GOOD NEWS AT GRACE

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

graceunitedtavistock@gmail.com

519-655-2151







'GraceUnitedTavistock'

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www.graceunitedtavistock.com

Blessings to you All,



A couple of weeks ago I preached about Light in Darkness as we began our season of Epiphany. But let's pause to remember that Epiphany is not just a

liturgical placeholder between two important Christian holy days. It may well be the most undervalued — and, in many ways, the most contemporarily relevant — season of the Christian year. Epiphany is about seeing the extraordinary in the everyday.

Diane Butler Bass writes: "It is far more than a day. It isn't just the "weeks following" Christmas or the Magi visit. This is the *season* of extraordinary time, the in-breaking of creation's promise. This Epiphany, this seeing, this glory of the cosmos manifested here and now."

I invite you to reflect on how you see 'the in-breaking of creation's promise' around you? Above is a photo that I took when walking the river in Stratford on evening, and below is a photo taken on the way back from Waterloo. Both speak to me of God's light breaking in. 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

Jan. 16th: 10:30 am Online Worship Service 'Who is Jesus? Part One: Friend'

11:30 am Zoom Coffee and Connect

1:30 pm Reopening Committee meeting - Zoom

Committee and staff reports for the Annual Report due.

Jan. 18th: 12:00 - 12:30 Pause for Prayer

7:00 pm Board Meeting - Zoom

Jan. 19th: 10:00 - 11:30 am Sit n' Knit Stay n' Crochet - Zoom

12:00 - 12:30 pm Pause for Prayer

Jan. 20th: 12:00 - 12:30 pm Pause for Prayer

Jan. 23rd: 10:30 am online Worship Service 'Who is Jesus? Part Two: Teacher'

11:30 am Zoom Coffee and Connect

Jan. 25th: 8:00 am Food for Friends Cooking in the kitchen

Jan. 26th: 2:00 - 3:30 pm Food for Friends Community Pick Up

Jan. 30th: 10:30 am Online Worship Service 'Who is Jesus? Part Three: Saviour'

11:30 am Zoom Coffee and Connect

Feb. 2nd: 10:00 - 11:30 am Sit n' Knit Stay n' Crochet

Feb. 13th: Annual General Meeting

Coffee and Conversation

We will host Zoom coffee and conversations on Sundays at 11.30-12.15.

Pour your drink of choice and join us on line. To connect, click on the zoom link below. If you have trouble connecting, contact Rev. Gail 519 703 1954

Link: Sunday's Coffee and Conversation Meeting ID: 819 1026 7279. Passcode: 126440



Contact us

Rev. Gail Fricker: cell number 519-703-1954 gfricker@rogers.com cell number 519-301-1356 tavigraceyouth@gmail.com Carol Young:

Office Email: graceunitedtavistock@gmail.com

E-transfer donation email: gracetavistockdonation@rogers.com

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 Jean Lowe 519 655 3205 Marcia Bender 519 655 2047

Marianne Ruby 519 274 1422

Elizabeth Halliday 519 655 2246

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.

- Pray for Norma Kaufman in St. Marys Hospital
- Pray for Mary Ann Krantz recovering from surgery



now.

WANTED AND NEEDED for the annual slide show at the church's annual meeting: **Photos to remember Grace UC's story for 2021. It indeed was a different year with a different way of ministry.**

Photos of UCW events, youth events, baptisms, weddings, SS events, worship and any events that will help us to remember who we are and where we are going. We'll include baptisms and weddings and a time to remember those who passed away Please submit photos to Carol Young before in 2021 too. 23rd, 2022 digitally by handing January or actual photos (which will be returned). tavigraceyouth@gmail.com

Calling all crafters, bakers, artists, knitters, woodworkers

In our 2022 budget, we are proposing to raise \$5000 in fundraising activities this year at Grace. We hope that these will be fun, and community building events, as well as raising some funds.

In late February we are hoping to have an online auction that highlights some of the gifts and talents of our community. So, while we are all staying home due to the pandemic, we are suggesting that you could maybe start a project

If you would be willing to offer your baking, cooking, pickling, art work, craft work, jewelry making, sewing, knitting, wood work etc – then let Rev. Gail or Grace office know so we can begin to create an item list. So far *some* of the items that have been offered include: a delicious fruit cake (Tory); a mirror with tole painted frame (Susan); knitted animals (Carol W.); a piece of garden art (Blair); a meal(s) (Brenda); hand sewn pillowcases (Rev. Mary); a 1 hour storytelling for a birthday party (Rev. Gail); lemon cranberry cookies (Marjorie W). What talent can you offer?

TAX RECEIPTS: Please let me know if you would like your donation tax receipt emailed to you. I will only send emailed receipts to those who request it—all others will be printed paper copies for pick up or mailed. In case of any technical difficulties with the emails, the back up plan is paper copies.

ANNUAL REPORTS: Electronic copies of the annual report will be emailed out to the church distribution list. Paper copies will be printed for those who request it.

Please contact Katherine at graceunitedtavistock@gmail.com 519 655 2151



PAUSE FOR PRAYER!

Next week Christian leaders across Canada are coming together for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (Jan.18-25). The goal is that there will be continuous prayer 24/7 around the world.

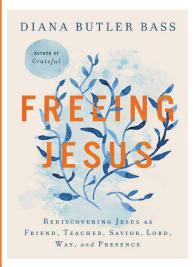
I invite members of Grace to join me next Tuesday (18th) Wednesday (19th) and Thursday (20th) from 12-12.30 to pause in the middle of your day to pray.

I will guide the prayer time – you can just come and be silent if you wish. Don't feel that you need to join them all – just participate as you are able. And, if you are not

comfortable with zoom – take that time to pause for prayer anyway, knowing that others are praying too!

The zoom link for each day is the same: Link - Pause For Prayer

Meeting ID: 827 0202 3294 Passcode: 847633



Who is Jesus to you?

How would you answer that question if someone asked you? We may think it is a simple question to answer – but really – how would explain to someone who Jesus is? This Sunday we will begin our 5-week sermon series using the book from Diana Butler Bass, and rooted in scripture. Our focus this week is on exploring Jesus as Friend.

Some question for you to ponder as you reflect this week are –

- 1. Think of someone who has been/who is a good friend to you list the qualities of that person that makes the friendship special.
- 2. St Teresa of Avila said, "Christ has no hands but yoursyours are the hands with which he blesses the world." What can you do this week to extend Christ's hand of friendship to others?

FOOTPRINTS

One night a man had a dream. He dreamed he was walking along the beach with the LORD. Across the sky flashed scenes from his life. For each scene, he noticed two sets of footprints in the sand; one belonged to him, and the other to the LORD.

When the last scene of his life flashed before him, he looked back at the footprints in the sand. He noticed that many times along the path of his life there was only one set of footprints. He also noticed that it happened at the very lowest and saddest times in his life.

This really bothered him and he questioned the LORD about it. "LORD, you said that once I decided to follow you, you'd walk with me all the way. But I have noticed that during the most troublesome times in my life, there is only one set of footprints. I don't understand why when I needed you most you would leave me."

The LORD replied, "My precious, precious child, I love you and I would never leave you. During your times of trial and suffering, when you see only one set of footprints, it was then that I carried you."

REGISTER TO JOIN US

Thursday, January 20 at 1:00 pm

As we begin a new year, what should you focus on and what new ideas should you try for your digital ministry and online church? How do you navigate all the online platforms and our perpetually limited time and resources? Join Rev. Jim Keat as he shares 22 tips for digital ministry that you should try in 2022. (He would have given two thousand and twenty two ideas but that would be a looooooooong webinar.) And yes, you should try out all 22 this year!

has Jesus carried you as a friend?

When



Join us next week for this free webinar