GOOD NEWS AT GRACE

Grace United Church · July 22, 2022

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'Grace United Tavistock' w



The Deteriorating Conditions in Palestine



On May 29, 11 year old Safi Mohammed Jawabra was at the entrance to Al Aroub Refugee camp, walking home after completing his final math exam. An Israeli soldier shot him in the eye with a rubber coated metal bullet. Most attention in Canada in the past few months has been focused on residential schools and on the war in Ukraine. But we mustn't forget the ongoing problems in Palestine. As time passes, it becomes harder and harder to stop what the Israelis are doing to the Palestinians.

During the 1967 War, Israel seized the West Bank of the Jordan River area and

established a military occupation there. In contravention of international law, Israel has established numerous Jewish settlements throughout the area, displacing the Palestinians in the process. The creation and ongoing expansion of these settlements continues.

In this very dry region, one of the first things Israel did was to take control of the water supply. This precious water has been diverted away from Palestinian villages and farms and to the settlements which can use it without limits, even to fill their swimming pools. On average, a community uses 100 gallons of water per person per day to prosper-- Palestinians have to manage on just 40.

Because of the military occupation, Israel confiscates land ostensibly for "military" reasons such as the need for a missile range. Once the area has been cleared of Palestinians, this "need" is dropped and the land is opened up for Jewish settlements.

Israeli settlements are under civil law including the right to vote and protection of civil liberties. Palestinian areas, however, are under military law making unauthorized home searches and abduction and intimidation of Palestinian youth normal patterns. Peaceful protests are met with violent repression.

The international community is appalled by what is going on. This year Amnesty International released a reported that showed that Israel has created an "apartheid" state on the West Bank with living conditions and social injustice as bad or even as worse than was found in South Africa at its cruelest.

The United Church has long been active in trying to resolve the problems and has numerous committees looking at the issues. And the United Church is not the only religious group concerned. **To be against Israeli policies is not to be anti-Semitic.** For example, there is an organization partnered with the United Church called Independent Jewish Voices which is also concerned about Israeli policies.

What can we do?

1. Check out DCIP website (a United Church partner) <u>https://www.dci-palestine.org/</u> and <u>www.unjppi.org</u>.

2. The General Council of the United Church meets this weekend and has been asked to consider declaring that Israel's actions constitute apartheid. Pray that they will support the boycott, divestment and sanction movement as a non-violent way of making a change.

Submitted by the Social Action Committee (Paul Bartlett)

Upcoming Services and Dates:

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

July 24th: Come early to go over hymns with Marilyne

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

- July 31st: Visiting Sunday: No Service at Grace. We encourage you to visit a neighbouring church or go to our <u>YouTube channel</u> and enjoy one of our recorded archived services.
- Aug 7th: 10:30 am Service led by the Worship Team 'Favourite Hymns from our Community of Faith'

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.

Grace continues to collect milk bags to be made into sleeping mats, collection basket is at the front inclusive entrance doors.

We are also collecting used masks which are taken away for recycling.

<u>Contact us</u> Carol Young: cell number 519-301-1356 tavigraceyouth@gmail.com Office: 519 655 2151 graceunitedtavistock@gmail.com E-transfer donation email: gracetavistockdonation@rogers.com

<u>Office Hours</u> Katherine Brenneman Thurs. 9:30 – 2:30 pm <u>Care and Communication Team</u> 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 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 <u>1948paul.bartlett@gmail.com</u>.

From the Office: REMINDER NO NEWSLETTER NEXT WEEK

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. Thank you to everyone who has shared news, stories, and pictures with me!

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	

Sunday August 14, 2022 – 10 AM Ecumenical Worship Service in the Park

hosted by the Tavistock Ministerial at Queens Park Pavilion in Tavistock

An offering time during our worship will give opportunity to support individual congregations and the ministry of Tavistock Assistance Program (TAP). Offering envelopes will be provided for TAP donations.

Following the service everyone is invited to stay for the **annual noon meal fundraiser hosted by the TAP** board members and volunteers. We hope you can come to worship, eat and fellowship together.

Grace has been asked by the ministerial to help with the Ecumenical Service by finding someone (or a few) from Grace United willing to share personally how they have experienced God in their life. It could be through nature, life experiences, work or ministry, maybe travel... A few personal stories would be nice. Please let Katherine know ASAP.



Fundscrip: Paper fundscrip orders are due this Sunday July 24th before the service. Paper short forms are available in Zion Hall or <u>click here</u> for the long forms. Please make cheques payable to Grace United Church. You can visit our website to learn more about our <u>Fundscrip Fundraising</u> <u>Campaign</u>. Thank you for your SUPPORT!



Physical Card Order Form

Electronic gift cards and reloads are only available on the FundScrip Supporter Site

Retailers on Promotion	Denominations	Quantity	Sub-Total
	\$50		
Fairmont	\$100		
	\$250		
	\$25		
Moxie's Grill & Bar	\$50		
	\$100		
	\$10		
Indiao	\$25		
Indigo (Can be used at: Chapters, Coles)	\$50		
	\$100		

Angust Birthdays and Anniversaries

Happy Birthday to:

- Norma Kaufman Aug 1
- Taylor McKay Aug 2
- Adam Weicker–Aug 6
- Jenn Stevely Aug 11
- Monica Shantz Aug 14
- Kristi McKay Aug 14
- Matthew Brenneman Aug 15
- Shyanne Herlick Aug 16
- Ryan Scheerer Aug 18
- Blake Sebben Aug 20
- Jean Lowe Aug 21
- Lori Schmidt Aug 21
- Ava Glaab Aug 25
- Kyrsten Smythe Aug 27
- Julia Petrie Aug 28

Happy Anniversary to: Karen Stein and Todd Shore - Aug 7 Trevor and Kelly Riehl - Aug 8 Jesse and Ashlie Weicker - Aug 10 Don and Anne Gregory - Aug 17 Dean and Pat Shantz - Aug 23 Michael and Kirsten Stock - Aug 25

APPY*

THDAY!



