



THE PLAIN FACTS

a monthly newsletter of

FIRST YARMOUTH PLAINS BAPTIST CHURCH

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Plains family

JUNE 2020



A Father Means..

A Father means so many things...

An understanding heart,

A source of strength and support
right from the very start.

A constant readiness to help

In a kind and thoughtful way.

With encouragement and forgiveness,
No matter what comes your way.

A special generosity

and always affection, too.

A father means so many things
when he's a man like you....



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	Heather Crafts	Marilyn Smith
Dave & Janet Stewart	Ray Martin	Milton Springer	Marietta Roberts
Vince Melvin	Carol Maes	Larry Mizon	Betty Graham
Ashley & family	Cannady Family	Don Gillard	Ed Somerville
Jason Carnegie	Sally Paul	Janet & Dennis	Judy Jacklin
Mary Underhill	Greg Lidster	Ferne Jameson-Pell	Family of Dr. Ray Knight
Family of Ed Willson			

Sunday Scripture Readings

June 07-Trinity Sunday

Matthew 28: 16 - 20
Psalm 8
2 Corinthians 13: 11 - 13

June 14-Pentecost 2

Genesis 18: 1 - 15
Romans 5: 1 - 8
Matthew 9: 35 - 10:8

June 21-Pentecost 3- Father's Day

Genesis 21: 8 - 21
Matthew 10: 24 - 39
Psalm 86: 1 - 10, 16-17

June 28-Pentecost 4

Genesis 22: 1 - 14
Romans 6: 12 - 23
Matthew 10: 40 - 42

July 05-Pentecost 5

Genesis 24: 34 - 38, 42 - 49, 58 - 67
Romans 7: 15 - 25a
Matthew 11: 16 - 19, 25 - 30



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

1 st	Judy Jacklin	18 th	Michelle Carnegie
9 th	Michela Sargeant	19 th	Jeremy Dale
10 th	Ryan Dunn	23 rd	Annabella Hindley
10 th	Gail McPhail	23 rd	Lillie Penner
11 th	Toots Gillard (92)	23 rd	Emma Wilcox
15 th	George Martyn	27 th	Melanie Dunn
15 th	Carla Norton	27 th	Gerry Coull
		28 th	Anna Kristine Kisiel



ANNIVERSARIES

4 th	Floyd and Sharon Axford (60)	20 th	Phil & Cherie Doyon
5 th	George & Betty Lidster (55)	23 rd	Jeff & Melanie Wilcox
6 th	Stephen & Carolyn Plaunt	26 th	Sue Anne & Joshua MacCallum
15 th	Doug & Mary Sawyer (57)	30 th	Randy & Roxanne Bale
18 th	Denny & Janet Lang	30 th	Gary & Fran Somerville

No matter how serious your life requires you to be, everyone needs a friend to act goofy with.

EVENTS FOR JUNE-ALL CANCELLED DUE TO COVID-19 CONCERNS

June 07 Sun 10:00 A.M. Sunday Service - Communion Sunday

June 14 Sun 10:00 A.M. Sunday Service

June 09 Tue Ladies Aid Luncheon - CANCELLED
June 10 Wed After 8's Breakfast - CANCELLED

June 17 - 21 (Wednesday - Sunday) Church camp-out at Springwater - CANCELLED

-----> **NOTE:** We are booked in at Springwater for **June 16-20th, 2021.** <-----

June 21 Sun 10:30 A.M. Sunday Service - Father's Day

June 28 Sun 10:00 A.M. Sunday Service -Canada Day weekend. Congregants may dress in red and white or something patriotic to mark 153rd year of Confederation.

July 07 Sun 10:00 A.M. Sunday Service - Communion Sunday



The Lessard's and their son-in-law Paulo trimmed the trees along the old cemetery. Great job!! Thank You.



The painter is finished.

Photos by Margie Bell

Dads are like chocolate chip cookies; they may have chips or be totally nutty, but they are sweet and make the world a better place, especially for their children.

Let's Go PLAINS TEAM, let's go! Let's Go PLAINS TEAM, let's go! Let's Go PLAINS TEAM, let's go!

STAY HOME STAY SAFE STAY CONNECTED



Sherri Doner's son, **Michael Johnson** graduates from St. Joseph's High School, Grade 12 this month. He was accepted into the Mechanical Engineering Technician program at Fanshawe College and will begin in the fall.

Sherri Doner's son, **Matthew Johnson** graduated with honours from GCSU (Georgia College State University) in May with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management (BBA) and is continuing to run his own business as a professional photographer in the greater Atlanta area.

John Doner's son, **Jackson Doner** graduated last month from Ryerson University with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in performance acting. He has signed with an agent and looks forward to his professional acting debut at Theatre by The Bay in Barrie this fall.

SueAnne McCallum's son, **Dallas MacPherson** graduates from Mitchell Hepburn Public School this month. He will be attending St. Joseph's High School in the fall.

Proud grandparents are Charlie & Betty Rewbotham.

Darrin Ralf graduates from Mitchell Hepburn public school and will be attending St Joseph's High school in the fall. His proud parents are Bill and Danielle Ralf.

Emma Penner is graduating from Parkside Collegiate Institute and will be heading to Lampton College in Sarnia for Pre-Service Fire Fighting in September. Laura's proud parents are Martin and Laura Penner. Laura is the great-niece of Shirley Griffin and George and Betty Lidster.

IN RESPONSE TO MARGIE'S REQUEST.....

"I invite you to participate in a congregational project to help us get through this prolonged sabbatical together. I invite you to forward a favorite memory of what you love most about Plains. Maybe it's a memory of an event, your favorite worship moment or a person in your Plains family that you miss and really appreciate! I invite children to share what they miss most about Sunday School and church time, too."

MEMORIES.....

To my Plains family:

Belatedly, I would like to thank my Plains Family for the lovely flowers on my 85th birthday on March 18th.

There are so many happy times when I think back, that we have celebrated (and will again) at Plains.

Don and I were married in 1986 and he made the statement out of the blue, that he would like us to find a country church. It sounded good to me as I grew up in one. Previous to this I had been in 3 church choirs over the years.

So we went to Plains the next Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m., not knowing the service started at 10:00 a.m., so back the following Sunday we came again, and never looked back!

Very shortly thereafter, Margie joined us as Pastor, and one day I got a phone call, would I help out with the Christmas music in the choir, and I am still here today! I guess you could say that music is my passion. We have such wonderful music with Sherry and Amy each Sunday. Amy is an excellent choir director. She shows up every Thursday night (whether tired or not), finds new music to keep us on our toes and manages to pull the best out of us. The old saying "You Raise us up, Amy, to all that we can be!"

Edith Norton

||*|*|*|*|*|*|*|*



Thanks to all who sent me cards and made phone calls and e-mails for my birthday. It was a different but special 85th. Thanks to all you lovely people. Elsie Walker

By the time a man realizes that maybe his father was right, he usually has a son who thinks he's wrong.

SEW AND SEW FOR THE CAUSE:

I have sewn quite a few of these surgical masks and surgical hats (that my daughter-in-law first requested at her work at LHSC). - - - and the little button strap to pull the elastic away from irritated ears. After giving some to St Thomas Elgin General and LHSC, I made some for neighbours, friends and mailed some to family. I picked up a prescription from the pharmacy and left some button straps for them, as well. Then my teller mentioned how irritated her ears were becoming. It's always a good feeling if you are able to contribute in any way. Watching the many tutorials on YouTube to learn how these things were made, has also unfortunately gotten me a bit HOOKED on other DIY videos!! Stay safe!....Rona Wilson



I have been making scrub caps by the dozens for nurses at the St. Thomas Elgin General Hospital. Also, I am making small laundry bags for them so that at the end of shifts the caps (and scrubs) may be removed and placed in laundry bags to be taken home and deposited directly into washing machines without further handling. I have made a few masks for myself and family members, but found their construction to be tedious. The patterns for these projects were found on YouTube.....Nancy Millman

Neighbours, friends, family and some of the Plains Church family took part in a “drive-by” Happy 65th Birthday parade for Cherie Doyon, past her home, on Sunday afternoon, May 24.



I would like to thank everyone for the birthday wishes and also the members of my church family who were able to participate in the car parade on Sunday. It meant a great deal to me to have a positive message during this pandemic. Again thank you so much. Virtual hugs.....Cherie Doyon



FIRST YARMOUTH BAPTIST CHURCH FINANCIAL STATEMENT
as of 31st of May 2020

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Missions</u>	<u>Communion Fund</u>	<u>Sunday School</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Income	40,515.82	1,292.85	1,358.91	365.00	43,532.58
Expenses	40,202.67	1,292.85	627.93	345.00	42,468.45
Net Gain(Loss)	313.15	0.00	730.98	20.00	1,064.13
Balance end of 2019	50,208.97	0	444.39	0.00	50,653.36
Balance as at 05/31/20	50,522.12	0.00	1,175.37	20.00	51,727.49

1. The General Fund shows a net gain as of the 31st of May, 2020 of \$313.15.
2. Missions income as of May 31st, 2020 totalled \$1,292.85. That amount has been forwarded to CBOQ and CBM. This amount is made up as follows: CBOQ - General Budget - \$709.50; CBOQ Local Missions - \$100.00; CBM - General Budget - \$384.35; and CBM Sharing Way undesignated - \$99.00.
3. The Communion fund had a net gain at the 31st of May 2020 of \$730.98. There is an amount from previous years of \$444.39, leaving a balance in the Communion Fund of \$1,175.37.
4. The designated Sunday School amount as at the 31st of May, 2020 was \$365.00. That amount will be paid to the Sunday school Treasurer at the end of the 2nd quarter.
5. The Future Projects Fund as at the 31st of May , 2020 totals \$13,017.86, which includes \$2,500 pledged by the Plains Social Committee and \$2,500 pledged by the Plains Ladies Aid for the renovation project. Expenses to date total \$6,107.18. That total includes paying a portion of the audio/visual supplier-installer's invoice, building materials for the renovations to the front of the sanctuary, taping and mudding the sanctuary, finish painting in the sanctuary as well as touch up paint in Oak Hall and the furnace room.
That leaves a balance of \$6,910.68 in the Future Projects Fund.
Donations towards the Renovation Project are still gratefully accepted.

Respectfully Submitted
Shirley E. Dale, Treasurer

*Post Church Envelopes, the company that prepares our offering envelopes, has been closed since mid-March, and therefore, we have no church envelopes at the present time.

**Your Treasurer wishes to express her sincere gratitude to the faithful people of Plains who continue to make sure

their donations make it to my home, or to the CIBC bank account by etransfer. Our former treasurer, Keith Axford, used to tell me (when I was concerned about the finances at Plains in years past) that we just have to have faith, and all things will work out. I keep thinking about Keith telling me that. That has been true at Plains for many years, and will continue at Plains for years to come.
Stay safe and stay healthy!

Exciting News from the Finance Committee!

Plains Church is now set up to accept e-transfers as another convenient method to contribute to the church during the pandemic, and in the future.

The email to send e-transfers to, is: northridgesd@gmail.com

Mailing Address: 44694 Fruit Ridge Line, R. R. # 5, St. Thomas, ON N5P 3S9

**Thank you for your financial support,
The Plains Finance Committee**

**Finance Committee Report
Spring 2020 – 1 June 2020**

EFFECTIVE MARCH 17th, 2020 DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC, CHURCH AND ALL ACTIVITIES ON SABBATICAL

The finance committee met on April 8th, via conference call for our quarterly meeting, to review income and expenditures and to ensure we were in line with the budget. The General Fund at the end of the **first quarter** had a net loss of \$2,234.76. However, at the **end of April**, there was a gain of \$2712.22 and the **end of May**, there was a gain of \$313.15. Last year, at end of first quarter, we had a net gain of \$926.83 at the end of April 2019 a net gain of \$2702.10 and at end of May 2019 a net gain of \$1700.55.

Missions in the first quarter were \$739.01, a decrease from 2019 which was \$904.01. Missions to the end of April was \$1019.15, and the end of May was \$1292.85 (\$1602.50 in 2019), which included the Easter offering directed to missions. Our goal is to contribute \$3000.00 to the CBOQ General Budget in the year. This should only be the amount to the CBOQ General Budget which is \$709.50 on **31st May 2020**.

At the annual meeting it was decided that the Easter Offering would be divided between the General Fund and CBOQ Missions, unless designated differently by the individual. As of **April 30th**, \$102.50 was designated to CBOQ and \$377.50 to Plains General Fund, for a total of \$480.00. As of **31st May**, \$142.50 was designated to CBOQ and \$400.00 to Plains General Fund for a total of \$542.50.

Due to COVID-19 Pandemic and the cancellation of activities at the church, the Finance Committee have provided many options to continue supporting the church financially. Along with the PAR program where your donations are automatically taken out of your bank monthly, you can mail your offering directly to Shirley Dale, 44694 Fruit Ridge Line, St. Thomas, ON N5P 3S9. We recently are accepting e-transfers and also you can donate on line, through our website, plainschurch.ca with CanadaHelps. The Finance Committee would like to thank everyone for their support during this unprecedented time. We have also reviewed all possible ways to reduce expenses.

The Capital Cost Projects are in progress and donations are still being accepted as Future Projects. Thank you to the Social Committee and Ladies Aid for their support to this project.

Unfortunately, camping at Springwater this year is canceled due to COVID-19 and social distancing measures. However, we are booked for next year for 16th - 20th June 2021.

Respectfully submitted: Shirley Dale, Sherry Graham, Marjorie Higgs, Pat Martyn, Charlie Rewbotham

Pastor's Page “We always give thanks to God for all of you, and mention you in our prayers.”
The apostle Paul, I Thessalonians 1:2

Hi Church! Since plans to mark our 30th anniversary of ministry had to be postponed because of you know what, I thought I'd take the opportunity to take a wee stroll down memory lane. I am eternally grateful to my mother who kept a record in her diaries of our initial (and subsequent) meetings. I'd like to create a date line of events which started in 1989 and culminated with the call to minister among you in January of 1990.

Dateline: Thursday, September 7, 1989. Dr. Ken Jackson, my Professor of Ministry at Macphoned to tell me that at the first meeting of the Profs with the new Principal, prayers were spoken on my behalf and on behalf of other grads still seeking a church. I remember that call and I told Ken how grateful I was for the prayers and moral support. In the back of my mind I wondered what might come of it all, since I had been seeking a placement since May and so far, no churchy.

The next day, **Friday, September 8**, the phone rang at that little white farm house in Jerseyville. The caller was a clergyman named, Malcolm Rust. He had found out about me from his former church in Toronto. I was out when he called, so he called back the next day, September 9. After a chat, he asked if I would allow him to give my name to the Search Committee. Hey, what did I have to lose? I said ‘Yes.’

On **Wednesday evening, September 13**, I received a phone call from Dan Dale “of Yarmouth” as mother wrote in her diary. I remember Dan asking if I had an issue with a former pastor being a member of the church. Diplomatically and professionally I said, “If he doesn't have a problem with me, I don't have a problem with him.” Dan also told me that the committee was interested in hiring a female pastor. I asked him, again, diplomatically and professionally, “What planet do you live on?” He laughed and assured me that his mother believed that “The hand that rocks the cradle should rule the world.” I loved that, and as it turned out, I grew to love Jean Dale and we became good friends.



Well, things went kind of silent for awhile from the direction of “Yarmouth”. In the interim I interviewed with a little country church Search Committee. They turned me down because they “needed a young pastor with a family for their congregation.” (*Margie's Translation: “They didn't want to hire a woman”.* How do I know? *Because they called a man near retirement with grown kids*)

Bless their hearts.

But then on **Sunday, October 29** Dan Dale called and asked if I would come and preach at Plains on November 19. I said, “Yes, I could.” Mom wrote in her diary that day: “Church is at 9:30 A.M. I think we'll have to go on an exploratory expedition.”

We did go on that expedition on **Thursday, November 9**. We set out at 9:30 a.m and followed the map that Dan Dale had provided to us. Mother wrote: “It took us 1 ½ hrs. and we also saw

the Sparta Church. It is a nice looking older church that looks like a church and Yarmouth was built in 1981 and is more modern, functional, I think—nice place in the midst of just beautiful country.” We had lunch in Port Stanley and then made our way home. The picture of the church shows you what we saw that day. Quite a change from today. I remember being impressed by the new building.

Mom didn't come with me on the **19th of November**. One reason was because I had been invited to my first 'sleepover' in Elgin County at the home of the Rev. and Mrs. M. and D. Rust & family. They thought it would be more convenient for me to get to church at 9:30 if I came the night before. I slept in their daughter Dayna's bedroom. She was away; enrolled in a Performing Arts School in New York City! I remember wondering why a youngster from Sparta would want to go to NYC! I would find out the answer and a lot more about her before very long.



The Sermon I preached on **November 19, 1989** was entitled “On the Road Again” after the hit song by Willie Nelson. A man came up to me, introduced himself as Art Lang and asked me if I had grown up on a farm. I said “Yes.” He grinned and said, “I knew it because in your prayer you mentioned sitting around the kitchen table.” I met other folk that day. I remember meeting Donna Limon right about where Fran Somerville sits in church now. She nodded at me, smiled and said, “We'll see you again.” She doesn't remember saying that, but those were prophetic words. The November preaching gig gave the congregation an opportunity to see a woman preacher in action. It also provided a venue for Another Pulpit Committee to hear me.

They arrived from a Brantford church late, and paraded up to the front pew in the midst of the service. NO PRESSURE. Their interest in me *may* have hastened the decision of the Plains Search Committee to meet with me again.

The Plains Search Committee and I met on Monday evening **December 11**. It was a good meeting. The only thing I remember was being asked by Dan about my opinion about 'ministerial dress' to which I diplomatically and professionally replied, “I believe all clergy should be dressed for worship.” Then I went on to pontificate about being female and not planning to hide it yada yada. Later I found out more about the reason for the question. My initial response, however, indicated that myself and this church share a similar 'sense of humor.' *Whew!*

Dan and I had another discussion over the phone on **Saturday, December 16** and, according to the diary entry, “Margie told him that she would be prepared to go to Yarmouth for the basic salary and the other benefits, but does need to have a carpet (I really asked that?), stove and fridge in an apartment—and needs to have that provided. He is still enthusiastic about it—but time will tell” Yes, indeedy.

On **Sunday January 7, 1990** Mother and I left for Plains at 7:30 a.m. to ‘preach for a call’; my final job interview, you could say. That fabulous map that Dan had given to us stayed in Jerseyville and we got lost. The story has been told many times how Sharon Axford, my guardian angel got me to the church, not exactly on time, but close enough.

Mom says that I preached “a good sermon on “Trust”. Sadly, I don’t have that sermon anymore. I guess I lost it (Ha!) Mom noted in her diary that there was “a choir—organ, piano and afterward we had spaghetti for lunch!”

Church members held a meeting on **Wednesday, January 10**. Mom wrote : “I wonder what will transpire at Plains tonight? It is in the Lord’s hands and we will try to co-operate---” Those were the last words she wrote that night because we didn’t hear from Dan until almost midnight.

First sentence of Mom’s Diary Entry: **Thursday, January 11**: “Last night at about 11:20 p.m. Margie’s phone call came from Dan Dale and they had a long meeting and the vote was 97% in favour of separating from Sparta—77% in favor of Margie for their full time pastor and then they included adherents and made 81%--so she was quite pleased & thankful—”

Before the congregational meeting, Dan had asked me what percentage of congregational approval I would like to have before agreeing to come. I pretty much pulled a number out of my preacher’s cap and said, “80%”

When he told me the two percentage figures I decided they were close enough, at which point I believe I diplomatically and professionally responded with something like “That’ll do.”



ACME movers aka church folks moved my furniture to my apartment on Wellington St. on **Saturday, February 3, 1990**. I was to start work the next day.

On Saturday evening after the move, (Shirley Dale and mom did a LOT of cleaning in the apartment that day) we were invited for supper at the home of Charlie and Betty Rewbotham. Dennis Wilson came over, all smiles and showed me the church sign. My name wasn’t centered, Dennis said, because they would need to add the **Rev.** at a future date! Now that’s faith! He had the sign up by the next morning. Remember, it was February!

My first official Sunday as your Pastor was **February 4, 1990**. I wasn’t late for that one! Mom writes, “ Marjorie Higgs told me that she had not been at so moving a communion service in years.” The rest is History, or should I say, “**Our Story.**” Happy 30th dear friends! And, as my beloved mother wrote to end her diary entry on **January 11, 1990**: “Thank you, Lord.”

Blessings, peace, and virtual hugs,

Margaret