

June

1776 – Founded on Faith
(250 years of Freedom, Faith, and America)

Maranatha Sisters & Brothers,

The 4th of July has always been such a very special celebration as we reflect on the freedoms we have in America like no other. However, this year, we celebrate 250 years of the uniquely radical ideals our country was founded on. Here are some things for us to contemplate as we approach this celebration. The revolutionary war was fought not just for freedom, but for a set of ideas of a governmental structure that shifted the power from the king to the consent of the governed. Thus, was born the idea of a democratic republic. A government “of the people, by the people, and for the people.” More importantly was the shift in thought that human rights and freedoms come not from the monarchy but from God. And if they come from God, they are unalienable. Not to be taken away or removed by any human being.

Thus, was born the Declaration of Independence signed on July 4th, 1776. God is referenced four times in this document as creator, lawmaker, judge, and protector. As profound as this is, it does not begin to express the passionate intent the Founding Fathers had for God’s involvement in an American nation, and the expectation of an inseparable bond between God and country.

Unfortunately, there is a myth in our nation that the founding fathers were a bunch of deists that didn’t really care about faith or of God’s involvement. Nothing could be further from the truth. Fifty-five of the 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence were Bible-believing, evangelical Christians who lived a vibrant Christian faith. In the original governing documents of the colonies, before the creation of one nation, faith in the Lord our God was splashed throughout. The Bible was not only welcomed, but it was expected to be the primary textbook from which public schools were expected to teach.

Our first congress and congressional sessions always led with prayer. They voted on funding for the purchasing of Bibles for citizens and the educational system. They also voted to fund Christian missionaries to reach the Native American Indians. It is unmistakable the expectation of the Founding Fathers that we would have a Christian nation with a monotheistic view and faith of the one God of the heavens and earth, the Lord our God. Only then would the constitutional structure they designed work.

“We have no government armed with power capable of contending with human passions unbridled by morality and religion. Avarice, ambition, revenge, or gallantry, would break the strongest cords of our Constitution as a whale goes through a net. Our constitution was made for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.”

-John Adams

A word from Pastor John continued....

It was always the intention that a Judeo-Christian faith would be the foundation of America and remain the heart of the American Ideal. Without a common faith amongst its citizens, the constitution doesn't work. It assumes and allows for the freedoms of a citizenry whose morals are informed by one higher authority and power. Once faith in God amongst the people erodes, then the government must step in and legislate morality. As God shrinks, then the government grows, more laws are created, and less freedoms are experienced. The government becomes our savior, provider, and authority.

Sadly, 250 years later many of these ideals have been lost, forgotten, or flat out revised out of our history. If you look around our nation today, we see the ramifications of a nation in moral decline that has moved in the direction of Godlessness. Rather than be grateful for the blessings of our nation, we protest it and apologize for it.

As we approach this landmark moment of America's 250th birthday, Rolling Plains Church is going to celebrate for 3 weeks from June 28th – July 10th. First, we will be reminded, challenged, and called to pray for and to fight for the foundation of faith in America with a sermon series called "1776 – Founded on Faith." We will also have a free movie night with "A Great Awakening" on Sunday, June 28th at 6:00 PM. On Sunday, July 12th, we will celebrate with our annual RP Smoke Fest Picnic and Potluck after the 10:00 AM service. Our Choir will be singing multiple Sundays and will provide musical entertainment during the picnic. Special calls to prayer by our Prayer Ministry Team will be shared during the 3 weeks as well. Wear your red, white, and blue! What a special time we will share together to be grateful for God's blessings as we celebrate 250 years of faith, freedom, and America.

Blessings,



Pastor John



Friends of Rolling Plains,

Paul and I would like to thank everyone who came to the church to help us celebrate our birthdays and anniversary! It was a very special day and we appreciate all the cards and encouraging messages.

Thanks again!

Paul & Jane Law




JUNE

BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Hanna Hicks
- 2 Tim Collins, Gary Handshy
- 4 Christina Johnson, Kelly Morrow,
Avie Mosebrook
- 7 Dee Shaffer, Sheila Sterling
- 8 Zach Robinson
- 11 Cecelia Dorr, Halle Peck
- 13 Rose Morrison, Darrian Stoneking
- 14 Dean Holtsclaw
- 15 Canon Mercer, Amanda Merlo
- 17 Debbie Swingle
- 18 Susan Roberts
- 20 Erin Alice, Kelly Morrison,
JoAnn Paisley
- 21 Judy Martin
- 22 Luke Huff, Ashtyn Merlo
- 24 Brenda Lemon
- 25 Marci Jones
- 26 Gracelyn Frame, Sonnie Karr,
Kelly Lee
- 28 Linda Kinner

ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Alex & Tierney Ford
- 3 Burl & Brenda Lemon
- 4 Charlie & Beulah Strickler
- 5 Gary & Sharon Stall
- 6 Kevin & Teresa Bailey,
Chris & Jennifer Huff
- 8 Robert & Anita Allard
- 10 Dave & Terra Armstead
- 14 Mike & Marilee Abele
- 15 John & Christy Ammons
- 17 Ben & Taylor Pace
- 18 Neil & Lindsey Cornett
- 19 Fred & Missy Beckert,
Tim & Cathy Collins
- 23 Justin & Amy Frame,
Don & Mary Rice
- 29 Mathew & Inzie Browning
- 30 Mike & Cathy Dorman



The Muskingum County Fair is August 16th - 22nd. The Corn Stand has many opportunities to serve in the church, from serving customers, preparing corn, and working in the kitchen. All ages and abilities are welcome. To serve in the kitchen you must be 18 or older. Children 12 and under must be accompanied by a parent or guardian and can still help. The Friday before the fair we will be meeting at the Corn Stand to clean and set up. Hope to see you there!

Thank you,
Neil Cornett

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

GROWING INTO SPIRITUAL MATURITY

Spiritual maturity isn't about having all the answers; it's about allowing God to shape our hearts over time. Scripture reminds us that growth is a journey, not a destination. Paul writes, "When I was a child, I spoke like a child... but when I became a woman, I gave up childish ways" -1 Corinthians 13:11. Maturity means letting God refine the way we think, respond, and love.

As women, we grow when we stay connected to the Word. Hebrews 5:14 tells us that mature believers are those who "have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice." That means we don't just read Scripture—we let it train us. We let it challenge us. We let it change us.

Maturity also shows up in the quiet places of our lives: choosing grace over gossip, patience over frustration, prayer over worry. It's seen in how we treat others, how we steward our gifts, and how we trust God even when the path feels unclear.

God doesn't expect perfection. He invites us to keep growing. As Philippians 1:6 promises, "He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion." Our role is simply to stay surrendered and stay rooted.

May we be women who lean into growth, who welcome God's shaping hand, and who reflect His maturity in every season.

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 on various times of the day/week/month.

Blessings to all!

The Women's Ministry Event Leaders would like to express our most sincere thanks to the Methodist Men's Group for everything they did to make our April 18th brunch so seamless and such a success.

You graciously stepped up when we asked if you could serve those in attendance at their tables and we love it. This also makes it much easier on the committee - to know that you are taking care of the food behind the scenes too.

Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedules to come and serve at our events as we bless the women in attendance.



ROLLING PLAINS IS CELEBRATING 250 YEARS OF AMERICA

Sermon series "1776 - Founded on Faith" June 28th July 12th

Special calls to prayer by our Prayer Ministry Team - throughout the sermon series

Special performances by RP Worship Choir during multiple Sundays



Sunday, June 28th

At 6:00 PM

RP Free Movie Night

"Awakening"

Sunday, July 12th

following the 10:00 Service

Smokefest & Family Picnic

RP Worship Choir singing



REMEMBER TO WEAR YOUR RED WHITE AND BLUE



RP Movie Night

Sunday, June 28th

6:00PM

at Rolling Plains

Church Worship Center

Please pick up your FREE ticket in the
RP Lobby so we can plan for your attendance

METHODIST MEN

Greetings Brothers,

Hope this finds you enjoying this wonderful spring weather which God is blessing us with. Here are a couple of reminders:

1. We will be having our regular breakfast meeting at 7:00 AM on Sunday, June 7th in the Embers Room. Hope to see you there!
2. We are starting a new chapter in our service to Christ's Table. On Saturday, June 13th we will start serving the second Saturday lunch on every even month, June, August, October, December, February, and April.

The reason for the change is that one group is ending a 20-year run serving the second Saturday meal every month due to a lack of people able to serve.

We were able to find a group that wanted to serve on the odd months and after some discussion, I brought the proposal to the men's group at the May meeting and we decided that we could do every even month.

3. We will also be discussing where we can best help with the upcoming July Smoke Fest & Church Picnic.

See you at breakfast June 7th.

In His service,
Tim Collins
Secretary



MEN'S BREAKFAST

.....
Sunday, JUNE 7TH
@ 7:00am
Embers Room

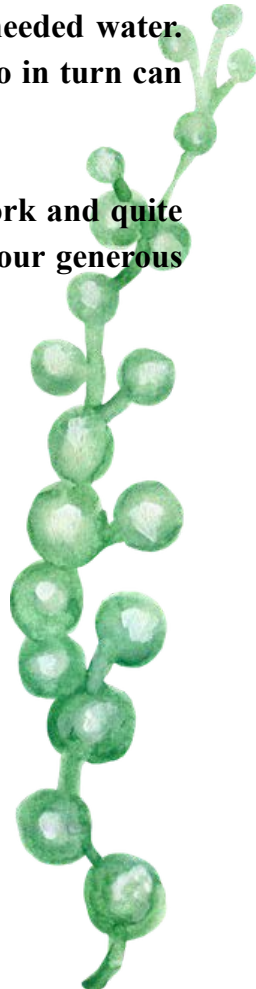
MISSIONS INITIATIVE



Your Missions Team discerns requests for funds throughout the year. We review each request with prayer and under the lens of asking whether these funds will further Christ's kingdom in a major way.

Gerry and Donna Kimpel are a great example of making disciples and mentoring them to make more disciples. Their dear friend and mentee, Francis, has grown a Christian school to 400 students in Uganda. It grew quickly, and he was making multiple trips per day to haul water to take care of so many. We humbly contributed to the need to build a well. This well now supplies much needed water. This has freed up valuable time to reach these students, developing disciples for Christ who in turn can multiply the kingdom!

As you'll see in these pictures, the well was completely hand dug which is terribly hard work and quite dangerous. In Francis' words, "Finally we have water thank you thank you so much for your generous support ...am very happy"



"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." – 1 Peter 4:10

FAMILY MINISTRY

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!



**Please pray for
our RP Youth
Mission Team,
Leaders and
Volunteers as
they travel to
Tennessee
June 14th-20th.**



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

Summer

FUSION!

JULY 23RD

6:30 PM- 8:00PM



FAMILY MINISTRY CONT.

Volunteer
Registration
VBS 2026
June 22nd-26th
from 6:00-8:00 PM



SPARK
FAMILY OVERNIGHT MISSION OPPORTUNITY
SEPTEMBER 19TH & 20TH LANCASTER, OHIO

WOW! RP FAMILY YOU ARE AMAZING!

Thank you for all the generous contributions to the youth mission fund. In addition to the tremendous support Rolling Plains has shown our youth through fundraising events, many of you have shown your support with generous donations. While we wish we could thank you personally for your contributions, we often do not have access to the names of those who have donated. Please know your prayers and financial support are appreciated more than words can express.

BLESSINGS -YOUTH MINISTRY TEAM

PRAYER TEAM

Yeah.... But!

There's a popular claim that the Bible contains 365 instances of "do not be afraid, or fear not". Wow! One for every day of the year. But – that's not quite right. Depending on the translation and the specific phrase, "do not be afraid, or fear not", the count would be around 70 to 100 times. The KJV has 103. Most every day we hear of someone who fears or is anxious. Obviously, we all seem to fear something, whether huge or just a fear of a spider. As for me... I really do not like the wind.

Wouldn't it be great to "fear not"?! Just to be free to love and be loved? God's peace in the midst of stress, danger, and uncertainty would be a big blessing. There are many scriptures to choose from, but the first one that comes to mind is Psalms 23:4... "I will not be afraid". Pastor John talked a lot about "that Valley" just a while back. In Psalms 56, David writes 2 different times "I trust in God, so why should I be afraid! What can mere mortals do to me." WOW! That would be a big but... Yeah... but.

1 Peter 5:7 "Give all your worries and cares to God, for He cares about you." Isaiah 41:10. My study guide says, "We need not to fear because; (1) God is with us ("I am with you"); (2) God has established a relationship with us ("I am your God"); and (3) God gives us assurance of His strength, help, and victory over sin and death. Are you aware of all the ways God has helped you?" Proverbs 12:25 – (I love this one) "worry weighs a person down; an encouraging word cheers a person up." When the Holy Spirit urges you to send a note of encouragement or just in passing thank someone for their services, we have no clue how that may be just the encouragement that person needed.

Occasionally I wake at night, pulse racing, thinking where I shouldn't be. I run with it for a minute and then... NO! NO, I am not going there, and I go to prayer about positive things or something that I could possibly, with God's help, change.

"Neuroscience suggests fear and worry are proceeded more in the right hemisphere- while positive emotions and praise are linked to the left. We have a "Switch" mechanism. When you focus on gratitude or praise, you consciously shift brain activation away from the Amygdala (fear center) toward the pre frontal cortex... the brain cannot be in a state of anxiety and genuine appreciation or praise at the same time."
(from Google).

WOW! Seems like a "No Brainer" to me!
Let's just pray and Praise God.

Gerry Kimple
Prayer team member





JUNE 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	
7 METHODIST MEN MEETING 7:00 AM Youth Group 6:30-8:00 PM 6th-12th grade	8 NEEDLE CRAFTERS FOR CHRIST 6:00-8:00 PM	9	10	11	12	13
14 Flag Day 	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 HAPPY Father's DAY FIRST DAY OF SUMMER	22 NEEDLE CRAFTERS FOR CHRIST 6:00-8:00 PM	23	24	25	26	27 Praying over the city 8:00 AM
28 RP Movie Night A Great Awakening 6:00 PM	29 NEEDLE CRAFTERS FOR CHRIST 6:00-8:00 PM	30	VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL			



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

Register your child for



VBS

2
0
2
6

June 22nd-26th

from 6:00-8:00 PM

