

## Organization

The **Church Board** has a total of 13 members: 9 members who are elected to serve a 3 year term plus the Treasurer, Clerk of Session and a representative from Session, and the Secretary. They look after:

- the financial matters of the church
- maintenance of the property
- church personnel
- take responsibility for the vitality of the Church and support the work of all groups and ministries of the congregation.

**Session** has 10 members, elected for 5 year terms, who meet 5 to 6 times a year. Additional meetings may be necessary and are at the call of the Minister who is an ex-officio member and chairperson. Members are elected on a rotational basis, so that 2 members retire each year, eligible for re-election as provided in the constitution of Grace United Church or for new members to be elected. Responsibilities, for the most part, involve the spiritual well-being of the church and its membership, making decisions for the availability of the Church for weddings, approval for Baptisms and Confirmations, setting dates for Communion and Anniversary Services. Members serve on the following three subcommittees with other congregational volunteers.

1. The **Worship Committee** works together with the Minister to plan engaging and experiential services of worship.

2. The **Pastoral Care and Outreach Committee** works to ensure persons are welcomed to our church, supported in their church membership and during their personal times of difficulty. This group also has a deep interest in ways of serving the community and world. They facilitate the occasional gathering of food for the food bank, invite guest speakers, offer monthly “Minutes for Mission” and initiate responses to crisis and on-going outreach to others.

3. The **Christian Education Committee** has responsibility to meet the learning needs of the entire congregation. They oversee all on-going children and youth programmes, sponsor adult learning opportunities and initiate new ventures for faith development.

**Trustees of Grace United Church** look after the insurance policies for the church. As well as monitor the capital investments of the church.

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## GRACE UNITED CHURCH

PO Box 189  
116 Woodstock St. S.  
Tavistock Ontario

***A warm welcome awaits you at Grace  
United Church.***

The church bells gather us for **Worship** at 10:30 am Sunday mornings. Children join us for a short time in worship and participate in *Time with Children*, then leave to attend **Sunday School** classes. We offer classes for JK – Grade 8. We strive to make the Sunday School experience a positive one combining a warm sense of belonging with strong Biblical-Christian life learning. The **Nursery** for up to 3 years of age is staffed by parents and other volunteers on a shared sign-up basis. The nursery is located directly behind the front doors.

Following the service we gather for a time of fellowship and coffee in Zion Hall. This is a great way to meet and get to know each other better.

We are enclosing some information about our church—its organizations, groups, and opportunities to share in the life and outreach of this church family.

If you have any questions or would like to talk to our minister, please call us.

*The Pastoral Care and Outreach Committee*

**For Children and Teens**—*Youth programming is a priority for our congregation under the direction and care of our Youth Co-ordinator, Carol Young.*

Our **Sunday School** has classes for children in JK-Grade 8. Co-ordinators organize lots of volunteers to share the Biblical story in an interesting way with our children.

**RECESS** (Really Excellent Christ-following Elementary Seniors) gives children in Grades 5-8 an opportunity to come together for fun about once a month. RECESS also spear-heads Project Good Tidings, a pre-Christmas outreach project, that spreads caring to others locally and globally.

**Youth Group** for High School teens - meets frequently for fun and service.

Youth Group **Breakfast Club** meets once a month before worship service for good food and fun.

**Grace United Church Scholarship Fund** for students attending full time college or university. This fund strives to create, encourage, and nurture teen and young adult growth.

## **For Adults**

The **United Church Women** meet on the first Tuesday of the month at 2 pm for a varied programme of study, speakers, business, and fellowship. They do much to support the hospitality offered by our congregation.

**Adult Fellowship** offers Christmas Tree sales, a delicious Beef Dinner and informal gatherings. They generously support the work of the congregation and reach out to the community with caring.

**Middle-Aged Pews** a fun group for adults in their middle years and younger. Meet a few times a year.

The **Film and Faith Club** gathers several times a year to view and discuss a contemporary film that invites consideration of the ways life and faith intersect.

**Sit n' Knit, Stay n' Crochet** gathers twice a month for a time of fellowship and creativity. We have many different projects on the go: prayer shawls, and items we send overseas for mission (face cloths, prayer squares, sweaters, and pneumonia vests). All are welcome, experience not necessary, we learn together.

The **Senior Choir** makes a valuable contribution to the worship experience by supporting congregational singing and offering special music. Rehearsals are on Thursday evenings from 7:45 to 9:00 pm. The choir is always ready to welcome more singers.

The **Fall Fair Booth Committee** is a small group of interested people who are eager to continue this outreach and community involvement of Grace United Church. This requires the support of the entire congregation but more specifically requires planning for the set up and dismantling of the site, food requirements, soliciting cash donations, arranging for adequate staffing. Membership is voluntary and changes from year to year.

Members of the **Prayer Chain** support individuals and families with prayer during times of specific need. Requests may be made to the co-ordinator who will begin a sequence of calls to notify the other members. Prayer requests are always encouraged to avail yourself of this vital ministry of the church by calling 519-655-2934.

## **Outreach to the Community**

Our Sunday morning services are available to watch on our You Tube Channel 'Grace United Tavistock'. They are uploaded after the service is finished.