

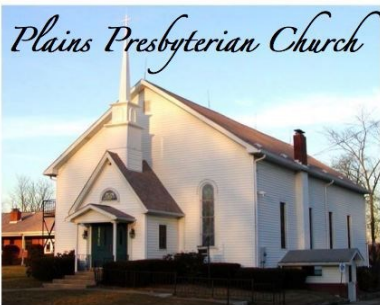
THE PLAIN TALK

MAY

2025

**Plains
Presbyterian
Church**

**Serving the
community
since 1806**



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

Sometimes the level of contention and conflict in our world gets me down. I feel particularly weary when I see division and contention within the church. I know that scripture tells us that the experience of struggle and conflict is an unavoidable part of a faithful life. But we too easily fall into a habit of seeing life as a fight to be won or lost. For scripture also tells us that trials are a part of being human which are valuable if we understand them as opportunities to grow out of childish patterns of contending with others for control, and into mature patterns of living for and with others.

In James Chapter 1 one of the early leaders of the blessed community reflects on this writing

“Consider it pure joy, my brothers, and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything” James 1:2-4

and

“Believers in humble circumstances ought to take pride in their high position. But the rich should take pride in their humiliation—since they will pass away like a wildflower.” James 1:9

Embracing trials looks different in different circumstances. Rather than regarding oneself as of less value than others, those who have less are exhorted to embrace their importance and value, rejecting the efforts of others to silence or exploit their vulnerability. While those who possess more resources at their disposal, are called to a life that embraces frailty and vulnerability as desirable. In both instances we are called to live a life that rejects the messages the world presents to us about ourselves, about others, and about who and what are ultimately valuable and significant. Living that life, which moves to a different rhythm, will cost some the security and privilege that they know and would like to hold on to. And it will affirm others who have been labeled unworthy, encouraging and calling them to embrace their value.

When we recognize the unique nature of the trials that represent our cross then we are a step closer to getting out of God’s way as the spirit builds and sends the blessed community into the world with a clear sense of purpose. The church’s purpose has been, from the beginning, to follow Jesus, living a life that turns the values of the world upside down. A life that turns the current order of significance and value inside out. The glory and beauty of this life of turns is reflected in the shaker hymn “Tis a gift to be simple.” In it we are invited to sing, “To turn and turn is our delight til turning and turning we come down right.”

We are not fighting a battle or defending God’s kingdom. To approach life as a contest or confrontation which must be won denies the true nature of God as sovereign. Jesus when breathing his last on the cross did not say “we have won” but “it is finished.” To live this life of turning will set us on a path of losing the “self” that the world has granted or imposed upon us, but it will also lead us into meaningful growth toward completion and wholeness. As followers of Christ, we are simply turning again and again, and we are never done turning until our life has been spent in pursuit of blessed community.

Pastor John Porter

Elder of the Month

Tom Lunney

Deacon of the Month

Ann Nutter

Helping with Worship This Month

Worship Leaders

- May 4 Susan Peirce
- May 11 Tim Roscoe
- May 18 Amy Roscoe
- May 25 Susan Reed

May 4

9:45am Adult Bible Study
 11:00 am Worship Service
 Empathetic Listening
 Speaker: Rev. John Porter
 12:30pm - 2:30pm

May 11

Happy Mother's Day

9:45am Adult Bible Study
 11:00 am Worship Service

May 18

9:45am Adult Bible Study
 11:00 am Worship Service
 Coffee Connection - Session/Elders
 New Member Class after worship
 SWAM Meeting
 Deacon Meeting

May 25

9:45am Adult Bible Study
 11:00 am Worship Serve
 New Member Class after worship



- May 3 Joann Bark
- May 12 Cathy Stafford
- May 24 Jacob Carter
- May 25 Jay Carmichael



- May 2 Jim & Roberta Lemon
- May 10 Luke & Kim Carter

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 8am-12 noon

Online Giving is now available for you 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 :

- Jenny Stafford
- Lisa Bender
- Linda - Ron Rice's sister
- Family & Friends of Roberta - Bob Young's Aunt
- Bonnie - Sue Reed's daughter
- Sue Reed
- Bob McLean
- Family & Friends of the Shear Family - Denise Kremmel
- Family & Friends of the Sprout Family

Our friends who are in assisted living:

Kay Uthman

Please submit a new prayer card or contact the church office with any updates.

NEW MEMBER CLASSES



PLAINS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

NEW MEMBER CLASSES

May 18, 2025

May 25, 2025

Classes will begin after worship

Contact: Frank Aloï - frankaloi@msn.com

Or

Tim Roscoe - tgroscoe@mac.com

for more information



EASTER LILIES

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



IN MEMORY OF:

Mr. & Mrs. Edgar McMillen
Mr. & Mrs. Donald L. Carmichael
Mrs. Barbara Ginsbach
From: Jay & Bonnie Carmichael

Karen Holmes
From: Susan Delligatti

Our Parents
Our Friends - Lorina
- Gary Taylor
From: Duerring Family

Ernie & Nancy Jones
Fredda Madden
From: The Carter Family

Donald Peirce
William Peirce
From: Susan Peirce

**Please take home your Easter Lily after worship*

SWAM COMMITTEE

MAY IS PLANNED GIVING MONTH!



Remembering Plains Church in your Will

May is Planned Giving month, and one of the best ways to participate is to remember Plains Church in your Will. Why?

You can continue to support our mission and ministry to the Cranberry Township community.

You can create a lasting legacy. By leaving a gift to our church, you can ensure that your values and beliefs will continue to be upheld long after you are gone.

You can decide how you want your gift to be used. You can designate a specific fund or program or simply provide the Church with the discretion to use the gift as it sees fit.

You should consult an attorney to ensure that your gift is properly documented and that it is used in the way you intend.

Make sure your will is up to date. If you change your mind about your gift, you can always update your will. You should update your will every 5-7 years to ensure that this document appropriately reflects your intentions.

Happy Mother's Day



**CHURCH WORLD SERVICE
BLANKETS+**

*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.

Happy Mother's Day

May 11, 2025



Graduates Sunday

Graduation Sunday

Sunday, June 1st

College Graduates

Samantha Carter

CNS NEWS

It is hard to believe we are at the end of another year at Cranberry Nursery School. Our time was filled with lots of learning, making friends, field trips, cooking, science, Bible Time, library, Dinosaur Day, parties, Mom and Dad's Day events and many other activities throughout the school year. Our dedicated staff worked hard to provide a safe, fun and nurturing environment for the students to learn and develop a love of school. We are thankful for our families who supported our efforts and entrusted their children with our team.

As we wrap up the end of the school year, the staff at CNS is already preparing for the 2025-2026 school year. We have a few spots in both the Pre-K (four year old) and Half~Pints (two and a half year old) classes. If you have friends or family interested in our program, please have them email Angela Kushner, Director of Cranberry Nursery School, at cnsoplains@zoominternet.net.

We thank the members of Plains Presbyterian Church for supporting the school. Wishing you all a safe and healthy summer!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

TRUE NORTH

July 14th - July 18th

6:30pm - 8:30pm

SCAN QR CODE

SIGN UP FOR KIDS & VOLUNTEERS

PLAINS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ADULT VOLUNTEERS

CLEARANCES NEEDED FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL VOLUNTEER

1. Child Abuse History Clearance – free for volunteers
<http://.compass.state.pa.us/cwis/public/home>

2. Pennsylvania State Police Criminal Record Check – free for volunteers
<Https://epatch.state.pa.us> (Click on New Record – Volunteers Only)

3. If you have lived in PA for 10 years fill out a Disclosure Statement Application for Volunteers located in the narthex. Sign, Witness & date it.

4. If you haven't lived in PA for 10 years you will need Fingerprinting – based Federal Bureau of Investigation Criminal History Background Check. –
<http://www.keepkidssafe.pa.gov/resources/clearances/index.htm>
 - Under Dept. of Human Services – click CLEARANCES
 - Click FBI FINGERPRINT CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK
 - Volunteer Cost - \$22.95
 - FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS
 - Service Code – 1KG6ZJ

Please submit your clearances to the church office.

Clearances are valid for 5 years.

National Day of **PRAYER**

THURSDAY, MAY 1 • 12:00 PM

ARMSTRONG GREAT LAWN

CRANBERRY TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL CENTER

This American tradition dates back to the Second Continental Congress, before the Declaration of Independence. Today the tradition still stands. People of all faiths are invited to join neighbors and come together for a moment of silent prayer - for the common good of our community.

**12:00 PM - WELCOME
GUESTS TO PRAYER
STATIONS**

**12:30 PM - MOMENT
OF SILENCE**

**12:35 PM - MADRIGAL
CHOIR SVSD**

**NATIONAL DAY
OF PRAYER**



CRANBERRY

**COUNCIL OF
CHURCHES**

Join us at
Plains
Church



**Praise
and
Fellowship**
April 26th - 6 p.m.



**Summer Picnic
June 22nd - Noon**

PIE CONTEST

Saturday, May 3rd - 2:00pm

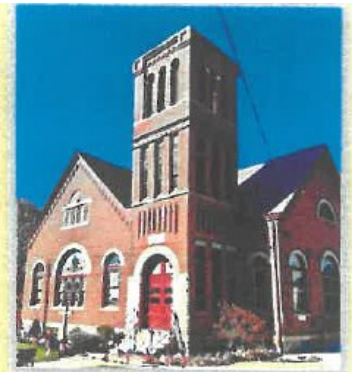
If you would like to bake a pie for the
Pie Bake - Off and Judging

Contact: Helen Taylor (Park Church)

hctaylor1061@gmail.com

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR
PLAINS CHURCH
AND
PARK CHURCH
EVENTS

Join us at
Park
Church



**Puzzles & Pies
May 3rd- 2 p.m.**

**Praise
and
Fellowship**
June 7th - 6 p.m.



NEW WILMINGTON MISSION CONFERENCE
July 18 - 23 2025

This conference is an **all-ages family friendly** Mission Conference that focuses on being challenged to participate in the mission of God through every aspect of life. This year's theme is to hear God's command to "Go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit."

Youth can sign up for a few days or attend the entire week. We have scholarships available for youth. Price includes meals, lodging and conference. You will be inspired by participating in worship, workshops and fun, plus it is close to home!





For more information, contact Diana Spencer @ dianamermon@beaverbutler.org

<https://www.nwmcmission.org> New Wilmington PA

THE STRAND THEATER PROUDLY PRESENTS
MATSIKO WORLD ORPHAN CHOIR
 Tuesday ONLY! July 22, 7:00 PM

[ORDER TICKETS](#)

The Strand Welcomes Back This Amazing International Children's Choir That Brings Joy, Hope & Love Through Music

MATSIKO WORLD ORPHAN CHOIR
 Tuesday ONLY, July 22, 7:00 PM

\$18 Reserve Seating

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR
 UPCOMING EVENTS
 THIS SUMMER**

OLD UNION CHURCH
ANNOUNCEMENT

You're invited to join this summer's mission trip the week of August 10 - 16, when we will travel to **western North Carolina** to assist with their hurricane rebuilding efforts. If you'd like to join us or would like more information, please contact me. We welcome people of all skill levels, from 16-116! (If you can't go on the trip but would like to support it, please send your donations to the church marked "Mission Trip")

Rev. Peter C de Vries, Ph.D.
 Pastor, Old Union Presbyterian Church



LANCASTER, PA

NOAH / RISE AND FALL...

June 19-20, 2025

2 Days - 1 Night

Classic Heritage Tours

Friendship Presbyterian Church

Jeff Cross, Coordinator

724-498-5957



TOUR COST: \$ 480.00 per person double occupancy
\$ 470.00 per person triple occupancy (two beds)
\$ 460.00 per person quad occupancy (two beds)
\$ 545.00 per person single occupancy

TOUR INCLUDES: Roundtrip motor coach transportation
One night accommodations Country Inn & Suites
One Breakfast - Day 2, Country Inn & Suites
Lunch - Day 1, Miller's Smorgasbord
Lunch - Day 2, Amish Family-Style (Beef and Chicken)
Sight and Sound Theatre - NOAH
Bird-In-Hand Theatre - Rise and Fall of Miss Fannie's Biscuits
Bird-In-Hand Bakery (Goodies) Kitchen Kettle Village
All taxes and meal gratuities

DEPOSIT DUE: \$50.00 per person to guarantee your reservation

PAYMENT DUE: Friday, May 16, 2025

CHECKS PAYABLE: Jeff Cross

FORWARD TO: Jeff Cross
328 South Main
Harrisville, PA 16038

THANK YOU for traveling via Friendship Church and Classic Heritage Tours (OVER)

FRIENDSHIP PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Lancaster, PA

Noah - Sight & Sound

and

Rise and Fall of Miss Fannie's Biscuits

Bird-In-Hand Theatre

June 19th -20th

2 Days - 1 Night

Jeff Cross, Coordinator

724-498-5957

Lancaster, PA

NOAH / Rise and Fall of Miss Fannie's Biscuits

June 19-20, 2025

FRIENDSHIP PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Jeff Cross, Coordinator

724-498-5957



TENTATIVE TIME ITINERARY

Thursday, June 19	7:00 a.m.	Board - Friendship Presbyterian Church
	7:30	Departure with rest stop en route
	1:00 p.m.	*Miller's Smorgasbord (Awesome!) Eli's Countryside Crafts
	4:00	Check-in Country Inn & Suites Lancaster 717-299-4460
	5:45	*Pizza at hotel
Friday, June 20	7:00	BIH Theatre - The Rise and Fall of Miss
	10:00	Return - Country Inn & Suites
	a.m.	*Breakfast - Country Inn & Suites
	8:15	Check-out and departure from hotel
	8:30	Bird-In-Hand Bake Shop - Goodies!
	9:30	Kitchen Kettle Village
	12:30 p.m.	*Lunch - Amish Family Style (Beef/Chicken)
3:00	Sight and Sound Theatre - NOAH	
5:45	Departure for return trip home with rest stop	
10:30	Return - Friendship Presbyterian Church	

* Meals included with tour cost

Please call Jeff for reservations and additional information

PLEASE NOTE: A \$50.00 deposit per person is required for your reservation. In the event the trip would be cancelled due to lack of participation, deposits will be fully refunded. After final payment has been made, it is the responsibility of the traveling passenger(s) to find a replacement in order to receive a refund.

Plains Presbyterian Church

Session Highlights

April 2025

Session met on Monday, April 14, 2025. Below are some of the highlights of that meeting.

Four weeks remain for CNS. May 13th, and 14th are the last school days. Pastor Porter will be reading to the students April 28th, and 29th.

Frank reviewed our financial performance for the year. Frank reported that we are in good shape financially.

Frank reviewed the Workman's Compensation report to our Insurance Underwriter "Brotherhood Mutual".

May 4th training on evangelism and relationships. Perhaps training with Session and Deacons at the same time.

Deacons met Sunday, April 13, 2025. Minutes of the meeting were distributed.

Approved sending \$260 to Old Union Church for their upcoming Mission Trip to North Carolina. Motion Passed.

Stewardship letters will be in the Plain Talk soon.

June 8th – Pentecost we will have cake in the pavilion.

Possible upcoming events include a game night along with a Men's and Women's Night out.

Next Discipleship Committee meeting – April 27th.

Sue Reed is painting part of the church.

Discussion of Clearances. Janelle will coordinate VBS volunteers.

Tom is ordering new Pads for the AED machine, and has prepared very nice documentation about the machine.

CNS will pay half of the Church security camera upgrade. More work to be done.

Frank attended the Presbytery meeting on March 25th and reported some of the results of that meeting.

Possible capital campaign to renovate the kitchen and fellowship hall. Still forming a committee to discuss the feasibility of the upgrade.

Tiffany Alois has volunteered to be our representative at the next Presbytery meeting at Crestview church, May 27th.

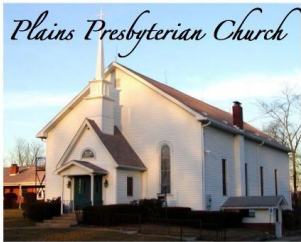
New member classes May 18th and May 25th and installing new members June 1st and / or June 8th.

Possible Joint Deacon meeting on August 18th

Next Session meeting will be on May 12, 2025 at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tim Roscoe
Clerk of Session



**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.”

