

GOOD NEWS AT GRACE

Grace United Church • March 31, 2023

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'GraceUnitedTavistock'



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www.graceunitedtavistock.com

Palm/Passion Sunday love's cross

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. 1 Corinthians 13:4-6



Prepare

After waking up early one morning and being unable to fall back to sleep, my mind began to wander. In its wandering state, it chose to rest on a memory that elicited deep sadness and hurt. The feeling seeped slowly from sadness to resentment, and I heard voices like whispers pulling me in: "How could someone who loves you so knowingly choose to hurt you?" And with eyes welling with tears at the increasing weight of my heart, I closed my eyes and began to pray.

It was while in prayer that I pictured Christ before me. He took my hand in His and showed me his wounds. "Do you understand?" I felt Him say.

Some of the deepest wounds inflicted on Christ are by those who love Him. There are times when, while claiming to love Him, we are simultaneously hammering at the nails. It is very possible to hurt those who love you, even those whom you love wholeheartedly. In our human weaknesses, we hurt each other through our differences, indifference, and mistakes. To hold each other to a standard that we ourselves are unable to attain is both unreasonable and selfish.

Jesus will not be at the entrance to Heaven begrudgingly opening the gates for us while showing us the wounds we had given him. He will not remind us exactly how many lashes he endured to get us there. It wasn't resentment that carried the cross up to Calvary.

Ponder

How do you understand the Passion of Christ? What do you think helped him to endure this coming week? Think of the wounds that you have endured and the wounds that you have inflicted on others. What might forgiveness look like?

Prayer

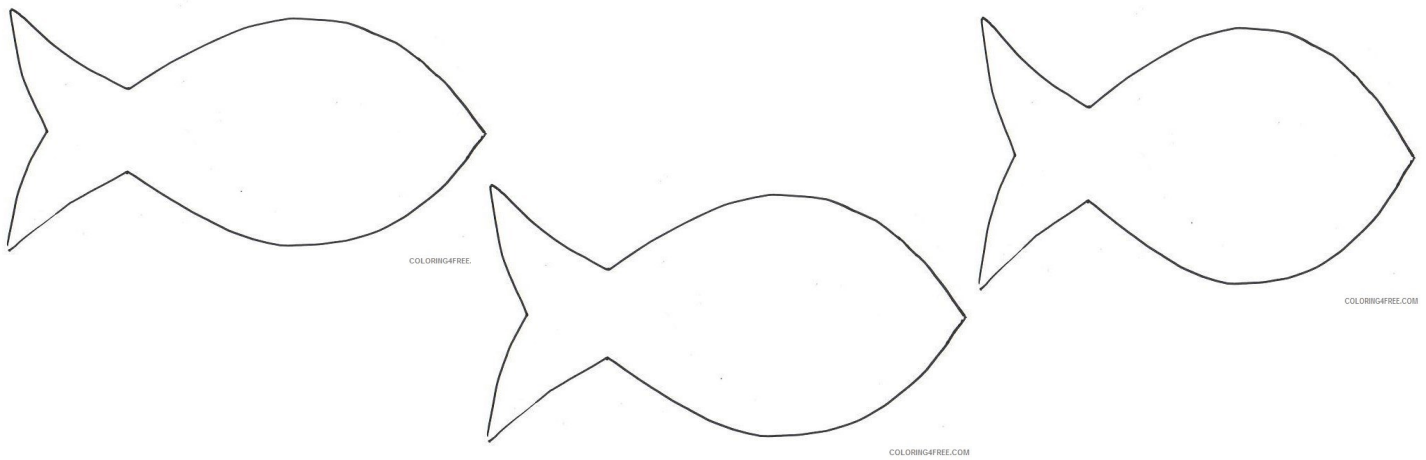
Reflect on the words of "Beneath the Cross of Jesus" by Elizabeth Cecilia Clephane (1868).

Reflect in prayer on the words of "My Song Is Love Unknown" by Samuel Crossman (1664).

Practice

Colour or doodle as a spiritual exercise. Choose three colours to colour the fish on the next page. With the first colour, reflect on times when you have been wounded by someone else's actions or inactions. With the second colour, reflect on times when you feel like you have wounded others, including Christ and his ministry. With the third colour, reflect on what loving actions might be able to provide healing or a way forward.

Written by ChrisAnn Alvarez.



Upcoming Services and Dates:

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

April 2nd: 10:30 am Palm Sunday Worship Service led by Rev Mary Boland, Sunday School.

April 4th: 1:30 pm UCW. Roll Call: Bring your favourite cup and saucer

April 5th: 10:00 - 11:30 am Sit n'Knit Stay n' Crochet
12:00 pm Zoom Staff Meeting

April 6th: 7:00 pm Choir Practice

April 7th: 10:30 am Good Friday worship service led by Susan Humphrey

April 9th: 8:00 am Easter Sunrise Service in the sanctuary and Breakfast in Zion Hall led by the youth

10:30 am Easter Communion Service led by Rev Mary Boland. Sunday School.

All are welcome for light snack and refreshments in Zion Hall following worship

April 11th: Office of Vocation in person interviews - Knox Parlour

April 12th: 11:30 am Tavistock and Area Ministerial Meeting - Quehl's Restaurant

April 13th: 12:00 pm High Noon Lunch: Guest speaker is Geoff Hayman, the fire prevention officer for East Zorra-Tavistock Township.



Emergency pastoral care: Please contact Rev Mary Boland at 519 655 2992 if you are in need of emergency pastoral care.

Contact us

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 (please call ahead for an appointment)

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 Mary Boland 519 655 2992 and we will begin praying for you.

- ✝ pray for Brenda Mohr as she struggles with health issues, her sister Jackie (cancer diagnosis).
- ✝ pray for Keith Weitzel as he deals with health issues.
- ✝ pray for Ken Brenneman as he deals with health issues.
- ✝ pray for Rev Young and family as her husband Jason Richards struggles with health issues.
- ✝ pray for Brian Gerber as he struggles with health issues.
- ✝ pray for Ken Rieck as he struggles with some health issues.
- ✝ pray for our neighbour at the manse Debra Morgan as she mourns the passing of John Morgan.

EASTER SUNRISE
SERVICE & BREAKFAST
SUNDAY, APRIL 9, 2023
8:00 AM
GRACE UNITED CHURCH, TAVISTOCK



Led by the youth. All welcomed to attend.
Donations towards the continental breakfast will go towards enhancing the ministry of the youth at Grace UC--now and for the future!

You are
welcome to
bring your
Easter
plants to
help
decorate
the
sanctuary
for Easter
Sunday.

A photograph of a single white lily flower with yellow centers, set against a light purple background.

Thank you to everyone who has provided after-church refreshments and light snacks. The treats and the time for chit-chat is so appreciated. The sign-up list for April through June is in Zion Hall and we ask you to participate as you are able. Please note there is no after-church refreshments and snack on Sunday, April 2 because of a hall rental.



The Grace United Church Scholarship, established in 2014, strives to create, encourage and nurture teen and young adult growth.



This is open to students enrolled or about to be enrolled at a post-secondary institution in Canada. The scholarship will encourage teen and young adult participation, involvement, and perhaps leadership at Grace United Church, providing an opportunity for them to share their gifts with the Grace United Church family. This scholarship will also provide the opportunity for the Grace United Church family to be a support to teens and young adults in their participation and involvement with

the Grace United Church family and a support as they grow and learn. It will be a reminder that Grace United Church is a caring church family where they are welcomed and where they can feel they belong.

The Grace United Church Scholarship will be funded by the Grace United Church family.

*For full information and/or an application to apply, please contact the Youth Coordinator, Carol Young tavigraceyouth@gmail.com or the church office. **Application deadline is April 30, 2023.***

To give to the Scholarships, you can include in offering envelope or in another envelope marked "scholarship". Cheques made payable to Grace United Church.



Earth Week 2023

Together for the Love of Creation

During Earth Week 2023, The United Church of Canada is joining with numerous denominations and faith-based organizations under one banner, [Together for the Love of Creation\(opens in a new tab\)](#).

Communities of faith, networks, and regions are invited to initiate and participate in climate justice events during the week of April 16-23 to pray, learn, and act for the love of creation. Now is the time to act. As UN Secretary General António Guterres urged with the [release of the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change \(IPCC\) report,\(opens in a new tab\)](#) "Our world needs climate action on all fronts—everything, everywhere, all at once."

This is a tremendous opportunity for the church to lift up and strengthen the ways that we are putting our house in order by reducing our carbon footprint, raising our spirited voices through advocacy efforts, connecting with the earth, responding to climate impacts, and challenging ourselves to be deep, bold, and daring. Hold an event to share these initiatives with others. Learn from and collaborate with our friends in faith. Attend an event already being organized. Be a catalyst for climate justice.

Mark Earth Week in a way that reflects and challenges your community.

Yard
SALE

And BBQ Sat. June 2nd
start saving your donations

We are looking for donations of: dishes, books, jewelry, games, toys, knick-knacks, silverware, craft supplies, lamps, materials, china, decorations, almost everything – except clothing and upholstered furniture.

From the Office of Vocation UCC
Bulletin Announcement for Tavistock Pastoral Charge April 2, 2023

An opportunity for you to participate

Within The United Church of Canada, the Office of Vocation has the responsibility of oversight of ministry personnel. Where a question has been raised regarding ministry personnel, the Response Committee may choose to order a review of that ministry personnel's conduct and effectiveness.

On March 16, 2023 as a result of concerns raised by the Executive of the Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council, the Response Committee ordered a review of the totality of Rev. Gail Fricker's ministry under section J.6.3 of *The Manual* 2023.

The Rev. Carol Hancock has been appointed to conduct the review. An ordained minister, Carol served pastoral charges and communities in Saskatchewan, British Columbia and Ontario and then served at the General Council. Now "mostly retired", Carol continues to enjoy work in service of our United Church.

There will be an opportunity for all members and adherents who had direct experience of the Rev. Fricker's ministry to contribute. Carol will conduct interviews by Zoom and telephone, and, if necessary, in person. In-person interviews will take place here at Grace United on April 11, 2023 and can be booked by contacting Margaret Bakker at 519.529.7428 or margbakker@hotmail.com by April 4th. While most appointments are scheduled for twenty minutes, longer appointments can be arranged if a couple, group or committee wishes to be interviewed together.

Anyone wishing to contribute by Zoom should contact Carol directly at 905.954.1801 by April 9th. Zoom Meetings will be scheduled on April 4, April 5 and the afternoon and evening on Friday April 14th.

Members and adherents can also provide written submissions, either in addition to an interview, or instead of an interview. These need to be signed, dated, and contain the person's contact information should the reviewer need to follow up. Please note: *everyone who meets with Carol and/or contributes written material will be named as a contributor to the Review and may be quoted within the Report that Carol will write.*

This requirement is essential to ensure both accountability and fair process.

Emailed materials can be sent to Carol at chancock@bell.net or posted to 537 Newmarket St., Holland Landing, ON L9N 1K7. The deadline for written submissions is April 15.

The Review Report will not be made available to the congregation. The Office of Vocation and the Rev. Gail Fricker will receive a copy of the Report and decisions will be made by the Office of Vocation.

The Regional Council understands that the Review process may be a time of uncertainty for all concerned. Please feel free to reach out to Rev. Heather Leffler for pastoral care concerning the review process by email at hleffler@rogers.com or by phone at 519.275.7385 to set up a telephone or Zoom meeting.

Pastoral Care has also been offered to Rev. Fricker.

April Birthdays and Anniversaries

Happy birthday to

Nathan Townsend - April 1

Brian Boland - April 3

Mitchel McKay - April 4

Mallory Mohr - April 4

Blake McCann - April 5

Kelsey Mogk - April 7

Jean Brown - April 8

Ethan Miller - April 8

Dwight Herlick - April 9

Austin Lupton - April 9

Dustin Sauder - April 10

Amber Jackman - April 11

Halle Townsend - April 11

Anne Gregory - April 12

Dylan West - April 16

Amber Riehl - April 17

Orianna Graine - April 19

Ava Cook - April 20

Grace Locke - April 24

Greg Ankenmann - April 24

Olivia Townsend - April 25

Coleridge Graine - April 27

Jean Houghton - April 29

Shirley Wilhelm - April 29

Connor Shantz - April 30

Happy anniversary to

Keith and Carol Weitzel - April 8

Bruce and Jane McKay - April 14

Jason and Kayla Shantz - April 24

Rodney and Monica Shantz - April 26

Baby news!

Aubrey Christine Horst child of
Mallory (Mohr) & Carl Horst

February 24th, 2023

7lbs 6oz and 19.5 inches long

Welcome to the world Aubrey!

