**July 26, 2020**

In the interest of public health, **all in-person gatherings at Grace**, including public worship, meetings and rentals have been moved online or suspended. Access to the church building is limited. Staff continue to work from home except for recording worship.

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**This Week at Grace**

**SUNDAY July 26 Worship Service 10:30 am**

 [www.graceunitedthornbury.ca/live](http://www.graceunitedthornbury.ca/live)

 **Zoom: Coffee Time****11:30 am**

*(Zoom link in e-blast)*

**MONDAY Board check in 8:00 pm**

*(Zoom contact is Carol Clark***)**

**TUESDAY
WEDNESDAY Prayerful Ministry** *(Zoom)* **4:00 pm
THURSDAY
FRIDAY**

**SATURDAY**

**SUNDAY Aug 2 Loaves and Fishes Worship Service 10:30 am**

[www.graceunitedthornbury.ca/live](http://www.graceunitedthornbury.ca/live)

 **COMMUNION and Coffee Time** *(Zoom link in e-blast)* **11:15 am**

**The members of the Return to Church Commission** meet regularly to respond to Government regulations and Public Health guidelines related to Covid-19 and Grace United. The health and safety of our church family are at the core of all decisions and recommendations made by the Commission.

Even though, the government of ON has permitted churches to re-open to worship in the sanctuary, there are very strict guidelines and protocols that have to be in place before returning can occur. Worship would not be the same as we knew it before the pandemic started. Therefore, at this time, we have decided that church will not reopen until a later date. We will continue to worship virtually until it is safe to return.

Thank you for your understanding and we will keep you informed. If you have questions or comments we will welcome them.

 **By The Numbers at end of June 2020**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  **Actual**  |  **Budget**  |
| **Offerings/Tithes**  |  $48,777.36 |  $67,500.00 |
| Other income  |  $12,506.27  |  $20,000.00 |
| Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS) |  $11,902.39 |  |
| **Total Income**  |  $73,186.02 |  $87,500.00 |
|  |  |  |
| **Total expenses**  |  $87,328.76 |  $97,064.00 |
| Deficit |  $14,142.74 |   |
|  |   |  |
| M&S (year-to-date) |  **$ 9,687.00** | $ 10,000.00 |
| M&S goal for 2020 |   | $ 20,000.00 |

At our annual meeting in February we could never have predicted how this year

would change the way we view what is important in our lives. The projection is

that the Covid-19 pandemic will change our social and economical perspective

for a long time. The CEWS (Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy) has allowed

Grace to maintain our staff. In this report 2 months of subsidies are recorded.

We have qualified for one more. What then? Our deficit for the first half of 2020

is similar to 2019...but what will happen in the next 6 months without the CEWS?

Due to the restrictions set forth by the Government of Ontario, our fundraising

events are postponed or cancelled and there are limited honorariums for use of

our beautiful building, which means it will be a challenge to raise funds in the

'other income' category. Any suggestion you have please forward and one of the

committees will consider it. We recognize that many people are experiencing

personal and economic hardships from this pandemic, but any support you can

provide will be appreciated enormously during these unprecedented and

changing times. Thanks again for your continued support of Grace United.

Good News!: M&S is right on target to meet the goal of the congregation.!

Feel free to call..... George Dickson 519-599-3219

 Les Beattie 226-665-0082

 Orleen Anderson 705-888-1615

Thank you for your continued support ~ Stewardship & Finance Committee

**LOAVES AND FISHES PROJECTS :**

***Share your Loaves and Fishes Report***

**How have you grown your $5? Please Report back**: If you have not already, send a written, photo or video report of what you have done with your $**5** torev.tess@graceunitedthornbury.ca We will celebrate on Loaves and Fishes Sunday, August 2. Report back by **Sunday July 26.**

**A WORD CHALLENGE**  *Here is a little challenge for you.*

*Try to pick out at least 10 catch phrases in the following few lines that were not common conversational words less than five months ago.***As we continue to socially isolate, many of us wonder what the new normal in our lives will be as we continue to practice social distancing. Our efforts to flatten the curve in Canada have been for the most part quite successful because we have chosen to wear the mask and keep 2 meters apart. Even as we expand our social bubble we remain cautiously optimistic that our lives will return to pre- COVID normal. So let us continue to stay at home so that one day we might wash our hands of this unforgiving virus.***Please submit your list of phrases* to Les Beattie – lesmj@hotmail.com . Each person that submits a list of 10 will have their name placed for a draw and the winner will receive a prize delivered to their door.

Thanks again for you faithful support of Grace United. New efforts and initiatives to fulfill the spiritual needs of or congregation will continue to be our mandate with you financial support.

**.**

**The United Church of Canada General Council** has laid off 14 staff members this week as a part of a planned downsizing in response to changing needs of the church and to reduce financial outlay. These layoffs are *not* COVID-related.

 Read about it at <https://www.united-church.ca/news/general-council-office-reorganization-july-2020>

**Kaleidoscope Summer Online Institute:**

This event is for church leaders and individuals who are seeking ways to reach out in an increasingly polarized and fearful world where there are few places where people can have a reasonable and constructive dialogue about race relations and other important issues of our time. We are bringing together spiritual leaders to provide insight and guidance and community leaders who want to see things differently to provide gracious time and place for truth-seeking dialogue that can achieve non-violent mutual understanding. Summer Online Institute participants will learn skills that will help them to start and lead ministries by using gracious communication to nurture and empower others to build brave community as well as how to them lead dialogue sessions about difficult issues or run productive meetings by using language that encourages participation and reduces judgment.

The Summer Online Institute will take place via Zoom, on August 3 -13 from 9 to 11:30 a.m. Pacific Time. As always, we are offering Graceconomics pricing to allow participants to pay what they can for this event and in support of our ministry. More details about the workshops, guests and registration information is available at [www.kscopeinstitute.org/.ZOOM](http://www.kscopeinstitute.org/.ZOOM):

**Join our Zoom meetings by phone.** For more information contact the minister.

For Zoom meetings, see the e-blast or contact the Program Leader for the link.

**Joys & Concerns:** Additions or changes, please contact Marilyn Parkin. For contact information, see Joys and Concerns.

**If you know of anyone from Grace in the hospital,** please let Rev. Thérèse know.

**Five Oaks** is more than it was before - check out their website for the changes.

<http://fiveoaks.on.ca/program-schedule/6125/community-work-day/>

**Lawn Signs -** ***“Thank You Front Line Workers and Volunteers”*** If you want one of the signs, contact Lesley and Brent Sullivan who will deliver or arrange for you to pick up a sign. They live in the old manse. Lesely@GeorgianBayListings.ca 705-446-6710

**Techie Tip:** Here is the link: <https://youtu.be/qp6ZlREqzDc>

**IN AND AROUND THE COMMUNITY**

**The Rotary Club** is reminding everyone of **the available supports** for anyone in need in Thornbury. Info: <https://tcrotary.ca/newsletters.cfm?NEW=Di7G>.
There are **meals** available **for seniors** as well as **families** through Jean of Sustenance Catering. To ask for a meal for someone, contact Norine Baron for info.

**The Grey Bruce Poverty Task Force** (Coordinated through the United Way), has put together community resources during the COVID-19 Response. These are working documents and are being updated almost daily.

<https://povertytaskforce.com/covid-19-community-resources/>

**General Information**

Your Church Staff are working from home. Phone messages will be checked regularly.

**Office Administrator:** Monday & Friday 9 – 5.

**Office Volunteers** are in from 9:00 – 12:00 Friday mornings. If you have an announcement, email Rosemary accounting@graceunitedthornbury.ca before 9:00 am Friday. In the email subject line, please type “Announcement”. We will also be answering phones and working on other small projects.

**Minister contact**: email rev.tess@graceunitedthornbury.ca or 705-351-4610. Tuesday is her day off, but she is available for emergency pastoral care 7 days a week.

**Know anyone who needs a card from Grace?** We like to let our congregants know we are thinking of them during times of illness, bereavement and on special occasions too. Please keep our Pastoral Care Team informed.
Contact Teddi Murray 705-445-3195 or teddimurray@gmail.com

**Someone in the Hospital?** If you, a family member or someone you know in the congregation is hospitalized, please let Rev. Thérèse know.

**Sunday Services Online:** *Additional Information*

Go to [www.graceunitedthornbury.ca/live](http://www.graceunitedthornbury.ca/live)

Worship starts at 10:30, but sign on early and contact tech support if you have trouble.

and see the countdown timer near the top of the page (or if you get there after 10:30, it will say there is a Live Stream in progress).

Click the Chat button to join the chat. Type in your name, or you will display as ‘visitor’. Order of service and hymns will also be there.

***No picture? -*** At 10:30, **after** the countdown gets to 0, you may have to click on the video screen to start the service.
***No sound?*** You may have to **un-mute** (click on the speaker icon).

***Still not working?*** Try the direct YouTube link.

***Need help?*** Rev. Thérèse will be available at 10 am: phone or text 705-351-4610, or phone 519-599-2993 *Do not hesitate to call…* The service is pre-recorded.
We are at home watching, so a phone call will not interrupt the service!  ***Check out past services at***  [www.graceunitedthornbury.ca/live](http://www.graceunitedthornbury.ca/live).

**COFFEE TIME** is a separate Zoom gathering at about 11:20ish, after the Live Stream. For the link or for help phoning in, contact the Minister 705-351-4610 or rev.tess@graceunitedthornbury.ca .

**P.O. Box 219, Thornbury, Ontario N0H 2P0**

**email:** accounting@graceunitedthornbury.ca

**web:**[www.graceunitedthornbury.ca](http://www.graceunitedthornbury.ca/) **YouTube Channel**: Grace United Thornbury
**Facebook:** Grace United Thornbury