, Cheryl Murphy and Pat Kolar, who teaches crocheting.

In the past the group has worked on costumes for the Christmas pageant and in the summer they welcome high school students for projects ranging from beginning to sew to baby blankets, donated to the Hope Center. Right now the projects are baby blankets and quilt tops, twin sized quilt tops, t-shirt dresses and positive bags which are all sent to the Hope Center, an organization that works with women who have decided to keep their babies. "The positive bags hold items useful to the mother," said Judy Austin. "We also make bibs and burp rags."

The ladies say "It's fun!" "It gets me out of the house." "We form fun friendships." Donna Kaye adds, "We are doing something worthwhile and we enjoy each other's company." And the conversations while they work? "We can't go there," quips Judy Austin. "What's said here stays here. But it's good." The next undertaking will be quilts for children who have been abandoned or are terminally ill. "So they'll have something to hold onto," said Judy. Donna Kaye credits Mark Hoffman and Brandon McDonald for keeping the sewing machines working. The group invites any interested ladies to attend.

KNOW YOUR SURREY HILLS FAMILY

By David Brainard

BAYLEE HULIN



This has been a busy year for Baylee. All her years are busy, but this is her senior year at Piedmont High School and she is making the most of it. From playing roles in school plays to swinging a flag in

Color Guard, Baylee uses her talents to let her light shine for the Lord. "She is very firm in her faith," says her mom, Kristin Hulin. "She has a servant heart."

A polite and caring young lady, she shows a genuine interest in you during conversation and is humble in talking about herself. Baylee was a freshman when I met her. I guessed she was a senior because of her maturity, poise, and willingness to take on responsibility.

She is involved in everything going on at church, but knows her limits when committing to tasks.

At school she is involved in band, color guard, choir and theatre, just to name a few of her activities.

Here at church she can be seen delivering attendance trays to classrooms with her mom or working in the nursery while still attending youth activities. "She has been a blessing to us," says Kristin, and she has been a blessing to all who get to know her. So get to know Baylee Hulin- but you better hurry! She leaves for Oklahoma Baptist University in the fall.

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

By Dr. Doug Brown

This month marks the 1,870th anniversary of the martyrdom of Polycarp, the church bishop of Smyrna, located in modern-day Turkey. Polycarp, a disciple of John the Apostle, is remembered for his unwavering faith and the circumstances surrounding his death.

Polycarp's martyrdom stands out for several reasons:

1. Connection to John the Apostle

Polycarp was one of the first Christian martyrs after the deaths of the original apostles. I say "11 apostles" because most church historians believe John the Apostle died of old age, making him the only disciple not martyred for his faith. This is alluded to in John 21:23. It's a profound irony that John's disciple became one of the most famous martyrs of the early church.

2. His Bold Words at Trial

At his trial, Polycarp boldly declared: "Eighty-six years have I served Him, and He has done me no wrong. How can I blaspheme my King and my Savior?" This statement, made by an elderly man who had devoted a lifetime to Christ, exemplifies his steadfast commitment to Jesus. For Polycarp, there was no turning back.

3. The Challenge to Deny Christ

Polycarp's accusers demanded that he proclaim, "Caesar is Lord," a direct contradiction of Romans 10:9: "If you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved." Polycarp's refusal highlights his unwavering faith in the face of persecution.

W.A. Criswell, the great preacher, often spoke of the "scarlet thread of redemption" woven throughout the Bible. As we study the Book of Acts and church history, we see this thread in the lives of those who proclaimed, "Jesus is Lord," despite threats, persecution, and martyrdom.

The legacy of faithfulness—from John to Polycarp, and ultimately to Jesus—reminds us of our calling. Let us commit to continuing this thread, holding fast to the truth of the Gospel, and boldly proclaiming, "Jesus is Lord!"

DO YOU KNOW...

(ANSWERS ON NEXT PAGE)

- 1 Geneva Sisson
- 2 Nancy Kitko
- 3 David Austin
- 4 Mike Kughn
- 5 Katie Blouin
- 6 Annette Trammel
- 9 Jordan Wacker
- 10 Chad Overton
- 11 Greg Peters
- 12 Jessica McDonald

- a) sings like a songbird
- b) is an OKC police officer
- c) has never played golf
- d) is a freshman at PiedmontHS
- e) played bball in high school
- f) is a deacon
- g) is married to Michelle
- h) born and raised in OK
- i) has a son named Hunter
- j) loves to cook
- k) works at Dodat Communications
- l) tells funny jokes

MEET A NEED

Need a desk? One is available for free. Contact David or Judy Austin at daveoffroad@msn.com, 405-249-9183 or 405-833-0935



Members of the Overcomers Class, led by Diana Stewart, pray regularly for Israel. Join them in praying for the people of that nation.

1) e 2) j 3) l 4) k 5) d 6) h 7) c 8) a 9) b 10) f 11) g 12) i

GROWING DEEPER SPIRITUALLY

Memorial Stones **By Denise Willock**

Have you made a point of remembering the acts of God on your behalf? Have you told your children about the works of God in your life? The answers to your prayers?

Recently, while visiting with our youngest son, I prayed for an opportunity to share some of the Memorial Stones, set up in my heart in remembrance of what God has done for me. Often times our children are unaware of the past struggles of their parents, or the events that built faith in their parents' lives and hearts. So, we need to make sure they hear from our own lips of the experiences that make us who we are as Christians. The Lord answered this prayer and I was able to share how as a young divorced single mother of two, I prayed for a miracle, which was answered when his dad and I met and were married 45 years ago. How God provided financially for us in many ways and times as we sought to seek first the kingdom of God. How the Lord delivered me from the bondage of deep-seated jealousy that tormented my inner soul for as long as I could remember, allowing me to walk in freedom. How the Lord provided a way, when there was no way, to build a home in the country on four acres, which turned out to be a big piece of our retirement.

God has been faithful. Have your children heard you give praise to God for His hand in your life; Heard about the goodness and mercy that has followed you all the days of your lives? Make sure your children know that our God is alive and real and involved in our lives. That He hears and answers prayer. How will they know if we do not tell them, and others, of the marvelous deeds of the Lord?

Psalm 78:4 We will not hide them from their children, but will tell the coming generation the praises of the Lord, and His strength, and the wonderful works that He has done.

DEACONS AND ELDERS AT SH

The biblical justification for deacons and elders is found in 1 Timothy 3:1-13

Who are our deacons?

Chad Overton, Vernon Banks, Ken Kamphaus, David Austin, Greg Peters

Who are our elders?

Elders are like unpaid pastors. Right now we don't have any, although some are in training. Our paid elders are Pastor Doug and Dustin, youth pastor.

How are they appointed?

The deacons and elders select other men to fill the position, then they are approved by the church body.

Who are our prospective deacons and elders?

Jesse Blouin, Bogdan Vovk, Marvin Barker, Gabriel Bird, and Isaiah Zoschke are currently receiving training from Pastor Doug.

What do deacons do?

They serve in various assignments such as physical needs, mission trips and committees.

What do elders do?

They serve like pastors. They maintain the doctrinal integrity of the teaching of the Word. Occasionally, they will preach a sermon. They oversee what is taught in church.

How long do they serve?

There are no appointed term limits. A deacon or elder may serve as long as he chooses or as long as he is physically able.

When will the deacons and elders in training be appointed?

Hopefully this year.

As our church has grown, there is currently a need for more deacons and elders. Please pray that God will provide them and for the men listed above who are currently serving or seeking to serve.



HOW ATTACHED ARE YOU TO YOUR...“ROPE”

The story tells about a mountain climber, who wanted to climb the highest mountain. He began his adventure after many years of preparation, but since he wanted the glory just for himself, he decided to climb the mountain alone.

The night felt heavy in the heights of the mountain, and the man could not see anything. All was black. Zero visibility, and the moon and the stars were covered by the clouds.

As he was climbing, only a few feet away from the top of the mountain he slipped and fell into the air, falling at a great speed. The climber could only see black spots as he went down, and the terrible sensation of being sucked by gravity. He kept falling... and in those moments of great fear, it came to mind all the good and bad episodes of his life.

He was thinking now about how close death was getting, when all of a sudden, he felt the rope tied to his waist pull him very hard. His body was hanging in the air.

Only the rope was holding him, and in the moment of stillness he had no other choice but to scream, “HELP ME GOD!”

All of a sudden, a deep voice coming from the sky answered, “What do you want me to do?” “Save me, God!!” “Do you really think I can save you?” “Of course I believe You can.”

“THEN CUT THE ROPE TIED TO YOUR WAIST...”

There was a moment of silence, and the man decided to hold on to the rope with all of his strength.

The rescue team tells that the next day a climber was found dead and frozen, his body hanging from a rope. His hands holding tight to it, ONLY 10 FEET AWAY FROM THE GROUND...

And you? How attached are you to your rope? Will you let go?

Don't ever doubt the things from God. You never should say that He has forgotten or abandoned you. Don't ever think that He does not take care of you. Remember that He is always holding you with His right hand.

Isaiah 41:13 For I am the LORD your God, who holds your right hand, who says to you, “Do not fear, I will help you.”