



THE PLAIN FACTS
a monthly newsletter of

**FIRST YARMOUTH
PLAINS BAPTIST CHURCH**

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We wish Pastor Margie a long and
fulfilling retirement

MAY 2022



Being a mother means being relied upon to know how to do things you may not know how to do, how to make things you may never have heard of, how to fix things without the right tools, and how to soothe the darkest fears imaginable within your child without any light to guide you at all.



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.

Jenny and family	Cathy Tredenick	Karl Crocker	Marissa Dale's aunt
Jill & Gerry Coull	Chantelle Purdy	Mary Lou Pearson	Tucker Johnson
Cherie Doyon	Shirley Griffin	Rona's mother Vi	Elsie Walker's niece
Sharon Axford	Linda Hepburn	Don Sawyer	Larry & Faith Seabrooke
Tiffany & family	Randy Greer	Michelle & Lucas	People of Ukraine
Aleta Behie	Fraser (in Poland helping refugees escape Ukraine)		
Lori-Ann	Clarence	Wayne & Liz Dieleman	Paul & Bonnie
Evelyn Crafts granddaughter	Brittany		

Sunday Scripture Readings

May 1-Easter 3

Psalm 30

John 21: 1-19

May 22

Acts 16:6-15

May 8-Mothers' Day

Luke 24: 36-48

Proverbs 31: 5&6

May 29

Revelation 22:12-21

May 15

Psalm 148

MAY BIRTHDAYS

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

ANNIVERSARIES

1 st Randy & Maureen Greer
9 th Bruce & Barb Green
10 th Todd & Kathy Noble
16 th Kim & Sherry Graham
24 th Tim & Sara Barrett
27 th Mike & Rosemary Barrett



I love strong, powerful mothers. They can open jars without my help

EVENTS FOR MAY 2022

- May 01 Sun 10:00 A.M. Sunday Service** - Communion Sunday
St. Thomas-Elgin Food Bank Sunday
- May 02 Mon 9:30 A.M. Plains "Knotty Quilters"** - quilting in Oak Hall
- May 08 Sun 10:00 A.M. Sunday Service** - Mothers' Day - Pastor Margaret Bell's Retirement Service
Followed by a pot luck meal in Oak Hall. Cake provided.
- May 09 Mon 9:30 A.M. Plains "Knotty Quilters"** - quilting in Oak Hall
- May 15 Sun 10:00 A.M. Sunday Service** - Interim Pastor Rev. Philip Butler
12:30 P.M. Spring Congregational Meeting following service and bring your own bag lunch.
For any additions to the agenda please contact Mary Crosby a.s.a.p.
- May 22 Sun 10:00 A.M. Sunday Service** - Interim Pastor Rev. Philip Butler
- May 23 Mon 9:00 A.M. Victoria Day**
- May 29 Sun 10:00 A.M. Sunday Service** - Interim Pastor Rev. Philip Butler
- June 05 Sun 10:00 A.M. Sunday Service** - Interim Pastor Rev. Philip Butler - Communion Sunday
- June 14 Tue 12:00 Noon Ladies Aid Luncheon** - The Bistro, 625 Talbot Street, St. Thomas

PLAINS CHURCH CAMPING AT SPRINGWATER 2022

Wednesday, June 22 (2:00 P.M.) to Sunday, June 26, at noon

- *Estimated Costs:** \$ 60.00 for family (4 people maximum)
\$15.00 for each additional camper
\$8.00 per night camping available Wednesday & Thursday night
(Required minimum of 20 campers per night)
\$ 20.00 Individual weekend fee
\$ 10.00 individual per day
\$ 15.00 for carload for the day



Springwater Conservation Area South Pavilion, "Day Use Area".

Come for all or for part of the weekend.

ALL FEES are payable in advance to Sherry Graham. **Do not pay at the gate!**

Friday night - hot dogs, pie irons provided. (Bring your own beverage).

Saturday - Breakfast and lunch on your own.

Saturday Supper - hamburgers and beverage provided: You bring a salad or dessert.

Sunday - 9:30 a.m. Breakfast provided.

10:30 a.m. Worship beside the pond, weather permitting.

What to bring: Life jackets if you want to canoe, pie irons, fishing poles, guitars, bicycles, etc.

Parental Responsibility

It is understood that at church events or activities parents are responsible for the supervision of their child/children and any other child/children who have been entrusted to their care. If parents leave the event/activity, it is their responsibility to delegate the responsibility for the child/children to another adult. [Plains Baptist Church Safe Policy, Page 4].

***COSTS** subject to confirmation by Springwater



Tech Team: Left to Right: Michael Sargeant, Dan Dale, Phyllis Huffman, Stephen Plaunt



Todd Ruddock



Sherri Doner



THANK YOU to Phyllis Huffman for the time and dedication put into the setting up and implementation of the new audio and visual system, and for the commitment and patience in recruiting and training the team of volunteers required to make sure this technology is the best it can be.

THANK YOU also to the team of volunteers; Dan Dale, Sherri Doner, Stephen Plaunt, Todd Ruddock and Michael Sargeant, who have stepped up to the plate and made sure that the congregation gets the ultimate results of recording, projection, audio, and visual. Your efforts are very greatly appreciated.



On Sunday April 3, three new members were embraced by Plains Church.
 Left to right: Pastor Margaret Bell, new members Murray and Brenda Silcox and Jean Palmer,
 Deacons Pat Kennedy, Linda Willand Chair of Deacons, Michael Sargeant and Gary Higgs.

LADIES AID LUNCHEON Tuesday, June 14, 2022 at 12:00 noon
 Guests welcome

THE BISTRO 325 Talbot Street, St. Thomas (at Moore Street)
 Parking on Talbot Street, Moore Street and Moore Street Parking Lot
 If you plan to attend please advise Nancy Millman by Sunday, June 12.
 Individual orders and payment from the menu



THE PERFECT CHURCH

Submitted by Marjorie Higgs



I think that I shall never see
 A church that's all it ought to be:
 A church whose members never stray
 Beyond the straight and narrow way.
 A church that has no empty pews,
 Whose pastor never has the blues;
 A church whose deacons always deak
 And none are proud and all are meek;
 Where gossips never peddle lies,
 Or make complaints or criticize;
 Where all are always sweet and kind,
 And all to others' faults are blind.
 Such perfect churches there may be,
 But none of them are known to me.
 But still I'll work and pray and plan
 To make my church the best I can.

Hello!

It is a delight for me to introduce (or re-introduce) myself to you good folks of Plains Baptist Church. I am Rev. Phil Butler (just "Phil" is fine) and I hail originally from Guelph, but I have lived in St. Thomas for almost 24 years. My wife's name is Anne and we have two adult children: Erica (23) and Owen (20).

Many of you will know me from my time as the pastor of Sparta Baptist Church and New Sarum Baptist Church (1998–2014). Most recently I served Westview Baptist Church in London (2015-2021). I am currently working part-time at the St. Thomas-Elgin General Hospital as a screener.



I am honoured to serve as your interim pastor after the retirement of your cherished pastor of 32 years, and my good friend/former supervisor, Rev. Margaret Bell. I understand that, while you celebrate with Margie in her well-deserved retirement, you may also be feeling a sense of loss and even fear about the future. My role as your interim pastor is to help guide you through this transition and to help you to prepare for a new season of ministry with the pastor who God will lead to you.

I will begin my ministry with you the week after Mother's Day (May 11). In this part-time role I will work at the church on Wednesdays and Thursdays, preparing for my ministry with you on Sundays. You will be able to reach me those days at the church (519-633-2883) and by email at plainschurch@rogers.com. I will be available for pastoral emergencies outside of those times by calling 226-236-2029.

I am praying for all of you and invite you to pray for me and my family as we begin this adventure of interim ministry together.

And in (Christ) you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

(Ephesians 2:22 NIV)

Phil

FIRST YARMOUTH (PLAINS) BAPTIST CHURCH
Financial Statement as of 30th of April, 2022

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Missions</u>	<u>Communion Fund</u>	<u>Sunday School</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Income	32,248.09	2,952.18	1,130.00	75.00	36,405.27
Expenses	<u>30,392.08</u>	<u>2,952.18</u>	<u>1,284.03</u>	<u>75.00</u>	<u>34,703.29</u>
Net Gain(Loss)	1,856.01	0.00	-154.03	0.00	1,701.98
Balance end of 2021	<u>54,039.93</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>310.86</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>54,350.79</u>
Balance as at 04/30/22	<u>55,895.94</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>156.83</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>56,052.77</u>

1. The General Fund shows a net gain as of 30th of April, 2022 of \$1,856.01. Snow plowing & Salting invoices are paid up to the end of February, 2022.
The Special Easter Offering for the General Fund brought in \$729.50.
2. Missions income as at the 30th of April, 2022 totalled \$2,952.18. That amount has been forwarded to CBOQ and CBM. This amount is made up as follows: CBOQ - General Budget - \$1,289.50; CBM General Budget - \$863.68, Sharing Way - \$64.00, and Sharing Way, Ukraine - \$735.00.
The Special Easter Offering for CBOQ brought in \$804.50.
3. The Communion fund had a net loss as of the 30th of April, 2022 of (-\$154.03.) There was a balance in the Communion fund from 2021, leaving a balance of \$156.83 in that fund.
4. Donations totalling \$75.00 for Q1 were received for the Sunday School and have been sent to the Treasurer of the Sunday School, Sherry Graham.
5. The Future Projects Fund had income in 2022 of \$50.00 from a memorial donation in memory of the late Margaret Helmer, as well as the proceeds from the Easter Sunrise Breakfast of \$65.00, for total income in 2022 of \$115.00. There was a balance in that fund from previous years of \$1,891.00, now giving us a balance of \$2,006.00
There have been no expenses to date in 2022.

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, and/or on the plate at the church. It is wonderful to be able to be back at Plains and worshipping together as the Family of God.

Respectfully submitted,
 Shirley E. Dale
 Treasurer



"When your mother asks, 'Do you want a piece of advice?' it is a mere formality. It doesn't matter if you answer yes or no. You're going to get it anyway." Erma Bombeck

My mother taught me about the weather...."This room or yours looks as if a tornado went through it!"

My mother taught me about my roots...."Shut the door behind you. Do you think you were born in a barn?"

Pastor's Page

Besides being the year in which I retired as your pastor after three decades of leadership, 2022 marks a significant anniversary for the Plains Baptist Church! Twenty years ago, the addition of Oak Hall, and renovations to the foyer and sanctuary were completed! It was a HUGE project, almost as huge as the construction of the new church building in 1980! At the Plains' 172nd Anniversary service on Sunday October 20, 2002, we held a Service of Dedication of the building addition and unveiled the cornerstone "To the Glory of God".

I find it hard to believe that it has been 20 years since CHAD construction: Charlie Rewbotham, Harvey Barrett, and Dave Zavitz, our retired guys unveiled the cornerstone! However, the framed photo gracing the wall of our church foyer confirms it!

After years of dreaming and informal discussions, the building project was put into motion even as the new millennium dawned. In January 2000, it was moved by Charlie Rewbotham, chairman of the Plains Trustees, that "The trustees will be recommending to the church body at the next church meeting to build an addition to the church." The congregational vote was held on February 1 2000. The motion passed! And the rest, as they say, is HISTORY!

The Hall building project took a LOT of prayer, a LOT of money, a LOT of volunteer work hours, and it was a LOT of fun! Everyone pitched in to raise funds and many members and friends aided with the manual labor component. The fund -raising goal was set at \$100,000. Imagine what the building materials would cost today in Covid cash!! It was a daunting amount of money in 2000, but after bazaars, concerts, yard sales, and a Pig roast and Auction-- (It was all carried off without a hitch. Well, that's my story and I'm sticking to it) --- Keith Axford, our treasured Treasurer reported that by November 30, 2002, \$106,445.89 had been received! The surplus after expenses, plus pledges yet to come in totaled \$15,132.53! Awesome!! A couple of years later, the steeple, made in Alabama would arrive via Charlie's green Dodge Pick -up truck, to grace the canopy rooftop!

The building was not the only project in which the church was involved between 2000 and 2002. For example, the Ladies Aid had opened a fund called the 'Angel Fund/Millennium Project' in 2000 because Deane Proctor, who had been called by God to professional Christian ministry, needed support for Seminary costs. It was a real pleasure for me to speak at Deane's induction service on October 20, 2002, the same day as Plains' 172nd Anniversary and cornerstone dedication. That afternoon, Deane was inducted as pastor of Iona Station and Dutton Baptist Churches. I had been blessed to baptize Deane and Annette at the Plains and dedicate their daughters, Cassidy and Joelle during their years with us. We've prayerfully followed Deane's ministry from Elgin County to Brantford and now to PEI as pastor of First Baptist, Charlottetown.

Twenty years ago, Pentecost Sunday in May 2002 I was surprised to receive a white hard construction hat from Dan Dale, one of the two chairs of the building committee (Malcolm was also co-chair). The hat, donated by Steve Pettit which came with signage: "The Boss" on the front and "Site Supervisor" on the side was offered as a good-natured joke, but I

have treasured it. It was too soon after Oak Hall was completed that I carried the construction helmet in my hands to officiate at the funerals of Harvey Barrett (2004) and Dave Zavitz (2012), our beloved CHAD members. One memento we have belonging to Dave is his hammer, which he dropped inside the wall of Oak Hall, which remains in the walls, somewhere. And no one who was present will forget the stand- up comedy act that Harvey presented at the Congregational Dinner held in the new Hall to mark the project's completion! ("*Here comes the little porker now!*" he quipped about the esteemed 'Boss' and Pastor, placing said quote in the mouth of his bro-in-law, Keith Axford.)

I'll always cherish the memories of the building project and the team work that the members of the Plains always show whenever a need arises. I pray that your faithful teamwork continues for many, years to come! I will close my stroll down memory lane with a Bible passage that Deane Proctor read at the close of the 2000 Business Meeting, after the vote to move ahead with the building addition was passed.

From the *Pastor's Page* in the March 2000 edition of the Plain Facts:

For we are God's servants, working together, you are God's field, God's building. According to the grace of God given to me (St. Paul) I laid a foundation and someone else is building on it. Each builder must choose with care how to build on it. For no one else can lay any foundation other than the one that has been laid; THAT FOUNDATION IS JESUS CHRIST." I Corinthians 2.

Two ½ years after Deane shared that amazing truth with us, Oak Hall stood in all her beauty—debt free, and open to assist in building up of the faith for all who should enter the doors of Plains Baptist Church. And now, after 20 years, the Plains people are back in our church after having weathered the worst of the Covid- 19 pandemic. The TEAM is back, praising and serving our loving and awesome God! Well done, good and faithful servants! Keep on building your lives and fruitful ministries upon the only foundation that lasts— that foundation is Jesus Christ.

With ALL my Love and Precious Memories,

Margaret

