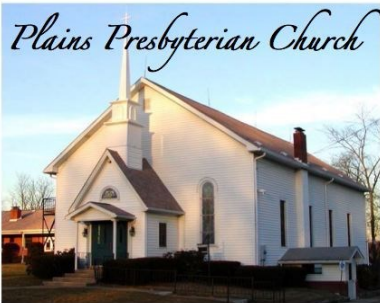


**2023**

**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:**

Memorial Day Weekend is the unofficial beginning of summer. Sure, school might be in session for a couple more weeks and the official beginning of summer isn't until the summer solstice on June 21<sup>st</sup>. However, for most of us, mentally and emotionally, summer has already begun.

With a spring that didn't seem like spring, I have been looking forward to summer. With summer comes vacation plans. Just as our children and grandchildren have been making their vacation plans for the last two months of school, so too do we look forward to some rest and relaxation away from home. Vacation is a holy enterprise. God created us with a need for rest from our weekly worries and concerns. Vacation represents a time to rejuvenate our spirits and reconnect with nature, family, friends, ourselves, and God.

Many of us don't really consider God in our vacation plans unless we are visiting Israel or Europe. I wonder why. Is it because we see God and church as an obligation? Many feel that church is a place we are supposed to go to on Sunday. Therefore, when we are away on vacation, we ignore anything to do with our regular weekly routine. Or perhaps we simply forget about including God in our vacation plans.

God doesn't want to guilt us into devotion. However, by excluding God from our plans, we are missing out on experiencing God in new ways, being fully refreshed, and caring for our family spiritually. God made us with a need for both rest and relationship. In Creation, God created for six days and on the seventh, he rested. This was the beginning of Sabbath rest. Jesus reminded us that the Sabbath was made for man rather than man for the Sabbath. God intends us to rest and be rejuvenated for our sakes. It is within this context of rest that we worship, in order to refresh ourselves and our relationship with God.

Vacation allows us a time to refresh our relationship with God. Whether it is out camping in nature, watching the waves of the ocean, or attending church in a big city, vacation opens us up to new experiences with God. Take the Bible along with you and read a psalm while sitting on a rock; or lift up the Lord's Prayer in the majesty of a forest; give thanks as you catch a fish and remember that Jesus called us to be fishers of men; or sing a favorite hymn in a cathedral. These are opportunities to experience God in a new way from our weekly routine.

These can happen any day of the week. However, on Sunday, think about the impact you will make if you take your family to a new church in a new city; or if you gather around the morning campfire and read together from the Bible. You will be sharing the importance of faith. You will also be providing them with an experience you and they will always remember.

We often look around our world and complain that the world has moved away from God, yet our own lifestyles have also moved away from God. God is still calling out to each of us. Vacation is an opportunity to step back and regain our perspective, to put away our worries and electronics and look around at the glory God gives us each and every day, yet we are often too busy to notice.

My prayer for you is that you have a wonderful and refreshing summer vacation. I pray that you can find time to reconnect with the God given gifts of family, friends, and nature. And I pray that you can be made whole again in your relationship with God. May God bless you and keep you safe in all of your travels.

In Christ,

Pastor Jon

Elder of the Month

Erin McKinley

Deacon of the Month

Denise Kremmel

## Helping with Worship This Month

### Worship Leaders

June 4th - Tiffany Aloï

June 11th - Steve Raatz

June 18th - Amy Roscoe

June 25th - Ron Carter

### REV. DR. JON NELSON

Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday

After Hours: 724-213-8528

#### June 4

9:45am Adult Bible Study

11:00 am Worship Service

Deacons Meeting

#### June 11

9:45am Adult Bible Study

11:00 am Worship Service

Strawberry Festival/Matsiko Choir

#### June 18

Outdoor Chapel

Graduates Sunday

9:45am Adult Bible Study

11:00 am Worship Service

Coffee Connection - Property

#### June 25

9:45am Adult Bible Study

11:00 am Worship Service



June 6	Ann Lunney
June 8	Dave Budney
June 10	Sue McKinley
June 14	Glen Croft
June 14	Christopher Wood
June 18	Melissa Holcomb
June 20	Tara Lynn Bailey
June 30	Heather Turner



June 4	Dave & Terrie Budney
June 7	Bob & Sue Rectenwald
June 15	Larry & Janet Duncan
June 21	Ron & Wanda Rice
June 25	Tony & Jeanine Poleti
June 26	Todd & Susan Delligatti

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



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:



**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
- Jenny Stafford
- Nancy - Kathy Carter
- Jim & Betty Lehman
- Emily - Amy Roscoe

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**

June 1st 10:00am

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



**Session Meeting**

June 19th

**Deacon Meeting**

June 4th

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**June 4th - Deacon Meeting - after worship**

**June 7th-11th – Matsiko Choir arrives**

**June 7th - Dinner for Matsiko Choir & Host Families - donations & food will be accepted between 4:30pm & 5:00pm Contact: Julie Young**

**June 9th - Matsiko World Orphan Choir performs at the Strand - 7:30pm**

**June 11th - Strawberry Festival / Matsiko Choir performs at Plains**

**June 18th - Graduates Sunday /Father's Day /Outdoor Worship/**

**Coffee Connection hosted by Property Committee**

**June 19th - Session Meeting - 7:00pm**

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY**

**Where: Fellowship Hall**

**Time: 9:45am**

**Lessons on James, Simon and Judas**

**RSVP: Burt & Nancy Duerring**

**eacinc@zoominternet.net**

# CNS NEWS

Cranberry Nursery School has had another successful year. The students learned a lot, made new friends and had a lot of fun. We always look forward to seeing our returning students and new families in the fall.

Wishing the members of Plains Presbyterian Church a happy and healthy summer!

Blessings,

~CNS

Angela Kushner  
Director  
Cranberry Nursery School  
724-538-8785





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 17th-July21st** this summer's VBS is "Stellar"

At Stellar VBS, kids go on a cosmic quest where they'll have a blast shining Jesus' light to the world.

If your children (age 3 through grade 6) would like to join us for this fun-filled week, visit our website at [www.plainschurch.com](http://www.plainschurch.com), scroll down the page and you'll find the VBS online registration form.

Online registration closes July 1st.

There is an option to purchase a shirt for \$7.50 if registering before

June 15th.

Registration is **online only**.

**We hope to see you there!**

Feel free to contact the church office at 724-538-8785 or email us directly at [plainsvbs@gmail.com](mailto:plainsvbs@gmail.com) with any questions.

Blessings,


Erika Selling and Janelle Wood

VBS Directors

# Matsiko Choir

MATSIKO  
CHILDREN INTERNATIONAL


## WISH LIST

- Donations to MCI/Matsiko – to be used at the discretion of MCI for most needed expenses
- Gift Cards that can be used for gas, food, medicine and other needs to help offset the cost of transporting and caring for the children. (Walmart, Little Casesar's, Target, CVS, Shell, etc.)
- 
- Toiletries: Soap, Deodorant, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Loofa Sponges, Chapstick, Vaseline, Lotion, Ponytail Holders, Head Wraps, Hair Brushes/Picks
- First Aid Items: Child & Adult Cold Medication, Child & Adult Tylenol/Ibuprofen, Skin & Foot Care Medication, Other First Aid Items
- Personal Care Items: Female Pads, Nighttime Pull Ups, Razors
- Other Items: Bottled Water, Travel Snacks, Laundry Detergent, Dryer Sheets, Underwear (boys/girls sizes), Socks (kids and adult sizes)
- Cash Donations for needs such as cleaning costumes, medical attention, vehicle maintenance, occasional entertainment (zoo's, museums, parks, etc.), lodging when host housing is not available, etc.
- Our US staff members are all **volunteers** who have taken a year off of school or work to care for the children's daily needs. Gift cards for their personal use would be greatly appreciated. You may also provide monthly support for their travelling expenses.

Matsiko Choir will be performing :

June 9th— The Strand Theater 7:30pm

June 11th— Plains Church - during worship



**Plains Presbyterian Church  
Annual Strawberry Festival**

**Hosted by the Deacons**

**Sunday, June 11th**

**Fellowship Hall**

**On The Menu:**

**Hot Dogs**

**Meatballs**

**Potato Salad**

**Macaroni Salad**

**Baked Beans**

**Strawberries and Ice Cream**

**Please stop by for good food, fellowship,  
and a “berry” good time!**



**Graduates Sunday**

**June 18, 2023**

2023 Graduates

**HIGH SCHOOL**

Lauryn Young

Ray Walter

**COLLEGE**


Ella Lunney

Karah Nelson



The Deacons of Plains Presbyterian Church have made a donation to "*Operation Heal Our Patriots*" in honor of all the men of our church.

This program helps to strengthen the marriages of wounded and injured members of the U.S. Military.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			<b>2023</b>			
			1	2	3	
			Book Club 10:00am			
4 Adult Bible Study 9:45am Worship - 11:00am Deacon Meeting		6	7 Dinner for Matsiko Choir	8	9 Matsiko World Orphan Choir - Strand Theater 7:30pm	10
				15	16	17
11 Adult Bible Study 9:45am Worship 11:00am Strawberry Festival Matsiko Choir		13	14			
				22	23	24
18 Graduate Sunday Happy Father's Day Adult Bible Study 9:45am Worship 11:00am Coffee Connection - Property	19 Session Meeting 7:00pm	20	21			
				29	30	
25 Adult Bible Study 9:45am Worship 11:00am	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.”

