

# GOOD NEWS AT GRACE

**Grace United Church • May 19, 2023**

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

Hello everyone!

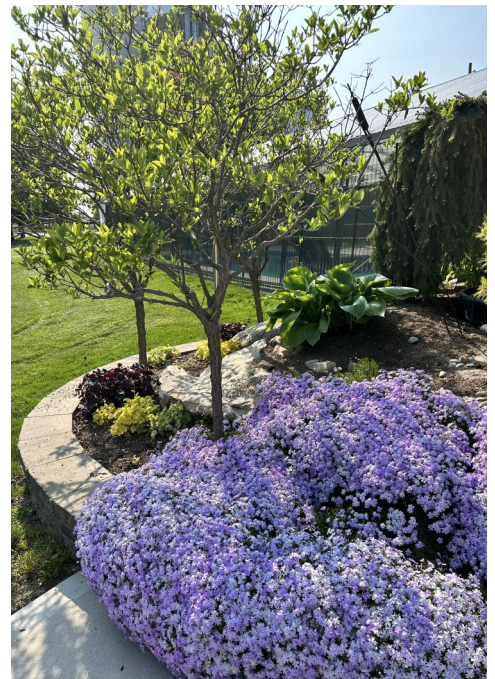
I'm sure there are some gardeners among you who are just itching to get your fingers into the soil - or maybe you already have! The Victoria Day weekend is the magical point at which we are told that our plantings will be in no danger of frost - fingers crossed!

I love driving through the countryside these days and noting the fields in their various stages of readying for sowing seeds. It's a beautiful time of the year - spring is my favourite season. And thankfully, this year, the gorgeous flowers that mark spring have been able to bloom for a while without being cooked by early hot sun. Growing up in the country makes us so aware and so appreciate of the changing seasons of God's wondrous creation..

With gardening in mind, I'm sharing a poem from a book called, *Earth Prayers From Around the World*:

The garden is rich with diversity  
With plants of a hundred families  
In the space between the trees  
With all the colours and fragrances.  
Basil, mint and lavender,  
God fill my heart with love,  
Dill, anise, tansy,  
Holy winds blow in me.  
Rhododendron, zinnia,  
May my prayer be beautiful  
May my remembrance O God be as incense to thee  
In the sacred grove of eternity  
As I smell and remember  
The ancient forests of earth.

CHINOOK PSALTER



Many blessings as you hoe and cultivate and harrow and plant!

Rev. Marg

## **Upcoming Services and Dates**

*SERVICES CAN BE VIEWED ONLINE AT GRACE YOUTUBE CHANNEL*

**'Grace United Tavistock'**

**May 21st:** Worship Service led by Rev. Marg Smith. We will be celebrating Asian History Month with special guest speaker Janet Bradley Worthington. Sunday School.

All are welcome for light snack and refreshments following the service.

**May 25th:** 7:00 pm Choir Practice

**May 26th - 27th** Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council Spring Meeting - by Zoom and in Port Elgin

**May 28th:** 10:30 am Pentecost Worship Service led by Rev. Mary Boland. Sunday School.

All are welcome for light snack and refreshments following the service.

**May 31st:** 10:00 - 11:30 am Sit n' Knit Stay n' Crochet

**June 1st:** 7:00 pm Choir Practice

**June 1st - 2nd:** Receive Yard Sale Items in Zion Hall

**June 3rd:** Yard Sale and BBQ



**All dates and events can be found on our website calendar as well. Link to the calendar: [Grace UC Calendar](#)**

### **Yard Sale and BBQ Sat. June 3rd**



We are looking for yard sale and BBQ helpers, to help with receiving, sorting and pricing. The sign up sheets are on the table by the office. Thank you in advance!

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.

**Drop off times: Wed. May 31 Evening Set up and drop off**

**Thurs. June 1 & Fri. June 2nd, 10-12 noon, 1:00-4:00 pm, 6:00-8:00 pm**

#### Contact us

Rev Marg Smith cell 289 926 0707 margsmith@rogers.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 (please call ahead for an appointment)

Rev. Marg Smith, Thursdays 9:30 - 3:30 pm

Katherine Brenneman, Thursdays 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 Marg Smith 289 926 0707 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 Brian Gerber as he struggles with health issues.
- ✝ pray for John Markle as he recovers from hip surgery last week.



Apple tree in full bloom. Last remaining apple tree from Hope St West apple orchard (Sommers).



## Go Jays Go !

We are wondering if there is any interest in taking a bus to the Jays Game. Depending on interest could be in July sometime. Please talk to Rev Marg to let her know you are interested. We will work on the details stay tuned for more information.



Rev Marg and son Todd on the Schnitzers Loonie Dog Teeter Totter at Rogers Centre

# ***Camp Bimini***

## ***5K Walk, Ride or Run***

The Camp Bimini 5km Walk, Ride, Run is coming up on the weekend of June 24/25, 2023 and Carol Young is participating:

I am walking 5 km for Camp Bimini on June 24 because this

place and space is so important to so many, including myself. It's a place and space that helps people to realize their gifts and talents and to help each of us see it in each other. There are many projects that are happening at the camp to build it for our present and future generations. My family has been involved for three generations and building upon what has already been built is so important to me. Please give to keep this great place and space thriving for years to come! I am asking for and wanting your support! Please consider sponsoring me by clicking this link <https://raceroster.com/events/2023/74850/camp-bimini-5k-walk-ride-or-run/pledge/participant/19861514>

## **VBS 2023**

### **Babylon: Daniel's Courage in Captivity**



Join us as we dive into God's Word and discover Daniel's courage in captivity.

We will step back in time to Babylon, exploring Daniel's adventures in a foreign land. Grouped into Tribes, kids will explore a Bible-times Marketplace, sing worship songs, play teambuilding games in the Palace Playground, eat tasty snacks, and collect Bible Memory Makers to remind us of God's Word. Each day we will learn about Daniel's story and how he stayed committed to the one true God when others were turning away from Him. We look forward to learning that God is with us through every situation and emotion! GOD IS WITH US ALWAYS!

**When:** July 10th to 14th, 2023, 9:00am- 11:30am

**Who:** Children born in 2020 – Grade 8

**Where:** East Zorra Mennonite Church

VBS Registration closes on **June 5**. Please ensure you have registered your child by this date!

**[Register Now](#)**

East Zorra Mennonite Church is also looking for VOLUNTEERS! Please let them know if you are willing to help out at VBS

# A Prayer in Bisaya for Asian Heritage Month

**The Rev. Ronnie Magano offers a prayer in Bisaya (also known as Cebuano or Cebu), an Austronesian language spoken in the southern Philippines. An English version follows below.**

Sa among pag-saulog niining Asian Heritage Month,

dawata ang among mga pagpasalamat diha sa madagaya-on nga nagkada-iyang cultura sa Asya, nga mas gipalambo dinhi sa yuta nga among gitawag ug kaugaling-nan.

Nangaliya kami, alang niadtong nag-gikan sa lain-laing dapit sa Asya, nga unta dawaton sila ug pasidunggan ang ilang mithi nga gika-tampo sa ilang katilingban.

Hinaot unta, nga makakat-on kami sa usa ug usa, ug mutubo ang pag-sinabtanay ug respeto. Nangaliyupo kami sa Imong pag-giya, ug paglig-on, diha sa among hagit pag-atubang sa mga rasahon ug diskriminasyon nga nakaapekto sa mga katilingban nga Asyan dinhi nga nasud Canada ug sa ubang dapit sa kalibutan.

Hinao-t nga magka-hiusa kami sa pag-panday ug usa ka mabulukon ug makiangayon nga katilingban, diin ang tanang taw, tahuron ug respetuhon.

Nangaliya kami nga unta maalim ang mga samad niadtong nakasinati sa mga pag-dumot ug dahas. Makakita unta sila ug suporta ug kapasilungan diha sa ilang mga komunidad.

Among pangayo-on ang Imong bendisyon alang niadtong padayon nga nag-panday-dugtong sa mga nagkadaiyang kultura ug komunidad.

Hinaot nga molambu ang ilang mga paningkamot alang sa pag-sabot, kalooy, ug panag-hiusa. Niining bulan sa pagsaulog, makakat-on unta kami sa usa ug usa, ug mutubo, ug padayon nga mag-saulog sa mga tampo ug amot kanamo nga mga Asyano nga Canadiano. Amen!

## **English Version**

As we celebrate this Asian Heritage Month, receive our thanksgiving, O God, for the abundance of diverse cultures from Asia even in this land we call Canada.

We pray for those who have come from various places in Asia, that they may be accepted and the values they contributed to different Canadian communities will be honored.

May we learn from one another and grow in respect and understanding.

We pray, O God,

for your guidance and strength as we face the challenges of racial discrimination

that affects the diverse the diverse Asian communities in this country and other parts of the world.

May we be one in building a colourful and just society, where all peoples are honored and respected.

We also ask your Spirit for the healing of the wounds of those who experienced hatred and violence.

May they find support and shelter in their communities they deem safe.

We ask for your blessing for those who continue to build connections between different cultures and communities.

And may their efforts, O God, contribute richly toward harmony, compassion and justice.

In this celebration month, may we learn from one another, grow and continue to celebrate our contribution as Asian-descent peoples in this country. Amen.

— Rev. Ronnie Magno is originally from Cebu Conference Inc., of the United Church of Christ in the Philippines, and currently serves at Grace-St. Andrew's United Church, Arnprior ON.