

Rolling Plains Church
3350 Moxahala Park Rd
Zanesville, OH 43701
rollingplainsumc.com

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“Maranatha”, Sisters & Brothers!

During Lent we are taking a long gaze at the cross of Christ and are reminded of two important things: our brokenness of sin leaving us desperately in need of a Savior, and our reflection on God’s abundant grace and mercy that is available to us all. The focus of the Gospels is not meant to shame us of our sin, but to open our eyes to the rich nature of God’s love for you and me. His answer to our sin is mercy and amazing grace, in the death of Christ on the cross. If one struggles to believe this, perhaps one needs to gaze at the cross a little longer. Jesus’ final words from the cross tell us so much about who He is and who we are. Though these final seven words are such a blessing for you and me, they are not Jesus’ last words.

The most profound miracle and display of God’s power is the fact that Jesus’ words that preceded his death are not the final words He speaks. Praise be to God that Jesus speaks words after his death—marking the astonishing reality of His resurrection from the dead!

In the book of John, Mary Magdalen encounters Jesus outside the empty garden tomb, and He speaks to her. The Bible tells us she doesn’t recognize Him right away. She thinks He is the gardener. Jesus calls her by name and at once her eyes are opened to the risen Christ standing right in front of her, speaking to her. A miracle! The enemy spoke death, but Jesus spoke life. The enemy spoke despair to Christ’s followers when He was buried. Jesus now speaks hope. When they respond in fear, Jesus speaks peace. God, in Jesus Christ, gets the final word! It’s never over until God says its over! Easter is the celebration that God gets the final word and the final say about all things in our life, even unto death. Praise be to God!

This Easter as we celebrate the risen Christ, we invite you to come as you are and *See who gets the last word*. If your word is cancer, Christ can speak healing. If your word is brokenness, Christ can speak wholeness. If your word is loss, Christ can speak new life! If your word is death, Christ will speak resurrection! Jesus gets the final word and renders our spiritual enemy utterly powerless. This is the power and reality of Easter! I am asking you to do three things, as we prepare for Easter Sunday:

1. **Would you pray?** Pray for our worship teams, media teams, hospitality teams, He-Brews Café teams, Children and Youth ministry teams, your pastors, and all others that are working to make this an amazing Sunday. Pray for lives to be changed and for people to come to Christ for the very first time.
2. **Would you have breakfast with us?** He-Brews Café will be serving a full breakfast in between our three services. Come and experience our newly renovated Embers Room.
3. **Would you invite?** Would you pray for at least two unchurched folk or families and then invite them to come with you for Easter Sunday worship, and then believe God will change their lives? People want to worship on Easter. They are just waiting to be asked.

Come and experience the risen Christ. Come and celebrate His victory for all of us. Come and hear Him speak, even after He was pronounced dead. Come and see who gets the last word. He is risen!

Blessings,
Pastor John

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

**GET CONNECTED
TO RP IN**

2017

@RPChurchOH



3350 Moxahala Park Rd., Zanesville, OH 43701
(740)453-4192 | www.rollingplainsumc.com

Rolling Plains Journeyers Are on the Move!
Coming up in 2017...

Ark Encounter & Creation Museum
May 10-11, 2017

\$227 per Person (Double/Triple/Quad Occupancy)

Experience the pages of the Bible like never before, as we travel to Kentucky and spend the first day of our trip visiting the Ark Encounter, a Christian evangelistic outreach intended to bring the Ark of Noah's day to life, complete with a 510 foot long, full-size ark. **Package Includes:** 1 Night Lodging; 1 Breakfast; German Dinner & Entertainment at the Hofbrauhaus; Luggage Handling; Taxes and Meal Gratuities; and Motorcoach Transportation.

Beautiful – The Carole King Musical at The Ohio Theatre in Columbus, OH
Wednesday, June 7, 2017 – 7:30 PM

\$108 per Person

The Carole King Musical tells the inspiring true story of King's remarkable rise to stardom; from being part of a hit songwriting team with her husband, Gerry Goffin, to her relationship with fellow writers, to becoming one of the most successful solo acts in popular music history. Along the way, she made more than beautiful music, she wrote the soundtrack to a generation! **Price Includes:** Reserved Center-Section Orchestra Seats – rows w-z; Deluxe Motor Coach Transportation; and Driver's Gratuity. Payment is due with reservation.

Black Hills of South Dakota & Yellowstone National Park
August 31-September 12, 2017

\$1729 per Person (Double Occupancy)

We will depart Zanesville by motor coach to travel West, with stops along the way, and enjoy many sights throughout our travels. Each of our stops will include a highlight of that city and dinner. **Here are just some of the features of our trip:** Badlands National Park; Mt. Rushmore; Crazy Horse Memorial; Journey Museum; Historic Deadwood; Buffalo Bill Center; Yellowstone National Park; Old Faithful; 12 breakfasts; 11 dinners and more!

For a detailed brochure and information for any of the above trips, contact Pat Wiseman Jones, 740-453-5849



Mission in Motion: Habitat for Humanity

Habitat for Humanity of Southeast Ohio is working with the City of Zanesville to deconstruct the playground equipment at Kidzville Park. This park is scheduled to undergo renovations, beginning with deconstruction of the playground structure. All reusable materials will be donated to the ReStore, located at 100 Sunrise Center Dr. Once the deconstruction is complete, the City of Zanesville will be installing new playground equipment.

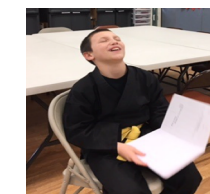
Deconstruction begins on Tuesday, April 4th and continues through Saturday, April 8th, from 9 AM to 5 PM. If you would like to participate in Mission in Motion, our team will be working on Saturday, April 8th, beginning at 9 AM. Please write "*KidZville*" on your connection card if you are interested in working with our team. Let's work together with Habitat and help to provide exciting new playground equipment for the children of Zanesville and the surrounding communities!

In The Journey with you,
Nancy Amos, Associate Pastor of Rolling Plains UMC



Opportunities continue for us to "expand our territory" through connections in the community. Our mission is to partner with others to serve the children, youth, and families in the Putnam neighborhood. God is certainly at work as seen in the following:

- **Mending Hearts for Women's Ministry** meets twice monthly, on Thursday afternoons. Led by Joyce Jones, this ministry offers support to women dealing with addictions, abuse, and other relationship challenges. Bethel provides a more convenient location for several of the women who walk from the Putnam area to Christ's Table for a meeting. It also opens up the opportunity to serve other women in the area. The meeting involves a craft activity and conversation that is supportive, faith-based, and healing.
- **Bethel 4-H Club** meets on Wednesdays for grades 3-12. The current club project is First Aid. The **Zanesville Fire Department** made a presentation to the club in March. Students were able to check out the fire truck brought to our site. Also, club leader, Beth Jackson, who is trained in first aid, held a CPR session for the students in March.
- **Red Worm Composting:** Our Community Garden is preparing for Spring through the leadership of Rev. Jessica Stonecypher, Bethel Board Member and employee of Muskingum Soil and Water Conservation District. Students are learning the compost-making process using "red worms", shredded paper, and table scraps. The compost will be added to the Bethel Community Garden.
- Bethel hosted a community meeting provided by **Urbangreens on Thursday, March 23, from 6:00-7:30 PM.** The session topic was **Planting Basics: Learn Where to Start.** Bethel Community Garden served as a model for others. Urbangreens' mission is to engage the community in urban agriculture projects to build a stronger, healthier, and more resilient community, with a focus on the historic Putnam neighborhood.
- **After School Express Yourself for K-6** on Thursdays brings local talented artists, musicians, and authors to provide a fine arts experience. Coordinated by Linda Hatfield, current "leaders" include musician, Tyson Kumoroski and published children's book author from Muskingum County, Kate Hofler.
- **Day of Recovery: A Support Event for People Affected by Addiction and Mental Health:** Bethel will participate in this event, provided by Genesis Healthcare Behavioral Health. It is a free event at **Zane Landing Park, on May 6, from 12:00-6:00 PM,** with music, food, information, and the opportunity to meet area professionals. Bethel will provide information about our summer program and events.



Kay Miller, Bethel Board Member



Birthdays

April

Anniversaries



- 1 Hunter Longwell, Beulah Strickler
- 3 Dave Armstead, Riley McFarland, Bendigo Slack
- 4 Steve Brock
- 5 Brian Spring
- 6 Nathan Raines, Torri Smith
- 7 Barb Amstutz, Nicole Fink
- 10 Dorothy Morrison
- 11 Anita Richards Mohr
- 12 Jennifer Davis, Gaylin Higdon, Tim Swingle
- 13 Teresa Bailey, Pauline Callahan, Jeanie Presley
- 16 Denise Boles, Angie Gable, Larry Jones
- 17 Gayle Kirkbride, Sue Snyder
- 18 Ruth Baker, Lisa Fulkerson, Rick Fulkerson
- 19 Bryce Bronner, Troy Harmer, Dan Morrison, Carl Shaw
- 20 Barb Durant, Sharon Neff, Dick Reese
- 21 Marcie Flinn, Terry Wiseman
- 22 Becky Jewell, Teresa Ruppel, Kathy Valentine
- 23 William Kinsey
- 24 Sally Snyder, Steve Welsh
- 25 Jeff Conrad
- 26 Bridget Geiger
- 27 Bob Kokensparger, Hilda Stalder
- 29 Bob Karr, Alex Presley
- 30 Linda Kirkbride

- 2 Dick & Susan Reese
- 5 Jim & Linda Geyer
- 13 Lee & Cheryl Martin
- 16 Fred & Roz Kennedy
- 18 Sebastian & Heather Gaskins
- 21 Jesse & Julia Evans
- 22 Ric & Tammy Roush
- 22 Todd & Christy Sidwell
- 28 Mike & Joanne Murphy
- 29 Terry & Lisa Wiseman



Every year, after April 1st, we need to link our Kroger Plus Card with Rolling Plains, to ensure our purchases are being applied to the Rolling Plains' account. If you have never done this, and would like to, you can link your Kroger Plus Card to our account by going to www.krogercommunityrewards.com. Just follow the "Community" link to sign in or to create an account for your Kroger Plus Card, link your card to our account (84919 Rolling Plains Church), and a percentage of your qualified purchases will be donated quarterly to our Ministry Fund. If you do not have a Kroger Plus Card, you may visit the Customer Care office at your Kroger Store to apply for one.

United Methodist Women

Rolling Plains United Methodist Women met on Tuesday, March 21st to set our year in motion, devoted to Mission Work. The meeting was productive and we enjoyed visiting and sharing with each other. The Bible lesson centered on the Prophet Anna, from the Book of Luke. We love to talk about our early Mothers of the Church and their importance to our Legacy.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, April 18th in the Embers Room, from 4:00 - 6:00 PM. We will be honoring our specially selected "Person of Mission," Paul Law. We will be having a potluck meal for that meeting. All women are invited to attend.

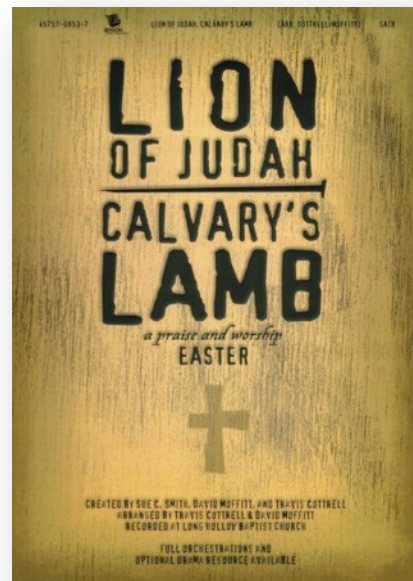
Please support our mission work. We will be selling our Rada Knives, homemade craft items, and Quilt at the Salvation Army Bazaar, on April 8th from 9-2.

June M. Smith, President
Rolling Plains UMW

RP Kids Annual Egg Hunt

April 15th beginning at 1:00 PM

We will begin in the Worship Center at 1:00 PM
Kidstuf Family Worship Easter Edition
Following Kidstuf we will move onto the lawn where the kids can hunt over 4000 eggs



Join us on Palm Sunday Evening

April 9, 6:00 p.m.

as The Rolling Plains Worship Choir presents this powerful and anointed Praise and Worship Musical.

Sunday, April 9
Palm Sunday Worship Services
8:15, 9:45, & 11:00 AM
Lion of Judah Choir Musical
6:00 PM

Thursday, April 13
Maundy Thursday Service
7:00 PM

Friday, April 14
Good Friday Service
7:00 PM

Saturday, April 15
Kidstuf/Easter Egg Hunt
1:00 PM

Sunday, April 16
Easter Worship Services
8:15, 9:45, & 11:00 AM

Monday, April 24
Monday Night Prayer
6:30 PM



Rolling Plains Youth & Young People

Mission Trip Update

The trip is full! We have 4 adults and 19 students. The adults are my wife, Magen; Don and Mary Rice; and myself. The students are Adam Armstead, Katlyne Terrill, Ana Presley, Skylar Durst, Caleb DeLong, Dalton Flinn, Eliza Wilson, Josh Zinn, Cassidy Rock, Danny Curtis, Anna Curtis, Julia Curtis, Kalli Sidwell, Kierstin Wayne, Luke Morrow, Andrew Ford, Daylin Smith, Miranda Reed, and Marlee Lawson.

Please join me in praying for each individual, as we prepare ourselves for the trip and for those we will be impacting in New York. There is still a lot that needs done. The most pressing concern is financial. There was some confusion in my last article and I hope to clear that up. Each person above is responsible for raising his/her funding for the trip. The individual total is \$399, but each person has already paid a deposit of \$100. That means that each student has a remaining balance of \$299. They are working on raising that money through letter writing or talking to their loved ones, and some have jobs, which will help them to pay. By May 1st the next payment is due and on June 1st the last payment will be due. In between those dates, we will have the Baked Potato Bar, which is a huge fundraiser for us. So we ask that you pray for us and with us, and help us out by attending the Baked Potato Bar on May 21st after each of the three services. If you want to help financially beyond that and support a specific student, we will gladly accept and I can help set that up.

We thank you so much for your prayers and support already!

Youth Group Changes

All of our Youth Group services will be remaining the same, with the exception of Sunday mornings. Sunday morning service is changing to one large service starting at 9:45 and ending at 10:45. There are a couple of reasons for this: Number one, I need to have a worship experience and I want to be able to experience the one we offer here every Sunday morning. This allows me to lead your students and then go to worship alongside of them, which brings me to my next point. Corporate worship is a major component of the faith, and once you hit 6th grade, and definitely older, you begin to understand what is being taught from the stage a little more. This new schedule allows me to teach the students a very focused lesson aimed at students, but also go to worship together at 11:00 and experience a corporate worship experience with our church and families at RP.

I know this will change some things for those who attend the 11 o'clock Youth class, but I firmly believe this will be the best for us in the long run, so please join me in trying it out. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out to me.

RP will remain at 6:30 PM on Sunday nights, with food, fun, and fellowship!

In Christ,
Beau Dailey, Director of Student Ministries

Register online at
WestOhioCamps.com

Don't miss out on a
summer of fun!

Register now!

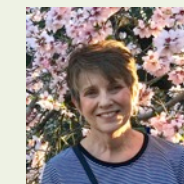


Together as one



Cross Works... Mission in Europe

April 2017



WELCOME BACK!

When they came to Jerusalem, they were **welcomed** by the church, and the apostles, and elders to whom they reported everything that God had done through them. Acts 15:4

Blessed with Two Church Families

On Sunday, March 5th I returned to the Comunidad Cristiana de Camarma, and my church family in Spain. Knowing that I had had some health issues, which extended my time back in the US through February, this community of believers welcomed me back with amazing joy and celebration for God's healing and answered prayers. To be honest, I was stunned at the outpouring of love, prayers, and concern for my health and wellbeing. While I've been attending this church regularly for the past 4 years, I've always felt like an outsider separated by language and challenged to establish real relationships. However, on this particular Sunday, God showed me how wrong I'd been and that even with the language challenges, here is a church family that really understands His message of love for Him and for one another and that I'm blessed beyond measure to be part of this church family while in Spain. This experience has also made me realize how much I've taken for granted my home church, Rolling Plains UMC. Since I was 12, Rolling Plains has been a church where I felt loved and cared for during times of celebration and times of sorrow. There are no language barriers and no feelings of separation, only love. So thank you Rolling Plains for being my church family in the US. Thank you for your prayers and your support and thank you, God, for this double blessing.



Asking special prayers for a young Spanish girl, by the name of *Grace*. She works in a near-by grocery store just around the corner from my house. We connected one evening last fall, as I was buying some bread, when I asked her if she'd like to learn some English, so in the coming weeks we're going to meet each week. Please pray for me as I try to be intentional about sharing the Gospel, while teaching her some English.

Prayer Needed For:

- Opportunities to share the love and light of Christ in Europe.
- Finding the right apartment, in the right location, at the right price in Alcala de Henares
- Safe travels to Zagreb, Croatia to train missionaries in team building and development
- Cognitive Coaching Training in Camarma, Spain at the end of April.
- Continued progress with language learning.



See the new plans for Casa Mitspa, a shelter for mothers and babies at risk in Romania. In collaboration with European Christian Mission, Casa Mitspa is a place of hope and security for young mothers who are homeless, under pressure to abort, and/or victims of abuse. Prayers and support are needed, so that these women can come to know God's love. <http://www.casamitspa.com/>

DONATE: ECMI-USA, PO Box 2217 Monument, CO 80132. (Sharon Graves # 4060)
<http://www.ecmi-usa.org/get-involved/give/>