# GOOD NEWS AT GRACE

# Grace United Church · February 3, 2023

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'GraceUnitedTavistock'

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www.graceunitedtavistock.com

All of us love to get together with our family and friends. Covid 19 took this ability away from us for a time.

Now we are able, with precautions, to be together again. Our UCW has been meeting in person for some time now. We started off in Zion Hall, well spaced, and masked. Then we graduated to the more intimate and comfortable Knox Parlour.

It was easy to see how much our women had missed our meetings. The smiles and cheery greetings as we assembled were wonderful to observe. Some of our members hadn't seen each other for many months, even years, and it was evident that they had missed each other. Sure, many had kept in contact by telephone but it isn't the same. It was good to be together.

Jesus always seemed to have people around him. He sometimes needed to be off by himself to be alone with His Father and to rest, but mostly he seems to have enjoyed the company of others. Did he too get a lift and was regenerated by being with others? Maybe he did... just like us.

Someone asked me recently what is the UCW? I told her we are a group of women who meet once a month for a time of devotion. As well we always seem to have lots of "business" to talk about. For example, in March we will be supplying the lunches for both the South Easthope Insurance Company annual meeting and a Lenten service.

Of course, we always follow that wonderful Grace United tradition of eating. Each meeting ends with a snack, a cup of tea and lots of chatter. Knox Parlour is full of noise and laughter.

We strive in our little way to carry out a mission at Grace. In our meetings we try to foster an atmosphere where we can hear and learn from God's word, discuss ways to raise money for our church and to support missions, and enjoy each other's company. I can surely say that the women in Grace UCW deeply care for one another.



Some UCW ladies enjoying lunch on a June day trip

We start each meeting by saying together our UCW Purpose. To unite the women of the congregation for the total mission of the church and to provide a medium through which we may express our loyalty and devotion to Jesus Christ in Christian witness, study, fellowship and service.

**UCW Co-President Bev** 

# **Upcoming Services and Dates:**

SERVICES CAN BE VIEWED ON GRACE YOUTUBE CHANNEL, WHICH CAN BE ACCESSED THROUGH OUR WEBSITE: <a href="www.graceunitedtavistock.com">www.graceunitedtavistock.com</a>

Feb. 5th: 10:30 am Worship Service led by Rev. Mary Boland. Sunday School. Light snack

and refreshments follows in Zion Hall.

Feb. 6th: 7:00 pm CE Committee Meeting

Feb. 7th: 1:30 pm UCW. Roll Call: Bring a Valentine

Feb. 8th: 10:00 - 11:30 am Sit n' Knit Stay n' Crochet

Feb. 9th: 12:00 pm High Noon Lunch

7:00 pm Choir Practice

Feb. 11th: 1:30 pm Confirmation Class

Feb. 12th: 10:30 am Worship service led by Rev. Young Seo. Sunday School.

Potluck lunch following in Zion Hall. Annual meeting starts after lunch.

Feb. 15th: 10:30 am Board meeting

Feb. 16th: 7:00 pm Choir Practice

**High Noon lunch** will be held at Grace United Church on Thursday, Feb. 9 at Noon. Our



guest speaker will be Barb Hacking, known as the butterfly lady. She is an expert on the Monarch Butterfly and through a visual presentation, will talk about her love of this butterfly and her journeys to their winter home in Mexico.

Because of Lenten services and lunches, there won't be a High Noon lunch in March.

**Upper Room Renewal**: It is \$14 to renew your Upper Room Subscription. Please make cheques payable to Keith Weitzel and leave an envelope on the offering plate marked 'Upper Room'.



Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

**Grace United Church** 

Feb 5, 2023, 10:30am Service Led by Rev. Mary Boland

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**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

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## 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 Brenda Mohr as she struggles with health issues, and Brenda's sister Jackie, as she continues to deal with her cancer diagnosis
- † pray for Brian Gerber as he struggles with health issues.
- † pray for Doug Shirray as he recuperates at home.
- † pray for Ken Brenneman as he recovers at home.
- † pray for Keith Weitzel as he recuperates at home.
- † pray for Rev Young and family as her husband Jason Richards struggles with health issues.
- † pray for Dorothy Kennedy as she deals with some additional health challenges



It's cold out there. And on February 25, our team *The Graceful Walkers* (Paul Bartlett, Mary Ann Krantz, Carol Shewfelt, Linda Stock, Tory Zehr, Wayne Shewfelt) is going to do something about it. Together with thousands of Canadians across the country, we're walking and fundraising to support and serve people and families experiencing homelessness, hurt, and hunger in our community. We are fundraising for Stratford - Stratford Connection Centre, Stratford/Perth Shelter Link. Please, give generously by clicking "Donate Now". Thanks!



**Donation Receipts for Income Tax Purposes**: 2022 Receipts were emailed out last week, please check to ensure you received it. Contact Katherine in the office if you do not see the email. Those who requested a paper copy or do not have email can pick theirs up on Sunday at church. Thank you.

**The UCW has a deal for you**. We have surplus copies of the United Church cookbook "Let's Break Bread Together" which we are selling for \$10 on Sundays during snack time. You can also call Jean at 519 655-3205 to have a copy set aside for you. While untold numbers of recipes are available online, this 288-page, spiral-bound book is a wonderful collection of easy-to-make recipes from United Church women across the country. A must have!!!!





Our Bible study is going to begin on Feb. 14, 7 p.m. at Grace. Each week is a stand-alone study so even if you can join us for only a week or two, that isn't a problem. Some weeks could be through Zoom. Hope to see you there as we gain insight from God's word and each other.

### Annual Meeting Sunday, February 12th.

Join us for our Annual Meeting in Zion Hall following the worship service. We will enjoy a potluck lunch and then the meeting will start after lunch. The Sunday School will set out the food and do the clean up afterwards. The annual reports will be sent by email when it is ready, paper copies are available to those who requested them. Please join us as we reflect on 2022 and present the 2023 budget for approval by our Community of Faith.

East Zorra Tavistock Township is offering some Community Events.

Check out the poster!



# United Church of Canada, Black History Month

We enter Black History Month with the reminder of the enslaved history of Africandescent people brought to Turtle Island.



As our calendar turns to February 1, Black History Month will be celebrated and remembered across Canada throughout the month in schools, civic organizations, religious gathering, government institutions, and particularly in Black communities.

In The United Church of Canada, we enter Black History Month with the reminder of the enslaved history of African-descent people brought by British and French settlers in Turtle Island.

Brianna Lane, a participant in the Learning Community from the <u>Young Black Scholarship</u> <u>Project(opens in a new tab)</u>, choreographed and produced a portrayal of this history through modern dance. Brianna is currently completing her MA in environmental science at the University of Toronto. She is also a member of Trinity United Church in Cobourg, Ontario.

We invite you to view it and imagine that history from its beginning and how it continues to unfold in our present day context.

For the rest of the month, we will be posting a <u>couple of blogs(opens in a new tab)</u> written by African-descent youths from our communities of faith and a video blog on how a community of faith in Nova Scotia engages in Black Lives Matter as their commitment to support the unfolding history of Black communities in their area.

Thank you for joining with us to celebrate Black History.

— Emo Yango, Identity and Mission Network Coordinator

The Black Journey YouTube Link <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3xLBWBRo8e4">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3xLBWBRo8e4</a>

Through contemporary dance, the video traces the journey of African-descent peoples in the Canadian context. It also includes a list of Black personalities who contributed to Canadian society. Music credit is from Bensound.com "Once Again."