

GOOD NEWS AT GRACE

Grace United Church • January 12, 2024

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'GraceUnitedTavistock'

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www.graceunitedtavistock.com

'graceunitedchurchtavistock'

A Message from Rev Marg:

Happy New Year everyone!!

I want to thank you so much for your cards, your gifts and your warm good wishes for me and my family for Christmas!! I really enjoyed all the Christmas celebrations with you.

Wishing you the blessings of health and happiness in 2024!"



When you receive something that is knit or crocheted, it's more than just a gift.

It's an ancient art form passed along from generations.

It's hours of stitching - each and every stitch made with love.

It's choosing colors, fibers, and stitch patterns.

It's not cheap, and would be less expensive if bought from a store.

It's hours of practice to get the stitching right.

It's an art filled with love and purpose. I hope you know you're special when you receive this gift from me.

XO, Knitters & Crocheters of the World

MAMA IN A STITCH



The old year is worn and tired.

Time now to kiss it goodbye.

Take with you its wisdom – the authority
and the power of all you have learned.

Remember the past year with love,
but let go of its despair.

Live the year that lies ahead
with fresh energy and hope.

Be strong, have courage.

It is time now for something new.



On Christmas Morning...

A pair of hand knit socks contains
about 35,000 stitches. That's 35,000
times someone did something while
thinking about you.

So, if you get hand knit socks this
Christmas, remember someone loves
you a great deal.

Upcoming Services and Dates

Jan. 14th: 10:30 am Worship Service led by Teresa Coulthard. Sunday School. All are welcome to stay for a light snack, refreshments and social time in Zion Hall following worship.

Jan. 17th: 1:30 - 3:00 pm Salvation Army Mobile Food Bank
7:00 pm Board Meeting

Jan. 21st: 10:30 am Worship Service led by Teresa Coulthard. Sunday School. All are welcome to stay for a light snack, refreshments and social time in Zion Hall following worship.

Jan. 24th: 10:00 - 11:30 am Sit n' Knit, Stay n' Crochet
12:00 pm Zoom Staff Meeting

Jan. 25th: 7:00 pm Choir Practice

Jan. 28th: 10:30 am Service led by Rev Mary Fletcher.

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](#)

A reminder that annual reports were due Jan 10th. We have scheduled our annual meeting for Sun. Feb. 11th. We are now working on the financial reports and preparing the annual report in order to have everything ready ahead of time.

At this time the membership list will be reprinted — if you have any address or phone number changes please submit them to Katherine at graceunitedtavistock@gmail.com

WANTED AND NEEDED for the annual slide show at the church's annual meeting: ***Photos to remember Grace UC's story for 2023.*** Photos of UCW events, youth events, baptisms, weddings, SS events, worship and any events that will help us to remember who we are and where we are going. We'll include baptisms and weddings and a time to remember those who passed away in 2023 too. Please submit photos to Carol Young before January 14, 2024 digitally or by handing in actual photos (which will be returned). tavigraceyouth@gmail.com.

Please note: you can send photos throughout the year too--it gets tucked away!

Rev Marg won't be with us for the month of Jan but will continue to act as our Pastoral Charge supervisor. Kathleen Welch from Hebron United Church will cover emergency pastoral care for Jan until Rev Marg is back in Feb. Please contact Kathleen at (519) 535 9220.

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

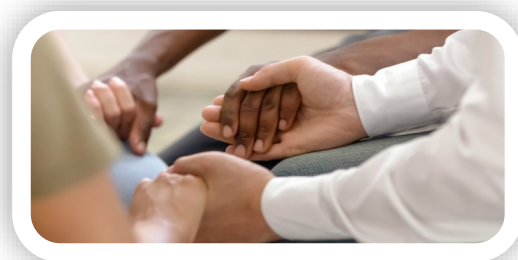
Katherine Brenneman, Thursdays 9:30 - 2:00 pm

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 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 Mary Mitchell, a friend of Rev Marg's, as she deals with health issues.
- ✝ pray for Dianne and Randy Harris as they mourn the passing of Dianne's mother Betty Lou Deckert.
- ✝ pray for Dave and Shirley Wilhelm as Dave starts his recuperation at home from heart surgery.



Nursing Home Worship Services. The ministerial is once again offering Nursing Home Worship Services. Service times are **People Care 2:15 pm** and **The Maples Nursing Home 3:15 pm**. Grace is responsible for providing services on:

- **Feb 25th**
- **April 21st**
- **June 23rd**

We are asking that committees or groups sign up to provide these worship services. Please let Katherine know if your committee/group can help.



2024 offering envelopes: are ready for pick up. The order has been reduced therefore some numbers have changed – for this reason please only use the envelope number intended for 2024. If you have any questions or did not receive envelopes and would like some please contact Katherine.



On behalf of Paul, the kids, and myself I would like to send a thank you to the sit n' knit group for the beautiful prayer shawl/blanket we received. Your thoughtfulness is a comfort to us.

I would also like to thank our community of faith and staff for the kindness and condolences we received as we mourn the passing of our dad and papa Ron. Thank you for the fruit basket and goodies given to us. And I truly appreciate the support and help I received as I was able to take time away and grieve with our family.

Thank you for your care and concern at this difficult time, Katherine

Moderator Carmen Lansdowne: Act Now on the Middle East Humanitarian Crisis



Your advocacy for a ceasefire in the ongoing Israel-Hamas war is critically important. [Moderator Carmen Lansdowne reminds us](#) that the more constituents write to their elected representatives, the bigger the impact. A letter from the Moderator or the General Secretary is only one letter. Using our online advocacy tool, you can send your own individual emails calling on officials in the Government of Canada to continue to press for a ceasefire in the conflict in Middle East.

Visit our Pray, Donate, and Advocate page to share your voice on this current crisis:

[ADVOCATE](#) by sending a letter to your MP, using our new advocacy tool.

[DONATE](#) to our Mission and Service partners who are currently responding to those impacted by the conflict in West Bank and East Jerusalem.

[PRAY](#) for peace and justice in the Middle East.



Mr. Jon Allen is a Senior Fellow at the Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy (University of Toronto) and a former Canadian ambassador to Israel. He is a Distinguished

Fellow of the Canadian International Council and Chair of Project Rozana Canada (<https://www.projectrozana.org/>), a not-for-profit working to build bridges between Palestinians and Israelis via the health sector.

A group of concerned Stratford citizens has invited Mr. Allen to shed light on the current situation in Israel and Gaza and the prospects for peace.

A question and answer period will follow this address.

This event is not aligned with any specific local or national organization or interest group.

Toward Peace in Gaza and Israel: A Stratford Lecture

Sat., Jan. 20, 2024 at 2:30 pm

**Avondale Church,
194 Avondale Ave, Stratford, ON**

Tickets can be ordered via [EVENTBRITE](#) link below
Admission is free, and donations accepted.

Media are invited to attend and can book time with Mr. Allen. Advance registration is required.

Media Contact:
Susan Wright
susan@suzwright.com
519-703-2020

Event Contact:
Wendy McNaughton
wendyannemcnaughton@gmail.com
519-272-0011



Project
Rozana
Canada



Eventbrite
Free Ticket
Registration

Link for tickets: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/toward-peace-in-gaza-and-israel-a-stratford-lecture-tickets-785809997857>



Singing for Peace in Gaza: On December 19th members of our local churches gathered in front of the Tavistock post office to sing and show support for peace in Gaza.

We need your help! Thank you to all the volunteers who make our worship service run smoothly on Sunday mornings. There are many volunteer jobs that so many help out with!

Our list of ushers and offering counters is in need of more volunteers. The schedule is posted on the table by the office. If you are able to help out please sign your name to the open spots.



Movie Afternoon Recognizing February's Black History Month

January 28, 1 pm, Knox Parlour

Hidden Figures

2016 Drama/History 2h 7m

As the United States raced against Russia to put a man in space, NASA found untapped talent in a group of African-American female mathematicians that served as the brains behind one of the greatest operations in U.S. history. Based on the unbelievably true life stories of three of these women, known as "human computers", we follow these women as they quickly rose the ranks of NASA alongside many of history's greatest minds specifically tasked with calculating the momentous launch of astronaut John Glenn into orbit, and guaranteeing his safe return. Dorothy Vaughan, Mary Jackson, and Katherine Goble Johnson crossed all gender, race, and professional lines while their brilliance and desire to dream big, beyond anything ever accomplished before by the human race, firmly cemented them in U.S. history as true American heroes.



Take a Walk on the Wild Side on the "Coldest Night of the Year"!

Hi everyone. Once again we have decided to put a team together from Grace to support the "Coldest Night of the Year" initiative to combat homelessness in our area. We are the "Graceful Walkers" and we invite you to join or support us on February 24.

CNOY is a winterrific family-friendly walk to raise money for Shelterlink Youth Services and Stratford Connection Centre, two charities who serve people experiencing hurt, hunger, and homelessness. By walking in the cold, we feel a hint of the challenge faced by those experiencing homelessness during the winter. By fundraising, we'll be contributing much-needed money to these charities that are bringing hope and help to people who need support. We will be joining tens of thousands of Canadians who participate in this endeavour every year. Since 2011, the Coldest Night of the Year has raised over \$96,000,000 across Canada in 166 communities – 100% of net proceeds stay local to support our CNOY charity partners.

So come and join us on our walk on February 24 or support us with a contribution. For more information log onto our team page:

[Coldest Night of the Year - Graceful Walkers](https://cnoy.org)

or <https://cnoy.org> and look under "Stratford" for our team.

I have attached a picture of our team from last year. One is already returning he says because of the "wonderful free soup"!

Submitted by Paul Bartlett



CAMP BIMINI REGISTRATION OPENS MONDAY JANUARY 29 AT 6:00PM

(Go online now and
set up your account)

**AN EXPERIENCE
YOUR CAMPER WILL
NEVER FORGET!**

www.campbimini.ca

Salvation Army Mobile Food Bank Wed. Jan. 17th

Every third Wednesday
afternoon 1:30 - 3:00
pm Grace United
Church Parking Lot

Please call 519-271-
2950 if you wish to
receive services at our
mobile locations.



January Birthdays

Happy (and belated) Birthday to:

Keith Weitzel - Jan.5

Hadley Fuhr - Jan. 7

Carol Shewfelt - Jan. 8

Quintin Parr - Jan. 8

Ruby Locke - Jan. 15

Jacob Cook - Jan. 16

Brad Reibling - Jan 16

Connor Bayer - Jan. 17

Brody Charlton - Jan. 17

Spencer Bayer - Jan. 18

Beckett Francios - Jan. 21

Dylan Miller - Jan. 21

Blake Miller - Jan. 21

Trevor Sauder - Jan. 22

Marcia DeGouw - Jan. 23

Amanda Miller - Jan. 23

Carter McKay - Jan. 24

Ashley Giroux - Jan. 25

Addison McCann - Jan. 28

Jane McKay - Jan 31

Kathryn Petrie - Jan. 31

