



Plains Presbyterian Church

Serving the community since 1806



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Part of the joy of the classroom setting is the time to reflect it provides. As I am writing to you, with my sandwich in one hand, I have been in the process of thinking and meditating upon a passage of scripture we all love.

I love reading the Word of God. It is not only helpful in my reflection pastorally about who I am called to be as a pastor, but it helps me reflect personally as well as I think about who I am as a father and husband. The universality of God's message means that any text I read, regardless of the passage, seems to contain many valuable nuggets for my life- and I hope for yours as well. With that in mind, let me ask you about one of those such passages... Romans 12:2.

We all know that this is the section of Paul's letter to the Christians in Rome where he is asking, appealing might be a better word, the church to offer their lives as a living sacrifice to the Lord. This is not only a spiritual act of worship, a reasonable one for sure as the text says, but it is a bodily act we engage in. But the end of verse 2 is what I want you to stop and think about in your own personal lives.

Far too frequently we think and analyze scripture by considering it in a "macro" sense. How does this apply to the church, or the township I live in, or the government I live under? And I believe there is great value in those reflections. They help us dream "big" dreams about what life becomes when we see it through the lens of God's Word. That task can be daunting and painful because as we line up the Word of God with our world's lives, things often do not find resonance.

But for this month, I want you to think about those words in light of your personal life. Do not just consider them in light of your family or children's lives, but just in your life. Spend some honest time with God-one on one. And the phrase I want you to think about is the end of verse 2.

"Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is- his good, pleasing, and perfect will."

Discerning God's will for a person can be challenging. I can tell you what the will of God is for the person sitting next me at this classroom table. It is easy to put on judgmental glasses and speak about that individual in a negative light. But can I look into myself, see what is occurring in my mind, and then, faithfully, speak about God's will for me?

The Word tells me that this work is good, pleasing, and perfect, but how seldom do I really push deep into myself, which will cause me a degree of conviction, and then tell God what is happening in my life?

As our congregational work continues together, I want to both invite and challenge you this month. Can you have that conversation with God-not for or about someone else? But can you have it about yourself?

Blessings
Rev. Derek

Romans 12:2b NIV taken from you version app.

Helping with Worship This Month

Elder of the Month

Tim Rausch

Deacon of the Month

Dena Solman

Worship Leaders

- 05 Tony Poleti
- 12 Jennifer Marotta
- 19 Ron Carter
- 26 Tiffany Aloï

Greeters

- 05 Arch & Maggie Simpson
- 12 Eunice G. & Denise K.
- 19 Norah Collins & Cathy S.
- 26 Linda & Jean Treese

Nursery Workers

- 05 Julie Young
- 12 Ron & Kathy Carter
- 19 Norah Collins
- 26 Melissa Holcomb



Worship Schedule

February 5

9:30 am Sunday School
 11:00 am Worship Service
Congregational Meeting Part II

February 12

9:30 am Sunday School
 11:00 am Worship Service

February 19

9:30 am Sunday School
 11:00 am Worship Service
Mission Sunday
Coffee Connections

February 26

9:30 am Sunday School
 11:00 am Worship Service



Feb. 2	Leslie Dambaugh & Karl Koebler
Feb. 3	Joe Anthony
Feb. 4	Kay Uthman
Feb. 10	Sydney Rausch
Feb. 12	Lucas Carter
Feb. 15	Tiffany Aloï
Feb. 22	Tony D. Poleti
Feb. 23	Melanie Sturrock
Feb. 24	Chloe Kuntz
Feb. 26	Jack Dixon & Jim Lehman
Feb. 28	Chris Leisie



Feb. 19	Ernie & Nancy Jones
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CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Congregational Meeting Part II
will be held on Sunday,
February 5th
immediately after the Service

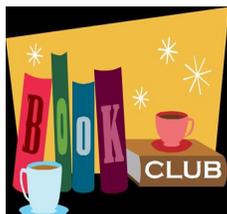


Coffee Connections
February 19th hosted by
the Deacons



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

- Frank & Marjory L.
- Shirley Kushner •Jim Dambaugh
- Betty Budney •Evalyn's sister
- Corina Taylor
- Jean Treese •Ron's dad, John
- Andy Aloï •Jay's friend
- Autumn's grandfather, Bud
- John Finlay •Dean
- Ashley's triplets •Baby Clayton
- Rachel Campbell •Ethan Leisie
- The Lehman's daughter, Carol
- Joe Appel •Carl & Evelyn Koebler



The next Book Club meeting will be
held on Thursday, February 2nd at
10:00 am at Plains Church in the
basement.

Happy
Valentine's
Day



CNS News

Open registration for the 2016-2017 school year has begun.

We offer:

- ~three Nursery classes,
- ~two Pre-K classes
- ~two Half-Pints classes

Space is limited. If you know of anyone who would like to register, please have them call the church office at 724-538-8785.

CNS will be hosting an Open House on Thursday, February 11th
from 6:30 - 8:00

Please stop by and check out our school.

Youth Group Event

Mark your calendars:

The 30 Hour Famine will be held here at Plains Church on Friday, February 17th. It is an overnight lock-in and the Park Presbyterian Church Youth Group will be joining us for this event.

More information to follow as we get closer to the date.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2017  FEBRUARY			1	2 10:00 am Book Club meeting	3	4
5 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship Service <i>Congregational Meeting Part II</i>	6	7	8	9	10	11 Church Basement Rental ~ 1pm-6pm
12 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship Service	13	14 	15	16	17	18 Youth Group event (a.m.)
19 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship Service	20	21	22 7:00 pm Choir practice	23	24 Youth Group overnight lock-in event	25
26 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship Service	27 7:00 pm Session mtg.	28				



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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.”



Kids' Zone

