GOOD NEWS AT GRACE

Grace United Church · April 22, 2022

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'GraceUnitedTavistock'

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www.graceunitedtavistock.com

Earth Day April 22

Climate Change is an issue of growing concern and we can probably look forward to another summer of record high temperatures, raging forest fires, flooding rivers and wild weather patterns. You will remember that there was a major international conference on climate change back in 1992 in Rio de Janeiro when the world first seemed to take this issue seriously. There was another similar conference in Glasgow this past year. And what was the consensus of this most recent conference? Nothing done in the meantime has made any difference!

As the Apostle Paul says in Romans 8:22, "We know that the whole creation has been groaning." Climate change is of concern to the church because of the devastating effects it may have on our heath and well-being.

This Friday April 22 is Earth Day. You may remember that many members of our congregation were part of an Environment group some thirty years ago. I came across **this letter to the editor of the Tavistock Gazette** written April 12, 1990 that I thought would be of interest. It is as significant today as it was back then. It was entitled "Do Your Part on Earth Sunday!"

Next Sunday April 22, 1990 has been designated as Earth Day. This year marks the 20th anniversary of the event. It also marks the beginning of a decade that will be critical for our continued survival. What can we do on Earth Day 1990? The possibilities are limitless:

- go 'automobile-free' for a day. Ride a bike or walk.
- build a compost pile. Think about crop rotation, soil preservation, chemical-free lawns.
- hug a tree. Go for a hike or go birdwatching. Visit the New Hamburg Arboretum.
- walk to church. Talk about stewardship of the earth's resources. Celebrate, not only our divine nature but also our animal nature, our dependence on all of creation. Think of the importance in the Gospels of water, of wilderness, of sharing.
- have a garbage-free picnic.
- write a letter to a local politician about a concern of yours (for example, the lack of recycling programs for fine paper; the overuse of plastic packaging and packaging in general; bylaws which prohibit clotheslines in

 $new\ subdivisions;\ destruction\ of\ wetlands\ and\ the\ loss\ of\ farm\ lands).$

— talk to grandparents to find out which consumer goods are really meaningful.

Earth Day is not a day for hopelessness and despair. It is a day for celebration! Help us to celebrate.

Tavistock Down to Earth Environment Group
Paul Bartlett



Upcoming Services and Dates:

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

April 24th: 10:30 am Worship Service '2nd Sunday of Easter -

'Just Trust', Sunday School - Zion Hall

Fundscrip orders due

April 26th: 8:00 am Cooking 'Food for Friends Ministry'

9.30 am Community Worship at The Maples

1:00 pm Care and Communication Team meeting - Knox Parlour

7:00 pm Worship Team Meeting - Knox Parlour

April 27th: 10:00 am Community Worship at People Care

2:00 pm Food for Friends Community Pick Up

2:00 pm Community Worship at The Renaissance

April 28th: 7:00 pm Choir Practice

April 30th: GUC Scholarship Applications Due

May 1st: 10:30 am Worship Service 'Holy Transformation', Sunday School - Zion Hall

May 3rd: 2:00 pm UCW - Knox Parlour

4:30 pm Staff Reviews - Zion Hall

7:00 pm Session Meeting - Knox Parlour

May 4th: 10:00 - 11:30 am Sit n' Knit Stay n' Crochet

May 5th: 7:00 pm Choir Practice May 6th: 8:00 am UCW - Kitchen

May 6th - 8th: Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council Conference

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 Sherman Kropf as he struggles with health issues
- Pray for Shirley Binkle as she had surgery this week

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

Care and Communication Team

Rev. Gail 519 703 1954 Jean Lowe 519 655 3205 Elizabeth Halliday 519 655 2246 Mary Ann Krantz 519 272 4072

Let's Live as Easter People!



Easter, like Lent, is supposed to be a season. Fifty days stretching to Pentecost. Seven weeks of celebration, resurrection, and joy. It's called Eastertide. Don't feel bad if you didn't know. It's often overlooked. Many of us observe 40 days of solemn introspection at Lent. We give things up. We take things on. We remember we are dust. We bury our hallelujahs.

Then, for one glorious morning, it's lilies and trumpets and candy-filled plastic eggs; 40 parts Lent to 1 part Easter.

But, that's the wrong recipe. The original calls for 50x as much! Fifty times as many rolled away stones! Fifty times as many empty tombs! Fifty times as much death-defeating love!

Imagine the difference. In your life. In your church. In our world.

Welcome to Eastertide. Let's live as Easter People! Hallelujah!

Many, many thanks to the youth and young adults who led our sunrise service on Easter Sunday, the Middle Aged Pews who provided and served our breakfast, the Tavistock Optimist club for use of their pavilion and for all who attended to celebrate the Son rising. Approximately \$350 was raised for the United Church of Canada's emergency Ukraine relief fund!

This project is made possible by a grant from United Church





Sharing God's love through food and hospitality.

Community pick up is this Wed. April 27 at 2:00 pm. If you or anyone you know is in need of a casserole dinner please drop by or contact Rev. Gail 519 703 1954

The Grace United Church Scholarship - Application deadline is April 30th



Established in 2014, GUC scholarship strives to create, encourage and nurture teen and young adult growth.

For full information and/or an application to apply, please contact the Youth Coordinator, Carol Young tavigraceyouth@gmail.com, the church office, or visit our website GraceUnitedChurchScholarship. To give to the Scholarships, you can include in offering envelope or in another envelope marked "scholarship". Cheques made payable to Grace United Church.

In Wellness and Love: As a community of faith, we are a family. Our concern for each other



includes a desire to keep us all well and safe. For this reason, the Grace United Board have decided that we will continue to require all people to wear masks during worship and meetings at Grace. The only exception is for the worship leaders and choir members, or those singing into the

microphones. Thank you for your participation in keeping us all safe.

Grace continues to collect disposable face masks: a collection basket is located in the entryway at the Welcome and Accessible Entrance. The Rotary Club of Stratford will see that they get to the recycling depot in Kitchener.







Throughout Lent, we invited you to support Camp Bimini. Camp Bimini will be celebrating 75 years of ministry with youth and children this year. As a cabin sponsor, Grace UC has some responsibilities for the cabin—the cabin needs a fresh coat of paint outside and inside. It's time to raise that money!

Please forward your Lenten collection to Camp Bimini by May 1 so we can tally the total collected! You can mail a cheque (Payable to CAMP BIMINI with LENT COLLECTION —GRACE UC in the memo) OR Etransfer to campbimini@cyg.net (with LENTEN COLLECTION—GRACE UC and your address in the messages section) or you can simply give your money to Carol Young. Receipts will be issued from Camp Bimini. You can choose to do this as a family or as individuals. Use your own judgment to determine amounts. You may choose to give a donation of your choice to the camp at this time as well. So far \$975 has been collected!!

Total:



Red Lobster



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	\$25					
	\$50					
c)	\$100					
	\$250					

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FundScrip

Metro (Quebec)

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Metro (Quebec)	\$50	
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Red Lobster	\$25	
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Roots	\$50	
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Walmart	\$25	
	\$50	
	\$100	
	\$250	
	\$500	

Physical Card Order Form

Paper Fundscrip Orders are due Sunday, April 24th. The short form paper order forms are available in the pews or the long form can be downloaded here: Long Form Paper order form.

Print Name:

To support Grace please make sure you use our campaign number QM53WE. Orders can be left in the drop box in the office. Please make cheques payable to Grace United Church. Thank you for your support.

April 24, 2022: Prayer for Ukraine and for Peace for the World

In solidarity with the Ukrainian Bishops of Canada we invite you to join with The Canadian Council



of Churches on April 24, which is Pascha (Easter Sunday on the Julian calendar), to proclaim together that Christ is Risen, that love overcomes fear, and that life overcomes death and destruction.

We invite all worshipping communities to pray for peace and to ring your church bells at 12 noon your time.

<u>Prayer</u>

God of peace and justice, we pray for the people of Ukraine today. We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons. We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow, that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them. We pray for those with power over war or peace, for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions. Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear, that you would hold and protect them. We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Amen.

Church of England Anglican Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby Church of England Anglican Archbishop of York Stephen Cottrell

Grace is Looking for Volunteers

Grace is looking for a volunteer for the summer! We are in need of someone who would be able to



mow the lawn around the church building. We do have a lawn mower on site but you are welcome to bring your own. This is a great opportunity for high school students to get their volunteer hours.

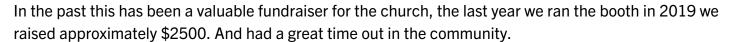
Many thanks to Randy Harris for looking after lawn mowing duties last summer.

Please contact the property committee of the Board, John Markle, Dale Brenneman, Doug Shirray

The board is looking for feed back from our Community of Faith:

At our recent meeting the Board received a letter of retirement from our Tavistock Fall Fair Food Booth Committee. We would like to extend a sincere thank you to Marcia Bender, Brenda Mohr, Carol Shewfelt and Deb Stevely. This committee has worked hard at this community fundraising initiative for the past 20 years!!! Amazing!

Now it's time to look to a new group of volunteers. The board would like to know if there is a group at Grace who would be willing to take on and organize the fall fair food booth fundraiser. The committee has lots of detailed notes to help out and would be happy to let you know what is involved. Grace would have to let the Tavistock Agricultural Society know of our intention by June.



We would love to hear some feed back from our Community of Faith.

We need volunteers - Tavistock Yard Sale!

The town-wide garage sale is Saturday June 4th. In the past Grace has participated and in 2019 we raised \$1700. We have currently made a commitment to raise \$5000 in the year for fundraising, and this is a good opportunity.

BUT ...this event is a lot of work, and beyond the capability of the fundraising team. We need a minimum of 4 volunteers to:

- take turns to be at Grace in the evenings the week before to collect donations (you can set a time for drop offs)
- to organize and sort stuff
- to be at the event to sell things (Rev. Gail is willing to be a helper on the day of)
- to manage the removal of things that are not sold.

Please let the office know if you can help in anyway. If we do not get volunteers, we will not participate in this event.