



July

Faith & Freedom

Maranatha Sisters and Brothers,

As I wrote in last month's newsletter, we, as Rolling Plains Church, are celebrating together 250 years of faith, freedom, and America. What a very special time this is to be so very grateful to our God of all the blessings we have. One of the blessings to be grateful for is a relationship with Him and to live in a country with freedoms like no other. The concept of freedom is so very powerful. When we hear William Wallace in the movie *Braveheart* cry, "Freedom!" it gives us chills. As we consider the men and women of our nation who have given their lives for our freedom, it stirs the heart with gratitude. To reflect on the birth of our nation and the strength, fortitude, and absolute gall it took of our founding fathers is inspiring. Clearly, as we celebrate the 4th of July, the overwhelming sense of freedom brings gravity to the moment. Especially this year as we celebrate 250 years of freedom. But what is true freedom and what is the source of freedom?

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery. -Galatians 5:1

There is no greater source of freedom than the blood of Christ poured out on the cross that defeated hell, death, sin, and the devil himself. By that one sacrifice, for those who believe, we have been set free, for all time, from the law of sin and death. We are no longer burdened by a yoke of slavery to our sinful nature and all its desires and temptations. When Christ enters our life, the same Spirit of the living God that raised Him from the dead, enters into our life. With His presence comes the power of canceled sin, so that we are able to sin no more. With the help of God's power, we can say no to temptation and allow His holy character to steadily take over our life and rid our body of willful sin.



THE CHURCH OFFICE
WILL BE CLOSED ON
FRIDAY, JULY 3RD



A word from Pastor John continued....

What Freedom, to no longer be burdened by the weightiness of sin and disobedience, but to rather live in obedience to Christ. We trade the yoke of slavery to sin, for Christ's yoke of abundance. Christ's yoke is easy, and His burden is light. We live set free, no longer burdened or weighed down by guilt, shame, and emptiness, but rather we are now burdened with the Great Commandment and Great Commission. We now live for the love of God and to spread this good news throughout the world. What a blessed burden to carry. What a yoke of freedom to celebrate!

This yoke of freedom doesn't allow us to live however we want. No! Rather, yoked to God in Christ Jesus we become His bondservant called to live in utter obedience to Him. As we become a slave to Christ rather than to sin, we begin to truly experience the peace, joy, and hope of living the Godly life we were designed and created for. Rather than being a temple of sin and a tool of the devil, we now become a temple of the Holy Spirit that dwells in us and leads us to be an instrument of the Kingdom of Heaven. What freedom!

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.
-2 Corinthians 3:17

God is the true source of ultimate freedom and wherever He is given reign and recognized as Lord, He will set every captive free. This is what the Founding Fathers of our Nation ultimately recognized. True freedom does not come from man or the monarchy, and therefore no man can take it away. Human rights and our freedom come from the Lord our God. Wherever the Spirit of the Lord is revered, there is true freedom. And those nations whose God is the Lord will be blessed with a freedom only He can deliver. Friends, let us never take Christ's sacrifice and the incredible freedom it gives us for granted. Live for Him with your whole life and love Him with all your heart, mind, and soul.

At the same time, let us never take our Nation's freedoms for granted nor the sacrifices of men and women it took to achieve them. Rather let us stand fast and hold firmly to America's true source of human rights, freedom, and blessings. May we stand firm in our faith in Christ and the faith in Him that founded this wonderful nation. May we cry as William Wallace did, as our Founding Fathers did, and so many others who sacrificed so much, "You may take our lives, but you will never take our FREEDOM!" Happy 4th, everyone!

Come on, God!



Pastor John

ROLLING PLAINS KITCHEN CABINETS ARE BEING RENEWED.
WE WILL NEED MANY HANDS TO MAKE LIGHT WORK OF ALL THE DISHWASHING
REQUIRED ONCE THE DUST SETTLES.
PLEASE STOP BY THE WELCOME CENTER TO LET US KNOW IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN
THE CLEANUP CREW.

JULY

BIRTHDAYS

13 Kelsie Bryan
4 Lori Smith
5 Angela Morosko
6 Amanda Jarvis
7 Danielle Morris
8 Kelly Cottrill, Cameron Moran
9 Lee Martin
11 Jeff Krouskoupf, Jane Moody
13 Sam Rupe
14 Steele Shreve
16 Mike Murphy, Dale Ann Strohl
17 Mary Robinson, Rosco Wilson
18 Elizabeth Alice, Adam Armstead,
Dave Rupe
21 Donna Kimpel
22 Roz Kennedy
25 Kala Parrill
27 John Ammons, Patsy Brock
28 Camryn Dalrymple
29 Fred Beckert
30 Rob Matarazzo
31 Angle Smith, Kim Touvell

ANNIVERSARIES

6 Jesse & Kala Parrill
8 John & Susan Roberts
9 Mark & Kelly Lee
13 Gerald & Donna Kimpel
13 Dan & Aimee Serrell
17 Phil & Linda Kinner
20 Brent & Sheila Sterling
22 Dan & Kelly Morrison
24 Mark & Diane Burrier
24 Van & Melissa Slack
27 Kris & Kendra Kemp
30 David & Elizabeth Rupe

A big thank you to all who have helped provide food and help during the past six months for our funeral dinners. Families appreciate a place to come back to visit and share a meal. Many times I have been told "we haven't seen each other for months or years". If you are looking for a way to connect to our church family, providing food, or help at dinner, reach out to Vicki McConnell (740-704-9509), vmcconnell53@gmail.com or the church office.

Thank you to everyone at RP who donates blood whether at our church or at another drive. There is currently a great shortage for whole blood and platelets. Our next blood drive will be here on July 3. It is a Friday due to the holiday. Please call me (740-740-9509) or go to redcross.org to schedule a time. FYI the T-shirts available in July are the Looney Tunes gang! Celebrating the 250th year anniversary of our country.



WOMEN'S MINISTRY

RADIATE

This July, as we embrace the word Radiate, we are reminded to shine God's light boldly in our homes, communities, and beyond. In this special year marking the 250th anniversary of the United States, we reflect on both spiritual and national freedom—remembering that true light and liberty come from God alone.

As women of faith, we are called to radiate hope, love, and truth in a world that needs His light. "You are the light of the world... let your light shine before others." – Matthew 5:14–16

May we continue to shine brightly, honoring God in our lives and reflecting His goodness in this season and always. ✨

Plans are already underway for the Fall 2026 ladies' brunch. Mark your calendars and save the date for Saturday, September 19th, for a morning of prayer, worship, fellowship & food.

If you are ready to connect in a place where women gather to grow in faith, encourage one another and build friendships, please email Terra Armstead at dtarmstead@yahoo.com or text 740-704-6144. We have several circles that meet at various times of the day/week/month.

Blessings to all!

METHODIST MEN

Greetings brothers,

Hoping this article finds you enjoying this warm weather God is blessing us with. Please note:

*Saturday, June 13th, 9 brothers and 1 loyal daughter served 80 lunches at Christ's Table. It was a good time of fellowship and service to God's less fortunate. We will be serving the Christ's Table lunch again on Saturday, August 8th.

*Our next men's breakfast will be on Sunday, July 5th at 7:00AM in the Embers Room. Please remember to continue with your study of "His Legacy". Study "Lessons from the Patriarchs for Biblical Manhood".

We need men to help with the set up and teardown of the "Smoke Fest" picnic on Sunday, July 12th in the shelter house. If you are able to create a dish to share, that would be great too.

I will have a sign-up list at our July breakfast.

Remember, the more helping hands, the quicker the project is completed.

Have a blessed rest of your month and I hope to see you at the next breakfast on Sunday, July 5th.

Remember, ALL men are welcome to come and fellowship and discover more about God's love and blessings.

In His service,
Tim Collins, Secretary



MISSIONS INITIATIVE

FREEDOM OF RELIGION

As we celebrate 250 years this year, we want to remind you that the persecution of Christians is still very real today. When we hear how blessed our country is to be founded by Christians on a biblical foundation, we often take that for granted. As you celebrate, please also take a moment not only to count your blessings but to pray for the multitude of persecuted Christians in the world. Remember especially those you helped last Christmas during Advent Conspiracy. Yasir fled Sudan because of horrible violence toward Christians and bombing of churches. Heidi Baker ministers in areas where they share the Bible on microchips so they can be swallowed if necessary. YOU have helped persecuted Christians, please continue to pray for them. Voice of the Martyrs (VOM) in the App Store is a suggestion for your prayer life.

BETHEL COMMUNITY CENTER

Bethel Community Center has a part-time employment opportunity. See more information at Bethel Mission on Facebook if you would like to be a positive influence in the lives of children.

Our youngest children typically don't get invited on Mission Trips. SPARK welcomes all ages! This is an opportunity for families to get a peek into doing God's work together, even if your youngest is still in diapers! We'll meet in Lancaster on Saturday morning for a time to learn and serve in many ways and dismiss after our church service in the "Chapel in the Woods" on Sunday. Join other families for this wonderful opportunity. Registration is now open on the Church Center App. or scan the qr code below



DISASTER RESPONSE MISSIONS

This team serves others in their time of need, showing and sharing God's love in a very practical way. We've worked tirelessly on a couple of projects this year and we're hoping to serve at least two more communities before the end of the year. We are excited to cultivate our partnership with Samaritan's Purse! Disaster Response can be early response or long term recovery. Both are important! We're still working to fill our trailer. If you have any tools you'd like to donate, please contact Paul Law at 740.704.2700. If you'd like information on how you can get involved, please call Kevin at 740.973.8412 or Nora at 440.552.7175.

FAMILY MINISTRY

What an amazing week of VBS
thank you to all who served!



BACKPACK BLESSING
SUNDAY, AUGUST 9TH
DURING THE 10:00 SERVICE

THIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE RP CONGREGATION TO PRAY OVER OUR KIDS & TEENS AS THEY HEAD INTO ANOTHER SCHOOL YEAR.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR BACKPACKS WITH YOU TO CHURCH ON THIS DAY!

A stack of three books in orange, green, and blue covers is shown on the right side of the poster.

FUSION Summer
FUSION!
JULY 23RD
6:30 PM- 8:00PM

Thursday Nights 6:30-8:00 PM
Kids 4 years to 5th grade

The logo features a black cross inside a white circle with an orange border. The word 'FUSION' is written in green, stylized letters across the cross.

INZ ONE

9:30 PM-midnight following Maysville home football games
\$1.00 Admission, Concession items available for purchase
AUGUST 28TH, SEPTEMBER 11TH & 25TH, OCTOBER 9TH & 23RD

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 740-453-4192 for more information

The background of the poster is a green football field with white yard lines and a brown football in the center.

FAMILY MINISTRY



**THANK YOU, RPFAMILY
FOR SUPPORTING OUR 2026 SUMMER YOUTH MISSION TRIP.
WE APPRECIATE YOU!
-YOUTH MINISTRY TEAM**

PRAYER TEAM

The background of the page features a watercolor illustration of several flowers. There are two large blue flowers with yellow centers, one in the upper right and one in the lower right. There are also two large pink flowers with yellow centers, one in the middle right and one in the lower left. A white flower is visible in the upper left. The flowers are on green stems with leaves, and the overall style is soft and artistic.

Happy 250 years Christian Americans!

If you have been reading and watching things recently about America, you have undoubtedly noticed a concerning trend to erase God's fingerprint in America. God has already been minimized in many other countries and Christians are being persecuted all over the world. Let us not allow the world to change history.

Psalm 78:4 - "We will not hide them from their descendants; we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, his power, and the wonders he has done."

The separation of church and state was established so the government could not force their people to worship one church established by the government, not to take away the right to worship. The pilgrims, a separatist group of Puritans and devout Christians, came to America for religious freedom, not to have freedom from religion. They came to America because they believed the church of England was too corrupt. The pilgrims arrived in 1620 and established the Mayflower Compact based on Christian conviction and self-governance. In 1630 a larger portion of Puritans arrived in Massachusetts and built a society based on biblical principles that influenced democracy and public education. According to David Barton, founder of WallBuilders, 24 of the 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence held the equivalent of seminary or bible school degrees. George Washington, the first president of the United States took his oath to office with his hand on the Bible. John Jay a practicing Christian, served in the Continental Congress, helped to draft the New York State Constitution, served as the first Chief of Justice of the Supreme Court, served as governor of New York and later served as president of the American Bible Society.

Before government funded education, Christian denominations founded education. The first American school was created in 1636 by the Puritan settlers. During the Methodist General Conferences of 1820 and 1824 the annual conferences were charged with establishing schools, literary institutes and colleges. By 1861 the Methodist Church had established or was affiliated with about 200 institutions. Christian denominations have established more than 1500 colleges and universities in the US. Many of America's most prestigious universities, such as Harvard, Yale, and Princeton, were established by Christian denominations to train clergy and educate citizens.

Christians were significant in the fight for human rights. Quakers were among the first groups to condemn slavery. The 1688 Germantown Petition was the first formal antislavery resolution in the American Colonies and it was created by four Quakers promoting that the Golden Rule applies to everyone. Luke 6:31 - "Do to others as you would have them do to you." In 1758, the Quaker church voted to exclude members who purchased or sold enslaved people. In 1861 Richard Allen, a man who bought his freedom from slavery, formed the African Methodist Episcopal Church and inspired his congregation to advocate for emancipation even having a tunnel under his church as part of the underground railroad. Another evangelist Charles Finney taught slavery as a sin and encouraged thousands of Christians to join the abolitionist. Galatians 3:28 - "There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus." Charles promoted equal education for women and African Americans. He taught at Oberlin College of Ohio starting in 1835, which accepted students without regard to race or sex. He served as president from 1851 to 1865 and his faculty and students were activists for human rights.

PRAYER TEAM

Christian charities, such as the Salvation Army, Red Cross, Catholic Charities and various Christian Missionaries built the first hospitals, orphanages and disaster relief systems in the United States of America. America's hospitals got their start from Christian moral principals in caring for the poor. Many of the highest ranked modern hospitals, such as Massachusetts General Hospital, Pennsylvania Hospital and New York-Presbyterian Hospital, were founded by Christians or Christian organizations. The very first orphanage in America was the Ursuline Convent (1727) established in New Orleans by French Catholic nuns. This would later become Catholic Charities. In 1740 Bethesda Orphanage was established by George Whitfield, an evangelical leader of the Great Awakening. The Salvation Army came to the US in 1879 from London to help those in need who were overlooked by traditional churches. The Red Cross was founded in the US in 1881 from Switzerland. It was started for the protection of war wounded and volunteers and then went beyond wartime to aid in peacetime disaster.

Above are just a few examples of how Christians shaped the United States of America. Don't let the world tell you the USA was not founded on Christian beliefs and values.

Please join the prayer team in praying that Christians not let America forget it was founded on biblical principles and freedoms granted by God.

Matthew 5:16 - "In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

We pray that God shows Himself to the world in mighty ways through His people.

God Bless America!

RP Prayer Ministry



JULY 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
5 METHODIST MEN MEETING 7:00 AM Youth Group 6:30-8:00 PM 6th-12th grade	6 NEEDLE CRAFTERS FOR CHRIST 6:00-8:00 PM	7 NEEDLE CRAFTERS FOR CHRIST 6:00-8:00 PM	8	9	10 3 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	11 4 4TH OF July
12 SMOKEFEST	13 NEEDLE CRAFTERS FOR CHRIST 6:00-8:00 PM	14 NEEDLE CRAFTERS FOR CHRIST 6:00-8:00 PM	15	16	17	18
19 Youth Group 6:30-8:00 PM 6th-12th grade	20 NEEDLE CRAFTERS FOR CHRIST 6:00-8:00 PM	21 NEEDLE CRAFTERS FOR CHRIST 6:00-8:00 PM	22	23 SUMMER FUSION 6:30-8:00 PM	24	25 Praying over the city 8:00 AM
26	27 Youth Group 6:30-8:00 PM 6th-12th grade	28	29	30	31	

ROLLING PLAINS CORN STAND @ THE MUSKINGUM COUNTY FAIR

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16TH - SATURDAY, AUGUST 22ND

The 2026 Muskingum County Fair is just around the corner. It's never too early to consider joining the RP Corn Stand Team. Many hands make light work, and we could certainly use yours. We look forward to serving our community and raising funds for our Missions Ministry, while having great fun and fellowship.

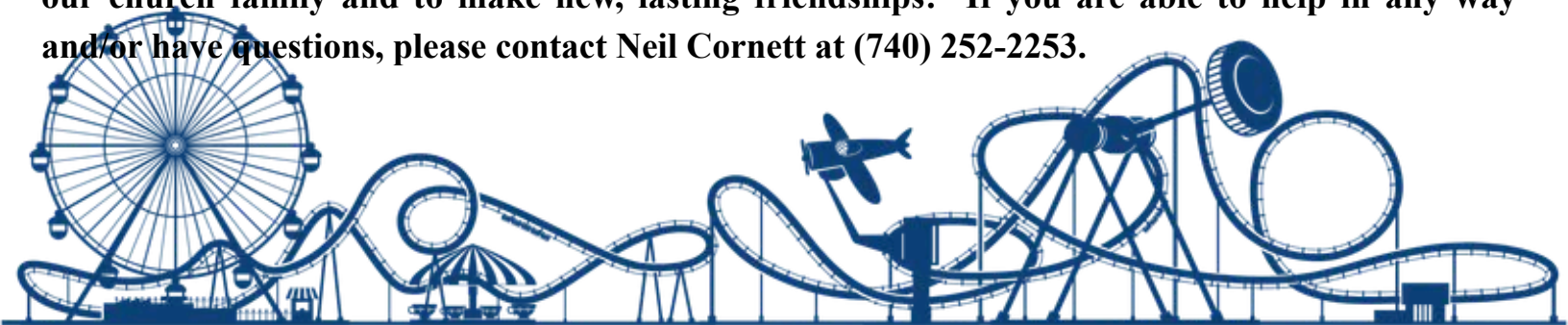
In order to do this, we will need your help. We will need your help to wait tables, to work in the kitchen, to prepare the stand, to clean up the stand, and to support us with prayers, monetary donations, and as runners (runners will pick up items from various places and deliver to the fair stand during fair week). Pies and other desserts will also be a great need. We will need at least 15 pies every day of the Fair.

There will be sign-up sheets in the Welcome Center soon for the work shifts and pie schedule. We welcome Small Groups to sign up and serve together, as well as adults and older children who are members of your family.

The first volunteer opportunity: We will be working Monday, August 10th, and Tuesday, August 11th, beginning at 5:00 PM until we finish to clean up our Corn Stand in preparation for the Fair. We are always looking for volunteers who aren't afraid to climb a ladder to install our signage and ceiling fans.

Stay as long as you can, but we don't expect you to stay longer than you feel you are able. It would be great if you can bring your own ladders, toolboxes, and drills. Our final preparation date is Saturday, August 15th at 9:00 AM, when we will be filling condiments, covering tables, etc. to get ready to "open the doors" the next day. We appreciate any and all help! Thank you all so much for your service to RPGMC!

We hope you will join us. Volunteering at the Fair Stand is a great way to bond with those in our church family and to make new, lasting friendships! If you are able to help in any way and/or have questions, please contact Neil Cornett at (740) 252-2253.



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

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

Return Service Requested

5TH ANNUAL

RP SMOKE-FEST & PICNIC

SUNDAY, JULY 12TH

@ 11:15 AM

RP CHURCH

SHELTER HOUSE &

LAWN

1776 - Founded on Faith

Celebrating 250 years of Faith, Freedom & America

BRING YOUR FAMILY, A CHAIR, AND A DISH TO SHARE.