

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

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October 2016

M U L T I P L Y

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

When we worship, we are loving God back. There are many expressions of worship that include singing, praying, hearing his Word, and practicing the sacraments. However, one of the greatest expressions of worship we could ever participate in, is the blessing of being able to bring the Tithe and our offerings to God.

When we give to God it screams, "I love you!" That's because it requires a huge step of faith. We are putting our trust in and believing that God will be faithful. When you remain faithful in giving, He gets the chance to prove His faithfulness. One of the greatest joys we can ever experience is bringing God His Tithe. Notice I didn't use the word "give" or "our money". That is because you can't give what is not yours. All throughout Scripture, God makes it clear that the first 10% of our income is His, given through the local church, so we don't *give* the Tithe we *bring* the Tithe as an act of gratitude and worship to a God who has given us everything. Then He uses it to grow His Kingdom and change lives!

Tithing isn't about the church needing your money. It is a glorious act of worship that quite frankly brings amazing blessings and joy into our life. Take this thought into your heart. **What you keep is all you have. What you give, God multiplies.** The Tithe is a conduit for God's amazing blessing. This is what God's Word promises when we bring Him what is His.

"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it." Malachi 3:10 NIV

Now is this a monetary blessing? Don't limit God's blessings to wanting more money. That is not what this is about. The Bible tells us that when we sow seed into God's soil, we reap a "harvest of righteousness". How cool is that!? When we give, we are never more like God. God is the ultimate giver! He gave us His one and only Son because of His great love for us. Giving takes on His character. Giving transforms us from being self-focused to God-focused, from controlling to trusting, from being stingy to being generous, from being resentful to being joy-filled. It transforms our marriages, relationships, outlook on life, and, yes, our finances. What amazing blessings! What a harvest of righteousness!

You can never out-give God. Our great struggle as humans is that we look at our finances as addition and subtraction. To be happy, I need to add more to my stack; therefore when I give, I subtract from my stack. However, God's economy isn't confined to addition or subtraction. He is the God of multiplication!

During the month of October we are going to be reminded that we serve the God of multiplication. Our sermon series will be called "Multiply" and will culminate on **October 30th, Joyous Surrender Sunday**. On this special day we will be challenged by an amazing guest preacher to bring our commitment to God in this joyous and blessed act of giving. Please be praying, "What percentage of my income does God want me to give?" Consider taking the 90-Day tithe challenge. Put God to the test – tithe for 90 days and see that He doesn't open the floodgates of blessing. I look forward to this amazing season of life and ministry together, as we experience the God of multiplication.

It's all about the Journey,
Pastor John

Join us October 9th when we begin our new sermon series...

M U L T I P L Y

Haiti Mission Experience

The next Haiti Mission Team is now forming for January 14-21, 2017. If you are interested or have questions, contact Pastor Nancy (740-453-4192) or Tim Swingle (email: tjswingle@gmail.com - call/txt 740-819-0077).

Harvesting in Guatemala

This month, I would like to give you a quick report of my trip to Guatemala in September (2nd - 10th). It was one that involved little handwork, but a lot on good *gospelizing*. Some of our family members from Akron and Tampa Florida, five of us did the tour. There were setbacks on travel, but with a red-eye trip from Denver to Miami and then to Guatemala, the reunion was connected. Our nephew, Andy Anderson, who works with Word of Life in Florida, was assigned the Religious Life classes in the absence of the teacher. He challenged all of the older students to consider the stories in St. Matthew, Chapter 25 as they invest their talents, especially the three servants in verses 14-29. He made it very sure that without a relationship with Jesus in their future decisions, they would suffer shortages. The gospel was targeted as it was on Mount Carmel by the Prophet Elijah, "How long are you going to sit on the fence? If God is the real God, follow Him; If it's Baal, follow him, make up your minds!" [1 Kings 18:21]. Some of those students will leave the spiritual influence of the Juan Wesley School in another month, so this could be the last gospel challenge for a while.

Also I was given an opportunity like St. Peter in his second epistle (1:13) to stir up their memory. In this case, of their baptismal promises to run from sin and keep themselves secure in their covenant with God. The Holy Spirit blessed the exhortation, thank God.

Work-wise, we did set in toilets in the second building and built cupboard doors for the kitchen – no accidents. God is good – as long as we keep believing and keep walking: *God is most glorified in us when we are most satisfied in Him.*

J. Piper

Loren Anderson

United Methodist Women

The United Methodist Women hosted the Foothills District meeting on September 24th at Rolling Plains. It was a great success and good time for all. We are looking forward to our Fall Bazaars, which will be coming soon. Please come and join us as we have many items that would make great Holiday Gifts.

The next meeting for United Methodist Women will be October 16th from 4 - 6:00 PM in the Embers Room. All women are welcome for a night of missions and fellowship.

Cathy Speer,
Secretary, UMW

Baptism on the Lake

On Sunday, September 11, 2016 we held our **Annual Baptism and Picnic**. We enjoyed fellowship, good food, and fun. The highlight of the day was the baptism ceremony. We witnessed and celebrated the baptism of fourteen renewed lives, and several others remembered their baptism on that day. Following is a list of those who were baptized:

Luke Huff, Wyatt Roe, Lauren Parker, Josh Zinn, Nathan Welsh, Abby Byler, Nicholas Byler, Michelle Dobbins, Michael McCorts, Alexandra McCorts, Mychal Eden, Tyrell Eden, Brittney Carter, and Jorian Kinsel.

Joyous Surrender Sunday Is Coming! October 30th

Congregations that approach financial stewardship from a Biblical perspective do not view the money Christians give to their church merely as a way to pay their bills. Rather, such congregations see financial contributions as a way to help people grow spiritually in their relationship with God, by supporting their church's mission and ministry with a percentage of their incomes.

Our congregation's finance team has selected the *New Consecration Sunday Stewardship* Program as a way to teach the Biblical and spiritual principles of generous giving in our stewardship education emphasis this year. *New Consecration Sunday* is based on the Biblical philosophy of the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive. Instead of treating people like members of a social club who should pay dues, we will treat people like followers of Jesus Christ who want to give unselfishly as an act of discipleship. *New Consecration Sunday* encourages people toward proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question, "What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?"

During morning worship on Joyous Surrender Sunday, October 30th, we are asking our attendees and members to make their financial commitments to our church's missionary, benevolent, and educational ministries in this community and around the world. Every attendee and member who completes an Estimate of Giving Card does so voluntarily, by attending morning worship on Joyous Surrender Sunday. We urge people to attend who feel strongly opposed to completing a card. The procedure is done in such a way that no one feels personal embarrassment if he or she chooses to not fill out a card. During morning worship our guest leader will conduct a brief period of instruction and inspiration, climaxed by members making their commitments as a confidential act of worship.

We want to encourage everyone to participate in Joyous Surrender Sunday, through the Joyous Surrender Sunday Team and Lead Team members. We will make every effort to inform, inspire, and commit everyone to attend Joyous Surrender Sunday worship.

Thanks in advance for your enthusiastic participation in Joyous Surrender Sunday.

Blessings,
David Rupe, Lead Team Chairperson

New Leadership at South Zanesville Food Pantry

As Jeff and I take over the ministry of the South Zanesville Food Pantry, we would like to thank you so much for your continued support and prayers! We thank the Lord for opening doors so that we can come along side many who love serving and being the hands and feet of Jesus! One of our favorite verses is this section of Isaiah 6:8: "Here I am. Send me."

If you would like to be a part of this ministry, please get a hold of us. We would love for you to join us. Many hands make light work. If you're not able to be there, you definitely can be a part by praying and/or donating. We serve between 450 - 600 families per month. They are able to get some meat (most of the time), canned and boxed goods, produce (depending on the season), bread, and pastries. That's awesome, but they aren't able to get the necessities, such as toilet paper, napkins, soap, detergent (laundry and dish), toothpaste and/or toothbrush, or shampoo. Any of the above-mentioned items would be greatly appreciated. Thank you so much for being a part of this ministry.

Also, we want to add a "Thank you" to Steve and Jill Crippen and all of the volunteers for their 19 years of faithful service.

Jeff Krouskoupf -740.819.0500
Joyce Krouskoupf -740.819.3361 or szfp940@yahoo.com



Bethel Community Center
Serving the Putnam Community

Who Invested In You?

In August and September, we provided five different training sessions for Bethel volunteers and the Foxfire Schools staff. The goal of this training was to equip us to be better prepared to work with children and youth who are living in the crisis of poverty. A question we often ask is, "How do people break out of the cycle of generational poverty?" A key message found in the research of materials about the nature of poverty is that in most cases, three factors are critical to helping children and families move out of poverty: **education, skills, and the personal investment of one or more key people.** This information is encouraging to us at Bethel, because those are the components we intentionally put into practice. We intentionally tell our volunteers that their steady and stable presence has the potential to change the trajectory of the life of a child toward a hopeful and successful future. This investment may not show up for years to come, but it has potential to positively impact a child and also to change the world.

How You Can Invest

I have been asking people recently, **"Think back to your childhood and teen years. Was there anyone who personally invested in you to help you see your potential, and encourage you to pursue an education and to pursue your life purpose?"** I have been amazed at the stories I've heard. This tells me that each of us has the capacity to invest in children and youth, conveying to them they are children of promise. I ask you – whether or not it's your own child, a grandchild, a neighbor's child, or a student – to reflect on how you can intentionally invest in them. The key skill-set needed is to believe each child has great potential and to give him/her hope for the future. Pour into them by pointing out their strengths and rewarding their efforts. Focus on the positive. Set high expectations. Start with your own family, in your own neighborhood and yes, even by coming to Bethel to share the love of Jesus. Research shows that one caring person who invests personally in a child, helps that child to build resilience to overcome adverse childhood experiences.

You can invest in the mission of Bethel in the following ways:

Equipment: 10-20 metal folding chairs; a vacuum cleaner

Snack Items and Meal Provision

Items for Bethel Bucks Shopping Center: soaps, gloves, socks, toothpaste, toothbrushes

Monetary donations: Checks to Bethel Mission, Inc. - a non-profit tax-deductible organization

Volunteer for After School: Needs for Mondays and Thursdays 4:00- 5:00 PM.

Bethel 4H Club

Our 4H Club has started at Bethel. The "group" project for the fall is First Aid. Beth Jackson, Prayer Ministry Leader at Rolling Plains, is one of the 4H leaders. Rolling Plains' kids who want to get involved, come join the Bethel 4H Club,

Wednesdays: 4:00-5:15 PM, 126 Ontario St.

- **Contact our Executive Director Melissa Lichtner** at 740-297-4816 and have a conversation on how you can get connected and serve.
- Like us on Facebook. Visit our website: zanesvillebethel.org

Kay Miller, Bethel Board Member



Journeymen's Fall Feast

On Saturday, November 5, 2016 at 5:00 PM, the Journeymen will gather in the sanctuary to celebrate Fall. We will be serving ham and turkey with all the trimmings, including homemade pies. The cost will be \$10.00 per person. We will be entertained by *Timberline*, Gary Handshy's band. *Timberline* plays a variety of music that many of our age group will enjoy, and they will find themselves tapping their feet. This is our Second Annual Dinner, opened to all those who are 60 years of age and older. If your spouse is not yet 60, he/she is also invited to come with you.

As I plan this dinner, with the help of many others, I have finalized the trip to an Ohio State Football Game and a four-day, three-night trip to the Smoky Mountains. Watch for more exciting things that are going to be happening with and for the Journeymen.

In the Fall of 2017 we are planning a trip to The Black Hills and Yellowstone National Park. If you are interested in going, please see me. When we traveled to Lancaster, Pennsylvania, there were those who had a trip to Alaska on their bucket list. Can you imagine flying, taking a boat, and then a train to tour Alaska?

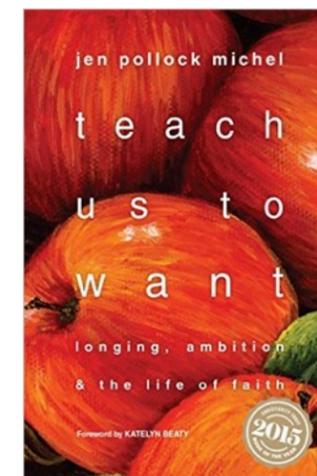
When I plan events for the Journeymen, it is my desire that we come together to know each other better and that we realize that our work on this earth is not yet finished. We are never "put out to pasture," but are to continue our work until God calls us home. Do you know that there are 184 people in our congregation who are of the Journeymen age? What a power force we can be when we pray, reach out to others, become servant volunteers, and show God's love in practical ways.

I am so honored to serve an awesome God and my church family. I covet your prayers as I continue to walk on my part of this journey called life. If you have any questions, please call me at 740/453-5849.

In His Service, Pat Wiseman-Jones

P.S. If you have a "bucket list", please let me know. I am always interested in getting new ideas to bring us together.

Women's Ministry Bible Study



Ladies, are you looking for an opportunity to fellowship & study God's Word with other women, but you don't have time to commit to a long-term Bible study?

All ladies are invited to attend an upcoming 5-week Bible study, *Teach Us to Want*, by Jen Pollock Michel. As Christians, we're squeamish about desire. Isn't wanting sinful and selfish? Aren't we supposed to find and follow God's will rather than insisting upon our own? Jen Pollock Michel will guide us on a journey of understanding who we are when we want, and reintroduces us to a God who gives us the desires of our hearts. That same good God calls us into a new reality, in which we seek first His kingdom and righteousness, and we discover our disordered desires burned away, while our truest longings are happily fulfilled and purified. The disciples asked Jesus to "Teach us to pray." This book asks, "Teach us to want." This study is open to all ladies, and you don't have to read ahead or prepare any materials for the study.

Mark your calendars and join us as we journey through this study and allow God to enter our hearts, minds, and soul. We will meet in the 2nd & 3rd-grade classroom at Rolling Plains from 6:30-8:00 PM on the following dates: Sunday, October 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th and Sunday, November 6th.

For additional information or questions, please contact Terra Armstead @ 740/704-6144 or dtarmstead@yahoo.com.



This time of year is always the busiest. It seems as though there is always an event, followed by the next event. It's football season, school is in full swing, and there is always something going on. It makes it difficult to plan Youth Ministry events, so I want to encourage everyone to come and check out our normal weekly events: Thursdays, at Tim Horton's before school (rides provided to Maysville); *In Zone*, after home football games at Maysville (we had 290 kids at our first one); or our normal Sunday 9:45 and 11 services and again at 6:30 in the evenings. We like to have fun, but we have grown a lot, both as a group and individually. I challenge you to branch out, join us, and put the hypocritical church mantra behind you!

With that being said, we now have something new to offer young people who are out of high school, in college, or out of college. People who are considered adults, but don't necessarily act like it or people who are at that stage in life, trying to find themselves while trying also to build something of themselves. This age group has been missing for a long time in all churches. I hope this helps: On October 16th at 1:30 PM, we will be going to Dillon State Park to hang out, play some disc golf, and hike. It's a Sunday, so we will meet up and leave after church.

Being a part of this new group will be a chance for you to meet new people who are in the same age bracket as you and may be going through some of the same stuff as you are. Take the leap, come and give it try!

Beau Dailey
RP Student Ministries



Cross Works... Mission in Europe



Finally, after three weeks back in Spain, daily routines are getting back to normal. The children have gone back to school, our church is back to regular hours, government offices are now open all day, and the temperature has finally dropped below 100. Hurray!

In the coming weeks, I'll be involved in some new projects as well as continuing with some others. One program I'm especially excited about is called Spotlight. This program, offered through our social outreach center, Asociación Vivé, provides English conversation classes to Spaniards who wish to learn and practice speaking English. Starting October 3rd, we'll be meeting every Monday evening for several weeks. This is a great opportunity to build relationships with our neighbors. Please pray that the character of Christ will be seen in us as we help participants to expand their English speaking vocabulary.

Our *Scrap & Chat* Spanish ladies met for the first time this fall on Sept. 13th at Asociación Vivé. We meet every Tuesday morning for scrapbooking, card/book making and other crafts. Currently, we are designing cards to go with "heart-shaped" cushions made by another organization supporting the needs of women recovering from breast cancer surgery. Please pray that my time with these ladies will be an opportunity for me to share Christ's love and increase my Spanish at the same time.

Throughout the first week of October, I'll be traveling to Itter, Austria to assist with the training of ECMI missionaries taking the Equip 2 leadership development course. During these 4 days of training, missionaries will have the opportunity to examine how God has been active in their lives to the present time and how He is preparing them for future ministry. Please pray that God will give participants' insight and direction into His plans for the way ahead.

- Pray safety and peace for our Muslim neighbor, Nagat, her 4 children, and their sudden move to France
- Growth in ministries at Asociación Vivé, Alcalá de Henares, Spain
- Safe travels to Itter, Austria, Oct. 5-10, 2016 for the Equip 2 training for ECMI missionaries.

Thank you! Your financial support and prayers make it possible for me to share the love of Christ in Europe.

DONATE: ECMI-USA, PO Box 2217 Monument, CO 80132 (Sharon Graves # 4060)

<http://www.ecmi-usa.org/get-involved/give/>



The Habitat ReStore is a discount Home Improvement Center that sells quality new and previously owned goods at discounted prices. The store is open to contractors and the public.

ReStore relies on the generosity of the community to sustain their inventory of furniture, building, and home improvement materials. The money generated at the ReStore is used in Habitat for Humanity's mission to build decent, safe, affordable and energy-efficient home for qualified families in Southeast Ohio.

Saturday, October 29th, 9 AM – 3 PM, Rolling Plains will be a collection point for the ReStore. You are encouraged to bring donated items to the parking lot. A list of appropriate items is available at the Welcome Center or through the ReStore. Items that are **NOT accepted** include soft goods such as bedding, clothing, mattresses, box springs, and electronics over 10 years old. All items donated need to be in resalable condition.

If you would like to help Habitat for Humanity and the ReStore, sign up on the Connection Card or email Pastor Nancy: nancy@rollingplainsumc.com. Shifts are 9:00 AM – Noon or 1:00 – 3:00 PM.



OCTOBER

BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Nancy Amos, Shawn Bash, Mari Nykile,
- 2 Jessica Murgittroyd
- 3 Darren Hann, Mary Morgan
- 4 Gina Jerles, Amy Smith
- 5 Charlie Daniels
- 6 Joe Daniels, Shelia Smith
- 7 Dave Ashford, Julie Darner
- 9 Mary Moorehead
- 12 Heather Gaskins
- 13 Marsha Archer, Tim Reed
- 14 Roy Kane, Ciera Raines
- 15 Leslie King
- 16 Peyton Morrow, Leigh Spring
- 19 Michelle French, Ruth Hartman, Nellie Krigbaum,
Carol Macenko, Don Sharkey, Todd Thompson
- 20 Kelly Bresett
- 21 Jan Harlan
- 22 Beth Davis, Rebekah Law, Patricia Watts
- 24 Doug Fink, Denny Mozena, Ryan Thompson
- 25 Kendra Kemp
- 26 Katelyn Mohler, Erin Wood
- 27 Shelly Dodge, Jeff Flinn, Bruce McConnell
- 28 David Birkhimer
- 30 Connie Browning, Roni Lowry, Pauletta Reed
- 31 Barb Knox

ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 Chad & Danielle Seastrand
- 4 Chris & Amanda Jarvis, Matt & Kim Snyder
- 5 Harry & Patti Strickler
- 11 Andy & Rebecca Curtis, Darren & Denise Hann,
Mark & Linda Swauger
- 16 Tim & Amy Smith
- 20 Kyle & Abby Trout
- 21 Ross & Linda Huggins
- 23 Steve & Jill Crippen
- 24 Tim & Tonda Adams
- 25 Kevin & Vickie Franklin
- 27 Harold & Judy Barnhart

Many thanks, to my special church family for all the cards, food, thoughts, visits, and prayers during my family's loss (my grandson, Christopher Hartman). Your love has lessened my sadness and grief.
Love and blessings to all of you.

Ruth Hartman

The gross income from our Corn Stand this year was \$23,908. This was about 12½% below last year. The rain, heat, and humidity no doubt had a lot to do with that. We will have more info in the November newsletter, after we have received all of the invoices for purchases made to stock the stand.