

GOOD NEWS AT GRACE

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

graceunitedtavistock@gmail.com

519-655-2151



'GraceUnitedTavistock'



'Grace United Tavistock'



www.graceunitedtavistock.com

"Christ has no body now but yours Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good."
St Teresa of Avila

Blessings All!

This last week we began our series on Who Is Jesus? This week, as we reflect on Jesus the Teacher, we are reminded that we are called to live out his teachings about justice. And so I invite you to read and reflect on this article from Paul Bartlett. Let's be Christ's feet!

Peace. Rev. Gail



Take a Walk on the Wild Side on the "Coldest Night of the Year"!

by Paul Bartlett

I looked up the definition of "Social Justice" in Wikipedia the other day. Social justice, it says, is the view that **everyone** deserves equal economic, political and social rights and opportunities.

I also discovered that Methodism (which includes the EUB or "German Methodists") was from its very beginning a Christian social justice movement. John Wesley was among the first to preach for slaves rights. As your representative to the Western Ontario Waterways (WOW) Regional Council of the United Church, I learned that within the Church there are groups all across Canada looking into such issues as hunger and food insecurity, global warming, refugees, racial injustice, the income gap, and much more. Social activism is part and parcel of what it means to be a United Church member.

What can we do locally? Well, this past week I learned about something called "The Coldest Night of the Year". On Saturday February 26 in 149 communities across Canada, teams of volunteers will be participating in 2 or 5 kilometer fund-raising walks in support of those local charities that provide care and services to people experiencing homelessness, hurt and hunger. By walking in the cold, the participants will experience for just a short time what the homeless feel through the entire long winter.

In Stratford the money raised is going to Shelter Link which is an organization whose mission is to assist homeless youth and those at risk of becoming homeless. There is a similar charity in Woodstock called The Inn of Oxford County. Our church has supported Shelter Link in the past through our Project Good Tidings. I didn't know much about this organization so I gave them a call. It turns out that they are located in the old nurses residence attached to the Stratford General Hospital where they have 15 beds on the third floor. They take in homeless youth between the ages of 16 and 24 and the counsellor I spoke to told me that the beds are full every night. They usually have to find more beds elsewhere such as in motels because of the demand and need. The residents are also provided with food from the Food Bank. But Shelter Link does more than just find these young people a warm bed. Shelter Link actively works with them to assist them in getting their education, in helping them learn basic life skills, and in getting them to the appropriate community resources for whatever medical or mental issues they might have. ➔

And so it has been suggested that we put together a team to participate in this “Coldest Night of the Year” Initiative. It’s called “The Graceful Walkers”. If you’d like to join us on February 28, please give me a call at 519-655-3334 or email me at pbartlett@golden.net. And if you think this is a good idea but your knees won’t allow you to do it, you could support us financially for any amount you like. To make a donation towards our team effort, or to join the team, just click on this link: [Support Graceful Walkers](#)
Let’s get off that comfy couch and get walking!

Upcoming Services and Dates:

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

www.graceunitedtavistock.com

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 - Zoom

Feb. 6th: 10:30 am Online Worship Service

11:30 am Zoom Coffee and Connect

Feb. 9th: 6:30 pm Care and Communication Team meeting - Zoom

Feb. 13th: 10:30 am Annual General Meeting - Zoom

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

Carol Young:

cell number 519-301-1356

tavigraceyouth@gmail.com

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 Memorial Hospital (St. Marys)
- ◇ Pray for Mary Ann Krantz recovering at home from surgery

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 in 2021 too. Please submit photos to Carol Young before January 23rd, 2022 digitally or by handing in actual photos (which will be returned). tavigraceyouth@gmail.com

LAST CALL for 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 will be having an online auction that highlights some of the gifts and talents of our community. So far we have 15 items donated!

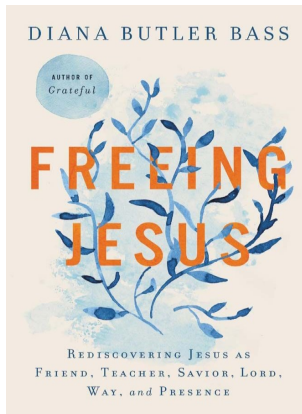
If you would be willing to offer your baking, cooking, pickling, artwork, craft work, jewelry making, sewing, knitting, wood work etc – then let Rev. Gail or Grace office know so we can add you to the list.

Details and photos of the items will come out soon.



HEY FAMILIES! watch for an email the first Sundays of February and March for a Sunday School lesson that can be done from home! And watch for an email the third Sunday of the month for an activity/challenge to do that week to get us "doing and being". We are grateful for our Sunday School Teachers who are helping to provide this to the families of Grace.

Who is Jesus to you?



Last week we began our 5- week sermon series using the book from Diana Butler Bass as we thought about Jesus as Friend. This week we will reflect on Jesus as Teacher.

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

1. Think of someone who has been/who is a good teacher for you – how has that person impacted your life?
2. Jesus taught a lot through parables. Chose one of his parables; take some time to read it through twice, prayerfully reflecting in-between. What is the Spirit teaching you through scripture, and how can this impact the way your live?

GRACE UNITED CHURCH SERVES



FOOD FOR FRIENDS

A CASSEROLE MINISTRY FOR THE COMMUNITY

**FREE SINGLE/DOUBLE
PORTIONS AVAILABLE
EVERY 4TH WEDNESDAY OF
MONTH**

Pick up will be 2-3.30pm Wed 26th

Please let Rev. Gail know if you
know of anyone who is in need.
A project made possible through the
United Church of Canada.



Breakfast Club Favourites Remembered

HASH BROWN OMELETTE 9/10 Jake loves it

This hearty breakfast of hash-browns, bacon and eggs can be made in one pan. Excellent as a weekend family breakfast, camping or cottage specialty.

6	slices bacon, diced	6
	OR 1/2 cup (125 mL) chopped ham	
3 cups	frozen hash brown potatoes	750 mL
1/2 cup	chopped green pepper	125 mL
1/3 cup	onion relish	75 mL
6	eggs	6
1/4 cup	milk	50 mL
	Salt and pepper, to taste	
1 cup	shredded cheddar cheese	250 mL

In large skillet, cook bacon until desired crispness. Remove from skillet and drain on paper towel. Remove all but 2 tbsp. (25 mL) bacon drippings from skillet. Add hash browns and cook until heated through, stirring occasionally. Add green pepper and onion relish. Cover and cook on medium heat another 10 minutes until heated through and underside begins to brown.

Beat eggs and milk together. Season with salt and pepper. Stir in bacon and cheese. Pour evenly over hash browns and help mixture to seep through to skillet, using spatula. Cover and cook on low heat 8 to 10 minutes or until eggs are set and cheese is melted. Loosen edges and cut into wedges. Serve with tomato slices, if desired.

Makes 4 servings.

HASH BROWN OMELETTE

CHURCH REOPENING

After careful consideration, the Church Board approved the recommendation of the Reopening Team to **remain closed for any in-person gatherings until the end February 2022 with the aim of reopening for in-person worship on March 6, 2022** when we will begin our journey in Lent together. This will be pending case numbers, hospitalization numbers, and restrictions. A survey will be sent out to all members of faith mid-late February to ask your thoughts about what reopening will look like. Our goal is to keep you all safe and comfortable. And while we are closed, let us all be sure to reach out to each other with friendly phone calls, or join in the coffee and conversation zoom call on Sundays.

A thought from your Minister:

Jesus told them this parable: "No one pours new wine into old wineskins. Otherwise, the new wine will burst the skins; the wine will run out and the wineskins will be ruined. No, new wine must be poured into new wineskins. And no one after drinking old wine wants the new, for they say, 'The old is better.'" - Luke 5:37-39



Between 2016 and March 2020 I led worship over 250 times. I was new in ministry, and I was excited to be serving God. I was filled with a creative energy and enjoyed introducing things like Jazz Vespers, YOUTH ACT, participatory worship. And then the pandemic hit. Since then I've had to adapt to leading worship in ways that are new to me: live on Zoom, pre-recorded on YouTube, livestreamed in the sanctuary, outdoors on the lawn, a hybrid of all the above. I miss the old wine of well-known ways of worship. I've tasted the new and I would say, "The old is better!"

It's okay if the time of worship during Covid isn't your favorite. It's okay if it doesn't measure up to what used to be. No one should expect it to. This is a time of new wine. This time has to be given room to breathe and expand, to become whatever it will become. Our job as the church is to learn new lessons and strengthen new muscles. Our job as the church is to stretch and flex.

Because we aren't the wine. We are the wineskins.

Prayer: God, this time is hard for us. Help us to worship you in beauty and truth, and in new ways. Amen.

Annual General Meeting

Come and join us as we celebrate the life and work of Grace over the past year, and as we look towards our future together in faith, and approve our 2022 budget. The AGM will be held on zoom on Sunday February 13th, at 10.30am. There will be no service that day, but worship will be included as part of the meeting. We hope to see as many of you out as possible. Bring your own coffee - join in the celebration!

Annual reports will be sent out by email. If you would like a paper copy please let Katherine know. 519 655 2151 graceunitedtavistock@gmail.com

Congratulations to Burns and Mary Holden on their 60th Wedding Anniversary on January 27th.



December Financial update

Month of

Dec

	2020	2021	
Anniversary	425	100	
Core Receipts	27,340	18,052	
Other Donations	2,241	800	
Misc. Receipts			
Fundraising	95	810	Christmas Concert
Manse Rental	875	875	
Misc.	149	107	
	1,119	1,792	
Total Receipts	31,125	20,744	
Expenses	13,075	15,938	
Surplus/Deficit	18,050	4,806	

Year End Actual compared to Year End Budget

	2021 Jan-Dec	2021 Jan-Dec
	Actual	Budget
Total Receipts without pass-through	167,681	159,614
Total Expenses without pass-through	151,318	159,614

2021 donation receipts for income tax purposes are ready. Those who requested it had them emailed, please let me know if you did not receive it or have any problems. The paper copies are available at the church for pick up, please call to arrange a time. We are also working at having some delivered, the rest will be mailed out sometime early February.

Contact Katherine in the office at 519 655 2151 or graceunitedtavistock@gmail.com

Thank you for supporting Grace United Church.