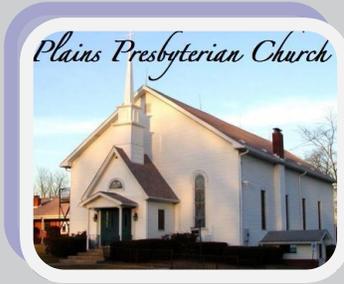




2014

Plains Presbyterian Church

Serving the community since 1806



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www.plainschurch.com

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Everybody has a special dream when they are a little child. Absolutely everybody dreams about their ideal job when they grow and how it will change their lives (maybe even their world). I know I did...

Now, I wish this was a romantic story. I wish I could tell you that I spent many afternoons lying in the hot sunny grass in my backyard staring up at clouds when the revelatory moment happened, the vision came, and I dreamt of changing the world. Additionally, I wish my story was inspiring and/or whimsical; something that inspired others to follow me. But my story, and my dream, was none of these traits. Yet God still used me.

When I was a little boy I did not dream about being president, or an astronaut, or a great military leader. I did not dream about finding a cure for a deadly disease and thereby saving the world. Nope. Not even close. My dream was to be a garbage man. Yep. You didn't misread that...I wanted to be a garbage man- and there is nothing wrong with that!

I didn't want to change the world- not even a little bit. I didn't want to be famous or even infamous. I just thought collecting garbage was a wonderful idea and was happy to do it. My friends, and perhaps my family if they were honest, wondered if my initiative was lacking as I chose a mundane career. I am sure my parents hoped I'd grow out of this choice. I was not lazy or uninspired. I just felt this was my niche and I was bound and determined to stick with it, and God used me.

In that way, I think our dreams as children can relate to our calling from God. We do not have to be dramatically called in order for God to use us in a powerful, personal way. Thundering voices and miracle stories are not required as proof that we are called by God.

Sometimes God's call, God's great dream he gives us that we cannot escape no matter how hard we try, is wonderful and inspiring. Sometimes like Saul on the Damascus Road, God stands before us powerfully and changes us forever. There are times when like King David, God selects us from an early age, marks us as different, and we follow the path to heavenly bliss in His service.

We might even define ourselves as called in a similar fashion to Thomas- a disciple who is defined by his lack of faith. But Thomas was also credited with being the first evangelist to India and the Far East. God can use everyone even if the dream seems ordinary and basic and even if the dream seems questionable for where God is, miracles happen.

However it happens, and whatever the moment resembles, whether it is dramatic or not, God steps into our lives and calls us by name. It is that call which is important not the details which could serve to define and elevate us.

As we continue to celebrate Easter, rejoice in your call from God. God may have come to you in a powerful and personal way like so many of the biblical heroes and heroines. God may have spoken your name and you followed along diligently. However, God may also be happy with you just being who you want to be. God may just use your gifts and words to change His world. I know He did for this young boy who wanted to be a garbage man!

Blessings,
Rev. Derek

Helping with Worship This Month

Elder of the Month

Frank Aloï

Deacon of the Month

Joann Bark

Worship Leaders

- 04 Tiffany Aloï
- 11 Ron Carter
- 18 Melanie Sturrock
- 25 Tony Poletì

Greeters

- 04 Frank L. & Jean Treese
- 11 Barb R. & Tony Poletì
- 18 Jay & Bonnie Carmichael
- 25 Steve & Dena Solman

Nursery Workers

- 04 Melissa Holcomb
- 11 Dena & Steve Solman
- 18 Cathy Stafford
- 25 Kathy & Ron Carter



Worship Schedule



May 4

9:30 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service

May 11

9:30 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service

May 18

9:30am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service

May 25

9:30 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service

May 3	Joann Bark & Kathy Spilsbury
May 8	Jon Taylor
May 9	Bob Glaspey
May 12	Cathy Stafford
May 13	Jeff Kuntz
May 19	Rebecca Gottschalk
May 23	Ruth Rausch
May 24	Jacob Carter
May 25	Jay Carmichael
May 31	Kalen Bailey



May 26	Mark & Kathy Spilsbury
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PLAINS CHURCH FAIRE



SATURDAY, MAY 3, 1 - 5pm

Games! Food! Fun!

Join us for an afternoon of FREE inflatable bounces, games, and activities. Meet our new Pastor, tour the property and get to know the Plains Church family! For more info, call or visit our Web site.

(724) 538 - 8785 www.PlainsChurch.com

326 Plains Church Rd, Cranberry Twp, PA 16066



Coffee Connections

May 18th

sponsored by the Worship
Committee



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

- Jack Bark • Tara K. • Luke McCoy
- Angela Kushner's husband, Bob
- Betty Lehman • Ron Cox
- Armel's sister, Nancy
- Maggie Simpson's friend, Phyllis
- Annabelle Aloï • Bill Stafford
- Eunice's sister, Nancy
- Gary Taylor's friend, Dwayne
- Ariana Mascellino • Alex David
- Jean Treese's sister, Janice
- Eunice Guenther • Scott Taylor
- Wesley • Jean Treese
- Kathy Snyder • Eric Bauer
- Jen Marotta
- Jay Carmichael's dad, Don
- Our friends who are in assisted living: Howard Reed, Marilyn Stamp, Bob Ronksley and Gibbie Sponsler



The updated Directory of Members & Friends for 2014 is now available in the narthex.

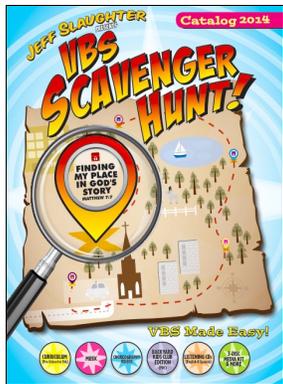
History Corner



Session Minutes

Sept. 5, 1879

The following action was taken unanimously. Whereas attendance upon the meetings of Butler Presbytery have been found to be much more inconvenient and expensive than Allegheny and whereas there is now a good prospect of our finding a pastoral connection in Allegheny Presbytery, therefore, resolved that one delegate to Synod be instructed to take whatever steps may be necessary to secure the transfer of the congregation of the Plains from the Presbytery of Butler to the Presbytery of Allegheny.



If you love the thrill of a scavenger hunt, you'll LOVE this summer's Vacation Bible School program. Plains Church VBS program is called "VBS Scavenger Hunt – Finding My Place in

God's Story." Our incredible VBS journey takes place July 14-18 from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m., and each Bible story has a "GPS" focus: God's Perfect Story, God's People Stop, God's Plan of Salvation, God's People Support, God's Perfect Spirit. Kids ages three years old through grade 6 will have a blast discovering God's plan for their life through exciting Bible stories, silly games, fun crafts, scrumptious snacks and rockin' praise songs. Much more information to follow!

Thank you to the following people for the beautiful Easter Lilies in our sanctuary for this Easter season.



IN MEMORY OF:

Cookson & Magill families
From Richard & Beverly Magill

David & Edith Heckard
From Jack & Joann Bark and Kay Heckard

Greg Snyder
From Kathy Snyder & family

Merle, Madelyn & Diane Bark
From Jack & Joann Bark

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Pharo
From The family

Ernie & Mary Jones and Earl & Inez Sallade
From Ernie & Nancy Jones

Ruth & Andy Hack
From Andy & Mary Hack

Our loved ones
From Gene & Corina Taylor

Philip Sproat Jr., Philip & Mae Sproat, Clyde & Ida Vandivort
From Helen Sproat & family

Grace & Wes Robinson and John & Katharyn Dibert
From Kathy & Dennis Robinson

Plains Presbyterian Church
Session Highlights
March 2014

Session met on Monday, March 17, 2014. Below are some of the highlights of that meeting.

The youth had a great time on the retreat. Sunday school teachers are working on a date for Youth Sunday. Plans for VBS have been made and materials purchased. This year's theme is "Scavenger Hunt" and finding your place in God's story.

Ron Carter has circulated the press release announcing Rev. Derek as our new Pastor. Chris Leisie took photos of Rev. Derek that can be used in the newspaper.

Short discussion of the "Open House / Festival", currently scheduled for Saturday, May 3rd.

Melanie Sturrock is going to Beaver Butler Presbytery to work on the demographic study to try and get a list of households of people who are un-churched, or under-churched.

The insurance policy has been finalized and is in place until 3/15/2015.

First praise service, led by Steve Solman, was attended by 21 people. A great start!

The lawn-mowing contract is being reviewed and will be finalized soon.

New Copier will be delivered on Thursday, March 20th.

Jodell is working on updating the Directory of Members and Friends for 2014.

Next Presbytery meeting on March 25th, will be attended by Elder Susan Reed.

Next Regular Session Meeting – April 21, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tim Roscoe
Clerk of Session

CNS News



There are still a few openings for the 2014-2015 School year. If you or someone you know are interested, please call the church office at 724-538-8785 or e-mail CNS directly at cnsoplains@zoominternet.net

Last day of school for CNS:

Half-pints classes: May 13

M-W-F classes: May 14

PM Pre-K class: May 15

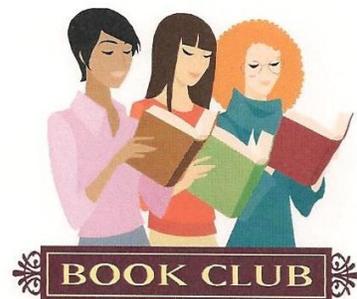
T-Th classes: May 15



The Book Club

May meeting time

Thursday, May 8th at 9:30 AM.
(no Monday meeting)



We will be discussing the book **Heaven is for Real**. Please join us for this look into heaven.

Children are welcome and breakfast snacks served.

You can purchase the book on Christianbook.com (\$7.99) and at any bookstore



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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."



In the Beginning God Created

On the 1st day God created Day and Night.
On the 2nd day God created the
On the 3rd day God divided the from the and filled the land with
On the 4th day God created the for the day and the for the night.
On the 5th day God created for the oceans, lakes and rivers. and for the air.
On the 6th day God created Then, God created
On the 7th day, God rested.