



THE PLAIN FACTS
a monthly newsletter of

**FIRST YARMOUTH
PLAINS BAPTIST CHURCH**

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MARCH 2023

A brand new year has started already
What will Mother Nature bring?
One thing I know for sure is that
I am very patiently waiting for spring.

The rain comes down for days and days
The snow in the mountains fall
The snow is beautiful, however
So I don't resent the weather at all.

But, Sweet fragrances around the corner
From lovely flowers seem like a dream.
A gentle warm rain will melt the snow
Oh yes, I am waiting for spring!
Marilyn Lott





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
 Jill & Gerry Coull
 Cherie Doyon
 Sharon Axford
 Tiffany & family
 Aleta Behie
 Pat Martyn
 Shirley Dale
 Riley Stanfield
 Kathy Alonso
 Brittany

Karl Crocker
 Carl Sanders
 Shirley Griffin
 Linda Hepburn
 Randy Greer
 Lori-Ann
 Sheila Greenslade
 Toots Gillard
 Myrna Myers
 Christine Mizon
 Diane O'Brien

Denny O'Brien
 Mary Lou Pearson
 Rev. Mike Nicholson
 Don Sawyer
 The family of Theresa Coates
 The family of Penny Gibbons
 Plains Search Committee
 CBOQ Search Committee for Executive Minister
 Mississauga Chinese Baptist Church
 People of Turkey & Syria
 People of Ukraine
 People of Russia

Jean Lammiman
 Maggie Shipley
 Gerry House

 The homeless
 Women of Iran

Sunday Scripture Readings

March 05

Mark 1:35-39

March 12

Mark 2:18-22

April 02

Mark 11: 1-11



We should pray to have:

eyes that see the best in people,
 a heart that forgives the worst,
 a mind that forgets the bad,
 a soul that never loses faith in God.

Submitted by Jo-Anne Pettit



FAMILY CAMP OUT 2023

at Springwater

The dates are

June 23, 24, 25, 2023

An increase in fees should be expected



It's allergy season again?! You've got to be pollen my leg.
 Can February March? No, but April May!

EVENTS FOR MARCH 2023

Feb 27	Mon	9:30-3:00	Plains "Knotty quilters" quilting in Oak Hall.
Mar 03	Fri	1:30 P.M.	World Day of Prayer - at Plains Church - Everyone welcome.
Mar 05	Sun	10:00 A.M.	Sunday Service - Communion Sunday-Interim Pastor Rev. Philip Butler
Mar 08	Wed	8:30 A.M.	After 8's Ladies Breakfast - Sunset Cafe
Mar 12	Sun	10:00 A.M.	Sunday Service - Interim Pastor Rev. Philip Butler Daylight Saving Time begins
Mar 12 - 17			Spring Break
Mar 14	Tue	1:30 P.M.	Ladies Aid Meeting - All welcome
		2:00 P.M.	Guest speaker - Dr. John Hofhuis, for Elgin/St. Thomas Hospice Everyone welcome
Mar 19	Sun	10:00 A.M.	Sunday Service
Mar 26	Sun	10:00 A.M.	Sunday Service
Apr 02	Sun	10:00 A.M.	Sunday Service - Communion Sunday-Interim Pastor Rev. Philip Butler Palm Sunday
Apr 07	Fri	10:00 A.M.	Good Friday Service
April 12	Sun	7:00 A.M.	Easter Sunrise Service - Followed by a Light breakfast in Oak Hall
		10:00 A.M.	Easter Sunday Service - Interim Pastor Rev. Philip Butler

NOTE:

Rev. Phil Butler will be taking some time off from Friday, March 17 to Monday, March 27 (inclusive). During this time the Deacons will be monitoring phone messages at the church and they can be contacted directly in the event of a death or a pastoral emergency. The Deacons are:

Michael Sargeant (chair)	519-769-2670	Pat Kennedy	(secretary) 519-860-5095
John Gibbons	519-207-2651	Carolyn Plaunt	519-631-2213

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

6 th Shirley Griffin	21 st Dave Higgs
7 th Jenny Lee Graham	23 rd Pat Walker
7 th Hazel Brekelmans	25 th Jason Carnegie
8 th Mark Higgs	29 th Jill Coull
9 th Alexander Chen Martyn	29 th Marilyn Pettit
10 th Kathy Sawyer	29 th Sharon Wilson
16 th Spencer Noble	29 th Leena Sibley
17 th Kaitlyn McCarthy	30 th Jonathan Higgs
17 th Jo-Anne Pettit	30 th RaeLynn Ralf
18 th Jackson Wilcox	31 st Elsie Walker (88)
18 th Edith Norton(88)	31 st Paul O'Drowsky

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

10 th Jim & Marilyn Cartwright
28 th Jack & Linda Cummings



What did the tree say to spring? What a re-leaf.

Highlights of the Annual Congregational Meeting on February 12, 2023

Clerk Mary Crosby called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

The Devotional was presented by Interim Pastor Rev. Phil Butler.

Dan Dale was nominated to the task of Chairperson.

The proposed agenda was approved, with minor adjustments:

- addition of a discussion regarding the Territorial Acknowledgment for Plains Church
- addition of a report from the Pastoral Search Committee

The minutes of the meeting of October 23, 2022 were approved.

John Doner circulated a quote for the purchase of a computerized information sign for the front lawn, including the removal of the current sign. The price quoted, plus tax, plus installation and new wiring was determined to be in the neighbourhood of \$25,000.00. It was agreed unanimously that the Trustees should move ahead with this project.

It was also agreed that the funding for this project be taken from the \$65,000 gift from Centre Street Baptist Church and that a plaque acknowledging this financial support be erected upon completion.

A further brief discussion determined that the remaining amount of this gift remain invested in a high interest savings account and that interest earned be applied to other small projects as they occur.

A report from Linda Willand concerning the Territorial Acknowledgment wording concluded that little progress had been made since the last meeting. Malcolm Rust has agreed to provide further assistance with the hope that a final wording may be presented and approved at the next meeting.

Guidance was also requested as to when, where and how this Territorial Acknowledgment would be used.

A plaque on the outside of the church was suggested as well.

The printed 2022 committee reports were approved.

The 2023 Operating Expense Budget was approved.

Trustee Tom Lammiman was officially removed as Trustee, following ten years of service. Tom thanked his fellow Trustees over the years, remarking that they had gotten a lot done during that time.

Dan Dale presented a report from the Pastoral Search Committee stating that they have, to date, been unsuccessful in obtaining a suitable candidate. Their advertising has been extensive, but many respondents have been from out of the country. It was suggested that the ad be included on the home page of the Plains Church web site.

Appreciation was expressed to Rev. Phil Butler for his interim ministry.

The date of the next meeting will be April 30, 2023

Linda Willand closed the meeting with prayer.



Tuesday, February 21, 2023 Plains Church held a Pancake Supper for the Community in recognition of Shrove Tuesday.

Thank you to the congregation for your donations to the costs. Because of your generosity, all costs had been covered before we served the first “flapjack.”

Thank you to the Community who supported us. Donations dropped into the basket at the door amounted to more than \$300.00 for the Elgin/St. Thomas Hospice Fund, (in addition to paying for their suppers).

A very big **Thank You** to everyone who helped with the planning, setting up, cooking sausages, mixing, flipping pancakes, serving, pouring, clearing, washing, scrubbing, cleaning up and putting away afterward and all of the many little jobs in between which got done with quiet efficiency, while also having fun.



Ross Woodhouse, Charlie Rewbotham, Kim Graham, Dan Dale...Dishwashers (and one pancake flipper) waiting for the action to begin.



The crowd was steady and no one left hungry!



Donna Limon—Every team needs a coach!

Pancake server Emma Wilcox and sausage server Sherry Graham are joined by sausage cooker Marion Lammiman at the buffet table.

Thanks to all! A cheque for \$1,500.00 will be forwarded to the Elgin/St. Thomas Hospice Fund.



FIRST YARMOUTH (PLAINS) BAPTIST CHURCH
Financial Statement as of 28 of February, 2023

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Missions</u>	<u>Communion Fund</u>	<u>Sunday School</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Income	16,364.73	1,313.34	789.00	0.00	18,467.07
Expenses	<u>11,667.66</u>	<u>1,313.34</u>	<u>440.47</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>13,421.47</u>
Net Gain(Loss)	4,697.07	0.00	348.53	0.00	5,045.60
Balance end of 2022	<u>68,368.82</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>751.87</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>69,120.69</u>
Balance as at 01/31/23	<u>73,065.89</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,100.40</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>74,166.29</u>

1. The General Fund shows a net gain as of 28th of February, 2023 of \$4,697.07.
 There have been no invoices for snow plowing and salting to date.
2. Missions income as at the 28th of February, 2023 totalled \$1,313.34. That amount has been forwarded to CBOQ and CBM. This amount is made up as follows: CBOQ - General Budget - \$175.00; CBOQ Youth - \$450.00; CBM General Budget - \$160.34, Sharing Way - \$38.00, CBM Ukraine - \$10.00 & CBM Turkey Earthquake \$480.00.
3. The Communion fund had a net gain as of 28th of February, 2023 of \$348.53. There was a balance in the Communion fund from 2022, leaving us a balance of \$1,100.40 in that fund.
4. Just a note that the Pancake Supper raised \$1,500 for Hospice of Elgin St.Thomas.
 Once again, I would like to personally thank the wonderful people of Plains who continue to make their donations via the offering plate at the church, mailing or delivering them to my home office, using PAR (preauthorized remittance through their bank), or by etransfer.

Respectfully submitted,
 Shirley E. Dale
 Treasurer



A Friend

A friend is a person you might meet one day,
 When you're least expecting, as you travel your way.
 A friend will be loyal, and always be true.
 This person, this friend, will be there for you.

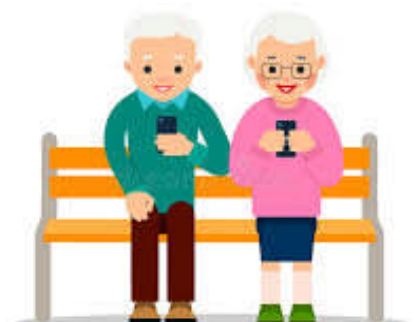


In times when you're troubled, all hope seems to die,
 But a friend is the one you'll find standing by.
 They'll give you a boost when you stumble and fall.
 They'll compliment you and make you feel tall.

When you're in troubled waters and cannot reach land,
 A friend on the beach will reach for your hand.
 A person you'll count on right through to the end.
 These things are all done by a person—a friend.

God bless these good buddies, great friends we shall be.
 We'll be good friends to them, as they are—to we.
 God grant them good lifetime, down life's roadway they'll wend.
 How fortunate – we are all blessed with a friend.

Author unknown



As I write this, I am looking out my window at trees and bushes in our backyard that are glazed over with ice. I can also see our sidewalk is covered in a thick layer of ice. It amazes me that something so beautiful to look at (ice coating everything) can be so dangerous. It reminds me of the description of Aslan the lion, the Christ-figure, in C.S. Lewis's *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*. When asked if Aslan is "safe" to meet, one character says: "Safe?...Who said anything about safe? 'Course he isn't safe. But he is good. He's the King, I tell you."

Danger, beauty and goodness can dwell together, but we have to know how to stand before it. You don't go running out your front door after an ice storm unless you want a concussion or a broken bone! Speed and ice are a bad combination unless you're wearing skates! In order to truly appreciate the goodness and beauty of the ice, you first have to treat it with proper respect. You could even say that you must have a healthy dose of fear. Fear of slipping makes us cautious and respectful, then we have the proper footing with which to enjoy the scene.

We have now entered into the season of Lent, a season that asks us to have proper respect in order to truly understand and appreciate the goodness of God. Lent is a season designed to remind us to confess our sins and to be humble before God as well as being compassionate toward those in need. The challenge these days is that our culture tends strongly toward the casual, the familiar...even the flippant, with everyone and everything. There's almost an allergy to the notion of "the fear of God" because it sounds like God is angry and vindictive. That misses the point. God wants us to be ready and able to meet with him. Humility and confession prepare us to be in God's good presence.

The book of Revelation gives several "glimpses" into God's presence. He is described as being on a throne in the midst of a crystal sea (Revelation 4:6). I have usually imagined diamond crystals, but it's helpful for me to think of it as smooth ice crystals – a slippery surface that requires me to enter God's presence with care and respect, so that I can stand in awe of his glory! Just like speed and ice are a dangerous combination so are pride and unconfessed sin in God's presence.

Without a doubt God is GOOD, but that should not make us flippant about God or our sin. Our sin still needs to be confessed and turned from, our attitude needs to be one of humility because God deserves, not just our love, but our respect. Take time to this Lent to examine your heart and life, to confess your sin and to trust God's mercy as you step with care into his glorious and dazzling presence.

Phil