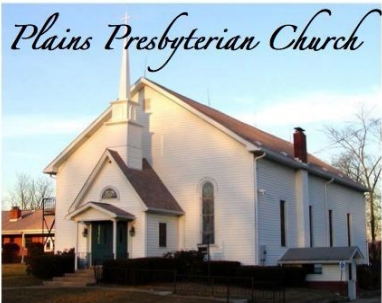


2024

**Plains
Presbyterian
Church**

**Serving the
community
since 1806**



*326 Plains Church Road
Cranberry Twp., PA 16066
724-538--8785
plains@zoominternet.net
www.plainschurch.com*

God's House

When I was a young lad, my family and I attended the Methodist church near where we lived. Those were the days that some of you will recall when churches were busy. There weren't any Sunday morning sporting events and people actually took the time to go to church.

In fact, when I was young, most things were closed on Sunday. It wasn't a big deal – you planned your shopping around Sunday, knowing that things would be closed. There was time for almost everyone to go to church.

I remember going to some type of youth group activity at the church and as kids will be, we were probably a little too noisy or maybe running in the hallway, and someone told us to “Settle Down” – You are in God's House. God's House – wow – probably the first time I heard that and was amazed at the very thought that I was in the building where God lived. My mind was probably thinking along the lines of out of the thousands of churches, God lived in this one close to my house! How lucky can you get!

Of course, I was very young, and now I understand that wherever two or more are gathered in His name, He is there. He is at Plains all the time. We talk about God being with us and working around us every week at Plains.

And of course we have events at Plains like VBS – where we have had dozens and dozens of kids – singing, yelling, laughing, stomping their feet – I really think God is happy when we use his house and fill it with children and all their voices.

As we continue our faith journey together, let's continue to be neighborly and invite others over to God's house – he loves to see everyone!

In Christ's Service Together,

Tim Roscoe

Elder of the Month

Frank Aloi

Deacon of the Month

Julie Young

Helping with Worship This Month

Worship Leaders

August 4 TBA

August 11 Tiffany Aloi

August 18 Frank Aloi

August 25 Ann Nutter



August 4

10:00 am Worship Service

August 11

10:00 am Worship Service

August 18

WORSHIP OUTSIDE AT OLD UNION

10:00 am Worship Service

Luncheon to Follow

August 25

10:00 am Worship Service

August 1 Cheryl Stank

August 6 Julie Young

August 13 Susan Delligatti

August 16 Christian Duerring

August 16 Ann Nutter

August 18 Sandy Stafford

August 21 Tim Roscoe

August 21 Parker Budney

August 22 Susan Mooney

August 25 Archie Simpson

August 26 Betty Lehman

August 27 Nathan Stafford

August 31 Alex Carter



August 2 Jay & Bonnie Carmichael

August 14 Tim & Amy Roscoe

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

Online Giving is now available for you convenience.

Log on and check it out 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 :

- Jenny Stafford
- Nancy– Kathy Carter
- Betty Lehman
- Paul—Ann Nutter
- Lisa Bender
- Laura - Wanda Rice's sister
- Tim McDonald - Denise's brother

Our friends who are in assisted living:

Nancy Jones, Eileen Kaufman & Kay Uthman

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

Please Note:

(prayer concerns are being streamed on-line)

PLAINS BOOK CLUB

Book Club will not meet in August and will resume September 5th at 10:00am in the basement.



SESSION MEETING

August 5, 2024

DEACON MEETING

TBA

SWAM MEETING

September 1, 2024

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

August 18, 2024

10:00am

Worship Outside at
Old Union Presbyterian Church
200 Union Church Road
Mars, PA

Come worship with Crestview and Old Union. This annual tradition has been long cherished over the years. The congregations come together for a service in a relaxing outdoor setting. It's a chance to share worship, fellowship and enjoy a luncheon as the summer draws to a close.



Outdoor Worship Service



VBS SCUBA 2024

This amazing undersea adventure experience was a ever-flowing, never ending love of God.

A big thank you to Erika Selling, Janelle Woods, Sandi Comunate, and Rachel Moeller!





The Undersea Adventure Begins at the Imagination Station

Diving into Friendship with God.

All aboard that's going aboard!



CRAFTS



SNACKS



STORY TIME WITH SHANE WILLIAMS



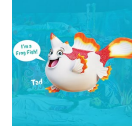
OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

Swimming in God's Word

Day 1

Tad

God is a friend who's real.



Day2

Finnley

God is a friend who loves



Day 3

Fisher

God is a friend we can trust



Day 4

Waylon

God is a friend forever



Day 5

Octavia

God is a friend for everyone





SCUBA

Scuba VBS is all wrapped up! We want to thank everyone for their support during this week!

Fair Winds and Following Seas ~ nautical blessings

Goodbye until next year!

CNS NEWS

Although it is summer, the work continues at Cranberry Nursery School. In preparation of the new school year, the hallways will be painted to brighten up the space as we welcome our families back in the fall. Most of our classes are full, but we do have a few openings available. If you know anyone who is looking for a Pre-K (4-5 year old class), we have a couple of spots in both our three-day AM and four-day PM classes. We also have one spot available in our PM Nursery (3 year old) class. Please feel free to have any interested families reach out to Angela Kushner via email at cnsoplains@zoominternet.net.

CNS continues to collect Chick Fil A receipts. We earn 20% in product rewards for the total (pre-tax) collected. The school uses the rewards for events during the school year including our Open House and Mother's Day Brunch. Feel free to leave your receipts in the church office. There is no expiration date and we appreciate your support of our efforts.

Wishing everyone a happy and healthy summer!



WHERE DO OUR MISSION DOLLARS GO?

Have you ever wondered what happens to your giving to the general missions of Plains Church? Whether you provide a dollar amount on the mission line of your envelope or you designate a portion of your giving online to missions, your dollars are distributed in an intentional fashion to the benefit of various mission efforts.

“Unified” vs “Local” Mission

First, we should define two terms: “Unified Mission” and “Local Mission”.

Unified Mission is the mission of our higher governing bodies (Presbytery, Synod and the General Assembly). The Presbytery specifically utilizes the Unified Mission funds that Plains Church (and other Churches in our Presbytery) sends to fund committee activities. These committees include Mission and Compassion, Collaboration, Fellowship, Youth and Encouraging Churches to Flourish Committees.

Local Mission are funds given to Plains by our members for use in our local communities. The Deacons of Plains have been authorized by the Session to direct our Local Mission funds on a regular basis. The Deacons have given to various local charities such as the Salvation Army and Mars Home for Youth.

How are our mission dollars distributed?

Years ago, the Session established that all mission dollars given at Plains Church would be allocated 35% to Unified Mission and 65% to Local Mission. We continue to allocate mission dollars in this manner today.

What about specific mission giving?

The discussion above pertains to general mission giving. However, we also pursue specific missions at Plains Church, including One Great Hour of Sharing, Christmas Joy and the Evans City Food Bank. Any dollars designated for these missions are given specifically and directly to these missions.

If you have any questions, please contact Frank Aloï.

2024 PER CAPITA

The Per Capita amount requested from a congregation is a combined total of requests from that congregation's presbytery, the synod in which the presbytery is located, and the General Assembly — based on their respective budgets for the coming year(s).

For 2024, the Plains Church Per Capita is **\$44.20**. Each member is included in the calculation of our Church's total Per Capita payment, which for 2024 is **\$3,315**. We paid our fully assessed per capita for 2024 in January.

Typically, we only receive approximately half of our Church assessed Per Capita contributions each year. However, this year our current per capita contributions are only approximately one-third of our required payment.

As a member of Plains Church, please prayerfully consider giving your full Per Capita this year. If you have any questions, please contact Frank Aloi (Frankaloi@msn.com) or the Church office.

Thank you!

THE HISTORY OF PLAINS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1806 - 1956

The early history of our church is not clear, because there were no records kept or the books have been lost.

The first record we find that might refer to it is a supplication made to Erie Presbytery in 1802 for preaching at Breakneck, which it is supposed refers to some place near the present site of the Plains Church.

The first definite history we find of Plains is that in 1806, Mr. Reid Bracken, a student minister was called to preach at both Plains and Mount Nebo. Two years later Mr. Bracken was ordained and installed in the two congregations. He preached at Plains until 1819.

The elders previous to 1812 were: James McClelland, John Crawford, William Crichlow, and John Emmet. In 1812 Benjamin Garvin and Morris Covert were elected.

Services were held in a tent until 1820, when a log church was built on a plot of ground donated by Mr. Benjamin Davis. This church had all the characteristics of the log houses of that day, including a slab door with the familiar latch string, slab seats without backs and a block of wild cherry for a pulpit.

In 1825, the church is reported as a vacancy. The next record we find is in 1827 when the church has stated supply. During this period the church was supplied in part by Rev. John Andrew, who in 1822 organized the church of Fairmont and who itinerated through this region of country for several years. In 1826 Rev. John Moore was called and installed as pastor at Pine Creek, Cross Roads, Deer Creek and Plains. He was released from Plains in 1831. From that time until 1838 the church was almost disbanded. Dr. Aaron Williams, who was teaching at Zelienople at this time, preached in the bounds of the church, but not in the church itself.

In 1838 Plains united with Cross Roads in issuing a call to Mr. Leland McAboy. At that time the congregation consisted of 32 members, 21 women and 11 men, the elders being: James Garvin, William Graham, Andrew Boggs and William Vandivort.

The following year, 1839, a brick church was built close behind the old structure by Matthew Graham and John Rea and other members. The brick was made on the John Goehring, or what is now the Robert English Farm and Thomas Evans was the contractor. The church prospered during Mr. McAboy's pastorate of 20 years.

From that time until the present building was erected in 1878 there were two regular pastors, Rev. Levi - Risher, and Rev. Robert J. Creswell and three supplies, Rev. Newton Bracken, Rev. John W. Potter and Rev. Samuel R. Kerr.

During this period the membership was greater than any other time in the church's history with 215 enrolled.

The elders at this time were James Thompson, Robert White, James Sutton and Josiah Covert.

The organization of the Evans City Presbyterian Church was considered in 1883 and 39 members were dismissed from the old church to the new one.

Rev. R. C. Yates preached from 1885 until 1888 and during his pastorate many new members were gained, as many as 35 at one time. At this time the elders were John Goehring, Matthew Graham, O.P. Graham, and J.M. Covert.

Again in 1890, twenty - seven members obtained their letters to organized the Crestview Presbyterian Church at Callery.

From 1890 until 1920, seven ministers have filled the pulpit: Rev. T.M. Potter, and Rev. J.P. White who were supplies, Rev. James M. Thompson, Rev. Henry E. Snyder, Rev. John Waite, Rev. Plummer Harvey, Rev. John Harris Moore, and Rev. Hugh S. Shaw.

In 1920 Rev. W.L. McMillan was called and for more than 18 years served as our pastor, loved and respected by all his congregation.

The elders during this time were Chris Hoehn, William Davison, W. W. Vandivort, A.M. Covert and Thomas Croft.

In 1902 the rotary system of elders was suggested but was not adopted until 1915. Since that time S.R. Croft, Edwin Ramsey, William Owens, J.C. Simpson, C.J. Freshcorn, P.F. Graham, Louis Gaubeaud, Raymond Fulton, George Taylor, Roy Cookson, Wesley Goehring, G.W. Shankey, Frank Davis, David Heckard, Melvin Sproat, David Georhing, William Gibson, Alfred Cookson, and Edgar Anthony have served in this office.

In 1919 our neighboring church, Hope Lutheran, was organized largely by members from Plains.

In 1920 the cemetery association was organized, its success was due largely to combined efforts of Mr. Lewis Hartman and Rev. W.L. McMillion.

In the period from 1938 until the present we have had five ministers, Rev. Walter B. Hill, Rev. Ernest Anderton, Rev. Homer Steffens, Rev. J.A. Bachora and Dr. W.S. Irwin.

During the period the pulpit was vacated we have had Rev. W.S. Bingham, Rev. Henry Meyers, Rev. Lawrence Kurtz, Rev. E.B. Lawrence and Rev. W.L. McMillan.

At a congregational meeting in November of 1949 it was decided to put a basement under the church and on New Years Day of 1950 this work was started. Four years later the basement was finished at a cost of about \$11, 220.00 for material. Soon afterwards at a congregational meeting it was decided to remodel the building and the sanctuary. In 1955 the work on the sanctuary and on the outside was begun. This work has been completed at a cost of about \$13,000.00, Leaving us with a debt of \$3,000.00. Practically all of the labor required for the basement project was donated by the men of the congregation. The greater portion of the work of remodeling the sanctuary and the outside of the building was let to contractors. The work of constructing the entrance way was done by men of the congregation.

Two young men of our church have studied for the ministry, Rev. Frank Graham was a missionary in Brazil until his death in 1948. His wife and two daughters are still doing missionary work in that country, and Charles M. Covert, son of J.M. Covert; Charles died during his second year in seminary.

These one hundred and fifty years have been glorious years and we believe that the years to come will be more glorious.

We share the belief of poet Browning when he says,

GROW OLD ALONG WITH ME!

THE BEST IS YET TO BE,

THE LAST OF LIFE FOR WHICH THE FIRST WAS MADE;

OUR TIMES ARE IN HIS HANDS

WHO SAITH "A WHOLE I PLANNED, YOUTH SHOWS BUT HALF; TRUST GOD; SEE ALL, NOR BE AFRAID!"



Plains Presbyterian Church

Session Highlights

June 2024

Session met on Monday, June 24, 2024. Below are some of the highlights of that meeting:

Frank Aloï reviewed the financial performance for the month. The offering is slightly behind where we were last year at this point.

Session accepted the report of the treasurer by consensus.

Three new members will be joining the church on June 30th.

The Pulpit Supply schedule is complete until end of September.

Week of July 15 will be VBS Week - "SCUBA" will be the name of VBS.

Manse retaining wall work will continue through Summer.


The church furnace will be updated soon.

Nominating Committee work will get started a little earlier this year.

Next Regular Session Meeting will be August 5, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bob Young
Temp Clerk of Session

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY		
			2024	1	2	3		
4	5			6	7	8	9	10
Worship 10:00am Session Meeting 7pm	12			13	14	15	16	17
11								
Worship 10:00am	19	20	21	22	23	24		
18	Worship Outside at Old Union 10:00am Luncheon after worship							
25	26	27	28	29	30	31		
Worship 10:00am								



Plains Presbyterian Church

326 Plains Church Road

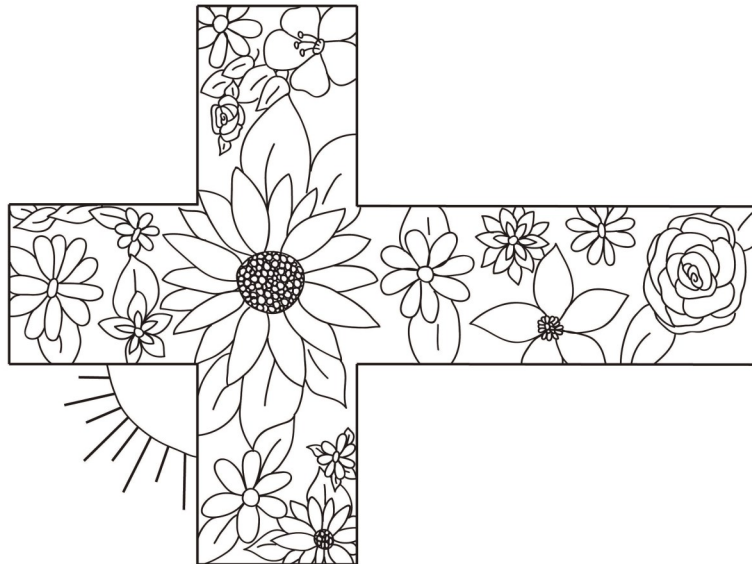
Cranberry Township, PA 16066

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.”



The name of the **LORD** is a fortified tower; the righteous run to it and are safe.

Proverbs 18:10