

GOOD NEWS AT GRACE

Grace United Church • November 18, 2022

116 Woodstock St. S. PO Box 189 Tavistock ON N0B 2R0 • graceunitedtavistock@gmail.com • 519-655-2151



'GraceUnitedTavistock'



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www.graceunitedtavistock.com

Building God's Beloved Community

At our congregational meeting last Sunday, it was decided that we should reach out not only to new residents in Tavistock and area but also to our own lapsed members, to encourage them to become more active in our church again.

One of the resources that might be helpful in these endeavours is a new book published by the United Church entitled "Building God's Beloved Community." It's a book written by a number of United Church ministers and outlines the United Church's approach to belief, worship, tradition, and history. It is a primer meant for those preparing for baptism and confirmation but also for those interested in deeper study.

The introduction describes the obstacles we in the church face. Being a Christian has changed significantly in Canada in the last few years. It used to be that everyone went to church, so family ties and friendships were strengthened through the church and community events were organized around it. Christians were kind of like salmon, swimming along with the river's current that pushed us toward religious participation. Today, however, church is not a part of people's lives as it once was. Those of us who regularly go to church may now be seen as countercultural.

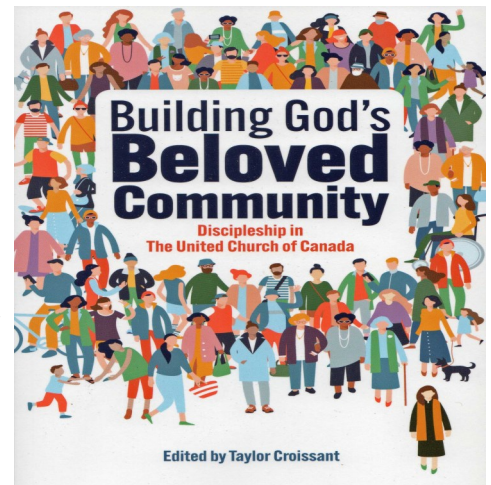
Interestingly, the Christian faith has, throughout its history, often been countercultural. Christians today are like salmon that swim against the river's current, in a society that pivots toward different activities on Sundays, like sports or shopping. Swimming to the home that we've found in the church is now done outside the mainstream. Similarly, there was once an expectation that people would automatically adopt the religion of their parents, but that is also no longer taken for granted in our culture. It is more correct to say that Christians are not born, but rather made.

A present day author, Diana Butler Bass, uses "belonging, behaving, believing" as a way to describe how we become involved in the life of a community of faith. She suggests that for too long the church has emphasized "believing" as a first and necessary step. Then the church requires you to act in a certain way—the "behaving." Finally, you become a member, through baptism, confirmation, or re-affirmation of your faith. This is the "belonging."

Bass suggests that in the 21st century this order needs to be reversed. First, you feel welcome, the love, the hope; you find yourself getting more interested—you "belong." Then you begin to "behave" differently as you experiment with what it means to follow in the Jesus Way. Finally, you come to the point where you want to learn more—the "believing" in the content of your faith.

For people looking for answers to the big questions of life, this book may be a start as we welcome them into or back into our beloved church community.

Submitted by Paul Bartlett



Upcoming Services and Dates:

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

Nov 18 - 19: Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council Online Fall Gathering

Nov 20th: 10:30 am Intergenerational Children's Sunday Worship Service in Zion Hall led by Carol Young. Sunday School will host Sundae Sunday. All are welcome!

(dairy free ice cream is also available)

12:15 - 1:15 pm Journey to the Stable rehearsal

Nov 20 - Dec 11: Project Good Tidings

Nov. 24th: 7:00 pm Choir Practice

Nov. 26th: Journey to the Stable at Grace UC

Nov. 27th: Fundscrip orders due

10:30 am Advent 1 Worship Service with Communion, led by Rev Young Seo. Sunday School. Light snack and refreshments follows in Zion Hall. Nativity Sets on display during Advent

Nov 30th: 10:00 - 11:30 am Sit n' Knit, Stay n' Crochet

Dec 1st: 7:00 pm Choir Practice



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for the Tavistock Fall Fair Food Booth 2023: This would be a scaled down version of the previous year's, serving: water, pop, coffee, ice cream and goodies. We have to let the Ag Society know our decision by December 15th. We are now running out of time to make a decision about whether to continue with the fall fair booth. It has previously made around \$2000. If we don't do this fundraiser we will have to look at raising this amount some other way.



Ivy Francis 100th Birthday Open House

Sunday, December 11 from 2-4 pm.

Millennium Trail Manor,

6861 Oakwood Dr, Niagara Falls ON L2G 0J3

All are welcome. RSVP to Cheryle Slattery 905 401 1510

If you wish to send a card they can be mailed to Ivy at Millennium Trail Manor. There will be a video of messages at the open house, if you wish to send an electronic happy birthday, email it to Cheryle at cheryleslattery@gmail.com (please turn your phone camera sideways for a better video)

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 there fore we recommend masks but they not required, distancing can still happen if you wish, and hand sanitizer is at each entrance.

Contact us

Rev. Young Seo	cell 519 671 6910	revyoungucc@gmail.com
Carol Young	cell 519-301-1356	tavigraceyouth@gmail.com
Office	519 655 2151	graceunitedtavistock@gmail.com
E-transfer donation email		gracetavistockdonation@rogers.com

Office Hours

Rev Young Tues. and Thurs. 9:30-2:30 pm (it may change the office hour and day, please contact her before visit)

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

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 Rev Young at 519 671 6910 and we will begin praying for you.



✝ pray for Claudette Wettlaufer at home recuperating.

✝ pray for Barb Matthies who is in hospital recovering from injuries from a fall

✝ pray for Brenda Mohr as she struggles with health issues, and Brenda's sister Jackie, as she continues to deal with her cancer diagnosis

Journey to the Stable - Saturday, November 26

Wanted and needed: ACTORS (shepherds, angels, innkeeper, women, Mary, Joseph, merchants and more—those with lines and those without lines), ANIMALS (sheep, donkey, calves, and more!), Musicians, organizers, people to set up, people to take down for **Journey to the Stable**. Any age will be welcomed! We are looking for people to make plates of goodies for serving in Zion Hall following the Journey to the Stable outside.



Please talk with Carol Young if you are interested in being part of this time to share the great story of Christmas with our community on a special night.

Have a nativity set? Or two? or more? We'd love to see them!

On Sundays throughout Advent, we will be displaying Nativity sets in Zion Hall for all to see during refreshments after the worship service. A sign-up sheet will be available in Zion Hall on Sunday,

November 20 for you to sign up to bring your set (s). We'd love

if 2-3 people signed up each week. Please have the sets set up prior to 10:30 on your Sunday and you can get your set back as that refreshment time ends that day! Come and see them beginning November 27!



Journey to the Stable

A RETELLING OF THE JOURNEY OF THE SHEPHERDS

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2022
5:30, 6, 6:30 & 7 PM

GRACE UNITED CHURCH, TAVISTOCK

LIVE ANIMALS AND ACTORS TO RETELL THE STORY

GOODIES AVAILABLE INSIDE AFTER YOUR JOURNEY

DONATIONS GATHERED THIS NIGHT WILL BE GIVEN TO
GRACE UNITED CHURCH YOUTH PROGRAM

giftswith**vision**

The United Church of Canada has developed "Gifts with Vision" in response to requests to be able to give Christmas gifts to relatives and friends that are in support of the Church's Mission and Service partners. To see all the gifts that you can give and how to give, check out the website giftswithvision.ca. The catalogue is available for download, [Gifts with Vision Catalogue](#) or there are a few paper catalogues available to borrow from the church office. Thank you for your generosity and supporting Gifts with Vision.

Mini Monthly Financial Report

Month of

Jan - Oct

	2021	2022	
Anniversary	3,230	1,434	
Core Receipts	86,085	76,013	
Other Donations	1,634	2,500	UCW
Bequest	10,000	0	
Misc. Receipts			
Fundraising	1,040	4,469	
HST Rebate	1,628	1,682	
Manse Rental	8,750	8,750	
CEBA	20,000		
Misc.	5,959	1,184	16,085
Total Receipts	138,326	96,032	
Expenses	145,273	114,420	
Surplus/Deficit	-6,947	-18,388	

As we are now approaching our December yearend we would like to remind our Community of Faith of our budget commitments for 2022.

To date November 6 we have received \$1656 in anniversary donations and have budgeted for \$8,500 for the year. We also committed to a budget of \$141,380 in envelope donations for the year 2022.

Please consider how you can help us meet our 2022 financial commitments. Donations can be received by:

- Plate at the entrance to the church on Sunday morning
- By mail to Grace United Church, PO Box 189 Tavistock ON N0B 2R0
- Etransfer to gracetavistockdonation@rogers.com (security answer is Grace1980, include in the message any special instruction such as *Anniversary Offering*).
- Or by signing up for PAR. [Brochure available here.](#)

Thank you for your generous support of Grace United Church





High Noon Lunch Returns

Join us for a Christmas Celebration

Thursday, December 8th

At Noon

Zion Hall, Grace United Church

116 Woodstock St S Tavistock

Entertainment - Ropp Brothers

Come for food, fellowship and music

