

# GOOD NEWS AT GRACE

Grace United Church • November 25, 2022

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'GraceUnitedTavistock'



'Grace United Tavistock'



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



*As it is written in Isaiah the prophet,*

*"Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way, the voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'" (Mark 1: 2-3)*

Dear Grace Church Family!

The season of Advent, which comes from the Latin word *adventus* meaning "coming", begins four Sundays before Christmas and ends on Christmas Eve. We are preparing for and anticipate the coming of Christ. We remember the longing of Jews for a Messiah and our own longing for and need of forgiveness, salvation and a new beginning. Even as we look back and celebrate the birth of Jesus in a humble stable in Bethlehem, we also look forward anticipating the second coming of Christ as the fulfillment of all that was promised by his first coming.

Advent begins on Sunday, November 27! Advent is a season of celebration and beautiful ritual. In the midst of this, everybody is longing for what the Light of Christ brings: hope, peace, joy, and love.

Please come and join the Advent Sunday services, Lesson & Carols, Christmas Eve family fun service at 7pm and Communion and candlelight at 10pm in Church! Especially, Grace United Church is delighted to be welcoming people again this year for an interactive 'Journey to the Stable', meeting characters and animals from the Christmas story here in church on November 26th, at 5:30pm.

Behold! Please give generously and remember, contributions to neighbors. Join us for the 'Project Good Tidings'; this is an opportunity for the followers of Jesus to share the Light with our neighbors! I pray that during Advent God will provide for you the time and space to prepare for Christ's birth, God's greatest gift to us. All so that when God is born in Christ this Christmas, he will find in us a mansion prepared for him to dwell.

Rev. Young Seo

## Upcoming Services and Dates:

SERVICES CAN BE VIEWED ON GRACE YOUTUBE CHANNEL, WHICH CAN BE ACCESSED THROUGH OUR WEBSITE: [www.graceunitedtavistock.com](http://www.graceunitedtavistock.com)

**Nov 20 - Dec 11:** Project Good Tidings

**Nov. 27th:** 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

**Dec 4th:** Fundscrip orders due

10:30 am Advent 2 Worship Service led by Rev Marion Jackson Tyler

Light snack and refreshments follows in Zion Hall. Nativity Sets on display during Advent.

**Dec. 6th:** 12:00 pm UCW Christmas Luncheon. Roll Call: bring a personal care item for Optimism Place

**Dec. 8th:** 12:00 pm High Noon Lunch - Christmas Celebration. Entertainment: Ropp Brothers

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.

**Memorial plaque orders:** we are planning to place an order for memorial plaques. Cost for the plaque is \$250. Please contact Tory Zehr at [tgzehr@live.ca](mailto:tgzehr@live.ca) and 519-608-2505 if you are interested in placing an order.

**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
- ✝ pray for Tricia and Doug Wettlaufer as Doug struggles with health issues.



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



## 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 this Sunday, November 27!





## Report from community of faith meeting Nov 13

Chris Wiffen and I were very happy that so many who were at the meeting after church and took the opportunity to speak about the profile. There was a good, lively and respectful discussion, and some points were clarified, added or removed until consensus was reached. At the Official Board meeting Wednesday, November 16, the board voted to confirm the edited document as our current Community of Faith Profile.

We would like to thank all those who put time, thought and effort into this part of the process of finding a new full-time minister for Grace. Our next task will be to create a search committee of about five or six. If you are interested in being part of that committee, please speak with either Chris or myself.

Your continued support is appreciated,

Anne Gregory, Chair of the Board

## Ecumenical Advent Series with the United Church of Canada

As Christmas and the holidays approach, Christians experience the season of Advent as a time of expectant waiting and preparation. This year, will present a special series of Advent meditations and conversations that will reflect on the question: "What Are We Waiting For?"

Each Thursday in Advent, listeners are invited to join in a live discussion at 7:00 p.m., via Zoom, with one of the leaders on that week's Advent theme. Attendees to the gathering will be able to ask questions during the online conversation.

Also, each Monday during Advent, the church leaders will release an ecumenical Advent meditation in which they will focus on one of the four Advent themes and address challenges and opportunities facing the Canadian churches.

**Register online:** [Click here to Register](#) to receive the meeting link for each event and receive email reminders of each week's upcoming events.

What are we waiting for?

Advent meditations with the leaders of Canada's Anglican, Evangelical Lutheran, Presbyterian, and United Churches

**The Rev. Susan C. Johnson**  
**The Right Rev. Dr. Carmen Lansdowne**  
**The Rev. Dr. Robert Faris**  
**The Most Rev. Linda Nicholls**



# Children's Sunday November 20th Game Time!





# PROJECT GOOD TIDINGS

“...For behold, I bring  
you good tidings of  
great joy which shall be  
to all people...” Luke  
2:10

Sunday,  
November 20, 2022

To

Sunday,  
December 11, 2022

## *What is Project Good Tidings?*

It's a time for us to gather up gifts to help spread good tidings to all. We collect items in bushel baskets for three weeks and see what our gifts together can do. It's really quite amazing what we accomplish together. It's all organized by RECESS (Grade 5-8s). Project Good Tidings challenges the groups, committees and organizations and everyone at Grace UC to give something that will spread the joy and love we know at Christmas. Come be a part of something incredible!

The people we help are associated with the places that the United Church of Canada supports and/or places that we at Grace UC support in our community.

## **Here's who each group is collecting for and suggested items:**

- \* Adult Fellowship—The Christmas Place
- \* Board—TAP
- \* Choir—The Christmas Place
- \* Middle Aged Pews—Shelterlink (for a special stocking project there-- please talk with Carol Shewfelt)
- \* RECESS— Shelterlink (items for a special Christmas dinner—please talk with Carol Young)
- \* Committees of Pastoral Care & Outreach, Worship, and Christian Education)—TAP
- \* Sunday School— Shelterlink (items for a special Christmas dinner— please talk with Carol Young)
- \* UCW—Optimism Place
- \* Youth Group—Shelterlink (items for a special Christmas dinner— please talk with Carol Young)

*Don't worry if you are not in a group, committee or organization. You may add to any of these baskets at any time or there will be a basket available (marked "CONGREGATION") for additional gifts for any of these aid agencies, located in Zion Hall. And please know there is no pressure to give to all the groups to which you belong. Give what you can. Since 2004, over 520 baskets have been collected through Project Good Tidings for local agencies! What a great way to share and care for one another! If the baskets get full, we'll find another one to get filled. Watch the baskets fill and come on December 11 when we bring together and dedicate all our gifts. In advance, we thank you for what you give.*

## ABOUT THE PLACES WE ARE SUPPORTING AND WHAT TO DONATE:

### **TAVISTOCK ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (TAP)**

This year, these items would be most helpful: Stocking stuffers for mostly adults—Socks, treats and gift cards in smaller denominations (\$5-20) for local restaurants, coffee shops, gas stations and stores. New items only (no opened packages) and no homemade cookies and candies. They cannot accept items that are expired. [www.tapisforyou.com](http://www.tapisforyou.com)

### **STRATFORD/PERTH SHELTERLINK**

Located in Stratford, Shelterlink exists to provide Perth County youth ages 16-24, who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, with shelter, advocacy services and basic needs. By providing homeless and at-risk youth with the basic needs of food and shelter, they will have more opportunities to make good life style choices, stay in school, find employment or attend counseling. New items only. The Middle Aged Pews, RECESS, SS and Youth Group will be providing filled stocking bags and items for a Christmas dinner, respectively. Please talk with Carol Shewfelt (MAP) or Carol Young (Youth Group & RECESS, SS) for needs. [www.shelterlink.org](http://www.shelterlink.org)

### **THE CHRISTMAS PLACE**

The Christmas Place is part of Operation Sharing in Woodstock. It is a store that gives families the opportunity to shop for Christmas gifts at a lower price. Parents shop for their children at reduced prices, enabling parents to shop on their own, purchase something their children would wear, play with or use. Some suggestions: new toys and gift cards for 0-18 years of age and gifts suitable for teenagers Any gift you would choose to give YOUR family would be appreciated. New items only. [www.operationsharing.com](http://www.operationsharing.com)

### **OPTIMISM PLACE**

Optimism Place is an emergency shelter for women and children in Perth County. Their needs list include: children's slippers (any size), children's pajamas (any size), children's jackets (any size), toys (any age) , personal hygiene products such as shampoo, conditioner, body wash, lotion, q-tips etc. (except pads & tampons - we have lots of these!), toilet paper, paper towels , bath towels and t-towels, pillows, slippers, dish soap and hand soap. New items only. [www.optimismplace.com](http://www.optimismplace.com)

## PROJECT GOOD TIDINGS

“good tidings we  
bring to you and  
your kin, good  
tidings for  
Christmas and a  
Happy New  
Year!”



God, you bless us each day with good things. We live with respect in creation and we are most like you when we share and care for one another.

Bless these empty baskets and our joy in filling them. Amen!

## Group Paper Fundscrip orders due next Sunday, December 4th.

Plan your Christmas gift cards now as this is our last order before Christmas! You can go to the fundscrip website to see a complete list of participating retailers.

<https://www.fundscrip.com/retailers>.

Current promotions are pictured here.

Paper short order forms are in the pews.











[Click here](#) for our long order form.

Cheques payable to Grace United Church and paper orders can be left in the box in the office. Cards will be available for pick up Dec. 11th.

Thank you for your support of this Grace UC fundraiser.

FundScrip™











November & December 2022 Promotions  
Valid from November 1st to December 30th 2022 - 9:30 AM ET

<b>Boston Pizza</b>  <b>10%</b> Regular 5%	<b>Build-A-Bear Workshop</b>  <b>11%</b> Regular 7%
<b>Chefs Plate</b>  <b>10%</b> Regular 7%	<b>DeSerres</b>  <b>8%</b> Regular 5%
<b>Edo Japan</b>  <b>8%</b> Regular 5%	<b>Giant Tiger</b>  <b>5%</b> Regular 3%
<b>Inspired Dining Card</b>  <b>12%</b> Regular 10%	
  	

Physical Gift Cards    Electronic Gift Cards

FundScrip™

November & December 2022 Promotions  
Valid from November 1st to December 30th 2022 - 9:30 AM ET

<b>Harry Rosen</b>  <b>7.5%</b> Regular 5%	<b>HelloFresh</b>  <b>10%</b> Regular 7%
<b>Ivanhoe Cambridge</b>  <b>4.5%</b> Regular 3.5%	   And more...
<b>Kernels Popcorn</b>  <b>10%</b> Regular 5%	<b>Longo's</b>  <b>5%</b> Regular 3%
<b>Metro (Quebec)</b>  <b>3%</b> Regular 1.5%	<b>Pizza Nova</b>  <b>9%</b> Regular 5%

Physical Gift Cards    Reloadable Gift Cards

FundScrip™

November & December 2022 Promotions  
Valid from November 1st to December 30th 2022 - 9:30 AM ET

<b>RioCan Shopping Malls</b>  <b>5%</b> Regular 3%	<b>Georgian Mall</b>  <b>Oakville Place</b>  And more...
<b>Shell</b>  <b>3%</b> Regular 2%	<b>Thai Express</b>  <b>6%</b> Regular 4%
<b>The Ultimate Dining Card</b>  <b>10%</b> Regular 5%	   And more...
<b>TJX Canada</b>  <b>8%</b> Regular 6%	<b>WINNERS</b>  

Physical Gift Cards    Reloadable Gift Cards    Electronic Gift Cards

## THE WANDERING WISEMEN

Join Balthazar, Melchior, and Gaspar - along with their faithful camel, Hezekiah--on a whimsical holiday quest to find the infant King. Daily posts--Just search The Wandering Wisemen in Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/thewanderingwisemen> and Instagram <https://instagram.com/thewanderingwisemen?>

