

THE PLAIN FACTS
a monthly newsletter of

FIRST YARMOUTH
PLAINS BAPTIST CHURCH

6071 Fairview Road, R. R. # 4
St. Thomas ON N5P 3S8
E-mail: pastor@plainschurch
Website: www.plainschurch.ca
Phone: 519-633-2883

Newsletter Staff
Distribution: Louise & Michael Sargeant
Editor: Nancy Millman
Web site: Martin Proulx
Contributors: Rev. Rob Spicer
Plains family
Betty Rewbotham

NOVEMBER 2026

THE COLOUR OF REMEMBRANCE by Kari Wang

If remembrance was a colour,
It would be red and white.
The colour of the Canadian flag.
If remembrance was a sound,
It would be people's heartbeats,
The worried heartbeats of the soldiers
and the families that are waiting
for them to come home.
If remembrance was a smell,
It would be a comforting smell from home.
The cozy place that was always
welcoming to you.
If remembrance was a feeling,
It would be hopeful.
The hope of warm hugs and good friends
when you return.

If remembrance was a taste,
It would be bitter,
The bitterness of coffee without cream,
Like a family that has been split apart.
If remembrance was a place,
It would be a cenotaph.
Where names of long-ago heroes are written
on the stone for people to remember.
If remembrance has a purpose,
It is to recognize and remember all
the people that have participated in wars.
So that we could have peace and freedom.





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.

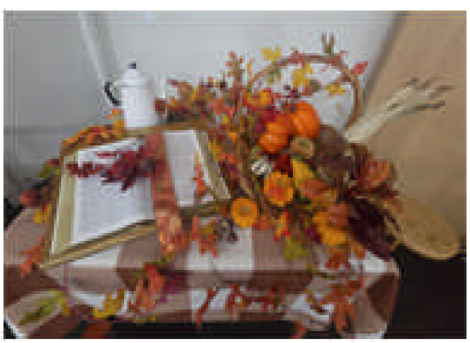
Prayer Concerns

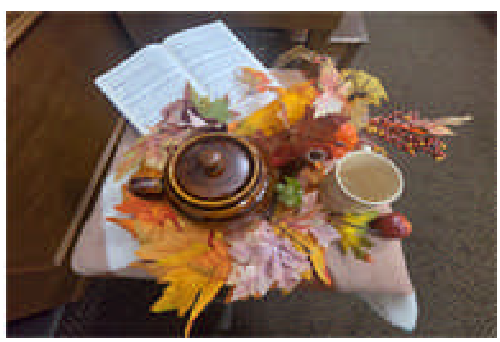
Karl Crocker	Mary Lou Pearson	Marilyn Bristol	Wild fire firefighters
Jill & Gerry Coull	Zoey Chen	Mellody Fraser	The homeless
Cherie Doyon	Shirley Griffin	Evelyn Wright	CBOQ Churches
Floyd & Sharon Axford	Bev Graves	Morley Reid	Victims of world conflict and injustice
Randy Greer	Dave Hepburn	Mabel Somerville	Victims of flash floods
Vera Martin	Don & Theresa Toth	Ellen Brekelmans	
Eric Jennings	Family of Patricia Martyn		

~*

In Sympathy

The Plains family extends sincere sympathy to the family of Patricia May Martyn (née Johnson) who passed away October 6, 2026 . Patricia was the wife of Harold Martyn for over 66 years. She was a loving mother to Linda Westaway (Greg), Ann Howard (Scott), Paul Martyn, and Karen Vecchio (Mike), a grandmother and great grandmother. She is survived by her brothers and sisters-in-law John and Sally Martyn, George Martyn, and Marjory Watson. She was predeceased by her brother Donald Johnson and her sister Dorothy Winkworth, as well as her brothers- and sisters-in-law Dolores Johnson, Earl Winkworth, Rod and Margaret Ferguson, Pat Martyn, and Mac Watson. She will be greatly missed.

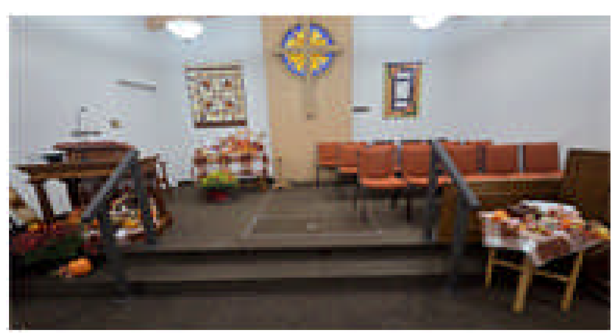






Photos by Betty Rewbotham

THANK YOU so much to the church decorators Donna Limon and Donna Crocker for decorating the sanactuary and the tables in Oak Hall for Thanksgiving.



EVENTS FOR NOVEMBER 2026

Nov 01	**Sun 10:00 A.M.**	**Sunday Service -** Communion Sunday Daylight Saving Times ends
Nov 04	**Wed 8:30 A.M.**	**Ladies After 8's Breakfast** - **NOTE: Sunset Café** - **Back to Sunset Drive**
	1:00 P.M.	**Ladies Prayer Group -** in Oak Hall
Nov 08	**Sun 10:00 A.M.**	**Sunday Service**
Nov 11	**Wed 1:00 P.M.**	**Ladies Prayer Group -** in Oak Hall **Remembrance Day**
Nov 15	**Sun 10:00 A.M.**	**Sunday Service -** Food Bank Sunday
Nov 18	**Wed 1:00 P.M.**	**Ladies Prayer Group -** in Oak Hall
Nov 20	**Fri 9:30 A.M.**	Setting up in Oak Hall for the Bazaar
Nov 21	**Sat 9:00-11:30 A.M.**	**PLAINS CHURCH CHRISTMAS BAZAAR** in Oak Hall
Nov 22	**Sun 10:00 A.M.**	**Sunday Service**
Nov 25	**Wed 1:00 P.M.**	**Ladies Prayer Group -** in Oak Hall
Nov 29	**Sun 10:00 A.M.**	**Sunday Service** - **Advent 1 -** Finance Committee Soup and Sandwich Lunch - Proceeds to Christmas Care
Dec 06	**Sun 10:00 A.M.**	**Sunday Service -** Communion Sunday - Communion Offering goes for students and retired CBOQ Pastors. White Gift Sunday
Dec 16	**Wed 12:00 noon**	**Congregation Christmas Pot Luck Lunch**-followed by entertainment by musical duo **SILVER LINING**-*see page 8*

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.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1st	Hailey Noble
6th	Carolyn Plaunt (65)
6th	Margaret Bell (70)
7th	Faith Seabrook
9th	Matthew McCarthy
9th	Evan Plaunt
15th	Betty Lidster (80)
16th	Eric Plaunt
17th	Tim Barrett
17th	Leilah Sibley
18th	Emma Greenslade
18th	George Lidster
20th	Carter Ruddock
22nd	Carol Maes
23rd	Mary Lou Pearson
24rd	Mary Margaret Spicer
24th	Pat Carroll
25th	Nicholas Dale
27th	Cameron Dale
27th	Liam Bradley
29th	Floyd Axford

ANNIVERSARIES

4th Morley & Sharron Reid (65)



If you wish to add or remove a name and date from this list, please let me know. The Deacons are updating this list. Thank You. Mary Crosby spartacrosby@hotmail.com 519-775-2754



Photo by Betty Rewbotham

On Sunday October 4 Vicki Houghton was welcomed as a member of the Plains Congregation, by transfer of membership from Centre Street Baptist Church.



Photo by Betty Rewbotham

Nora Sanders was the guest speaker for the 196th Anniversary Service on Sunday October 18. Refreshments were served in Oak Hall

Christmas Bazaar

Saturday, November 21, 2026
9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Refreshments served in Oak Hall
Books, Puzzles, Home Baking, hand made crafts, 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 Carolyn Plaunt or Jo-Anne Pettit

BAZAAR DONATIONS:
Donations of baked goods, books and puzzles 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 donations be brought to the church on the morning of **Friday, November 20 at 9:30** when set-up takes place.

Oneida History – celebrated 2026 October 10 in Port Stanley
Remembering, honoring and acknowledging the Oneida1500

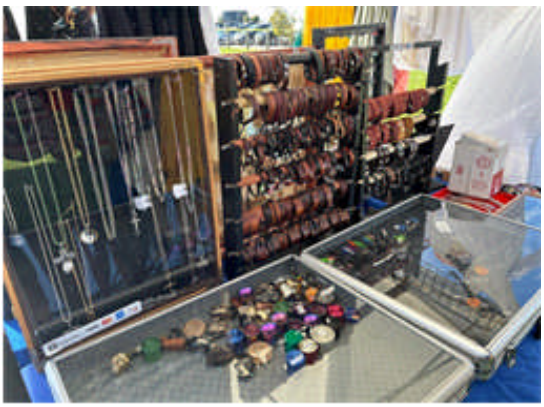


Their ancestors were called the Oneida "People of the Standing Stone" by the Dutch and British.
1800 The American government started to force the Indian people in Georgia and Florida off their land so there would be land for white people who were arriving
1830 Indian Removal Act was signed into law by President Jackson, forcing Indian people off their land. When they refused the US Army either put them in jail or killed them. (This was the year that First Yarmouth Plains Baptist Church was established on the oak plains of South Yarmouth Township.)
1839 A delegation of Oneida men found a tract of land in Delaware Township consisting of 5,400 acres at $3 and acre. They arranged to leave their homeland in what is known as NY State.
1840 The first party of 200 Oneida boarded canal boats to Buffalo and then a steamer across Lake Erie to Port Stanley. They then made their way by foot on the trail from Kettle Creek to the Delaware village in what is known today as Muncey.
1840 October 9. They stopped on the trail along the banks of the Thames River across from Muncey and spent the night, awaking to snow!
1940 October 10. The first of several parties arrived in Delaware Township. Others followed them until there were a total of 366 Oneida women, men and children.
They cleared land, cut trees to make shelters, tools & firewood. They fished, hunted and cooked their food. By 1851, the population was 464 living in 77 houses with over 800 acres cleared with crops planted or under pasture.









Submitted and photos by Malcolm Rust

FIRST YARMOUTH BAPTIST CHURCH
FINANCIAL STATEMENT REVISED
as at 31st of October, 2026

	General Fund	Missions	Communion Fund	Sunday School	Totals
Income	92,527.49	2,666.20	3,291.10	239.55	98,724.34
Expenses	93,941.87	2,666.20	2,930.91	199.55	99,738.53
Net Gain(Loss)	(-1,414.38)	0.00	360.19	40.00	(-1,014.19)
From Previous Years	88,217.80		3419.56		91,637.36
Totals	86,803.42	0.00	3779.75	40.00	90,623.17

1. **The General Fund shows a net loss as of the 31st of October, 2026 of (-$1,414.38.)**
   The Finance Committee, at its July 2026 meeting, unanimously approved moving $5,000 from Reserve Investments with iA Private Wealth to General Fund Income, due to the deficit position of the General Fund at the end of the second quarter.
   Grass cutting has been paid up the end of June, 2026.
2. **Missions income up to October 31st, 2026 totaled $2,666.20 . That amount has been forwarded to CBOQ & CBM.**
   Missions amount is made up as follows: CBOQ General Budget $1,572.50; CBM $767.70;
   Sharing Way, undesignated - $186.00, and Sharing Way, Venezuala - $140.00.
3. **The Communion fund had a gain of $360.19 as of the 31st of October, 2026. There are Communion funds left over from 2025 and previous years totaling $3,419.56, leaving a balance in the Communion Fund of $3,779.75.**
4. **The Sunday school received donations of $239.55 to date. The balance of $40.00 will be paid to the Treasurer of the Sunday School, Sherry Graham, at the end of the fourth quarter.**
5. **A balance of $1,833.79 remains in the Special Projects Fund from previous years. Donations in Memory of Noreena Satchell total $216.25 and in Memory of Toots Gillard $45.00, as well as a $50 donation in June leaves a a balance in the Special Projects Fund of $2,145.04.**
6. **Money was donated at the Musical Jam Nights, and from that $250, has been donated to Red Cross Wildfire Relief.**
7. **Replacement sections for the Cemetery fence had to be ordered and paid for, and that income and expense is shown in Special Projects in the amount of $ 3,271.35. The fence was originally paid for by the Plains Cemetery.**
   This was put through the church books to recoup the HST rebate on the fence.
   We await the HST rebate, which will be applied for at the end of December, 2026.

Respectfully Submitted,
Shirley E. Dale, Treasurer

FROM THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Christmas Bazaar Saturday November 21, 2026 9:00-11:30 A.M.



Bake Table - This will be featured as the prime focus of this bazaar.
If you are planning on making contributions of baking, note that freezable items such as loaves, cookies, muffins, etc. may be stored in the freezer in the church kitchen if you do not have such an option at home.
Items for the bake table should be well packaged, sealed, clearly identified and priced.

Books and Puzzles - These will be the secondary focus of this bazaar.
Hand made crafts - These will be fazed out as there is very little interest, and fewer hand crafters.
Attic Treasurers, etc - These items will no longer be welcomed.
Used clothing, children and/or Adult - These items will no longer be welcomed.
Any suggestions on how to diversify, enhance and/or reinvent our bazaar(s)
please see Jo-Anne Pettit and/or Carolyn Plaunt

Finding Light in the Gathering Darkness



November is a month of changing skies and quieter landscapes. The brilliant colours of autumn begin to fade, the days grow shorter, and we find ourselves drawing closer to home. There is a certain stillness to this time of year—a reminder that life moves in seasons, and that not every season is meant for growth and activity. Some seasons invite us simply to pause, reflect, and trust.

As we move through November, the church calendar also begins to turn toward the close of another year. We remember the saints who have gone before us, celebrate Christ as King, and prepare our hearts for the coming season of Advent. Even as the world around us begins to turn its attention toward Christmas, the church invites us to slow down and consider the deeper story unfolding beneath the familiar traditions.

November also brings us to Remembrance Day on November 11. We pause to honour those who have served and sacrificed in times of war and conflict, remembering the cost of freedom and the grief carried by those who have lost loved ones. We also pray for those who continue to serve, for families who wait anxiously for their safe return, and for a world still longing for peace. As followers of Christ, we are called not only to remember, but to work for reconciliation, to practise compassion, and to be peacemakers wherever we can.

In a world that often feels uncertain, the call to be people of peace has never been more important. We may not be able to change the course of world events, but we can choose how we respond to the people around us. We can offer kindness instead of hostility, listen instead of assuming, and extend grace where it is most needed. These may seem like small things, but the kingdom of God has always grown through the faithful actions of ordinary people.

There is something fitting about this message as we approach the end of the church year. The celebration of Christ the King reminds us that our ultimate hope rests not in earthly power, political promises, or human achievement, but in the reign of Christ—a kingdom shaped by justice,

mercy, humility, and love. It is a kingdom that often looks different from what the world expects, yet it is the kingdom we are called to embody.

And then, almost before we realize it, Advent will be upon us.

Advent is a season of waiting, watching, and hoping. It reminds us that even in the darkest moments, God's light has not been extinguished. We wait for the coming of Christ, not simply as a story from the past, but as a promise that continues to shape our present and our future.

As we enter November, I encourage you to resist the urge to rush toward Christmas before we have fully lived this season. There is wisdom in the quiet days. There is grace in remembering. There is hope in waiting. And there is often a light to be found, even when the days seem darkest.

May this month give us opportunities to remember with gratitude, serve with compassion, and live with hope. May we be a congregation that offers warmth when the world feels cold, welcome when people feel alone, and light when the way ahead seems uncertain.

And as the darkness gathers around us, may we remember that we do not walk alone. The light of Christ continues to shine, and no darkness can overcome it.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Rob

SILVER LINING is a vibrant musical duo featuring Maureen Barendregt and Linda Mercer.

- Maureen, a lifelong resident of St. Thomas, discovered her love for the ukulele about a decade ago and has been an enthusiastic performer ever since.
- Linda, originally from Newfoundland and now living in Port Stanley since 2017, has been playing guitar since childhood and has recently added the ukulele to her musical journey.

Together, Maureen and Linda are active members of several local music groups, including Ukes of Hazzard, the Bayfield Ukulele Society, Wicked Sweet (a six-piece band), and of course, their own duo—Silver Lining.

Formed three years ago, Silver Lining has become a familiar and uplifting presence in the community. They regularly perform at nursing homes and seniors' residences across Elgin County, as well as at private and public events. They also like to fundraise for the community, regularly donating to the Food Bank and other music centric causes.