

# GOOD NEWS AT GRACE

Grace United Church • September 22, 2023

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'GraceUnitedTavistock'



'Grace United Tavistock'



www.graceunitedtavistock.com

## Where are those used milk bags you collect going and how are they being used?

Local volunteer Roy Scheerer recently wrote about his experience making mats from milk bags in the publication "Embracing Change" a community magazine from Wilmot, Wellesley, Woolwich township.

He was introduced to the idea of sleeping mats from milk bags in 2013. He had a frame made and learned how to weave the bags for sleeping mats. At the time he relied on finding milk bags from "The Gleaners", local churches, nursing homes and friends to make about 60-65 mats per year. Then he found Milk Bags Unlimited on Facebook, and has now graduated to making a mat a day. Besides weaving at home he also volunteers with a group at Wilmot Mennonite Church every Tuesday. He has also organized "mat making" with his local Vacation Bible School and an evening with the youth group.

In total he estimates he has made 700 mats and shipped to Cambridge, Brantford, Kitchener and Stratford a total of 490 mats for the homeless. The balance were shipped abroad prior to the COVID pandemic.

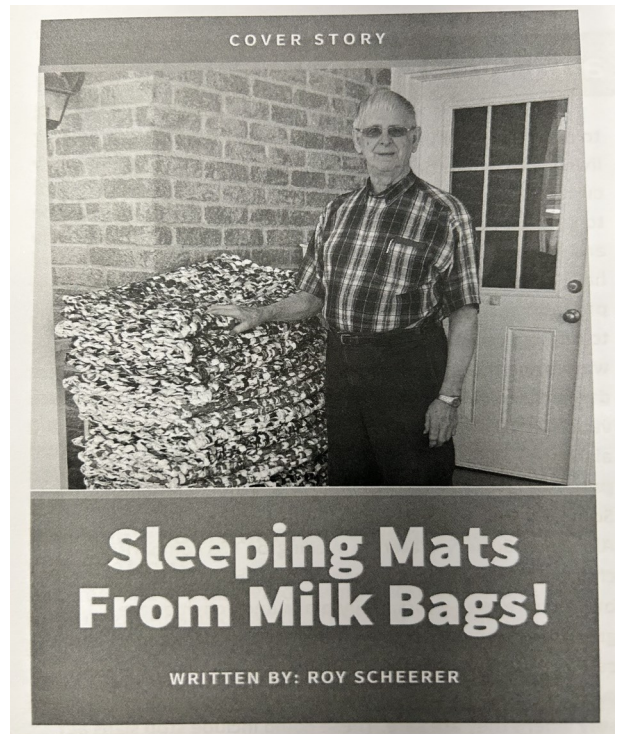
There are different methods and frames used for making the mats. Roy's frame uses 350 bags to make a finished 58" x 28" mat. Approximately 5 hours labour for new bags and 6 hours for used bags. Mats can be made by crocheting as well and takes approximately 16hrs.

The organization Milk Bags Unlimited started by Angela Kesthley in 2008 estimates they have shipped over 58,000 mats, saved over 30 million bags (new and used) from going to land fill. Their objective is 'to provide

*finished milk bag mattresses made by volunteers to people who have nothing but bare earth or cardboard to sleep on'. To learn more about their process and projects we encourage you to check out their website*

<https://milkbagsunlimited.ca/>

Thank you to those at Grace who collect and clean their used milk bags for this worthy cause.



## Upcoming Services and Dates

**Sept 24th:** 10:30 am Worship Service led by Rev Kathy Douglas (first Sunday back upstairs in the sanctuary). Sunday School. Wear an orange shirt to support National Day of Truth and Reconciliation. Service will be recorded for online worship. Following the service all are welcome to stay for a light snack, refreshments and social time.



**Sept 26th:** 7:00 pm Christian Education Meeting - Knox Parlour

**Sept 27th:** 10:00 - 11:30 am Sit n' Knit Stay n' Crochet

7:00 pm Board Meeting

**Sept 28th:** 7:00 pm Choir Practice

**Sept 28-29:** Western Ontario Waterways Fall Online Gathering

**Sept 30th:** 12:00 pm Bus leaves from Grace Parking Lot for Blue Jays Game. Game time 3:07 pm

**Oct. 1st:** 10:30 am Worldwide Communion Sunday, service led by Rev. Marg Smith. Sunday School. Service will be recorded for online worship. All are invited for light snack, refreshments and social time in Knox Parlour following worship.

**Oct. 3rd:** 1:30 pm UCW. Roll Call: Collection for TAP. Guest speaker detailing the Rotary Aquabox Program.

**Oct. 5th:** 7:00 pm Choir Practice

**Oct. 8th:** 10:30 am Thanksgiving Service led by Rev Marg Smith. Sunday School.

**Oct. 15th:** 10:30 am Blessing of the Animals Worship Service.

All dates and events can be found on our website calendar as well.

 Link to the calendar: [GraceUC Calendar](#)

Services will be recorded and can be found on our You Tube Channel usually later Sunday.

 Link to [Grace United Tavistock You Tube](#)



Volunteers are needed to serve the coffee, refreshments and a light snack for the upcoming Sundays. Please see the sign up list in the kitchen. Thank you to all the volunteers who help out with this important Sunday morning ministry.

### Contact us

Rev Marg Smith cell 289 926 0707 [margsmith@rogers.com](mailto:margsmith@rogers.com)

Carol Young cell 519-301-1356 [tavigraceyouth@gmail.com](mailto:tavigraceyouth@gmail.com)

Office 519 655 2151 [graceunitedtavistock@gmail.com](mailto:graceunitedtavistock@gmail.com)

E-transfer donation email [gracetavistockdonation@rogers.com](mailto: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 - 2:00 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.
- ✚ pray for Ron Rudy as he deals with health issues.
- ✚ pray for Ken Brenneman as he deals with health issues.
- ✚ pray for Shelley Walker as she deals with health issues.



Grace is once again having a Thanksgiving collection for the Tavistock Assistance Program (TAP). Your Pastoral Care and Outreach Committee has been in touch with TAP and they would be grateful for any of the following items - toilet paper, paper towels, tea, coffee, gift cards for local businesses. Collection boxes can be found at both entrances to our church leading up to Thanksgiving Sunday. THANK YOU!

If you wish to contribute gift cards, be assured the baskets will be checked on a regular basis and cards safely tucked away until Thanksgiving Sunday.

**CAMP BIMINI  
ON-LINE AUCTION  
COMING THIS FALL**



**NOW COLLECTING  
DONATIONS**

- WOODWORKING, GIFT CERTIFICATES, GIFTWARE, ETC.
- ITEMS FOR ADULTS AND YOUTH
- EMAIL [TREASURER@CAMPBIMINI.CA](mailto:TREASURER@CAMPBIMINI.CA)

The Search Committee for a supply minister is happy to announce that Rev Marg Smith has agreed to stay with us for another six months. We know that you will continue to support her in her ministry at Grace.  
Dale Brenneman, Anne Gregory,  
Dale Ruby



On Sunday, September 24th wear orange to worship to support National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on September 30th.

Why Orange ? Phyllis Jack Webstad from the Stswecem'c Xgat'tem First Nation went to St. Joseph Mission Residential School. On her first day of school, Phyllis wore an orange shirt that her grandmother had given her. It was immediately taken away, and that marked the beginning of Phyllis's long separation from her family and community, a separation caused by actions of the church and federal government.



**Please be in contact with Rev Marg if you are interested in baptism. Depending on interest a fall baptism service may be planned.**  
**289-926-0707**

**Nursery will be available starting September 24th. It will not be supervised, parents and caregivers are welcome to use this space if needed.**



We invite you to share your ideas for the front page. We would love to hear from you, please submit articles to Katherine at [graceunitedchurch@gmail.com](mailto:graceunitedchurch@gmail.com). Thanks in advance for your submissions!

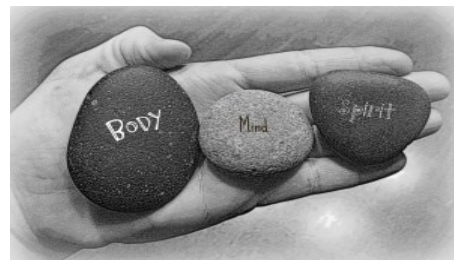
## **A Women's Retreat Day**

**Saturday, September 30, 2023**

**9 am to 4 pm**

**Camp Bimini 3180 Perth Road 113, RR 1 St. Pauls, ON NOK 1V0**

For women of all stages and ages, this day is a day to celebrate and build Body, Mind and Spirit in women. It is a day that invites and gathers women to share, to grow, and to be all in the comfort and peacefulness that is Camp Bimini. We'll have times of laughter, community, sharing, playing, learning and more. This is a good day for friends to come together or come on your own and meet new friends.



**Cost: \$55 (Do not let cost be a deterrent. Please connect with us if it is.).**

**Meals, snacks, workshops and supplies are included.**

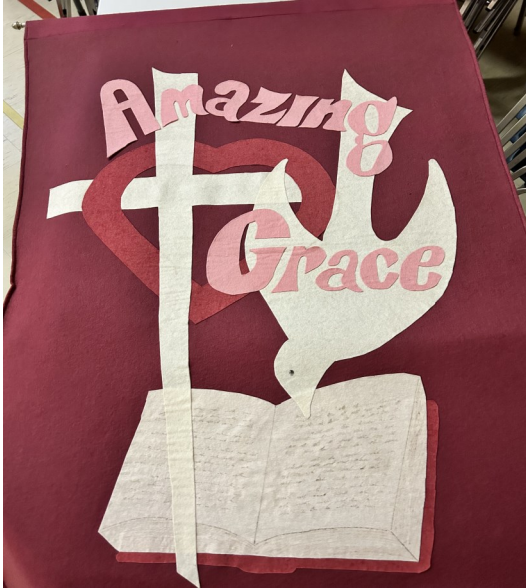
**[Registration online here.](#)**

**Or fill out the form on the bulletin board at church.**

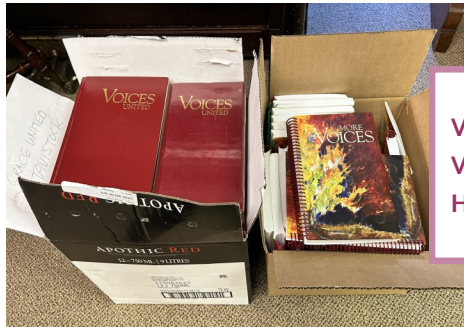
**Register by Sept 23rd.**

**Payment by Etransfer or cheque or cash**

*Thank you to Hampstead United Church for the following items:*



The Amazing Grace Banner



VU and More  
Voices  
Hymnals

The  
Padded  
Chairs in  
Knox  
Parlour



*Hampstead made the difficult decision to close their doors recently. We are grateful that they thought of Grace and donated these items for use here.*

**Camp Bimini Service last Sunday, Sept. 17th:  
Many came out to enjoy our Camp Fire Songs  
Service.**







## **Have Lunch with a neighbour!**

**Socialize over a nutritious home-style lunch from 12:00 noon - 1:00 pm.**

**Stay for entertainment, speakers, music or activities**



# Fun for Seniors

## **H i g h N o o n**

**Where: Zion Hall, Grace United Church  
116 Woodstock Street South, Tavistock  
When: Second Thursday of the Month**



**Oct 12, 2023: Music with Dwight Steinman and Jim Bender**

**Nov 9, 2023: Games afternoon!**

**Dec 14, 2023: Harpist Dr. Alicia Cundall**

**Cost: Freewill Offering**

# Wider Community Events

**Larry Mercey Trio Concert  
@ Parkview United Church,  
470 Ontario Street, Stratford**



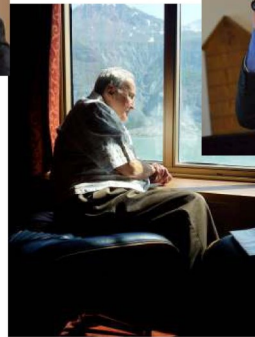
Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup> – 2-4pm  
with a light lunch to follow.  
Doors open at 1pm.  
Tickets - \$30 each

Tickets:  
Janice Wick – 519-508-1736  
Church Office – 519-271-1609

## **The Songs My Father Sang To Me....**

### **A Musical Sermon with The Rev. Mark Curtis**

Sunday, October 22nd, 2023 @ 3:00 pm  
Knox United Church  
92 Northumberland Street, Ayr, Ontario



More info at  
[Knox UC Ayr website](https://www.knoxucayr.com)

FREE WILL OFFERING

***"We Own This Now" October 12, 2023 at 7:00 pm,  
Steinmann Mennonite Church, 1316 Snyder Rd W, Baden.***

This play, presented by Ted & Company TheatreWorks, is sponsored by the Mennonite Central Committee; the Wilmot Ecumenical Working Group on Indigenous/Settler Relationships; local churches and church groups; businesses and individuals. It explores the impact of the Doctrine of Discovery, the legal framework that justified European acquisition of the Americas and the oppression of Indigenous peoples and is a follow up to the play, "Discovery - A Comic Lament" which was performed in the Region in 2018. Tickets are \$15 each (\$10 for students). Get yours at [mcc.org/we-own-this-now](https://mcc.org/we-own-this-now).

**TED & CO** Presents

# **WE OWN THIS NOW**

by Alison Casella Brookins

**Thursday Oct. 12 @ 7:00pm**  
Steinmann Mennonite Church

**Sunday Oct. 15 @ 7:00pm**  
Rockway Mennonite Collegiate

**MCC** General Admission / \$15 adult, \$10 student  
Tickets at [mcc.org/we-own-this-now](https://mcc.org/we-own-this-now)

