



Five Big Questions We Are Asked (New Sermon Series Beginning Jan. 14th)

When we try to invite friends or neighbors to experience Jesus, we are often asked big questions concerning Christian practices, faith, or the Bible. What questions have you

been asked? Are you ready to provide answers to them and explain your faith?

Join us at Plainfield UMC as we examine the big questions we are asked, during our five-week sermon series:

What is in the Book of Revelation? – January 14

Why Evil? - January 21

Religious or Spiritual? – January 28

Why Jesus? – February 4

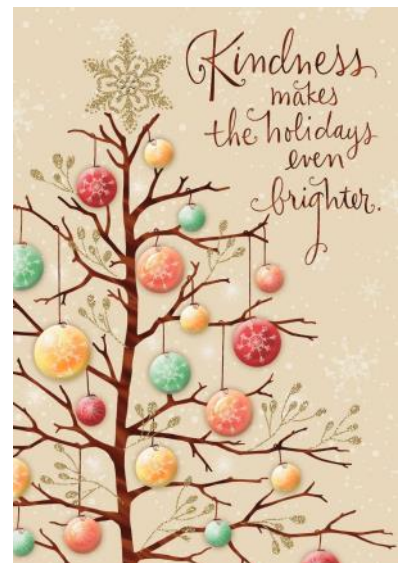
Is Hell Real? – February 11

A HUGE “Thank You...”

...to the congregation for, once again, brightening the holidays for many, many Del Valle “Head Start Program” families. Your generosity filled 2 vans to the brim with gifts!



Not even THIS person could stop Christmas from arriving for Del Valle families, thanks to YOU!



January Worship Schedule

January 7 (Epiphany Sunday)

- 8:30am Worship and Communion with Chancel Choir
- 10:00am Eucharist Worship
- 11:00am Worship and Communion with Worship Band
- Story: "What Happened to the Other Wise Man?"

*** Begin Sermon Series: Five Big Questions ***

January 14

- 8:30am Worship with Chancel Choir
- 10:00am Eucharist Worship
- 11:00am Worship with Worship Band
- Preacher: Eun- Hye Choi on "What's in the Book of Revelation?"

January 21

- 8:30am Worship with Chancel Choir
- 10:00am Eucharist Worship
- 11:00am Worship and Baptism with Worship Band
- Preacher: Eun-Hye Choi on "Why Evil?"

January 28

- 8:30am Worship with Chancel Choir
- 10:00am Eucharist Worship
- 11:00am Worship with Worship Band
- Preacher: Eun-Hye Choi on "Religious or Spiritual?"

December Host Schedule



	<u>8:30</u>	<u>11:00</u>
Jan. 7	Linda & Lonny Bodie	Carrie & Paul Wrubel
Jan. 14	Kay & Jim Schimpf	Sue Hasenyager
Jan. 21	Chrissy Santerelli	Kim & John Pondelicek
Jan. 28	Harriett Nelson	Wendy, Anna & Maggie Proulx

*From the PUMC
Reconciling Ministry Team:*

The PUMC Reconciling Leadership Team is seeking your input. Please watch your email in January, for an invitation to participate in a congregation-wide straw poll seeking to assess where the congregation currently stands, as we discern how to live out our call to love our LGBTQ neighbors. We are about six months into our reconciling discernment process, and we feel that it is critical at this point in the process that we hear from you. This anonymous survey is NOT an official vote. It is merely a snapshot of the perspectives, concerns, and thoughts of the congregation. The leadership team will look at the data to determine future opportunities for learning and discussion.



The surveys will take approximately 5-10 minutes. Sample questions follow. We are asking that the survey be completed by each adult, senior high student, and confirmation student in your household. Paper copies will also be available in the church office.

2017 PUMC Reconciling Congregation Straw Poll Survey

Do you think that Plainfield United Methodist Church should become a "Reconciling Congregation," taking a clear stand and making a public statement on our website to include and welcome Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ) persons into our PUMC faith community?

What opportunities have you utilized so far to help you discern your future vote?

Please tell us what types of future learning opportunities you would be most likely to attend?

What questions or concerns do you have for the Reconciling Core Team Leaders at this time?

PUMC is offering a “**God and Family**” class for **fourth and fifth graders** on Tuesdays, **January 9, 16, 23, and 30 from 6:15—7:30pm**. The God and Family program offers children a chance to explore God’s role in a healthy family. The class is open to all children. Those who complete the program will be recognized during a worship service and can receive a God and Family medallion. This award is recognized by Girl and Boy Scout associations, and we encourage those involved in scouting to participate in the program (please share with your scouting group!). Contact Pastor Sherry at 815-436-9651 or sherry.steele@plainfieldumc.com to sign-up - no later than Sunday, January 7th.



READING is my SUPERPOWER

KIDS’ BOOK CLUBS

Hey, kids...ready for some fun? Just scoop up a copy of the book of the month, read it, and then join us for discussion, snacks & FUN! We normally meet on the first Thursday of each month but, **in January we’ll meet on the 2nd Thursday (January 11th), due to winter break**. Here’s a list of our exciting upcoming picks:

Elementary:

- January - *Crossing Niagra* by Matt Tavares
- February - *Crenshaw* by Kristina Applegate
- March - *Soar* by Joan Bauer

Middle School:

- January - *The Red Umbrella* by Christina Diaz Gonzales
- February - *Revolution is Not a Dinner Party* by Ying Chang
- March - *Listen, Slowly* by Thana Lai



WHAM! will not gather on January 3rd. Enjoy your break from school! We will meet again on January 17th from 6:30-7:30pm for our next mission. We are going to learn about “upcycling.” Come and see what you can make out of “useless” trash! Questions? Contact Pastor Sherry at sherry.steele@plainfieldumc.com.



Adult Sunday School in January

Join us as we make sense of some of the Bible's most challenging passages! We will look at some of the topics that trip us up, such as science and the bible, God's violence in the Old Testament, and the multiple accounts of Jesus' life. All are welcome! The discussion begins on January 7th at 9:50am in Room 206.

Lunch Bunch Small Group Invites YOU



Imagine being able to savor every moment – without feeling rushed or impatient. Discover and grow in this Fruit of the Spirit, as you find patience in places you may have never expected, like lines at the grocery store, traffic jams, your relationships, and having patience in God's timing. Join us beginning on Monday, January 8th from 11:30am to 1:00pm in the Conference Room. Contact Pastor Sherry at sherry.steele@plainfieldumc.com with questions.



Now's the time to get your copy of our January book -- *Lilac Girls* by Martha Hall Kelly. This one comes highly recommended by several of our members. We hope you can join us as we gather on **Thursday, January 18th at 7pm** at the church for discussion. Contact Pastor Sherry with questions at: sherry.steele@plainfieldumc.com.



Happy New Year....from Your Green Team Small Group!

Wishing you all a wonderful year full of exciting recycling news, events, and some surprises in store! Look for more frequent updates on the Green Team website: <http://plainfieldumc.com/green-team/>

In the meantime, here is a link to a website that can encourage you to make recycling that tree a practice of caring for our environment. Wow, how awesome is that?! <https://www.rodalorganiclife.com/home/6-ways-to-recycle-your-christmas-tree>

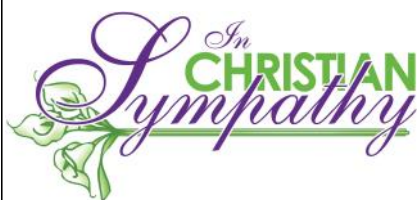
And here is a link from our good friends at Will County Green, who is raising up Pilcher Park as a drop off point for tree recycling: [http://www.willcountygreen.com/greenguide/christmas tree recycling .aspx](http://www.willcountygreen.com/greenguide/christmas%20tree%20recycling.aspx)

And last, but certainly not least, our local WM company, giving us really important tips to good recycling vs. bad recycling - eye opening! <http://recycleoftenrecycleright.com/>

Have a Blessed and Green 2018!

January Usher Schedule

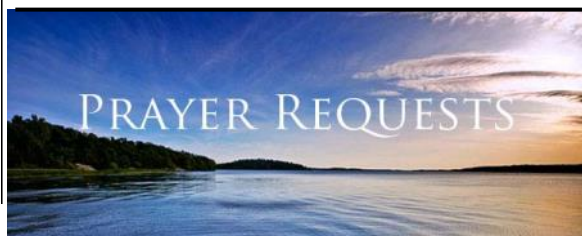
	8:30	11:00
Jan. 7	Dave Lindgren, Marilyn Martin Cheryl Henbest, Acolyte	Arleta Gordon, Mike Brunsting Acolyte
Jan. 14	Dan Bombrys, Charlie Crews, Lolly Adolfson, Acolyte	Chris Hart, Eric Wellman, Acolyte
Jan. 21	Ron Krzywanos, Larry Newton Carole Holloway, Acolyte	Holly Strange, Troy Strange Acolyte
Jan. 28	Paul Eggerstedt, Tony Carrozza Lonny Bodie, Acolyte	Kim Pack, Jon Proulx Scott Long, Acolyte



Earl Edward Yunker, 84 years of age, of Winchester, IL and formerly of Plainfield, passed away Sunday, December 17, 2017 in Springfield, IL. Earl was the loving husband of Jenevra and the father of four children. He was also a grandfather and great-grandfather to many.

Earl became a member of PUMC in 1967. He was a life-long farmer, and trucker with at least 45 years of farming in Plainfield. He enjoyed race cars, tractor-pulling, snowmobiling and "going fast".

Expressions of sympathy can be sent to:
Jenevra Yunker, 1306 Merritt Lane, Winchester, IL 62694.



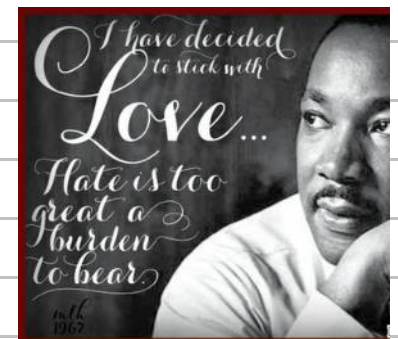
Prayer Requests

Prayers were lifted up for the following people during the month of December:

- *Lolly Adolfson
- *Becky Casey's mom, Phyllis Ackerman
- *Jeanne & Darryl Dupre's friend, Donna Hendricksen
- *Judy & Gary Geistler's godson, Brody Roberts
- *Ron Henbest
- *Carole Holloway's friend, Sam Madia
- *Tammy Jiménez sister & family

- *Belinda (Joe) Maranowicz's father, Bill Courter
- *The Madden Family, at the loss of their dog, Vidalia
- *Ruth Marcks
- *Misty Martin
- *Donna Morrow's son-in-law, John Vanderhoek
- *Bonnie Rogers' brother-in-law, Terry Rogers

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Mon., 1/1		HAPPY NEW YEAR
Weds., 1/3	6:00p	Worship Band (Sanctuary)
	6:30p	Gentle Yoga (203)
	7:00p	Chancel Choir (Choir Room)
Thurs., 1/4	6:30p	Plainfield Aktion Club (202)
Fri., 1/5	6:00p	Jr./Sr. High Lock-In & "New Year's Party with Jesus"
	6:30p	"The Believers" Potluck Fellowship Group (Mizwicki Home)
Sat., 1/6	8:30a	Bellissimo (Sanctuary Balcony)
Sun., 1/7	12:30p	Fun Men's Group (Offsite)
Mon., 1/8	9:30a	Prayer Shawl Group (PFH)
	11:30a	Lunch Bunch (C/L)
	6:30p	Y.M.A.P. (C/L)
	7:00p	KINECT: Parents of Teens (206/207)
Tues., 1/9	6:15p	God & Family Class (105)
	7:00p	Membership & Outreach (C/L)
	7:00p	Prayer Shawl Group (PFH)
Weds., 1/10	4:30p	Faith in Practice Covenant Group (C/L)
	6:00p	Children's Choir (Choir Room)
	6:00p	Small Group Ministry Team (C/L)
	6:00p	Worship Band (Sanctuary)
	6:30p	Immersion Bible Study (Offsite)
	7:00p	Chancel Choir (Choir Room)
Thurs., 1/11	6:30p	Kids' Book Clubs (Elem: 105 / Middle School: 106)
	7:00p	Trustee Meeting (C/L)
Sat., 1/13	8:30a	Bellissimo (Sanctuary Balcony)
Sun., 1/14	12:15p	Baptism Orientation (C/L)
	6:30p	Jr./Sr. High Youth Group (206/207)
Mon., 1/15		Martin Luther King's Birthday
	11:30a	Lunch Bunch (C/L)
	6:30p	Education Committee (C/L)
Tues., 1/16	6:15p	God & Family Class (105)
	6:30p	Stewardship Meeting (206/207)



DATE	TIME	EVENT
Weds., 1/17	8:15a	Men's Group Breakfast (Offsite)
	6:00p	Children's Choir (Choir Room)
	6:00p	Worship Band (Sanctuary)
	6:30p	Gentle Yoga (203)
	6:30p	WHAM! (202, 204)
	7:00p	Chancel Choir (Choir Room)
Thurs., 1/18	7:00p	Planned Giving (106)
	7:00p	Women's Book Group (C/L)
Sat., 1/20		** DUE DATE FOR NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS **
	8:30a	Bellissimo (Sanctuary Balcony)
Sun., 1/21	8:30a	Sunday School STAFF TRAINING - Part II (C/L)
	12:00n	Mission Committee Meeting (206/207)
	12:15p	Doris Stabler Scholarship Committee Meeting (C/L)
Mon., 1/22	11:30a	Lunch Bunch (C/L)
	7:00p	Administrative Council (JBFH)
Tues., 1/23	6:15p	God & Family Class (105)
Weds., 1/24	11:00a	Trinity Food Pantry (Offsite)
	4:30p	Faith in Practice Covenant Group (C/L)
	6:00p	Children's Choir (Choir Room)
	6:00p	Worship Band (Sanctuary)
	6:30p	Immersion Bible Study (Offsite)
	7:00p	Chancel Choir (Choir Room)
Thurs., 1/25	6:30p	Staff-Parish Relations Committee (C/L)
Sat., 1/27	8:30a	Bellissimo (Sanctuary Balcony)
Sun., 1/28	11:00a	Sunday School STAFF TRAINING - Part II (C/L)
	6:30p	Jr./Sr. High Youth Gathering (206/207)
Mon., 1/29	11:30a	Lunch Bunch (C/L)
Tues., 1/30	6:15p	God & Family Class (105)
Weds., 1/31	6:00p	Children's Choir (Choir Room)
	6:00p	Worship Band (Sanctuary)
	7:00p	Chancel Choir (Choir Room)



*Plainfield United Methodist Church
15114 S. Illinois Street
Plainfield, IL 60544*



Plainfield United Methodist Church

Phone: (815) 436-9651

Web: plainfieldumc.com

Email: pumc@plainfieldumc.com

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday

8:30am - 4:30pm

Sunday Worship Schedule

8:30am - Traditional Worship with Chancel Choir

10:00am - Eucharist Worship

11:00 - Contemporary Worship with Worship Band

Plainfield UMC Pastoral Staff

Rev. Eun-Hye Choi, Lead Pastor
eunhye.choi@plainfieldumc.com

Rev, Sherry Steele,
Minister of Faith Formation
sherry.scates@plainfieldumc.com

Roger Beitzel,
Youth Director
roger.beitzel@plainfieldumc.com

Plainfield UMC Staff

Victoria Eggerstedt / Cheryl Henbest
Administrative Assistants
pumc@plainfieldumc.com

Karen Koziol, Bookkeeper
accounting@plainfieldumc.com

Beth Best, Chancel Choir Director
525beth@gmail.com

Kelly Markwell, Bellissimo Choir Director
bells@plainfieldumc.com

Megan Marconi & Tim Scates, Worship Band Co-Directors
(mamarconi1029@gmail.com / tim.icurn@att.net)

Cheryl Henbest, Financial Secretary
cheryl.henbest@plainfieldumc.com

Kathy Hermansen, Organist
kathleen_hermansen@comcast.net

Karyn Holstead, Children's Choir
kholstead@hotmail.com