**October 11, 2020**

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

**This Week at Grace**

**SUNDAY Thanksgiving Worship Service 10:30 am**

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

 Guest preacher - Phyllis Fleming
 Memorial Hymn and Prayer for Bruce Woodhouse

 **Coffee Time** *(Zoom link in e-blast)*  **11:20-ish am**   **MONDAY**
**TUESDAY
WEDNESDAY S & F Committee** *(Zoom)* **9:00 am
 Prayerful Ministry** *(Zoom)* **4:00 pm
THURSDAY**

**FRIDAY**

**SATURDAY**

**SUNDAY Oct.18 Special Service 10:00 am** [www.graceunitedthornbury.ca/live](http://www.graceunitedthornbury.ca/live) **Upcoming Dates
Mon. Oct 19 Worship Committee meeting** *(Zoom)* **10:00 am
 Board Meeting** *(Zoom)* **8:00 pm**

 **Check out last week’s Worship Service** [www.graceunitedthornbury.ca/live](http://www.graceunitedthornbury.ca/live)

**Office Hours:**  Rosemary will be away on vacation Friday, Oct 16 & Monday, Oct 19 and taking her Thanksgiving stat on Friday morning Oct 23rd.

**Special Service Time, Sunday October 18 Only: 10:00-11:30 AM**Have you ever attended an annual Celebration of Ministries service, where new ministers are ordained and commissioned? It is a wonderful thing.
Rev. Keith Reynolds, Avondale United Church, Stratford, will preach.

This year we have a special opportunity of being able to attend this service
in our usual service live-stream.   Our Grace Chat will be available for all
who join on our Website. Hope to see you there!
***Please note:*** The service will be at **10:00 AM for October 18, only**. It is a bit longer than
usual, but we hope to begin coffee time at our usual time. Following the service join us for Coffee Time, with Wartime and Remembrance Story Sharing.

**140 Years at 140 Bruce, and now Online** ([www.graceunitedthornbury.ca/live](http://www.graceunitedthornbury.ca/live))!
Join us October 25 at 10:30 for a Special Grace 140th Anniversary Service

**Roots & Wings Hymn Service** has been an emotional service and very successful fundraiser in the past. We are praying that this event will help us not only spiritually but also help financially at this time when many of our traditional ways of fundraising are closed to us due to the Covid-19 pandemic.  The donations will go to the general account so that technological improvements can be considered to support the worship services. Please take time to make your **hymn selection by Mon. Oct. 12th** for this
Nov. 22nd service. Follow this link on the Grace United Church website for updates <https://www.graceunitedthornbury.ca/events/roots-and-wings-service/2020-11-22>

**Wartime and Remembrance Story Sharing**

Someone said, “We need to record our stories about the war.” So let’s do it this year for Remembrance Day.

Join with us. Invite family members or friends. We will share:

* Our own memories of war times (all war times count)
* Past or recent stories we remember from your family in the military
* Items or photos we have from war times that have been passed down.
* What Remembrance Day means to us.

Some stories will be recorded by phone or by Zoom.  Some videos and photos will be included in the Remembrance Sunday service or a Grace history video.

Join the first sharing session: Coffee Time on Sunday October 18, following the Celebration of Ministries Service (about 11:30 AM). Other days and times TBA.
Gather some family and friends for a Zoom and telephone story sharing session.

Contact Rev. Thérèse (rev.tess@graceunitedthornbury.ca or 705-351-4610)

**COVID-19 Safety Commission**

These are the highlights from this week’s meeting. Last Saturday, members of the Commission participated in the Board Retreat via Zoom. The local AA appreciates the opportunity to have the meetings in the basement of our building but have decided that at this time they will wait to begin their meetings until the number of COVID 19 cases decreases and a safer approach to gathering is apparent. At this time, piano lessons have not resumed in the lower hall. We have established guidelines for these groups to re-enter when the time is right for that to happen.
We continue to be as knowledgeable as possible about the provincial regulations and local Health Unit guidelines. Thanks for your ongoing patience as we continue to ensure appropriate safety measures are in place in our building to deal with this pandemic. ~ Margaret Tirpkoff (chair of the Commission)
 **Alzheimer Coffee Break Online:** Grace United is supporting the Alzheimer Society Grey Bruce by collecting donations online rather than having a coffee break in person. This online fundraiser is open for donations until **Thanksgiving Monday, Oct 12.**
***If you follow our link, your donation will count in the total for Grace’s Coffee Break*** [https://www.graceunitedthornbury.ca/events/alzheimer-coffee-break/2020-09-11](https://www.graceunitedthornbury.ca/events/alzheimer-coffee-break/2020-09-11%20)
Watch for the "Sock it to Dementia" sock campaign in November.
 **If you know of anyone from Grace in the hospital,** please let Rev. Thérèse know.
 **Joys & Concerns:** Additions or changes, please contact Marilyn Parkin.
For contact information, see Joys and Concerns.
A prayer cycle for **Our Western Ontario Waterways Region** is available at <https://www.prayercycles.ca>. Each week we are encouraged to pray for a church in our region 8 and perhaps send a note of support. This week’s church we pray for is Trinity United, Rosemont. I have included them in **Joys and Concerns**
 **S&F thanks** those receiving the OAS that have responded to their challenge.
Some have donated a portion or all of their one-time payment of $300.00 from the Federal Government to Grace to help support the ongoing expenses during this COVID time.  Your gifts help in the absence of fundraising opportunities.
Thank you for your continued support ~Stewardship and Finance Committee
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

**Facemasks:** Still available in all sizes. Contact Thérèse

 **IN AND AROUND THE COMMUNITY**As of September 28th **Plastic Film will no longer be accepted** in the recycling bins in the Municipality of Meaford. Please put it in with your garbage.

**VON** offer the next **Bereavement Sessions** beginning Oct.19, 2020.

VON also offer peer to peer support programs and monthly educational presentations on “Understanding Grief”. Programs are offered virtually by Zoom or telephone.
See the attached flyer or for details you can contact: **Ingrid Bell MSW** Bereavement Support Coordinator T: 519-376-5895 ext.260

**The Next Chapter** examines the science behind teen’s emotional challenges, the interplay of social media, and most importantly, what can be done in our schools and homes to help them build crucial skills to navigate stress, anxiety, and depression in our digital age. We will also be offering this documentary in an on-demand fashion with a 2 week viewing period from **October 8 to 22, 2020**. We’ll engage in online **community** **conversations** around this topic **on October 22nd at 7 pm**. This online Zoom conversation will be moderated by experts in the field.
To join us please register at [https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/116131706059](https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/116131706059%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)

**The Grey Bruce Poverty Task Force** (Coordinated through the United Way), has put together community resources during the COVID-19 Response. These documents are being updated almost daily. <https://povertytaskforce.com/covid-19-community-resources/> For a description of the work of Caroline Araujo Abbotts, Financial Literacy Program Co-ordinator see the article from the Owen Sound Sun Times Sat. August 22.

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

**Office Administrator:** Monday & Friday 9 – 5. Leave a message at 519-599-2993 or email accounting@graceunitedthornbury.ca.

**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.

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 and click “continue”, or you will display as ‘Guest. Order of service and hymns will be there too.

***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 the past services Playlist 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 .

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**Facebook:** Grace United Thornbury