

GOOD NEWS AT GRACE

Grace United Church • July 14, 2023

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'GraceUnitedTavistock'



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www.graceunitedtavistock.com

Spice up Summer with Kindness and Generosity

I don't know about you, but the end of the school year always feels like a fresh start; a chance to leave behind the busyness and expectations of the school year, and find space and time to learn something new. This summer, why not build some generosity practices into your family's summer days and see how it can impact you. Below are a few ideas.

Practice gratitude

The days are long, we are eating fresh produce from our gardens or nearby, and we may get to go camping or visit a cottage—summer's bounty makes it impossible not to feel blessed and grateful. Talk to the children in your life about what you saw that day. Reflect on what was special, delicious, or beautiful. Say grace before meals or a prayer of thanksgiving around the campfire. For school-aged children, encourage them to journal about their summer adventures, so they can look back and feel grateful (plus some literacy practice doesn't hurt).



Volunteer with your child

Find some time during the busy eight weeks off school to give back to your community. Help in a community garden growing food for the food bank. See if help is needed at a local summer camp. Mow the lawns and weed the gardens at your church. Check with local agencies that are feeding, hydrating, or housing people—are there ways your family can help?

Encourage your child to share their money

Whether they set up a lemonade stand, mow lawns, or simply receive an allowance for helping out around the house, talk to your child about sharing their abundance. Consider proportional giving (maybe they share a third of what they earn) or set a monthly amount that they allocate to their church, Mission and Service, or another cause they care about.

Practice kindness

Spend time helping others. Hold the door open for other people. Let someone go ahead of you in line. Have cash available to those with outstretched hands. Help a neighbour by mowing their lawn. Give your child the chance to talk about the experience of helping others. Ask your child, "Why do you think it's important for us to help others?" Or, "How did it make you feel to help others?" These questions will help them understand why their help makes a difference to other people.

Finally, a reminder that helping other people won't always earn praise. Explain that sometimes people won't thank them for their help. Even if your child's kindness isn't acknowledged, it's still meaningful.

— Vicki Nelson, *Community of Faith Stewardship Support for Pacific Mountain, Chinook Winds, Northern Spirit, Living Skies and Prairie to Pine Regions of The United Church of Canada.*

Upcoming Services and Dates

SERVICES CAN BE VIEWED ONLINE AT GRACE YOUTUBE CHANNEL

[‘Grace United Tavistock’](#)

July 16th: 10:30 am Worship Service in Zion Hall led by Rev Marg Smith. Worship will not be recorded. All are welcome for a light snack, refreshments and social time in Zion Hall following.

July 18th: 7:00 pm Worship Committee meeting

July 19th: 1:30 - 3:00 pm Salvation Army Mobile food bank - GUC parking lot. See [Stratford St. Marys Salvation Army Facebook](#) or call 519 271 2950.

July 23rd: 10:30 am Worship Service in Zion Hall led by Rev Marg Smith. Worship will not be recorded. All are welcome for a light snack, refreshments and social time in Zion Hall following.

July 30th: 10:30 am Worship service in Zion Hall led by Rev. Mary Fletcher. Worship will not be recorded. All are welcome for a light snack, refreshments and social time in Zion Hall following.

Group Paper Fundscrip orders due. <https://www.fundscrip.com/>

Aug. 6th: Visiting Sunday. Grace will not have a worship service, we encourage you to visit another community of faith or watch a previously recorded service from our [YouTube Chanel](#).

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

Summer newsletters

During the summer months there will be a reduced number of newsletters sent out. Please take this into consideration for any announcements you may have. We are also welcoming any front page ideas and submissions you have to share.

Schedule is: July 14th newsletter
July 21st NO newsletter
July 28th newsletter
Aug 4th newsletter
Aug 11th newsletter
Aug 18th and 25th NO newsletter
Sept 1st Newsletter

*** I am away on holidays next week, I will respond to messages and emails when I am back the following week.
Katherine

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 copes with health issues.
- † pray for Keith Weitzel as he deals with health issues.
- † pray for Brian Gerber as he struggles with health issues.
- † pray for Marg Pletsch as she deals with health issues.
- † pray for Laverne Mcburney as he deals with health issues.

Saturday Sept 30

Blue Jays vs. Tampa Bay Rays



Rev Marg with some of her grandkids years back

Badder highway coach pickup at Grace at 12 noon

Cost is \$65.00

Please reserve your seat ASAP.

Contact Rev Marg at

cell 289 926 0707 margsmith@rogers.com



Approx. View from seats

**Special Happy 95th birthday to
Dorothy Kennedy on
Monday, July 17th.**



Grace UC Booth at the Tavistock Fall Fair Sept 8 - 10



There have been ongoing discussions about a booth at the fair this year and the decision has been made to have one but on a smaller scale than previous years. In order to make it work though, we need a firm commitment from some of you to help with specific duties. Setup will be as usual on Thursday evening which requires some items be moved from the church to the arena back door. Take down will be Sunday afternoon at three thirty and will require that the items be moved back to the church. We have decided to have coffee, cold pop, water, cookies, muffins and ice cream bars, which

will eliminate the difficult work of scooping cold, hard ice cream into cones. If you are interested in baking muffins or cookies, we need to know that and if you were someone who provided coffee other years and wish to do so again, kindly let us know. The length of working in the booth has been three hours and we will stay with that. This will require volunteers for Friday 4-7. 7-10; Saturday 10-1, 1-4, 4-7, 7-10; and Sunday 10-3:30, likely in two shifts. Students who wish to count helping out as volunteer hours for high school are encouraged to let us know. This note is a general information one and updates and further requests will be shared as the fair time gets closer. Please contact one of the following with your intent to help make this another successful fair booth for Grace.

Anne Gregory 519-274-5100.

Marianne Ruby 519-274-1422 Please call after 5 pm

Mary Boland 519-655-2992



Summer Worship Notes

Our worship services have now moved to Zion Hall till Sept 10th. We do not have any volunteers scheduled for ushering or counting the offering. If you are able to help out that would be appreciated.



The offering plate is not being passed during the offertory. Please leave your envelopes on the plate placed at the entrance.

Activity packs are available for the children for the summer services. Please help yourself to the packs on the table by the entrance.

MOST NEEDED ITEMS



CEREAL



KIDS SNACKS



SOUP



PEANUT BUTTER



CANNED VEGETABLES



BROWN BEANS

You can drop off food donations at Stratford House of Blessing at 423 Erie Street on Monday - Friday from 8:30AM - 4:30PM

JULY 2023

shob.org

FOOD DONATIONS DELIVERY: We are located at: 423 Erie Street Stratford, Ontario beside the train tracks. Park your car at the top of the ramp by the red door between 9:00 am and Noon or 1:00 to 4:00 pm. A staff or volunteer will help you. You may need to let us know you are here at 519-273-3433 or come to the front door.

If you wish to make a financial donation by cheque please write 'Stratford House of Blessing' (the bank will no longer cash cheques that just say 'House of Blessing') and to include your phone numbers on the cheque, that would be very appreciated.

Thank you very much for your time and ongoing support for Stratford House of Blessing.

Please contact Kelsey Lauersen at resources@shob.org or 519-273-3433 ext 202.

Cheers to all the people who can change their minds when presented with information that contradicts their beliefs - Jim Carrey

Did You Find Jesus? For the past few months, we have been inviting you to find Jesus in the sanctuary. Jesus is taking a vacation this summer, and will return to the sanctuary in the fall. Watch throughout the summer for where Jesus goes. If you wish to take Jesus with you and submit pictures, please ask Carol Young. Or perhaps you find Jesus somewhere else please take pictures and tell us about it throughout the summer. Send your submissions to the office for Katherine to include in the newsletter. Jesus is at Camp Bimini right now and, since he is the great healer, went to the nurses cabin to check it out.

