



THE PLAIN FACTS
a monthly newsletter of

**FIRST YARMOUTH
PLAINS BAPTIST CHURCH**

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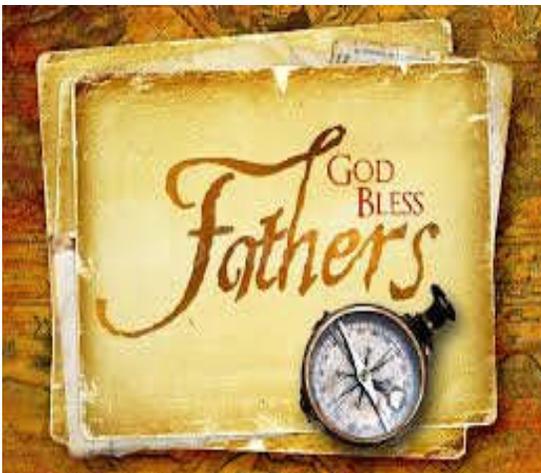
JUNE 2021

A father means

A Father means so many things
An understanding heart
A source of strength and of 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

Author Unknown





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 | Rae Axford | Jenny and family |
| Milton Springer | Deanna | Jill & Gerry Coull | Jason & Michelle Carnegie |
| Larry Mizon | Carl & Leena Sibley | Family & friends of the late | George Eastbury |
| Sally Paul | Rose | Wendy Lessard | Adrian Brekelmans (Ellen's son) |
| Teeder and family of Heather Gillard | | Family of Ellen's late nephew | Adrian, in the Netherlands |
| Delia & Darrell Axford & family of the late | Rose McCormack | | Cherie Doyon |
| Faith Seabrook | | | |

Sunday Scripture Readings

June 6-Pentecost 2

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

June 13-Pentecost 3

2 Corinthians 5: 6-17
Mark 4: 26-34

June 20-Pentecost 4

Psalm 133
Mark 4: 35-41

June 27-Pentecost 5

2 Corinthians 8: 7-15
Mark 5: 21-43

July 04-Pentecost 6

2 Corinthians 12: 2-10
Mark 6: 1-13



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 (93) | 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 | 20 th Phil & Cherie Doyon |
| 5 th George & Betty Lidster | 23 rd Jeff & Melanie Wilcox |
| 6 th Stephen & Carolyn Plaunt(40) | 26 th Sue Anne & Joshua MacCallum |
| 15 th Doug & Mary Sawyer | 30 th Randy & Roxanne Bale |
| 18 th Denny & Janet Lang | 30 th Gary & Fran Somerville |



Life is short - Break the Rules (*not covid*) -Forgive quickly - Kiss slowly - Love truly -Laugh uncontrollably and never regret anything that makes you smile. By Mark Twain
Submitted by Marjorie Higgs

EVENTS FOR JUNE**June 06 Sun Communion Sunday**

June 10-12 CBOQ Virtual Assembly-Louise Sargeant and Pastor Bell are our delegates. There are 340 churches in our denomination worshipping in over 28 different languages. Pray for wisdom and discernment as delegates meet apart but together to discuss and decide, worship and learn in order to be a blessing to our congregations, and our wider ministry in God's world.

June 13 Sun 1:00 P.M. Drive -By "Goodbye and God Bless" for Hazel Brekelmans at the Church. Hazel is moving to Alberta to be closer to her children.

June 20 Sun Fathers' Day
June 21 Mon National Aboriginal Day



To my Plains family, **Thank you** for the cheery phone calls and cards for my (89) birthday (April 13) and to Margie for her "Happy Birthday" solo. It's great to be part of such a loving, supportive family.

Madge Barrett

Sincere **thanks** to my Plains church family for the floral arrangement when I had my fall. Malcolm Rust

75 & I have arrived! I would like to **thank** my Plains Family for the beautiful floral arrangement I received for my 75th birthday. Also **thank you** for the many heartfelt birthday cards and phone calls. It is wonderful to belong to the Plains Family of God. I was reminded that I was 75 recently while in a very long line at a garden center in London. The YOUNG lady behind me asked if I would like to sit in my car and she would reserve my spot in line. I thanked her kindly but informed her that I was fine waiting along with everyone else.

Marjorie Higgs

Thank you for the lovely flowers and cards which I received while in hospital and for my birthday and the many phone calls and well-wishes on face book for me. But most of all for your prayers for me. I am slowly regaining my strength with each new day. May God bless you all. Sally Paul and family

Moving:

Hazel Brekelmans is moving West to live closer to her daughter Emily and husband. Her son Simon also has a job opportunity in Alberta so it makes sense for Hazel to be nearer her children. We will really miss Hazel! She is and has been a blessing to our church family. Hazel was involved with leadership in the Sunday School for several years as Superintendent, teacher and treasurer. Her love for/of children is a driving force in her life and her calling. We wish her Godspeed, good health and many joyous and fulfilling moments in this next chapter of her journey.



Ability is what you're capable of doing.

Motivation determines what you do.

Attitude determines how well you do it.

Highlights of the Congregational Meeting of Sunday, May 16, 2021

This meeting was “Zoom attended” by 28 people. Clerk Mary Crosby called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and Pastor Margaret Bell opened it with prayer and devotional. Dan Dale was nominated to the position of Chairperson. The agenda was approved, as were the minutes from the Annual Congregational Meeting of January 31, 2021.



Reports were given, accepted and approved and because of the Covid-19 restrictions and lock down there has been very little activity since the last meeting.

Betty Rewbotham, Chairman of the Deacons, reported on the success of the drive-by farewell for Edith Norton in April, the Easter Sunrise Service which was attended by 27 people. She thanked Margie and the congregation for the continuing support. Stephen Plaunt and Leena Sibley continue to distribute kits to the Sunday school children. A drive-by farewell for Hazel Brekelmans is being planned for June.

Sherry Graham reported for the Finance Committee that funds continue to support the church through Par, cheque, and e-transfer. Shirley Dale reviewed the April finance statement, and she thanked the Plains family for this continued support. Phyllis Huffman expressed appreciation to “those who handle the money”.

The church camp out at Springwater will not take place again this year.

The Pastor’s Report given by Margie Bell confirmed her busy and involved schedule in spite of (or because of) closures and restrictions.

Tom Lammiman presented the report for the Trustees, in which he thanked Gary Higgs and John Doner for trimming the hedge, Dan Dale, Mike Sargeant and Todd Ruddock for cleaning and mulching the flower beds, Phyllis Huffman for looking after the purchase of the new video camera, and Dan Dale for helping him replace a fan in the sanctuary which was still under warranty.

The Webmaster Report from Martin Proulx noted that postings to the site have changed from events, news items, monthly newsletter, photos etc. to include links to sermons posted to YouTube by Pastor Margaret and that he has moved from generic photos found on the internet to Plains Church related photos.

The delegates to the June BCOQ Assembly in June, Louise Sargeant and Margie Bell, were affirmed.

Sherry Graham has agreed to step up as Treasurer of the Sunday School from Hazel Brekelmans, who is moving away. This will be confirmed in the fall by the Nominating Committee.

The next meeting will be on Sunday October 28 at 1:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned, and Pastor Bell closed with prayer

What you see may not be the reality. Never conclude for others. Which is why we should never only focus on the surface and judge others without understanding them first.....

Those who like to pay the bill, do so not because they are loaded but because they value friendship above money.

Those who take the initiative at work, do so not because they are stupid but because they understand the concept of responsibility.

Those who apologize first after a fight, do so not because they are wrong but because they value the people around them.

Those who are willing to help you, do so not because they owe you any thing but because they see you as a true friend.

Those who often text you, do so not because they have nothing better to do but because you are in their heart.

Those who take out time to chat with you, does not mean they are jobless or less busy, but they know the importance of keeping in touch.

FIRST YARMOUTH (PLAINS) BAPTIST CHURCH
Financial Statement as of 31st of May, 2021

| | <u>General Fund</u> | <u>Missions</u> | <u>Communion Fund</u> | <u>Sunday School</u> | <u>Totals</u> |
|------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| Income | 42,698.53 | 1,533.85 | 1,464.00 | 0.00 | 45,696.38 |
| Expenses | 38,042.97 | 1,533.85 | 768.10 | 0.00 | 40,344.92 |
| Net Gain(Loss) | 4,655.56 | 0.00 | 695.90 | 0.00 | 5,351.46 |
| Balance end of 2020 | 52,078.97 | 0 | (-69.27) | 0.00 | 52,009.70 |
| Balance as at 05/31/21 | 56,734.53 | 0.00 | 626.63 | 0.00 | 57,361.16 |

1. The General Fund shows a net gain as at the 31st of May, 2021 of \$4,655.56. The net gain is partly due to the HST Rebate received in January, 2021 of \$4,135.28 from the renovation project in 2020. We are awaiting grass cutting bills for the spring cuts.
2. Missions income as at the 31st of May, 2021 totalled \$1,533.85. That amount has been forwarded to CBOQ and CBM. This amount is made up as follows: CBOQ - General Budget - \$792.50; CBM General Budget - \$412.35; Sharing Way - \$99.00, and \$230.00 for World Food Crisis.
3. The Communion fund had a net gain as of 31st of May, 2021 of \$695.90. The 2020 deficit in the Commuion of (-69.27) was deducted from that balance giving balance in the Commuion Fund of \$626.63.
4. There have been no designated Sunday school donations in 2021.
5. The Special Projects/Future Projects Fund has income of \$1,836.90 to date. Expenses to date total \$1,059.62, leaving a balance of \$777.28 in the Special Project Fund. Donatons in memory of Betty Graham for that fund totalled \$75.00, in memory of Ray Martin totalled \$465.00, and in memory of Helen (Peg) Bell totalled \$20.00.

Once again, I would like to personally thank the wonderful people of Plains who continue to make sure their donations arrive at my home office, either by mail, drop off, PAR, or etransfer. "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

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

Thank you for your financial support



Photo by Brian Thompson, *Brantford Expositor*, May 30/21



Pastor's Page

I grew up about a 15-minute drive away from an Indian Residential School. The Mohawk Institute, a majestic looking building somewhat resembles the Residential School in Kamloops, B.C. where the graves of 215 children were recently discovered. The picture on the left is of a little girl placing moccasins on the steps of the Mohawk Institute to commemorate the 215 lives lost in Kamloops.

The First Nations of the Grand River made a decision a few years ago not to destroy the residential school but chose instead to "preserve the evidence". A fund --raising campaign is ongoing to restore the building which suffered damage from a 2013 flood among other things. A virtual tour is offered at woodlandculturalcentre.ca. After the school was closed in 1970 its name was changed to Woodland Cultural Centre.

I remember my mom and I driving past the school when I was a child and I asked her "what is that place?" Her reply was "It's a school for Indian kids." Judging by the look of the building I was impressed by its' stature. I didn't have a clue about what was really happening inside and neither did my mother. It wasn't until the residential schools and the atrocities which happened there hit the news and infiltrated our collective Canadian consciousness a few years ago that my mother told me, "Your Grandpa Bell worked at the Mohawk Institute." After I closed my gaping mouth I said, "He did? What did he do?" "Oh, he just looked after the grounds," she replied. Needless to say, I was relieved that was the extent of his involvement. But that wasn't the extent of the involvement of the Anglican Church.

The Anglican Church administered the school at its founding in the 1820's as a Mechanic's School for boys who lived in the nearby Mohawk Village. As time went on the New England Society, a mission society started in the 1600's got involved, along with the government. The government didn't fully take over the school until a year before it closed. In the 1930's girls were admitted and the school housed students, many from reservations further afield. The school became known as the "Mush School" by students who complained of the terrible food they were given to eat. Alas, the food was not the least of the suffering that those students endured. A 2015 article by Sean Allen of [Brant News](#) reported:

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission on Canada's Indian residential schools uses the term cultural genocide for what happened to the 150,000 or so aboriginal children and their families while the schools operated. "Residential schooling was always more than simply an educational program: it was an integral part of a conscious policy of cultural genocide," the TRC's summary report states. TRC chair Justice Murray Sinclair revealed that the TRC has documented the deaths of over 6,000 residential school students as a result of their school experience, adding that there are probably more. It appears more about the number will await a later commission report.

Those 6,000 deaths put the odds of dying in Canadian residential schools over the years they operated at about the same as for those serving in Canada's armed forces during the Second World War. (Residential School deaths 1 death in 25 of 6000; WW2 1 death in 24)

The government of Sir John A. MacDonald encouraged the residential school program. That is the reason why this week the statue of Sir John was removed from a street intersection in Charlottetown. One sign of protest put on the statue read, "Sir John A. MacDonald, The Father of ... Residential Schools." The outcry arising from the Kamloops discovery provided the impetus for the statue's removal. In its place 215 pairs of children's shoes provide a silent testimony of countless lives damaged or lost and ancient cultures nearly extinguished by the abusive policies of the powerful.

The influence of colonialism and racism are alive, deep and real in Canada and we have the opportunity to educate ourselves about them. All we need do is a Google Search to begin, or better yet, speak to a person of color living in your neighborhood or workplace.

Sadly, there are still many Christians and people of other faiths who feel that they are superior to indigenous peoples or to those who travel a different path towards God. May this time in our nation's history spark a true conversion of souls; a shifting of attitudes and breaking open of hearts. May the Church of Jesus which are in the vast majority, caring and hospitable people more fully embrace Jesus' command to neighborliness. *"Which of these three, do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?" Jesus asked the lawyer. "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."* Luke 10:36-37

In the wake of the devastating discovery in Kamloops, people have been wearing the color Orange in memory of the children whose graves were found and all indigenous children who are missed and mourned by their families, and communities. The motto printed on T-shirts and posters in this sad time of our history speak a truth that everyone should hear and heed. **ALL Children Matter.**

May their words not fall empty on our ears.

Konnonrónhkhwa, ("I love you" in Mohawk language)

