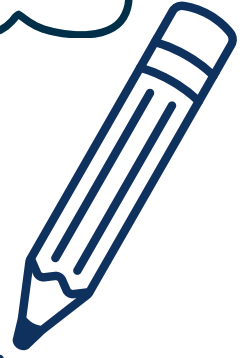




SEPTEMBER



Maranatha Sisters & Brothers,

When People Pray

The concept of talking to God can be one of the simplest things we can do. We don't need to go anywhere, go through anyone else, or make a long list of preparations. We can pray anytime, anywhere, in any posture, in our own minds or out loud. What an incredible gift that we have, 24/7 access to the King of Kings and the Lord of the universe. Yet, prayer can be a great mystery. What do I pray? How should I pray? Is there a specific posture or words that I should be using? Do I fold my hands, get on my knees, start with a "good morning, God", and end with an "Amen"? Does God really hear my prayers, and most significantly, does prayer really work? Amazing how we can complicate such a simple blessing God has given us. During our new sermon series beginning September 14th we are going to unlock the mystery and bring some simplicity to a powerful, prevailing, and growing prayer life.

Let me start you off with a statement that I hope rocks your world. We don't pray to God to get an answer. Wait... what? Prayer is not merely transactional. We pray to grow our faith, grow our relationship, and to put more of our trust and dependency on Him. God's greatest desire is a growing, loving, intimate, personal relationship with you. One of the most important aspects of healthy, growing relationships is communication. Thus, God has designed the power of prayer to strengthen and connect deeply with His creation to build supernatural and eternal relationships. This is why prayer is less an event with a beginning, "Hey God it's me, John", and ending, "Amen, talk to you later, God." Prayer is more a specific posture that requires us to stop what we're doing and solely focus on Him. Actually, prayer is an ongoing conversation with your Heavenly Father who is in the room with you everywhere you go. The Bible promises us that for those who believe and have received Him, that God will never leave you nor forsake you. God is with you always, even to the very end of the age.

SEPTEMBER 2025

IN THIS ISSUE

NOTE FROM PASTOR JOHN

SEPTEMBER EVENT CALENDAR

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

FAMILY MINISTRY INFORMATION

THOUGHTS FROM OUR PRAYER MINISTRY

MEN'S MINISTRY UPDATES

FINANCIAL UPDATES

WOMEN'S MINISTRY UPDATES

COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

LABOR DAY

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1ST
THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED
FOR THE STAFF TO SPEND TIME
WITH THEIR FAMILIES.

A word from Pastor John continued....

If God is always with us and never leaves us then the conversation and acknowledgment of His presence really never ends. This is the true heart of God's invitation. An ongoing God consciousness that keeps the conversation going all day long every day. The Bible says...

"Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."
-1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

In other translations it says to pray without ceasing. Does this mean we must spend every day and all day on our knees in our prayer closet? There are certainly times and seasons for such a practice of prayer. What it means is that since God is always with us, He wants us to talk to Him and interact with Him as such. When you're on the couch, He's there. When you're getting ready in the morning, He's there. When you're at work, at the store, in the car, He is with you. There's no need to introduce yourself or conclude with an Amen. He's never left you. Include Him in everything and seek Him in all things.

Share your day with Him. Give Him praise for all good things even when you're having a hard time seeing the good in something. Laugh at yourself with Him. Seek His opinion before you speak, do, or respond to anything. His Holy Spirit in you will guide you. The more you pray, the closer you get; the more intimate your relationship becomes; the prayers are shorter because you have an ongoing consciousness led by His Spirit in you. Share your struggles, disappointments, and difficulties. Once you've involved the Lord of the universe who owns cattle on a 1,000 hills, the Bible promises a supernatural peace and joy through all things. If you struggle with what to pray, the Bible says to pray about everything and worry about nothing. Give your cares to Him because He cares for you. Rather than complaining or ranting on social media, take your frustrations to God. Is there anything we shouldn't talk to God about? No! Pray about EVERYTHING!

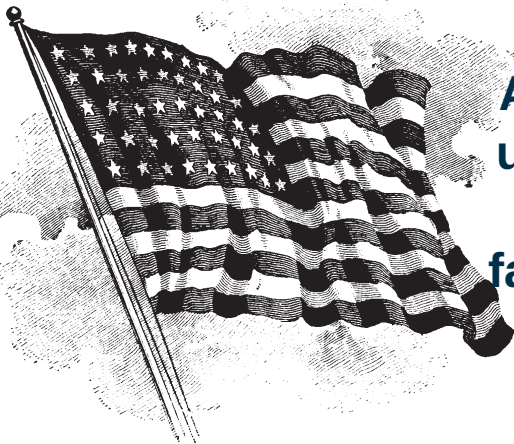
Can it be that simple, that we treat prayer like our best friend? That our eternal Father is with us at all times and therefore we are invited to engage Him at all times? Yes! It would be awkward to be with someone the entire day and never acknowledge their presence or speak to them. During this sermon series we are going to simplify prayer. Pray about everything, pray continually, and keep the conversation going. Because something powerful happens when God's people pray. Let's discover it together.

Come on, God!



Pastor John

PATRIOT DAY
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11TH



**God bless
America and let
us never forget!
Pray for those
families who will
never be the
same.**

BURN THAT NOTE:

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. From a \$1.6 Million build you have now paid it down to \$41,868.53. Praise God!

SEPTEMBER

BIRTHDAYS

3 Tawna Alice, Robert Allard,
Sharma Brown, Joanne Murphy

4 Pat Kelly

7 Kevin Valentine

8 Jenna Cannon, John Kirkbride,

Marlee Lawson, Jim Reed

11 Alexia Kahle, David McConnell

12 Nancy Smith

13 Rod McDaniel, Roger Smith

14 Imelda Scurlock

15 Nancy Barker, Linda Huggins

16 Mark Burrier, Amy Frame

17 John Alice

18 Janet Coleman

19 Micki Curry, Phil Kinner

20 Nora Holtsclaw

21 Anita Allard, Mary Ford,

Amy Haslett, Sandy Thompson

22 Laurie Kelly

24 Kris Kemp

25 Kate Meyers, Paige Webster

27 Tonda Adams, Kathy Lavy

28 Lisa DeLong

29 Joyce Dixon

30 Keely Kirkbride, June Smith

ANNIVERSARIES

1 Mike & Janie Moore

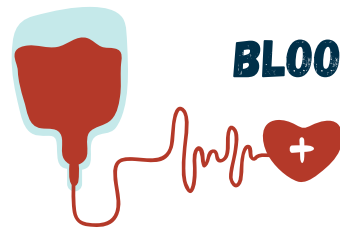
8 Jason & Marian Valentine

12 Dick & Karen Newlon

18 Bruce & Vicki McConnell

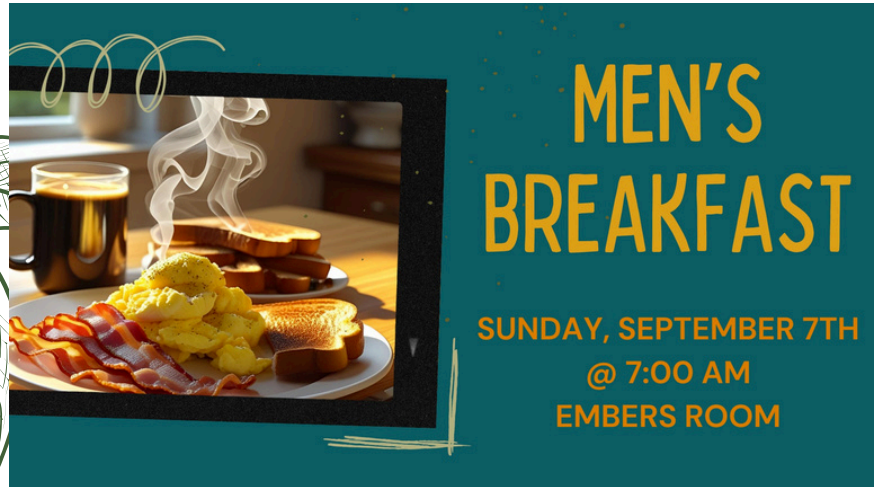
19 Jeff & Stephanie Downing

24 Matthew & Stefanie Kahle



BLOOD DRIVE

Summer is almost over, school has started and we will be thinking about the holidays. Remember the upcoming blood drive on Saturday, September 6th. The need for blood remains constant. Call or text Vicki McConnell 740-704-9509, or go to [REDCROSS.ORG](https://www.redcross.org).



MEN'S BREAKFAST

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH
@ 7:00 AM
EMBERS ROOM

Big Daddy Weave

Let It Begin Tour

[View All Concerts](#)

Tickets \$25.00



Cornerstone Full
Gospel Church

4509 Salt Creek Dr
Duncan Falls, OH 43734



Oct 23, 2025

7:00 PM EDT



RP FAMILY



INZ  **NE**

9:30 PM-midnight following Maysville home football games
\$1.00 Admission, Concession items available for purchase
SEPTEMBER 5TH & 26TH , OCTOBER 10TH & 24TH

InZone is open to students 6th-12th grade.
Students under the age of 16 must be signed in and signed out of InZone by a parent or responsible adult.
Students 16-18 years old may sign THEMSELVES in and out of InZone
Call Rolling Plains Church at 740-453-4492 for more information



AS OUR RP FAMILY
CONTINUES
TO GROW

WE ARE IN NEED OF
MORE NURSERY AND
PRE-K VOLUNTEERS

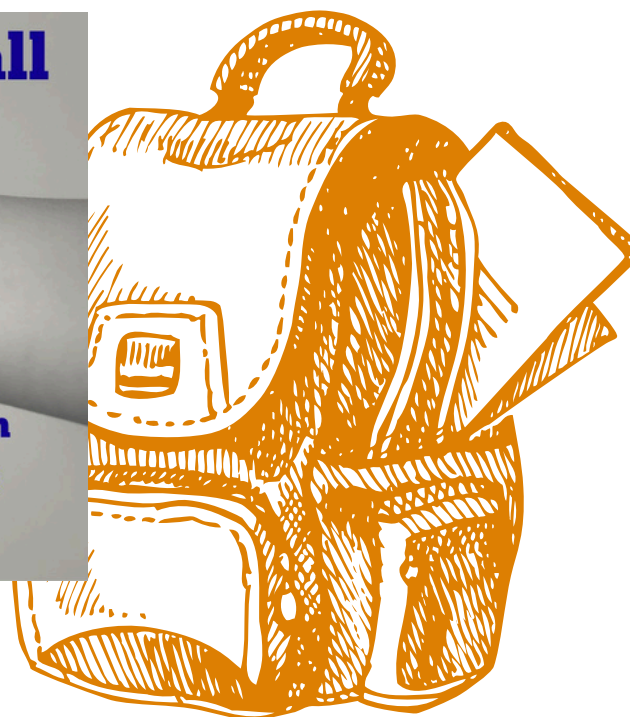
Contact Jennifer Lawson to be added to
the monthly schedule

Expected Parents Prayer Wall

We want to be praying and supporting
your growing family.

Please let us know if you
are adding to your family.

Stop by either the Nursery or Kids Registration
Desks and let them know you would like to be
added to our wall.



MINISTRY



PLEASE STOP AND CHECK OUT OUR NEW
PARENT CENTER
WALL IN THE RP KIDS LOBBY



THURSDAY NIGHTS
6:30-8:00 PM



BEGINNING
SEPTEMBER 4TH
PRE-K THRU 5TH GRADE
LIKE VBS EVERY WEEK!



NEW GROUPS
FORMING
SEPTEMBER
4TH.
SEE YOU
THURSDAY
NIGHTS!



Fresh Start

Thursday mornings
at 6:45 AM



Teens (6th- 12th grade) stop in for
devotion, discussion, and donuts
at Tim Horton's South.
Fresh Start is led by
Paul Law

Word of the month: Transform

“Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.”
Romans 12:22 (NIV)

Transformation isn't just about change—it's about becoming something new. In Christ, we're not simply improved versions of ourselves; we're made new from the inside out. The world pressures us to conform, to fit into molds of success, beauty, and worth. But God calls us to something higher: to be transformed by His truth, His Spirit, and His love.

Most of us navigate many emotions as we navigate the earthly journey and continue to transform to be Christlike in every aspect of our daily walk. Some days the emotions can consume our thoughts; some days we allow the enemy to control our emotions, but when we surrender our emotions to our heavenly father, He will give us strength.

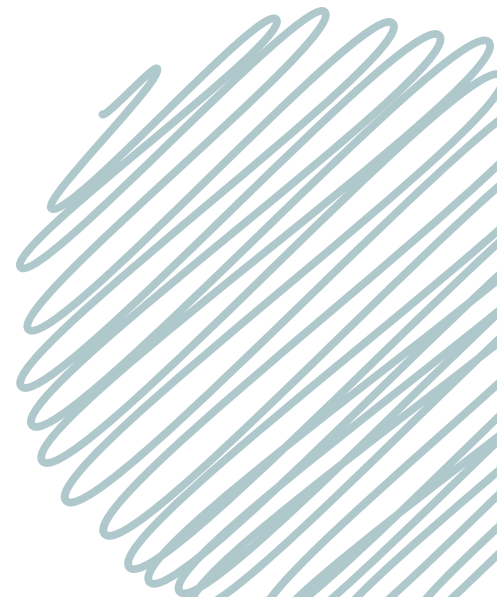
If you are seeking an opportunity to connect with other sisters through Christ and untangle your emotions with faith, mark your calendar and join us for the next Women's Brunch on Saturday, September 20th at 10am - 12:30pm. Tickets are \$5 and will be on sale in the church lobby beginning Sunday, August 31st.

The Women's Ministry would also like to invite you for a night of fellowship and worship. Big Daddy Weave will be in concert at Cornerstone Full Gospel Church in Duncan Falls on Thursday, October 30th at 7pm. Use QR Code to purchase tickets which are \$25.00.

Thank you,
Terra Armstead



At this event, we will also be doing a “devotional swap” as we have done at previous events. If you have any devotional books that you no longer use, please consider donating them to the swap. You may bring them to the church anytime. Just make sure they are marked for the Women's Event. On the day of the brunch, everyone will get a chance to look through the devotionals that are available and take one home.



MISSIONS INITIATIVE

Mission trips are about sharing the message and love of Jesus while building relationships. These snippets will give you a small peek into our last trip and hopefully encourage you to join us as we strive to follow Matthew 28:19.

The emotion of something as simple as the gift of a Bible to Pastor Steve and his wife. How important it is to come alongside those in ministry to give a refilling of hope and appreciation.

-Tim Swingle



I enjoyed getting to know Bob at the church that we painted and hearing his stories of life and faith and ministry in some of the remotest parts of our nation. It was a reminder to me that God is present and moving everywhere. It was also such a blessing to get to know everyone on our team in a deeper manner and to have a greater appreciation for each other and every person on our team. -Pastor John



It was inspirational to talk with Bob, a man in his 80's, who helped over 100 Russian Orthodox Christians become American citizens over 50 years ago. His work will have a multi-generational impact for years to come. - Laurie Kelly



God speaks when we take time to listen. Psalm 46:10 says, "Be still, and know that I am God." This trip helped me slow down and refocus my heart on Him. It was such a blessing in so many ways—from the deepening of relationships with the amazing team He brought together, to the inspiring people we met along the way, all while taking in the breathtaking beauty of Alaska. God is so good. He is always more than enough. - Becka McConnell

It was a blessing to see how we inspired the leaders of our host church as they stepped up and committed to completing parsonage repairs that we started, getting them through the difficult part. - Pat Kelly



It was amazing to see how God can take the parts of us that we deem too broken or weak to use, and, when we open up to Him, shine His love so brilliantly to others. And how when you are at the complete end of yourself, His loving arms reach in and support you, sometimes in the form of outpouring of love from others, reminding you that you have a purpose, and He has a plan.

I also learned that, though construction and physical labor give an outlet for creating communication that can lead to community and sharing God's love, so can building a puzzle, or playing a game, or gently coaxing food down, smiling into warm eyes that hold a lifetime of memories.

We can shine the love of Jesus WHEREVER we are and WHATEVER we are doing. Oh, what a world we would live in if we could learn to take the time to shine that light into others.

- Debbie Swingle



MISSIONS INITIATIVE

FLOOD BUCKETS FOR TEXAS:

WOW! WITH ALL THE SUPPLIES THAT ROLLING PLAINS DONATED, ALONG WITH SUPPLIES DONATED FROM PERRY, GUERNSEY, AND MUSKINGUM COUNTY CIRCUIT CHURCHES, WE HAD OVER \$5,000.00 WORTH OF SUPPLIES DROPPED OFF AT OUR CHURCH.



WITH THE HELP OF 15 PEOPLE AND IN 35 MINUTES 61 COMPLETED BUCKETS WERE READY TO BE ON THEIR WAY TO HELP THOSE DEVASTATED BY FLOODING.

THANKS FOR YOUR SERVICE ON THIS PROJECT.

WAY TO GO CHURCH!



SEPTEMBER 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 LABOR DAY CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	2 QUILTING AND SEWING 6:00 PM	3	4 Fusion 6:30-8:00 PM pre-K-5th grade Youth Small Groups 6th-12th grade Young Adult Small Group 18-25 year olds 6:30-8:00 PM	5 INZ NE small group meet every second Friday during the month of September	6 BLOOD DRIVE 
7  METHODIST MEN MEETING 7:00 AM Baptism Picnic	8 NEEDLE CRAFTERS FOR CHRIST 6:00-8:00 PM	9	10	11 Patriots Day Fusion 6:30-8:00 PM pre-K-5th grade Youth Small Groups 6th-12th grade Young Adult Small Group 18-25 year olds 6:30-8:00 PM	12	13
14 Youth Group 6:30-8:00 PM 6th-12th grade	15 NEEDLE CRAFTERS FOR CHRIST 6:00-8:00 PM	16 	17	18 Fusion 6:30-8:00 PM pre-K-5th grade Youth Small Groups 6th-12th grade Young Adult Small Group 18-25 year olds 6:30-8:00 PM	19	20 WOMEN'S MINISTRY BRUNCH
21 Youth Group 6:30-8:00 PM 6th-12th grade	22 NEEDLE CRAFTERS FOR CHRIST 6:00-8:00 PM	23	24	25 Fusion 6:30-8:00 PM pre-K-5th grade Youth Small Groups 6th-12th grade Young Adult Small Group 18-25 year olds 6:30-8:00 PM	26 INZ NE small group meet every second Friday during the month of September	27 Praying over the city  8:00 AM
28 Youth Group 6:30-8:00 PM 6th-12th grade	29 NEEDLE CRAFTERS FOR CHRIST 6:00-8:00 PM	30 QUILTING AND SEWING 6:00 PM	RP Discovery Class 6:30-8:00 PM August 11th, 18th & 25th			



Greetings from the Rolling Plains GMC prayer team.

I really enjoy the devotions that I download from an Australia organization. I copied a portion for you.

Moralisers are faithful to remind us that King David's life was all downhill after Bathsheba-gate...The baby of the illicit union died. He never recovered his moral stature. His sons fought over succession. God deprived him of his grandest dream: building the temple—too much blood on his hands! But take another look at the story. The opening words of the book of Proverbs silence such sanctimony: The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel (Proverbs 1:1). Solomon, the fountain of God's wisdom, sprang from two people who had adulterated their person and privilege. For all David's heroic feats: giant-killing, kingdom-consolidating, hymn writing, his single greatest achievement was the son of his old age. Solomon is a monument of contradictions to all the naysaying moralists of the ages. Where else did Solomon get his insight, far-sight, and foresight, but at the knees of two broken souls mended by the fires of forgiveness and given the grace of a second chance...you can begin again after your Bathsheba-gate....

I have really enjoyed and have gleaned a lot from our sermon series "Facing your Giants." We all have giants in our lives - bad experiences and memories, present life pressures, and of course, the "what if's" of our futures. But the Bible says in Mathew 6:27 "can all your worries add to a single moment to your life?" Philippians 4:4-7 says: "Always be full of joy in the Lord... 5 let everyone see that you are considerate in all you do...6 do not worry about anything; instead, pray about it. Tell God what you need and thank Him for all He has done. 7 then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds everything we can understand..." So--- those "past things" - give them up, surrender them, and when they come back- surrender them again. And the future? Well, the future is His. Matthew 6:34 "...Do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself..." We must trust in God. And today? Read His word daily and pray. As Kelly wrote last month "pray without ceasing." Hebrews also says to motivate one another. Proverbs 27:17 "says as iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another." Rolling Plains prayer team is always available and would be happy to talk and pray with you.

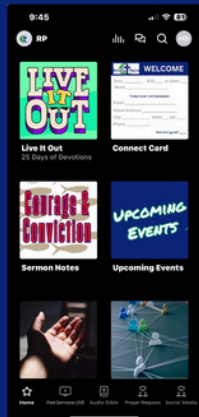
Being raised in a Methodist church as a kid and young adult, raising our hands, or going up to the altar... Oh, we just did not do that. I am now 71 years old, and I still struggle with raising my arms or going up front for prayer. Why??? I can praise God, listening to Pandora while operating a tractor in the field! It has been a "giant" for me... but one stone. One small stone. In John 5:6, Jesus asked the paralyzed man, "Do you want to get well?" Then we think, OH... what is the cost? How would that change my life routine? What would I have to give up? How long does it take before a problem becomes a way of life. "It's just the way it is." Oh! Just one small stone, and we can kill that giant. Let us get up, pick up our mat and walk to the altar and cast our stone. We could even raise our arms on the way up.

May God bless you-Keep praying and growing in Christ!

Gerry Kimpel
Prayer Ministry Team Member

DOWNLOAD THE RP APP

FOR



- * Upcoming Events
- * Sermon Notes
- * Connecting With Others
- * Connection Time Information
- * Watch previous Worship Services



Worship Choir News

The Rolling Plains Worship Choir will begin practices for the Christmas musical, Thursday, September 25th at 7:00 pm in the Choir Room located at the end of the hallway past the kitchen. Anyone and everyone age 14 and older who loves to worship through song are welcome!!

Any questions, feel free to reach out to me through text at 740-408-2465.

With a song in my heart,

Susan Reese,
Worship Choir Director



DON'T FORGET: MEN'S BREAKFAST ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH AT 7:00 IN THE EMBERS ROOM.

WE ARE ALSO SCHEDULED TO SERVE THE WOMEN'S MINISTRY BRUNCH ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH. WE WILL BE DOING SOME PREP ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19TH.

QUESTIONS? CONTACT PHIL KINNER (740-683-0964).

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

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

Return Service Requested

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH
@ 4:00 PM



RP FAMILY PICNIC
& BAPTISM

@ Lake
Isabella

Food,
Fellowship,
& Fun!

Meat, tableware,
& drinks provided.
Please bring a covered
dish to share.

