

2024

THE PLAIN FACTS
a monthly newsletter of

**FIRST YARMOUTH
PLAINS BAPTIST CHURCH**

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JANUARY 2024

HAPPY NEW YEAR
2024



EVENTS FOR JANUARY 2024

Jan 07 Sun 10:00 A.M. Sunday Service - Communion Sunday
Epiphany Sunday

Note: Please submit your 2023 Year End Reports to clerk Mary Crosby spartacrosby@hotmail.com by **Thursday, January 11, 2024**

Jan 14 Sun 10:00 A.M. Sunday Service

Jan 21 Sun 10:00 A.M. Sunday Service - St. Thomas/Elgin Food Bank Sunday

Jan 28 Sun 10:00 A.M. Sunday Service
3:00 P.m. Induction Service for Rev. Rob Spicer

Feb 04 Sun 10:00 A.M. Sunday Service - Communion Sunday

Feb 07 Wed 8:30 A.M. Ladies After 8's Breakfast at Sunset Café. All ladies welcome.

Feb 11 Sun 10:00 A.M. Sunday Service -
12:00 noon Annual Congregational Meeting - Bring a bag lunch

NOTE: There is no *Ladies After 8's Breakfast* in January

INDUCTION SERVICE

for Rev. Rob Spicer
Sunday, January 28, 2024 at 3:00 P.M.
Guest Speaker: Rev. Phil Butler
Followed by a meal in Oak Hall



2024 ST. THOMAS/ELGIN FOOD BANK SUNDAYS (Caring Cupboard Sundays)

Please mark these dates on your calendar:

January 21

May 5

September 15

November 10

What happened to the man who shoplifted a calendar on new years eve?
He got 12 months.

On Tuesday, December 12, following an abundant pot luck lunch in Oak Hall, Ladies Aid members, friends, family and guests were treated to an hour of delightful musical entertainment by the “No Worries” Ukelele Band. Following their performance Pat Kennedy, on behalf of the group, was presented with a cheque from the Ladies Aid for \$250.00 to Elgin St. Thomas Community Foundation- Anita May Music & Mental Health Fund. This fund has been set up by the family of Anita May who passed away in September following a difficult struggle with bi-polar. Anita's husband Brian is the instructor of the “No Worries” Band.



Nancy Millman, President of Ladies Aid. Band Members Janet Sale, Pat Kennedy, Madeline Carter. Guests Shane McNulty (Drummer), Julie McNulty Soloist. Band Member Wendy Lesard, pianist/vocal/ukelele.



On Sunday morning December 17, Margie Bell presented appreciation gifts to some of the important people who contribute to our church activities, on behalf of the congregation.

Organist Sherry Graham, Pastor Rob Spicer, Pianist and Choir Director Amy Dale, Treasurer Shirley Dale and presenter Margie Bell.

A very big THANK YOU from all of us!

Christmas Eve Service, December 24, 2023 in pictures.



Heather Limon on the trumpet joined Sherry Graham on the organ and Amy Dale on the piano for the singing of the hymns.

The Advent Candles were lit by John Doner and John Gibbons.



Brenda Silcox, Phyllis Huffman, Melissa Spicer, Margie Bell, Amy Dale singing “O Holy Night” a capella.



Dan Dale singing, “Let There Be Peace On Earth” accompanied by Amy Dale.



The Choir under the direction of Amy Dale



Pastor Rob Spicer

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Welcome to 2024, another year has dawned. What does God have in store for us this year I wonder? More challenges and more blessings are my guess.

Every year at this time we often hear of people making “resolutions” to change or improve their lives. Whether it’s losing weight, reading more, eating healthier, travelling, people are eager to make changes so that they can feel better or more fulfilled.

I’ve never really been a “new-years-resolution” guy, maybe I know myself too well so that I know that I wouldn’t be able to make it stick. I do believe in making changes to improve myself and my life but I realize that it is going to take more than a simple statement on New Year’s Eve to get that done.

I am looking forward to 2024 and the many changes still to come in to mine and my family’s lives. I am looking forward to moving (it’s going to happen). I am looking forward to starting new ministries at Plains. Mostly, I am looking forward to developing the friendships and relationships with you, my Plains family.

Typically, the New Year in the church begins with Epiphany and Jesus’ baptism, revealing through scripture who Jesus is as our prophet, priest, king and messiah. It then moves in to Jesus’ call to disciples and his ministry giving us the examples of how we are to follow him and help bring about the Kingdom of God in our midst – in our time.



Sometimes January can be a bit depressing; with the Christmas bills and just the letdown after all the excitement of the holiday season. The days are short, though getting longer now, and often dreary with little sunshine or warmth. It’s easy to understand how our moods might be sort of bleak too. Our challenge – our inspiration is to hold on to the light that we celebrated at Christmas. To see the sun behind the clouds. Our calling is to lift each other up and support those who are floundering. Then, when it’s our turn, to rely in them to support us.

We truly don’t know what God has planned for this year, this week or even tomorrow. But we do know he works in all situations to bring us closer to him. So, with Aaron, I pray these words over you for 2024.

“May the Lord bless you and protect you;

May the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you;

May the Lord look with favor on you and give you peace.”

Pastor Rob Spicer