



Photo by Betty Rewbotham

On Palm Sunday, March 24 the Sunday School children paraded around the church sanctuary waving palm branches during the singing of the hymn 'Hosanna'.

THE PLAIN FACTS
a monthly newsletter of

**FIRST YARMOUTH
PLAINS BAPTIST CHURCH**

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APRIL 2024



PLAINS CHURCH SPRING CHICKEN BBQ

Wednesday, April 17, 2024

4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Advance Ticket Sales ONLY

NO tickets sold at the door

OVER 12 YEARS AND ADULTS - \$20.00

CHILDREN (6 years - 12 years) \$8.00
(under 6 years) free

PHONE 519-775-2526 519-631-4069
for tickets

MENU

Quarter chicken, Baked beans, Baked Potatoes, Rolls, Cole Slaw, Cake, Juice, Tea & Coffee

Cash donations toward purchase of chicken and condiments are welcome. Please see Nancy Millman

Proceeds to Pearce Williams Christian Centre, Fingal

EVENTS FOR APRIL 2024

April 3 Wed 8:30 A.M. Ladies After 8's at Sunset Café. All Ladies welcome

April 7 Sun 10:00 A.M. Sunday Service - Communion Sunday

April 8 Mon 2:00-5:00 P.M. Solar Eclipse

April 10 Tues 1:30 P.M. Ladies Aid Meeting - Lorraine Plaunt will be teaching and assisting us with the making of a crafty spring decoration for our homes. Guests welcome

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

12:00 noon Congregational Meeting - Bring a bag lunch

Those presenting reports, please be prepared to give a copy to Mary Crosby

Ap 17 Wed 4:30-6:30 Spring Chicken Barbeque - Oak Hall

April 21 Sun 10:00 A.M. Sunday Service

April 28 Sun 10:00 A.M. Sunday Service - Guest Speaker - Joe Richards from Pearce Williams Christian Center

May 05 Sun 10:00 A.M. Sunday Service - Guest Speaker - Rev. Stephen Jones, retired
Communion Sunday - **Food bank Sunday**

NOTE: Rev. Spicer will be away from April 22 to May 12. During this time the Deacons—Dan Dale, John Gibbons, Carolyn Plaunt or Brenda Silcox -- may be contacted regarding church concerns.

NOTE: PLAINS CHURCH SPRING BAZAAR AND OUTDOOR PLANT SALE

Saturday, May 25, 2024 9:30 - 11:30 A.M. Details to follow

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

7 th Ryan Ruddock	18 th Diane O'Brien
8 th Brian Plaunt	19 th Lillian Hartford
9 th Tiffany Graham	20 th Donna Limon
11 th Jean Palmer (94)	26 th Hunter Cosentino
11 th Larry Seabrook (80)	26 th Evan Jackson
11 th Mary Smoke	26 th Troy Dale
13 th Madge Barrett	28 th Pauline Duffy (92)
13 th Malcolm Rust	30 th Michael Johnson
18 th Jack Cummings (89)	

ANNIVERSARIES

23rd Malcolm & Donna Rust

**Solar Eclipse Impact:**

Nature responds to the eclipse. depending on your location.

For example:

Shadows may look different , any breeze may dissipate, birds may stop chirping .

During a total solar eclipse, some animals may tend to act confused or prepare for sleep.

A 10°–15° F drop in temperature is not unusual .

After a total solar eclipse, it takes about an hour before total day light is restored

Ladies Aid Meeting, March 12, 2024

The guest speaker was Jillian Johnson from the London Team of 'Days For Girls', an organization which makes and delivers menstruation kits for girls in poor countries. Jillian stated that she has helped to deliver these kits in Kenya, Haiti, Guyana, as well as other countries. Days for Girls International has reached more than 3 million girls in 26 different countries. The London branch alone has prepared and delivered almost 5800 kits. It costs approximately \$20.00 to make one kit. In many ways, Canada suffers from "period poverty" especially in the indigenous and homeless population. Jillian stated that it is good to see that feminine hygiene products are gradually being made available in schools, libraries and workplaces.

Jillian was presented a cheque for \$250.00 for Days For Girls. Thanks to the generosity of our church family and meeting guests, we were able to donate a large assortment of feminine hygiene products to the St. Thomas-Elgin Food Bank. Thank you for your support.

Eight guests from Aylmer Baptist Church, New Sarum Baptist Church and Union United Church joined us for the meeting and enjoyed the refreshments served afterward.

Solar Eclipse Information:

When the Sun is blocked by the Moon, onlookers experience darkness in the day and a drop in temperature of about 10°F to 15°F. Also visible on the ground just before and after totality will be shadow bands, thin moving wavy lines moving and undulating in parallel, according to NASA. They're a consequence of turbulence in Earth's atmosphere.

What to expect:

This largely depends on where you are located, however you can still expect to observe the following: Light quality – as more of the Sun gets eclipsed, you'll notice daylight starting to fade and shadows will become sharper.

Temperature change – while the Sun is hidden by the Moon, temperatures will fall by about 5 degrees Celsius depending on weather conditions at your viewing site.

Animal behaviour – you may notice changes in normal behaviours; are the birds singing?

Onlookers will get cold and see 'shadow bands'



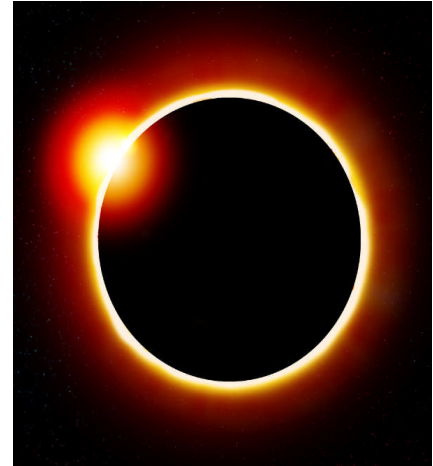
Photo by Margie Bell

Jillian Johnston, Carolyn Plaunt, Louise Sargeant and Nancy Millman

Celestial Spectacle: Witness the 2024 Total Solar Eclipse

Astronomers and sky gazers are bracing for the astronomic event of a lifetime.

Elgin County invites residents and visitors alike to witness the breathtaking total solar eclipse on **Monday 8 April 2024**—a rare celestial event where the Moon passes between the Earth and the Sun, creating a captivating spectacle. This will be the first total solar eclipse in Ontario since 1979, and the next one is not anticipated until 2099, making this event truly extraordinary. People usually have to travel to the other side of the planet if they want to see a total solar eclipse, but this year you will have a chance to see it right here in Elgin County. Total solar eclipses are only visible within a narrow path. In order to witness the full eclipse, you must be located in this path of totality. Elgin county lies directly in this path, making it a prime viewing location.



To ensure a safe viewing experience, it is crucial to use approved solar glasses and filters for cameras and telescopes.

You should never look directly at the Sun. Without protective eyewear the Sun's radiation can be incredibly damaging. Remember, the weather and in particular the clouds, may define the quality of your experience. Don't miss this once-in-a-lifetime display of nature's wonders. In Port Stanley the times will be -

- 2.01 Partial Eclipse will begin
- 3.16 Full Eclipse begins
- 3.18 Full Eclipse ends
- 4.29 Partial Eclipse ends

Summary prepared by Malcolm Rust. Publication with permission from Carolyn Krahn,
Manager of Economic Development and Strategic Initiatives

For more information visit:

<https://www.elgincounty.ca/2024-total-solar-eclipse/>.

PLAINS CHURCH CAMPING AT SPRINGWATER 2024

Springwater Conservation Area South Pavilion, "Day Use Area"
Friday, June 21st to Sunday, June 23rd, at noon

ALL FEES PAID TO SPRINGWATER BY CASH, DEBIT OR CREDIT CARD

CAMPING COSTS:

GROUP CAMPING AREA \$16.00 per adult per night,
\$9.00 per Child (17 and under),
\$52.00 Unserviced Site
\$5.00 per night for hydro, if available
Extra Vehicle \$16 per night



REQUIREMENT: (Require minimum of 20 campers per night so it is important to advise Sherry if you plan to camp, so I know we have the minimum required.)

DAY USE: \$10 per vehicle per day, no matter the number of people

NEW - The Day Use Area will have a gated entrance using a bar code for entering the area.

Cash donations will be accepted for the purchase of wood, food and the use of the pavilion. See Sherry Graham.

Come for all or for part of the weekend!



Friday night - hot dogs, marshmallows, 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].

Inviting you to share my admiration for Sherry Graham for her chairmanship of the Music Festival again this year. Clearly, she has risen to the challenges of successful leadership in this significant community organization and excelled. A diverse and multi-talented team has carried the event forward and she has successfully transitioned it from the days of the Rotary Festival to a renewed festival which makes the community proud. Congratulations!



Malcolm Rust

FIRST YARMOUTH BAPTIST CHURCH
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
as of 31st of March, 2024

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Missions</u>	<u>Communion Fund</u>	<u>Sunday School</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Income	22,859.94	1,298.01	865.00	0.00	25,022.95
Expenses	<u>25,927.48</u>	<u>1,298.01</u>	<u>1,170.21</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>28,395.70</u>
Net Gain(Loss)	(-3,067.54)	0.00	(-305.21)	0.00	(-3,372.75)
Balance end of 2023	<u>82,406.00</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,412.33</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>83,818.33</u>
Balance as at 2024-03-31	<u>79,338.46</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,107.12</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>80,445.58</u>

1. The General Fund shows a net loss as of the 31st of March, 2024 of (-3,067.54.) The church was closed on Sunday, February 4, 2024 due to illness in the congregation, and could be part of the reason for the net loss.
2. Missions income as at the 31st of March, 2024 totalled \$1,298.01. That amount has been forwarded to CBOQ and CBM. This amount is made up as follows: CBOQ - General Budget - \$290.00; CBOQ Youth - \$600.00; CBM General Budget - \$352.01; and CBM Sharing Way - \$56.00. The Easter Offering to date for CBOQ Missions totals \$65.00.
3. The Communion fund had a net loss of (-\$305.21.) Funds left over from previous years of \$1,412.33 helps to cover that deficit and leaves a balance of \$1,107.12 in the Communion Fund.
4. The Special Projects Fund has a balance of \$6656.13 for future projects. A total of \$1,850.63 in memory of Pat Martyn has been received, as well as \$25.00 in memory of Jim Rewbotham and \$25.00 in memory of Jean Lammiman.

Thank you to all the Plains Family who continue to help this church on the corner of the Oak Plains remain a thriving community of believers, spreading God's word to all.

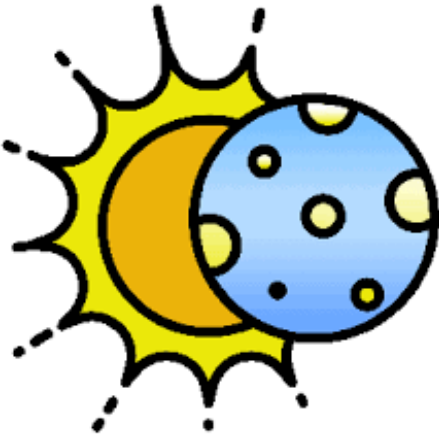
Shirley E. Dale
Treasurer

NOTE:

Special Easter Offering goes half to the General Fund and half to CBOQ, unless otherwise directed. It stands open until the Spring Business Meeting, April 14.



APRIL 8, 2024



The Sun and Moon are Earth's Friends
Who work hard until each day ends.
Today they have a special day.
To go out and have fun and play

Here on Earth, will it be a show?
Oh no, it's dark! Where did the sun go?
It is a fun game of hide and seek.
So close your eyes and do not peek!

Hey! The sun is hiding behind the Moon.
Please wait, it will be out again real soon.
The Moon will move out of the Sun's way...
That was a really cool Solar Eclipse today!

Let us begin this day by rejoicing!
Let us acknowledge our Lord's love and concern and
allow our bodies to break forth into happy
hilarity!
Let us give our nerves and muscles the healthy
exercise of laughter!
The Lord has done such wonderful things for us: let
us be glad!

He is Risen! Hallelujah!

March certainly ended on a high note, with Easter Resurrection Sunday on the very last day. What an amazing God we have and serve and what wonderful things he has done for us as Leslie F. Brandt's paraphrase of Psalm 126 states above. So, we begin April not with a prank or "foolish" joke but a note of praise.

To some the message of the cross and a resurrected saviour is a bit of an April fool's joke. Scripture tells us that the gospel seems like foolishness to those who follow the ways of the world. We know different. We serve a risen saviour, he's in the world today! I know that he is with me, whatever some may say. The psalmist encourages us to give ourselves a break for the hum-drum daily grind of life and "to break forth into happy hilarity!"

I love that. Let's not take ourselves too seriously all the time. We need some good belly laughter to loosen us up. A professor of mine from Acadia Divinity College, Byron Fenwick, said to us once that humour was a gift of the Holy Spirit. I totally agree. So let us begin our Spring season, with April showers and the sound of laughter and mirth because God is good all the time.

The psalm continues to speak of the uncertainty we face each day and that not everything will be filled with times of happiness. As followers of Jesus, we are called to rejoice with those who rejoice and weep with those who suffer. As we journey, we may be surprised by ecstasy and also pass through corridors of darkness but we do so as children of the living God because of Jesus death and resurrection. As we do this also go to touch the lives of others with God's healing love.

April is such a fun month. It starts with a day of practical jokes, at least for some. I remember many pranks at elementary school growing up. I have never been a great joker but I enjoy a good laugh. I am very aware though that sometime jokes can go too far and what may be funny to some is not to others, maybe that's why I tend to stay away from practical jokes (at least until I know someone really well). Other fun things start to happen in April too. Spring starts to get going as bulbs sprout and crocus, daffodils and tulips prepare and bloom. Birds start returning and building nests. Kids make mud pies in the puddles from April showers. Of course, this year, it all started early it seems. But it is good to get outside again after winters long dark days.

With this April we get the added bonus of the Solar eclipse to marvel (but not directly look) at. It all us thanks to our great creator, redeemer God.

Pastor Rob Spicer