

# GOOD NEWS AT GRACE

Grace United Church • April 29, 2022

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'GraceUnitedTavistock'



'Grace United Tavistock'



[www.graceunitedtavistock.com](http://www.graceunitedtavistock.com)

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- *"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD,  
"plans to prosper you ... plans to give you hope and a future".* Jeremiah 29:11

As many of you know, I sadly announced on Sunday that I will be leaving Grace United at the end of June. This has been an extremely difficult decision for me, and it has required me to truly spend time listening to God's Spirit. This scripture from Jeremiah has been guiding strength during my discernment.

My ministry at Grace has been short, but I feel that it has been a positive ministry. Together we have weathered the challenges of Covid, and we have learned the importance of connecting both in person and digitally; your new website, your new newsletter, and your wonderful AV team will continue to shape this important ministry of communication. You have also embraced new music with the purchase of More Voices, and I am sure that your new Music Director will continue to bring an energy to worship. It has been encouraging to see a growth in outreach at Grace through the work of the Food For Friends Program, and the new Social Justice team. But, one of the biggest noticeable strengths of Grace is the way in which you care and support for each other, evident in your prayer shawl ministry, the work of Pastoral Care and Outreach, and in the compassion of your new Care and Communication team. God has been doing great things here at Grace – and I truly believe, that God will continue to do great things in your midst.

I recognize that there have been several changes in my short time at Grace – and maybe the pandemic has helped us all to navigate change. We all know that change can bring some anxiety, and that not everyone has appreciated the changes and challenges that I have presented. Please understand that my decision to leave is not for any reasons of conflict, but rather due to a deeper sense of Divine call that my gifts in ministry would be able to flourish elsewhere. Recently each committee at Grace has been evaluating their role in the church, and it is my prayer that as you look for new leadership, you take some time to reflect and discern who you truly are as a community of faith, and what is important to you. I firmly believe that we can only create good pastoral relationships when we are honest with each other, and with ourselves.

I want to let you all know that I have truly appreciated my time that I have spent as your minister, and the friendships that I have formed with you. I know that the news of my leaving is a shock and perhaps a disappointment to many of you. Please know that I think we can still celebrate all the good things of our time together. I hope that in the time that I have left that many of you will stop by the office to say a personal goodbye.

If you have any questions of what comes next, please don't hesitate to reach to the members of your M&P team ... and take comfort in knowing that God has a plan for Grace!

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](http://www.graceunitedtavistock.com)

**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:** 9:00 am UCW - Kitchen

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

**May 8th:** 10:30 am Worship Service 'Christian Family Sunday' led by the UCW  
Sunday School - Zion Hall

**May 10th:** 5:00 pm M&P - Knox Parlour

**May 12th:** 7:00 pm Choir Practice



## 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



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### Contact us

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

Carol Young: cell number 519-301-1356

Office Email: [graceunitedtavistock@gmail.com](mailto:graceunitedtavistock@gmail.com)

E-transfer donation email: [gracetavistockdonation@rogers.com](mailto:gracetavistockdonation@rogers.com)

[gfricker@rogers.com](mailto:gfricker@rogers.com)

[tavigraceyouth@gmail.com](mailto:tavigraceyouth@gmail.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

## Mental Health Week – May 2<sup>nd</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>.

**5 Simple Things You Can Do** to make the world a better place for people with mental health challenges and their families

- 1. Be a friend.** Provide companionship and compassion on the road toward recovery. Offer a ride to church or to a local support group. Listen without judgement. Pray for those you know with mental health challenges, substance use disorders, and for their family members.
- 2. Share your story.** Has mental illness impacted you or your family in some way? Your story may empower others to seek treatment or have hope.
- 3. Watch your language.** Pay attention to the words you use and avoid stigmatizing labels. Do not refer to people as “crazy,” “psycho,” “lunatic” or “mental.”
- 4. Be a “StigmaBuster.”** Challenge negative attitudes toward mental illness among your friends and acquaintances and in the media.
- 5. Learn the facts.** Educate yourself about the various mental health challenges, substance use disorders, neurodevelopmental differences, and other brain disorders.
  - Check out the resources at the UCC Mental Health Network ([www.mhn-ucc.org](http://www.mhn-ucc.org)),
  - take a Mental Health First Aid class and host one at your congregation for the larger community.
  - Offer a class or a support group with the National Alliance on Mental Illness ([www.nami.org](http://www.nami.org)) and check out the facts at

Some helpful resources include:

- the National Institute of Mental Health ([www.nimh.nih.gov](http://www.nimh.nih.gov)),
- the Alzheimer’s Association ([www.alz.org](http://www.alz.org)).
- Visit the Mental Health Commission of Canada for education, supports and programs related to mental wellness <http://mentalhealthcommission.ca/>

## Mother’s Day Cards – Back by Popular Demand

This Mother’s Day, do you want to honour your mother, remember a mother, reach out to someone who finds Mother’s Day hard, or celebrate different kinds of family – and support Mission & Service at the same time? Once again this year, when you make a gift through Mission & Service, you can send a Mother’s Day e-card in honour, memory or celebration. To make a donation, and to send an electronic e-card - click on this link: [card/donation site](#)



Camp Bimini will be celebrating 75 years of ministry with youth and children this year. As a cabin sponsor we have some responsibilities for the cabin, including spring cleaning each year, ensuring curtains and windows are present and in good condition and ensuring that the interior is painted regularly. Most of the cabins are in need of a fresh coat of paint outside as well but this large task happens only about every ten years. As you will understand, the timeline for this to happen is dependent on our spring weather. Our Lenten Project has raised more than the cost of the paint but we know Bimini will make good use of the money (especially with the ever-rising costs of food!). It's time to organize our volunteers to paint! We are working with the camp on dates--we are looking at prepping and painting the interior May 5-7 with the help of some heaters to dry and warm the space. We will need to supply our own brushes, scrappers and equipment with the paint being supplied from the funds raised. If you are able and willing to help for a day or two, please connect with Tory Zehr at [tgzehr@live.ca](mailto:tgzehr@live.ca) or 519-608-2505. We will most likely plan the exterior painting for early June (this will be very weather dependent). We know that working together on any project can be a lot of fun and friend-building!

## 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](mailto:tavigraceyouth@gmail.com), the church office, or visit our website [GraceUnitedChurchScholarship](http://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.



## Mini Monthly Financial Report

Month of

**MAR**

	2021	2022
Anniversary	0	0
Core Receipts	5,931	8,688
Other Donations	145	75
Misc. Receipts		
Fundraising	0	1,285
Funeral Donations	0	0
Manse Rental	875	875
Misc.	35	125
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>6,986</b>	<b>11,048</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>37,518</b>	<b>15,307</b>
<b>Surplus/Deficit</b>	<b>-30,532</b>	<b>-4,259</b>

\$20,000 transfer to GLL

\$2,767 laptop/camcorder

*A reminder about etransfers: If you would like to make a donation by etransfer please use the email [gracetavistockdonation@rogers.com](mailto:gracetavistockdonation@rogers.com) security question is 'When was the new addition built' the answer should be Grace1980. Please give any special donation instruction in the message.*

**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.

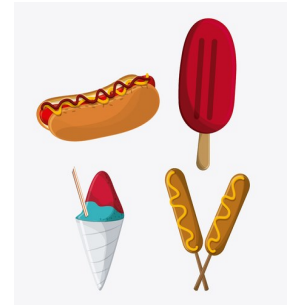
Please contact the property committee of the Board, John Markle, Dale Brenneman, Doug Shirray

### **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.

In the past this has been a valuable fundraiser for the church, the last year we ran the booth in 2019 we raised approximately \$2500. And had a great time out in the community. We would love to hear some feed back from our Community of Faith.



## **SAVE THE DATES!**

**May 15<sup>th</sup>:** Join us as we **dedicate the new lawn sign** that was donated by the Brown family. After a dedication in the sanctuary, we will all move out front to cut the ribbon, followed by refreshments in Zion Hall.

**May 29<sup>th</sup>:** You won't want to miss the entertaining music of **Kiley Joe Mason**. It will be a fun concert of rocking Gospel music and old time Hymns. A good time to sing and clap along! Get your tickets NOW - see poster for details.

**June 4<sup>th</sup>:** Grace will be taking part in the community wide yard sale. Details will be in the bulletin soon about drop off times and dates, so start collecting up items now. We have volunteers that have offered to do refreshments and the Bar B Q. Susan Pellow and Mary Boland have agreed to help organize the items. We are still looking for the following:

- ◆ 2 or 3 more volunteers to organize the items on Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> and Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> – please contact Susan Pellow
- ◆ 2 or 3 more volunteers to help sell on Sat 4<sup>th</sup> – please contact the office
- ◆ The loan of a Bar B Q – please contact Brian Boland.



# GREAT ENTERTAINMENT

## Kiley Joe Mason!

### A CONCERT OF GOSPEL AND HYMNS

at Grace United Church  
**SUNDAY MAY 29TH**  
**3.00-4.30PM**

TICKETS \$20

(INCLUDING REFRESHMENTS)

Order by phone: 519 655 2151

Order by email:

graceunitedtavistock@gmail.com



With Special Guest  
GRAYSON



# May Birthdays and Anniversaries

Happy birthday to:

Ty Brown—May 1

Natalie Flach—May 1

Devon Schmidt—May 1

Lindsay Parr—May 3

Bella Gingrich—May 4

Emily Shantz—May 4

Gary Mohr—May 7

Deanna Stevely—May 7

Alyssa Lupton—May 10

Bill Brown—May 12

Jordan Riehl—May 13

Benjamin Gingrich—May 15

Don Mordue—May 20

Jeremey Kaufman—May 20

Madelynn Sullivan—May 20

Grace Sullivan—May 22

Shirley Weicker—May 23

Megan Friesen—May 23

Riley Wettlaufer—May 24

Jaymie Riehl—May 26

Karsen Ankenmann—May 31



Happy anniversary to

Dave and Susan Wiffen—May 1

Katrina and David Isern—May 7

Eugene and Marcia Bender—May 21

Amber and Brett Jackman—May 25

Joe and Laura Scheerer—May 31

