

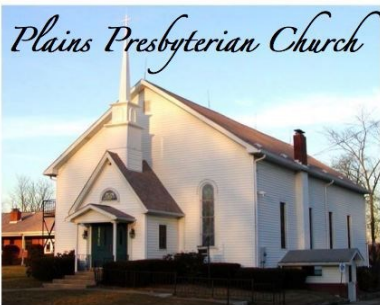
THE PLAIN TALK



2025

**Plains
Presbyterian
Church**

**Serving the
community
since 1806**



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

I have heard the phrase “letting go, and letting God” many times. The origin of this pithy little phrase is nearly impossible to trace. It brings to mind the uncomfortable distance between our understanding and full knowledge of the detail and breadth of God’s will as it relates to our lives.

Often short pithy rejoinders can be as easily abused as used. Particularly when directed at a sensitive area of life. This is due in part to desire to be able to respond to each other in ways that are perceived as helpful, comforting, or wise.

Unfortunately we use such platitudes out of a distorted desire to respond quickly without risking or getting caught up in a longer uncomfortable conversation in which our own doubt and lack of understanding are revealed. Such quick and responses can make people feel misunderstood, pushed aside, or ashamed about their lack of understanding.

Let’s consider a more intentional and less passive understanding of our calling to walk by faith and not by sight. Rather than letting go of our concern about the world, what if we specifically chose to give up on earning approval from parents, co-workers, neighbors, followers on social media, or yes, God. In “The Gospel Life” Timothy Keller remarks that people who are religious just repent of their sins, while Christians also repent of their self-righteousness. We do not need to appear wise, all together, and free of doubt in order to be at peace. But where then do we find our peace? We find it, scripture says, in Jesus Christ.

When we release control of the image of righteousness that we seek to maintain through knowledge, and a perfect record of kind words, and gracious works, we must embrace the relationship we have with God through Jesus Christ. And this relationship is not a casual acquaintance, a polite arm around the shoulder, or a quick check in every now and then. It is a full passionate embrace, arms trembling with fear, sharing the anxiety of our heart, and the painful thoughts that trouble our minds. In order to truly let go we must cling to our savior and Lord.

As I have fully embraced God I have become more available to the embrace of His grace. I find that I am more transparent with people, more genuinely interested in the personal struggles of people, and less concerned about earning points by my ability to resolve their problem. I have come to believe that true fellowship is found when we release our desire to be self-sufficient, and embrace God as the only absolute need that exists in our life.

Pastor John Porter

Elder of the Month

Frank Aloï

Deacon of the Month

Ann Nutter

Helping with Worship This Month

Worship Leaders

August 3 Ann Nutter

August 10 Tim Roscoe

August 17 Susan Peirce

August 24 Amy Roscoe

August 31 Susan Reed

August 3

11:00 am Worship Service

August 10

11:00 am Worship Service

SWAM Meeting

August 17

11:00 am Worship Service

Coffee Connection

hosted by Discipleship

Deacon Meeting

August 24

SUMMER OUTDOOR WORSHIP

10:00 am Worship Service

Crestview Pavilion

August 31

11:00 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 22 Susan Mooney

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 8am-Noon

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
- Lisa Bender
- Linda - Wanda Rice's sister
- Sue Reed
- John - Zackary's dad - Amy Roscoe
- Joann Bark

Our friends who are in assisted living: 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 resume in the fall.

To Be Announced



SESSION MEETING

TBA

DEACON MEETING

August 17th

SWAM MEETING

August 10th

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

SUMMER OUTDOOR WORSHIP

August 24, 2025

10:00am

Worship Outside at Crestview Pavilion

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.





VBS TRUE NORTH 2025
A big thank you to all our volunteers!

VBS TRUE NORTH





TRUE NORTH

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

Goodbye until next year!

STEWARDSHIP

THIS MONTH: JESUS TAUGHT US TO GIVE OUR TIME

Throughout the Gospels, Jesus consistently shows compassion and care for the marginalized, the sick, and the needy. He primarily does this by making time for them. Jesus made time for those who were hurting, showing that good stewardship isn't just about talents or money, but how we prioritize people in our daily lives. We never read about Jesus wasting a moment, everything is always carried out with impeccable timing.

While we can never achieve this same level of perfection, good stewardship extends beyond personal talents, resources and even basic abilities. A compassionate and caring attitude towards others will often cost us the most in terms of our time. In imitating Jesus, we're called to be a good steward of **love and justice** by spending time actively engaging in the well-being of others around us.

CNS NEWS

The summer is flying by and the work continues at Cranberry Nursery School. In preparation of the new school year, we are refreshing the classrooms and the carpets will be cleaned before 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 our four-day PM class. We also have two spots available in our T/TH Half~Pints (2 1/2 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!

Angela Kushner
Director
Cranberry Nursery School
724-538-8785



Plains Presbyterian Church
Session Highlights
June 2025

Session met on Monday, June 2, 2025. Below are some of the highlights of that meeting.

Pastor Porter opened with prayer at 6:15 pm.

Minutes approved from the Regular Session meeting on May 12, 2025, and the Special Session Meeting on June 1, 2025.

Lily Young and Deborah Schoch were received into the membership of the church on June 1, 2025.

Cranberry Nursery_School has ended for the school year.

Frank reviewed our financial performance for the year. Frank reported that we are in good shape financially.

Minutes from the recent Deacon's meeting were reviewed and received gratefully.

June 8th – Pentecost Sunday - we will have cake in the pavilion, weather permitting.

Proposed outdoor worship at Crestview on August 24th.

Next big church event will be the June picnic at Plains Church in the pavilion – June 22nd at 12:30. Plans were discussed about bringing food and playing various games. Positive comments from the “puzzle and pies” event.

VBS is coming up quickly, scheduled for July 14-18. We will be using the pavilion this year for Friday night's activities.

Tom demonstrated the AED machine.

Thank you note received from the Mars Home for Youth for the towels we provided.

Security cameras project and kitchen capital campaign are still pending.

Congregational Meeting June 29th after worship. The purpose of the meeting will be to have the congregation endorse / support the Session calling a new Pastor. Motion by Frank Aloï, seconded by Tiffany to consider congregational endorsement of calling a Pastor. Motion passed.


Tiffany attended the Presbytery meeting and reported on some of the activities.

Next Session meeting will be determined once Pastor Porter talks with Park Church.

Respectfully Submitted,



Tim Roscoe
Clerk of Session

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				2025	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Worship 11:00am						
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Worship 11:00am SWAM Meeting						
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Worship 11:00am Deacon Meeting Coffee Connection hosted by Discipleship						
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Summer Worship Outside at Old Union 10:00am						
31						
Worship 11:00am						



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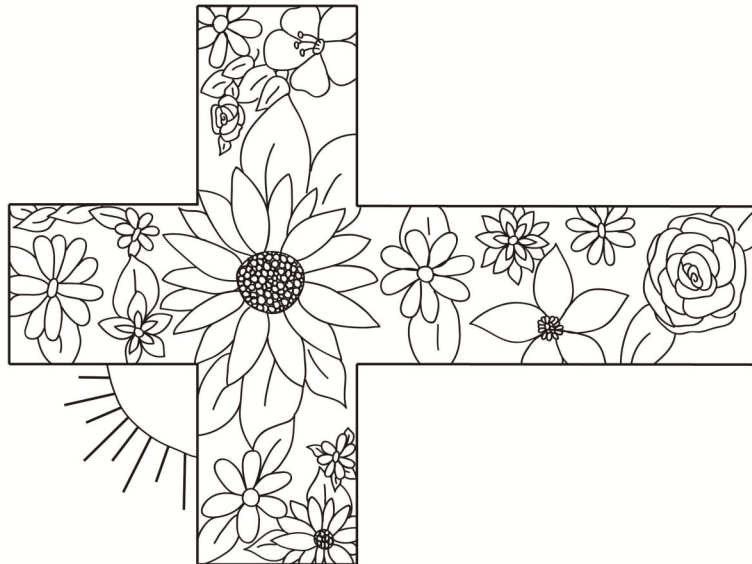
Cranberry Township, PA 16066

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