

GOOD NEWS AT GRACE

Grace United Church • December 9, 2022

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'GraceUnitedTavistock'



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www.graceunitedtavistock.com



PROJECT GOOD TIDINGS

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

On Sunday, December 11, Project Good Tidings ends. *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. 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. This year we are supporting The Christmas Place (Woodstock), Stratford Perth Shelterlink, Tavistock Assistance Program and Optimism Place (Stratford).

Let's break down what the name means:

The word PROJECT as a noun (ˈprəˌjekt) is an individual or collaborative enterprise that is carefully planned to achieve a particular aim. As a verb (prəˈjekt), it is to extend outward beyond something else. The word TIDINGS (ˈtɪdɪŋz) is a noun meaning news; information. So, Project Good Tidings is about extending and spreading the good news that Jesus Christ is soon to be born for all, regardless of income, race, gender, job and more.

The day we finish the campaign and bring into worship all the gifts, is a day full of deep meaning and is a very moving and emotional time. The generosity, joy and love from the Grace community fills the sanctuary and beyond. The next days that follow are of equal emotion as we deliver items to the Christmas Place, Shelterlink, TAP and Optimism Place. If Sunday is about generosity, the next days are about gratitude. Deep gratitude. Gratitude in its purest form.

If you have already brought in your items, THANK YOU! If you have not, please consider how you can be a part of this movement and energy. The details regarding these places and their needs are in this newsletter. The baskets will all be upstairs in the hallway outside the sanctuary to receive your items. Come be a part of something incredible on Sunday—it's beyond words!

Carol Young



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

Upcoming Services and Dates:

SERVICES CAN BE VIEWED ON GRACE YOUTUBE CHANNEL, WHICH CAN BE ACCESSED THROUGH OUR WEBSITE:

www.graceunitedtavistock.com

Nov 20 - Dec 11: Project Good Tidings

Dec. 11th: 10:30 am Advent 3 Worship Service led by Rev Young Seo, Sunday School. Bake Sale Auction and light snack and refreshments follows in Zion Hall. Nativity Sets on display during Advent.

12:30 - 1:30 pm Confirmation Lunch Gathering - Knox Parlour

Dec. 14th: 10:00 - 11:30 am Sit n' Knit Stay n' Crochet

Dec 15th: 11:30 am Tavistock Ministerial Meeting - Quehl's Restaurant

7:00 pm Choir Practice

Dec 18th: 10:30 am Advent 4 Lessons and Carols Worship Service. Sunday School. Light snack and refreshments follows in Zion Hall. Nativity Sets on display during Advent.

Dec. 21st: 7:00 pm Board Meeting

Dec 22nd: 7:00 pm Choir Practice

Dec. 24th: 7:00 pm Christmas Eve Service - led by Rev. Young Seo

10:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service - led by Rev Mary Boland



The office will be closed Dec 26th - Jan. 5th. The final newsletter of the year will be Dec 23rd. Please have any newsletter items submitted to Katherine by Tues. Dec. 20th. There will be no newsletter Dec. 30th and a reduced newsletter Jan. 6th.

Year end donations: the last deposit of the year will be Dec 26th. Note there is no service December 25th and the office is closed Dec 26-30, we encourage you to take this into consideration when making your year end donations.

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 *it is recommended to call ahead

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

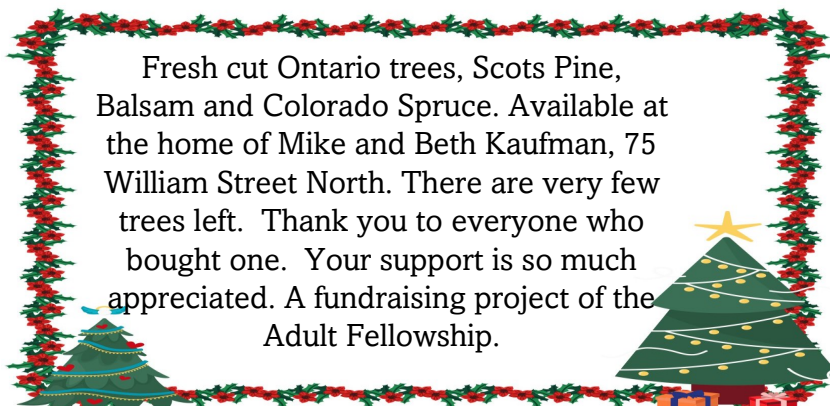
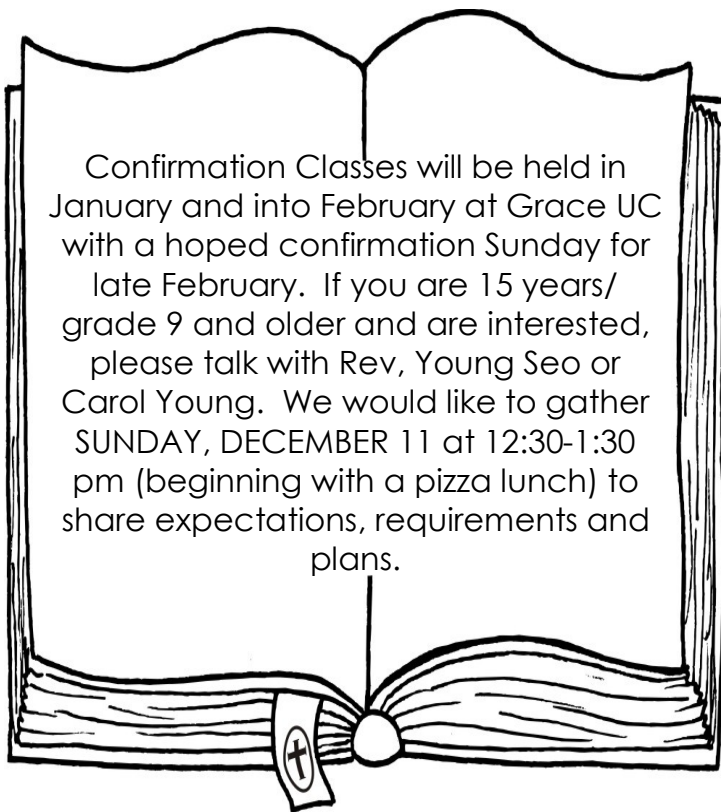


✝ pray for Claudette Wettlaufer in Stratford Hospital.

✝ pray for Barb Matthies who is at home recuperating

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

Ivy Francis' 100th birthday party open house on December 11th has been cancelled due to outbreak at Millennium Trail Manor in Niagara Falls.



Bake Sale, this Sunday December 11 during coffee hour

Auctioneer: Gary West

Muffins, cookies , candy , pies, squares.....what ever you wish to make.

Please bring any donations to the church on Sunday morning prior to the service, prepackaged and ready to sell!

Contact Bev Neeb or Tory Zehr for inquiries



Come enjoy our Nativity Sets on display in Zion Hall during Advent.

Following worship we will have a variety of nativity sets on display bought in from our Community of Faith. Please join us for light snack and refreshments.



Thank you for sharing your pictures of your nativity sets from home for all to see.



A Prayer to help build your gratitude and joy this Advent season
From <http://www.united-church.ca/worship-theme/advent-unwrapped.ca>

Hot Cocoa Prayer

1. Measure two tablespoons of cocoa powder. Taste it (it's bitter). Pray for some of the things that are bitter in your life and a little hard to take on their own.
2. Measure and add 1–2 tablespoons of sugar or sweetener. Taste it (it's sweet). Offer a prayer of thanks for all the things that are sweet in your life and are perhaps best in small doses.
3. Add a pinch of salt. Taste it (it's salty). Offer a prayer for moments of grace and clarity, experiences that bring out the flavour of life.
4. Warm some milk (or milk beverage) while reflecting on when you have experienced the Holy in the past day or week. What has warmed your heart?
5. Mix warmed milk beverage with hot chocolate mixture. Taste it (it's yummy). Give thanks to God and enjoy.



Message from M&P: Keith Weitzel who has served for many years has announced his wish to retire the end of January 2023. The custodial team work in co-operation with the Property Committee to ensure the day to day cleanliness and maintenance of the Church property. As well as this the duties include setting up and taking down of chairs and tables for special events and rentals during the week and on weekends. Snow removal and salting is contracted out. For a complete job description contact Chris Wiffen, chair of M&P. The committee hope that someone from our Grace family will step forward but if no one does then we will have to advertise the position.

Chris Wiffen, M & P Chair

Happy Retirement

Broadview Magazine

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519-655-2151 to let us know if you wish to start or continue your subscription. Cheque/cash (payable to Grace United Church) in an envelope, clearly marked with your name and for 'Broadview', can be put on the offering plate or left in the office. Etransfers to gracetavistockdonation@rogers.com (include "Broadview" in the message). **If you are starting a new subscription we need your mailing address.



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Sunday,
November 20, 2022

To

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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

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

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

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

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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!