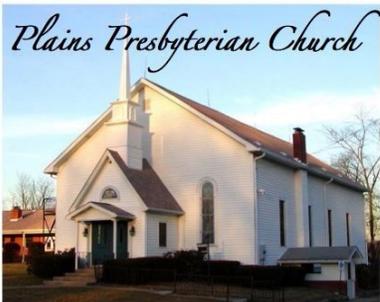


2021

**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. Dr. Derek Marotta:

A number of years ago I was first introduced to the writing of Wendell Berry as I worked on my doctorate at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. For those who are unfamiliar with Berry's writing, he focuses a great deal of time on helping his reader re-capture a life in community and in outside of the urban centers of living. His conclusions, while written to defend life in the countryside and keep society away from over-utilizing technology, are applicable to life of the church as we move through this pandemic.

As we begin to settle into our post-quarantine world and look for opportunities to further the gospel, the ideas of Wendell Berry can be helpful for us as we seek to remain faithful to the gospel's message.

In his essay *Economy and Pleasure*, he writes these words for us:

"And so the colleges of agriculture, interested though they are to serve the rural home and rural life, give themselves over to the hysterical rhetoric of "change," "the future," "the frontiers of modern science," "competition," "the competitive edge," "the cutting edge," "the early adoption," and the like, as if there is nothing worth learning from the past and nothing worth preserving in the present. . . . Community however, aspires towards stability. It's strives to balance change with constancy. That is why community life places such high value or neighborly love, local loyalty, the integrity and continuity of family life, respect for the old, and the instruction of the young."

As you might imagine, I believe that Berry is correct in his above statement as it relates to our post-pandemic work. God has presented the church with an opportunity to serve and care for others and build community. We can indeed move away from "the hysterical rhetoric" and embrace the role and nature of community building as God passed it on to us.

While the CDC, and the Pennsylvania Department of Health, consider loosening restrictions and recommendations for gatherings and mask wearing, we in the church are uniquely positioned to care for the community as they recover and as they seek stability.

I have met few people who are enjoying the challenges of the pandemic. As I shop, or wait in line, or just listen to the radio, I hear people express feelings of isolation and the loss of community. But again, we have the chance as the church to 'balance change with constancy.' We have the opportunity to remain resolute in our thinking and our caring for other people.

I wonder what the church will become, and what its ministry will look like, when we apply Berry's words to our ministry and our live?

Blessings
Rev. Derek

Wendell Berry, *The Art of the Commonplace: The Agrarian Essays of Wendell Berry* (Berkeley: Counterpoint, 2002), 211-12.

Elder of the Month
Ron Carter

May 2

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

May 9

Happy Mother's Day
Celebrating Ascension
9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service

May 16

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

May 23

Pentecost

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

May 30

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

Helping with Worship This Month

Worship Leaders

May 2	Tim Rausch
May 9	Steve Raatz
May 16	Tiffany Aloï
May 23	Amy Roscoe
May 30	Ron Carter



May 3	Joann Bark
May 12	Cathy Stafford
May 13	Jeff Kuntz
May 23	Ruth Rausch
May 24	Jacob Carter
May 25	Jay Carmichael
May 31	Kalen Bailey



May 2	Jim & Roberta Lemon
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Please Note: We strongly recommend that you wear a face mask in church for the protection of the body of Christ.

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

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.

CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

Online Giving is now available for your convenience. Log on and check it out 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
- Yvette - Tiffany's sister
- Jenny Stafford
- Victims of the Coronavirus
- Liz- Jennifer Marotta
- Jim & Betty Lehman
- Victoria
- Caregivers & Families
- Kay Uthman
- Lew Goehring
- Bev Watson– Joann Bark
- Sue Reed
- Burt
- Keith Hendershot– Rich Magill
- Mike– Tim Roscoe
- Brother of Bob Rectenwald

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.

Happy Mother's Day

The Deacons of Plains Presbyterian Church have made a donation to the *Church World Services Blanket Program* in honor of all the women of our church.

This program gives people throughout the world a chance to see and feel God's love in their lives.



**CHURCH WORLD SERVICE
BLANKETS+**



A NOTE FROM THE DEACONS:

The Deacons are the caring heart of Plains Presbyterian Church. We are here to care for members, friends, neighbors, and strangers. At this time we will be respectful and not conduct home or hospital visits. If you find yourself needing assistance please call your assigned shepherd and we will be there to do what we can.

Examples: meals, grocery shopping, errands etc.

Ann Lunney-724-432-3183

Julie Raatz-612-741-7636

Denise Kremmel- 724-538-8604

Julie Young 724-776-7288

Maryann Cardillo 724-866-9911

Amy Roscoe 412-874-2039

SUNRISE EASTER SERVICE



Plains Presbyterian Church celebrated Sunrise Easter Service in the Outdoor Chapel.

Sunrise Easter Service



Rev. Dr. Derek Marotta



EASTER MORNING - APRIL 4, 2021

A Beautiful Sunrise

CHRIST IS RISEN !

Youth Group Spaghetti Luncheon



Thanks to everyone we raised over \$600 for the Youth Group.



Future Events:

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

July 12-16

More information will be announced closer to the date.

PLAINS CHURCH CEMETERY HISTORICAL RECORD

If you have any information on those buried in the Plains Church Cemetery and would like to share pictures or a short biography please submit that to the Plains Church Office or Tom Lunney.

tglunney@gmail.com

Per Capita is \$40.82 per member



CNS NEWS

Cranberry Nursery School offers classes for 2 1/2 (Half~Pints), 3 (Nursery) and 4-5 year old (Pre-K) children. Each section has a few spots in one class. We also have a waiting list. If you know of anyone looking for a faith-based pre-school, please have them email Angela Kushner at cnsoplains@zoominternet.net.

CNS continues to collect Chick Fil A receipts. We earn 20% in product rewards for the total collected. An envelope is located on the bulletin board in the CNS hallway where you can deposit your receipts. Your support is appreciated.

Cranberry Nursery School has had a great school year. We are thankful to our families for all of the support they provided. We faced unprecedented times and tried to make the safest and best decisions for our students, families and staff. We are grateful we were able to remain open and greet our students each day. We consider ourselves lucky. Wishing the members of Plains Presbyterian Church a safe and healthy summer!

Angela Kushner
Director
Cranberry Nursery School
724-538-8785

Plains Presbyterian Church
Session Highlights
March 2021

Session met on Monday, March 15, 2021. Below are some of the highlights of that meeting.

During the worship service on February 14, 2021, communion was served to 22 people.

Three CNS classes are full for the Fall already. All of the staff has at least the first round of the COVID-19 vaccination.

Frank Aloï reviewed the one page summary and the detailed financial report.

Offerings YTD are almost exactly what they were in 2020.

Deacons are reaching out to people on their Shepard's List.

Session approves by consensus three special offerings this year. They are "The One Great Hour of Sharing offering", "The Pentecost Offering for at-risk children", and "The Christmas Joy Offering".

Rev. Dr. Derek will be on vacation April 19-25. Frank Aloï will be filling the pulpit on Sunday April 25th.

Session approved the week of July 12-16 for VBS. More details to be determined.

Basement bathroom at the bottom of the steps has been updated.

Three working parties will be coming up to patch the road, and freshen the mulch.

Planning to start the pavilion at some point in the near future.

Spring road cleanup needs a new champion.

Next Regular Session Meeting will be on Monday, April 26, 2021 at 7:00 pm.

Rev. Dr. Derek closed with prayer at 7:49 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tim Roscoe
Clerk of Session

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						2021
2 Sunday School 9:45am Worship 11:00am	3	4 Ephesus Meeting 7pm	5	6	7	8
9 Sunday School 9:45am Worship 11:00am Mother's Day Celebrating Ascension	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 Sunday School 9:45am Worship 11:00am Deacons Meeting	17 Session Meeting 7pm	18	19	20 Last Day of CNS	21	22
23 Sunday School 9:45am Worship 11:00am Pentecost / Communion Wear Red	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 Sunday School 9:45am Worship 11:00am	31 Memorial Day					



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.”

