



THE PLAIN FACTS
a monthly newsletter of

**FIRST YARMOUTH
PLAINS BAPTIST CHURCH**

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JULY / AUGUST 2020



Photo by Margie Bell

QUILTED WALL HANGINGS - “HOPE” versus “COVID-19” created by Elsie Walker
See story on page 3.....



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	Ferne Jameson-Pell	Ed Somerville
Jason Carnegie	Sally Paul	Janet & Dennis	Judy Jacklin
Mary Underhill	Greg Lidster	Family of Bonnie Brown	Family of John Lounsbury
Neil & Cody	John & Carla Norton	Rae Axford	

Sunday Scripture Reading

July 05-Pentecost 5

Genesis 24: 34 - 38, 42 - 49, 58 - 67

Romans 7: 15 - 25a

Matthew 11: 16 - 19, 25 - 30



In Sympathy

Our sympathy is extended to Steve and Jo Anne Pettit at the death of Steve's dear mother, Bonnie (Mildred) Brown at Queen's Village, London on June 17. Bonnie died of natural causes at the age of 96 years. Her family was allowed to visit her in palliative care during her last days for which they are truly grateful. She will be sadly missed and long remembered.

The sympathy of the Plains Family is extended to Mike, Amy (Dale) & Evan Jackson at the passing of Mike's dear uncle John Lounsbury. John will be mourned by his sister, Liz (Jim) Jackson and all his loving family members and friends. John worked as a Manager for GM for many years and was a dedicated leader at Central United Church. He was 77 years. He will be greatly missed.

Our sympathy is extended to Carla and John Norton at the passing of Carla's dear father, Henry Vriens. Harry passed away at home on June 22. He was 88 years old.

Suzanne Ferguson offered this tribute:

Harry Vriens was a true horseman. Not only was he an accomplished and sought after blacksmith he also was a great equestrian who could ride and drive horses. He kept his Dutch heritage by always wearing wooden shoes. After getting to know Harry, of course he had a love of horses and made his living with them --but his true love was his daughter Carla. He was so proud of her. The horse community has lost a great friend. May he rest in peace.



EVENTS FOR JULY ARE CANCELLED DUE TO COVID-19 CONCERNS

Pastor Bell will be on vacation for 4 weeks, starting Monday, July 6 to Tuesday, August 4.

The deacons, John Gibbons, Betty Rewbotham, Joanne O'Drowsky and Wayne Dale will be in touch, and feel free to contact them by phone or email, if you require their assistance, prayers, etc.

After August 4, the deacons, trustees, Finance Committee and Pastor Bell will assess the situation and move forward as we are able. We want everybody to move forward, safely, with faith and confidence in each other and in our God who is always with us, and, in this with us.

CONTINUED...



Troy Dale graduates from East Elgin Secondary School in June. He has been working at a tool and die shop in St. Thomas, and will continue his education to become a millwright. Troy is the son of Jamey and Heather Dale and grandson of Dan and Shirley Dale.

Lexie Sawyer graduates from Grade 8 at Kettle Creek Public School, Port Stanley. She will be attending Parkside Collegiate. Lexie is the daughter of Kathy Sawyer and Jeff Sawyer and the granddaughter of Bob and Donna Limon and Doug and Mary Sawyer.

“HOPE” versus “COVID-19”



HOPE - The red maple leaf is symbolic of the people of our nation, our country. It is inspired by the red maple tree by my balcony, which I watched come into leaf this spring.

COVID-19 - The dark coloured maple leaf is also symbolic of the people with the effects of the distress in our lives; unhealthy, sickness and deaths, constant changing information and rules from the media. The shades of grey in the background indicate our confusion and the turmoil in our lives.

The **mask** pinned on as an addition of whether to wear or not - more confusion.



There are 169 2" (two inch) squares and half square triangles in each leaf. The challenge presented was similar to putting a puzzle together. The project started as something to fill in time and to occupy my mind after many days of indecision. Early one morning (5:30'ish) I awoke with the idea that there needed to be two wall hangings.

One dark but with some red to show the distress in our lives and country. It is hung upside down to indicate the turmoil of our society, but may be changed to right side up when COVID-19 is no longer a threat.

The red leaf is full of hope and colour for the future.

Have faith - God is constant. We will get through this. It is just a hiccup in our journey.

Elsie Walker

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 (88)
5 th	Carl Sibley	21 st	Don Ferguson
5 th	Michael Sargeant	25 th	Wayne Higgs
6 th	Jeff Wilcox	25 th	Ellen Brekelmans (75)
7 th	Melissa Zellas	25 th	Aria MacCallum
7 th	Sherri Doner	26 th	Sharon Axford
8 th	Darrin Ralf	27 th	Mike Jackson
10 th	Gary Higgs	28 th	Kathy Weare
10 th	Anna Woodhouse	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
28 th	Ross & Anna Woodhouse

**AUGUST BIRTHDAYS**

1 st	Sam Nicolle	19 th	Ken Jacklin
1 st	Sue Anne MacCallum	20 th	Donna Ewart
5 th	Kim Vanderberghe	22 nd	Bob Nicolle
6 th	Kolton Dale	22 nd	Marilyn Cartwright(80)
8 th	Karen Cook	23 rd	John Gibbons
15 th	Barbara Axford (85)	24 th	Lesley Micallef
15 th	Bodhi MacCallum	25 th	Tyler VanDuynhoven
16 th	Ken Greenslade (87)		

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 (56)



Port Stanley Food Bank left boxes of food for needy families outside the church on June 10.



THANK YOU to Pastor Margie Bell for her creativity, compassion, continuity and commitment to this congregation during these difficult times. Your meaningful recorded and printed sermons and prayers reach out to us, and to others. Thank you for spearheading the Sunday afternoon virtual coffee breaks via ZOOM. Thank you for your phone calls, “distancing” visits and your constant vigilance over your “flock” and your friends.

THANK YOU to Sherry Graham and Amy Dale for providing the music for the recordings, and to the chosen few whose voices enhance the hymns.

THANK YOU to Phyllis Huffman for your role in the technical support, the recordings and their distribution.

THANK YOU to our Deacons; John Gibbons, Joanne O’Drowsky, Wayne Dale and Betty Rewbotham for your assistance in guiding this church through these murky waters. Our church is blessed with outstanding talent, and with folks who share generously of their gifts and time.

Thanks be to God for bringing us all together to this place!



THANK YOU. We wish to extend a sincere thank you to our friends and relatives who attended our **60th Wedding Anniversary** drive-through celebration on June 6. Your cards, gifts, phone calls and well-wishes touched our hearts. Special thanks to our daughter Deborah and son-in-law Ramzi for hosting the event, to our grandson Ryan and his partner Stephanie, and to granddaughter Amelia for their help. Regrets came from our son Darryl and grandson Cameron and partner Elyse. Due to personal distancing and Covid 19 restrictions they sent their virtual best wishes through Zoom. A Special thanks to our Church Family for the beautiful flower arrangement. We feel blessed to have such a wonderful and caring family.

Floyd and Sharon Axford.



Thank you to our Plains church family for the beautiful flowers we received for our **55th wedding anniversary** on June 5th. Also, thanks for the many phone calls and cards. Love to all.

George & Betty Lidster

NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS

Betty and George Lidster lidfin81@outlook.com

THANK YOU to my Plains church family for the beautiful flowers which were delivered to my door today, June 18.

Marilyn Cartwright



JULY 1 - CANADA DAY

Canada was named through a misunderstanding. When Jaques Cartier, a French explorer, arrived in the region, the local Iroquoian natives invited him to their 'kanata' (their word for 'village'). The explorers mistakenly thought the name of the country was 'Kanata'.

You know you live in Canada if:
 Someone in a Home Depot offers you assistance... and they don't work there.
 Pike is a type of fish, not some part of a highway.
 You have switched from "heat" to "A/C" in the same day and back again.
 You install security lights on your house and garage, but leave both unlocked.
 You design your kid's Halloween costume to fit over a snowsuit.
 You have worn shorts and a parka at the same time.
 You attend a formal event in your best clothes, your finest jewellery and your Sketchers.



Canada Day patriotic picture-Pat Misfud



Margaret Bell with a Maple Leaf spoon rack that her dad Max made 40 years ago; now repurposed as Canada Day decor for her backyard



On a hot Canada Day what better way to celebrate than to wear red and white and enjoy an ice cream cone EH !

Betty Rewbotham

CONGRATULATIONS



Jeff Wilcox's mom and Melanie's mother-in-law, Wes Wilcox is retiring from Caressant Care, Bonnie Place on June 26th. After 20+ years of being a PSW she will be saying goodbye to the residents she so dearly loved taking care of. The staff will miss her too as she was an amazing worker. She will now get to spend more time with Randy (they celebrate 50 years of marriage this coming November), gardening and seeing her grandchildren more often, whom she loves dearly-- Corson, Cadence, Jackson and Emma.

Melanie Wilcox



Dayna Michelle Ruddock. She is the beloved daughter of Wayne & Donna. Cherished daughter of Malcolm Rust and dearest 'big' sister to Ryan and Todd. June 23, 2020 was Dayna's 50th Birthday. Tragically, she died from cancer in 1992.

(See Pastor's Page)

FIRST YARMOUTH BAPTIST CHURCH FINANCIAL STATEMENT
as of 30th of June, 2020

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Missions</u>	<u>Communion Fund</u>	<u>Sunday School</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Income	46,969.65	1,482.52	1,530.91	375.00	50,358.08
Expenses	<u>46,893.88</u>	<u>1,482.52</u>	<u>1,006.28</u>	<u>375.00</u>	<u>49,757.68</u>
Net Gain(Loss)	75.77	0.00	524.63	0.00	600.40
Balance end of 2019	<u>50,208.97</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>444.39</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>50,653.36</u>
Balance as at 06/30/20	<u>50,284.74</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>969.02</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>51,253.76</u>

1. The General Fund shows a net gain as of the 30th of June 2020 of \$75.77.
Note that no grass cutting bills have been paid for the season.
2. Missions income as of June 30th, 2020 totalled \$1,482.52. That amount has been forwarded to CBOQ and CBM. This amount is made up as follows: CBOQ - General Budget - \$779.50; CBOQ Local Missions - \$120.00; CBM - General Budget - \$466.02; and CBM Sharing Way undesignated - \$117.00.
3. The Communion fund had a net gain at the 30th of June, 2020 of \$524.63.
There is an amount from previous years of \$444.39, leaving a balance in the Communion Fund of \$969.02.
4. The designated Sunday School amount as at the 30th of June, 2020 was \$375.00. That amount has been paid to the Sunday school Treasurer at the end of the 2nd quarter.
5. The Future Projects Fund as at the 30th of June, 2020 totals \$20,510.25, which includes \$2,500 from the Plains Social Committee and \$2,500 from the Plains Ladies Aid for the renovation project. Expenses to date total \$17,252.60. That total includes paying 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 the sanctuary, as well as touch up paint in Oak Hall and the furnace room. That leaves a balance of \$3,257.65 in the Future Projects Fund. The monitor is installed in Oak Hall, but we are awaiting the bill for that and for the projection equipment for Oak Hall. There will also be additional costs for materials for the cabinet for the mixing board and incidental costs for the installation of the oak panels at the front of the sanctuary.
Donations are still gratefully accepted for the project.

Respectfully Submitted
Shirley E. Dale, Treasurer

****Once again, I wish to express my 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 e-transfer.**
It is great to see the audio/visual project coming along so well, as well as the front of the sanctuary renovation.
Stay safe and stay healthy!

The email address 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,

PASTORS' PAGE

Dayna's Oak

During these months of the church 'sabbatical' I've suggested that we share some memories or favorite things or people at our church. Last month I relived the weeks prior to my call to this pastorate, with the aid of my mother's diary entries.

For this summer's missive, I want to remember the special human who gave the church the magnificent Oak Tree which stands on the north yard of the church. Her name was Dayna Michelle Ruddock. She is the beloved daughter of Wayne & Donna, cherished daughter of Malcolm Rust and dearest 'big' sister to Ryan and Todd. June 23, 2020 was Dayna's 50th Birthday. Tragically, she died from cancer in 1992.



I almost wrote: 'as a victim' of cancer at the end of that sentence, but Dayna probably would not have approved of that word. She didn't spend a lot of time, at least in my presence, feeling sorry for herself. Nor did she rail and rant against the tumor that prevented her from realizing her dreams as a performer in NYC

or working for Disney. After an unsuccessful surgery in October 1990 to remove a tumor entwined in her spine, Dayna's legs became paralysed. She became a full-time resident in the newly built Continuing Care Centre at STEGH.

20 year old Dayna chose to use her energies and her influence to cheer up and encourage her friends and family members. She was graciously supportive of Plains' newly arrived 'wet behind the ears' woman preacher. Some of you will remember Mother's Day, 1991 when Dayna and the congregation moved outside to the north lawn to plant an oak tree sapling. The tree was a gift from Dayna to the children of the church. Dayna threw in the first shovel full of dirt on the roots of that sapling from her wheelchair and then the children did the rest of the shovelling. It was a memorable day: bitter-sweet, poignant and painfully wonderful.

Dayna grew up in the former Plains Church. Her dad, Wayne was an active member and quite an entertainer in his own right, so I hear. He sang and played guitar. While in Performing Arts School in NYC 19 year old Dayna had been baptized.....in a bathtub! Her mother was somewhat aghast at that thought but Dayna could be a bit unorthodox sometimes. In August of 1991, three months after the tree-planting, Dayna was wheeled

into the church on a hospital gurney. She wanted to become an ‘official’ member of the church. Her maternal grandmother, Jean Denniss also joined the membership that day.

The whole congregation ‘about faced’ to witness the deacons and me offering them the right hand of fellowship. Another poignant and painfully wonderful moment! One of many such moments that her family and friends shared with Dayna for fourteen months. Dayna was promoted to glory on February 21, 1992, where we hope and trust she was joyfully reunited with her beloved dad, Wayne. She was 21 ½ years old.

So, our Oak Tree holds a special place in the story of the little Plains Church not only because the church stands on what once was the Oak Plains of South Yarmouth Township. It also stands as a reminder of a smart, talented, funny and radiantly beautiful young woman who faced her fears with faith and hope, and left a rich legacy of peace, love and happiness behind. And it stands as a sign to all children, that they have a home at Plains.



I paid one of my many pastoral visits to Dayna in STEGH after I had just been ordained on April 14, 1991. As I stood by her bedside chatting, she suddenly reached out and removed my hospital badge from my shirt. Dayna grabbed a roll of white tape, wrapped it around the badge and printed “THE REV.” on it. On the back of the badge she signed it; not with her name but with three symbols: the peace sign, heart and a happy face which

stand for “Peace, Love and Happiness.” She handed my badge back to me and grinned, her eyes twinkling with mirth. “That’s better!” she quipped. My heart broke a little as I smiled back.

As we move through this stressful and ‘beyond ordinary’ time of pandemic with all the attendant challenges, let us lean hard on the examples of people we know or have known who demonstrate grace under pressure and share precious moments of wisdom, love and joy with us despite their circumstances. Dayna is one of many people from the Plains whose sterling example of courage, wit and faith in the face of daunting circumstances encourages us to keep on believing in the God of Easter and new beginnings. And many of those fine Plains people to whom I refer, are at home and reading this right now. Have a healthy and safe summer inscribed with many holy moments, my friends.



Margaret