



## THE PLAIN FACTS

*a monthly newsletter of*

### FIRST YARMOUTH PLAINS BAPTIST CHURCH

6071 Fairview Road, R. R. # 4  
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## MAY 2021

### My Mother Kept A Garden

My Mother kept a garden, a garden of the heart.  
She planted all the good things that gave my life its start.  
She turned me to the sunshine and encouraged me to dream.  
Fostering and nurturing the seeds of self-esteem.



And when the winds and rain came,  
she protected me enough,  
Because she knew I'd need to stand  
up strong and tough.

Her constant good example taught me right from wrong.  
Markers for my pathway that will last a lifetime long.  
I am my Mother's garden. I am her legacy.  
And I hope today she feels the love reflected back from me.





## 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  
Milton Springer  
Larry Mizon  
Sally Paul  
Rose

Marilyn Cartwright  
Marlene Smith  
Carl & Leena Sibley  
Marilyn Smith  
Heather Gillard

Rae Axford  
Gerry Coull  
George Eastbury  
Wendy Lessard

Jenny and family  
Jason & Michelle Carnegie  
Larry Seabrook  
Deanna

### Sunday Scripture Readings

#### May 2-Easter 5

Psalm 22: 25-31  
John 15: 1-8

#### May 9-Easter 6-Mother's Day

Psalm 98  
John 15: 9-17

#### May 16-Easter 7

Psalm 1  
John 17: 6-19

#### May 23-Pentecost

Ezekiel 37: 1-14  
Acts 2: 1-21  
John 15: 26-27; 16:4b-15

#### May 31- Trinity Sunday

John 3: 1-17  
Romans 8: 12-17  
Isaiah 6: 1-8

#### June 6 Pentecost 2

Mark 3: 20-35  
Psalm 138  
2 Corinthians 4: 13-5:1



Please extend our **Thank You** to all the Plains Folks for the beautiful fresh flowers that arrived yesterday (April 10). How could you know there were yellow roses in my bridal bouquet fifty years ago as there were three or four in your bouquet yesterday.

Imagine how rewarding it was as grandparents that our grandkids served us a three course meal with candles aglow and specialty picked love songs playing softly in the background out back in their special place amid the trees. They gave us a couple of books. Grandma and Grandpa tell us your story. I said to Payton, how one day she would read this in our life's special moment memories. God has been very good to us and brought us through many challenges especially health issues the past six years. As the old song says "Til we Meet again", God Bless you all.

Hugh and Wendy Lessard

Life is beauty, admire it.  
Life is a challenge, meet it.  
Life is an opportunity, benefit from it.  
Life is a promise, fulfill it.  
Life is a song, sing it.  
Life is a tragedy, confront it.  
Life is luck, make it.

Life is a dream, realize it.  
Life is a duty, complete it.  
Life is a game, play it.  
Life is sorrow, overcome it.  
Life is a struggle, accept it.  
Life is an adventure, dare it.  
Life is Life - Fight for it.

From Jo-Anne Pettit



## EVENTS FOR MAY

May 02 Sun                      **Communion Sunday - Food Bank Sunday**



**ELGIN ST. THOMAS ELGIN FOOD BANK**

(Caring Cupboard)

**NEW LOCATION:** 24 John Street

(upstairs at the Royal Canadian Legion)

P.O. Box 20025, St. Thomas, ON N5P 4H4

Phone: 519-633-5308

e-transfer: stthomaselginfoodbank@gmail.com

Manager: Karen M. McDade

Hours: Mondays and Thursdays 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Tuesdays noon – 3:30 p.m.

May 09                              **Mother's Day**

May 16 1:00 P.M.              **Congregational Meeting  
on Zoom**



May 23                              **Pentecost Sunday**  
May 24                              **Victoria Day**

**New address, e-mail and phone number**

Edith Norton - 412 Old Muskoka Road

North Building, Apt. #405

Orillia, ON L3V 6M4

[edithnorton@icloud.com](mailto:edithnorton@icloud.com)      1-705-257-6741



**Congratulations to Dave Chesterfield on 37 years of Clean Cut Lawn Care!**

Somebody said you learn how to be a mother by instinct....

Somebody never took a three-year-old shopping.

Somebody said if you're a good mother, your child will turn out good...

Somebody thinks a child comes with directions and a guarantee.

Somebody said "good" mothers never raise their voices...

Somebody never came out the back door just in time to see her child hit a baseball through a neighbour's kitchen window.

Somebody said you don't need an education to be a mother....

Somebody never tried to help a fourth grader with her math homework.



Photo and comments by Betty Rewbotham

The Easter Sunday Sunrise Service around Dayna's Oak tree was attended by 27 Plains' folk. Absolutely beautiful Easter Morning...birds were just a singing and no cars during the whole service.



Photo by Margie Bell

The bow on Dayna's Oak tree, created by Rona Wilson.

#### MAY BIRTHDAYS

1 <sup>st</sup>	Brenton Carnegie	18 <sup>th</sup>	Amanda Sawyer
1 <sup>st</sup>	Erin Chesterfield	20 <sup>th</sup>	Vera Martin
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Maureen Greer	20 <sup>th</sup>	Kayla Carnegie
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Suzanne Ferguson	21 <sup>st</sup>	Bonnie Melvin
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Mary Sawyer	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Joelle Proctor
6 <sup>th</sup>	Louise Angyal	24 <sup>th</sup>	Jessica Hepburn
7 <sup>th</sup>	Kathy Cook-Noble	26 <sup>th</sup>	Cherie Doyon
7 <sup>th</sup>	Brent Crocker	26 <sup>th</sup>	Emma Penner
9 <sup>th</sup>	Ellis Graham	28 <sup>th</sup>	Ruth Ann Hammond
10 <sup>th</sup>	Jordan Wilson	29 <sup>th</sup>	Tori Noble
14 <sup>th</sup>	Marjorie Higgs (75)	30 <sup>th</sup>	Fran Somerville
15 <sup>th</sup>	John Doner	30 <sup>th</sup>	Clare Kisiel
15 <sup>th</sup>	Matthew Johnson	31 <sup>st</sup>	Jamey Dale
17 <sup>th</sup>	Donna Rust	31 <sup>st</sup>	Heather Limon
18 <sup>th</sup>	Cathy McCarthy	31 <sup>st</sup>	John Hepburn

#### ANNIVERSARIES

1 <sup>st</sup>	Randy & Maureen Greer(45)
9 <sup>th</sup>	Bruce & Barb Green
10 <sup>th</sup>	Todd & Kathy Noble
16 <sup>th</sup>	Kim & Sherry Graham
24 <sup>th</sup>	Tim & Sara Barrett
27 <sup>th</sup>	Mike & Rosemary Barrett



**CONGRATULATIONS to Elizabeth Tucker (Biz)** who is the recipient of The Beryl Ivy Continuing Entrance Scholarship (One of the Western National Scholarships) from the University of Western Ontario. There is one awarded each year. \$72,000 (\$18,000 each year for 4 years), plus an additional \$2500 for "study abroad" opportunities. The scholarship is not just for Music, but applicants were from the whole of Western University.

Needless to say, we are all super proud of how hard she has worked (and how hard she continues to work!). She is heading into her final "quadmester" of Grade 12, and currently sits at a 98% overall average.

Submitted by Heather Limon

Proud grandparents are Bob and Donna Limon and proud young brother is Eric Tucker.



**FIRST YARMOUTH (PLAINS) BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**Financial Statement as of 30th of April, 2021**

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Missions</u>	<u>Communion Fund</u>	<u>Sunday School</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Income	34,370.20	1,307.68	1,297.00	0.00	36,974.88
Expenses	<u>29,620.52</u>	<u>1,307.68</u>	<u>589.32</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>31,517.52</u>
Net Gain(Loss)	4,749.68	0.00	707.68	0.00	5,457.36
Balance end of 2020	<u>52,078.97</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(-69.27)</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>52,009.70</u>
Balance as at 04/30/21	<u>56,828.65</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>638.41</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>57,467.06</u>

1. The General Fund shows a net gain as at the 30th of April, 2021 of \$4,749.68. The net gain is partly due to the HST Rebate received in January, 2021 of \$4,135.28 from the renovation project in 2020.
2. Missions income as at the 30th of April, 2021 totalled \$1,307.68. That amount has been forwarded to CBOQ and CBM. This amount is made up as follows: CBOQ - General Budget - \$700.00; CBM General Budget - \$298.68; Sharing Way - \$79.00, and \$230.00 for World Food Crisis.
3. The Communion fund had a net gain as of 30th of April, 2021 of \$707.68. The 2020 deficit in the Communion of (-69.27) was deducted from that balance giving balance in the Communion Fund of \$638.41.
4. There have been no designated Sunday school donations in 2021.
5. The Special Projects/Future Projects Fund had income of \$1,816.90 in the first quarter of 2021. A monitor was purchased for use with the laptop for recording services at a cost of \$133.06. The camera installed in the sanctuary has been removed and returned to d & s Audio, and that firm has given a rebate of \$1,276.90. A new camera has been purchased for recording Sunday services. Expenses to date total \$1,015.96, leaving a balance of \$800.94 in the Special Project Fund. Donations in memory of Betty Graham for that fund totalled \$75.00 and in memory of Ray Martin totalled \$465.00.

Once again, I would like to personally thank the wonderful people of Plains who have continued to make sure their donations arrive at my home office, either by mail, drop off, PAR, or e-transfer. "Great is thy faithfulness!"

Thank you so very much!!

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley E. Dale

Treasurer

STAY SAFE AND STAY HEALTHY!

The email address to send e-transfers to, is:

[northridgesd@gmail.com](mailto:northridgesd@gmail.com)

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

Thank you for your financial support



A mother was chatting with her former college roommate. "Remember when, before I was married, I told you I had three theories about raising children?"

"Well, now I have three children and NO theories."

## Pastor's Page

Jennifer Lau, CBM Executive Director



Greetings, my friends! I just finished reading a statement on the Canadian Baptist Ministries website from Jennifer Lau. Jennifer is third-generation Asian Canadian and she has put out an appeal to Canadian Baptists to be allies with the Asian-Canadian community. As you know, many people of Asian cultural heritage are the targets of haters. Blaming China as the source of the Covid-19 pandemic has translated into vitriolic and violent reaction against people of Asian (or perceived) Asian descent. Many of these individuals targeted have never even visited China! Maybe you have neighbors who celebrate their Asian heritage. You know them as ordinary people who are as wary of this Covid virus as you are. They are also deeply concerned about the health and welfare of their children, grandchildren, elders, and wider community; which includes you and your family.

Discrimination, as the word is defined, is the act of making unjustified distinctions between human beings based on the *groups, classes, or other categories* to which they are *perceived* to belong. People may be discriminated on the basis of race, gender, age, religion, disability or sexual orientation, as well as other categories.

Regrettably, whenever a crisis strikes, there are people who look around for someone to blame for their misfortunes. Some people focus their fears upon people who either look different or live in ways that are viewed as “different”. “Different” which in normal times may be considered as rather exotic, or appealing, in stressful times can magically morph into being judged as being deviant or dangerous.

Perhaps at some point in your life you felt discriminated against for some reason. Maybe it was due to your level of education, physical attributes, gender, or age. Do you remember how it felt to be unfairly judged? I do. Thirty-two years ago, in 1989, I was interviewed by a church that was seeking a Pastor. The letter that the church's Search Committee mailed me after the interview indicated that although I had *many positive* qualifications; the church was looking for “*someone with a young family who could draw young families into their church.*” When I shared this letter with a female clergy she said, “That's a nice way of saying that they won't hire a woman.” Now, as we know, things turned out just wonderful for me! God knew where I should be serving! However, my clergy friend's words seemed validated when the Pastor who was eventually hired by that church was a. male b. nearing retirement age and c. had grown children.

Discrimination is deeply ingrained both in human behaviour and in systems of society. Thankfully, in Canada, we have laws to define it and combat it! But, discrimination's razor sharp teeth still bites many people whose goals and dreams in life are much the same as anyone else's. When people choose to discriminate; that is to unfairly judge others due to some perceived 'difference', we hinder them from living their best lives and we hinder ourselves from living our best, too.

A discrimination which indiscriminately throws up boundaries where there is none, also knows no boundaries. You can find it anywhere and in anyone. As I indicated with my own story, discrimination exists inside the church of Jesus Christ. There are Church membership roles including some names of those who *say* they believe in the God who "so loved the world". They *profess allegiance* to Jesus as Lord, he who called people from every walk of life to be his followers. Reality in the church has taught us that professing is one thing but living out what we profess can be truly challenging. To profess a truth to be so and then to live contrary to that truth it is what Jesus called 'hypocritical.'

And let us remember the words of Jesus, from the Sermon on the Mount. Here's the *King James Version*, version: "*Judge not, that ye be not judged; for what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged; and with what measure we mete, it shall be measured to you again. And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is thine own eye?*" *Matthew 7:1-3* Having said, AMEN to Jesus, we in the church must admit that we have discriminated from time to time in our individual lives and as the church of Jesus Christ.

There are churches, not just Baptist, who would not call a Black, Asian, female, or gay pastor because they are black, Asian, female or gay. There are churches in our denomination who will not allow women to preach from their pulpits or allow a gay person to teach Sunday School. But, there are churches and faith groups who have, do or will do when they are faced with people who will cause them to decide. One question that all churches should ask is "What would Jesus do?"

In June 2021 at Assembly, our Baptist denomination, the CBOQ, will report on the process they put in place of "discerning ways to assist churches in ministering to LGBTQ+ people." While we applaud the intention, the facts remain that longstanding CBOQ policies do not match up with neither recent science nor the ancient mandate given to us by Jesus Christ. Jesus called us to love God with all we are and love our neighbours *as ourselves*. His definition of 'neighbour' according to the Bible, included those who were considered to be outsiders in his time; you know, 'different.' Among them were Samaritans, women, gentiles, poor, sick, disabled, dying, children, tax collectors and prostitutes. What would Jesus say to those representing their churches at CBOQ Assembly 2021?

Well, my friends, each of us is ultimately responsible for whatever beam blocks our vision. Let us stand with Jennifer Lau and all racialized people. Let us show empathy, and offer support in any way we can. Let us speak truth whenever we find bigotry and prejudice. And may God help us to recognize and confess them when they show up in us. As Maya Angelou the poet/actor/dancer famously said, "When we know better, we do better." May it be so.

Peace and love,

