

GOOD NEWS AT GRACE

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'GraceUnitedTavistock'



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www.graceunitedtavistock.com

Blessings

At the WOW Regional Meeting this weekend, the theme is "Resurrection or Resuscitation". It seems a fitting theme for a church that is slowly coming out of pandemic.

As I reflected on the title, I wondered which term inspired more hope; they are both terms that imply life. But I feel that Resuscitation has more of an implication that the old life will be brought back. I don't think that is true of the church. Nothing will be 'the same' after COVID. The need for hybrid worship to reach out digitally into the community is here to stay. Screens, microphones, and cameras will continue to be part of the 'furniture' of a sanctuary.

Whereas the term Resurrection to me has implications of something new coming from something old – new life to what was dying. To see this, we perhaps have to admit that the church was indeed dying. Declining numbers, amalgamations, closing churches were all indication that the church was dying way before the pandemic hit. But once we accept that, then we can in look to new ways that we can resurrect our faith and our way of being community.

For me, I think Resurrection is the term that I lean towards. What about you?

Which one do you think best describes the church post Covid?

Which one do you think best describes Grace United post Covid?

Which one do you think best describes your personal journey of faith post Covid?

We have also been asked to bring a symbol of new life or sustaining life to share at the meeting tonight (Friday). I wondered what to bring? At first I thought I would bring a candle, after all Christ's light always sustains us.



Then I thought I would bring a prayer blanket – it is a symbol of being surrounded and sustained by the love of God and the community.

But then, I finally chose a hand trowel. I felt that this symbol reminds me of how I experience the peace of the Divine in creation around me, and also how I witness new life being resurrected each season of creation.

What would you choose as a symbol of new or sustaining life. Think on it, and let us know at the office, and we will print your



ideas next week. I will also let you know what symbols other bring to the meeting tonight.

Peace, Rev. Gail

Upcoming Services and Dates:

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

www.graceunitedtavistock.com

Nov. 12th - Nov. 13th: Fall Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council Meeting - online

Nov. 14th: 10:30 am Worship Service 'Dare to Dream'

11:45 pm AV Meeting - Sanctuary

Nov. 16th: Rev. Gail Study Leave

Nov. 17th: 10:00 am - 11:30 am Sit n' Knit, Stay n' Crochet

6:00 pm Pastoral Care and Outreach Committee meeting - Knox Parlour

7:00 pm Board Meeting

Nov. 18th: 7:00 - 8:00 pm Sing Along - Zion Hall

Nov. 21st: 10:30 am Worship Service: Reign of Christ Sunday

Nov. 24th: 2:00 - 3:30 pm Food for Friends Community Pick Up

7:00 pm Care and Communication Team meeting



CAMP BIMINI

Online Auction Nov 17—24. Go to Shackleton's to register and bid

[Shackleton's Camp Bimini Online Fundraiser Auction](#)

Annual meeting Monday, December 6, 2021, 7 pm via Zoom

For the purpose of receiving annual report, financial statements, budget, and for election of board of directors and officers. Followed by a 10 minute break and regular monthly meeting. For the annual report and/or the zoom link, please contact us at campbimini@cyg.net or 519-271-4129.



Parking Reminder

A friendly reminder when parking in the old Tavistock Gazette parking lot, please stay back from the sidewalk. We want to keep the view at the intersection clear for motorists. Thank you.

Contact us

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Office Email: graceunitedtavistock@gmail.com

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Office Hours

Rev. Gail Tues to Thurs 10:00—3:00 pm

Katherine Tues. and Thurs. 9:30 – 12:30 pm

Care and Communication Team

Rev. Gail 519 703 1954

Marcia Bender 519 655 2047

Jean Lowe 519 655 3205

Gloria Reibling 519 655 3255

Elizabeth Halliday 519 655 2246

Paul Bartlett 519 655 3334

Marianne Ruby 519 274 1422

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.



- ◇ Please pray for the Koch family as they mourn the passing of Marg Koch
- ◇ Prayers for Mike Kaufman recovering at home from surgery
- ◇ Prayers for Susan Humphrey's husband Harry as he undergoes surgery today

Message from Ministry and Personnel Committee

Rev Gail has been with us as our minister for 8 months now most of them through COVID restrictions and online worship and now we are being able to meet in person at church. COVID has played a role in changing procedures on how things are done and the changes reflect the need to follow guidelines and to keep people and the community safe.

Rev Gail is very passionate about her ministry with us. The M&P committee and Rev Gail met to discuss her time with us so far. She shared her goals for Grace Community of Faith with the committee.

M&P Comments are in italics.

- To get to know members of Grace through in person services and Pastoral Care visits. *Feedback tells us that members are enjoying Rev Gail's services and she is bringing joy and enthusiasm to our services*
- Encourage Grace to see new ways of 'being church' and reflect on God's spirit in our faith journeys. *Change brings new beginnings and excitement for life. Moving forward with open mind, open heart, open eyes and open ears is a goal for all of us in order to trigger progress. With no change there would not be any butterflies.*
- Seek ways to encourage Grace to look beyond our walls and develop our mission into the local and global community. *Rev Gail has lots of ideas to accomplish this and she has loads of energy that will spread to those willing to participate.*

Rev Gail has brought new ideas along with challenging us to ask "Why" we do things a certain way, If we can't truthfully answer 'Why' then we need to be open minded to new ideas and suggestions. If we know "Why" things are done a certain way we need to communicate that knowledge to her. COVID has taught us that we can make changes and embrace new ways of doing things and move forward into the future. The future for our Community of Faith is in our hands and by trusting in God we believe the future is obtainable. Rev Gail in partnership with our Community of Faith will walk with us towards a promising future.

Submitted by Chris Wiffen, Chair of M&P



Sing Songs of Praise!

As we move into worshipping together, we hope to have the Praise Team open worship once a month. After the success of the last Sing Along we invite you to come to our second sing-along on **Thursday Nov. 18, 7-8pm in Zion Hall.**

We will look at some new Advent music. Come and make a joyful noise to God!

No singing ability required, just a willingness to join in the fun, clap your hands, and sing with friends!

And don't worry - participation in this sing along does not mean that you are joining the Praise Team or Choir!

Masks and proof of COVID vaccination will be required.



Dale Brenneman and John Markle supervise as we begin to dig ground for our new sign!

Save The Date

Sun. Dec. 5th

4:30 pm

Community Live

Nativity



Sharing COVID stories ...

I was so deeply touched by a small little girl who volunteered to be part of the Covid 19 trials to test the vaccine for children under 12. She is a heart transplant survivor at the tender age of 5-7 years of age. While being interviewed with her mother at her side, she confidently told the interviewer that someone gave her a heart, and she wanted to do her part to give back and help make it possible for children to safely receive the vaccine. She explained that someone helped her when she needed a new heart and now it was her turn to help someone else.

It made me think of a scripture in the Bible where it said, "and a child shall lead them" in Isaiah 11:6. What a brave little girl. Apparently there are a number of children and their families who step up and make the courageous decision to make a difference for the greater good. I pray for this little girl and others like her who are brave enough to rise up and make a difference!

Submitted by Susan Humphrey

Special



NATE FANNING
Principal Trombone
KW Symphony

Guests



HANNAH THOMAS
Singer
Stratford Dock Music



GAVIN YEOMANS
Pianist
Ontario Provincial Finalist

CELEBRATE

Christmas

THROUGH MUSIC, SONG, AND STORY

Wednesday, December 8th • 7 – 8:30 PM

GRACE UNITED CHURCH - TAVISTOCK

Pay what you can (suggested donation \$10).
Canned food donation for Stratford Food Bank.
Vaccine passport required.