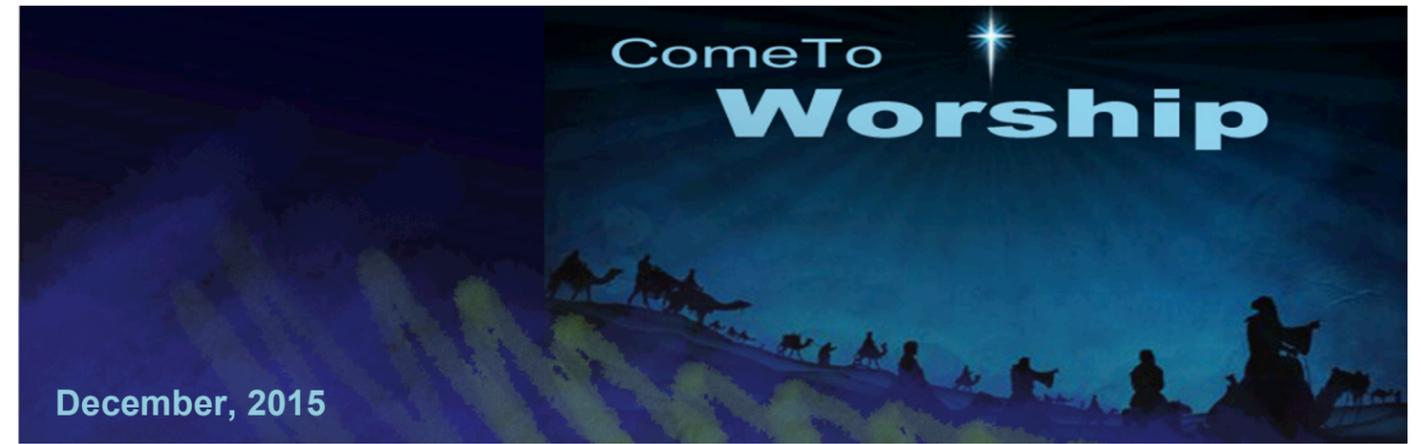


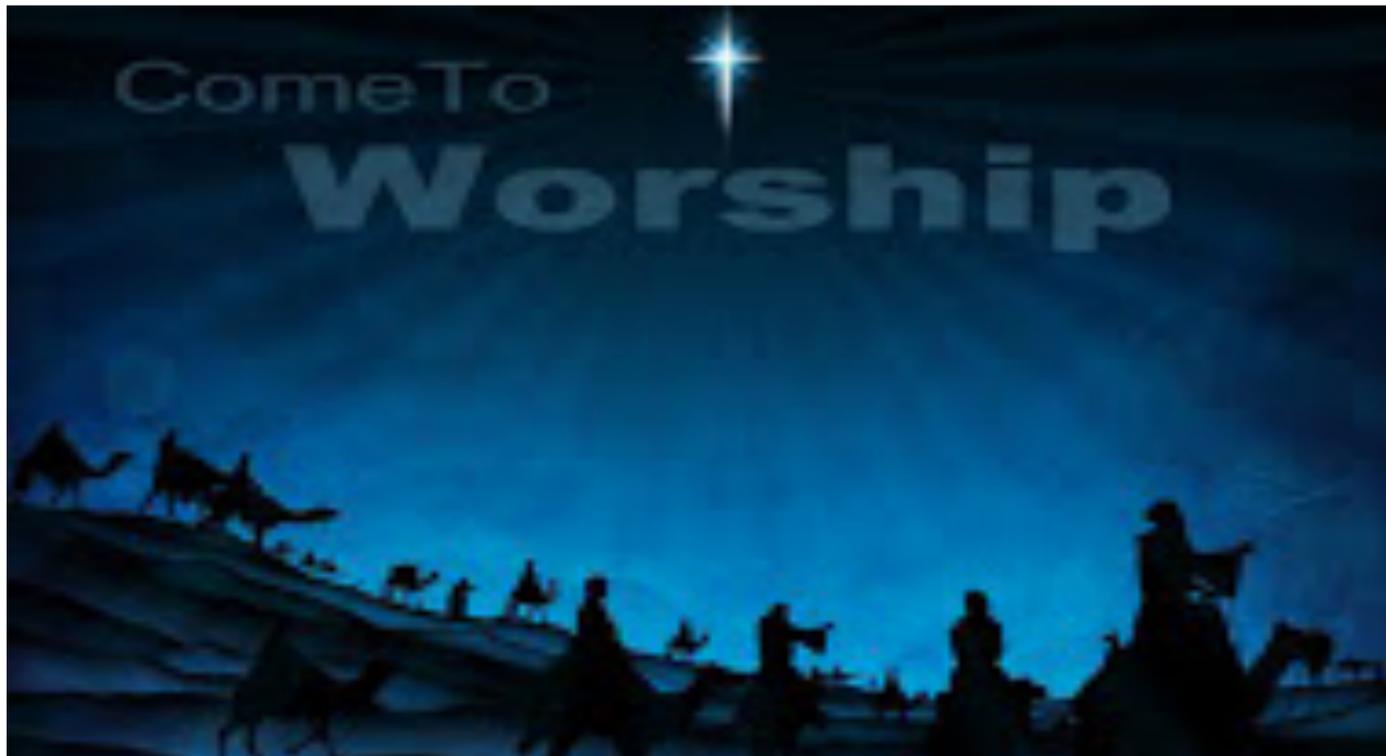
Rolling Plains Church
3350 Moxahala Park Rd
Zanesville, OH 43701
rollingplainsumc.com

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization
US Postage PAID
Zanesville OH 43701
Permit No. 447



**Join us on Sunday! 8:15, 9:45, or 11:00 AM and for
Candlelight Services and Communion on Christmas Eve,
5:30, 7:00, and 11:00 PM**



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

It's the most wonderful time of the year! It is the Christmas season that comes with food, family, gifts, cards, lights, decorating, parties, snow, and hot chocolate, but for those of us who know Jesus, we know that the wonder comes from the virgin birth of a Savior and King. The Son of God is born unto us and the Messiah has come. Praise God!

It is the season of Advent, a time where we prepare ourselves for the coming of Christ and the celebration of His birthday. During this time we are reminded of the journey of Mary and Joseph to get to the inn. We hear of the angels who appeared in all their splendor to the shepherds to share the good news of great joy with them. The Wise Men traveled from afar to Jerusalem, asking of the whereabouts of the One who was born as the King of the Jews. Here is what the Bible says:

¹After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem ²and asked, "Where is the One who has been born king of the Jews? We saw His star when it rose and have come to worship Him." Matthew 2:1-2

I love this! They came to the palace of Herod to ask for directions to find the King of the Jews. The reason they give for wanting to find him? They said they "have come to worship Him." Keep in mind, we are told that they traveled a great distance. As a matter of fact, scholars believe that Jesus would have been around two years old by the time they arrived. This would make sense, because they traveled an estimated 900 miles to get to Jerusalem. Now, they didn't hop into their car or fly Southwest airlines to get there. They traveled by foot or possibly on camel back. It would have been an incredibly arduous, long, and challenging journey to get there. They endured this all because they wanted to come to worship Jesus and to give Him honor praise, and glory along with their worship.

Think about it. Today society struggles to come to worship because our beds feel nice and warm or maybe because we have other things on our schedule that keep us from coming to worship. Often times we don't come because, well, we just don't feel like it. Yet these guys traveled over 900 miles and perhaps took years to do it, all to come and worship the Savior. Amazing!

My prayer for you and our church this Advent season is that we will be so awe-inspired with who Jesus is and what He came to do for us, that we, too, will come to worship – not just to church on Sundays, but that God would reinvigorate a lifestyle of worship in us no matter where we are. In order to help grow a passionate worship within us as a life-habit we are going to focus our Advent sermon series on the Wise Men's reason for coming to Jerusalem. Our sermon series will be called, "Come to Worship." During the month of December, including Christmas Eve, we are going to take a look at postures of worship that can assist us in having our hearts more closely tied to our adoration, praise, and awe of God in our worship of Him. We will learn how raising hands, bringing our gifts, pouring out our hearts, coming as we are, and bowing our knees all enhance our expression of love to God through our worship. After all, worship is loving God back. This Christmas at Rolling Plains, let's focus on the heart of our worship as we contemplate the birth of our King. As we do, let us "Come to Worship." It is going to be an amazing Christmas season!

Blessed & Barefoot,
Pastor John



Pilgrims on “The Way” to Santiago

If you love hiking or long distance walking, Spain has just the adventure for you. Spaniards call it, “El Camino de Santiago de Compostela.” In English it’s known as, “The Way of St. James.” In the Middle Ages, this epic journey of 500 miles across Spain and Europe was walked as a pilgrimage to the tomb of the apostle St. James. Nowadays, tens of thousands walk or cycle the Camino de Santiago every year. People from all over the world, for all sorts of reasons – sport, culture, or religion – call it the experience of a lifetime. Perhaps you’ve seen the movie, “The Way,” where actor, Martin Sheen, plays a father who walks “The Camino” in honor of his son who died trying to make the journey earlier.

In late September I had the opportunity to serve at a Christian hostel in the tiny Galician village of Ligonde, situated on “The Camino” about 50 miles east of Santiago, Spain. Along with my teammates; Mariano, Gill, Lemuel, and Rachel (pictured above) I spent one full week cleaning, cooking, talking, praying, and sharing Christ’s love in some very practical ways.

Each morning as the sun broke through the cloudy Galician sky, we opened our doors to hundreds of pilgrims coming down the road. We greeted people from all over the world, all nationalities and all ages – men, women, and families – with two simple words, “Buen Camino!” Many stopped in, happy to find clean restrooms, coffee, tea, and a place to rest their tired bodies. Some inquired about a bed for the night while others just wanted their Camino Passports stamped before continuing on with their journey. From those who decided to spend the night (the hostel can sleep up to 12), we gained the opportunity to get to know them at a deeper level. Our guests were very willing to share their pilgrimage experiences and reflections, often saying that their initial reasons for walking the Camino had changed over time. Late in the day pilgrims were invited to watch a movie about the life of Jesus. This activity, though optional, was watched by most, either out of interest or just to rest their weary bodies. It didn’t matter to us. Sharing God’s love and the Gospel was our only goal. At the end of the day we shared a communal meal with the pilgrims. With at least 12 to 18 mouths to feed (including ours) each night, my teammates and I prepared some fantastic Galician dishes. What a privilege to break bread with people from all over the world!

During this amazing week, I discovered 5 items that pilgrims must pay close attention to when walking the Camino. First, they have to watch for the yellow arrows. These arrows mark the path of the Camino. At times, I think our lives can be like this Camino. We feel lost when we can’t find the way and yet, how wonderful that Jesus has gone before us to mark the path! The second thing that pilgrims must pay attention to is the contents and weight of their backpacks. Several pilgrims shared that they had to discard some things along the way when their backpacks became too heavy. Isn’t that the same with life? When our lives get burdened down with excess baggage, we look for ways to lighten the load. Thankfully, there is Someone who can help us carry the load. Third on the list of essentials are bandages for blisters, wounds, and sprains. No one walks the Camino without some pain along the way and neither do we on the “Camino of life”. God doesn’t promise us a pain-free life, but He does promise that He will be with us every step of the way. The fourth item that pilgrims need is a good walking stick for support. Along the Camino, pilgrims have the privilege of meeting travel companions who support each other throughout the entire journey. Who are the people in your life that support you? The fifth and final item is a scalloped shell, given to pilgrims at the end of their journey, thus signifying a changed life as result of walking the Camino. When you look at the shell from above it looks like a hand, symbolizing the good works that Jesus did for humankind. Whoever wears the shell is publically expressing a desire to live a changed life by loving and serving others. What symbol do you use to signify a lifestyle that follows Jesus? Please join me in praying that the lost of this world will find their way.



Sharon Graves, Missionary to Spain, European Christian Mission International: sharon.graves@ecmi.org

December Birthdays

- 1 Brian Smith
- 2 Mathew Browning
- 3 Kevin Bailey
- 4 Sierra Browning, Lexa Freshly, Mary Ann Graham, Kathe King, Jason Valentine
- 5 Debbie Cooperider, Mark Hann, Shelly Hartman, Tom Landerman
- 7 Dan Ford
- 8 Brook Smith
- 9 Shauntae Bash, Judy Cornett
- 10 Tim Smith
- 11 Barb Handshy
- 12 Nancy Engert
- 13 Gail Bell, Zachary Reed, Matt Snyder
- 15 Holly Herron, Mike Welsh
- 16 Christina Crooks, Tammy Roush
- 17 Kaitlym Nykile, Brandy Stoneburner
- 18 Jackie Nabb, Linda Swauger, Pat Wiseman-Jones
- 19 Allan Boles, Mike Demp, Josh Johnson, JR King
- 20 Tess Davis, Sharon Stall
- 21 Terry Weaver
- 22 Jameson Curry, Pam Deaver
- 24 Dane Hunt, Chris Morrow, Linnie Slack, Carol Wilson
- 25 Kim Hearing
- 27 Rhonda Reed, Teri Westcott
- 28 Chris Rice
- 29 Marla Morris, Laura Walser
- 30 Toni Ransbottom
- 31 Andy Curtis, Joe Graham, John Henthorne, Chelsie Kim



December Anniversaries

- 1 Richard & Julie Darner
Brian & Shelia Smith
Terry & Sheila Weaver
- 11 Gene & Bernadine Swingle
- 16 Matt & Amber Stokes
- 23 Roger & Sandy Miller
- 24 John & Linda Kirkbride
Larry & Pat (Wiseman) Jones
- 28 Rod & Amy McDaniel
- 29 Steve & Shelly Dodge
Gregory & Betty Wilson
- 30 Roger & Carla Samson

DATES TO REMEMBER

Married People Event
December 5 – 6:00 PM

•
KidStuf
December 6 – 9:45 AM

•
Christmas Musical
December 20 – 6:00 PM

•
**Christmas Eve
Communion & Candlelight Services**
December 24 – 5:30, 7:00, and 11:00 PM
(Nursery available @ 5:30 Service)

•
New Years Eve Service
December 31 – 5:30 PM

If you have a birthday or anniversary that is not listed, please notify us by calling 740-453-4192 or by emailing us (office@rollingplainsumc.com) and we will update our database accordingly.

All children and youth under the age of 18 are automatically excluded from these lists, due to our Safe Sanctuary Policy, which has been put into place in order to protect our children.

This Season of Hope, Peace, and Love

Merry Christmas from the *Bethel Community Center* Board of Directors, Servant Leaders, and our Children and Families. We send our appreciation for the Gifts we have received from the Rolling Plains Church family throughout this year. Your generous giving provided financial support and “things” such as snacks, supplies, and books, which helped us to open our doors. In addition, and most importantly, you gave the gifts of **Hope, Peace, and Love** to children and families living in a challenging neighborhood and experiencing the crisis of poverty. Your outreach on a daily basis expresses the real meaning of Christmas in a way that truly honors and gives glory to Jesus.

We would appreciate your future support through gifts of food for meals for our Tuesday M.I.N.D. Mentoring Program at 5:00 PM, as well as toys and gifts for children, ages K-12, for our December 12 Christmas Dinner and Party.

We have recently posted two part-time positions: Director and After School Coordinator. Please help us find the leaders who will take Bethel to the next level by using your network contacts. For more information, email us at zbethelcommunitycenter@gmail.com or call 740-297-4816.

Thank you again for all the ways you have generously reached out to Bethel with your giving, your prayers, and your presence.

Kay Miller,
Director

I am taking this opportunity to wish everyone on the Administrative Team a “**Merry Christmas**”. Thank you for all you do. “May the God of Peace be with you.”

Larry Miller, Leader
Administrative Support Team

A LOCAL GIVING OPPORTUNITY

If you haven’t adopted one of our Maysville Students for Christmas, you still have time. Look for information in the lobby and sign up.

Helping Hands

Partnering with Maysville Schools, we have a local giving opportunity. We may:

- **Provide a 3# bag of apples and/or a 10# bag of potatoes for the food boxes** (75 bags of each are needed). These will be due Sunday, December 13th. Please don’t bring them before that date, as they might spoil. You can let us know by marking the back of your Connection Card, “3# apples - 10# Potatoes”.
- **Adopt a Maysville student for Christmas.** Gifts are due Monday, December 14th. Drop off gifts at the church on that day.

Children and Family Ministry



I just want to give you all a quick FYI, regarding a few policy changes in our Children's Ministry area on Sunday mornings:

The first security change involves the two classroom hallways downstairs in the children's area. These two hallways are now restricted areas and cannot be entered by anyone who does not carry a numbered ministry security tag. These are the check-in tags issued to parents once they have registered a child for Kids Praise that morning.

In addition to needing the security tag to go down the hallway, you must present that tag to a teacher in order to pick up your child. If you do not have your tag, even if the teacher knows you well and has for years, they are instructed to get me to sign your child out of class. Also, only adults will be able to sign in or pick up a child from our care.

Our second policy change involves student registration times. Registration will be open 15 minutes prior to service starting and 15 minutes after services start. After this 15 minute window, a sign will be placed at the top of the stairs stating that classes are in session and registration is closed.

Thank you for understanding and honoring these policies, as we continue to work to keep children safe while in our care.

Thank you,
Heather Matarazzo

Dates to Remember:

December 5 – Married People Event at 7:00 PM
December 6 – Kidstuf Family Experience 9:45 AM
December 21 – *Polar Express* movie night at 6:00 PM
January 18 – Skate Night at Lind Arena – 5:00 to 7:00 PM

Operation Christmas Child Update

Thank you so much to all of those who filled shoeboxes, who donated money for shipping, who purchased shoeboxes on line, who purchased the Greatest Journey books, who helped in putting shoeboxes together, and to all of those who helped during National Collecting Week.

These shoeboxes will bring so much joy and hope to children all over the world.

May God bless you,
Gene and Linda Hartman

[As we write this newsletter, collection week is still underway, and we have already received over 800 shoeboxes from our congregation alone! Way to go Rolling Plains!]



LifeBridgeOhio

LifeBridgeOhio is a Christian Community Development Association here in our Zanesville community. Made up of partner churches and ministries, our goal is to alleviate material, relational, and spiritual poverty. Our first joint effort is the opening of The Bridge Café. Located on Hazlett Court, just off Muskingum Avenue near Woodlawn, The Bridge Café offers excellent food and coffees for your enjoyment.

To assure The Bridge Café has a solid financial base into the future, LifeBridgeOhio is in the midst of the *Build the Bridge* campaign to raise \$50,000. Over \$20,000 has already been raised. A generous benefactor will match all moneys given from now until the end of the year. If you would like to donate to the campaign, please make your check payable to LifeBridgeOhio, with *Build the Bridge* on the memo line. All donations are tax deductible, as LifeBridge is a 501(c)3.

We are excited about what the Lord is doing in the Putnam area through Bethel Mission, Forever Dads, LifeBridgeOhio, and other partner ministries working together to do the Lord's work. We invite you to join us with your financial support as we launch The Bridge Café. The Bridge Café is open Tuesday through Friday, 7:00 AM to 2:00 PM, and Saturday, 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Parking is available in the lot at the corner of Muskingum and Woodlawn Avenues, and the Café is in big pink building. It's a great place for gathering with your friends for some super yummy food and coffee or for having a small meeting and being well-fed.

If you would like more information about LifeBridgeOhio or The Bridge Café, please feel free to contact me and I will be happy to answer any questions.

MEET YOU AT THE BRIDGE!

Kathe King,
Rolling Plains UMC representative on the LifeBridgeOhio Board
kathe@lifebridgeohio.org, 740/297-8121



December Prayer Challenge

Our Father God blessed mankind with a gift – the gift of salvation in the form of a child. We celebrate Christmas to remember, reflect, and rejoice at that gift. However, many have rejected that gift. How many times have you given a gift to someone you care for, and when they open the package – you know instantly – they don't want this gift. I'm sure it breaks our Father's heart when His gift is rejected.

The December Prayer Challenge is to be a "gift" for someone this season. To extend the love the Scripture speaks of, let our words have feet. Take the time not just to check off the list, but ponder what your neighbor, friend (old or new), or someone who has lost a loved one, etc. REALLY needs. When my younger son asked me last year what I "wanted" for Christmas, I told him 2 days – a day in the Spring and a day in the Fall – to help me get my home/yard ready for the upcoming season. That was the best gift ever! I have plenty of "stuff" that I don't need any more. Give of your time to help someone or to bless others. Let *you* be someone's Best Gift Ever. Just as the Baby Jesus became our BEST GIFT EVER, the gift of Salvation is immeasurable. Thank you, Father, for your gift.

This Christmas Season, may you be blessed and be a blessing.

Beth Jackson,
Prayer Coordinator



I WILL SHAKE HEAVEN AND EARTH Thus Saith the Lord Almighty

Do you remember Georges Houssney? He came to Rolling Plains Church during our unprecedented 11 weeks of "Perspectives on World Missions". Georges is from Lebanon, Asia (not Ohio) and is president of *Horizons International* in Boulder, Colorado. [*Horizons International* encourages Christians to be active in global ministry.] He has ministered in 75 countries. His ministry to the Muslim world is one of the unfolding exciting news items in religious circles today. On our TVs, we see Europe in confusion as to what to do with the thousands who are fleeing from Syria and Muslim lands. There are millions here in America who have no idea of American Christianity. It's very likely that thousands of these Muslim refugees now coming into Europe will be settled in America. You could have a new neighbor – prepare right now to learn to love them.

Georges Houssney's lecture that Monday evening (April 4, 2011) oriented us as to what God is doing in the final days of our human history. Speaking that night in our Perspectives classes, he was right on target about the Muslims being the unreached peoples group in the 10/40 Window. It is this specific reservoir of humanity that needs to hear the true gospel. Jesus said that every people shall hear His message before He returns and history takes a final turn.

I want you to hear Georges on the web. Go online to the Arvada Covenant Church (<http://arvadacovenant.org/whocares-2/>) and look for the message on September 6, 2015 under the series, "Who Cares?" After a brief overview of the phenomenal growth of Islam from 632 A. D. to becoming the largest religious group today, Georges tells what God is doing in the Middle East and in Africa. Just imagine what goes on as you watch your TV! Read Haggai 2:6: "*Thus says the Lord of hosts: Once more (It is a little while) I will shake heaven and earth, the sea and dry land: [tribulation] and I will shake all nations, and they shall come to the Desire of All Nations [the Messiah] and I will fill this temple with glory.*" In the last ten years, since 9/11, more Muslims have accepted Christ than in the last 1400 years!

In Cairo, the City Plaza was loaded with 2 million souls shouting, "liberty". One Egyptian pastor along with 70,000 Egyptians in a mass manifestation were raising and lowering their hands and shouting, "Jesus". There are 2 million Muslim believers in Egypt. The churches are filled. Iran has 2 million Christian believers. The TV antennas tacked to their apartment buildings bring in the gospel. In Algeria, North Africa, 150 pastors gather in unity. Forty years ago they hid in small groups in distant woods to worship. They told the government that if they dared to imprison Christians they would need enough jail space for 100,000. Now they are getting governmental permits to build churches. More? Try the web.

Here at the University of Colorado, where our granddaughter attends, there are more than 100 nationalities. The mission field came with us when we retired. Georges pled with the church to pray passionately. The Lord Almighty is shaking heaven and earth, right before our eyes!

Loren Anderson





Ohio State Buckeyes
vs.
Northwestern Wildcats
Basketball @ Schottenstein Center - Columbus, OH
Tuesday, February 9, 2016 – 8:00 PM Game

Join the Rolling Plains Journeers and Coburn Cruisers for an exciting evening of Ohio State (Men’s) Basketball! We are *not* limiting this trip to 60+ only. We invite one and all to join us to watch the Buckeyes play the Wildcats – in person! What a great Christmas gift this would be!

Our reserved seats are located on the Club Level, in the first four rows of Section 214. We’ll depart Zanesville by motor coach at approximately 4:00 PM and we will stop at Easton Town Center for dinner (on your own) before heading to the Schottenstein Center. We will have many dinner choices at Easton, from fast food to very nice sit-down meals. We will send you a letter or an email two weeks prior to departure, with the exact details and time. Depending on the length of the game, we should arrive back in Zanesville at approximately 11:00 or 11:30 PM.

These tickets have been pre-purchased and are non-refundable for our group, therefore we ask for full payment when your reservation is made. Refunds can be made only if we have a wait list or if you find someone to take your place. Twenty-four tickets will be available for each church. Please call Pat Wiseman Jones at 740-453-5849 for reservations or for questions.

Tickets are \$60 per person and price includes: Reserved Club Level, Section 214 Seats as well as Deluxe Motor Coach transportation, which includes driver and gratuity.

SoupER Bowl Update

Church,

Here are the final figures for the 2015 SoupER Bowl lunch. Our total revenue was \$16,430.11 and our total expenses were \$4,001.09, which left a balance of \$12,429.02 to be distributed among the five hot-meal programs, the Culinary Arts Technology Department at Zane State College, and startup funds for the 2016 SoupER Bowl.

Our attendance was down this year, compared to last year – 885 in 2015 vs. 918 in 2014. We think this was due, in part, to the change of venue, by moving from the Center for Seniors to the Zane State campus as well as a drop in advanced ticket sales.

I want to thank everyone who purchased tickets and Larry Miller, my number ONE ticket sales man. He really was a blessing this year, because I was recovering from hip surgery and wasn't able to man the ticket table. At this point, we will be holding the event at the Zane State venue next year, with the students from the Culinary Arts Technology Department doing the cooking again.

Again, thank you for your continued support for this worthy cause.

In His Service,
Tim Collins



Advent Conspiracy 2015

“The only sure remedy is a change of heart and the best place to begin is at the feet of the newborn Jesus.”
Chapter 4 Advent Conspiracy

It’s the season of Advent, the time before Christmas that marks a period of waiting and preparation. As followers of Jesus Christ, we are called to prepare for the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ through the reading of Scriptures that mark the Jews longing for a Messiah. Advent reminds us of our longing for a Savior. The word Advent comes from the Latin word *adventus*, which means “coming” or “visit.” In the *adventus* season, we keep in mind both advents of Christ – the first, in Bethlehem, and the second, yet to come.

All too often our *adventus* season is marked with increasing preparations of parties, shopping, gift wrapping, more shopping, more parties, more shopping, and the cycle continues until we are so tired that we haven’t taken the time to slow down and prepare our hearts, minds, and souls for the coming of the Messiah, the One who saves. Our hearts are unprepared, our bodies are tired, and our bank accounts are drained.

This year, we want to encourage you to participate for the first time, or to continue the tradition of participating, in the Advent Conspiracy. The Advent Conspiracy is the opportunity to live out the message of giving more *presence* with one another, and spending less on *presents*.

Advent Conspiracy was started in 2006, by five pastors who decided to make Christmas a revolutionary event by encouraging the followers of Jesus Christ to engage in authentic Worship and Giving at Christmas. It is a time to spend less on us and generously give to God’s people in need. It is a period to give more relationally to one another as God gave His Son to us at Christmas.

Rolling Plains 2015 Advent Conspiracy Missions are:

Feed the children in Liberia: Acute malnutrition causes 20 percent of infant death. *Continued next page...* decades of political unrest and corruption, 48 percent of children under age 5 are stunted. Stunting, a manifestation of chronic malnutrition, means not only delayed growth, but also a weakened immune system, poorer outcomes and possible death from normal childhood diseases, reduced IQ, and even irreversible brain damage. When nearly 42 percent of the adults of tomorrow have these conditions, the outlook for tomorrow is less bright. There are 5,000 severely acute and 20,000 moderately acute malnourished children under the age of 5 in the country’s capital, Monrovia.

We have the opportunity to provide a child with 75 to 80 percent of their daily nutrition for a mere \$.20. Yes, you read that correctly, this is not a typo – twenty cents will provide a child with 75 percent of their daily nutrition! For \$1.50 you can feed a child for a week. Your gift of any amount helps to reverse the malnutrition in the life of a child. You can make a check out to Rolling Plains and write in the memo line, “Advent Conspiracy Liberia Lifeline Christian Mission”.

(SAVE THE DATE: On February 6th we will have a “We Serve Eats Packing Party,” using the proceeds raised through Advent Conspiracy!)

Bringing the Gospel and Education to Refugee Children: The plight of the Syrian refugees is the worst humanitarian crisis in the world today, affecting more than 12 million people – more than those affected by

Continued next page...

Hurricane Katrina, the Haiti earthquake, and the Indian Ocean tsunami combined. World Vision is working to bring the Gospel and education to the thousands of displaced children.

There is a problem on earth with humanity and that problem is evil. Evil has lived inside of humanity since Adam and Eve, and was certainly played out when Cain murdered his brother Abel. Yes, evil exists, but there is something greater that exists – the Lion of Judah, the Prince of Peace – God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. *“In the early hours of the morning approximately 2,000 years ago in a Middle Eastern community named Bethlehem, the armies of heaven invaded Planet Earth and established beachhead communities of light. These communities have continued to be the scenes of the fiercest lighting, but the true light has come into the world and darkness can never put it out.”* (Michael Slaughter blog, “Do Love”)

Half of Syria's population have fled their homes and are living in camps with little more than the clothes on their backs. Millions are displaced and about 220,000 people have been killed in the conflict – half of them children. Children are among the main casualties of the Syrian humanitarian crisis, making up 5.6 million, or half of Syrians in need – about the same number of all children under the age of 18 in Texas.

Displaced and refugee children are vulnerable to exploitation, abuse, malnutrition, and illness, and are without the familiarity of their homes, schools, or communities. Millions have been forced to quit school. A gift of \$100 helps provide a learning program for refugee children, which helps to prepare them for school. Your gift of any amount helps to bring a sense of normalcy to scared, displaced children. You can make a check out to Rolling Plains and write in the memo line, “Advent Conspiracy Refugee Children”.



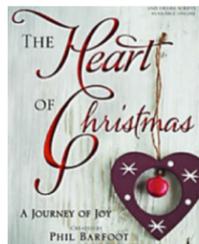
Building a church in Vietnam: In Vietnam, people gather in house churches in order to worship. These houses are not like our houses. Many of them are built on stilts out of wood and there are holes in the floor where parts of boards are missing. Many of these house churches are holding worship services with so many people, their lives are in danger because of the unsafe structures. This picture is one example of a house church.

We have the opportunity to partner with the Vietnam mission of the West Ohio Conference and UMCOR to build a church. We can build a safe place of worship for God’s people.

The amount of \$12,000 will build a church similar to the one pictured here – a safe place for the Gospel of Jesus Christ to be shared and spread. Your gift of any dollar amount helps to reach the \$12,000 dollars needed to build the church. You can make a check out to Rolling Plains and write in the memo line, “Advent Conspiracy Vietnam Church UMC”.



Conspiracy gifts will be accepted any Sunday, however, **Collection Sunday** will be the fourth Sunday of Advent, **December 20!**



Join us as we experience *The Heart of Christmas* on December 20 at 6:00 PM. The Christmas Musical features heart-warming arrangements written to take us on a journey through the Christmas story – a joyful story of a baby, a King, coming to save the world! Make it a tradition to bring your family and friends to celebrate Christmas in this special way.

2016 LEAD TEAM – Rolling Plains UMC

Come –Connect –Grow –Go

At Rolling Plains United Methodist Church, we seek to pattern our local church leadership after the New Testament model. Our Leadership Team is comprised of 12 people. The Lead team members function primarily as discerners and shepherds, and as such serve as the conscience and guardians of the church.

Acts 20:28 states, *“Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.”*

It is their responsibility to watch over and care for those who have committed themselves to their charge by membership, and to champion and protect the vision, mission, and core values of the church.

Introducing the 2016 lead team: John Alice, Nancy Amos, Bryce Bronner, Mark Burrier, Kim Hearing, Bob Herron, Kang Kim, Paul Law, Kay Miller, Kelly Morrow, Dave Rupe, and Tim Swingle.



United Methodist Women

As I sit here writing this, the wind and leaves are blowing, but God is blessing us with the gift of sunshine to warm our hearts. Thanksgiving will be over by the time you read this. Our bellies will be full and our hearts filled with the love of family and friends. This is such a blessed time of year, as we share time with our church family and friends. Special projects and giving in the name of the Lord is no more profound than in the next few weeks. It is in that giving where we all are blessed.

Our group is filled with the spirit of giving and quite busy preparing for the end of the year. We have showcased our Rada cutlery and craft items at several local bazaars. If you haven't caught us yet, we will be at the Maysville Bazaar on December 5th from 9 AM to 3 PM. All of our proceeds go to global and local missions. Thank you for your support. As a reminder to all the ladies, our group is now meeting at 4:00 PM on the third Tuesday of the month in the Embers Room. Please come join us.

As those holiday cards start coming in the mail, please think of our group. Don't throw them out when the decorations come down and are stored. Pass them on to us. We use cards of all occasions in our craft projects, which help with our fund-raising. Another man's trash truly is a treasure to us. It is a gift that will keep on giving.

One of our cherished members received her Wings recently. We lost a loyal member and dear friend when the Lord called Betty Taylor home. She held office in our group in the past, truly loved her church family, and always lent a hand in any way she could. We love you, Betty, and will greatly miss your smiling face and infectious laugh.

Wishing each and every one of you a wondrous holiday season, filled with Peace and Love.

Glenda Scott, Secretary
United Methodist Women