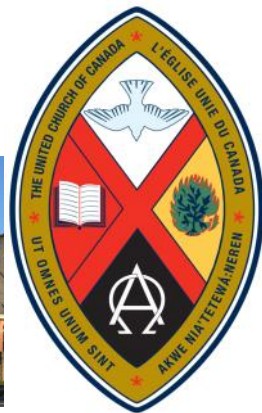


The Port Dover – Woodhouse Pastoral Charge

Woodhouse United Church and Grace United Church

NEWSLETTER

January—February 2022



From the minister's desk...

Happy New Year! The scripture that comes to me as I write this is from Ecclesiastes 3:1 *“For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.”*

While I wonder what this year holds for us around Covid, I am still enthused about our time together. We discovered last year that nothing can keep us from worshipping God together each Sunday. For those receiving the service by mail, we have had to switch to sending them out after the Sunday instead of before. For those watching on YouTube, we welcome your feedback. Just email the church office (graceunitedportdover@gmail.com) or myself (kathrynvance55@yahoo.ca).

I would like to thank you for the many Christmas cards and the gifts that I received. You spoil me, indeed.

My daughter, Katie, and I thoroughly enjoyed the Tia McGraff concert at Woodhouse before Christmas. The music was, as

always, great and the church was full. It's been 2 years since that happened. It was wonderful to see.

I also enjoy seeing our visitors on memorial candle lighting Sundays. It feels good to give them the gift of honoring their loved one in this way.

Last year we had two in-depth bible studies. We looked at Luke and at Acts. There was lots of good conversation. I wonder what the group will choose to study this year.

I must say thank you to the choirs. I can't imagine what the services would be like without the gift of your voices. I also want to thank those who keep the buildings clean and in good repair.

It is wonderful that we are having a new photo directory made. There have been many changes in the past five years. One of the changes is our office administrator. After many years, Linda retired in 2019. Jackie Hilton assumed the responsibilities in 2020 and is doing a wonderful job. For those who haven't met her, look for her picture in the new directory when it comes out.

This year we will be saying Happy 175th Anniversary to Grace. I am looking forward to special events marking this milestone.

I pray for good health and happiness for all of you this year.

Together in faith,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Kathryn".

Rev. Kathryn Vance

This January, start the year with an empty jar and fill it with notes about good things that happen. Then, on New Year's Eve, empty it to cherish all of the amazing things in your life.

POSITIVE OUTLOOKS



Calendar of Special Days

Calendar of Special Days

January 2021

1 January	New Year's Day
4 January	World Braille Day
21 January	Lincoln Alexander Day
24 January	International Day of Education
25 January	Robbie Burns Day
27 January	International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust

February 2021—Black History Month

1-7 February	World Interfaith Harmony Week
11 February	International Day of Women and Girls in Science
13 February	World Radio Day
14 February	Valentines Day
15 February	National Flag Day of Canada
20 February	World Day of Social Justice
20 February	Global Day of Praise
21 February	Family Day
21 February	International Mother Language Day

National and International days and weeks are occasions to educate the public on issues of concern, to mobilize political will and resources to address global problems, and to celebrate and reinforce achievements of humanity. Whereas ***holidays*** are traditionally days of celebration and rest where many are exempt from work or commemorate a special historical event.

Lincoln Alexander Day Is Friday, January 21, 2022

Lincoln Alexander Day is celebrated every year on January 21 to honour the first black Canadian member of the Parliament, lieutenant-governor, and Cabinet minister.

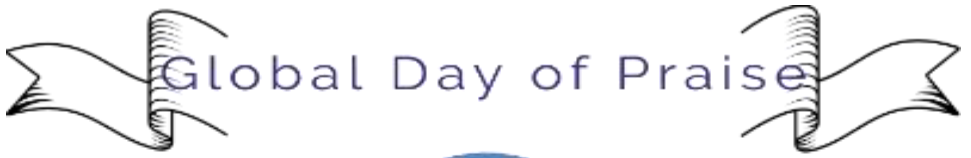


In 1965, Lincoln Alexander entered politics, running for Hamilton West as MP or Conservative Member of Parliament, but lost the battle by 2,000 votes. A few years later, he decided to try his chances again and won. In 1968, Alexander was selected as the first black Canadian and got a seat at the House of Commons.

However, his legacy doesn't stop there. In 1985, Alexander became the first black lieutenant-governor in Canada and was able to play an active role in the cultural development in Ontario. During his mandate, his goals were to fight racism and advocate for the youth and seniors.

HOW TO CELEBRATE LINCOLN ALEXANDER DAY

One of the best ways to celebrate this day is to read the famous memoir – “Go to School, You’re a Little Black Boy” by Herb Shoveller. The memoir shares the life and work of Alexander in detail, including his military service for Canada, his successful political career, and vocal support on topics ranging from education to antiracism.



February 20, 2022

This is a time for unity, as the world comes together in the oneness Jesus prayed for, to Thank and Praise our God.

JUST THANK GOD!

Listen to your heart. Whether you give a two second "Hallelujah" or raise your hands and shout praises to Him for 24 hours, it is up to you.

JUST GIVE GOD PRAISE!

There isn't a special meeting place, unless you decide to invite friends or family somewhere to join you. There isn't a special time. This event can go on as long as you choose. Imagine, really imagine, people around the world collectively on the same day, Thanking and Praising God. What a magnificent sound to Bless the One who loves, provides and protects us.

JUST BLESS GOD!

Trivia #1

Name the book.(tricky but humorous)

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Car. | 6. 23 |
| 2. ----- Johnson. | 7. Paul Newman Film |
| 3. Wayne. | 8. Paint by _____ |
| 4. Skywalker. | 9. Babe _____ |
| 5. Taylor. | 10. _____ Pershoff |

Mission and Outreach

Sock it to me Campaign

The sock it to me campaign was very successful this year! This is the program where we provide warm socks to the mental health court services program. The two churches gathered 516 pairs of socks, 9 underwear, 10 coats 11 hats and mitts and 3 scarves. This enables workers to provide people in need in the system with warm clothing. Thanks to everyone who brought in warm clothing- what a wonderful gift!

October Campaign

Grace United Church and Woodhouse United recently held a special collection during the month of October to support the Port Dover Lifeline Food Bank. The church community has been a long time supporter of the foodbank and was instrumental in starting up the food bank. In the recent campaign, members raised \$975 in donations for the food bank as well as a number of bags of groceries. Thanks to all who helped!



Successful Indigenous Voices Speaker Series raises \$3000 for Mohawk Village Memorial Park

Close to 70 people, mainly from Norfolk County, and others from SW Ontario, took advantage of the variety of wonderful Indigenous speakers available in the recent speaker series via Zoom. Generous donations from participants resulted in a gift of over \$3,000 for the Mohawk Village Memorial Park. The park is run by residential school survivors to provide a healing place for residential school survivors and the community.

Rotary club of Norfolk Sunrise, along with Grace United Church in Port Dover recently hosted the Indigenous Speaker Series featuring four amazing Indigenous speakers. The first speaker was Amos Key Jr of Six Nations who provided a brief history of Residential schools and illustrated the impact of Residential schools – particularly the Mohawk Institute Residential School in Brantford.

Bryant Peters gave a talk on the Indian Act and the huge intergenerational impact that the act has had on the Indigenous community and Canada as a whole. He reminded us that the main elements of the Indian Act are still in force today, restricting how Indigenous people live and how it impacts almost all areas of life for indigenous people.

Steven Greyeyes, the Executive Director of the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation (NCTR) spoke on the Canada-wide impact of Residential schools in Canada and the work of the NCTR to provide a repository for collecting information on residential schools and the important work of documenting the stories and history of the schools. This is particularly important in the light of the discovery of unmarked grave sites at many former residential schools.

Six Nations elder Rene Thomas-Hill spoke about living in two worlds- and reflected on the two world views from an indigenous perspective. While healing begins with truth, it depends on respect and understanding that we all need to work together to develop through relationship building.



Shown in the photo are (left to right) RCNS Members Jim Dawson, Louise Schebesch, Marjorie Dawson; Survivors John Elliot, Roberta Hill, Dawn Hill; and Executive Director of the Memorial Park Foundation, Virginia Ninham.

Pictures from the **Pikangikum Christmas concert**. We have been supporting the School music program for many years with guitars, keyboards, drums and performance equipment such as speakers. This years event was spread over three days because of all of the various musical programs and has become a major production.


Our friend and guitar player **Trav Peters** even stayed at the school for three days because someone in his home was in quarantine and he was helping to set up the sound systems. Pictured here is **Trav with music teacher Morris**.



Grace and Woodhouse support for Food Bank



The **Reverse Advent Calendar Campaign** was a great success with an estimated 30 families participating from the two churches. Woodhouse had a great turnout which filled two pick-ups with food for the Port Dover lifeline foodbank. Jim and Marjorie did the "the last mile" of delivery to the food bank and cramped full their two hatchbacks with food. While delivering food we met fellow Grace members Judy Whitmore and Joy McConnell who were volunteering at the food bank.



Life is too short to wake up in the morning with regrets. So, love the people who treat you right, forgive the ones who don't and believe that everything happens for a reason.

If you get the chance, take it.

If it changes your life, let it.

Nobody said it would be easy, they just promised it would be worth it.

- Dr. Seuss

News and Updates

Church Office :

- ♦ **Family Day— Monday, February 21, 2022—The church office will be closed.**

Celebrations and Special Services:

- ♦ **January 25th—Robbie Burns Day**
- ♦ **Did you know?** 2022 will be the 175th Anniversary of Grace United Church.

Meetings and other happenings:

- ♦ **January 8, 2022—**Annual year-end reports are due to the Office by Committee Chairs
- ♦ **January 23, 2022—Annual Pastoral Charge report will be available**
- ♦ **February 6, 2022—Annual Meetings at each respective church**
- ♦ **Church Directory** will be updated in 2022 stay tuned for details.
- For updates and changes checkout the Calendar of upcoming events can be found on the church Website graceunitedportdover.org
- You can subscribe to our email distribution by completing the form at <http://eepurl.com/gZrJH1>

What's in Your Cup?



You are holding a cup of coffee when someone comes along and bumps into you or shakes your arm, making you spill your coffee everywhere.

Why did you spill the coffee?
"Because someone bumped into me!!!"!

Wrong answer.

You spilled the coffee because there was coffee in your cup.
Had there been tea in the cup, you would have spilled tea.

****Whatever is inside the cup is what will spill out.****

Therefore, when life comes along and shakes you (which WILL happen), whatever is inside you will come out.

It's easy to fake it, until you get rattled.

****So we have to ask ourselves... "what's in my cup?"****

When life gets tough, what spills over?

Joy, gratefulness, peace and humility?

Anger, bitterness, harsh words and reactions?

Life provides the cup, **YOU** choose how to fill it.

Today let's work towards filling our cups with gratitude, forgiveness, joy, words of affirmation; and kindness, gentleness and love for others.

Wishing you all a wonderful 2022.

~Author Unknown

Robbie Burns Day—January 25th

About Robbie Burns

Robbie was born on a farm in Ayr, Scotland and lived at a time of reformation, discovery and revolution. Robbie tended the fields and studied. He briefly became a flax spinner in Irvine, a busy sea port, before returning to the family farm and writing his first book “Poems, Chiefly in the Scottish Dialect” published in Kilmarnock in 1786. He quickly became famous both in Edinburgh and



throughout Great Britain. He toured the regions of Scotland enjoying raucous company and rigorous intellectual debate while penning his poems and songs including “Auld Lang Syne,” “My Love Is Like a Red Red Rose” and “To a Mouse” before dying of illness aged 37 on July 25th, 1796. His funeral was attended by thousands. On the day he was buried his 14th child “Maxwell” was born.

There are many works published on the life and times of Robbie Burns. For those new to Robert “Robbie” Burns here are *a few* interesting things to learn about “the Bard”...

1. **A BARD BY MANY NAMES:** Robbie Burns was christened “Robert” and in everyday life he was (and still is) known as “Robbie” or “Rabbie.” He often would switch names signing works depending on his mood. On the rare occasion if family or friends wanted to tease or scold on occasion he would be called “Bob” or Bobbie.” Once he became famous he liked the moniker of “The Bard of Scotland” and today he is simply affectionately known as “the Bard.”
2. **25th JANUARY IS ROBBIE BURNS DAY:** January 25th is officially known as “Robbie Burns Day” with celebrations of all things great and Scottish and culminate in the traditional “Burns Supper” feast. For the Scots Robbie Burns day holds the equivalent in patriotism and importance as St. Patrick’s day is to the Irish or Canada Day is for Canadians. His birthday has become an important annual ceremonial day for folks with Celtic heritage. It is a day to rejoice and celebrate his life, his works and the things that he stood for.
3. **THE BURNS SUPPER:** First held in 1802 by close friends 5 years after his death the Burns Supper is all about celebrating the life and works of Robbie

Burns. It is held on/ or near/ January 25th and depending on the event protocol it can be very formal with black tie, pomp and fine dress, or it can be relaxed and/or boisterous and they are always a lot of fun. A traditional Burns Supper includes the reciting of Burns' poems, the playing of Scottish music and speeches and toasts. The first toast is in honour of the ladies present given by a male, followed in kind with a lady delivering her speech and a toast to the men. The Burns poem; "An Ode to a Haggis" may be read to the crowd and the haggis saluted and carved with a sword as part of the ceremony.

4. **THE ROMANTIC LOVER:** Love and romance form the basis of much of his work, with many poems dedicated to the joys and heartaches of romance. Robbie had 14 children from his three official wives and also had many other-lovers. Today he is regarded as the finest *romantic* poet in British literature.
5. **THE BARD:** Robbie is acclaimed and acknowledged as one of the most *insightful* and *articulate* authors and songwriters from the 1700's. Robert "Robbie" Burns is directly credited with authoring over 650 poems and songs written in old-Scottish and traditional English. A 1968 Oxford University Press publication of Robbie's poems, songs, letters and creative writing by James Kingsley had three volumes and was over 1,500 pages! As a travelling poet he would often compose on the spot in honour of the host or of the grand company that he had met. He travelled with a diamond tipped pencil and scratched his prose onto windowpanes or onto bar room chimneys. Today many of his poetic engravings still survive and can be found in towns of Edinburgh, Falkirk and Dumfries and many other towns and places across Scotland.
6. **PUBLIC MONUMENTS:** There are more than sixty-five dedicated public statues and monuments for Robbie Burns worldwide. After his death around the world towns would erect their own statues of Robert "Robbie" Burns. There is a folks saying that only Columbus and Queen Victoria have more public-statues devoted to them. His birthplace is a museum owned by the Scottish National Trust. Near Edinburgh Castle is a national monument in his honour.
7. **THE NEW YEARS EVE ANTHEM:** "Should *old* acquaintance be forgot, and never brought to mind? Should *old* acquaintance be forgot, and *old* lang syne?" "Auld Lang Syne" is a song about a friendly banter amongst friends to times gone by and was written by Robbie Burns in 1788. Today it is sung at graduations, farewells, funeral toasts, and by millions of people around¹⁵

the world at *New Years Eve celebrations*.

8. **A MAN FROM THE LAND, FOR THE LAND:** Robbie was born in 1759 in the small town of Alloway, south west Scotland on the banks of the river Doon. His respect, awe and love of nature is evident in his works. An example is “Ode to a Mouse” a touching reflection on destruction of a mouse’s habitat that still echoes in relevance in todays time of environmental destruction. If he were alive today Robbie would be rousing folks against the levels of destruction and loss of habitat to the environment caused by the modern world.
9. **AN EDUCATED FARMER:** Robbie’s mother Agnes taught him how to sing at a young age. They would sing songs about local folk stories and recite Scottish poems that he would remember with great clarity. Robbie also gratefully acknowledged his father William for teaching him to “enjoy the true meaning of a word. “ He was schooled at home.
10. **A GLOBAL CITIZEN:** Robbie was well informed of the various revolutions and wars around the world . Growing up on a farm did not stop Robbie from becoming educated. The local port Ayr was an hub for trade with Europe and the Americas. Robbie grew up interacting and meeting peoples from around the world. At one point in his life he planned to move to Jamaica. The success of his first book convinced him to stay in Scotland.
11. **A REBELLIOUS EGALITARIAN:** Robbie was born into a poor and hard working home. His parents Agnes William Burnes (*Robbie preferred to spell it Burns) did not own land instead the family tilled and worked the farmland under a tenure agreement. Hard labor and a lack of a full nutritious diet had a detrimental affect on his long-term health. A childhood education (rare at the time) and his own parent’s views on Celtic history, politics and religion bred a sharp minded and revolutionary streak in young Robbie. It manifested in his poems and songs rebelling against the social or religious norms of the mid-1700’s. Robbie repeatedly penned his love and lifelong bond and love for the common man. Enveloped in humour and wit his words were often rebellious against the ruling classes of the day. Even after he rose to fame he wrote about his love of humanity and his dislike of those who thought themselves as “superior” by simply being born into privilege. His works also highlight his perseverance to encourage others to question authoritarian views whether political or religious.

“ Attention Port Dover Grace United Church and Woodhouse United Church. It’s that time again to update the Church directory! Members of both Churches please start taking pictures of events happening in your Churches over the next few months. As soon as it is safe to move forward we will be getting in touch with everyone about photo times. “

Thank you ~ Blessings

Marg Walker and Lisa Jo Malcomson

Trivia Solutions

1. Genesis
2. Jeremiah
3. John.
4. Luke.
5. James.
6. Psalms.
7. Exodus.
8. Numbers
9. Ruth
10. Nehemiah.

Grace: Memorial Candle lighting

January 16 - We remember:

Margaret Jean Archer,
Louise Annette Behrens,
Donald Norris Edward Carpenter,
Harold William Foster, Margaret R. Hankforth,
Sheila Ann Miller, Mary Anne Nadrofsky, Peggy Mae Trembley, Til-
lie Wright



February 20 - We remember:

Peter Basyk Bobbyk, Harry Arthur Butler,
David Richard Jenkins Hughes, Lois Mina Keefer, Dorothy Jean Lee,
Cawleen Malouin, Marilyn Edith MacGregor, Wesley Keith Riddle,
Regina Schertzer

Woodhouse: Memorial Candle lighting

January 16 - We remember:

Hiram Lawrence Irwin, Shirley Robertson, James Douglas Chadwick

February 20 - no memorials



A gift we offer others
is our prayers.

Keep in our prayers the family and friends of:

Pearl Talbot who passed on November 1, 2021.

Jim Cruise who passed on November 27, 2021

Ina Lipsit who passed on December 19, 2021

Stan Morris (Presbyterian) who passed on December 21, 2021

B I B L E

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

When in sorrow.....	John 14
When men fail you.....	Psalms 27
When you have sinned.....	Psalms 51
When you have worry.....	Matthew 6:19-34
When you are in danger.....	Psalms 91
When God seems far away.....	Psalms 139
When your faith needs stirring.....	Hebrews 11
When you are lonely and fearful.....	Psalms 23
When you grow bitter and critical.....	1 Cor. 13
When you feel down and out.....	Romans 8:31-39
When you want peace and rest.....	Matthew 11:25-30
When the world seems bigger than God	Psalms 90
When you want Christian assurance.....	Romans 8:1-30
When you leave home for labor or travel.....	Psalms 121
When your prayers grow narrow or selfish.....	Psalms 67
When you want courage for a task.....	Joshua 1
When you think of investments/returns.....	Mark 10
How to get along with fellowmen.....	Romans 12
For great invention/opportunity.....	Isaiah 55
For Paul's secret to happiness.....	Col. 3:12-17
If you want to be fruitful.....	John 15
If your pocketbook is empty.....	Psalms 37
If your losing confidence in people.....	1Cor. 13
If people seem unkind.....	John 15
If discouraged about your work.....	Psalms 126
If you find the world growing small, and you great.....	Psalms 19

AVAILABLE 24/7 | PHONE SERVICE NOT REQUIRED
DIRECT PETITIONS HEAVENWARD

Scriptures For January / February 2022

January 2 – 2nd after Christmas

Jeremiah 31:7-14 The people return home, singing and dancing.

Psalm 147:12-20 God's word goes out to the ends of the earth.

Ephesians 1:3-14 Our inheritance through Jesus Christ

John 1:10-18 The Word became flesh and lived among us.

January 9—Baptism of the Lord Sunday

Isaiah 43:1-7 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you.

Psalm 29 Ascribe to God glory and strength.

Acts 8:14-17 Converts in Samaria baptized by Peter and John.

Luke 3:15-17,21-22 Jesus is baptized by John.

January 16—2nd Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah 62:1-5 No longer called :Desolate: but now named :Delight”.

Psalm 36:5-10 God's steadfast love is without limits.

1 Corinthians 12:1-11 Different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit.

John 2:1-11 The wedding in Cana

January 23—3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Nehemiah 8:1-3,5-6,8-10 Ezra reads the Torah at the Water Gate.

Psalm 19 The heavens declare the glory of God.

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a Now you are the body of Christ.

Luke 4:14-21 “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me.”

January 30—4th Sunday after Epiphany

Jeremiah 1:4-10 Before you were formed in the womb, I set you apart.

Psalm 71:1-6 God is our fortress and sheltering rock.

1 Corinthians 13:1-13 Love is patient and kind.

Luke 4:21-30 Jesus is driven out of Nazareth.

February 6—5th Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah 6:1-8 I saw God seated upon the throne.

Psalm 138 Do not forsake the work of your hands, O God.

1 Corinthians 15:1-11 An account of Jesus' resurrection.

Luke 5:1-11 Jesus Calls Simon and James and John.

February 13—6th Sunday after Epiphany

Jeremiah 17:5-10 Those who trust in God are like trees planted by water.

Psalm 1 Blessed are those who follow God's law.

1 Cor. 15:12-20 How can you say there is no resurrection of the dead?

Luke 6:17-26 The beatitudes upon the plain..

February 20—7th Sunday after Epiphany

Genesis 45:3-11,15 Joseph reveals his identity to his brothers.

Psalm 37:1-11,39-40 Do not fret; trust in God.

1 Corinthians 15:35-38,42-50 Understanding resurrection

Luke 6:27-38 Love your enemies; be merciful.

February 27—Transfiguration Sunday

Exodus34:29-35 Moses is radiant as he comes down the mountain.

Psalm 99 God rules and delights in justice.

2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2 We are bold in our hope.

Luke 9:28-36(37-43) Jesus is transfigured upon the mountain.

