



THE PLAIN FACTS
a monthly newsletter of

**FIRST YARMOUTH
PLAINS BAPTIST CHURCH**

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NOVEMBER 2022

A Silent Tear

Just close your eyes and you will see
All the memories that you have of me.
Just sit and relax and you will find
I'm really still there inside your mind.

Don't cry for me now that I'm gone
For I am in the land of song.
There is no pain, there is no fear
So dry away that silent tear.

Don't think of me in the dark and cold
For here I am, I will not grow old.
I'm in that place that's filled with love,
known to you all, as "up above".

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.

Jenny and family	Cathy Tredenick	Karl Crocker	Plains Search Committee
Jill & Gerry Coull	Suzanne Doan	Mary Lou Pearson	Family of Tucker Johnstone
Cherie Doyon	Shirley Griffin	Murray Silcox	Lori-Ann
Sharon Axford	Linda Hepburn	Don Sawyer	Rev. Mike Nicholson
Tiffany & family	Randy Greer	People of Ukraine	The homeless
Aleta Behie	Dan Walters	Evelyn Crafts granddaughter Brittany	
Doug Sawyer	People of Russia	Ron and Linda Prong and the Family of Linda Jenner	
Family of Dave Major	People of the Maritime Provinces	Jean Lammiman	
Steve & Lesley Micallef	and the family of Joan Micallef	Grace Harris	
Carl Sanders	CBOQ Search Committee for Executive Minister		
Women of Iran			

Sunday Scripture Readings

Nov 06

Haggai 1:15b - 2:9

Nov 13

Luke 21:5-9

Nov 20

Colossians 1:9-20



Nov 27

Genesis 1:1-4

Dec 04

Genesis 3:1-15



Congratulations to Biz (Elizabeth) Tucker, Bachelor of Music student at the University of Western Ontario, who recently won the Don Wright Music Faculty Wind, Brass and Percussion Concerto Competition. Biz chose Solo Pour Hautbois by Emile Paladilhle and will perform on her Oboe with the UWO Wind Ensemble in February 2023. She is a student of Prof. Shelley Heron. She is the granddaughter of Donna and Bob Limon.

Congratulations to Lexie (Alexia) Sawyer and her girls Soft Ball 17U D1 Nationals team. This past summer they won the gold medal at the Ontario Summer Games held in Mississauga and followed that up with the gold medal at the PWSA Ontario Provincial Championship in Windsor. Lexie also competed with the Aurora Diggers at the Canadian Championships in Montreal. The D1 Nationals hope to keep the gloves and bats hot as they head to Las Vegas early in November for the Surf City Showcase. Lexie is the granddaughter of Donna and Bob Limon and Doug and Mary Sawyer. Let the games and music play on—



Submitted by Donna Limon



Margaret Bell's home email
rev.margie.anne@gmail.com

A lot of kneeling will keep you in good standing

EVENTS FOR NOVEMBER 2022

- Nov 05 Sat 2:00 A.M. Fall back** - Daylight Savings Time Ends
- Nov 06 Sun 10:00 A.M. Sunday Service** - Communion Sunday - Remembering Sunday-
Interim Pastor Rev. Philip Butler
- Nov 08 Tue 8:30 A.M. - After 8's Breakfast** - At Sunset Café - All ladies welcome
- Nov 13 Sun 10:00 A.M. Sunday Service** - - Interim Pastor Rev. Philip Butler - Food Bank Sunday
- Nov 20 Sun 10:00 A.M. Sunday Service** - Interim Pastor Rev. Philip Butler
- Nov 26 Sat 9:00 - 11:30 a.m. FALL BAZAAR in Oak Hall**
- Nov 27 Sun 10:00 A.M. Sunday Service** - Interim Pastor Rev. Philip Butler
- Dec 02 Fri 6:30 P.M.** Elgin Baptist Women Ladies Christmas Pot Luck Dinner at
Plains Baptist Church
- Dec 04 Sun 10:00 A.M. Sunday Service** -Communion Sunday - Interim Pastor Rev. Philip Butler
- Dec 13 Tue 12:00 noon** - Ladies Aid Christmas Pot Luck Lunch -Guests and men welcome
1:00 P.M. - Musical entertainment - Some members of "The Eukes of Hazard"

Beginning in November Phil will be working with Plains 4 days per week. His regular hours will be Tuesday - Thursday and Sunday. He can be reached in an emergency outside of those times at 226-236-2029.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1st Hailey Noble
6th Carolyn Plaunt
6th Margaret Bell
9th Matthew McCarthy
9th Evan Plaunt
15th Betty Lidster
16th Eric Plaunt
17th Betty Shelley-Wiebe

17th Tim Barrett
17th Leilah Sibley
18th Emma Greenslade
18th George Lidster
20th Carter Ruddock
21st Milt Springer
22nd Carol Maes

23rd Mary Lou Pearson
25th Nicholas Dale
27th Cameron Dale
27th Liam Bradley
29th Floyd Axford
30th Ollie Perry



Christmas Bazaar

Saturday, November 26, 2022

9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Refreshments served in Oak Hall

Home made Crafts, Baby Quilts, Blankets, Books, Puzzles,
AtticTreasures, Home Baking, etc.

(All refreshments and home baking prepared in home kitchens)

BAZAAR HELPERS:

Anyone available and interested in assisting behind the tables selling goods, in the kitchen preparing and washing up, serving goodies and coffee or clearing and setting tables for 1 hour or for 2 hours at this event are most welcome. A sign-up sheet is on the table at the back of the church sanctuary or contact Nancy Millman 519-775-2526 / anmillman@rogers.com

BAZAAR DONATIONS:

Donations of hand crafted and baked goods are welcome. Please package items like cookies and squares by the dozen or half dozen on new paper, styrofoam or plastic containers, and priced ready for sale.

Price lists will be made available at the back of the sanctuary for your convenience.

We ask that all other donations be clean and in working condition and not brought to the church before the morning of **Thursday, November 24** when set-up takes place.



Highlights of the Congregation Meeting on October 23, 2022

The meeting was called to order by Clerk Mary Crosby, at 12:00 p.m.

Rev. Phil Butler opened the meeting by reading scripture, Ephesians 4: 4,5 as written in an as yet incomplete First Nations Bible. He reminded us that ours is not the only point of view. That others see the same things, but sometimes see them differently.

Michael Sargeant was elected as Chairperson

The Agenda was approved, with the addition for New Business, of a report by Malcolm Rust who had attended the "Walking Together In a Good Way" Indigenous Learning Event.

The minutes of the meeting of May 15, 2022 were approved.

Business Arising: - A "Land Acknowledgment Draft" was presented by Linda Willand, Chairperson of the Deacons. Much discussion took place and several unanswered questions were put forth. It was agreed that a lawyer needs to be consulted, more editing needs to be done to reduce the size of the document and hopefully someone from the source of the information could be secured to speak to the Plains congregation.

Interested persons were referred to the "McKee Purchase of 1790" on the internet for further information.

Reports:

Clerk - Mary Crosby reported that the average Sunday attendance is between 50 and 55 persons and that the membership is currently 141.

Cemetery - Dan Dale reported no new activity.

Deacons - Linda Willand reported that Leena Sibley has agreed to lead the Sunday School and that volunteers are needed, who would require a Police Check to work with children. There is new contract with Rev. Butler.

Finance - Sherry Graham reported that the General Fund income has increased due to a decrease in the Ministry Account. A gift of \$65,000. from Centre Street Baptist Church was acknowledged, which will be held in a high interest account until a specific project is determined for it's best use. Camping at Springwater is booked for June 23 - 25, 2023

Shirley Dale presented the September 30 Finance Statement as printed in the October News Letter. It was suggested that the "Future Projects" fund could be applied to the installation of an electronic sign to replace the current information sign on the front lawn.

Ladies Aid - Louise Sargeant reported that there will be a Christmas Bazaar on Saturday November 26, but that help would be needed from the congregation.

Pastor's Report - Rev. Butler reported that as of November 1 he begins working 4 days a week instead of 3. He will be available Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday, allowing for more time for pastoral care.

Pastoral Search Committee - Dan Dale reported that they are working through a second round of resumes and interviews to begin in November.

Social Committee - Nancy Millman reported that no meetings have been held as yet in 2022.

Trustees - John Doner reported that the kitchen had received a favourable inspection by the Health Unit. It has been recommended that some persons handling food should have a Food Handling Certificate. The Trustees will take on the project of obtaining and installing an electronic sign.

Webmaster Report - read by Mary Crosby. The website is updated weekly and the recorded sermons are updated to YouTube. It is being operated informally.

Walking Together In a Good Way - Malcolm Rust had attended this convention which was sponsored by the Baptist Churches of Ontario. A five minute video from this convention was presented.

See his report on next pages.....

The date of the Annual Meeting will be February 12, 2023

Rev. Phil Butler closed the meeting with prayer.

Man's way leads to a hopeless end - God's way leads to an endless hope

“Walking Together in a Good Way” – An Indigenous Learning Event
Westview Baptist Church London, September 2022
Malcolm Rust



It was my privilege to attend this event which highlighted the history of the way indigenous people (First Nations, Metis and Inuit) were treated by settlers and the government. It was one of a series of such training weekends sponsored by the Canadian Baptists of Ontario and Quebec in different parts of our provinces. The intention was that representatives from all our churches would attend to learn, to respect, and to consider how to implement the Calls to Action issued by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada. **Sadly, the subject is not seen as a priority by our churches.**



Thanks to Martin Proulx, you can view a **5-minute video** about that event on the church website. Go to [website/You Tube services/Event Review & Event Sunday Service](#).

The final report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada was published in 2015. The Commission, like no other in the history of Canada - spent 6 years travelling to all parts of Canada to hear from more than 6,000 indigenous people who had been taken from their families as children, forcibly if necessary, and placed for much of their childhoods in residential schools.

By now we know - or should know - the History. Residential schools – in existence for well over 100 years – ensured that successive generations of children from the same communities and families endured that experience. Indigenous children were separated from their families in order to minimize and weaken family ties and cultural linkages and to indoctrinate children into a new culture- the culture of the legally dominant Euro-Christian Canadian society.

On our doorstep we have 3 first nations, The Chippewas of the Thames First Nation, The Oneida Nation of the Thames and Munsee-Delaware First Nation

In order to redress the legacy of residential schools and advance the process of Canadian reconciliation, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission made **the 94 calls to action**.

They addressed a wide variety of topics including some related to Canadian churches. For example: -

#58 addressed to the Pope

#59 addressed to church parties (Roman Catholic, Anglican, United & Presbyterian) to the Settlement Agreement

Call to Action #60 is addressed to congregations of all faiths

"We call upon leaders of the church parties to the Settlement Agreement

And all other faiths,

In collaboration with Indigenous spiritual leaders, survivors, schools of theology, seminaries and other religious training centres,

To **develop and teach curriculum** for all student clergy,

And all clergy and staff who work in Aboriginal communities,

on the need to respect **indigenous spirituality** in its own right, (See pp224-232)

the history and legacy of residential schools

and the roles of the church parties in that system,

the history and legacy of **religious conflict** in Aboriginal families and communities

and the responsibility that churches have **to mitigate such conflicts and prevent spiritual violence.**"



It is intended that "congregations learn about the churches role" in colonization, the history and legacy of residential schools and why apologies to former residential school students, their families and communities were necessary.

"Christian doctrine today still fails to accord full and proper respect for Indigenous spiritual belief systems" p.226

Note: - The Doctrine of Discovery –

- a principle in international law under which, when a nation "discovers land" it directly acquires rights on that land.
- Based on 15th century Papal statements that gave the church's blessing to European explorers, discovering land that was already inhabited by non-Christians.
- It provided a framework for Christian explorers, in the name of their sovereign, to lay claim to territories uninhabited by Christians.
- It remains the basis for Canadian law and as such continues to impact Indigenous Peoples.
- It has never been renounced. Church has no formal mechanism for rescinding a past teaching.

Malcolm Rust
22 October 2022

(I have added the bold type)

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

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Missions</u>	<u>Communion Fund</u>	<u>Sunday School</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Income	79,295.39	5,644.70	3,569.00	75.00	88,584.09
Expenses	<u>65,909.28</u>	<u>5,644.70</u>	<u>3,032.93</u>	<u>75.00</u>	<u>74,661.91</u>
Net Gain(Loss)	13,386.11	0.00	536.07	0.00	13,922.18
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 10/31/2022	<u>67,426.04</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>846.93</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>68,272.97</u>

1. The General Fund shows a net gain as of 31st of October, 2022 of \$13,386.11.
Grass cutting has been paid up until the end of July, 2022.
2. Missions income as at the 31st of October, 2022 totalled \$5,644.70. That amount has been forwarded to CBOQ and CBM. This amount is made up as follows: CBOQ - General Budget - \$2,042.00; CBOQ Youth - 1,150.00; CBM General Budget - \$1,514.70, Sharing Way - \$178.00, and Sharing Way, Ukraine - \$760.00.
3. The Communion fund had a net gain as of 31st of October, 2022 of \$536.07 thanks to very generous donations to that fund. There was a balance from previous years of \$310.86, giving a total of \$846.93 in the Communion 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 Special 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 \$1,841.00, now giving us a balance of \$1,956.00. There have been no expenses to date in 2022.
At the fall business meeting, the Trustees were asked to get prices on an electronic sign for the front lawn, so donations to this fund would go towards that project if approved.
6. A very generous gift of \$65,000 has been received from Centre Street Baptist Church, as they regretfully have had to close and sell their building. We are very appreciative of this gift, and the money is with iA Private Wealth in a high interest savings account until a decision is made on whether to use some of the funds or invest it.

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 e-transfer, and/or on the plate at the church.

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley E. Dale

Treasurer



ELGIN BAPTIST WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS DINNER

Friday, December 2, 2022

6:30 p.m. at PLAINS CHURCH

POT LUCK DINNER

Please advise LOUISE SARGEANT - mgsel@execulink.com or

519-769-2670 if you plan to attend, **BY Sunday, November 27**

Bring a "gift in a bag" to be sold for \$5.00 **AND**

Bring Canadian Tire money -

Proceeds of both going to Canadian Baptist Ministries for their Kids at Risk Program

We don't change God's message - His message changes us.

November is here and we Canadians are moving indoors. It marks the end of a favourite season for many, the yard sale/ garage sale season. Some love that season for the good deals, others for the chance to poke around in other people's stuff, still others just want to clean house with a sale of their own: oh, the things we hope to get rid of with our sales!

I once read a description by Anglican Bishop, Mark Dyer (I read it via Christian author, Phyllis Tickle¹) in which he says "every 500 years the Church feels compelled to hold a giant rummage sale." His point was that there is a distinct 500-year cycle of upheaval and reform in the Church. 500 years ago, was the beginning of the Protestant Reformation. 500 years before that the Church split into the Roman Catholic and the Eastern Orthodox Churches. Another major split 500 years before that and 500 years before that...Jesus Christ – the greatest upheaval for God's people!

Phyllis Tickle observes three results from the "500-year rummage sales":

1. A fresh new form of Christianity emerges,
2. The former expression of Christianity is refurbished
3. The Christian faith spreads.

We see this in the book of Acts:

On that day a great persecution broke out against the church in Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout Judea and Samaria.... 4 Those who had been scattered preached the word wherever they went. (Acts 8:1, 4)

Upheaval and renewal: What started as scary and negative, was used by God to re-awaken the Church's mission to carry the news of Jesus, the *Good News*, to others.

Think about the times that the Church is living through right now:

- People choosing not to return to churches following the pandemic
- Churches regularly closing despite our religious freedom
- Major (and minor) church leaders being charged with abuses of power
- The Church confronted by our role in atrocities against indigenous people.

Right now, the Church is being reminded of our weakness and fragility. The Church is also being reminded of the horrific results when we abuse the power with which we have been entrusted. And the Church is invited to recapture our God-given purpose.

As we move through November and toward the season of Advent, we see God at work amid upheaval and we celebrate the surprising work that God continues to do. So, the choice is ours: not whether or not to participate in the rummage sale, but whether to be unwilling participants OR to willingly be part of what God is doing.

Phil

¹ Tickle, P. (2008). *The Great Emergence: How Christianity is Changing and Why*. Baker Books.