

MAY 2024



Maranatha, Sisters & Brothers,

I read recently that the human mind processes roughly 60,000 thoughts a day. It is also reported that 75% of those thoughts are negative and repetitive. This means most people have a negative thought-life stuck on repeat like a song stuck in our head. During the month of May, we will be taking a deep dive into what is on our minds and how to cast off the negativity and focus on the things God calls us to think on.

“Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.”
-Philippians 4:8

Be honest. Is this what your thought-life has looked like in the last week or even the last 24 hours? Or, have your thoughts been flooded with fear, worry, anxiety, worst case scenarios, poor self-image, painful life outlook, and inevitable chaos? The list can go on and on. If we’re not careful, our minds can be a runaway freight train of bad, negative thoughts. How do we break the cycle and put our minds on “things above” rather than the troubles and happenings of this world?

First, we need to be conscious of the fact that there is a very real enemy out there who targets our mind to destroy us from the inside out. Satan is a supernatural terrorist. He will cripple us in our mind, with the threat of bad things, before any of those bad things actually materialize. He is a thief, liar, and a snake in the grass that doesn’t stand right in front of you fully revealed, but will instead sneak around like a lion hunting its prey, and then pounce when our guard is down and the opportunity is right. Guess where we are most vulnerable? That’s right, in our minds.

The Bible tells us that we are in a spiritual battle, and therefore we do not wage war as the world does, but with the supernatural powers of God that demolish strongholds and any kind of thinking that gets us away from God’s best thoughts. We will call that stuff stinking thinking. Here is the simple truth. Most of us don’t give much attention at all to our thought-life. We just let it flow as it may throughout each day. The problem with that is, without giving intentionality to what we are thinking the Devil and the influence of this world will have a field day with us. The reason this is so significant is what we think comes out of us into how we act, what we say, and how we interact with life and the world around us. Managing our thought-life has significant implications.

Only in the power of God can we demolish the occupation of our mind by the God of this world. A supernatural terrorist can only be taken out by our supernatural God. This means that whatever we think, ought to be filtered through the love and purposes of God. When was the last time you paused mid-thought and asked the Holy Spirit in you, “now is this thought mine, from the world, or is it God’s desire for me?” Again, most of us have never thought of doing this.

The Bible makes it very clear that we are to live “sober” minded. Meaning, we are not to ignore our thoughts nor have minds intoxicated by the things/concerns of this world. But rather, we are to have minds aware of the schemes of the enemy, while being clear and focused on God’s purposes in us. With God’s help, He promises we can take captive every thought and make them obedient to Christ Jesus. The love of Christ can control our thoughts, and we can have a thought-life focused on things above rather than being completely occupied by things on earth. I look forward to this time of worship and teaching as we all learn to better care for and intentionally focus our 60,000 thoughts a day on the good things of God rather than the negative things of this life.

Come on, God!



Pastor John



BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Maureen Dennis
- 3 Roxanne Dively, Kevin Franklin, Connie Hilty
- 4 Greg Miller
- 6 Aubrey Merlo, Kery Pettit, Lisa Wiseman
- 7 Paul Law
- 9 Don Longwell, Terry Osborn
- 12 Brianna Morrison
- 13 Ashley Ervin
- 17 Stephanie Lowe
- 20 Van Slack
- 21 Emilee Kemp, Chase Myers, Charlie Strickler
- 22 Sarah Pierce
- 23 Matthew Kahle
- 24 Chris Jarvis, Donna Talbot
- 25 Kathy Mohler, Mark Swauger
- 27 Joyce Krouskoupf
- 28 Tim Adams
- 29 Melissa Smith
- 30 Morgan Swauger

ANNIVERSARIES

- 4 Paul & Jane Law
- 16 Brian & Kim Spring
- 18 John & Erin Alice
- 18 Rob & Heather Matarazzo
- 24 Allen & Pam Deaver
- 20 Larry & Maureen Dennis
- 28 Zach & Mary Robinson



May 12th
Mother's Day
~
May 27th
Memorial Day
(The church office will be closed)



RP Youth
Mission  Trip 2024

We are in need of individuals to sponsor our youth and chaperones in prayer.

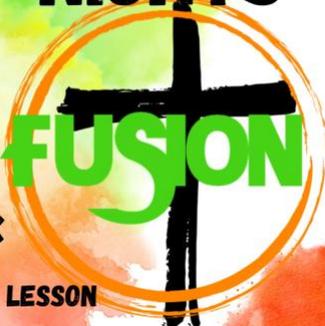
If you are willing to take on the responsibility of prayer for a member of the July Youth Mission Team, please let us know and we will give you a prayer card from one of our team members

Please see Chad Lawson or Danielle Morris for more details

THURSDAY NIGHTS
6:30-8:00 PM
 PRE-K THRU 5TH GRADE

VBS IN THE MIDDLE OF YOUR CHILD'S WEEK

CRAFT, GAME, SNACK, BIBLE LESSON




RP PICK-UP BASKETBALL GAMES

FRIDAY'S 5/31, 6/21, 7/19

7:00 PM

EVERYONE WELCOME
 DRINKS PROVIDED

DON'T WANT TO PLAY- BRING A LAWN CHAIR TO CHEER THEM ON AND CHAT WITH FRIENDS



GRADUATION

Sunday
May 26, 2024

Let's celebrate our graduates and pray for the path ahead of each of these special teens




LESSONS LEARNED
 AND WITH **GOD**

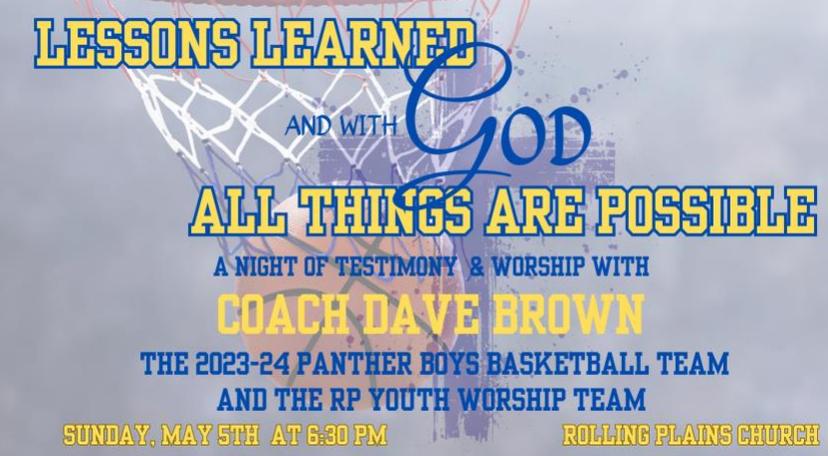
ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE

A NIGHT OF TESTIMONY & WORSHIP WITH
COACH DAVE BROWN

THE 2023-24 PANTHER BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM
 AND THE RP YOUTH WORSHIP TEAM

SUNDAY, MAY 5TH AT 6:30 PM

ROLLING PLAINS CHURCH




MAYSVILLE



**ALL PRO DAD
BREAKFAST**

**Thursday
May 16th
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.



GOOD DEEDS SERVICE CLUB PRESENTS

DRIVE THRU DINNER

With Chef Steve, The Professional Caterer

Benefitting Eastside Community Ministry Food Pantry



1. Choose your meal on the Pre-registration form
2. Mail Payment to Good Deeds at PO Box 3218 Zanesville, OH 43701 (Make checks out to Eastside Community Ministry)
3. Drive to the Celebrations Banquet Room (730 Putnam Ave) to pick up your food on 5/15/24 between 4:30-6:30pm



**May 15, 2024
4:30-6:30 PM**



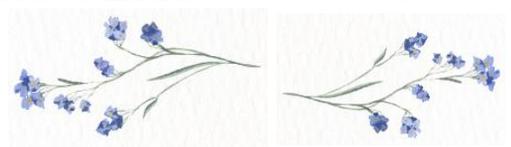
FOR MORE INFORMATION 740-454-7646



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Summer will soon be here. As we look forward to traveling and being with our families and friends please remember to donate blood. The next blood drive at our church is Saturday, May 4th from 8:00AM -1:00PM. Call or text Vicki McConnell at 740-704-9509.

Kindness
is in your blood.

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 \$17,894.50. 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 \$134,603.66. Praise God!




MEN'S BREAKFAST

**SUNDAY, MAY 5TH
7:00 AM
EMBERS ROOM**

All are welcome for a great time of food & fellowship!

What a tremendous blessing our “Made Whole” Women’s Event was! Approximately 120 daughters of the King came together to soak up love, encouragement, beauty, and great food. It was glorious! I had the distinct privilege of seeing everyone from the stage and could see eyes wet from tears, hands raised, heads down, looks of pure peace, and looks of total despair. Each of us has our own story. Stories of earth-shattering pain, turn of events that left us dazed and utterly disoriented, catastrophic news, isolation, loneliness, grief, and feeling hopelessly lost. The lie the enemy whispers to many of us on a loop is that we are alone. I know there was a time I bought into that lie hook, line, and sinker. And oh, what a lonely period that was.



Here’s a bit of Truth serum for you - we are NEVER alone. Jesus told His disciples in John 16:7 that it was better for them if He (Jesus) goes away because if He didn’t the Comforter (Holy Spirit) wouldn’t come. He said, “If I go away, I will send Him to you.” And again, just before Jesus ascended into Heaven, He reminded His disciples to “Remember, I am always with you, to the very ends of the world.” (Matt. 28:20b) In all the chaos, in all His suffering, He never stopped thinking of us and He wanted us to know we are never alone. And for those of us who also need love with skin on, there are Women’s Circles. Often, ending the loneliness is a matter of choosing to. I had a conversation with my daughter yesterday about this very thing. She is normally reserved and stays on the parameter. She decided to join a fellowship group at her church, and she said it has been life changing. If you are struggling, please consider joining one of our groups. In fact, try out several groups and get a feel for where your soul lands. I can tell you with absolute transparency that doing life with my Rolling Plains ladies took me out of a very dark and lonely valley. Now I not only feel Jesus in my daily life, but I get to love and be loved by some extraordinary beauties!

In the theme of our women’s event, “Made Whole,”... 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24 says, “May God Himself, the God who makes everything holy and whole, make you holy and whole, put you together- spirit, soul, and body- and keep you fit for the coming of our Master, Jesus Christ. The One who called you is completely dependable. If He said it, He’ll do it!”

Love y’all!



Shawn Fairall



SEO Emmaus Signs of Faith



Kelly Lee



You MAY be wondering what has been happening with the prayer ministry.

During Holy Week we planned and presented our yearly Journey to the Cross to enlighten our community on the experiences of Jesus as He died for our salvation. We really enjoyed presenting it, and we already have new and exciting ideas for next year. I hope you were able to attend and if not, I hope you will consider making it a part of your Holy Week next year. We want to thank everyone who volunteered their time to help us out. Nothing happens at RP without many hands.



After much prayer and consideration, I have decided to step aside as prayer ministry coordinator. Paul Law has accepted the position, and I will remain a part of the team and support Paul as he grows the team and our ministry in the church body and community.

We have already welcomed 4 new members to the team under Paul's coordination: Tim Collins (he was already part of the team; he just did not know it yet 😊) and Shawn Fairall; and teen members Maddy McConnell and Cody Serrell. We are so excited to have each of them on our team.

I want to make sure everyone knows who is on the Prayer Ministry Team, so you can request prayer from us if you see us at church or when you come to the altars on Sundays. We also pray for you, along with the prayer chain members, through the prayer request cards, phone calls and electronic prayer requests. Below is the complete list of members:

Brandy Weaver, Tim and Cathy Collins, Cody Serrell, Don and Mary Rice, Jeff and Joyce Krouskoupf, Kelly Lee, Maddy McConnell, Marsha Marsh, Pat Wiseman-Jones, Paul Law, and Shawn Fairall.

If you want to join the prayer ministry, please reach out to one of us or use the Text to Connect # and comment JOIN PRAYER TEAM.

As we notice the beautiful flowers, leaves on the trees, more birds and animals roaming the grass and sky, and warmth in the air, let us not forget to give prayers of thanksgiving to the God who created it all. We may not always feel like we have a reason to be thankful, but if we focus on the greatness of God's creation and what He can do with our difficult circumstance, those difficult circumstances will slowly fade and we will be able to see how God is growing us to rely on Him more, walk with wisdom and character, and live in hope.

Below are a few bible verses that may be helpful to memorize or pray this month.

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

"Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope." Romans 5:3-4

"Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank Him for all He has done. Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4: 6-7

May God bless you with wisdom and peace!

Kelly Lee

Member, RP Prayer Team



New Hope Full Gospel Church
3550 East Pike, Zanesville
will host their
Annual National Day of Prayer Service
at 7:00 PM

THE 73RD ANNUAL NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER
THURSDAY, MAY 2, 2024

LIFT UP THE WORD -
LIGHT UP THE WORLD
2 SAMUEL 22:29-31

MAY 2024



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
S.H.A.P.E CLASS FOLLOWING 10:00 AM SERVICE	LESSONS LEARNED AND WITH GOD ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE <small>A MESSAGE OF ENCOURAGEMENT & WORSHIP WITH COACH DAVE BROWN</small> <small>THE 2023-24 PANTHER BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM AND THE RP YOUTH WORSHIP TEAM</small> <small>SEBASTIAN MARTINEZ 677-5477 PAULINE JONES CHURCH</small>		1	2	3	4
METHODIST MEN MEETING 7:00 AM <small>YOUTH CONFIRMATION CLASS 9:00 AM IN THE YOUTH ROOM</small> <small>Youth Group 6:30-8:00 PM 6th-12th grade</small>	6	7	8	9	10	11
YOUTH CONFIRMATION CLASS 9:00 AM IN THE YOUTH ROOM	13	14	15	16	17	18
<small>High School Trip to Hocking Hills</small> Kenya Delegates GMC Gathering 5:00-7:00 PM	20	21	22	23	24	25
YOUTH CONFIRMATION CLASS 9:00 AM IN THE YOUTH ROOM <small>Youth Group 6:30-8:00 PM 6th-12th grade</small>	27	28	29	30	31	
	 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED			Pastor's Bible Study 6:30 PM	 6:30-8:00 PM	PICK-UP BASKETBALL GAME 7:00 PM

Exciting opportunities to serve and to learn are available!

There are still a few girls in **The House of Deborah** who need a sponsor. We'd love to have all 10 girls have godparents from Rolling Plains. Regardless of the sponsorship level you're comfortable with, will you please join us in co-adopting a young girl from India?

The Salvation Army is in need of folks to serve meals each day. This task takes 3 people daily and is just a 1 1/2 hour commitment. Rhoda King is coordinating a calendar. You can commit to this as often or as little as you're able. This is a simple, local way for you to be the hands and feet of Christ. Give it a try!

SAVE THE DATES

- Zanesville Circuit Delegate Visits:**
 May 19 Rolling Plains GMC
 May 20 Sixth Ave GMC, Lancaster
 May 21 Hocking Hills GMC, Logan

Bob Sjogren, Pastor and Missionary Speaking @ Several Events:

- July 20 Men's Mini-Retreat
 July 21 Speaking at both Services, Youth in the afternoon, and Evening Event

Church-Wide Local Service Project on Sept. 7th

New Women's Circle

Begins April 23rd @ 6PM



Contact Joyce Caldwell 740-221-7309
 Terra Armstead 740-704-6145,
 or text "SEW" to 740-265-3855.



Ladies Tea Fund Raiser
May 11, 2024 2:00PM - 4:00PM
Bethel Community Center
 126 Ontario Street, Zanesville, OH
 740-297-4795
 www.bethelzanesville.com

Please join us for a traditional afternoon tea, lots of talk and a silent auction. It's the perfect event to share with your mother, daughters, sister and friends.

WHY: Proceeds from this event will support the programming and operation of Bethel Community Center.

Tickets are just \$15.00. You can order them by calling Bethel at 740-297-4795 or Kathy at 220-203-5726. You can also purchase them on our website: bethelzanesville.com. Click on the "donate" button, and put "Tea Party" in the notes section.

We are so excited to introduce one of our sponsors:
Elegant Décor N Floral Design
 255 Front Drive, Zanesville Oh
 740-454-8186

They will be providing tablecloths to chair covers and everything in between. Call them for your prom flowers, grave blankets, seasonal flowers and wreaths and much, much more.



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

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Return Service Requested



You may never go to Africa...

You can experience Africa through our Missionary
Speaker: Rev. Wilton Odongo, President
Pro-Tempore of the Kenya/Ethiopia Provisional
Annual Conference of the GMC

**ZANESVILLE CIRCUIT-WIDE
GATHERING**

SUNDAY, MAY 19TH, 5 - 7:00 PM

Rolling Plains GMC, 3350 Moxahala Park Rd, Zanesville, OH 43701

**Join us for a picnic on the lawn.
Smoked meat, beverages, & table settings provided.
Please bring your favorite dish to share.
Praise & Worship ~ Puppet Ministry**