

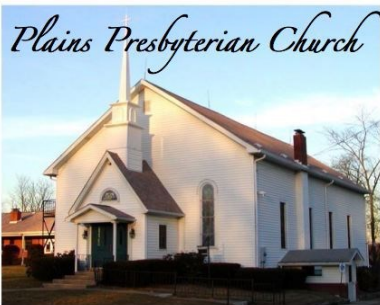
# THE PLAIN TALK



## 2023

**Plains  
Presbyterian  
Church**

**Serving the  
community  
since 1806**



*Rev. Dr. Jon Nelson*

*326 Plains Church Road  
Cranberry Twp., PA 16066  
724-538--8785*

### **A Word from Rev. Dr. Jon Nelson:**

If you were to ask me in February how long until Spring, I would have probably told you that I would expect it pretty soon. I thought it was going to be a short winter, but as March rolled in, it became obvious that my Spring plans would have to be put on hold. Although the calendar says it is spring, the weather doesn't always want to cooperate. It is the same way with life; we might want something to go our way, but life doesn't always cooperate. Perhaps we pray earnestly for a new job or the health of a loved one; and when it doesn't turn out the way we hoped, we can be left to wonder, "Is God really listening?"

We have become a consumer based culture where "the customer is always right," so when we pray for something, we expect to see results and see them quickly. However, God's will and timeline is often much different from ours. This doesn't mean that God doesn't care about our concerns. It just means that we need to hand over our concerns to God and let God work them out in his timeframe, not ours.

In other parts of the world, they don't seem to struggle with these issues of God's providence quite like we do. We have gotten so used to instant gratification that we have become impatient. In the days of the horse and buggy, going to the store was a several hour venture; it was something you planned for because you probably wouldn't get there again in a week. Now, when we need milk, we immediately jump in the car and drive to the local store.

For us as Americans, it can be exasperating waiting for God's provision. However, with that waiting comes patience and as Paul reminds us in his letter to the Galatians, patience is a gift of the Spirit. Sometimes, life doesn't work out the way we wanted. That is when we must trust that God has a better plan. It can be difficult when it concerns someone we love or something that we are anxious about. However, we must always remember that God's perspective is much broader than ours.

After Jesus was crucified, things didn't turn out the way the disciples had planned. They found themselves defeated and broken – lost without Jesus. God had a different plan than what they thought possible and hope sprung eternal on that first Easter morning. That hope didn't happen overnight. It took over a thousand years to develop from God's promise to Abraham to its fulfillment in Jesus Christ.

Our troubles can be very difficult and they can seem insurmountable, but they are not insurmountable to God. Just as the disciples learned, put your trust in God and He will bring you to a new understanding of what's possible. During Covid, we learned to be more patient because we had to be, but now, if you are like me, we find ourselves even more impatient than before the pandemic. We must each take a step back and recognize that we have collectively as a congregation, community, nation and world gone through a traumatic period. It will take us time to get back to feeling alright with delays. We need to be patient with ourselves and allow ourselves time to heal. God's spirit is still with us and He will carry us through.

So, as this California boy waits for spring, for the daffodils and the budding of trees, I will try to be more thankful for the many great gifts God has provided. I will leave the weather to God's provision instead of the calendar. Spring will get here, perhaps even by the time you read this article.

Blessings and Happy Spring,

Pastor Jon

Elder of the Month

Erin McKinlay

Deacon of the Month

Cathy Stafford

## Helping with Worship This Month

### Worship Leaders

April 2 Susan Reed

April 9 Frank Aloï

April 16 Tiffany Aloï

April 23 Steve Raatz

April 30 Amy Roscoe

**REV. DR. JON NELSON**

Office Hours:

Monday & Wednesday

After Hours: 724-213-8528

**April 2**

**Palm Sunday**

9:45am Adult Bible Study

11:00 am Worship Service

**April 6**

7:00pm Maundy Thursday

Communion

**April 9**

**EASTER**

6:45am Sunrise Service

11:00 am Worship Service

**April 16**

9:45am Adult Bible Study

11:00 am Worship Service

Deacon Meeting

Coffee Connection

Inreach/Outreach

**April 23**

9:45am Adult Bible Study

11:00 am Worship Service

**April 30**

9:45am Adult Bible Study

11:00 am Worship Service



April 3 Ernie Jones

April 4 Norah Collins

April 6 Maryann Cardillo

April 11 Ron Carter

April 11 Susan Reed

April 15 Samantha Carter

April 16 Lauryn Young

April 20 David Cardillo

April 28 Gene Taylor



April 8 Matt and Jackie Leisle

April 27 Jim and Betty Lehman

We rejoice in the ability we have as Christians to lift up our prayers and petitions, our joys and our concerns to God together.

(Please submit a new prayer card or contact the church office with any updates or to keep a name on the list.)

#### Announcements for the Bulletin or Newsletter?

Please submit your announcements in advance to the church office. Weekly announcements need to be submitted before Wednesday afternoon.

Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, and  
Thursday 9am-1pm

#### Chairperson Needed for Bereavement Meals

If you are interested in volunteering to take over the committee to serve bereavement meals please contact the church office.

Online Giving is now available for you convenience.

Log on and check it out  
[www.plainschurch.com](http://www.plainschurch.com)

Scan the QR code:



**Please keep our Elders & Deacons  
in your prayers as they lead Plains  
into the future.**

We also ask for prayers for the following :

- Corina Taylor
- Jenny Stafford
- Ernie & Nancy– Kathy Carter
- Jim & Betty Lehman
- Rosa Dickson - Sandi
- Nina Finlay
- Theresa - Joann Bark
- Keith Hendershot
- Family & Friends of Kay's brother-in-law
- Family and Friends of Ed Gifford

Our friends who are in assisted living:

Nancy Jones & Eileen Kaufman

Please submit a new prayer card or contact the church office with any updates.

### PLAINS BOOK CLUB

April 6, 10:00am

Book Club Leader: Sue McKinley  
sue.w.mckinley@gmail.com



### Session Meeting

April 17th

### Deacon Meeting

April 16th

### Plains Book Club:

The Book Club just loves to get together to share our readings with each other. So we invite you to join us. Even if you find that you cannot read all or any of the book, come for the insightful discussions.



### UPCOMING EVENTS

April 2nd - Palm Sunday

April 6th - Maundy Thursday - Communion 7:00pm

Where: Plains Church

April 7th - Good Friday - Men's & Boys Breakfast at Park 7am-8am

April 9th - Easter

Sunrise Service - 6:45am - Plains Outdoor Chapel

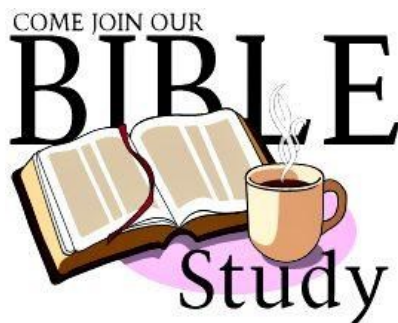
Easter Worship - 11:00am - Plains Church

April 16th - Deacon Meeting

Coffee Connection - hosted by Inreach/Outreach

April 17th - Session Meeting 7:00pm

Happy  
Easter



### ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Where: Fellowship Hall

Time: Sunday Morning - 9:45am

RSVP: Burt & Nancy Duerring

eacinc@zoominternet.net

# Plains Church Activities

## PLAINS CHURCH ADOPT A HIGHWAY

### Bear Run Road Cleanup

Saturday April 15, 2023 @ 9:30am

Rain Date April 22, 2023

Sign - up Sheet in the Narthex



## MATSIKO CHOIR

Matsiko Choir will be arriving!

June 7th - 11th

Information about hosting a child in your home can be found in the narthex.

### Matsiko Choir Concert

Where: Plains Church

When: June 11, 2023

Time: 11:00am during worship service

## FOOD DRIVE to BENEFIT EVANS CITY FOOD BANK

The Deacons will join with CNS in a food drive for the Evans City Food Bank

We invite the church to join us

Food items, paper products and hygiene products will be accepted through April 9th.



Food  
Collection

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

July 17th - July 23rd



6:30pm – 8:30pm

Sign - Up on our web-site:

[www.plainschurch.com](http://www.plainschurch.com)

# PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ACTIVITIES

## MEETING JESUS AT THE TABLE

### Lenten Study

**Tuesdays February 28 – April 4**

**11am Park Hall (Luncheon at Noon)**

**7:00pm ZOOM**

Books can be purchased on Amazon or by calling UPC by February 16th

## GOOD FRIDAY MEN'S & BOYS BREAKFAST

April 7, 2023

**7:00am - 8:00am**

**Park Hall**

**Tickets: \$8.00**

**Tickets can be bought in advance or at the door**



# CNS NEWS

Happy Spring! This is a very busy time for Cranberry Nursery School. The school year has flown by and will be finished before we know it!

In March we had Dad's Day events at X-Cel Gymnastics, celebrated Dr. Seuss' Birthday and St. Patrick's Day and had our first ever Dinosaur Day. We had fun with Miss Donna as she taught the students a lesson in dental health and provided goody bags for everyone. We also are hosting two Open Houses to provide an opportunity for students to show off their artwork and classrooms to their families.

In April, we will celebrate Easter with classroom parties, have Bible Time with Mr. Frank and the Half~Pints will host Donuts with Dad.

We wish the members of Plains Presbyterian Church a Happy and Blessed Easter. We are grateful for the support the members provide to Cranberry Nursery School.

Angela Kushner  
Director  
Cranberry Nursery School  
724-538-8785

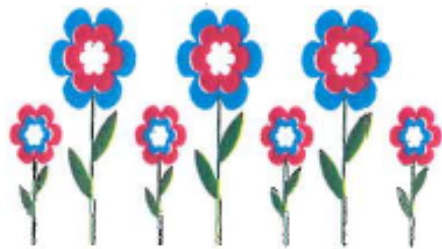




# CNS FUNDRAISER

Dear CNS Parents:

We are excited to kick-off one of our Spring Fundraisers! Back by popular demand, we will once again be partnering with Flower Power. Use the link to view their catalogue. Orders will be shipped directly to each customer. This is a perfect way to get a jumpstart on planning your garden and flowerbeds for the Spring/Summer!



- Please login to <http://cns.fpfundraising.com>.
- Choose your items and place your order.
- Products will be delivered directly to the buyer with a flat \$6.99 shipping fee per order.
- Cranberry Nursery School will receive 50% of all proceeds.
- The sale will run April 1 – April 28.
- Estimated delivery will be 7-15 days after you place your order (based on weather conditions suitable for planting in our area).
- Please share with your family and friends both near and far.
- All products are guaranteed.

If you do not wish to place an order, but would like to take part in the fundraiser, a tax-deductible donation can be made to Cranberry Nursery School via cash/check. As always, participation is optional. All proceeds will go towards end of the year activities.



APRIL 9th

SUNRISE SERVICE

Time: 6:45am

Where: Outdoor Chapel - Plains Church

EASTER SERVICE

Time: 11:00am

Where: Sanctuary



# Plains Presbyterian Church

## Session Highlights

### February 2023

Session met on Monday, February 20, 2023. Below are some of the highlights of that meeting.

Communion was served on February 19, 2023 to 35 people.

Looking to paint classrooms this summer. Windows will be all be changed in the classrooms. Request to change the windows first, and then paint. Looking to ask parents for donations and the congregation.

Session reviewed the financial reports of the church. Our church financials are in good shape. We paid our full year per capita of \$3,346 (as we do every January).

Our 2023 collections for Per Capita thus far have totaled approximately \$1,400. While collecting our entire \$3,360 is an idealistic goal, we hope to receive approximately 65% of our assigned per capita each year. We are still short of this goal.

Session received the Treasurer's report by consensus.

Deacons met yesterday. Very busy with activities. Making cards for "Honor Flight" on March 12. Home Touch materials were sent to 25 people in February.

Rev. Dr. Nelson reviewed his written report. Training opportunity at CCUPC are available.

VBS July 17 through July 21. Stellar is the title for VBS this year. 6:30 to 8:30 pm. More information will be coming soon to the website.

Our contract with the North Pittsburgh Greeting Company is working and approximately 70 new people have been visited per month.

The safety deposit box was opened and not much was in it. We are going to keep it, update signature cards, and decide what records we put in the box.


Hosanna Industries was briefly discussed. Ron Carter will invite them to present at our next Session meeting.

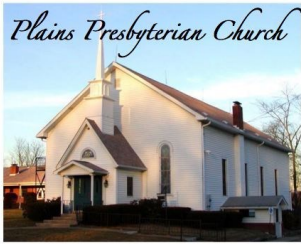
Next Regular Session Meeting will be on Monday, March 20, 2023 at 7:00 pm with Rev. Dr. Jon Nelson moderating.

Motion to adjourn by Ron Carter, seconded by Erin McKinley. Rev. Dr. Jon closed with prayer at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tim Roscoe  
Clerk of Session

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 Palm Sunday Adult Bible Study 9:45 Worship 11:00am	3 Monday of Holy Week	4 Tuesday of Holy Week	5 Wed. of Holy Week Choir Practice 7:00pm	6 Book Club 10:00am Maundy Thursday 7pm Communion	7 Good Friday	8
9 Easter Sunday Sunrise Service 6:45am Outdoor Chapel Worship - 11:00am	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 3rd Sunday in Lent Adult Bible Study 9:45 Worship 11:00am Deacon Meeting Coffee Connection Inreach/Outreach	17 Session Meeting 7:00pm	18	19	20	21	22
23 4th Sunday in Lent Adult Bible Study 9:45am Worship 11:00am	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 5th Sunday in Lent Adult Bible Study 9:45am Worship 11:00am						



## Plains Presbyterian Church

326 Plains Church Road

Cranberry Township, PA 16066

Phone: 724-538-8785

### OUR MISSION STATEMENT

“As disciples of Christ, we share the gospel with  
one another and the community.

We are committed to growth in the knowledge of  
Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit through  
worship, study, teaching, and fellowship.”

