



**THE PLAIN FACTS**  
*a monthly newsletter of*

**FIRST YARMOUTH  
PLAINS BAPTIST CHURCH**

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## JUNE 2022

There's days for getting taxes paid,  
And days for putting on the charm.  
There's days to go to Church and School,  
And days to plow the farm.

There's days to fuss with knitting socks,  
And days to sleep or play.  
But the one that means the most to me,  
Is known as Father's Day.

To be a Father is a calling,  
That not all men can claim.  
Responding to the family's needs,  
Providing love is the first aim.

And to that end, you've given me  
The best I know you've got.  
So I wish you a Happy Father's Day,  
Because I love you a whole lot.

**HAPPY  
FATHER'S  
DAY**



## 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 Johnstone
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	Tom Lammiman	Fraser (in Poland helping refugees escape Ukraine)	
Lori-Ann	Clarence	Wayne & Liz Dieleman	Paul & Bonnie
Evelyn Crafts granddaughter	Brittany	Maryann- Ellen Brekelmans' sister-in-law in New Zealand	
Ed Brown	Plaunt family	Ellen's sister	

### Sunday Scripture Readings

#### June 05-Penticost

Romans 8:14 - 17

#### June 12

John 16:12-15

#### June 19

Isaiah 65: 1-9

#### June 26-Camp Out at Springwater

Luke 9: 51 - 62



Thank  
You!

I am so very grateful for my ninety years and for the over sixty years with my Plains family  
**Thank you** for the Happy Birthday wishes, cards and flowers , BLESSINGS to all.

Pauline Duffy

### JUNE BIRTHDAYS

1 <sup>st</sup> Judy Jacklin	18 <sup>th</sup> Michelle Carnegie
9 <sup>th</sup> Michela Sargeant	19 <sup>th</sup> Jeremy Dale
10 <sup>th</sup> Ryan Dunn	23 <sup>rd</sup> Lillie Penner
10 <sup>th</sup> Gail McPhail	23 <sup>rd</sup> Emma Wilcox
11 <sup>th</sup> Toots Gillard	27 <sup>th</sup> Melanie Dunn
15 <sup>th</sup> George Martyn	27 <sup>th</sup> Gerry Coull
	28 <sup>th</sup> Anna Kristine Kisiel

### ANNIVERSARIES

4 <sup>th</sup> Floyd and Sharon Axford	20 <sup>th</sup> Phil & Cherie Doyon (35)
5 <sup>th</sup> George & Betty Lidster	23 <sup>rd</sup> Jeff & Melanie Wilcox
6 <sup>th</sup> Stephen & Carolyn Plaunt	26 <sup>th</sup> Sue Anne & Joshua MacCallum
15 <sup>th</sup> Doug & Mary Sawyer	28 <sup>th</sup> Gerry & Jill Coull (20)
	30 <sup>th</sup> Gary & Fran Somerville



Teacher: Did your father help you with your homework?

Student: No, he did it all by himself

## EVENTS FOR JUNE 2022

- June 05 Sun 10:00 A.M.**      **Sunday Service** - Interim Pastor Rev. Philip Butler - Communion Sunday  
**Pentecost Sunday**-Congregants are encouraged to wear bright colours.
- June 12 Sun 10:00 A.M.**      **Sunday Service** - Interim Pastor Rev. Philip Butler  
Fairwell for Elsie Walker before her move to Ottawa; cake in Oak Hall after worship
- June 14 Tue. 12:00 Noon Ladies Aid June Luncheon** at The Bistro, 625 Talbot Street, St. Thomas
- June 19 Sun 10:00 A.M.**      **Sunday Service** - Interim Pastor Rev. Philip Butler - Fathers' Day
- June 24 - June 26 (Friday - Sunday)** - Church Camp Out at Springwater
- June 26 Sun 10:30 A.M.**      Worship beside the pond at Springwater - Interim Pastor Rev. Philip Butler
- July 03 Sun 10:00 A.M.**      **Sunday Service** - Interim Pastor Rev. Philip Butler - Communion Sunday -  
Canada Day weekend

## PLAINS CHURCH CAMPING AT SPRINGWATER 2022

Friday, June 24 (2:00 P.M.) to Sunday, June 26, at noon

**Costs:**      \$ 60.00 for family (4 people maximum)  
                  \$15.00 for each additional camper  
                  \$ 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. ***If you are not camping, but plan to attend Sunday Breakfast, please advise Sherry Graham a.s.a.p., to ensure sufficient food.***

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].



**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



Sunday, May 8, 2022 at the **Retirement Service** for Pastor Margaret Bell. It was noted that she will “move from the pulpit to a pew” but she will still have a place in the choir.



Heather Limon on the trumpet, joined Sherry Graham on organ and Amy Dale at the piano, providing music accompaniment.



Those taking part in the Service included Dan Dale, Chairman of the 1989 and 2022 Pastoral Search Committees and Betty Rewbotham, a member of the 1989 Search Committee. Also taking part were Linda Willand, Chair of Deacons, and Deacons Gary Higgs, Pat Kennedy and Michael Sargeant.

Several members of the congregation shared stories of their experiences with Margie; Humourous stories, stories of sadness, and recollections of love, gratitude, admiration, and respect.

Dan Dale



Floyd and Sharon Axford



Jo-Anne Pettit



George and Pat Martyn



Gary and Marjorie Higgs



Rev. Malcolm Rust



Mayor of Central Elgin Sally Martyn, who included her personal appreciation in addition to those offered on behalf of the Community



Karen Hilliker brought greetings on behalf of the churches in The Elgin Baptist Association, as well as her own personal reflections. She also read a poem written by Rev. Cam Watts.

Dan Dale read a poem written by Barb Axford.



Margie was presented with 2 gifts on behalf of the Congregation, including the Social Committee and the Ladies Aid.

**A Malachite Pendant:**

The gemstone malachite is found in Israel and is known as the Stone of Transformation. It symbolizes the green of nature around us, and is said to carry healing energy. A fitting gift as Margie transitions from a full time pastor to retirement.

Left to right: Pat Kennedy, Linda Willand, Margie Bell and Betty Rewbotham



And a pair of socks with the message,  
“I am retired. It’s not my problem”.



Following the benediction, Reverend Margaret Anne Bell left the pulpit and walked to the back of the sanctuary to a standing ovation, carrying her white hard hat with the words “THE BOSS” under her arm.

A pot luck lunch was enjoyed in Oak Hall, the food being in abundance and of the usual “Plains” varieties, including a retirement cake.



**The Retirement Service was a wonder to behold!**

I was moved as I welcomed my church family, family members, and friends from Aylmer, Jerseyville, Perry Sound, St. Catharines and Brantford to help me mark my retirement from full-time pastoral ministry.

**THANK YOU** to the deacons, organizing committee, worship leaders, tribute -tellers, musicians, poets, Social Committee, singers, attendees, videographers, well-wishers and gift-givers. Great team work!

The pot luck luncheon was wonderful, too! It was **AWESOME** to see and hear the sanctuary and Oak Hall filled with (noisy, happy) people again!

The necklace is lovely and I'll treasure it. The beautiful flowers, corsage, happy Retirement balloons, cake and socks & Pictures of Plains People & Moments from our Past to our Present, made me smile! Thanks! That is *so Plains* of you!

Sunday reminded me, (as if I needed reminding), of just how **SPECIAL** you are. You are the best! And this preacher woman feels blessed to have served as your pastor for 32 years and 93 days. May God continue to inspire and direct this church as we look forward to **What's Next**.

**To God be the Glory!**  
**Margie Bell**

**Highlights of the Congregational Meeting of May 15, 2022**

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 by Clerk Mary Crosby. Wayne Dale opened with the devotional, and Michael Sargeant was nominated as Chairperson. The meeting agenda and the minutes of the meeting of January 30, 2022 were approved.

It was reported by Linda Willand that the Territorial Acknowledgment was still a work in progress.

**Reports:**

**Clerk-** Mary Crosby reported that average weekly attendance at Sunday service is 55 to 60.

**Cemetery-**Dan Dale reported no activity

**Deacons-**Linda Willand reported that the contract with Rev. Phil Butler as Interim Pastor is for 24 hours per week, on a month to month basis.

**Finance Committee-**Sherry Graham reported that we are in a better financial situation in the General Fund, Missions and Easter offering than last year. Shirley Dale presented the Financial Statement for the month of May.

**Ladies Aid-**Presented by Louise Sargeant

**Pastor's Report-**Mary Crosby read Pastor Margie's report stating that she had attended 12 Church meetings, 9 Special Services, 5 Elgin Baptist Association events, and 2 Funerals.

**Social Committee-** Presented by Nancy Millman

**Trustees Report-**None

**Web Master Report-**Mary Crosby read a report from Martin Proulx.

All reports were accepted.

**New Business-** Dan Dale reported for the Search Committee. They have held 8 meeting and put out 2 surveys to the membership, with excellent return results. The position has been posted and will close on July 31, 2022.

Louise Sargeant was nominated to be our Delegate for CBOQ Assembly in June.

Date For Next Meeting: October 23, 2022 at 12:00 at the Church.

Rev Phil Butler closed our meeting with a prayer.

## Plains Baptist Church Leadership Expectation Profile

The following is based on the most popular responses to categories in the surveys sent out.

### 1. CATEGORY OF MINISTRY SKILLS

Shepherd	Care giver, visitor, effective counselor, effective overseer of the flock.
Evangelist	Able to communicate Gospel to people of all ages and situations.
Preacher	Able to make Gospel plain, clear, relevant, good public presence, voice, student of the Scriptures
Priest	Effective worship leader, communicates sense of awe and praise before God, committed to the ministry of prayer and intercession.

### 2. LEADER CHARACTERISTICS

Reliability	Dependable, consistent: states his/her true opinion but supports the final decisions of the church within limits of conscience.
Mission Minded	Concerned for the cause of Christ throughout the world: concerned for the lost near and far: committed to missions locally, nationally and throughout the world.
Organised	A planner: keeps a perspective on the whole life of the church: able to divide large tasks into manageable steps and assign them properly: anticipates problems and/or opportunities: makes effective use of lay leadership.
Community Oriented	Concerned and involved in community life: concerned for social needs and matters of injustice in the community.
Adaptable	Has a mind which is open to innovation and new ideas: willing to give new ideas a fair trial: adjusts to new situations: is flexible, open.
Biblically orientated	Committed to truthfulness and authority of the Scriptures: submissive to the Scriptures: knowledgeable of the Scriptures: able to preach and teach from scriptures.
Developer of lay leaders	Takes initiative to broaden, strengthen and improve gifts and skills of persons for lay leadership.

### 3. MINISTRY PRIORITIES

Children	Relates well with children and able to communicate with them.
Preaching	Making the Gospel and the Word of God relevant to people's lives: presenting with clarity and conviction the whole counsel of God.
Worship	Planning and leading worship as a central event in the life of the church as a gathered community.
Teaching	Effective in teaching others and helping them to understand and know the key and basic things of Christian growth and development: creative leadership in Bible Studies, Sunday School Classes, membership classes etc.
Crisis Visitation	Visiting people immediately in times of crisis.
Seniors Sensitive	Enjoys visiting and caring for seniors and their needs: is sensitive to concerns and changes in their lives.
Change Agent	Open to new methods and strategies of worship and ministry and skilled in motivating and enabling people to explore new possibilities.

### 4. PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES AND CHARACTER PRIORITIES

Sense of Humour	Laughs, sees bright side of issues, witty.
Listener	Allows others to have their say, respects other opinions.
Administration Skills	Well organised, punctual, well prepared, decisive.
Approachable	Available, open, receptive, winsome.
Communication Skills	Relevant, understandable.



**FIRST YARMOUTH (PLAINS) BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**Financial Statement as at 31st of May, 2022**

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Missions</u>	<u>Communion Fund</u>	<u>Sunday School</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Income	41,660.49	3,410.85	1,407.00	75.00	46,553.34
Expenses	<u>39,286.42</u>	<u>3,410.85</u>	<u>1,475.27</u>	<u>75.00</u>	<u>44,247.54</u>
Net Gain(Loss)	2,374.07	0.00	(-68.27)	0.00	2,305.80
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 5/22/1931	<u>56,414.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>242.59</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>56,656.59</u>

1. The General Fund shows a net gain as of 31st of May, 2022 of \$2,374.07. Snow plowing & Salting invoices are paid up to the end of March, 2022. We do not have grass cutting bills yet.
2. Missions income as at the 31st of May, 2022 totalled \$3,410.85. That amount has been forwarded to CBOQ and CBM. This amount is made up as follows: CBOQ - General Budget - \$1,374.50; CBOQ Youth - \$100.00; CBM General Budget - \$1,092.35, Sharing Way - \$84.00, and Sharing Way, Ukraine - \$760.00.
3. The Communion fund had a net loss as of the 31st of May, 2022 of (-\$68.27.) There was a balance in the Communion fund from 2021, leaving a balance of \$242.59 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. Take the time to be thankful for the lovely sunny summer-like days.

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley E. Dale

Treasurer



The Elgin District Women's Institute celebrates 125 years with a public tea:  
**Afternoon Tea:** Masonic Centre of Elgin, 42703 Fruit Ridge Line, St Thomas.

Wednesday June 29th, 2022 at 2:00 pm

Please RSVP to the Elgin County Heritage Centre by June 17, 2022 - 519-631-1460 ext. 193

For More Details Contact-

Mary Clutterbuck, President of the Elgin District Women's Institute. [pclubuck@execulink.com](mailto:pclubuck@execulink.com)



*Two are better than one,  
because they have a good return for their labor:  
If either of them falls down,  
one can help the other up....  
A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.*

(Proverbs 4:9-10a, 12b NIV)

I've said it before, and I'll say it again: "Thanks for the warm welcome!" Of course, this isn't the first time I've experienced a warm "Plains" welcome. When I began my ministry with Sparta Baptist Church and New Sarum Baptist Church almost twenty-four years ago, in 1998, Plains was there with a warm welcome. You were there (not ALL of you but a representation) at my induction service in 1998 and my ordination council and service in 1999. You were there at Elgin Association meetings and events and anniversary services – with warmth and caring. You were there, in a way, through Margie Bell as she supervised my first year of ministry. And you were there with a warm welcome in April of 2014 when Anne, our kids and I arrived with the Sparta congregation while Margie was on her three-month sabbatical. Your ability to welcome warmly is well-established AND consistent. Thank you!

And having been warmly welcomed, we have worshipped together and talked together. It is *good* that we are together. We are beginning a special kind of work called "interim ministry." This term can easily be glossed over as just a stop-gap until a new pastor is found or as "pulpit supply" in the meantime, but it is more than that.

Imagine for a moment that you have moved from one part of the province or country to another (for some of you this is reality, not imagination). Now imagine yourself waking up on the first morning in your new home. Your half-awake mind may want to get out of bed on the usual side and walk the usual direction to the bathroom...but something doesn't feel right. That's when you remember that you are in a different bedroom with the furniture oriented differently than you are used to and the bathroom in a new direction from your bed. You have to stop and think before you do what you used to do unconsciously. Getting your breakfast ready is another kind of challenge in a new kitchen and, perhaps, a less-than-well-stocked pantry. And when you leave your house to go to the store to pick up some of those missing pantry items, you have to look up the directions to the nearest grocery store and then navigate roads you have never driven and aisles you've never walked. This is all part of an adjustment, especially after having lived in one place for years. So many parts of life had been instinctual. Now they are disorienting - adventures into the unknown. Wouldn't it be nice to have someone there with you, who knows what is unknown to you?

So, here we are in 2022 at Plains Baptist Church, having celebrated 32-years of ministry with the beloved Rev. Margaret Bell. You are now in unknown territory, but you are not alone. Aside from God's abiding presence (which, in no way, am I belittling!) your Deacons have asked me to be your interim pastor – a guide, of sorts, through this great unknown.

My role is NOT to have all the answers or to turn Plains on its head. My job IS:

- 1) to remind you how adaptable you are and how to become even more adaptable as you get used to me, so that when you call a new permanent pastor, you will already be open to the changes that will naturally happen.
- 2) to walk with you as you navigate your own evaluation/re-evaluation process of what is a permanent part of life at Plains and what is “negotiable.”
- 3) to help you adapt to a new relationship with Margie and with the pastor. For instance:
  - a. How will you allow a stranger to become your pastor?
  - b. What does it mean, in a personal crisis, to reach out to someone who doesn't know you very well?
  - c. What does it mean to relate to Margie as a friend and sister in Christ, instead of as a pastor?

These may seem like small and simple things, but they can be filled with confusion, grief and tension if you run headlong into them without being intentional. I get to help you tip-toe intentionally through this before you have “signed on the dotted line” with someone new. I consider this to be a crucial work and one that should not be rushed. After all, 32 years is a long time to be in good ministry together...it can be difficult to imagine doing good ministry together with anyone else, in any other way.

Thankfully, God has a plan for Plains Baptist Church. During this interim time, you get to prayerfully search God's Word, talk to each other about your work together, suggest new ideas, affirm cherished traditions, tinker with negotiables, ask questions, try, fail, try again...as you discover what God has in store for you next. And through all that, I am honoured to walk with you!

*Phil*