

# SCENE



## Who or What... is the "HE MINISTRY" ?

By Joan Word

*"...as we have opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith." Galatians 6:10*

What is the "HE Ministry"? Well let's start at the beginning. SHBC had a "Helps Ministry" and an "Encouragement Ministry". Geneva Sisson had the idea to combine the two ministries to create the "HELPS and ENCOURAGEMENT Ministry"...or "HE Ministry" for short. She has lead this ministry since. The purpose of this ministry is to minister directly to the members of SHBC.

The first goal of the HE Ministry is to help members who may be going through some rough times. We've provided meals, gift cards for gasoline, medication, educational opportunities, school fees, just to mention a few. In the past, the Growth Groups have taken care of their members, and that should continue. However, there are times when more is needed. That's when the HE Ministry can help. We want each member to know that they are loved and cared for. They do not stand alone. We can't always 'fix' the problem...but we can 'do something'.

Our second goal is to encourage and celebrate our members. We do this in small ways like: sending a card to members who are sick, been absent for a while or just joined (aka new members). Send thank you cards to members to show appreciation for a job well done or to thank others for their continual, faithful service to our church. Right now we are also sending monthly notes and small gift cards to our High School Seniors to encourage them.

In short, the HE Ministry strives to lovingly care for our membership. We meet once a month and pray for our church, and members' needs. Please note: we strive to maintain privacy and confidentiality in all we do.

FYI: We have a small budget, so most of the funds come from membership donations. And, we say "Thank You! Thank You!" for any and all donations. No donation is too small. If donating by check, please make checks payable to: Surrey Hills Baptist Church and put "HE Ministry" on memo line.

IF you know of specific needs, you can contact Pastor Doug, Kristin, Geneva or DeLana.

IF you would like to help with meals - contact Geneva 405-990-3918

Long term meals will be taken care of by Meal Trains - contact Kristin 405-373-2139

Members of the HE Ministry are: DeLana Stokes, Carol Corn, Joan Word, Marie Clever, Pam Parker, Jerri Conine, Mary Lake, Linda Hood, Laura Benson, Jana Delano, Flavita Hoffman, Necie Robertson, Gale Moser, Nancy Bird and Geneva Sisson.

# KNOW YOUR SURREY HILLS FAMILY

## BENNY AND GENEVA SISSON



Geneva describes herself and Benny as "simple farm folks" and "not very interesting" but they are a solid part of the SH family. They've been married for 51 years, have four children and six grandchildren all who live within 15 minutes. Geneva describes her life as "blessed."

They've been associated with SH for 33 years and seen a lot of changes. When they began going to the church this present location wasn't even here. Geneva heads up the HE Ministry at the church (see Joan Word's article in this edition).

They met during high school years "dragging the main streets of Hinton" but it wasn't until college that their romance began. Benny dated her two best friends before asking her out. Geneva had played basketball in high school and Benny remembered the "cute" way she shot her free throws. Benny played football until he injured his shoulder.

Benny went to Okmulgee after graduation to study the heat and air business. Geneva went to Southwestern in Weatherford and then to Central State (now UCO) to study nursing. The distance was difficult, but they would meet for dates during the middle of the week. Benny graduated and went to work. They got married during Geneva's junior year in college and she finished her degree. They lived in a trailer house where "the pipes would freeze up."

Benny has been associated with farming for 33 years. The couple owns several acres which they lease to sharecroppers. Benny helped with the harvest of wheat and cotton up until a couple of years ago. He is retired now but still likes to "piddle" on the farm and raise a garden.

They enjoy attending SH because of "the people we know, the truth, Bible study and Sunday School class with Diana Stewart."

## PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

By Dr. Doug Brown

"Here I stand, I can do no other..." Those were the words of Martin Luther on April 18, 1521, as he defended his position against the church at the Diet of Worms. The Diet was a council in the Holy Roman Empire, a meeting of princes, nobles, and clergy convened by the emperor to address political, religious, or legal matters. Luther's implications for this Diet were dire.

In 1517, he launched the world into the Reformation era by nailing his 95 Theses to the Castle Church door in Wittenberg, Germany. This came to a head as Luther was called to defend or recant his positions. Far from recanting, Luther said, "Unless I am convinced by the testimony of the Scriptures or by clear reason... I cannot and will not recant anything, for to go against conscience is neither right nor safe. Here I stand, I can do no other, so help me God. Amen." This position has long been termed with the Latin phrase *Sola Scriptura* (Scripture alone). We still hold this position dear and consider it one of our core essential beliefs as a church. We believe the Bible is God's Word. He has spoken, and that is our sole authority. At the conclusion of the Diet, Luther was condemned as an enemy of the church and the state, meaning he could be killed at any time without repercussions. He was willing to face the consequences of his position because he could do no other and because the Bible was worth defending. Luther was far from perfect, as some of his late-in-life positions were problematic. However, he gave us an example that we can and should follow today. We must stand on the truth of God's Word and not waver.

In a world that wavers, God's truth never will. As a church and as individuals, let's commit to look at the Bible and boldly say, "Here I stand, I can do no other!"



# BIBLICAL COUNSELING AT SURREY HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH

By Kimberly Chretin



The Biblical counseling ministry of Surrey Hills Baptist Church is seeing lots of changes: new people, new classes, new training, new counseling resource library, new name and more. Those details will be in next month's newsletter.

Today's newsletter we are going to introduce you to our new counseling office, same location but new look and feel. We are located at the west end of the south hallway in classroom #213.

Counseling appointments are scheduled by calling Kristin in the church office and can be a one-time appointment or ongoing meet-ups, as needed. The fee for 1 hour appointments ranges from free to affordable. Please reach out and let's begin the care-conversation.

The counseling ministry will be highlighted during the church's 5pm Sunday night service on May 18th. Immediately following, will be our Open House in the new office.

Please come to the service to hear all about this important ministry of our church and how God is meeting needs and healing His people. At the following Open House, you can grab a snack, meet the counselors & team members, explore the new office and reading resources, and try out the professional massage chair. If you'd like, you can also receive a warm hug and a quick prayer on the spot. That's what we're here for and we're looking forward to seeing you there!

## OKC ministry "OnMission", a Modern-Day George Müller Story By Bogdan Vovk

God has shown ministry organizer Olivia Camp, of Council Road Baptist Church, who He is and what He is doing. Dozens, even hundreds of times, Olivia & other team members would pray, and God would answer. Sometimes this answer would be someone dropping off last minute donations of food and clothing. Sometimes it's by having just the right people sign up to answer the Great Commission at the perfect time. That's where Surrey Hills Baptist Church enters this story.

One very recent example of the team's answered prayers happened on Sunday, March 23rd as the team was praying for people to join and help. The morning of the mission, because God is never late nor early, several Surrey Hills Baptist Church youth members (Ryan, Cole, Caid, Isaiah) suddenly decided to join the mission. One of them even testified that God put the desire on his heart the day before to go out to the homeless, without having yet heard about the mission. Through this mission, God has spread the Gospel and clothed and fed hundreds of homeless people around Oklahoma City. Other team members include: Milford and Donna Camp—Trinity Baptist Church; David Lavigne—Immanuel Baptist Church; Bogdan Vovk—Surrey Hills Baptist Church; and Ben and Deysi West. Praise God for everyone who prayed for this mission; please continue to do so! If you would like to donate food, clothing, supplies, or financial support to this mission, let one of the team members know.



# DINNER IS SERVED



**(Center) Nancy Kitko doing what she loves (Small pictures clockwise) Tricia Shriver takes money for the meal. \$6 per person/ \$15 per family. Nancy supervises the serving line. Donna Kaye Brady serves tea as one of her duties. Diners enjoy their meals.**

"Compliments to the chef!" are certainly in order when Nancy Kitko is doing the food preparation and she does that every Wednesday night at SH. For about two years now Nancy has worn the apron and put on the meals for the midweek dinner time providing not only good food but a chance for fellowship in the congregation. She is aided by a small but faithful staff including Tricia Shriver, Donna Kaye Brady and Nancy Bird and "pretty much the whole fellowship committee I can call on for help."

"I love to cook!" she exclaims with a smile. And she loves serving the congregation with her talents. Besides the Wednesday night meal she caters breakfasts and refreshments for several groups in the church. Cooking became

her second full time occupation. After spending 25 years in the medical field Nancy decided to give catering a try in 1995 and found her love for cooking. "I was raising my three kids and could be home with them" she said. When she was told she couldn't fix catered food from her own kitchen she opened a restaurant in 2000, Nancy's 57th Street Lighthouse. "My claim to fame is that all Americans could come. We didn't care about color or creed everyone was welcome if they would be nice to each other. A lot of people found peace and happiness in my place. It's the biggest success of my life." She retired from the restaurant three months before covid hit.

What is her favorite dish to fix? "Having been in catering I have a weird answer for that question - I want to fix what you like best. My whole purpose for catering was to make people happy and bring them together - even at funerals.. I never did a sad event.

## TEMPTATION TO DOUBT

By Denise Willock

I heard once that temptations get harder as we mature in Christ; maybe those harder temptations actually are what mature us. I want each of you to know that we are not just waiting idly for "heaven!" We are in a battle for our souls, we ALL are, and realizing that is absolutely necessary, in order to triumph in Christ. I confess I am tempted to doubt and the temptation comes with extreme power to draw me in...I fight this with the way out God gives me...which is to RESIST, being firm in my faith; I remember what he's done for me in the past! He delivered me from a tormenting jealousy/insecurity (lasting into my 30s), in an instant, when I cried out to the Lord. I know He is, and has done many great things for me. So when tempted to doubt, I remind myself of this, and resist and the temptation leaves. But it is a STRONG temptation that has to be fought. We are in a battle that is a Life and Death battle for us and our families! Fight the Fight! God is there to help and strengthen us!!!

*No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it. 1 Corinthians 10:13*



Looking back Heritage Rest Home has been a big blessing in my life. Originally I was to alternate weeks of leading the Bible study and playing and singing a few old hymns. My friend Mac Moser talked me into doing this, and then he graduated to Heaven shortly thereafter. I have been blessed by making new friends and I am being blessed by studying the Bible and sharpening some musical skills. We are a little church with the Lord's supper being done every three months and we give some money joyfully to the Salvation Army. We have given around three hundred dollars in the last three months total. We have a ninety one year old pastor who helps a lot with the Bible study. Pastor Frank sometimes goes to preach in four or five churches where he used to preach when I was younger. We had Fran Bartlett whose grandfather wrote "Victory in Jesus" in 1937. Fran had a wonderful voice. We have a new member who plays the piano with gusto, and has a real love of the words and music. A real shout out to Pam Parker and Earl Goolsby who substitute for me when I am gone or sick. The Heritage bunch runs from three to twenty in attendance with about ten or eleven on a normal day. We do have a SHBC connection with Jerri's mom, Sam in attendance. I did get some on the job training with my mother having dementia and alzheimers the last eight years of her life. We really try hard to make the Bible study on topics they are dealing with during this stage of their lives. We really try to ask questions to provoke their answers. We really need to expand our reach to the residents, for some need the gospel.

Acts 1:8, Romans 10:9



Disney's Piedmont High School Theatre Arts Presents

# HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL ON STAGE

FEATURING

**SM@SH**

STUDENTS:

Baylee Hulin as Gabriella Montez  
Rafael Iaquina as Chad Danforth  
Jackson Shannon as Coach Bolton  
Melissa Smith as Kelsi Nielsen

Gracelynn Shannon as a Brainiac  
Michelle Crouse as a Cheerleader  
Emma Sutton as a Thespian  
Katie Beth Blouin as a Thespian

APRIL 24th & 25th at 7:00 pm  
April 26th at 2:00 & 7:00 pm



## IT'S ALMOST SPRING

Time for the Beautiful Spirit to Grow in our lives...

*The unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit. Which is of great worth in God's Light - - 1 Peter 3:4 NIV*

In our lives, God's tender qualities should be growing day by day, week by week, and year after year. When we cultivate a Godly, Gentle Spirit in our own lives, we bring grace and pleasure to those around us.

How do we help the beautiful spirit grow in our lives?

First, our spirit must be watered by the Living Water - - Jesus Christ and His Word.

Daily meditation on the scriptures, along with the challenging and encouraging insights of other Christians, will create a gentle spirit ready to provide comfort and shelter for those who enter our lives.

Reading your Bible daily provides the elements for your growth: helpful scripture passages and Godly wisdom from God's Word.

Begin the springtime of the year by starting a journal with ample space for you to record your own spiritual insights, praise notes, and prayer requests.

As you reflect upon the verses, draw encouragement from each day as you keep the journal of your experiences, you'll be developing.

A Gentle Spirit of your own...

Often, we as Christians get so involved in meeting the needs of others that we forget to take time to refresh ourselves.

*Wilt thou be made whole?  
John 5:6*

### **Bible study is the heartbeat of Surrey Hills Baptist Church**

It is a vital part of the spiritual growth for our church.

One of the best ways to begin making progress Spiritually is to Study God's word.

**We are a Bible centered Church.**

**We gather to grow in the knowledge and grace of Jesus Christ**