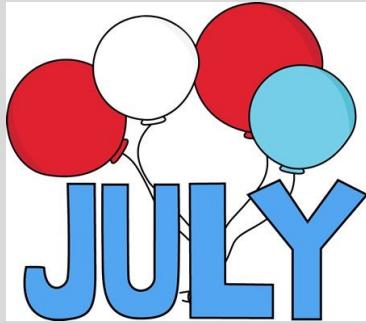


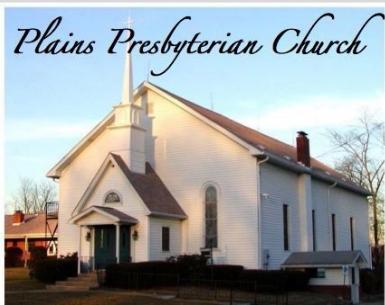
# THE PLAIN TALK



**2017**

**Plains  
Presbyterian  
Church**

**Serving the  
community  
since 1806**



*326 Plains Church Road  
Cranberry Twp., PA 16066  
724-538-8785  
[plains@zoominternet.net](mailto:plains@zoominternet.net)  
[www.plainschurch.com](http://www.plainschurch.com)*

## A Word from Rev. Derek:

"Isn't it inconvenient to have Memorial Day so close to Independence Day?" That was the sentiment expressed to me by a colleague years ago and it made me almost gasp when they said it. At the time, they were struggling with crafting a message for the church's morning worship, and to them, it felt like having to re-trace, re-walk ground they already walked recently. But as you can imagine, I disagree.

In June I invited you to remember the men and women who paid the ultimate price for the freedom we now embrace in the service to our country. Many of our lives have been impacted in a personal way because of their willingness to answer the call. This month, as July 4<sup>th</sup> is here, I want to speak with you for just a moment about the power of freedom and what freedom means in the mind of God- as we understand it.

General Omar K. Bradley, when speaking about freedom in an address he gave addressing the war in Vietnam, said, "Freedom- no word was ever spoken that has held out great hope, demanded greater sacrifice needed more to be nurtured, blessed more the giver... or came closer to being God's will on earth." Those are very powerful words to consider.

Theologically we know that God desires us to be free, that is why the choice is given to us in the Garden of Eden, as well as, we were given the choice about who you will call Lord and Savior. Freedom is more than a fancy cliché that we thought around as July 4<sup>th</sup> comes across our calendar.

On Independence Day, we celebrate freedom, in its many forms as American citizens. We have the freedom to worship- to gather in our houses of worship and give praise to God for what God has done in our lives in a manner that is personal. We have the freedom of belief and theology. This is the ability to disagree about spiritual matters but to know, in our hearts, that we are united by God. We enjoy the freedom to disagree with other members of our society and government. This is an aspect of freedom that often exists in a 'negative' form. But it is still part of the equation. When the quarterback of the San Francisco 49ers knelt during the National Anthem, he was exercising his freedom to do so. At the same time when I would see him do this, I exercised mine in feeling he was wrong in his actions. But in this case, whether we agreed or not, there was a freedom to disagree that is important in the life of our country.

On and on it goes, we are a people who are free because of the sacrifice of others. My question in reflection is what does that freedom mean to you and how do you think of it, and express it in your lives? In my opinion General Bradley is correct, freedom is a word that is thrown around often with little realization as to what that means. This month take time to give thanks to God for the freedoms that you enjoy- the ones you are aware of, and the ones that you do not recognize but are still part of this life.

Blessings

Rev. Derek

**Elder of the Month***Steve Walter***Deacon of the Month***Julie Young***Worship Schedule****July 02 ~ Communion**

10:00 am Worship Service

**July 09**

10:00 am Worship Service

**July 16 ~ VBS Sunday**

10:00 am Worship Service

*Mission Sunday  
Coffee Connections***July 23**

10:00 am Worship Service

**July 30**

10:00 am Worship Service

**Helping with Worship This Month****Worship Leaders**

- 02 Tiffany Aloe
- 09 Sandi Taylor
- 16 Susan Reed
- 23 Tony Poleti
- 30 Nina Finlay

**Greeters**

- 02 Joann B. & Tony P.
- 09 Norah C. & Cathy S.
- 16 Roberta L. & Jen M.
- 23 Linda & Jean Treese
- 30 John & Nina Finlay

**Nursery Workers**

- 02 Ron & Kathy Carter
- 09 Norah Collins
- 16 Melissa Holcomb
- 23 Denise Kremmel
- 30 Cathy Stafford



July 01 Eunice Guenther

July 05 Sandi Taylor

July 07 Dennis Robinson

July 08 Hanna Leisie

July 14 Tim Rausch

July 22 Amy Roscoe

July 24 Edward Kremmel

July 25 Traci Kuntz

July 26 Kelli Gillespie &amp; Reed Kuntz

July 27 Jeanine Poleti,  
Hanna & Grace Budney

July 31 Helen Sproat

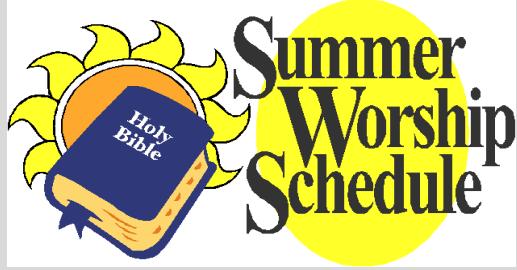
July 02 Gene &amp; Corina Taylor

July 10 Jason &amp; Melissa Holcomb

July 15 Frank &amp; Tiffany Aloia

July 21 Jack &amp; Cathy Dixon





JUNE—JULY—AUGUST



*The Church office will be closed on July 4, 2017*

## Strawberry Festival

The Deacons are hosting the Strawberry Festival after the Worship Service on August 13th.



Save the date!

Worship in the Park with Crestview Church this year will be on Sunday, August 27th

More detail coming soon!



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

We also ask for prayers for the following :

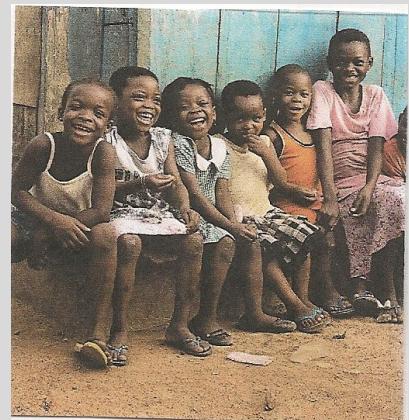
- Marjory Leisie
- John Finley
- Shirley Kushner
- Corina Taylor
- Tony's mom, Marge
- Jean Treese
- Ron's dad, John
- Linda's friend, Karen
- Carl & Evelyn Koebler
- Jeanine's mom, Ann
- Jay Carmichael
- Tim's friend, Debbie
- Linda Treese
- Amy Solman
- Helen G.
- Dean
- Tyler
- Don
- Harlow P.
- Jennifer Marotta
- Charlie R.
- Annabelle D.
- Kristen
- Bonnie
- The Mission Team of First Presbyterian Church
- Charlie Robuck
- Gary Myers
- Summer travelers
- Our military
- Our friends who are in assisted living:  
Martha Malone & Betty Budney

Dear Plains Church,

Thank you for answering God's call and being part of Compassion Sunday! Our efforts led to sponsorship of three children and monetary donations. Together, we can bring hope and caring messages to children living in poverty.

If you have questions throughout the year about Compassion International, free to contact Nancy Duerring or visit their website:

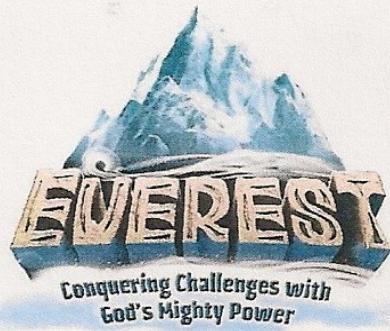
<https://www.compassion.com>.



### CNS News

There are still a few openings for the 2017-2018 school year. If you or someone you know is interested, please call the church office at 724-538-8785 or email CNS directly at: [cnsoplains@zoominternet.net](mailto:cnsoplains@zoominternet.net)

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 10:00 am Worship Service <i>Communion</i>	3	4  Office is closed	5	6	7	8
9 10:00 am Worship Service	10	11	12	13	14	15
		VBS WEEK: 6:30PM-8:30PM				
16 10:00 am Worship Service <b>VBS Sunday</b> <i>Mission Sunday</i> <i>Coffee Connections</i>	17	18	19 7:00 pm Men's Club	20	21	22
23 10:00 am Worship Service	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 10:00 am Worship Service	31				<b>**Jodell will be out of the office July 13th-19th</b>	



# Plains Presbyterian Church VBS 2017!!

We're making plans for this summer's Vacation Bible School program at Plains Presbyterian Church, and we'd love to have your children join us! To be held July 10th - 14th from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m., this summer's VBS is "Everest—Conquering Challenges with God's Mighty Power!"

From snacks and games to crafts and songs, the kids will have a blast learning that God has the power to provide, comfort, heal, forgive, and love us forever! We're thrilled with this exciting program, and pray you'll consider joining us during the week of July 10th.

If your children (age 3 through grade 6) would like to join us for this fun-filled (and free!) week, log onto [www.plainschurch.com](http://www.plainschurch.com), scroll down the page and you'll find the VBS online registration form. *We are not offering a paper registration form this year, so please use the online form.* Please register on or before June 30th to avoid paying a late fee—the online registration form will be available through July 5th. Thanks!

Feel free to contact the Church Office at 724-538-8785 or [plains@zoominternet.net](mailto:plains@zoominternet.net) with any questions.



Blessings,  
Dena Solman  
VBS Director



**God has the power  
to love us forever.**



**Plains  
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**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."



Find the hidden pictures and color .

