

Grace United Church April 30, 2021

# GOOD NEWS AT GRACE

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'GraceUnitedTavistock'



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www.graceunitedtavistock.ca

Good day to each of you. Rev Gail asked me if I would share something with you in this week's newsletter and I found this piece which I thought you might enjoy.

One of my favourite tv shows has been Fixer Upper with Joanna and Chip Gaines. I always found it interesting how positive and family oriented they were in each episode as they worked to achieve a new home for their clients. Chip seemed a little crazy at times, but some reading on my part revealed that he is an astute business man who has achieved success through hard work. He and Jo compliment each other in each new business adventure they undertake. One of those is a publication called Magnolia Journal and is where I located this Magnolia Manifesto which states their beliefs. Previously I had found other issues of the magazine while we vacationed in Florida, but the magazine was not available in Canada. You can imagine my surprise one day earlier this year when I located this spring issue at Sam's ValuMart in Tavistock! Each issue focuses on a different topic and this one is about time. It provides lots to think about and ponder, especially at this time when we are all getting worn out and impatient with COVID. My hope is that you enjoy it, spend some time in thought, go back and read it over and over again and consider how being positive can be good for each of us. May you have a great day,

Anne Gregory

## MAGNOLIA MANIFESTO

We believe in home, that it should restore us from today and ready us for tomorrow. We believe in friendship, because friends who feel like family are the best kind of friends, and that nothing matters more than family. We believe in seeking the balance between hustle and rest and learning to find contentment in both. We believe everyone deserves a seat at the table and everyone has a story worth telling. We believe in human kindness, knowing we are made better when we all work together. We believe in courage, in cartwheeling past our comfort zones and trying something a little bit scary everyday. We believe that failure needn't be a negative thing; rather, we learn from our mistakes and fail smarter next time. We believe in doing good work that matters and, in choosing that, nudging others toward doing the same. We believe that newer isn't always better and that it's time for the pendulum of trend to swing back to the basics. We believe in unearthing beauty, however hidden or subtle it might be. We believe that each day is a gift and that everyday miracles are scattered about if only we have eyes to see. AND OF ALL HEROIC PURSUITS LARGE OR SMALL, WE BELIEVE THERE MAY BE NONE GREATER THAN A LIFE WELL LOVED.

## A New Way To Celebrate Mothers – every where.

Mother's day is just over two weeks away. It is a great day to celebrate extraordinary women, but it can also be an opportunity to share what we have and to encourage generosity. It can be a pastoral moment to acknowledge loss, challenge, and different types of families. This year, your Pastoral Care and Outreach team is suggesting that we try to do something a little bit different.

The United Church Mission and Service team have created a special campaign. They are inviting you to make a gift online to support prenatal and parenting classes, respite for families, medical clinics for babies and mothers, safe shelter, and education for children. The gift can be made in honor of a mother figure in your life, and a special e-card will be provided to you to send to them. Your online gift can also be credited to Grace United as part of our Mission and Service giving's for the year – just indicated that you wish for your gift to part of Grace United M&S giving's when you donate.

**Let's make Mother's Day more meaningful, inclusive, and compassionate by using it as an opportunity to do good, as well as be prophetic and pastoral.**



To donate, click on this link and follow the details: <https://united-church.ca/donation>

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### Contact us

Rev. Gail Fricker: cell number 519-703-1954 gfricker@rogers.com  
Carol Young: cell number 519-301-1356 tavigraceyouth@gmail.com  
Office Email: [graceunitedtavistock@gmail.com](mailto:graceunitedtavistock@gmail.com)  
E-transfer donation email: [gracetavistockdonation@rogers.com](mailto:gracetavistockdonation@rogers.com)

### Office Hours

The office hours are limited due to the provincial stay at home order.  
We will work from home as much as possible.

## **Sunday Zoom Coffee Time**

Please join us on zoom at 11:30 on Sunday for a time of social chat and get together - bring your own coffee! Rev. Gail would love to get to know some faces.

[Join zoom link](#) Meeting ID: 833 2116 6007 Passcode: 419233



If you are having troubles connecting or staying connected, please connect with Carol 519-301-1356

### **Upcoming Services and Dates:**

(until further notice, all the worship services will be online)

**ALL SERVICES CAN BE VIEWED ON GRACE YOUTUBE CHANNEL, WHICH CAN BE ACCESSED THROUGH OUR WEBSITE:**

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

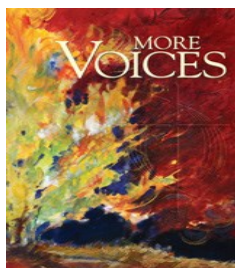
**May 2nd:** When Rev. Gail served at Knox United, she hosted a mid-week alternative worship once a month called Jazz Vespers, with thanks from a United Church Embrace The Spirit grant. This Sunday (May 2<sup>nd</sup>) Rev. Gail is away on vacation, the worship service will be a previous Jazz Worship from Knox United, recorded in June 2020. Enjoy the sounds of Jason White Trio.



**May 9th:** Everything you know you learnt from Mom

**May 12th:** Sit n' Knit Stay n' Crochet Zoom

**May 16th:** Holy Homour (more details to follow)



### **More Voices Hymnal Update**

Thanks to everyone who donated to our More Voices Hymn Book fund. We have reached our goal, the books are ordered and next time we are able to worship in person, our books will be in the pews! Thank you to everyone for your generosity.

**Rev. Gail working from home, study leave, vacation** - In keeping with the Stay at Home order, Rev. Gail will be mostly working from home. She is still available by phone at anytime (519 703 1954), please don't hesitate to reach out, and she can make emergency pastoral visits as needed. She will also be away on study leave the afternoon of Thursday, May 6th to attend Soul of The Preacher retreat. Rev. Gail will also be away on vacation from Wednesday April 28th to Monday May 3rd. Rev. Keith Reynolds is on call for emergency pastoral care needs and can be reached at 613-880-3539.

## 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 our Minister, Rev. Gail, or to the chair of Grace PCO, Bev Neeb, and we will begin praying for you.

And please keep the following people in your prayers this week:



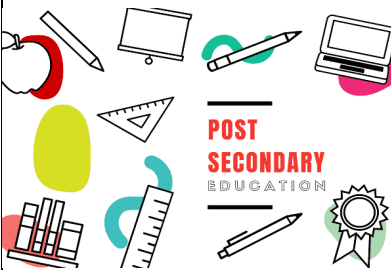
- ◇ Donna and Clarence Herlick, and family, as Donna struggles with cancer.
- ◇ Brenda Mohr’s brother, Pat, as he was recently diagnosed with an aneurism.
- ◇ Bill Brown, as he recovers from knee surgery.
- ◇ Burns Holden as he struggles with health issues.
- ◇ Ruth Wettlaufer at People Care.

Sad News: Please keep Wendy Wagler and family in your prayers. Larry passed away peacefully on Tuesday surrounded by family. There is a private family funeral on Friday, April 30th.

## Grace United Church Scholarship

The Grace United Church Scholarship, established in 2014, strives to create, encourage and nurture teen and young adult growth.

This is open to students enrolled or about to be enrolled at a post-secondary institution in Canada.



The scholarship will encourage teen and young adult participation, involvement, and perhaps leadership at Grace United Church, providing an opportunity for them to share their gifts with the Grace United Church family. This scholarship will also provide the opportunity for the Grace United Church family to be a support to teens and young adults in their participation and involvement with the Grace United Church family and a support as they grow and learn. It will be a reminder that Grace United Church is a caring church family where they are welcomed and where they can feel they belong.

The Grace United Church Scholarship will be funded by the Grace United Church family.

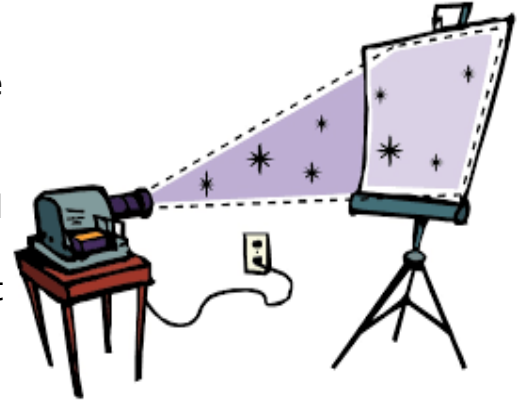
*For full information and/or an application to apply, please contact the Youth Coordinator, Carol Young [tavigraceyouth@gmail.com](mailto:tavigraceyouth@gmail.com) or the church office. **Application deadline is April 30, 2021***

*To give to the Scholarships, you can include in offering envelope or in another envelope marked "scholarship". Cheques made payable to Grace United Church.*

## **15 ways to use a projector!**

The pandemic has certainly made us all aware of the importance of technology and Grace was fortunate to have it in place when we had to start worshipping virtually. We appreciate Dale Ruby's leadership in helping us to have the ability to tape the services easily when we couldn't meet in person. The technology we have in place has served us well, but it's time to move forward and enhance our system. As you may be aware many churches use screens and projectors in worship. When the Grace Board discussed it at our last meeting we thought about the various ways that we could use them at Grace.

1. To project the order of service during the worship, including all the prayers – saving on paper, and making it easier for some seniors to follow.
2. To project all the hymns - sometimes people find it difficult to balance a hymn book while standing, and difficult to find the pages.
3. To project words for music that is not in our hymn books e.g praise song choruses.
4. To project videos that capture the attention for young people e.g Time for Young and Young At Heart, or Intergenerational worship.
5. To project videos for reflective purposes e.g during communion, during a time of meditation, as enhancement to the message or prayers – this have been become very popular during COVID
6. To enhance special services e.g. Remembrance Day.
7. To be used during Funerals to show the person's life as people wait for the service to begin.
8. To enhance the message – maybe using maps, graphics, etc.
9. To share pictures and videos of our community of faith – e.g Life and Mission of Grace.
10. To show visual graphics – remember some people are visual learners.
11. To share videos from United Church Mission and Service.
12. To share videos from the United Church Moderator.
13. To share announcements on a rolling screen as the service is waiting to start.
14. To show movies in the sanctuary for Movie night!
15. To make the sanctuary more attractive for outside users (renters) that might require the technology to give presentations.



The Grace Board has decided to move ahead with this new technology. The screens will be retractable on both sides at the front, so will not change the look of our beautiful sanctuary; the projectors will be positioned in the front row of the balcony, so also will not be drilled into our ancient plaster. The images will all be operated from a computer and sound system in the back left corner of the sanctuary where we currently have power. All training for operation will be provided by the company from which we will be making our purchase.

We are excited about this new move, and we hope that you are too. We will keep the congregation posted on all updates as we move forward.

From Anne Gregory (chair of Grace United Board)

Grace United Church Family,

I would like to thank you for the Easter wishes and the letter from the congregation, it was extremely heartwarming. Like yourselves, I too, can't wait for an opportunity to see our Grace community in person. I would also like to thank the church Sit n' Knit club for the prayer square, and Reverend Gail for the beautiful stone; a reminder that we are wrapped in God's love. Welcome Rev. Gail to the Grace Family.

For those who weren't aware, I am currently serving with the Canadian Armed Forces in Latvia. Latvia is a poor, second world country working its way towards better integrating itself with western civilization. Latvia isn't a war torn country or one combatting terrorism. Operation REASSURANCE is not like the tours the Canadian military has conducted in the past in the middle-east or eastern Europe. Instead our mission in the Baltic region is a preventative measure. Our mandate in Latvia is to deter and if necessary, defend Latvia from any potential Russian aggression, be it a conventional invasion or a Russian-backed separatist movement similar to what has been observed in Ukraine. We protect our North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) allies, and the established rules-based international order that enables Canadian security and prosperity. The support from home is absolutely invaluable, and I cannot express my appreciation enough.

Geographically, the country of Latvia is fairly similar to northern Canada, some days I'm not even sure I left Petawawa. The weather is similar, but seems to enjoy dropping into the negatives anytime we decide to train in the field. Nothing quite like standing in a chest deep trench while it's minus 8 degrees Celsius at 0300 in the morning. But who am I kidding, I'd do it again in a heartbeat. It's mid April and we are still experiencing snow flurries.

Unfortunately due to the international Covid-19 pandemic I have not had the opportunity to mingle with any of the Latvian locals and experience their culture or enjoy touring around the country. But as the Covid situation on base is now under control, and we are monitored, I have had the opportunity to train and interact with many of my international counterparts that makeup the enhanced Forward Presence Battle Group.

I have worked with Polish tank operators, Slovakian combat engineers, Spanish snipers, Albanian Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) technicians, German infanteers, Belgium anti-armoured crews, and US aircrew. Not quite the European experience I was initially hoping for, but it has been an honour to serve and represent my country abroad.

Thanks again for thinking of me. Please take care, stay safe and stay healthy.

Tade Ankenmann

## Financial Update!

Please see below the end of month report for March. Please note that the Misc. receipts for 2020 of \$13,450 was partly due to an emergency withdrawal of \$12,000 from a GIC, as directed by the board, to anticipate loss of income at the beginning of the pandemic.

Month of	MARCH	
	2020	2021
Core Receipts	9,134	5,931
Misc. Receipts	13,450	1,055
<hr/> Total Receipts	<hr/> 22,584	<hr/> 6,986
Expenses	13,054	17,518
Surplus/Deficit	<hr/> 9,530	<hr/> -10,532

We encourage you to think about a one-time extra offering to support the life and mission of Grace.

- Even though the office is currently closed due to stay-at-home order, you can send your cheque in by mail.
- Making a donation by e-transfer is also very easy – just go to your on-line banking and make a donation to Grace United using the email address: [gracetavistockdonation@rogers.com](mailto:gracetavistockdonation@rogers.com). You can create your own security question, but make sure the answer is Grace1980.
- You might also consider creating an automatic monthly withdrawal using PAR (pre- authorized remittance). It is easy to create – just fill in the form on this link [PAR Brochure](#) and send it to our Treasurer Deb Stevely ([debstevely@hotmail.com](mailto:debstevely@hotmail.com)). Any amount that you agree to can be easily changed or stopped if necessary, with just one email!

Stewardship is an important part of living out our faith – please consider what you can offer.

Good News at Grace Submissions We welcome your good news stories and pictures along with announcements. Please have your submissions emailed to Katherine by Tues. May 4 for next week's newsletter.  
[graceunitedtavistock@gmail.com](mailto:graceunitedtavistock@gmail.com)

**Camp Bimini Wish List.** Camp Bimini is collecting items for their wish list. You can help with items needed for camp programs, especially crafts. Please visit Camp Bimini's website <https://campbimini.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/wish-list.pdf> for a complete list of Wish List items. We will arrange a date soon for items to be dropped off at the church. Thank you for supporting Camp Bimini.