



2020

**Plains
Presbyterian
Church**

**Serving the
community
since 1806**



*326 Plains Church Road
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A Word from Rev. Derek:

Part of my advent routine this year involved a tiny little book I ordered because my favorite author wrote it. I spent part of Advent reading *Walk Humbly*. It is a short text that is designed to be considered slowly and deliberately. Some days I am only able to read a single page as the text challenges me deeply about how I live my faith out in this context.

As we begin January, I want to share with you the author's take on Gratitude. He begins the section by saying, "Gratitude is the moment we turn from seeing dependence as a burden and begin to see it as a gift. Gratitude is the window we are given into how dependence creates relationship."

The author then creates a detailed story for the reader about an old woman whose eyesight fails to such a degree that she needs her neighbor's child to assist her with reading the mail. From that simple act, the woman begins to see that so many aspects of her life are tied into this child's presence with her. What she anticipated as a burden for the child becomes an opportunity to reflect on the care provided by another person who enters a relationship.

Add to this notion that child's parent notice that their child spent so much time next door that a new relationship is formed between neighbors. All four people became dependent upon each other, in the story, and the new relationship, which began only as a utilitarian duty is now a coveted blessing by all.

Our author reflects on this story by saying:

"This does dependence create relationship, and relationship unearths untold gifts and assets and blessings and innovations. And gratitude names the process by which the deficits [of life] turn, through our becoming open to one another's gentle companionship and unexpected grace, into assets of discovery. . . So much of current cultural development tries to address the challenges and traumas of these two neighbors through solutions that can be bought with a card or accessed by a phone. But gratitude knows what such solutions never comprehend. What gratitude knows is that existence is made up of setbacks, mistakes, challenges, and obstacles, and it is in facing and tackling and sometimes enduring those adversities that mortality is discovered, dependence recognized, and relationship sought. And it is in such relationship, and the unanticipated benefits that accompany it, that true joy lies."

In Advent God chose to offer us a relationship based on our dependence upon God. I spent time talking with you about isolation, loneliness, and despair because God can be present in each moment. From the dark places of depression and the hopelessness of isolation, Jesus' birth did not swat away those feelings but instead offered us a relationship based on grace, love, hope, and joy.

As we move in the new year and begin our mental transition from Christmas Joy to the cold winter, take time to reflect on the places where God used someone to draw you closer to him. It may have been a relationship you did not foster or anticipate, but now, after Advent, this can be a place to express gratitude to God for all that He has done for you.

Blessings
Rev. Derek

Helping with Worship This Month

Elder of the Month
Tim Rausch

Deacon of the Month
To be announced

Worship Leaders

05 Tim Rausch
12 Susan Reed
19 Frank Aloï
26 Jennifer Marotta

Greeters

05 Frank & Tiffany Aloï
12 Roberta Lemon & Joann Bark
19 Jennifer Marotta & Tony Poletì
26 Tim & Amy Roscoe

Nursery Workers

05 Ron & Kathy Carter
12 Norah Collins
19 Melissa Holcomb
26 Denise Kremmel



Worship Schedule

January 5

9:45am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service
Communion
Deacon Meeting
Undecorating Party

January 12

9:45am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service

January 19

9:45am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service
Coffee Connection
Worship Meeting

January 26

9:45am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service



January 5	Bob Rectenwald
January 6	Burt Duerring
January 6	Lana Holcomb
January 6	Gary Taylor
January 7	Kathy Carter
January 12	Rachel Kremmel
January 12	Kathy Robinson
January 14	Sue Rectenwald
January 14	Tom Lunney
January 15	Steve Ratz
January 27	Michaela Leisie
January 29	JonMark Marotta



January 26	Dan & Katie Greggs
January 30	Tom & Ann Lunney



Coffee Connections

Sunday, January 19th

Hosted by Inreach/Outreach

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.)

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
- Yvette - Tiffany's sister
- Matt Protzman
- Family & Friends of Steve & Julie Raatz
- Victoria - Kathy Carter
- Theresa– Denise Kremmel
- Kimberly - Roberta

Our friends who are in assisted living:

Martha Malone, Betty Budney , Nancy Jones & Eileen Kaufman

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

Thank you to the following people for the beautiful Poinsettias in our sanctuary for this Christmas season.



IN MEMORY OF:

Our Loved Ones
From: Joann Bark

Those who have gone on before us.
From: Carter Family

Jim Dambaugh
Al & Ina Jane Helquist
From: Leslie & Elliott Dambaugh

Andy & Ruth Hack
From: Andy & Mary Hack

Cunningham & Lemon Parents
From: Jim & Roberta Lemon

Chuck McDonald & Eunice Guenther
From: Bruce, Denise, Eddie & Rachel Kremmel

Magill & Cookson Family
From: Richard & Beverly Magill

Bill Stafford & Dan Ost
From: Cathy Stafford and Family

Our Loved Ones
From: Eugene & Corina Taylor

IN HONOR OF:
Our Children & Families
From: Jim & Roberta Lemon
Our Family
Tom & Ann Lunney

Worship Schedule:

Sunday School: 9:45am

Worship: 11:00am



Calendar of Events:

- January 1 Happy New Year's Day
- January 2 No Book Club
- January 5 Deacon Meeting– after worship
- January 13 Ephesus Meeting
- January 15 Open Registration
- January 17-21 Rev. Marotta –vacation
- January 20 Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- January 27 Session Meeting at 7:00pm

ANNUAL REPORTS DUE

DEADLINE:

No later than January 15, 2020
Congregational Meeting II– February 2, 2020

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

Scan the QR code:



CNS NEWS



Planning for the next school year has already begun and registration has been scheduled for the 2020-2021 school year which will begin on January 3rd for current students and church members. Former families and siblings will begin on January 9th and open registration will begin on January 15th. Please tell your friends about our special school. A reminder that students must be immunized to attend our school.

We wish all of the members of Plains Presbyterian Church a blessed and healthy holiday season.

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



UNDECORATING PARTY

The undecorating party will be on Sunday,

January 5th, after the service.

Pizza and drinks will be provided.

More help = less time

We hope to see you there!

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY

February 2nd

Chili Cook- Off

Join us after Worship.

Bring your best Chili or Soup!

Win A Prize!

Invite your family and friends!

Flyers will be available in your bulletins to make donations to the Souper Bowl of Caring.

Be part of this movement that is sharing God's love with those in need.

For more information about this charity search superbowl.org



ACOLYTES OF 2019

Plains Presbyterian Church wants to thank our 12 Acolytes that served last year.





PLAINS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Check out the new sign that was recently installed !

A NOTE OF THANKS FROM NINA FINLAY

Many thanks to all the wonderful, loving people of Plains. All of your prayers, cards, calls, visits, and encouragement have helped my family and me through a difficult time. I am so glad to be a part of this compassionate congregation.

Nina Finlay

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO DENISE KREMMEL & TIM RAUSCH

Thank you so much for the wonderful Christmas breakfast Tim!
Also, thank you Denise for leading the Family Fun Games we all enjoyed playing!



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						
			1	2	3	4
			New Year's Day	No Book Club		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Sunday School- 9:45am Worship - 11:00am Deacons Meeting after worship Undecorate the church	CNS Board Meeting					
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Sunday School - 9:45am Worship - 11:00am	Ephesus Meeting 7:00pm		CNS Open Registration		Rev. Derek - Vacation 1/17-1/21	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Sunday School - 9:45am Worship - 11:00am	Martin Luther King Day - Church Office Closed					
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Sunday School- 9:45am Worship - 11:00am	Session Meeting 7:00pm					



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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.”

