

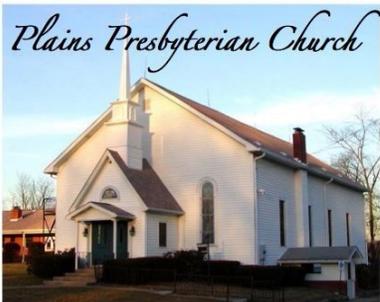
THE
PLAIN
TALK

February

2019

Plains
Presbyterian
Church

Serving the
community
since 1806



326 Plains Church Road
Cranberry Twp., PA 16066
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www.plainschurch.com

A Word from Rev. Derek:

As I sit here writing to you, the cold of winter is here. I almost fell down three times coming into the church as a silent sheet of ice has covered my walkway, the parking lot, and the sidewalk into the church—scary stuff for someone with a reconstructed right knee. I can't imagine what would happen if I did fall on it sometimes. If I were completely honest, I would tell you that this has not been a great day.

The schools were on a 2-hour-delay because of the ice. I knew they would be as I was outside at 5:30am to let our dogs out and felt the cold drizzle hit my face. Nevertheless, I was not deterred from my morning ritual. As the kids and I headed out to start or day things turned for the worse.

JonMark slipped on our rubber doormat, twisted his ankle badly, and landed on the same ankle with his full weight. Emma rushed to his side to check his ankle and in seconds it started swelling up badly. He tried to soldier it out by limping to the bus stop. He is okay now, but it really hurt. It hurt so much that he could only endure about half of the day of school before I needed to go pick him up. The ride home was silent as his wounded foot was elevated on the seat next to him and he closed his eyes in obvious relief. It was finally over.

His injury made a change in my day not only necessary, but essential. I needed to be there for him. I helped him get situated at home and ice his foot. Lunch was eaten while I drove to get him and know as I write the day has spiraled out of control. Nothing I planned to do is getting done. I feel frantically behind in my day.

I sat back in my chair and began to read the new book on my desk. *Wearing God* by Lauren F. Winner is a great little book that I recommend. In it Lauren wonders what encountering God would be like if we could see God in the dailiness of life—in our food, our clothing, our smells, and our families. It is a collection of essays that push the accepted metaphors of God into an imaginative place and invite us to dream a bit. I say this because as I was reading her book, I found a section about communion helpful when my day became stressful and I worried that JonMark broke his ankle (which he didn't by the way).

Lauren wonders what would happen to our understanding of Jesus and his communion if we re-imagined the union promised at the Lord's Table. She says, "Maybe one of the invitations He [Jesus] was making at the Last Suppers was an invitation to anxious middle-class [people]...in the future—the invitation to let His bread and His wine and His Eucharist reshape the way we hold and eat and sip and feel about all bread."

She continues... "In the Middle Ages, several female mystics compared the soul in union with God [in communion] to bread that soaks up—and grows engorged with—honey or mead."

As I read that, and reflected upon a day that has not gone according to plan, I remember that Jesus offers us so much of himself. He offers to fill us to a level we struggle to imagine or accept.

Maybe the "muchness" Winner speaks of when she talks about Jesus at the communion table is a "muchness" that engorges my tired soul that tries to make sense of expectations that get out of control, or of days that spiral in directions I do not want. Maybe the closer I draw to Jesus, as Winner suggests, the more I sense and feel him filling me, expanding in me, until the issues and pains of my day pale when compared to the greatness of God in my life... food for thought?

Blessings
Rev. Derek

Helping with Worship This Month

Elder of the Month

Tim Rausch

Deacon of the Month

Jennifer Marotta

Worship Leaders

03 Tim Roscoe

10 Tiffany Aloï

17 Tony Poletì

24 Steve Raatz

Greeters

03 Jay & Bonnie Carmichael

10 Archie Maggie Simpson

17 Eunice Guenther & Denise Kremmel

24 Norah Collins & Linda Treese

Nursery Workers

03 Julie Young

10 Erica Selling

17 Ann Lunney

24 Ron & Kathy Carter



Worship Schedule

February 3

9:45 am Sunday School

11:00 am Worship Service

Souper Bowl of Caring

Chili Cook-Off

Youth Group - Escape Room

February 10

9:45 am Sunday School

11:00 am Worship Service

Congregation II Annual Report

February 17

9:45 am Sunday School

11:00 am Worship Service

Worship Meeting after service

February 24

9:45 am Sunday School

9:45 Deacon Meeting

11:00 am Worship Service



February 1 Karl Koebler
 February 2 Leslie Dambaugh
 February 2 Mary Walter
 February 4 Kay Uthman
 February 4 Larry Duncan
 February 10 Sydney Manual
 February 12 Lucas Carter
 February 15 Tiffany Aloï
 February 22 Tony D. Poletì
 February 23 Melanie Sturrock
 February 24 Chloe Kuntz
 February 26 Jack Dixon
 February 26 Jim Lehman
 February 28 Chris Leisie



February 19 Ernie and Nancy Jones



Coffee Connections
Sunday, February 17th
Hosted by Deacons

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.)

UPCOMING EVENTS:

MISSION TRIP:

Interested in going on the International Children's Network Mission Trip?

Updating Volunteer List:

Please contact Norah Collins or Janet Duncan to add your name to a call list to assist for bereavement meals. Assistance is needed towards food donations, cooking, setting-up, serving, and cleaning. Your time is greatly appreciated.

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.

Meetings occur on the first Thursday of each month at 10am in the Church's basement.



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
- Karl Koebler
- Bill - Betty's brother
- Charlotte Glaspey
- Yvette - Tiffany's sister
- John Finlay
- Nancy Jones
- Clyde – Amy's uncle
- Tim– Linda's brother
- Family of Chuck McDonald
- Family & Friends of Dan Ost
- Deane Lavender
- Gerri– Wanda's sister
- Ron Rice
- Kushner family
- Cooperrider family
- Liz
- Katie - Tiffany's friend
- Jeannette – Burt's aunt

- Our friends who are in assisted living: Martha Malone, Betty Budney & Eileen Kaufman

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

The Fall Worship Schedule:

Sunday School at 9:45AM

Worship at 11:00am



PER CAPITA

2019 Per Capita is \$40.69 per member.

Blue envelopes are provided or pay on online giving please note that it's for the per capita. Thank you for your support.

REMINDER:

Congregational Meeting Part II

February 10, 2019

CHOIR PRACTICE

New members are welcome!

Choir practice is over and will resume in March.

Please contact Kathy Robinson

BREAKFAST AT PLAINS !

Chef Tim will be making breakfast on the 2nd Sunday of every month starting around 8:30am.

Calendar of Events

February 3rd - Souper Bowl of Caring
Chili Cook-Off after worship

February 3rd - Youth Group-
Escape Room at Breakout Games

February 5th - New Project Committee
Meeting at 7:00pm

February 7th - Book Club 10:00am

February 10th - Congregational II/
Annual Report 2019

February 17th - Worship Meeting after
service

February 18th - Session Meeting at
7:00pm

February 20th - Men's Group Meeting at
NPL 7pm

February 24th - Deacon Meeting 9:45am

HISTORY CORNER:

Session Minutes: February 19, 1883

The session and congregation of Plains agree to organize a church in Evans City to be known as the Evans City Presbyterian Church (now Westminster).

On-Line Giving is now available for you convenience. Log on and check it out www.plainschurch.com

Scan the QR code:



CNS News & Highlights

Registration for the 2019-2020 school year has begun.

OUR STAFF:

Half~Pints: Teacher - Komal Dietz; Aide - Diana Beaudoin

Nursery: Teacher - Jonee Mascellino; Aide - Darlene Grieco

Pre-K: Teacher - Amy Zugell; Aide - Lisa Bender

Director: Angela Kushner

CNS FUNDRAISERS:

CNS is collecting Chick-fil-A receipts. An envelope on the bulletin board in the CNS hallway is where they will be collected.

KidStuff Coupon Savings Books for Sale!

\$25.00

Coupons include:

H&M, Chuck E. Cheese, Michaels, Barnes & Noble, Macy's, Dick's Sporting Goods, Justice, Ruby Tuesday, Burlington.

CNS has a new website.

<http://cranberrynurseryschool.com/>

Souper Bowl Of Caring



&



Get out those family recipes!

Enter your best Chili or Soup

Don't forget to bring on the heat!

Chili & Soup Contest/Luncheon

February 3, 2019

After worship

Prizes awarded!

We also need sides and desserts

Sign up sheet in the narthex

“Life Keys”

Steve and Julie Raatz will be hosting an adult study in their home on the 2nd Sunday of the month beginning 2/10/2019 at 6pm.

They will have a pot-luck, and for the first session will provide the main dish. The study will be from a book called “Life Keys” by David Stark. You can purchase this from Amazon, if you are unable to do so contact Julie and she can get it for you. “LifeKeys” is NOT “The Purpose Driven Life”. It is a way to help you understand what spiritual gifts you have been given and what passions you have. Young or old, we can all learn more about ourselves and how we can best be of service to others in our church or our community.

There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex if you are interested. Come join us, you are welcome here!

Steve & Julie Raatz

852 Sunset Circle

Cranberry Twp., PA 16066

Julie-612-741-7636



Events for February

The youth have decided to that an Escape Room is next on the agenda.

Breakout Games in the North Hills.

February 3, 2019 after church please bring your permission slips. Bring \$15.00-\$20.00. The amount depends on how many attend. See you then.

SPRING RETREAT IS PLANNED FOR MARCH 29-31.

More information soon.

Confirmation Class 2019

Once again it is time to consider what membership means in the life of your youth in this church. As the Book of Order tells us; "Membership in the Church of Jesus Christ is a joy and a privilege. It is also a commitment to participate in Christ's mission. A faithful member bears witness to God's love and grace and promises to be involved responsibly in the ministry of Christ's Church." (Book of Order G-1.0304)

Please spend some time praying and talking with you child about their involvement in this class. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Rev. Derek.

Child's Name: _____

Plains Presbyterian Church

Congregational Meeting Part I Minutes

Sunday, December 9, 2018

Church Sanctuary

Rev. Derek Marotta opened the meeting with prayer at 12:21 p.m.

Tim Roscoe, Clerk of Session, certified that there was a quorum of the membership present.

Rev. Derek asked the question do we want to vote on each office individually, or all the officers at once. The consensus from the congregation was to vote on all the offices at once.

Election of Officers

Bob Young, Chairman of the Nominating Committee thanked the members of the 2018 Nominating Committee, and placed the following names into nomination.

Elder Class of 2021 – Erin McKinley, Sue Reed, Tim Rausch

Deacon Class of 2021 – Ann Lunney, Julie Raatz

Auditor (Three Year Term) – Steve Raatz

Auditor (One Year Term) – Kathy Carter

Nominating Committee (From the congregation) for 2019 – Denise Kremmel, Ann Lunney, Rich Magill, Amy Roscoe, & Mary Walter

Rev. Derek asked if there were any nominations from the floor. There were none.

Motion that the nominations be closed made by Steve Raatz. Seconded by Jennifer Marotta. Motion passed.

Motion by Jennifer Marotta to accept the officers as nominated. Seconded by Alex Carter. Motion Passed.

Terms of Call for Pastoral Services

Rev. Derek and family were excused from the meeting. Tim Roscoe, Clerk of Session acted as Moderator.

Tim explained that as we did last year, the congregation is responsible to review the terms of the Pastor call and approve them. Session has reviewed the terms and they meet the Presbytery required minimums. Session by consensus recommends that the congregation approve the terms of call.

Frank Aloï, Treasurer reviewed the terms of call.

Tim asked if there were any questions about the terms of call. Frank answered various questions about the terms of call.

Motion that the congregation accept the terms of the Pastor's Call made by Kathy Carter. Seconded by Steve Raatz.

Motion passed.

Rev. Derek and family were asked to return to the meeting.

Motion to adjourn by Kathy Carter. Seconded by Roberta Lemon. Motion Passed.

Rev. Derek closed with prayer 12:39 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tim Roscoe

Plains Presbyterian Church
Session Highlights
November 2018

Session met on Monday, November 19, 2018. Below are some of the highlights of that meeting.

Helen Sproat passed on November 10, 2018 and will be removed from the active roll.

Christopher Paul Wood was baptized on November 18, 2018, by Rev. Derek in the Church Sanctuary.

Session reviewed the financial status of the church. We are about \$12,000 behind budget on giving.

Approved Deacons accepting a Christmas Joy offering on the 4th Sunday of December.

Pavilion Project meeting is coming along.

Worship at Sherwood Oaks will be on December 2, 2018.

Pastor's terms of call have been reviewed by Session and Session recommends approval by consensus.

Discussed participating in the 4th of July parade in Zelienople in 2019.

Maybe have a free turkey dinner next year for people in the surrounding communities at Thanksgiving.

Permanent sidewalk handrail will be installed in the Spring.

Worship committee meeting on December 2nd.

Next Regular Session Meeting will be on Monday, January 21, 2019 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tim Roscoe
Clerk of Session

PLAINS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Current Church Officer Information

ELDER

Class of 2019

Tom Lunney
Steve Walter
Bob Young *

Class of 2020

Tiffany Aloï
Ron Carter
Steve Raatz

Class of 2021

Erin McKinley
Tim Rausch
Susan Reed

* = Required to rotate off for a year

DEACON

Class of 2019

Sue McKinley
Julie Young

Class of 2020

Jen Marotta
JonMark Marotta

Class of 2021

Ann Lunney
Julie Raatz

AUDITOR

Class of 2019

Kathy Carter

Class of 2020

Denise Kremmel

Class of 2021

Steve Raatz

NOMINATING COMMITTEE for 2019

NOMINATING COMMITTEE – From the Congregation

Denise Kremmel
Ann Lunney
Rich Magill
Amy Roscoe
Mary Walter
Tim Roscoe (Elder)
To be named (Deacon)
Bob Young (Elder)

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Ash Wednesday

Plains Church Rev. Tom Clyde will lead worship & Rev. Derek Marotta will distribute ashes.

Lent

Crestview

March 13

March 27

April 10

Plains

March 20

April 3

Dinners will be served at Crestview & Plains before Lent Services

More information to follow:

Seder Meal – Served at Plains – 6:00pm

APRIL EVENTS:

April 14 - Palm Sunday

April 15-17 - Holy Week

April 18 - Maundy Thursday

April 19 - Good Friday

April 21 - Easter

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
		February				2019	
					1	2	
3 Sunday School-9:45am Worship-11:00am Chili Cook off Youth Group Event	4	5 New Project Committee Meeting 7pm	6	7 Book Club Meeting 10am	8	9	
10 Sunday School-9:45am Worship - 11:00am Congregational Meeting II	11	12	13	14	15	16	
17 Sunday School-9:45am Worship - 11:00am Worship Meeting-after service	18 Session Meeting at 7:00pm	19	20 Men's Group Meeting at NPL 7:00pm	21	22	23	
24 Sunday School-9:45am Deacon Meeting 9:45am Worship - 11:00am	25	26	27	28			



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.”

