



THE PLAIN FACTS
a monthly newsletter of

**FIRST YARMOUTH
PLAINS BAPTIST CHURCH**

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JANUARY 2026

WHAT GOD WILL BE THIS YEAR



My God is good and faithful –He proved it once again
Throughout the year behind us, in what He’s done and been.
My God is true and righteous –His Word has passed each
test
Through days now past to show us, that He is still the best.

My God is kind and loving –His gifts of grace have shown
A year of tender mercy, extended to His own.
My God still changes never –So what He was last year
He’ll be again to bless us, and show us that He’s near.

Christina Joy Hommes

EVENTS FOR JANUARY 2026

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

NOTE: Please send your year end reports to Clerk Mary Crosby, spartacrosby@hotmail.com, by Friday January 17, 2026 for the Annual Meeting.

Jan 07 Wed 8:30 A.M. After 8's Ladies Breakfast - Sunset Café

Jan 11 Sun 10:00 A.M. Sunday Service

Jan 18 Sun 10:00 A.M. Sunday Service - St. Thomas FOOD BANK SUNDAY

Jan 25 Sun 10:00 A.M. Sunday Service

Feb 01 Sun 10:00 A.M. Sunday Service - Communion Sunday

Feb 04 Wed 8:30 A.M. After 8's Breakfast - Sunset Café

Feb 07 Sat 7:00 P.M. Musical Jam Night - Come to entertain or to be entertained

Feb 08 Sun 10:00 A.M. Sunday Service -

12:00 Noon Annual Congregational - Bring a bag lunch

Feb 17 Tue 4:30-6:30P.M. Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Want a visit from Pastor Rob?

Give him a call at the office **519-633-2883**, or on his cell phone **519-873-0972**.

Or if you're passing by the church, stop in for a chat, Monday-Thursday 9a.m. to 4p.m.



2026 ST. THOMAS/ELGIN FOOD BANK SUNDAYS (Caring Cupboard Sundays)

Please mark these dates on your calendar:

January 18 May 17

September 20 November 15

NOTE: The third Sunday of designated months

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

8 th Justin Ralf	16 th Marion Lammiman (75)
10 th Gabrielle Noble	16 th Danielle Ralf
11 Melissa Spicer	17 th Martin Rust
11 th Noreena Satchell (100)	22 nd Mary Wilson
12 th Gracie MacPherson	24 th Andrew Johnson
13 th Briar Ruddock	27 th Linda Cummings
14 th Rebecca Rickwood	29 th Sherry Graham
16 th Amy Dale	



He was going to quit all his bad habits for the new year, but then he remembered that nobody likes a quitter.

Potluck lunch on December 9, 2025



Dishwashers Gary Higgs and Rob Spicer

Following the pot luck lunch on December 9, an appreciation gift was presented to Louise Sargeant for her 10 years of dedicated service as Secretary and Treasure of the Plains Ladies Aid.

Margie Bell, Nancy Millman, Louise Sargeant, Michael Sargeant and their daughter Melodie.

Photo by Betty Rewbotham



Following the potluck lunch, entertainment was provided by Brian May, local musician and entertainer. He brought with him some of the members of the 'No Worries' ukulele group from the Seniors Centre. Some of them included guest guitarist John Aerts, Pat Kennedy, Wendy Lessard and Pastor Rob's sister Phyllis.

On Sunday, December 21, 2025 gifts of appreciation were presented to deserving volunteers.



Margie Bell presents gifts to Rev. Rob Spicer, Amy Dale, Pianist and Choir Leader; Shirley Dale, Treasurer; and Sherry Graham, Organist



Sunday School Leader Leena Sibley and Assistant Olivia Spicer receive gifts from Sherry Graham, Sunday School Treasurer

On Sunday, December 21, 2025 the Sunday students, under the direction of Leena Sibley, and assisted by Olivia Spicer, presented a Christmas Program entitled, 'Charlie Brown's Christmas'.

All photos by Betty Rewbotham



Stepping Into the Light Together

A new year has a way of inviting both hope and honesty. We turn the calendar page with fresh intentions, but we also carry with us the joys and burdens of the year just past. As a church community, January is not simply about resolutions or new starts—it is about *reorientation*: remembering who we are, whose we are, and how we are called to live in the world God loves.



The season of Epiphany begins in early January, and its imagery is especially fitting for the start of a new year. Epiphany is about light—light that guides, reveals, and sometimes unsettles. The star that led the Magi did not point them toward comfort or certainty, but toward Christ, who would change their understanding of power, love, and faithfulness. In the same way, Epiphany invites us to ask not just *where are we going this year?* but *what kind of people are we becoming as we follow Jesus?*

As a congregation, we enter 2026 with gratitude for the ways God has already been at work among us. We have shared meals and prayers, laughter and lament. We have shown up for one another in quiet, faithful ways that may never make headlines but matter deeply in the life of the Spirit. Thank you for your generosity, your patience, and your willingness to keep walking together—even when the path is not always clear.

January is also a time to listen more closely. What is God stirring among us now? Where is the Spirit inviting us to deepen our compassion, widen our welcome, or practice peace more boldly? The work of faith is not about doing more for the sake of busyness, but about living more intentionally—rooted in love, attentive to justice, and open to transformation.

In the coming weeks, our worship and gatherings will reflect this Epiphany posture of attentiveness. We will explore stories of calling and revelation, moments when ordinary people discover that God is already present, already at work. My hope is that these stories will help us recognize God's

light not only in scripture or sanctuary, but in our neighborhoods, workplaces, and daily conversations.

As you begin this year, I encourage you to hold your plans lightly and your faith generously. Make space for prayer—not as another task to complete, but as a way of noticing. Reach out to someone you haven't seen in a while. Offer kindness where it may not be expected. And remember: you do not walk into this year alone. We are companions on the journey, guided by Christ's light and sustained by God's grace.

May January be a month of gentle beginnings for you—steady, hopeful, and grounded in love. I am grateful to be walking this road with you.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Rob