

GOOD NEWS AT GRACE

Grace United Church • October 13, 2023

116 Woodstock St. S. PO Box 189 Tavistock ON N0B 2R0 • graceunitedtavistock@gmail.com • 519-655-2151



'GraceUnitedTavistock'



'Grace United Tavistock'



www.graceunitedtavistock.com

Blessing of the Animals

The tradition of Blessing of the Animals began with St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals. Saint Francis first blessed animals early in his ministry sometime **between 1210–1215**.

"The story goes that he was wandering around outdoors one warm afternoon, full of self-doubt, when he noticed a flock of birds in his path. There were doves, crows and all sorts of birds. Swept up in the moment, Francis left his friends in the road and ran after the birds, who patiently waited for him. He greeted them in his usual way, expecting them to scurry off into the air as he spoke. But they did not move.

Filled with awe, he asked them if they would stay awhile and listen to the Word of God. He said to them: "My brother and sister birds, you should praise your Creator and always love him: He gave you feathers for clothes, wings to fly and all other things that you need. It is God who made you noble among all creatures, making your home in thin, pure air. Without sowing or reaping, you receive God's guidance and protection. **"At this, the birds began to spread their wings, stretch their necks and gaze at Francis, rejoicing and praising God in a wonderful way according to their nature. Francis then walked right through the middle of them, turned around and came back, touching their heads and bodies with his tunic.**

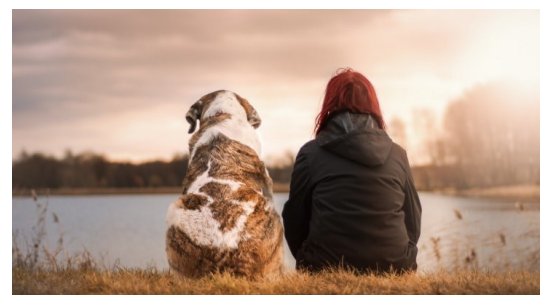
It has been said that the brothers who journeyed with him stood in amazement.

Then he gave them his blessing, making the sign of the cross over them. At that they flew off and Francis, rejoicing and giving thanks to God, went on his way."-www.franciscanmedia.org

For single householders, a pet can be a true companion. Many people arrive home from work to find a furry friend overjoyed at their return. Many a senior has a lap filled with a purring fellow creature. The bond between person and pet is like no other relationship, because the communication between fellow creatures is at its most basic. Eye-to-eye, a man and his dog, or a woman and her cat, are two creatures of love. Every creature is important. The love we give to a pet, and receive from a pet, can draw us more deeply into the larger circle of life, into the wonder of our common relationship to Creator God.

And so, this Sunday, October 15th, we will have a Blessing of the Animals service in celebration of our beloved animals and pets. PLEASE make sure that your pets are well contained, i.e.: cats in reliable harnesses or crates, and dogs must be handled by an experienced handler. Birds should be in cages for their own safety. As kind as these animals are at home, this will be a new experience for them and the sights, smells, and sounds may alarm them. All pets are welcome, but if you have a larger one, please bring along a photo instead.

Rev Marg



Upcoming Services and Dates

Oct. 15th: 10:30 am Blessing of the Animals Worship Service led by Rev Marg Smith. Sunday School. Service will be recorded for online worship. **There will be no refreshments and snack after the service.**

11:35 am First Christmas Musical Rehearsal

2:00 pm Funeral Service for Jean Houghton

Oct 18th: 1:30 - 3:00 pm Salvation Army Mobile Food Bank - front parking lot. Please call 519-271-2950 for an appointment.

7:00 pm Board meeting

Oct 19th: 7:00 pm Choir Practice

Oct. 22nd: 10:30 am Anniversary Worship 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 Zion Hall following worship.

12:00 - 2:00 pm Art Day for Youth

Oct. 25th: 10:00 - 11:30 am Sit n' Knit Stay n' Crochet

Oct. 26th: 7:00 pm Choir Practice

Oct. 29th: 10:30 am Reformation Sunday Worship guest speaker Andrew Middleton

Nov. 5th: 10:30 am Remembrance Sunday Service led by Rev. Marg Smith with Tavistock Legion Madre Mary Boland. Guest speaker Tade Ankenmann



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

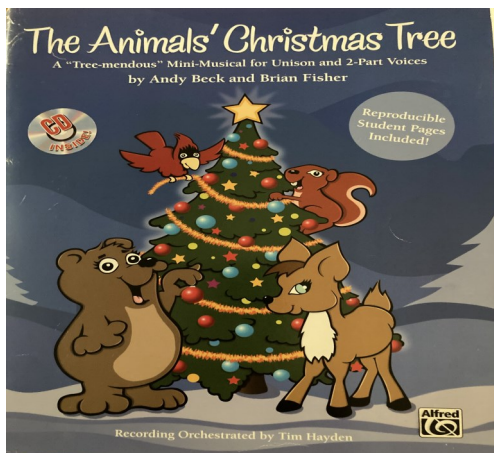


Link to the calendar: [GraceUC Calendar](#)

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



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



Our first practice for the Christmas Musical will take place after the service on Sunday.

If you like to sing, please join us! Everyone welcome!!

Come on out to find out more details.

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

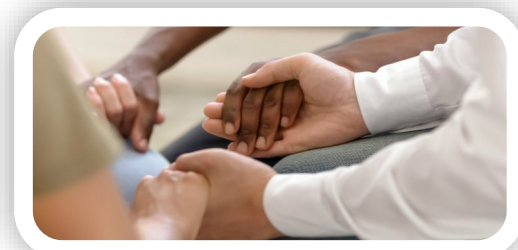
Katherine Brenneman, Thursdays 9:30 - 2:00 pm

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 the family of Jean Houghton as they mourn her passing
- † pray for Brenda Mohr as she copes with health issues.
- † pray for Keith Weitzel as he deals with health issues.
- † pray for Marg Pletsch as she 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.
- † pray for Larry Odette, father of Ken Odette, who is dealing with health issues.



Sunday, October 22, 2023 12 - 2 pm
GRACE UC, TAVISTOCK, 116 WOODSTOCK ST. S

FOR KIDS GRADES 1-8

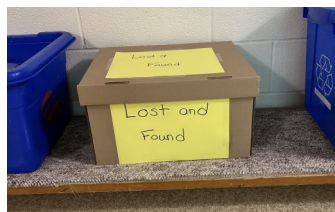
Art Day
come and be creative!

\$5 PER PERSON (BUT DON'T LET COST BE A BARRIER--WE CAN HELP)

START WITH A PIZZA LUNCH AND THEN WE'LL MAKE A DRUM!

PLEASE LET US KNOW YOU ARE COMING BY
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2023
TAVIGRACEYOUTH@GMAIL.COM

Congregational Meeting November 12th. On Sunday, November 12th there will be a congregational meeting following worship for the purpose of electing new board, session, trustees, and WOW Rep (one vacancy). **Inspiration and paraphrasing from JFK: "Ask not what your church can do for you but what you can do for your church".**



NEW. Grace now has a lost and found. It is located on the coat rack outside the kitchen. We have tried to clean up a few stray items, please check it out if you have misplaced anything.

Northern Love: A new project supported by Sit-n-Knit, Stay-n-Crochet



Northern Love run by Callie Haverkamp ships donated second-hand items to people in need in northern communities, often Nunavut and 10 other locations as well. All items are free to those in need. The cost to the recipients is the cost of shipping (\$28 - \$38), although some packages are sent free of charge to those who cannot afford to pay. Within her first year Callie had shipped out almost 300 boxes! In many cases these items are just not available to purchase near their homes.

How can the Grace community can help:

By donating second-hand items: I will coordinate this project (Carol Young when I am away from Oct. 19 until Oct 29) and we welcome donations, which we will accumulate and then invite Callie to pick them up. **We have chosen a NEW DEADLINE of October 29th to accept items.** Callie has sent a list of items which are needed: clothing from infant sizes to adult (no rips or stains please), Bras are very popular, scrubs, Kitchen items, blankets, kid's toys (please nothing huge – they have to fit into a shipping box), kid's books, footwear (no sandals), yarn, fabric, sewing items, craft supplies, fur (coats, hats, mitts, etc. – even if these items have rips or are not in good condition, individuals in the north will repurpose them), baby items (bottles, diapers, etc.), hygiene products, make-up, tooth paste, tooth brushes, soap, etc.

When cleaning out your closets and cupboards this fall, please keep this project in mind. Together we can make a difference to folks in need within our own country. Thank you!

Submitted by Mary Boland – mcboland53@gmail.com



Lawn Signs for sale. \$30.00. Fundraiser for the Poppy Fund for RCL Tavistock Branch #518. Call Mary at 519-655-2992 or Brian Boland at 519-359-9236. Thanks.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29 1:00-3:30 pm

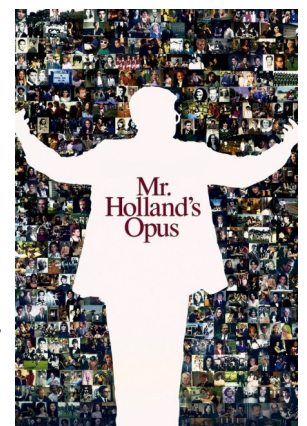
Knox Parlour

Grace Movie Afternoon "MR HOLLAND'S OPUS" (RATED PG) 1996

Glenn Holland (Richard Dreyfus) is a musician and composer who takes a teaching job to pay the rent while, in his 'spare time', he can strive to achieve his true goal - compose one memorable piece of music to leave his mark on the world. Mr. Holland discovers 'Life is what happens to you while you're busy making other plans'. ***Open to everyone!***

**A pizza lunch will be offered at 12:15 pm for those who wish to stay for the movie after worship. Please let Carol know if you are planning on staying for lunch!*

Snacks to be served during the movie!



The United Church of Canada Calls for Immediate Ceasefire in Israel and Palestine

The United Church of Canada mourns the deaths and injuries already suffered and calls for an immediate ceasefire to the recent escalation in violence in Israel and Palestine. The United Church condemns the attacks launched on communities in southern Israel by Hamas, and the ongoing daily violence meted out against Palestinians by Israel's deepening occupation in Palestinian territories.

Echoing the statement issued by the World Council of Churches, The United Church of Canada is deeply concerned about the risks of spiraling conflict between Palestinian armed groups and Israeli forces, which impacts civilians on both sides the most and only leads to further violence and suffering.

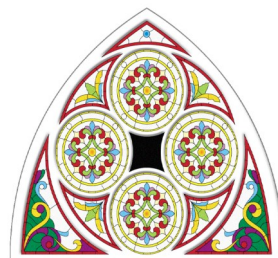
"We pray for the victims and the families of those killed, injured, and abused," said Rev. Michael Blair, General Secretary of The United Church of Canada.

The United Church joins with all those praying for a just peace in the Holy Land and urges global leaders to work urgently for an end to the current violence, an end to the ongoing occupation of Palestinian territories, and a just and lasting peace for Palestinians and Israelis.

Grace United Church Anniversary Sunday is being celebrated Sunday, October 22nd.

This year we recognize 54 years together as our Grace Community of Faith. It has been a tradition at Grace to invite you to support our Anniversary Offering. We do rely on these gifts in our budget, this year we have budgeted Anniversary receipts of \$8,500. We ask you to prayerfully consider how you can support Grace with this special donation over and above your regular giving. Donating Anniversary Offering is easy:

- Offering Envelopes in the pews. Please leave envelopes on the offering plates placed at the entrance to the sanctuary— we are not passing the plate during worship.
- Mail to Grace UC at PO Box 189, Tavistock ON N0B 2R0
- Etransfer to gracetavistockdonation@rogers.com Password is *Grace1980*



PLEASE mark **Anniversary Offering** on envelopes or etransfer

THANK YOU to all our generous donors for your support of the ministries of Grace United Church.

**"GIVE THANKS IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES" BECAUSE GIVING THANKS IS THE FIRST STEP TO BEING GENEROUS,
AND GENEROSITY IS A MARK OF FOLLOWING JESUS.**

A note of gratitude from Tavistock Assistance Program: Thank you to Grace United Church members and the UCW for your thoughtful and generous donations of paper products, canned goods and gift cards for our neighbours in need! You are truly a blessing to our community and surrounding area!
Linda Holst, Program Director

High Noon Lunch October 12th



Approximately 70 people came out to enjoy the hot lunch and musical entertainment by Jim Bender and Dwight Steinman.



STOP THE SPREAD OF GERMS THAT MAKE OTHERS SICK

As we enter the fall season, we know there are an abundance of viruses, including COVID-19, requiring us to use caution. One positive outcome from the pandemic has been our understanding of how these viruses spread. Remember the universal precautions that **can** help us keep each other protected:

- Stay at home if you feel unwell
- Wash your hands frequently
- Wear a mask if it makes you feel more comfortable, or if you have been unwell in the past 5-10 days
- Each of us needs to take responsibility for how best to protect oneself, and consider that others may be vulnerable.
- The [Huron Perth Public Health Unit](#) is a great resource providing current information on risks and protective measures.

**Staying
Healthy**

