

2019

**Plains
Presbyterian
Church**

**Serving the
community
since 1806**



*326 Plains Church Road
Cranberry Twp., PA 16066
724-538--8785
plains@zoominternet.net
www.plainschurch.com*

A Word from Rev. Derek:

As we prepare for Lent and a time of reflection and introspection, I want to share a story with you about being non-anxious in the midst of a challenging circumstance that I came across:

“Can you take the catheter out of my mother before the mortuary comes to pick up her body?” “Of course I will,” is what I said. “Did you seriously just ask me that?” is what I thought... But it still was not what I expected... I had been getting the family to talk about what they were feeling...What I learned was that their relationship, and therefore their grief, was complicated. “She was mean and terrible,” the daughter told me at one point. “She didn’t like kids and so never wanted her great-grandchildren around her. Clearly there was a lot of anger here. In all of her fairly fierce anger, the daughter had a strong pull to protect her mother’s dignity. “She would be horrified if she knew she was to be taken out of the house with that thing in her.” I had the nurse on the phone, and she explained to me that the process of taking out the catheter was a very simple one. I had told the family this... And that was when they asked it. “Can you take the catheter out before the mortuary comes?” “Of course I will.”

Now I was at *my wits’ end*. I asked the family to step out of the room. The truth was I had no idea what I was doing, was freaking out, and I didn’t want an audience watching me fumbling around with something I knew nothing about. And so, with the phone lodged between my shoulder and my ear as I received instructions from the nurse and the necessary utensils in my hands, I got to work. It was unpleasant... But it was soon over.

This scenario was something of a caricature. But a caricature works by highlighting and bringing attention to certain truths. What became clear in my odd middle of the night adventure was that the choices I made had a direct impact on what happened next. Things calmed down after I took the catheter out. The daughter became less frazzled and weepy. The stories the family told changed. I stopped hearing stories where the mother was the villain. There was laughter at her “idiosyncrasies.” And I’m pretty sure I know why.

I had walked into a particularly anxious situation. My own anxiety rose to new heights standing in the room. But I learned the value of having someone who is decidedly non-anxious. And in this situation, that non-anxious person was me. People in a panic rarely need someone to come alongside to panic with them. But I have found over and over again that coming alongside anxious people and embodying non-anxiety is a subtle and welcome gift. And so when the panicked, angry, grieving, guilty daughter asks me to take her mother’s catheter out before the mortuary comes to pick up her body, I say “absolutely” and pretend like this is second nature.

We may never need to be non-anxious in this sense. But we do find regular moments when being still, remaining calm, is God’s call. This can be hard. It can seem too daunting, but by taking a step back, we remember that we are called in this way. By being non-anxious, we find space and opportunity to accomplish things with God that seem impossible. Where is God calling you to be non-anxious this week?

Blessings
Rev. Derek

Helping with Worship This Month

Elder of the Month
Steve Walter

Deacon of the Month
JonMark Marotta

Worship Leaders

03 Amy Roscoe
10 Ron Carter
17 Tim Rausch
24 Susan Reed
31 Frank Aloï

Greeters

03 Roberta Lemon & Joann Bark
10 Steve & Julie Raatz
17 Tom & Ann Lunney
24 Frank & Tiffany Aloï
31 Denny Robinson & Joann Bark

Nursery Workers

03 Norah Collins
10 Melissa Holcomb
17 Denise Kremmel
24 Julie Young
31 Erica Selling



Worship Schedule

March 3

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

March 6

Ash Wednesday -Plains

March 10

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

March 13

Lenten Observances-Crestview

March 17

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

March 20

Lenten Observances-Plains

March 24

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

March 27

Lenten Observances-Crestview

March 31

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



March 2	Nancy Duerring
March 6	Jocilynn Walter
March 6	Jennifer Marotta
March 9	Bruce Kremmel
March 13	Anthony Poletti
March 14	Ronald Rice
March 16	Jonathan Selling
March 19	Bonnie Carmichael
March 20	Lily Young
March 27	Janelle Wood
March 31	Jason Holcomb



March 19	Ron & Kathy Carter
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Coffee Connections

Sunday, March 17th

Hosted by Worship

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:

Seneca Hills Spring Youth Retreat
March 29th-31st

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
- Charlotte Glaspey
- Yvette - Tiffany's sister
- John Finlay
- Nancy Jones
- Deane Lavender
- Gerri- Wanda's sister
- Jeannette - Burt's aunt
- Larry Duncan

- 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.

CHOIR PRACTICE

New members are welcome!

Choir practice will resume March 6, 2019

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

March 3rd - Potluck Luncheon

March 5th – New Project Meeting –6pm

March 6th – Ash Wednesday – 7pm

March 10th – Communion

March 13th– Lent – Crestview

March 20th– Lent– Plains

March 27th – Lent– Crestview

March 29-30 – Seneca Hills Bible Camp and Retreat Center

March 31 – Session Meeting after worship

HISTORY CORNER:

In the spring of 1958 the congregation voted to enlarge the parking “lot “which is the present driveway behind the church. This action came as a great relief to those members who had been parking in the area where the old grange hall had been located and walking through the cemetery.

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/>

CHILI COOK-OFF WINNERS
CONGRATULATIONS



1st Prize

Rich Magill

Mild Chili



2nd Prize

Emma Marotta

Keto Chili



Hot Chili Medalist

Tim Rausch

Ghost Pepper Chili

Dear Grandma and Plains Church Family,
Greetings and Love from Nepal !!

I hope this letter finds you all in the best of spirits. I want to thank each one of you who have been praying and thinking about me on my Birthday and helping me and encouraging me to do much more in Ministry. Those help are really appreciated.

I did not just have a Birthday but a Birth Week. I had my birthday cake cut in church but not all the people I invited came in. We also had a meal afterwards. Since, the invited people did not show up in the church, we did Carol in two different places and invited them again. Many of them came and celebrated carol with us. We were able to share about Jesus to them. Sharing about Jesus had never been so easy. A little gift of love and a warm welcome did a lot more in their life. I felt so blessed to surprise a woman who never had cut her birthday cake. She felt so loved and thanked God in tears. And the first night of the New Year, we shared love to the homeless, spent time with them and gospel them. As a result, two homeless people out of 32 accepted Christ that night. We returned back to home only at 2am next morning.

As a result of your help, God worked and blessed each one of us who were part of our team. In numbers, we shared gospel to around 70 people, 14 people including two homeless people accepted Christ. We are so blessed that 3 of the family have welcomed us for the fellowship in their home once a week.

What a blessing experience we felt!! Once again, very many Thanks for your willingness to donate and play a part of my life and in the ministry of our Church.

I hope we can partner together and do a lot greater ministry. I am excited to see Plains Family in September.

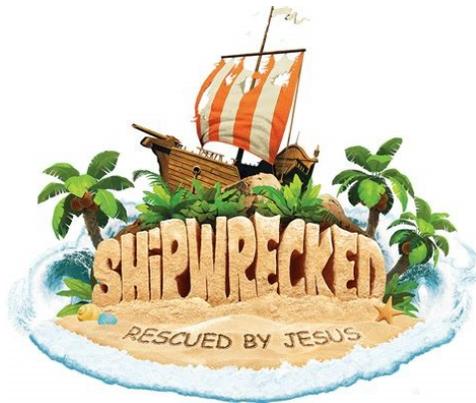
Love and Hugs,
Suman Tamang
Leader, Gokarna Disciple Church
sumantmg1993@gmail.com



Events for March

SPRING RETREAT IS PLANNED FOR MARCH 29-31.

More information coming soon.



Vacation Bible School

Coming this Summer

“SHIPWRECKED”

July 15th-19th

6:30pm - 8:30pm

Ash Wednesday
March 6, 2019 -7:00pm
Plains Church

Palm Sunday – April 14th - Holy Week Begins
Maundy Thursday – April 18th - Seder Dinner at Plains
Good Friday – April 19- Open House 3:00pm-7:00pm
Easter – April 21- Worship at 11:00am

Lenten Observances

Supper - 5:30pm

Worship – 7:00pm

Crestview Church

March 13

March 27

April 10

Plains Church

March 20

April 3

Plains Presbyterian Church

Session Highlights

Monday, January 21, 2019

Adult Sunday School Room

Session met on Monday, January 21, 2019. Below are some of the highlights of that meeting.

Communion was served on December 2, 2018 to 53, December 23, 2018 to 62, Christmas Eve to 67, and January 13, 2019 to 43.

Elders of the month were discussed and assigned for 2019.

Committee assignments were made. Erin McKinley will be welcomed on any committee.

Christian Education – Tiffany Aloï, Steve Walter

Inreach / Outreach – Bob Young, Ron Carter

Personnel – Bob Young, Ron Carter

Nominating – Bob Young

Property – Tom Lunney, Steve Walter

Stewardship – Sue Reed

Worship – Steve Raatz

All of the required annual reports have been filed with the Presbytery, as well as with the General Assembly.

Closed with about a \$900 deficit for the year, which was much better than expected due to quite a bit of giving late in the year.

Investments were doing well up until late in the year, although they have started to recover.

Approved the 2019 Budget.

Meeting soon with Cranberry Township to discuss updating our sign on Franklin Road.

Confirmation Class will be starting soon.

VBS will be July 15th thru July 19th. Session approves by consensus. It will be a beach theme this year.

Youth group is going well. Activities are going well, and more are being planned.

Chili cookoff coming soon – money raised from voting will go to the Nepal Mission Trip.

March 3rd will be a monthly pot-luck luncheon.

Communion dates for 2019 have been approved.

Noted that a possible High Voltage Power line may be passing near Plains Church property.

Next Regular Session Meeting will be on Monday, February 18, 2019 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Congregational Meeting II Minutes

Sunday, February 10, 2018

Church Sanctuary

Pastor Derek, acting as Moderator, opened the meeting with Prayer in the sanctuary at 12:04 p.m. All materials (annual report including budget) were distributed to the congregation via email, with copies available at the meeting. Copies of the Ephesus Project Report were also distributed to the congregation at the meeting. Tim Roscoe, Clerk of Session, certified that a quorum of the membership is present. At least 29 members are present.

Tim Roscoe reviewed the Congregational Meeting Part I minutes and annual statistical report. Rev. Derek explained that we reduced our Active Roll by 34 members this year to help us with our Per Capita Expenses. Rev. Derek assured the congregation that pastoral services are and will be available to anyone associated with our church as a need arises. Jen Marotta made a motion to accept the report, seconded by Ron Carter. Motion passed.

Rev. Derek reviewed the annual report with committee members from the various committees answering questions as they arose.

Frank Aloï covered last year's financial performance, including income and expenses, as well as investment performance.

Frank reviewed the budget for 2019 that Session approved at its meeting on January 21, 2019.

Kathy Carter, member of the Audit Committee, commented that the Audit Committee completed their work, and everything is in good shape.

Steve Raatz made the motion to accept the annual reports, seconded by Ron Carter. Motion passed.

Old Business

None

New Business

Rev. Derek and members of the Ephesus Project gave a short review of their recent meetings, as they attempt to answer the question, "What is God calling us to do with the vacant property adjacent to the church".

have some type of pavilion where we can hold worship, groups can meet, social activities can take place, etc.

A request was also made for more information to be presented to the congregation about the Nepal Mission Trip, including goals, plans, costs, etc.

Motion to adjourn by Ron Carter, seconded by JonMark Marotta. Motion Passed.

Rev. Derek closed with prayer at 12:57 p.m.

Respectively Submitted,

Tim Roscoe

Clerk of Session

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				2019	1	2
3 Sunday Sunday-9:45am Worship -11:00am Potluck Luncheon	4	5 New Project Meeting at 6pm	6 Ash Wednesday-Plains 7pm	7 Book Club 10am	8	9
10 Sunday Sunday-9:45am Worship -11:00am Communion	11	12	13 Lenten Service Crestview Dinner 5:30pm Worship 7pm	14	15	16
17 Sunday Sunday-9:45am Worship -11:00am	18	19	20 Lenten Service Plains Church Dinner 5:30pm Worship 7pm	21	22	23
24 Sunday Sunday-9:45am Worship -11:00am	25	26	27 Lenten Service Crestview Dinner 5:30pm Worship 7pm	28	29 Youth Retreat 29th-31st	30
31 Sunday Sunday-9:45am Worship -11:00am Session Meeting after worship						

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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.”

