**October 18, 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 Oct.18 Special Service** (see below) **10:00 am** [www.graceunitedthornbury.ca/live](http://www.graceunitedthornbury.ca/live) **Birthday Sunday/Coffee Time:** Bring yourWartime and Remembrance Stories

 *(Zoom link in e-blast)* **11:30-ish am**   **MONDAY Worship Committee Meeting** *(Zoom)* **10:00 am
 Board Meeting** *(Zoom)* **8:00 pm**
**TUESDAY
WEDNESDAY Prayerful Ministry** *(Zoom)* **4:00 pm
THURSDAY**

**FRIDAY**

**SATURDAY**

**SUNDAY Oct. 25th 140th Anniversary Service 10:30 am** [www.graceunitedthornbury.ca/live](http://www.graceunitedthornbury.ca/live)

 **Coffee Time** *(Zoom)*

**Upcoming Meetings: Oct 26: Covid 19 Safety Commission** *(Zoom*)**- 2:00 pm**

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

**Office Hours:**  Rosemary is on vacation Friday, Oct 16 & Monday, Oct 19 and taking her Thanksgiving stat on Friday morning Oct 23rd. She will return Monday Oct. 26.

**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.

**Grace Worship in the Pandemic Survey.**

A special eblast has been sent to you. Please complete the survey by 5 pm on Monday October 19 so that the board will have it for their meeting that night. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/J67MH9Z> Blessings, Carol

**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** The request date for the Roots & Wings Hymn Service has been extended to October 30. Follow this link to make you hymn request and donation:

 <https://www.graceunitedthornbury.ca/events/roots-and-wings-service/2020-11-22>

or you can email Orleen , orleen\_anderson@hotmail.com or phone 705-888-1615. This is a service of music and memories. There are 12 hymns to choose from and when each hymn is presented during the November 22, Sunday morning service we will hold the persons remembered or the event celebrated in our thoughts and prayers.

**Wartime and Remembrance Story Sharing:** Coffee Time this week..

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.

Other days and times available if you can gather some family and friends for a Zoom and telephone story sharing session.

Contact Rev. Thérèse (rev.tess@graceunitedthornbury.ca or 705-351-4610) or Caroline Abbotts (cjabbotts@hotmail.com  647-231-6457 or 519-599-6457)

**COVID-19 Safety Commission**

These are the highlights from the last 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)

**Gifts with Vision** giving catalogue has just been released! Watch for your copy in the mail or in Broadview magazine. You can also browse the new selection of world-changing gifts online. Take a look! [**https://giftswithvision.ca**](https://giftswithvision.ca/)

To catch up on the news of the **Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council**

which is the region that Grace United is in, follow this link for the October newsletter

<https://mailchi.mp/52b3bc934a1c/october-news-information?e=1ef842d44e>

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

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  **Actual**  |  **Pro-rated budget** | **Budget for 2020** |
| **Offerings/Tithes**  | $78,806.85 |  $101,250.00 |  $135,000.00 |
| Other income  | $14,971.40 |  $ 30,000.00 |  $ 40,000.00 |
| Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS) | $24,611.82 |  |  |
| **Total Income**  | $ 118,390.07 |  $131,250.00 |  $175,000.00 |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Total expenses**  | $128,132.65 |  $145,596.00 |  $194,129.00 |
| Deficit |  $9,742.58 |    |  |
|  |   |  |  |
| M&S (year-to-date) | **$ 14,993.05** |  $ 15,000.00 |  $20,000 |

Good News!: M&S is right on target to meet the goal of the congregation.! Grace continues to support outreach beyond the bounds of this congregation even in this uncertain, changing and challenging time!

 Can anyone count the changes that have occurred since we last met in the beautiful Grace Church building, Sunday, March 8, 2020? We can be pleased with how the Board members, staff and committee members have adapted and directed our continued worship and spiritual health. The Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy program has allowed Grace to continue with a creative and energetic staff and the S&F committee will continue to monitor the Government assistance programs. The Annual General meeting passed a budget that included the following income lines – Music (the concerts were cancelled) $12,000; Fund Raising (community dinners, Candy Cane fair etc., cancelled) $9,000; Honorariums-(meeting in groups, cancelled)- $6,500. What a shock to have these community supporting events cancelled for this year and the foreseeable future.

 The 2020 budget also included an aggressive offerings challenge and as you can see we are struggling to meet this income line. There are many obvious reasons and the S&F committee will have further comments in the weeks ahead.

 There has and will always be new challenges to use our creative energies and the family of Grace, with God's support, has found a way.

 Thanks again for your continued support of Grace United. ~ Stewardship & Finance Committee

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

 Les Beattie 226-665-0082

 Orleen Anderson 705-888-1615

**Green Team:**The Municipality of Meaford has discontinued the pick up of
film plastic (plastic bags) in the recycling.   Paul Parkin was taking church members
plastic to Meaford to be recycled.  Grey Highlands still takes film plastic.
If you know someone in Grey Highlands ask them if they will take your plastic bags.or
talk to Norine Baron, who lives in Grey Highlands.  For now you can also contact
Diana Dolmer and she will hold your plastic to give to Norine.

**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.

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

 **IN AND AROUND THE COMMUNITY**

**St. Paul’s Presbyterian Church, Thornbury,** is looking for a part time office administrator and also a part time custodian. Duties to commence January 2021. If you know of anyone who might be interested, please feel free to forward this information on. It would also be appreciated if you could post in your weekly email blasts. Complete job descriptions available upon request: email stpaulsthornbury@gmail.com.

**Office Administrator:**This position generally requires 7-10 hours per week. Duties to include working closely with minister and music director to prepare for weekly worship services, (bulletin, Easy Worship etc), and administrative duties as required. Hours will fluctuate. Full job description available upon request. Email stpaulsthornbury@gmail.com.

**Custodian:**The custodian is responsible for the general care and cleaning of the church. Duties to include: weekly cleaning (vacuuming, dusting, etc); garbage and recycling, light maintenance. Able to set your own hours, but must also be flexible to accommodate weddings, funerals, etc. Full job description available upon request. Email stpaulsthornbury@gmail.com.

**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 .

**P.O. Box 219, Thornbury, Ontario N0H 2P0
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**web:**[www.graceunitedthornbury.ca](http://www.graceunitedthornbury.ca/) **YouTube Channel**: Grace United Thornbury
**Facebook:** Grace United Thornbury