

GOOD NEWS AT GRACE

Grace United Church • July 8, 2022

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'GraceUnitedTavistock'



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www.graceunitedtavistock.com

Our area grows some of the best strawberries and rhubarb anywhere, and since this is peak season for both why not take advantage of the bounty and make something delicious. Right now, both are overflowing at Farmer's Markets and local shops, or maybe you have some growing in your own backyard. What better way to top off a great family meal??

The dinner table is a great place for families to come together and grow in Christ. While the meals are being shared, so are laughs, tears, and memories. You come together to share a blessing over the food God has provided for you, and experience God's blessings as a family. Sharing tables is one of the most uniquely human things we do. No other creature consumes its food at a table. And sharing tables with other people reminds us that there's more to food than fuel.

Tables are one of the most important places of human connection. We're often most fully alive to life when sharing a meal around a table. We shouldn't be surprised then to find that throughout the Bible, God has a way of showing up at tables. In fact, it's worth noting that God's people in both the Old and New Testaments shared tables: the table of Passover and the table of Communion for example. These are ways we can see food again as a blessing from the Lord.*

Strawberry Rhubarb Crisp

For the Filling

- 4 cups chopped rhubarb, ½-inch pieces
- 3 cups chopped strawberries, ½-inch pieces
- 1¼ cup granulated sugar
- 4 tablespoons cornstarch
- 1 tablespoon fresh lemon zest (1 lemon)
- 1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice

For the Topping

- ¾ cup all-purpose flour
- 2/3 cup cubed butter
- 10 tablespoons cold cubed salted sweet cream butter
- ½ cup brown sugar, packed
- ¾ cup quick oats

Preheat the oven to 350°F. Spray a 9×9-inch baking pan with nonstick cooking spray.

Using a large mixing bowl, stir together the rhubarb, strawberries, granulated sugar, cornstarch, lemon zest, and lemon juice. Stir until all the ingredients are completely combined.

Spread the fruit mixture evenly into the prepared baking pan.

For the topping, combine the flour, cubed butter, oatmeal and brown sugar until mixture is crumbly.

Spread the topping evenly over the strawberry rhubarb filling.

Bake for 50-55 minutes, or until the topping is golden brown.

Serve warm with your favorite vanilla ice cream on the side. If there are any leftovers, they can be stored in the fridge for a few days.

**beliefnet.com*

Submitted by Session (Chris Patrick)



Upcoming Services and Dates:

SERVICES CAN BE VIEWED ON GRACE YOUTUBE CHANNEL, WHICH CAN BE ACCESSED THROUGH OUR WEBSITE: www.graceunitedtavistock.com (Summer Services will not be recorded)

July 10th: Come early to go over hymns with Marilyne

10:30 am Worship Service led by Rev. Marg Smith in Zion Hall. *With the informal format of worship in Zion Hall and scheduling around summer holidays, ushers and offering counters have not been assigned. Your assistance as needed would be appreciated.*

July 17th: Come early to go over hymns with Marilyne

10:30 am Worship Service led by the Worship Team and Paul Bartlett in Zion Hall

Emergency Pastoral Care. Rev. Maggie Dieter, Minister at Zion United in New Hamburg, will be covering emergency pastoral care. **If you need her, she can be reached at: 416.520.3280.** Members of the Care & Communication are also always available for support.

We are looking for folks to volunteer to provide a very light after-church snack throughout the summer. If you would like to help out, sign up on the sheet in Zion Hall, or call Bev at 519 655-2695. Thank you!!!



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. As we move forward with COVID safety protocols the board is RECOMMENDING THAT MASKS BE WORN when inside the building BUT ARE NO LONGER REQUIRED.

Contact us

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Office: 519 655 2151 graceunitedtavistock@gmail.com
E-transfer donation email: gracetavistockdonation@rogers.com

Office Hours

Katherine Brenneman Thurs. 9:30 – 2:30 pm

Care and Communication Team

Jean Lowe 519 655 3205 Joanne Bean 519 276 1733
Elizabeth Halliday 519 655 2246 Mary Ann Krantz 519 272 4072

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 the chair of Grace PCO, Bev Neeb 519 655-2695, or the office (graceunitedtavistock@gmail.com - emails checked regularly or 519 655 2151 - phone messages checked on Thursdays) and we will begin praying for you.

- † pray for Ron Rudy currently in hospital in Woodstock as he recovers from a broken hip.
- † pray for Brian Boland as he is recovering from successful knee replacement surgery.
- † pray for Susan Pellow who is recovering from successful knee replacement surgery.
- † pray for Susan Humphrey who is dealing with health challenges.

Prayer Shawls are available throughout the summer months for anyone. If you require one for someone who is going through challenges of any size, please connect with Joan Bartlett at 519-655-3334 or 1948paul.bartlett@gmail.com.

From the Office:

We will continue to publish summer Good News at Grace newsletters and have made arrangements for volunteers to write our front pages. Thank you to everyone who is filling in for the summer.

Please continue to send me your photos and announcements throughout the summer—I would love to share them in the Good News at Grace. graceunitedtavistock@gmail.com

***note schedule change: next week's newsletter will be emailed out Friday afternoon.

July 15	Pastoral Care and Outreach
July 22	Social Justice Team (Paul Bartlett)
July 29	No Newsletter (Katherine Vacation)
Aug 5	Christian Education
Aug 12	Worship Team
Aug 19	No newsletter (Katherine Vacation)
Aug 26	UCW
Sept 2	Care and Communication Team



Some UCW members and friends had a wonderful "day away" last Wednesday. They had a delicious lunch at Huron Family Restaurant in Exeter and then continued on their way to the Huron Country Playhouse to see a production of Fiddler on the Loose. Toes are still tapping!

Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council

State of the Church

from the desk of President Mark Laird

We are not alone; we live in God's world. Specifically, we live within the bounds of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council, and we are not alone. There are close to 150 United Churches within our bounds, and I thank God for every one. I want to send a "thank you" on behalf of the Covenant Commission for the record number of Annual Reports that communities of faith have sent in this year. These reports give helpful information to the commission and allow them to see trends which can help to inform decision making. This year, (as I'm sure has been the case for the last 2 years) a trend that has been noticed is that

congregations are weary, and ministry personnel are stressed.

I don't know when the official end to the pandemic will be, but I think it's important to acknowledge where we are now. It has been over 2 years of learning: how to do church differently, adjusting on the fly, trying to find the spirit at work, saying goodbye to loved ones in a way that felt different and sometimes without closure. Congregations have closed, not because of the pandemic, but it was the proverbial final straw. I know that personally I have had to learn tech and stretch myself farther than what I was taught at school.

But I know that I am not alone.

The United Church of Canada is celebrating 97 years this year and those who have come before us faced challenges as well. I can't imagine being a church leader during the depression or WWII just to name two such challenges. The church, its congregations and its leaders have gone through a lot in our history together and the spirit has always led us through to the other side. Maybe not always how we thought it would lead us or how we wanted to be led, but there has always been new life.

We are a resurrection people, and resurrection means new life, not the same life continued (to quote some brilliant theme of a not-too-distant WOW meeting).

So, know that you are not alone. We have all experienced the pandemic together, yes, in different ways, but we all have had to adapt and feel the spirit reaching out anew.

I encourage you to take the summer to see this newness, explore what has changed in your local context that is worth keeping. What aspects of your faith, your spirituality that needed to be changed due to the pandemic are worth keeping around?

Enjoy the warm summer months, perhaps find the time and space to have some outdoor gatherings, if inside-in person still seems like a stretch for your community of faith. Explore creation, explore your faith, explore where the spirit has led us and where it might be leading us into the future.

These last couple of years we have been focusing our education at the regional council level on unsettling our world views - which has been incredibly important.

It is also important to be inspired, to spend time together and to lift each other up.

We hope to hold some events in the fall that can do just that. In the meantime, call your neighbouring community of faith and ask them how they are. Talk to your clergy friends, have a coffee together outside. Reach out to each other and know that:

*you are not alone,
you live in God's world,
who has created and is creating,
who reconciles and makes new,
ever working by the Spirit you are not alone,
and thanks be to God.*

Blessings,



Mark Laird

President, Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council