



THE PLAIN FACTS
a monthly newsletter of

**FIRST YARMOUTH
PLAINS BAPTIST CHURCH**

6071 Fairview Road, R. R. # 4
St. Thomas ON N5P 3S8
E-mail: plainschurch@rogers.com
Website: www.plainschurch.ca
Phone: 519-633-2883

Newsletter Staff

Distribution: Barb Axford
Technical Support: Phyllis Huffman
Editor: Nancy Millman
Contributors: Pastor Margaret Bell
Rev. Malcolm Rust
Plains family

JULY/AUGUST 2019



Photo by Malcolm Rust

The congregation on Sunday, June 16, 2019 at the church service by the pond at Springwater Camp grounds, witnessing the baptism of Bill, Danielle and Darrin Ralf.



PRAYER CONCERNS

To protect the privacy concerns of our families, friends, neighbours and church family, it is requested that before names are submitted to the Pastor for prayer, or are put on the Plain Facts prayer list, permission be sought and granted from the individuals to be named, or from family members who have been given express permission to speak on their behalf.

Cathy Tredenick	Marilyn Cartwright	Nicole Abbott	Family of Betty Baker
Eleanor House	Dave & Janet Stewart	George Lidster	Marilyn Smith
Joslyn Wilcox	Vince Melvin	Piet & Alice denBoer	Cecil & Mabel Somerville
Randy Paul	Ashleigh & family	Alan Armstrong	Family of Catherine Somerville
John Johnson	Jason Carnegie	Sally Paul	Carla Norton
Jill Coull	Mary Underhill	Janet & Dennis	Larry Mizon
Heather Crafts	Matt Cosentino	Ray Martin	Betty Graham
Greg Lidster	Family of Jim Williams	Brenton Carnegie	
Gary Wilson			

In Sympathy

The Plains church family extends our sincere sympathy to Gary & Fran Somerville, Carrie & John Bolt, Stephanie & Abe Reimer, Jessica & Dave Hepburn, their families and the family of the late Catherine Somerville who was promoted to glory on May 30. Catherine was 84 years. She was life-time member of the Dexter community and a valued member of Dexter United Church and Port Stanley United Church. She was active in the UCW and was a good friend to the Plains. She is dearly missed. *Pastor Margaret Bell*

The Plains family extends sincere condolences to the friends and family of the late Sylvia and Floyd Snyder of Kitchener, Ontario. Sadly, we had not learned of these deaths until recently. Sylvia Douglas Snyder was the daughter of Audrey and Archie Douglas and grew up in faith in the former Plains Church. She served as a Sunday School teacher. In later years, when Audrey was widowed, she resided with Sylvia and her husband Floyd in Kitchener. Plains friends were invited to visit Audrey anytime. Sylvia and Floyd or one of their sons would bring Audrey to the Plains Bazaars so she could visit with her dear friends and visit Archie's grave site at Union. Several of Audrey's Plains friends were pleased to attend Audrey's 90th birthday held in the Snyder's lovely back yard. Sylvia died on February 27, 2017 in Kitchener Grand River Hospital at the age of 71 years. Floyd died at his home on September 20, 2017 at the age of 78. The couple are survived by their three sons, Dale, Mark and Grant & their families and Sylvia's younger sister, Diane Cressman. We were blessed to have known them. *Pastor Margaret Bell*

The Plains family extends our sad condolences to Cindy and Paul Lundie & Karissa Lundie, Janet and Dan Peters and Louis and Joanne Field and families at the passing of Betty Baker, a dear mother, grandmother, sister and aunt. Betty was a member of Plains and a former member of Dutton Baptist Church. For several years, Betty teamed up with her soul-mate Bob Facey, and drove big rigs across Canada for ECL Carriers. She loved being a trucker.

Betty will be missed by both her longtime and newer friends at Plains. For years, Betty's mother Clara Field was one of Plains longest time members along with Anna Lang. Our prayers are with all her loved ones at this time. Betty was promoted to her heavenly home on June 25. Arrangements through Shawn Jackson Funeral home. *Pastor Margaret Bell*



JULY BIRTHDAYS

2 nd	Bob Limon	12 th	Todd Ruddock
2 nd	Joyce O'Connor	16 th	Greg Graham
3 rd	Ashley Sawyer	20 th	Ray Martin
5 th	Carl Sibley	21 st	Don Ferguson
5 th	Michael Sargeant	25 th	Wayne Higgs
6 th	Jeff Wilcox	25 th	Ellen Brekelmans
7 th	Melissa Zellas	26 th	Sharon Axford
7 th	Sherri Doner	27 th	Mike Jackson
8 th	Darrin Ralf	28 th	Kathy Weare
10 th	Gary Higgs	31 st	Erene Mifsud
12 th	Carolyn Chesterfield		

ANNIVERSARIES

6 th	Karl & Donna Crocker
6 th	Mike Jackson & Amy Dale
7 th	John & Sherry Doner
15 th	Tim & Cathy McCarthy
22 nd	Dave & Carolyn Chesterfield
26 th	John & Carrie Bolt
28 th	Bob & Donna Limon

**AUGUST BIRTHDAYS**

1 st	Sam Nicolle	16 th	Ken Greenslade
1 st	Sue Anne MacCallum	19 th	Ken Jacklin
5 th	Kim Vanderberghe	20 th	Donna Ewart
6 th	Kolton Dale	22 nd	Bob Nicolle
8 th	Karen Cook	22 nd	Marilyn Cartwright
15 th	Barbara Axford	25 th	Tyler VanDuynhoven
15 th	Bodhi MacCallum	29 th	Eleanor House

ANNIVERSARIES

7 th	Martin & Laura Penner
9 th	Brian & Tiffany Plaunt
20 th	Deb & Ramzi Afara
20 th	Zoey & Regina Chen
29 th	Steve & Jo-Anne Pettit (55)

Plains Church Notes 9 June 2019 Pentecost Sunday

Pastor Margaret was telling the children the story of Pentecost having distributed colorful noodles to the whole congregation. Everyone was involved!

(Congregation wearing bright colors and waving noodles back and forth, above their heads and for song and dance.)

I'm gonna tell you all a story
Look it happened long ago
It was on the day of Pentecost
When a great wind began to blow.

It blew upon the rooftops
And it blew upon the trees
It blew upon the people
Who were prayin on their knees.

See they were followers of Jesus
And they were waiting on a sign
Of the Holy Spirit's coming
Once Jesus went to heaven leaving them behind.

And then it got real quiet
And something eerie to the eyes
Appeared upon the ceiling
They were in for a surprise.

Red flames with orange and yellow
Descended on each one
It was the Holy Spirit
Come to fill the church with love.

And the noise was like a train
They were scared but kept on prayin
As the wind blew strong again.

The crowd got real excited
They started dancing in the street
And when they started shouting
Different languages they did speak.

The people who were listening
Were amazed and filled with awe.
And that's how the church got started,
With the wind and fire and God. Ah Huh!



Photo by Malcolm Rust

On Wednesday June 5, nineteen members of Ladies Aid and guests enjoyed a hot noon meal of ham and scalloped potatoes at the St. Thomas Seniors' Centre. 2019 marks the Seniors' Centre 25 Anniversary and a member of the original Board of Directors, Betty Jones, one of our members attended this luncheon. Ladies Aid meetings resume on September 10. Thanks to Shirley Griffin for organizing this event for us.

CAMPING WEEKEND June 12-16th, 2019

The 25th Annual Camp Out was a success despite the weather with 89 people throughout the weekend, including 23 children. This was a slight decrease from 94 and 25 last year. There was 1 less tent than last year, with 12 trailers and 2 families tenting. The weekend was extended to Wednesday until Sunday for those who were interested in some extra time on site. We had 19 people camp Wednesday evening and 24 Thursday, and 38 on the weekend. We were still able to have a campfire on Wednesday and Friday evening. Shirley Dale presented a slide show Saturday evening of pictures from past camping trips to honour the 25th Year! It was enjoyed by all. Thanks to Shirley and Betty Rebotham for gathering the pictures for this presentation. This weekend continues to be an economical weekend due to the financial assistance of the Ladies Aid and Social Committee. We are truly grateful. Also, thank you to all who assisted in the delivery of supplies and the group cooking and preparation of the food at supper and breakfast. We used Charlie Rewbotham's generator again for hydro to cook the French toast, so breakfast was ready on time! Without paying for the extra hydro panel, we ended up in a surplus. Next year, the fees for the weekend will not increase from 2019. This was the 19th year that we have camped at Springwater Conservation Area. *Submitted by Sherry Graham*

On Wednesday June 12, seventeen ladies travelled Wellington Road into London, to enjoy June's *After 8's Breakfast* at CORA'S of Commissioners Road. Everyone enjoyed the unique and artistically served dishes, the fellowship, and of course lots of laughter. Thanks to Linda Cummings for organizing this outing, and all of our breakfasts. *After 8's Breakfast* will resume on September 11.

C.B.O.Q. ASSEMBLY 2019

Canadian Baptists of Ontario and Quebec Assembly was held June 13th to 15th in Mississauga and I was privileged to represent Plains Baptist Church as a delegate. Theme for Assembly was "Planted to Flourish".

Drew Brown once again led the wonderful and inspiring worship services.

CBOQ Board reports were accepted and the budget approved. Our partner missions, including Canadian Baptist Women, Canadian Baptist Ministries, and McMaster Divinity College also shared inspiring reports.

A memorial moment was held in honour of pastors who have gone to be with their Lord. Several pastors were welcomed into the Over 40 Club.



New pastors and churches were also recognized.

Our plenary speaker was Rev. Dr. Soong-Chan Rah who spoke on Lamentations – the connection between lament and justice, challenges we face ahead, and ways to correct broken narratives.

Communion was celebrated Friday evening.

I attended two learning sessions – "Do You See This Woman" dealing with how we do and should respond to living in an unjust world and "Mental Illness in Communities of Faith".

Submitted by Louise Sargeant

FIRST YARMOUTH BAPTIST CHURCH FINANCIAL STATEMENT
as of June 30, 2019

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Missions</u>	<u>Communion Fund</u>	<u>Sunday School</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Income	47,628.42	2,217.02	1,862.00	230.00	51,937.44
Expenses	<u>47,598.72</u>	<u>2,217.02</u>	<u>1,519.80</u>	<u>230.00</u>	<u>51,565.54</u>
Net Gain(Loss)	29.70	0.00	342.20	0.00	371.90
Balance end of 2018	<u>50,071.60</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>769.99</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>50,841.59</u>
Balance as at 06/30/2019	<u>50,101.30</u>	0.00	1,112.19	0.00	51,213.49

1. The General Fund shows a net gain as of June 30th, 2019 of \$29.70. We are awaiting grass cutting bills for May and June, 2019, and those are not included in the above figures.
2. Missions income as of June 30th, 2019 totalled \$2,217.02. That amount has been forwarded to CBOQ and CBM. This amount is made up as follows: CBOQ - General Budget - \$1,314.50; CBOQ Local Missions - \$120.00; CBM - General Budget - \$610.52; and CBM Sharing Way undesignated - \$172.00.
3. The Communion fund had a net gain at the end of June, 2019 of \$342.20. There is an amount from previous years of \$769.99, for a balance in the Communion Fund of \$1,112.19.
4. The designated Sunday School amount as at 30th day of June, 2019 was \$230.00. Those funds have been paid to the Treasurer of the Sunday school at the end of the second Quarter.
5. There is a memorial donation for the late Earl Kipp of \$100, plus \$1,000 from the Estate of the late Earl Kipp, and is not yet designated.
6. Donations in memory of the late Tom Marshman total \$500.00, IMO Gary Dunn of \$15, IMO Jim Maynard of \$660.00, and IMO Jim Duffy of \$285.00. It was approved at the Spring Business meeting to use those funds towards future projects.
7. The Future Projects Fund at the end of June 2019 totals \$245.00, plus the funds mentioned in #5 and #6.

Respectfully Submitted,
Shirley E. Dale, Treasurer



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED ACROSS ELGIN COUNTY

Supportive Care and Bereavement Services VON Middlesex-Elgin

1. Are you a good listener?
2. Do you enjoy helping others?
3. Do you have 1-2 hrs to spare once a week?
4. Do you have a special talent or skill you would like to share?
5. Do you enjoy helping others?
6. Do you have 1 - 2 hours to spare once a week?
7. Do you have a special talent or skill you would like to share?

No previous experience necessary. Training and ongoing support provided!

Please contact Jessica or Becky at VON 519-637-6408 becky.ahrens@von.ca jessica.zehr@von.ca

Camping has become a tradition for the Plains Church. We have completed 25 years, 20 of them at Springwater Conservation Area (Catfish Creek Conservation Authority). In 1995 we camped in tents and used the Old School House. The next year we went to Camp Timken (Scouts Canada 1975-2016) near Iona and camped there 3 years. Then we went to the huge Wildwood Conservation Area (Upper Thames Conservation Authority) covering 3,200 acres, St. Mary's for 2 years. The last 19 years we have used the Day Use Area of Springwater with several RV trailers and some tents. Sherry Graham, who had been Sunday school superintendent for several years, has been the lead person throughout this time supported by Kim and several willing workers. Originally, the event marked the ending of the Sunday school year. This year, for the first time, the Sunday morning service by the pond concluded with the baptism of three candidates.

Malcolm Rust



Pastor Margaret Bell, Danielle, Bill and Darrin Ralf, preparing for baptism in Springwater pond.



Deacon John Gibbons, Danielle Ralf and Pastor Margaret Bell.



Deacon John Gibbons, Bill Ralf and Pastor Margaret Bell



Deacon John Gibbons, Pastor Margaret Bell and Darrin Ralf *Photos by Malcolm Rust*

Congratulations to Ashley Sawyer who has recently graduated from Ryerson University with a degree in Urban and Rural Development. She also has a degree in Criminology from the University of Western Ontario. Ashley is the granddaughter of Bob and Donna Limon, granddaughter of Doug and Mary Sawyer, and great-granddaughter of Betty Jones.

A Pastoral Prayer for Canada Day

God of rugged mountain majesty
Lord of fruitful lush valleys
Creator of endless golden prairies
Grower of Rain forests
and Sculptor of Arctic tundra---

We thank you for this land, our home, Canada. We praise you for its rich variety of natural resources and a cacophony of voices, languages cultures, opinions and religions.

In a world where so many nations war within themselves or against neighbors we enjoy peace.

In a world where so many people struggle to survive with meagre material means and limited opportunities, we thrive and blossom like apple orchards in Springtime.

We give you thanks for
Canadians who have sacrificed
so that people who arrive here as refugees
can find a peaceful place to raise their children and grandchildren.

WE are grateful for the diplomats, police
and military who guard our borders
defend our values and represent the cause of democratic freedoms
before the world.

We give you praise for citizens who
volunteer in hospitals and care homes,
hospices and in community
organizations so that
families, elders, women and homeless folk
will receive needed support.

Bountiful God, even with all our plenty
we acknowledge the great need all around us.
We acknowledge with sadness Canadians involved in
the drug trade and human trafficking.

We acknowledge Canada's complicity
in polluting and wasting precious resources
of water, soil and air.

We confess how humans have killed off plants
Insects, animals and people with poisonous pesticides
and pollution of air and water supplies.

We acknowledge our country's inability to
relieve the suffering of
many who languish in the streets of
cities or who live in subhuman conditions
in remote areas and reservations.

We acknowledge wide cracks in social
systems that allow the
most vulnerable among us to fall through.

God the land you loaned to Indigenous peoples
and to all of us is so beautiful, vast and awe-inspiring.

Canada's people are so
resilient, talented, inventive
peace-loving and tolerant,
and yet still too many lives are marred
by evil, selfishness, greed, prejudice, and violence.

Forgive us, O God.

Restore us in mind, body and spirit.

Heal our land.

Change our hearts.

Help us to make a positive difference.

We open ourselves to your loving Holy Spirit.

May we follow in the footsteps of Jesus
and share compassion and caring to our neighbours,
friends and families.

We hold out to you those on
our prayer list for your blessing and help.

Touch their hurts.

Heal their wounds.

Raise them up again to be a blessing
to others, in your name.

May we be your ministering angels offering a listening ear
and helping hand, in your name.

We pray this in the name of Jesus
who taught his disciples your Golden Rule: *Matthew 7:12*

*"In everything do to others as you would have them do to you, for this is the law
and the prophets."*

Amen



*Have a safe and sacred summer, my
dear Church family,*

Margaret