



Maranatha Sisters & Brothers!

God's Plan

In last month's newsletter, we named the reality that often we have plans that don't go as planned. The good news is that God's purpose always prevails, even when things seem to be falling apart around us. In fact, that is the Gospel message, the Good News of Jesus Christ. God brought His creation (you and me) into being to bring Glory to Himself. He created us to love us and to have a personal relationship with us. He created us as the object of His desire—to share all His goodness and the vast blessings of His Kingdom with us. By us loving God back and serving Him with our whole life, it brings Him Glory. This is His plan.

However, humanity turned away from the beauty and innocence of all God had for them in the Garden of Eden, allowing temptation to overcome them with a feeling that God was holding out on them. They chose to partake in what God had forbidden, causing them to hide from God. Thus, a fracture in the relationship between God and His creation came into being, known as sin. Ever since the garden, humanity has been running from God—making our own plans, doing our own thing, living how we want, and hiding from God. Ever since the garden, God has not let go of His love for His creation and has been in pursuit of reconciling us to Himself. This is a story played out over and over in the Old Testament. Humanity runs from God, but in His prevailing purposes of love, He won't let them go.

Enter Jesus. Jesus came to this earth not only to save us and pay the penalty for our sins, but He came to bring Glory to the Father—fulfilling His purposes. Holy Week and Easter Sunday are the consummate reminders that God was never going to let you go, let you run off and do your own thing, or live life how you think is best. No, God has a plan for you. He has an incredible, abundant life that is a better way to live than we could ever ask for, imagine, or plan on our own. That abundant life is to follow His purposes. Jesus came to get us back on track, to pay the penalty for our sin, and bring us back into alignment with God. It was God's plan.

But it was the LORD's good plan to crush him and cause him grief. Yet when his life is made an offering for sin, he will have many descendants. He will enjoy a long life, and the LORD's good plan will prosper in his hands. -Isaiah 53:10

Let me encourage you as we approach Holy Week and Easter Sunday, to lay down your plans. Let's lay down our preconceived notions of how God should operate. Let's humble ourselves and ask some deeper, probing questions. Where in your life are you running from God? What area of your life is keeping you from God? What sin (habit, attitude, action, thought) in your life is keeping you from deeper fellowship and intimacy with God? Open your heart to God. Give Him full access. Ask the Holy Spirit to search you for anything that does not honor Him, and then let God go to work in you in a brand-new way.

While there is no condemnation in Christ, let Godly conviction fall all over you as we journey to the cross of Christ together through Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday. Then, let's celebrate God's pursuit, His incredible love for us, His humble sacrifice, and His ultimate power over sin, hell, and death that culminates with the resurrection of Christ. Easter Sunday celebrates God's victory over the brokenness and death of innocence in the Garden of Eden. Jesus raised from the dead secures a lifetime of love with God for all of eternity. Let's lean into this season of Easter—the fulfillment of God's prevailing purpose over humanity's broken plans.

Lastly, who do you know that could be blessed by the incredible purposes of God, that you could invite and bring with you to the multitude of opportunities we have at Rolling Plains throughout Holy Week? Keep in mind everyone experiences broken plans. Everyone needs God's greater purposes in their life. Most people are more eager to come to church than we are to ask.

Come on, God!



Pastor John



– BIRTHDAYS –

- 1 Chad Jerles
- 3 Tierney Ford
- 4 Judy Behringer, Herb Chambers
- 5 Julie Sands, Gary Stall
- 8 Carl Frost
- 10 Vickie Franklin
- 11 Austin Alice, Cydney Sterling
- 14 Kay Miller
- 17 Barbara McArtor
- 18 Elizabeth Reed, Joy Smith
- 19 Charlie Smith, Russell White
- 20 Kelly Frost, Marian Valentine
- 21 Mary Mitchell
- 22 June M. Smith, Heather Yontz
- 23 Cheryl Martin
- 27 Bryan McArtor
- 29 Jill Crippen
- 30 Jen Dale, Jane Law
- 31 Tim Frazier

– ANNIVERSARIES –

- 5 Bill & Janet Coleman
- 23 Russell & Barbara White
- 30 Richard & Glenna Fleming

The Church Office will be closed on Monday, April 1st so that our employees may celebrate Easter with their families.

Remember to “spring forward” 1 hour on March 10th.

1st day of Spring is March 19th

RP Family,

Many of you have received or will be receiving emails from either Kevin Franklin or me from the Ministry Safe website. First, let me say these are valid emails and not Spam. And secondly, please click the link, watch the training video, and complete the quiz.



We will be using Ministry Safe for required training and background checks as part of our safety plan to protect those who participate and serve in ministry areas which involve children, youth, and vulnerable adults.

If you serve in these areas as a leader or participate in VBS or INZONE and have not received a training email, please contact Kevin Franklin or me.

If you have received the email and have not yet completed the training, please do so as soon as possible so that we are complying with the requirements of the GMC.

Thank you,

Heather Matarazzo

Family Ministry Director

RP Youth
Missi♥n Trip 2024
Parent's Meeting
March 3rd at 11:30 AM

Please see Chad Lawson or Danielle Morris for more details

ROLLING PLAINS ANNUAL
Easter Jam & EGG HUNT
 Saturday, March 30th 1:00-3:00 PM

EASTER JAM BEGINS AT 1:00 IN THE WORSHIP CENTER
 FOLLOWED BY AN EASTER EGG HUNT ON THE LAWN

TRIP DATES ARE JULY 7TH – 13TH IN GATLINBURG, TN
 8TH – 12TH GRADE
 COST IS \$400.00 PER STUDENT
 \$50.00 DEPOSIT DUE MARCH 31ST

SUNDAY, MARCH 3RD AT 9:00 AM
 "WHERE KIDS BRING THEIR FAMILIES TO LEARN ABOUT GOD"

Kid Stuff FX

Please join us for our Fun, Family Worship Service up the stairs in our Kids Chapel



This Night...

Maunder Thursday Service
 March 28, 2024 at 7:00 PM

The RP Youth will lead us in a special reflection of the Last Supper.

How wonderful and pleasant it is when brothers live together in harmony!

Psalms 133:1 NLT

For harmony is as precious as the anointing oil that was poured over Aaron's head, that ran down his beard and onto the border of his robe.

Psalms 133:2 NLT

Harmony is as refreshing as the dew from Mount Hermon that falls on the mountains of Zion. And there the Lord has pronounced his blessing, even life everlasting. Psalms 133:3 NLT



Greetings brothers,

I'm hoping this article finds you in good health and spirits. We were so encouraged to have 24 brothers attend the February 4th Men's Breakfast. We started a new series of short video messages by Caleb Perkins that was well received by the group. Brothers Phil Kinner, Don Rice, Alan Smith, Charlie Young and I were blessed to hear Caleb speak at the January Brothers in Christ Breakfast, and we thought his messages would be a good fit for our monthly breakfasts. The group agreed, so we are going to continue with Caleb's short video messages. At our next meeting we will be watching Caleb's message, "Restoring Such A One".

I hope you noticed that I opened this article with Psalms 133. It spoke to me. In the current world we live in we are bombarded by such negativity on a daily basis, it is a blessing to have a place to go where you're not judged or criticized, and you are accepted. It is the dream of the Rolling Plains Methodist Men's leadership to see this brotherhood grow even larger. One very positive suggestion was to invite the wives to breakfast so that the husbands don't have to go back home and pick them up following breakfast. The way this will work is the wives will be served breakfast to eat in He-Brews Cafe while the men have their breakfast devotional and business meeting in the Embers Room. We understand that this is doable for husbands and wives who don't have children to get ready for church. We're working to address the challenge of a time for dads with children to be fed both physically and spiritually also.

With all this in mind, don't forget Men's Breakfast on Sunday, March 3rd at 7:00 AM in the Embers Room and remember wives are welcome to come have breakfast in He-Brews Cafe' and maybe a new Women's Circle could form.

In His service,

Tim Collins

Methodist Men's Secretary

A promotional graphic for Men's Breakfast. It features a brown background with a circular inset image of a waffle topped with strawberries and powdered sugar. The text reads: 'Men's Breakfast', 'Sunday, March 3rd', '7:00 AM', 'Embers Room', and 'All men are welcome for a great time of food & fellowship!'.

A promotional graphic for Centershot. It features a target with an arrow hitting the bullseye. The text reads: 'Centershot', 'Making Christ the Target of Our Lives', 'Centershot will be offered on selected Fridays', 'March 15th', 'Please contact Chad Lawson for more information', and 'Chad@rollingplainsgmc.com'.

“ALIVE FOREVER AMEN”



**Join the Rolling Plains Worship Choir
Sunday, March 24th 6:00 PM**

This beautiful musical containing classic and contemporary songs, along with Scripture, will lead us into an evening of worship proclaiming that “God so loved the world that He sent His only Son to save us!”

Thank you!

Mary Mitchell would like to thank Rolling Plains for the card that said we miss her. She misses her church family but with no car she’s unable to attend on Sundays. Mary is happy that her new residence has church services on Sunday and Bible study twice a week. If anyone would like to reach out to Mary, her address is:

Abbott Home

**1258 Greenwood Ave Room # 36
Zanesville, OH 43701**

SATURDAY

MARCH 9TH

8:00 AM - 1:00 PM



**ROLLING PLAINS CHURCH
3350 MOXAHALA PARK RD
ZANESVILLE OH 43701**

CONTACT VICKI MCCONNELL @ 740 704 9509

Still Standing on the Promises

The Finance Team would like to share with you an update on our Still Standing on the Promises campaign. Our current debt for our disaffiliation fees from the United Methodist Church is \$22,849.63. Thank you for considering to give above and beyond to help pay this debt down. We serve a good God!

Burn That Note

Also, we still owe on our worship facility addition that was added in 2006. Thank you for your continued financial support in helping us to Burn That Note as soon as possible. Our \$1.6 million building loan has now been paid down to \$144,749.37. Praise God!

MAYSVILLE



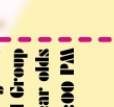
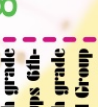
**Thursday
March 7th
7:00 - 8:00 AM**



We are looking for volunteers! See Kevin Franklin or text “ALL PRO DADS” to 740-265-3855 for more information or to volunteer.

MARCH 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>3 METHODIST MEN MEETING 7:00 AM KIDSTUFFEX 9:00 AM Starting Point 11:30 AM Youth Group 6:30-8:00 PM 6th-12th grade</p>	<p>4 NEEDLE CRAFTERS FOR CHRIST FOR CHRIST 6:00-8:00 PM</p>	<p>5 Sager Brown Mission Trip</p>	<p>6 Fusion 6:30-8:00 PM pre-k-5th grade Youth Small Groups 6th-12th grade Young Adult Small Group 18-25 year olds 6:30-8:00 PM</p>	<p>7 ALL PRO DAD'S BREAKFAST 7:00-8:00 AM</p>	<p>8 CenterShot 6:30-8:00 PM</p>	<p>9 BLOOD DRIVE 8:00 AM-1:00 PM</p>
<p>10 Starting Point 11:30 AM YOUTH CONFIRMATION CLASS 9:00 AM IN THE YOUTH ROOM Youth Group 6:30-8:00 PM 6th-12th grade</p>	<p>11 NEEDLE CRAFTERS FOR CHRIST FOR CHRIST 6:00-8:00 PM</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 Fusion 6:30-8:00 PM pre-k-5th grade Youth Small Groups 6th-12th grade Young Adult Small Group 18-25 year olds 6:30-8:00 PM</p>	<p>15 CenterShot 6:30-8:00 PM</p>	<p>16</p>
<p>17 Starting Point 11:30 AM YOUTH CONFIRMATION CLASS 9:00 AM IN THE YOUTH ROOM Youth Group 6:30-8:00 PM 6th-12th grade</p>	<p>18 NEEDLE CRAFTERS FOR CHRIST FOR CHRIST 6:00-8:00 PM</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21 Fusion 6:30-8:00 PM pre-k-5th grade Youth Small Groups 6th-12th grade Young Adult Small Group 18-25 year olds 6:30-8:00 PM</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>24 EASTER CHOR CONCERT 6:00 PM</p>	<p>25 NEEDLE CRAFTERS FOR CHRIST FOR CHRIST 6:00-8:00 PM</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE 7:00 PM</p>	<p>29 GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE 7:00 PM</p>	<p>30 EASTER JAM AND EGG HUNT 1:00 - 3:00 PM</p>
<p>31 Easter Sunday</p>	<p>JOURNEY TO THE CROSS 6:30 PM</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>



LEAD TEAM

If you ever have questions about the church, please reach out to someone on our Lead Team.
The Lead Team is made up of the following people listed below:

*Dean Holtsclaw, Scott Mosebrook, Kelly Lee, Cathy Dorman, Pat Kelly, Brent Sterling, Amy Frame
Don Rice, Heather Yontz, Tim Swingle, Pastor John Alice, Nominations Chair
At Large: Van Slack*

Please feel free to reach out to them if you need anything.

Also, please note that the Lead Team meeting minutes will be posted each month
in the hallway upstairs near the mailboxes.



You may remember that during Advent Conspiracy we talked about the honor of being able to name the new home that we supported for girls in Global Hope Village. We have chosen the name Deborah. Deborah was a strong, passionate leader who was wise and well respected. Deborah used her gifts to honor God in all she did. We believe these attributes are great goals for the young residents of this home.

As promised, we now get to further connect in a deep and personal way! You have the opportunity to connect one on one as a "Godparent" with a girl in the Deborah home. You'll be able to share stories, support, and the love of Jesus Christ specifically with your "Godchild". We are excited to help you connect in this meaningful way. We look forward to having a home that is fully supported by Rolling Plains families. Who knows? Maybe one day you'll get to travel to meet your Godchild!

The cost to care for one child is \$100/month. You can team up with other family members, small groups, or friends to fully support a child, or we can potentially help pair you with others. This doesn't have to be a long-term commitment. You can stop at any time. Will you prayerfully consider this? Please call Laurie Kelly at 740-819-0537 or talk with any Mission Initiatives Team member.

The dollars you spent shopping at Kroger from November 1st, 2023, through January 31st, 2024, benefited Rolling Plains in the amount of \$106.72, with 37 households participating. Thank you for your support of this ministry!



If you are not already enrolled in the Kroger Community Rewards program and would like to participate, you can do so by visiting <https://www.kroger.com/i/community/community-rewards>. A percentage of every dollar you spend will then be donated back to RP.



Bethel Community Center – A Local Missional Outpost

126 Ontario Street, Zanesville, OH

Hello All!

I hope you are all doing well and enjoying the random sunshine and good weather. I am excited to bring you all the updates happening at Bethel Community Center.

Our monthly food box event was held on Saturday, January 20, 2024. We served our 30 boxes to families within the first 20 minutes of the event. It seems we have many in need of our food boxes with the rising costs of rent and groceries. Our newest Board member, Barbie Welker, and her husband helped at this event. We are so grateful to our Board members and volunteers who have stepped up and helped with the monthly food box giveaway. It is very rewarding and enlightening to see the process first hand.

Our After-School Program has been serving approximately 8 to 10 kids daily. We currently have many community partners coming into the center to help bring diversity to our programming. Regular visits from the Muskingum County Literacy Council, The Ohio State University Extension Office, the YMCA's "Y on the Fly" Program, Karen Linser (a volunteer who shares a Bible lesson and craft monthly), and GoodCity Creatives all have contributed to the success of our After-School Program. Kathy Campbell, the Program Coordinator for Bethel, has incorporated "Bethel Bucks" to reward the children for good behavior and kindness. The children may spend their "Bethel Bucks" earned on a variety of prizes we have accumulated at the center from local partners, staff, and volunteers. This has proven to be a great learning incentive.

January has been a prosperous month for our new rental service. Bethel Community Center has rented the center out for birthday parties, craft parties, and even a baby shower, all in the month of January! We are very pleased with the results. All of our guests have been exceptional at keeping the center clean, and we could not be happier.

If you or someone you know, would like to rent our center for a private party, here are some of the details: 2,000 square feet of space, not including the full kitchen and 2 restrooms. Tables and chairs to seat up to 100 people. Children's seating and toys (Barbie Dream House, Hot Wheels Garage, Legos). ONLY \$25.00 AN HOUR!!!!

Please call Bethel Community Center 740-297-4795, or stop in at 126 Ontario Street, Zanesville, for more information or to schedule your event.

Upcoming dates of interest include:

Saturday, February 24th at 3:00pm Food for All Food Box Giveaway

Saturday, March 16th Free Community Easter Dinner & Egg Hunt from 4:00-6:00PM

Saturday, March 23rd at 3:00pm Food for All Food Box Giveaway

Warm Regards,

Linda Dady

Executive Director
Bethel Community Center



**2023-2024
AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM**

Would your kids enjoy a hot meal and some homework help?
Maybe a faith-based art lesson or some physical activity?
Bethel Community Center offers that and more during our
"After School Program"

This Program runs Monday through Thursday from 3:30pm to 5:30pm during
the Zanesville City School Calendar Year

**This Program is a free service for all school aged kids (ages 5 to 18)
provided by:**

Bethel Community Center
126 Ontario Street
Zanesville, Ohio 43701

We are proud to offer several guest hosts throughout the year such as:

- Muskingum County YMCA "Y on the Fly"
- Muskingum County Literacy Council / Imagination Library
- GoodCity Creatives Community Development Corp
- Oakley the Therapy Dog

**Parent or Guardian must register their child & provide transportation*

Please call us for more information:

740-297-4795

Bethel Community Center, 126 Ontario Street, Zanesville, Ohio 43701

Greetings from the Rolling Plains Prayer Ministry

The prayer ministry would like to thank everyone who joined our Rolling Plains family in praying and fasting during the month of January. It is our prayer that each one of you gained insight into the power and presence of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. I found an immense peace and comfort in creating a habit of spending intentional time with God when I woke up and before I went to bed. This is a practice I found so vital that I have committed to continuing it until God calls me to change it. I will also continue a significant reduction in the time I spend on social media. I have found social media to be a significant time warp that keeps me from doing things that could honor God and my family. That does not mean I am perfect at this practice, but I will continue to try to grow in it because I know it honors God. I hope that each of you has found a closeness to God and growth in spirituality that you don't want to let go of. If not, it is never too late to start.

With that in mind, we are already in the season of Lent. According to the Catholic church: "Lent is a 40-day season of prayer, fasting and almsgiving (service) that begins on Ash Wednesday and ends at sundown on Holy Thursday. It's a period of preparation to celebrate the Lord's Resurrection at Easter." During this time, the prayer ministry encourages you to continue your walk in growing closer to God by praying for His wisdom, fasting from things of this world that hinder your relationship with God; and giving of your time, talents, or provisions. Please let us know if there is any way we can support you.

One way the prayer ministry has encouraged and supported Rolling Plains during Holy week is to present **The JOURNEY TO THE CROSS**. This year it is on Monday, March 25th at 6:30 PM in the Worship Center. We are praising God that people are coming out to experience the transforming grace of God through the ministry's presentation. Each year we evaluate the experience and feedback to try to make your experience more impactful the following year. This year we decided to eliminate the wait time. Please arrive by 6:30 pm and find a seat in the sanctuary so we may begin on time. Pastor John will be starting off the Journey by presenting the Last Supper and offering communion to each guest. Prayer Ministry members will depict the experience of Jesus and the people around Him as He took our sins to the cross, died, and rose again to save us. Pat Wiseman-Jones will conclude the Journey with the empty tomb. She will anoint and pray over each guest who comes forward for that experience.

We are looking forward to sharing this experience with our community, so please invite your friends and family to join you for The Journey to the Cross and the many experiences of Holy week at Rolling Plains.

The Journey to the Cross may not be appropriate for young children due to the nature of Jesus' violent experience, and young children may not be comfortable sitting through the presentation.

May God bless you with wisdom, courage, peace and love.

Kelly Lee



JOURNEY TO THE CROSS

This year will be a new experience.
Each station will be viewed by everyone at the same time while seated in the Worship Center.
No need to walk from station to station.

Monday March 25th
@ 6:30 PM



The month of March the Women's Ministry circles will be reflecting on the word Sacrifice. As we enter the month, we will have the opportunity to navigate into God's Word to learn more about sacrifice. We will also have the opportunity to participate in several events during Holy Week.



Are you still looking for a way to connect with other women? The Women's Ministry has two upcoming events for you to attend. The first event is a one-day event, RiseUP on March 16th in Logan, Ohio. Several women from our church have attended in previous years and always come away from the event blessed. If you are interested in going, sign-up is easy. Just scan the QR code for complete details or contact Betty Wilson at 740-607-1939 with any questions. Ladies will be meeting and carpooling together.



The second event is "Made Whole". This will be a brunch held here at Rolling Plains on Saturday, April 6th from 10:00AM - 12:30 PM. Tickets are just \$5.00 and will be on sale in the church lobby on Sundays, March 24th and 31st. At this event, we will also be doing a devotional swap as we did at our Fall brunch. If you have any devotional books that you no longer use, please consider donating them to the swap. You may bring them to the church anytime. Just make sure they are marked for the Women's Event. On the day of the brunch, everyone will get a chance to look at the devotionals that are available to take one home.

Thank you,

Terra Armstead

Women's Ministry Coordinator



Beginning in March, we will be hosting our own Rolling Plains Red Carpet Experience in our Lobby! We are updating our database and want to add you and your family's smiling face. Stop by, and take a photo and enjoy a little Red-Carpet Experience!



Dear Friend,


As I write this, more than 11 million Operation Christmas Child shoebox gifts are just beginning their journey—crossing oceans, mountains, and deserts—to delight children in more than 100 countries around the world. We thank God for everyone who prayerfully packed these gifts, and we praise Him for using each box to His glory.

TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH: In parts of Suriname accessible only by canoe, teachers led *The Greatest Journey* lessons after our church partners handed out shoebox gifts. A class from Ecuador is shown above. But as these children receive their gifts, another journey is about to begin. In the coming year, many of them will be enrolling in *The Greatest Journey*—our discipleship classes designed especially for children who have just received Operation Christmas Child shoebox gifts.

Over the past 30 years, more than 50 million children have been reached through these discipleship lessons, including 25 million who have prayed to receive Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. Samaritan's Purse trains volunteer teachers and provides materials in 91 languages. We also provide a New Testament for each child who completes the course. So far, over 36 million New Testaments have been given to graduates through our local church partners. Join us in asking God to raise up an army of young evangelists who are prepared and eager to share the Gospel with their friends and family members.

Sincerely,

Franklin Graham

<p>25 MILLION CHILDREN <i>Made decisions to trust Christ</i></p> <p>50 MILLION DISCIPLED</p> <p>SINCE 1993</p>	<p>36 MILLION NEW TESTAMENTS <i>Awarded to Graduates</i></p> <p>91 LANGUAGES 98 COUNTRIES <i>Reached Last Year</i></p> 
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Rolling Plains Church
3350 Moxahala Park Rd.
Zanesville, OH 43701
rollingplainsgmc.com

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To receive our newsletter by email instead, simply send an email to newsletter@rollingplainsgmc.com with "e-newsletter" and your first and last name in the subject line.

Holy Week



*Free breakfast
between services*

*Free breakfast
between services*

Sunday, March 24th at 6:00 PM	EASTER CHOIR CONCERT
Monday, March 25th at 6:30 PM	"JOURNEY TO THE CROSS"
Thursday, March 28th at 7:00 PM	MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE
Friday, March 29th at 7:00 PM	GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE
Saturday, March 30th ~ 1 - 3:00 PM	EASTER JAM & EGG HUNT
Easter Sunday, March 31st at 8:15 AM	TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICE
Easter Sunday, March 31st at 9:45 AM	CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP SERVICE
Easter Sunday, March 31st at 11:00 AM	CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP SERVICE