

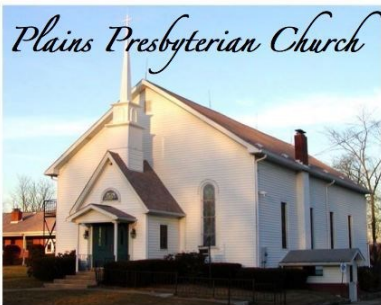
THE PLAIN TALK



2023

**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

The Greatest Christmas Gift

Ah Christmas – What a season – decorating, writing cards, baking cookies, shopping – never ending shopping – for food and gifts and more food. Wondering what to give to Aunt Millie or to Uncle Leo. Can I re-gift that dust-buster that Cousin Judy gave me last year to Cousin Lisa? Wait – did Cousin Judy tell Cousin Lisa that she gave me a dust-buster? If I give it to Cousin Lisa will she know? Ah the decisions. What to do, what to do.

I have it easy. My wife Amy usually buys gifts for everyone, and I just have to buy things for her. She has excellent taste, and I usually don't even know what she buys our daughter Susie, so I have as much fun finding out what Susie gets as Susie does. A good time is had by all when Amy on Christmas morning retells the stories of each gift purchase. How someone cut her off in line, or the wrong thing came via Amazon, or what a terrific deal something was – it was almost free! Whatever. Sometimes the stories are as exciting as the gift itself. It's a whole process. Stand back and take it all in!

With all the hustle and bustle, time seems to fly. How do we get everything done in time? Will we get everything done in time? When is it time to relax and enjoy the Holiday? This makes me think of how busy God must be. I don't think we have the capacity to imagine how busy God is. Creating life, keeping track of all creation, listening to the prayers of millions of people – every day all day – and somehow manages to get everything done.

I recall that God created the heavens and earth in six days and rested on the seventh. I don't know if God needs rest, but He knows that we need rest, and He showed us that it was OK to rest. He set a great example for us. Rest is a good gift – and I enjoy it totally, but God had a better gift in mind. He gave us the most perfect gift, one size fits all – His Son Jesus was given to everyone of us. Accept the Gift with the love with which it was given. A gift that you love that loves you back – Wow! What an amazing gift!

So, I suggest that we take the time to rest and consider the greatest gift ever given – The gift of Jesus Christ and what he did for all of us around 2,000 years ago. Please take some time to rest this Holiday Season and reflect on the Greatest Gift ever given to mankind – The gift of Jesus Christ, the forgiveness of sin and the assurance of eternal life.

Merry Christmas!

-Tim Roscoe

Elder of the Month
Tiffany Aloï
Deacon of the Month
Denise Kremmel



December 3rd

1st Sunday of Advent
9:45am Adult Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service
Deacon Meeting

December 10th

2nd Sunday of Advent
9:45am Adult Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service

December 17th

3rd Sunday of Advent
9:45am Adult Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service
Coffee Connection hosted by
Session/Elders

December 24

4th Advent of Sunday
11:00 am Worship Service

Christmas Eve Service

Time: 7:00pm

“Lessons in Carols”

December 31st

9:45am Adult Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service
Hymn Sing

Helping with Worship This Month

Worship Leaders:

December 3rd - Susan Reed
December 10th - Tiffany Aloï
December 17th - Tiffany Aloï
December 24th—Tiffany Aloï
December 31st - Amy Roscoe



December 9 Mary Walter
December 13 Wanda Rice
December 21 Alora Selling
December 30 Raymond Walter



December 1 Bruce & Denise Kremmel



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 :

- Corina Taylor
- Jenny Stafford
- Nancy - Kathy Carter
- Betty Lehman
- Jon - Julie Young
- Jane Merriman - Denise K.
- Bob Henry - Tiffany Aloï
- Jack Ost - Cathy Stafford's brother
- Tom Harris - Ann Nutter
- Rhonda S. - Tiffany Aloï
- Friends and Family of Dorothy Jones
- Friends and Family of Grace Dent

Our friends who are in assisted living:

Nancy Jones , Eileen Kaufman & Don Peirce.

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

PLAINS BOOK CLUB

Next Meeting - December 7th

10:00am

Book Club Leader:

Sue McKinley

sue.w.mckinley@gmail.com



Session Meeting

January 2024 - TBA

Deacon Meeting

Sunday, December 3rd

Worship Meeting

Sunday, January 14th



VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO HELP DECORATE THE SANCTUARY FOR CHRISTMAS & ADVENT

When: Saturday, December 2, 2023

Time: 9:00am

Donuts will be provided!

BYOC (Bring your own coffee)

Any questions please contact Frank Aloï

STEWARDSHIP 2024

Please remember 2024 pledge cards are due back no later than December 3rd. If you have any questions on pledge cards or the 2024 Stewardship drive please see David Cardillo.

ANNUAL REPORTS DUE

All Committee chairs please submit your annual reports.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Where: Fellowship Hall

Time: 9:45am

RSVP: Burt & Nancy Duerring

eacinc@zoominternet.net

The topic will be "Sermon on the Mount" Study guides will be provided by the Christian Ed. Committee



FAREWELL TO REV. DR. JON NELSON

The Deacons hosted a Farewell Cake & Coffee Reception
on November 19, 2023 for
Pastor Jon and his wife Michelle.

Best Wishes to you both!

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 1st - Last day to order poinsettias

December 2nd - Volunteers are needed to help decorate for Christmas & Advent at 9:00am

December 3rd - Last day of Deacons Food Drive

December 3rd - Stewardship Pledge Cards are due

December 3rd - Deacons Meeting after worship

December 16th - Wreaths Across America (noon) & Coffee & Donuts (10:00am) hosted by
WAA committee in the fellowship hall before ceremony.

December 17th - Coffee Connection hosted by Session/Elders after worship.

December 24th - Lessons in Carols - Christmas Eve - 9 Scripture Readings followed by a song.

December 31st - Hymn Sing

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

ADVENT HYMNS

Please join us this Advent Season as our Sunday message will focus on some of our favorite Christmas Hymns!

Sunday, December 3rd - "Go, Tell It on the Mountain"

Sunday, December 10th - "Joy to the World"

Sunday, December 17th - "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Sunday, December 24th - "O Come all Ye Faithful"

And mark your calendars for Christmas Eve at 7:00pm, where we will present our

"Lessons in Carols" service!

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE - 7:00pm

Lessons in Carols

Scriptures and Song

9 Scriptures Readings followed by song

Volunteers are needed to read at least one or two scriptures.

Contact Frank Aloï or the Church Office if you would like to be a volunteer.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Remember if you purchased a Poinsettia you may take it home after the Christmas Eve service.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wreaths Across America

Saturday, December 16, 2023

Where: Plains Church Cemetery

Time: 12:00 noon



Remember Our Fallen U.S. Veterans

Wreaths Across America's Mission

Remember, Honor, Teach

The mission is carried out in part by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington, as well as at veterans' cemeteries and other locations in all 50 states.

Since its founding, the organization has expanded to include nearly 3,000 local fundraising groups in all 50 states, representing more than 2,150 participating locations, in addition to Arlington National Cemetery.

Every year since 2008, Congress proclaims a Saturday in December as National Wreaths Across America Day. This year, it will be held on Saturday, December 16, 2023.

COFFEE & DONUTS

Come join us before the Wreaths Across America Ceremony for coffee and donuts.

When: 10:00am

Where: Fellowship Hall

Property Committee News



BEFORE



AFTER

WINDOW REPLACEMENT

Window replacement has been completed in the nursery school classrooms, pastor and church office.

Eleven Window were replaced.



THE HOME DEPOT INSTALL



Youth Events

Beaver-Butler Presbytery YOUTH GROUP BOWLING PARTY



SUNDAY January 28, 2024

3pm -5pm

Family Bowlaway Fun Center

540 Fairground Hill Rd, Butler, PA 16001

YOU MUST RSVP to Diana to attend the event.

Deadline to RSVP is 1/15/24

dianamermon@beaverbutler.org

or 412-915-2097

CNS NEWS

We have had a busy fall at Cranberry Nursery School. The students wore a variety of costumes for their Halloween parties. A new photographer took school pictures which turned out beautifully. The Nursery and Pre-K classes celebrated a Charlie Brown Thanksgiving with a small feast, movie and other activities. We are now gearing up for the Christmas holiday with Deck The Halls, decorating the tree, Santa's Workshop and fun holiday parties. Lot's of surprises are in store.

We are looking ahead to the 2024-2025 school year and will begin registration in January. Please tell you friends about our special school. A reminder we require all students are up to date on their immunizations.

The staff of CNS wishes all of the members of Plains Presbyterian Church a happy, healthy and blessed holiday season.

Angela Kushner
Director
Cranberry Nursery School
724-538-8785





Nominations from the Congregation

The nominating committee would like to give the congregation an opportunity to submit names to fill the vacancies for Elders, Deacons, and Auditor. Prayerfully consider your choice, place their names on this form, and place it in the offering plate.

**** ELDER ****

An Elder should be a person of faith, dedication, and good judgment, demonstrating the gospel both within the church, and in the world. He or She should have the abilities to encourage members to take an active role in the life of the church, encourage members to listen for their spiritual calling, shepherd the members and look after those in need and cultivate their ability to teach the Bible.

**** DEACON ****

A Deacon should be of spiritual character, honest repute, of exemplary lives, has brotherly and sisterly love, warm sympathies and sound judgment.

**** AUDITOR ****

A person versed in accounting procedures to review the books and records relating to finances of the church.

**** Nominating Committee Member ****

A person who is able to discern who in the congregation is lead by the Holy Spirit and has the leadership abilities to fulfill the position of Elder, Deacon, and Auditor.

Please add more names on the back if you need more space!

Plains Presbyterian Church

Session Highlights

Monday, October 23, 2023

Fellowship Hall

Below are some of the Session Highlights from our meeting on October 23, 2023.

Rev. Dr. Jon opened with prayer at 7:06 p.m. and with a reading from Ephesians 4:2 , Chapter 18. Pastor Jon reminds us that Christ binds us together. We are parts of that body. Our church is solid in its faith.

Communion was served to 39 people on October 1, 2023.

All is well with CNS. There is a local family that has immigrated here from Israel and perhaps the church can help.

Our net income is positive at this point.

Session received the Treasurer's report by consensus.

Operation Christmas Child will be done this year. 50 boxes are in the back of the church for your use.

Deacons have made donations to Presbyterian Disaster Outreach, Emmaus Community Outreach, Evans City Food Bank, and the Seneca Valley "No Cost to Shop Store".

Window replacement in the CNS building will be done when it can be scheduled.

Pledge packages have been sent out and some are starting to be returned.


Communion Dates for 2024 were presented and approved - January 7, March 28, March 31, May 19, October 6, and December 22. Communion dates may be adjusted if we do not have someone that can serve communion leading us in worship.

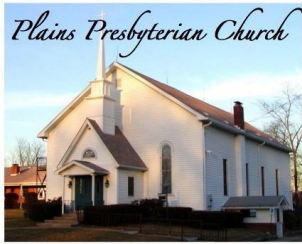
Frank Aloï reviewed the plans through the end of the year.

Next Regular Session Meeting will be on Monday, November 13, 2023 at 7:00 pm with Rev. Dr. Jon Nelson moderating.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tim Roscoe
Clerk of Session

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2 Decorating Sanctuary – 9am
3 Adult Bible Study 9:45am Worship 11:00am Deacon Meeting after worship	4	5	6	7 Book Club - 10:00am	8	9
10 Adult Bible Study 9:45am Worship 11:00am	11	12	13	14	15	16 Wreaths Across America (noon) Coffee & Donuts 10:00am fellowship hall
17 Adult Bible Study 9:45am Worship 11:00am Coffee Connection hosted by Session/Elders	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 Christmas Eve Worship 11:00am	25 Christmas	26	27	28	29	30
31 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.”

