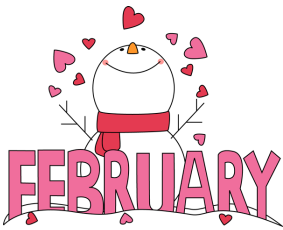


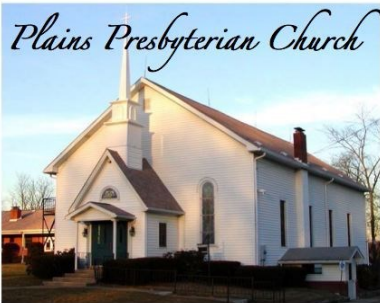
# THE PLAIN TALK



**2023**

**Plains  
Presbyterian  
Church**

**Serving the  
community  
since 1806**



*Rev. Dr. Jon Nelson*

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

## **A Word from Rev. Dr. Jon Nelson:**

As we approach February, perhaps you didn't meet your new year's resolution. If you have, good job! However, if you are like me, those resolutions slowly slip away as we return to our old patterns. That is why I find such comfort in the words of Paul in his second letter to the Corinthians, "So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day." Paul reminds us that the good news we have in Christ is renewed each day. Sure, we fall of the horse, but through the grace of Christ, each day is a new day of possibility and life.

None of us can hold back time. Wrinkles form, pains increase, eyes get weaker, these are but a few of the realities we face as we get older. As I look at celebrities, I often shake my head in sadness at the many ways they try to appear younger through such drastic steps as cosmetic surgery, Botox injections, fitness trainers, supplements, and extreme diets. Our worth shouldn't be wrapped up in our appearance. Fighting time is a losing proposition and the more we try to appear youthful, the more anxious and frustrated we will become.

Now, that doesn't mean we can't choose better eating patterns and healthier lifestyle choices, but ultimately our hope is not in this body, but in our hope of the resurrection. It is to that life and eternal hope which we are moving towards each day. In Christ, the passing of time isn't something to be feared, but rather celebrated. Each day we are being renewed by his grace. Every moment, we are drawing closer, inch by inch, second by second, to our final goal of complete peace, unity and purity with God and all his creation. This is the inevitable outcome for each of us as we become more like Christ.

So do not fear if you are not everything that you hoped to be. Instead turn those hopes towards God and strive for the achievement which God has promised. Each step towards God is a step towards eternity. Where beauty and youthfulness fade, the achievements of Christ's love and grace never expire within us. They live on within us and within all with whom we share these gifts.

As we move closer to Lent, let us be reminded by Paul that we are each on a holy journey. Some days will seem more productive towards others, but as the early church leader Irenaeus taught, "Each of us is on a journey to the cross." So let us pick up our cross and follow Jesus to Calvary. If we stumble, Jesus is there to pick us back up and set us back on track.

Also, we must not forget that we are not alone in our travels. We have the fellowship of fellow disciples to help us along the way. Whichever way that you choose to follow Christ this Lenten season, through a devotional, a new discipline, a sacrifice or any of the number of ways to dedicate ourselves to Christ's calling, remember you are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses to help you along the way.

I am excited about sharing Lent with these churches. Our efforts together remind us of the truth of Paul's words: We are being renewed each day. Let us journey to the cross together shedding off the failures of our past and looking to the glorious possibilities we have in Christ Jesus.

Peace,

Pastor Jon

Elder of the Month

Julie Raatz

Deacon of the Month

Amy Roscoe

## Helping with Worship This Month

### Worship Leaders

February 5 Tim Roscoe

February 12 Susan Reed

February 19 Frank Aloï

February 26 Tiffany Aloï

### REV. DR. JON NELSON

Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday

After Hours: 724-213-8528 cell

#### February 5

9:45am Adult Bible Study

11:00 am Worship Service

#### February 12

9:45am Adult Bible Study

11:00 am Worship Service

Worship Meeting

#### February 19

9:45am Adult Bible Study

11:00 am Worship Service

Communion

Deacon Meeting

#### February 22

7:00pm Ash Wednesday

Where: Plains Church

Plains Church & Park Church

#### February 26

9:45am Adult Bible Study

11:00 am Worship Service



February 2 Leslie Dambaugh

February 4 Kay Uthman

February 12 Lucas Carter

February 15 Tiffany Aloï

February 20 Jeanne Fornadley Wade

February 22 Tony D. Poletì

February 24 Chloe Kuntz

February 25 Daphne Turner

February 26 Jim Lehman



February 19 Ernie and Nancy Jones



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

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

Chairperson Needed for Bereavement Meals

If you are interested in volunteering to take over the committee to serve bereavement meals please contact the church office.

Online Giving is now available for you convenience.

Log on and check it out [www.plainschurch.com](http://www.plainschurch.com)

Scan the QR code:



We also ask for prayers for the following :

- Corina Taylor
- Jenny Stafford
- Ernie & Nancy– Kathy Carter
- Betty Lehman
- Larry Magill
- Chris Wood's brother
- Audrey - Frank Aloï
- Family & Friends of Marlin Vidt
- Charles Crafton - Rev. Burkley's grandson

Our friends who are in assisted living:

Nancy Jones & Eileen Kaufman

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

**PLAINS BOOK CLUB**

February 2nd 10:00am

Book Club Leader: Sue McKinley  
sue.w.mckinley@gmail.com



**Session Meeting**

February 20, 2023

**Deacon Meeting**

February 19, 2023

**Worship Committee**

February 12, 2023

**CHOIR PRACTICE**

First Choir Practice is February 22nd - Ash Wednesday

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**February 2nd** - Book Club - 10:00am

**February 21st** - Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner - 6:00pm

Where: Park United Presbyterian Church

**February 22nd** - Ash Wednesday - 7:00pm

Where: Plains Presbyterian Church - Shared with Park Presbyterian Church

**February 22nd** - First Choir Practice

**February 28th** - April 4th - Lenten Study - 11:00am

Where: Park United Presbyterian Church - Park Hall (luncheon at noon) ZOOM - 7:00pm

Books can be purchased on Amazon or by calling Park UPC by February 16th.

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY**

Where: Fellowship Hall

Time: 9:45am

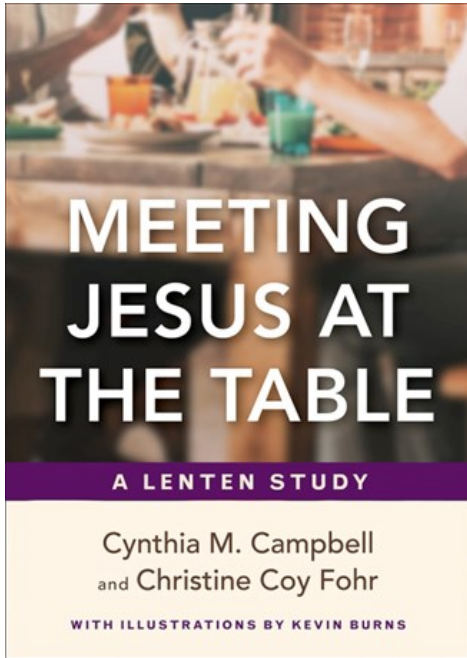
Book: Twelve Ordinary Men - Workbook

“how the master shaped his disciples for greatness and what he wants to do with you”

RSVP: Burt & Nancy Duerring

eacinc@zoominternet.net

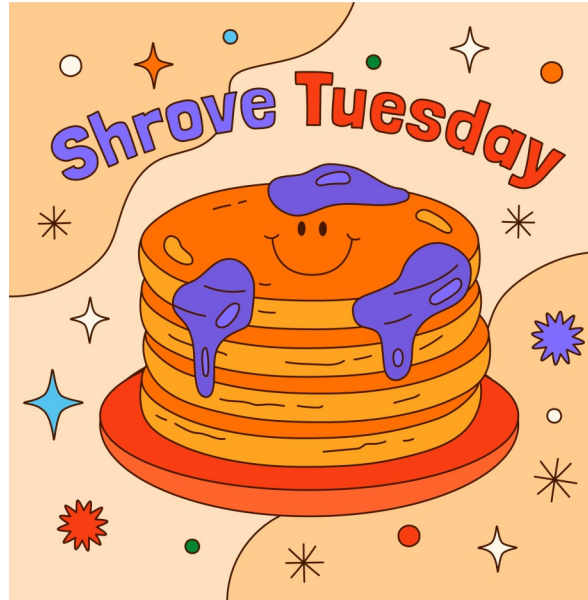
# Invitations from Park Presbyterian Church



## **Lenten Study**

Tuesdays February 28 - April 4  
11am Park Hall (Luncheon at Noon)  
7pm Zoom

Books can be purchased on Amazon or  
by calling Park UPC by February 16th



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner  
February 21 - 6pm  
Park United Presbyterian Church  
Freewill offering

# 2023 Per Capita

## **2023 PER CAPITA DUE**

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 2023, the Plains Church Per Capita is **\$42.90**.

We have already paid our fully assessed per capita for 2023.

As a member of Plains Church, please prayerfully consider giving your full Per Capita this year.

If you have any questions, please contact Frank Aloï ([Frankaloi@msn.com](mailto:Frankaloi@msn.com)) or the Church office.

Thank you!



**February 22, 2023**

**Ash Wednesday**

Where: Plains Church

Service: 7:00pm

**March 1, 2023**

Where: Crestview Church

Service: 7:00pm

**March 8, 2023**

Where: Old Union Church

Service 7:00pm

**March 15, 2023**

Where: Plains Church

Service: 7:00pm

**March 22, 2023**

Where: Crestview Church

Service: 7:00pm

**March 29, 2023**

Where: Old Union Church

Service: 7:00pm

**PLAINS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**COFFEE CONNECTION**

January 16th	Inreach/Outreach
February 19th	Deacons
March 19th	Worship Committee
April 16th	Inreach/Outreach
May 21st	Session/Elders
June 18th	Property Committee
July 23rd (VBS Recap)	Christian ED/VBS Committee
August 20th	Inreach/Outreach
September 17th	Property Committee
October 15th	Worship Committee
November 19th	Deacons
December 17th	Session/Elders
January 21st, 2024	Inreach/Outreach



# CNS NEWS

Cranberry Nursery School has begun registration for the 2023-2024 school year. Limited space is available. If you know anyone looking for a faith-based preschool with low student/teacher ratios, please send them our way. Tours are available.

CNS continues to collect Chick Fil A receipts to earn points towards their products. Please save your receipts and pass them along to the school. There is an envelope located on the bulletin board in the back of the church or you can leave them with the church secretary.

Blessings to All,  
Angela Kushner  
Director  
Cranberry Nursery School  
724-538-8785

# Plains Presbyterian Church

## Session Highlights

December 2022

Session met on Monday, December 19, 2022. Below are some of the highlights of that meeting.

Rev. Burkley opened with prayer at 7:05 p.m. and read / discussed Isaiah Chapter 40.

Rev. Burkley welcomed Dan and Sue to the Session and told them some of their next steps.

Approved the Session Meeting minutes from November 14, 2022 and Congregational Meeting Part 1 Minutes from December 4, 2022 by consensus

Frank Aloï and Tim Roscoe were elected as Treasurer and Clerk.

Communion dates for 2023 were approved by consensus. Dates for 2023 are January 8, February 19, April 6, May 28, September 10, October 1, November 26, and December 24

Communion was served on December 18, 2022 to 40 people.

Session reviewed the financial reports of the church. Our church financials are in good shape.

Frank Aloï reviewed the 2023 Pro Forma Budget. Frank is happy to update items if necessary. We will approve it at the Session meeting in January.

Church Mission money of \$1,400 was distributed by the Deacons. 126 Operation Christmas Child boxes were delivered.

Our partnership with "Welcome Wagon" will be starting soon.

Costs for the pavilion are going up. Looking into costs for window replacement in the CNS building, and the replacement of the retaining wall at the manse.

2023 Pledges received so far are Current Expenses \$80,557; General Mission Fund \$5,798; Building Fund \$5,353.

Ready for Christmas Day worship. Ron Carter will lead us with a hymn sing.

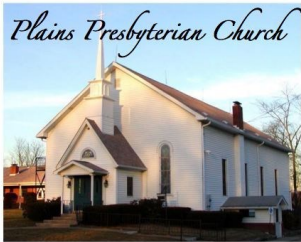
Next Regular Session Meeting will be on Monday, January 16, 2023 at 7:00 pm with Rev. Dr. Jon Nelson moderating.

Motion to adjourn by Steve Walter. Steve closed with prayer at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tim Roscoe  
Clerk of Session

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			<i>February</i>	<b>2023</b>		
			1	2	3	4
5 Adult Bible Study 9:45am Worship - 11:00am	6	7	8	9 Book Club 10:00am	10	11
12 Adult Bible Study 9:45am Worship 11:00am Worship Meeting	13	14 Valentines Day	15	16	17	18
19 Adult Bible Study 9:45am Worship 11:00am Communion Deacons Meeting	20 Session Meeting 7:00pm Presidents Day	21	22	23	24	25
26 Adult Bible Study 9:45am Worship 11:00am	27	28	Ash Wednesday - 7pm Choir Practice			



## 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.”

