

GOOD NEWS AT GRACE

116 Woodstock St. S. PO Box 189 Tavistock ON N0B 2R0

graceunitedtavistock@gmail.com

519-655-2151



'GraceUnitedTavistock'



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www.graceunitedtavistock.com

Blessings!

Today we continue with our series of inspirational messages that will focus on Homes, as we take time to stroll our neighborhoods, back yards, parks, or just sit and look out a window.

This resource is adapted from, and used with permission from, The Prayer Bench
(<https://prayerbench.ca/>)

Our Habitat for Today

Raccoons resting by day in tree hollows and scavenging by night.

Reflection: Touch

Nuisance or amusing? No one is neutral toward raccoons. With their clever fingers they can make their way into a sealed garbage can, turn on a water tap, and even twist open a door knob. You can see why they might be listed as nuisance yet they also have many admirable and intriguing qualities.

Raccoons are a curious animal. They are clever and great problem solvers, especially if food is involved. I love this story:

"Raccoons were placed in a room with a cylinder of water with marshmallows floating on the surface and stones scattered around it. To reach the sugary snacks, they first had to make the water higher by depositing the stones. After they were shown what to do, two out of eight raccoons copied the behavior, while a third took an unexpected approach to the problem and toppled the whole thing over." ([read more.](#))

Take a long, loving look at your hand. A raccoon has a sensitive forepaw with five fingers like you. Evolving around water, they used their forepaws to find food hidden under water or buried in mud and silt. They have a heightened sense of touch and they "see" with their hands. Raccoons look like they are washing their food, but dousing their hands with water increases sensitivity. They gather information with their forepaws. Touch is more important than seeing, hearing or smell.

At the end of a long night of scavenging, the raccoons rest by day, often in the hollow of a tree.

I invite you to watch this short video (Be sure to watch the video to the end for the surprise!)

[Raccoon Steals Cats Food](#)

Peace to your house Raccoons. May God cause all to be well with you.

Focus for Your Stroll

Notice textures on your Stroll today. When you see something interesting pick it up (if appropriate.) Take time to hold it in your hands. Is it cold? Is it soft? Is it rough? Does it tickle? Celebrate touching different textures a few times.

Which textures remind you of God's presence? You might want to wonder about this or write a poem or a prayer about this experience of touching the Divine in nature.

When you return to your home, you might consider this Hand Cream prayer:

"Squeeze a small amount of hand cream onto your hands. Rub the hand cream in and as you massage your hands, give thanks for the healing and caring touch of God in your life. You might like to pray about a specific situation where you want to offer praise to God, confess to God or request from God."

[This practice is from [5 Senses to Prayer - A Collection of Experiential Prayers by Caroline Bindon](#)]



Rev. Gail working from home - In keeping with the Stay at Home order, Rev. Gail will be mostly working from home. She is still available by phone at anytime (519 703 1954), please don't hesitate to reach out, and she can make emergency pastoral visits as needed.

Sit n' Knit Stay n' Crochet ~ Looking for yarn donations



Even though we can't meet in person we are still able to meet bi-weekly over Zoom. We are busy knitting and crocheting prayer shawls and are in need of more yarn. If you have any yarn you would like to donate please contact the church and arrange for drop off. Thank you in advance for your donations!

Contact us

Rev. Gail Fricker: cell number 519-703-1954

Carol Young: cell number 519-301-1356

Office Email: graceunitedtavistock@gmail.com

E-transfer donation email: gracetavistockdonation@rogers.com

gfricker@rogers.com

tavigraceyouth@gmail.com

Office Hours

The office hours are limited due to the provincial stay at home order.

We will work from home as much as possible.

Sunday Zoom Coffee Time

Please join us on zoom at 11:30 on Sunday for a time of social chat and get together - bring your own coffee!

[Join zoom link](#) Meeting ID: 881 9289 6073 Passcode: 079428



If you are having trouble connecting or staying connected, please connect with Rev. Gail 519 703 1954

Upcoming Services and Dates:

(until further notice, all the worship services will be online)

ALL SERVICES CAN BE VIEWED ON GRACE YOUTUBE CHANNEL, WHICH CAN BE ACCESSED THROUGH OUR WEBSITE:

www.graceunitedtavistock.com

May 30th: Holy One, Holy Three, Holy Divine, Holy Communion

June 6th: Telling the Story of ... Ester

June 9th: Sit n' Knit Stay n' Crochet outside meet

June 13th: Calming the Storm

June 16th: Zoom Board Meeting

June 20th: Camping Sunday (possibly at Camp Bimini)

June 27th: Holy Humour, outside parking lot service

July 4th: Telling the Story of?

July 11th: Water, Water, Water - outside Baptism and New Membership



Do you have a prayer request?

"In all things let your requests be known to God in prayer." (Philippians 4:6)

Grace has a group of wonderful and dedicated people that form a prayer chain. If you, or anyone you know is in need of prayer, please reach out to our Minister, Rev. Gail, or to the chair of Grace PCO, Bev Neeb, and we will begin praying for you.

And please keep the following people in your prayers this week:



- ♦ Brenda Mohr's brother, Pat, as he was recently diagnosed with an aneurism.
- ♦ Burns Holden as he struggles with health issues.
- ♦ Verna Herold as she struggles with health issues.
- ♦ Please keep the family of Beulah Ruby in your prayers.

Good News at Grace Submissions We welcome your good news stories and pictures along with announcements. Please have your submissions emailed to Katherine by Tues. June 1 for next week's newsletter.
graceunitedtavistock@gmail.com

Financial update for April

As summer comes upon us, and as we begin to open up, some of you might think about heading away to cottages or camping. Please remember that the ministry of Grace continues throughout the summer. Our givings are down by \$2500 from this time last year, and we are running at a loss each month. Please consider sending in a one-time summer offering by cheque or by e-transfer. E-transfers are an easy convenient way to donate, just add Grace United Church to your online banking using the email gracetavistockdonation@rogers.com. You can create your own security question but make sure the security answer is Grace1980. All details of ways to give are on our [website: donation page](#)

Month of	APRIL	
	2020	2021
Core Receipts	9,101	9,692
Misc. Receipts *	40,600	954
Total Receipts	49,701	10,646
Expenses	9,642	10,531
Surplus/Deficit	40,060	115
CEBA loan *	40,000	

WOW Region needs YOU!



Grace United is part of the United Church Western Ontario Waterways (WOW) Regional ... and the region is here to support us. They provide great training, newsletters, opportunities to connect with other churches and more. It is really important that we stay connected with the wider church through the region. At Grace we are allowed up to 3 Regional Representatives - and **this is a chance for YOU to volunteer**. It would mean that you provide a report to the board each month about anything happening in the Region, or communication from them. This report can be in person (currently via zoom) or can be submitted to the chair in writing. You also become a member of the Board and get to have a vote at meetings and be involved in the leadership of Grace United. It would take about 2-3 hours per month of your time. Please consider this opportunity, and pray to see if God is nudging you to serve in this way - then contact Anne Gregory (Chair) to let her know (annedon2020g@gmail.com)

FUN WITH WATER



TUES JULY 6TH - THURS JULY 8TH SUMMER DAY CAMP

9.00- 12.30pm

FREE Event for ages 7-10



SPLISH! SPLASH! SPLISH!

**Science
Experiments!**

Storytelling!

Crafts!

Games and more!

**Bring your own
snacks**

**Pre- register at
Grace United
Church.**

**www.graceunitedtavistock.com
(limited capacity)**

**GRACE UNITED
CHURCH**

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Tavistock**

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CAMP BIMINI WISH LIST 2021

Camp Bimini thanks everyone who has donated wish list items to Bimini in the past or who is donating wish list items for the upcoming season. **Grace United Church will host a drive thru drop off on Thursday, June 17th from 6:00 to 8:00 pm.** You may also contact Camp Bimini to arrange for drop off. Contact the camp by email campbimini@cyg.net or phone 519-271-4129.

SPORTS & GAMES

- Soccer balls
- Pool noodles
- Hula hoops
- Basketballs
- Playground balls
- Large pylons
- Skipping ropes

KITCHEN

- Paper towels
- Brooms
- Dustpans
- SOS pads and scrubbies
- Bleach

MISCELLANEOUS

- Rope
- Batteries—"9 volt" especially
- Canadian Tire Money
- Kindling

FIRST AID

- Good bandaids—all sizes
- Hot/cold compresses
- After-bite
- **contact the camp for complete list of needs**

FURNISHINGS

- Fans (portable)

OFFICE

- Scotch Tape
- Masking tape
- White copy paper

ARTS & CRAFTS

- Scissors
- Corks
- Magnetic strips
- Markers
- Glue guns & glue sticks
- Tape: all kinds
- Paint brushes
- Bristol board
- Googly eyes
- Paint: acrylic, fabric, tempera
- Embroidery floss
- Popsicle, craft sticks
- Sponges
- Safety pins
- Plastic totes (all sizes)
- Aluminum plates (all sizes)
- New white or dark cotton t-shirts
- Baby food jars

SPECIFICALLY FOR 2021

please contact us prior to donating to ensure the items are still needed

all items need to be new or very gently used

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| • Large totes | • Large garbage cans |
| • Large and medium coolers | • Spray sunscreen |
| • Medium beverage coolers | • 3-layered non-medical masks for children and adults *NEW ONLY* |
| • Large ice packs | • Non-contact thermometers |
| • Large tarps | • PPE (face shields, gloves, disposable gowns, medical masks) *NEW ONLY* |
| • Large event tent | |