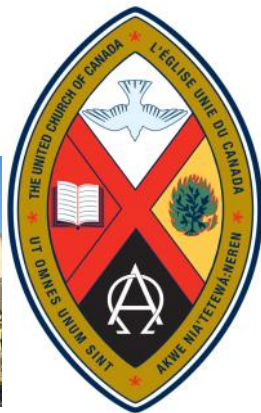


The Port Dover – Woodhouse Pastoral Charge

Woodhouse United Church and Grace United Church

NEWSLETTER

March—April 2021



From the minister's desk...

This newsletter takes us through Lent and into Easter. Like last year, our buildings are presently closed down. With the new variants of Covid-19 we must be diligent in our safety practices. The Pastoral Charge Board will meet again on March 9 to discuss any progress in the community situation. I know that it has been difficult not meeting. I am glad that our YouTube services have helped fill the gap a little. We have had positive feedback about them. A big thanks to all who help make it happen.

Lent is a time to reflect on Jesus ministry and journey to the cross as he taught about justice for all. It's also a time to reflect on our own choices. This is a good time to look back at the past year. Have we made any choices, behaved in any ways, which brought pain or harm to ourselves or others? It is a time to make confession to God and ask for help in the future.

Easter is a time for celebration. We are an Easter people. After all, it was not Christ's death that motivated his followers. It was his resurrection. Death did not have the last word. His ministry, his

teachings, offered new life. We are the beneficiaries of this new life. Each day when we rise we choose to follow in his footsteps. With each person we encounter, we have the choice to show them the face of Christ. Yes, Christ lives.

Finally I leave with you a scripture worth taking to heart. It sums up our role as followers of Christ. Colossians 3:12-14 (The Message)

12-14 So, chosen by God for this new life of love, dress in the wardrobe God picked out for you: compassion, kindness, humility, quiet strength, discipline. Be even-tempered, content with second place, quick to forgive an offense. Forgive as quickly and completely as the Master forgave you. And regardless of what else you put on, wear love. It's your basic, all-purpose garment. Never be without it.

Blessings to all. Stay safe.

Kathryn

Rev. Kathryn Vance



**Kind
words go a
long way on a
hard day.**

Equity in Our Church

The United Church of Canada has asked us to look closely at how we function and make any changes necessary to ensure equity in our dealings with all. Here are some definitions that are offered for use in assessing equity.

Equality Treating all people the same, regardless of individual differences. Equal treatment is not necessarily fair treatment, because it overlooks the fact that differences in opportunities and resources exist to begin with. Equality of treatment does not necessarily produce equality of result, and does not necessarily allow all people to succeed equally. For example, equality of treatment would mean giving everyone the exact same support, such as giving everyone the same amount of time to complete an exam regardless of learning disabilities or specialized learning needs.

Equity Giving fair treatment to all people based on their individual or group needs, even when that treatment is not the same as what others receive. Equity seeks to consider a person's or group's specific circumstances, past and present, and act accordingly to ensure success. Equity takes into account the needs of individuals and groups that have experienced and continue to experience systemic obstacles or challenges, in order to ensure the achievement of equal status in society for all. For example, equity of treatment would mean providing all people and groups with the resources that they individually need to succeed, such as taking into account an individual's abilities at exam time, so that a student with a learning disability or visual impairment would receive more time if needed.

Privilege is an advantage that only one person or group of people has, usually because of their position or because they are rich. Privilege is also the special right that some people in authority have that allows them to do or say things that other people are not allowed to. We first need to acknowledge that privilege does exist (even in the church).

Accessibility is about creating communities that enable everyone to participate fully without barriers. First thoughts are for those with differing abilities but this also includes sexual orientation, gender identity, life experience, ethnicity, race, generational differences, age, geographic location and economic circumstances.

TRIVIA & PUZZLES

The Hidden Books of the Bible

In the paragraph below you will find fifteen books of the Bible. As you find them, underline them.

I once made some remarks about hidden books in the Bible. It was a lulu: kept some people looking so hard for facts, and to others it was a revelation. Some were in a jam, especially since the books were not capitalized. But the truth finally struck home to numbers of readers. To others, it was a real job. We want it to be a most fascinating few minutes for you. Yes, there will be some really easy ones to spot; others might require judges determine. We will quickly admit it usually takes a minister to find one, and there will be loud lamentations when you see how easy it is. A little lady says that if she brews tea she can concentrate better.

Word Search

A	I	B	H	N	L	B	S	P	F	L	N	P	R	J
N	M	S	E	N	G	T	Y	C	N	A	J	L	Q	E
W	N	N	R	L	E	D	C	V	W	C	T	L	L	J
E	H	A	X	H	I	I	K	R	O	X	V	H	I	F
E	E	P	P	E	L	E	F	F	R	F	U	F	E	O
L	V	O	S	H	I	I	V	Y	L	V	A	A	D	R
T	R	E	S	D	V	I	B	E	D	N	D	E	I	E
P	R	E	R	M	E	K	C	P	N	S	E	H	E	V
T	L	U	M	L	A	Q	K	A	B	A	S	L	D	E
F	H	L	T	O	A	X	M	F	B	T	E	I	O	R
I	J	E	Y	H	T	S	E	H	D	E	R	F	X	B
M	E	Q	A	M	P	H	T	A	F	S	T	E	N	U
X	S	D	B	V	D	J	E	I	L	I	S	T	E	N
O	U	Y	P	B	E	R	L	R	N	K	Z	X	I	V
R	S	Z	X	V	B	N	P	T	W	G	G	N	M	M

Bread
Heaven
Jesus
Mother
Father
Prophets
Listen
Learn
Truth
Believe
Life
Ate Desert
Died
Live
Forever
Flesh
World

MATCH 1ST VERSE WITH 2ND VERSE

1ST VERSE

1. PRECIOUS LORD TAKE MY HAND...
2. WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS..
3. PASS ME NOT O GENTLE SAVIOUR...
4. THINE IS THE GLORY, RISEN CONQUERING SON...
5. O JESUS I HAVE PROMISED TO SERVE YOU TO THE END...
6. I DANCED IN THE MORNING WHEN THE WORLD WAS BEGUN...
7. SEEK YE FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD....
8. COME YE THANKFUL PEOPLE COME....
9. MORNING HAS BROKEN, LIKE THE FIRST MORNING....
10. WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS....

2ND VERSE

1. O LET ME FEEL YOU NEAR ME, THE WORLD IS EVER NEAR.
2. FOR BID IT,LORD, THAT I SHOULD BOAST.
3. SWEET THE RAINS NEW FALL SUNLIT FROM HEAVEN.
4. I DANCED FOR THE SCRIBE AND THE PHARISEES.
5. ASK AND IT SHALL BE GIVEN UNTO YOU
6. WHEN MY WAY GROWS DREAR.
7. LO, JESUS MEETS US, RISEN FROM THE TOMB.
8. ALL THE WORLD IS GOD'S OWN FIELD
9. LET ME AT THY THRONE OF MERCY.
10. HAVE WE TRIALS AND TEMPTATIONS.

BE THE CHURCH

Protect the environment. Care for the poor.

Forgive often. Reject racism.

Fight for the powerless.

Share earthly and spiritual resources.

Embrace diversity. Love God. Enjoy this life.

Solution: HIDDEN BOOKS OF THE BIBLE

I once made some remarks about hidden books in the Bible. It was a lulu: kept some people looking so hard for facts, and to others it was a revelation. Some were in a jam, especially since the books were not capitalized. But the truth finally struck home to numbers of readers. To others, it was a real job. We want it to be a most fascinating few minutes for you. Yes, there will be some really easy ones to spot; others might require judges to determine. We will quickly admit it usually takes a minister to find one, and there will be loud lamentations when you see how easy it is. A little lady says that if she brews tea she can concentrate better.



VERY SOON
WE SPRING FORWARD

MARCH 14, 2021

Don't forget to set your clocks!

Our sunset will be at 7:19PM

Who's Ready

for more sunny days ahead?

News and Updates

During the pandemic, the church continues to operate albeit a bit differently as we adapt to keep our members and community safe. Upcoming events and activities:

- The Pastoral Charge Board is meeting March 9th to discuss options and timing for reopening in-person church activities
- Weekly Services on our YouTube Channel are prerecorded and posted. If you haven't seen it, check it out. Link on our Website [graceunitedportdover.org](https://www.graceunitedportdover.org)
- Lift UP Your Spirits (LUYS) meets by ZOOM- March 1 at 7:30PM
- Grace Council Meeting 6:30pm March 8 by ZOOM
- New Ways Committee meets by ZOOM MARCH 15 at 9:30am
- Bible Study continues Tuesdays by ZOOM
- JUST TO CHAT is a new initiative to help church members connect with each other from their homes by ZOOM every Tuesday at 2PM
- AA meetings are resuming Mondays & Fridays 8PM
- The office is mailing and emailing members bulletins, announcements and links to weekly services. If you know someone who would like to be added, call the office know at 519-583-0342 or email graceunitedportdover@gmail.com



Handmade Prayer Crosses

Sold by Woodhouse United Church

until Easter

\$10 each

Call Kathryn Bannister 519-429-8150

Proceeds to the Live stream equipment

JOKES

A friend was in front of me coming out of church one day, and the preacher was standing at the door as she always is to shake hands.

She grabbed my friend by the hand and pulled him aside.

The Reverend said to him, "You need to join the Army of the Lord!"

My friend replied, "I'm already in the Army of the Lord, Reverend."

Reverend questioned, "How come I don't see you except at Christmas and Easter?"

My friend whispered back, "I'm in the secret service."



Chocolate comes from cocoa, which is a tree.

That makes it a plant.

Therefore, chocolate is salad.

Happy Easter!

Maria came home from Sunday School on Palm Sunday and told her mother that she had learned a new song about a cross-eyed bear named Gladly. It took her mother a while before she realised that the hymn Maria had been singing was really: "Gladly The Cross I'd Bear."

Young Ernie and his family were invited to have Easter Sunday lunch at his grandmother's house. Everyone was seated around the table as the food was being served. When Ernie received his plate he started eating. 'Ernie, wait until we say grace,' demanded his father. 'I don't have to,' the five year old replied. 'Of course you do, Ernest,' 'We always say a prayer before eating at our house.' 'That's at our house,' Ernie explained, 'but this is Grandma's house, and she knows how to cook.'

International Women's Day

is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. The day also marks a call to action for accelerating gender parity. Significant activity is witnessed world-wide as groups celebrate women's achievements or rally for women's equality.



**INTERNATIONAL
WOMEN'S DAY**
MARCH 8

Marked annually on **March 8th**, International Women's Day (IWD) is one of the most important days of the year to:

- celebrate women's achievements
- raise awareness about women's equality
- lobby for accelerated gender parity
- fundraise for female-focused charities

Here are a few simple things you can do to celebrate **International Women's Day**:

1. Tell the first woman you meet in the morning how wonderful she is and give her a big smile. We all need a bit of positive reinforcement to be our best!
2. Wear a purple ribbon. Purple has been associated with women's power ever since the suffragette movement. Regarding the purple ribbon, it is also an interesting fact that Lydia, one of the prominent women in first century Christianity, was a dealer in purple cloth. Show that you believe in women- wear a purple ribbon!
3. Be kind to yourself and to others. Take a moment to reflect on acts of kindness you've experienced or offered up to others. Celebrate them.
4. Get informed. Take time to learn about women and girls in other parts of the world. What are their lives like? What can you do about inequality, poverty and injustice?
5. If you are short on time or ideas, you can always donate to missions and charities that support Women through Missions & Services.

Grace: Memorial Candle lighting



March 21- We remember:

Bill Dosser, Barbara Luciani, William Muha,
David Novinka, Sandra Pearce, Reginald Pineo, Tony Schneider,
Maxine Stewardson, Barbara Ann Stratton, William Wingrove

April 18 - We remember:

Floyd Bowman, Reginald box, Elva May Broker, Laura Craigwell,
Joan Harrison, Carmen Lawrence, Linda Lindsay, Helen Long, Jane
Mott, Travis O'Brien, Evelyne Waters, Ina Wilson

Woodhouse: Memorial Candle lighting

March 21 - We remember:

Bill Simpson, Sharon McKenzie

April 18 - We remember:

Carole Moore, Florence Erwin



A gift we offer others
is our prayers.

Keep the family and friends
of **Marilyn McGregor** who
passed on February 13,
2021 are in your prayers.

I Heard Your Voice In The Wind Today

I Heard Your Voice In The Wind Today - Unknown

I heard your voice in the wind today
and I turned to see your face;
The warmth of the wind caressed me
as I stood silently in place.

I felt your touch in the sun today
as its warmth filled the sky;
I closed my eyes for your embrace
and my spirit soared high.

I saw your eyes in the window pane
as I watched the falling rain;
It seemed as each raindrop fell
it quietly said your name.

I held you close in my heart today
it made me feel complete;
You may have died...but you are not gone
you will always be a part of me.

As long as the sun shines...
the wind blows...
the rain falls...
You will live on inside of me forever
for that is all my heart knows.

MATCH THE VERSE ANSWERS:

- 1. IS 6.
- 2. IS 10.
- 3. IS 9.
- 4. IS 7.

- 5 IS 1.
- 6 IS 4.
- 7 IS 5
- 8 IS 8.

- 9 IS 3.
- 10 IS 2.

Scripture Readings March 7 to April 25, 2021

March 7 - 3rd Sunday in Lent

Exodus 20:1-17 The ten commandments

Psalms 19 The heavens declare the glory of God.

1 Corinthians 1:18-25 God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom.

John 2:13-22 Jesus clears the temple.

March 14 - 4th Sunday in Lent

Numbers 21:4-9 A bronze serpent heals the people.

Psalms 107:1-3, 17-22 God's steadfast love endures forever.

Ephesians 2:1-10 We are not saved by our own doing, but by grace.

John 3:14-21 For God so loved the world

March 21 - 5th Sunday in Lent

Jeremiah 31:31-34 "I will write my law on their hearts."

Psalms 51:1-12 Put a new heart in me, O God.

Hebrews 5:5-10 Christ did not glorify himself; rather he suffered.

John 12:20-33 Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth

March 28—Palm Sunday

Isaiah 50:4-9a The servant, "I gave my back to those who struck me."

Psalms 118:1-2, 19-29 The stone that the builders rejected

Philippians 2:5-11 Let the same mind be in you as was in Christ Jesus.

Mark 11:1-11 Jesus' joyful entry into Jerusalem

April 4 - Easter Sunday

Acts 10:34-43 Peter preaches, "God shows no partiality."

Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24 God is my strength and my song.

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

Mark 16:1-8 The resurrected Jesus appears to Mary Magdalene.

April 11 - 2nd Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:32-35 The believers shared everything in common.

Psalms 133 How pleasant it is when God's people are together.

1 John 1:1-2:2 God is light; walk in the light.

John 20:19-31 Jesus appears to the disciples but Thomas is not there.

April 18 - 3rd Sunday of Easter

Acts 3:12-19 Peter preaches in Solomon's Portico.

Psalms 4 Answer me, when I call, O God.

1 John 3:1-7 We are children of God.

Luke 24:36b-48 Jesus invites the disciples to touch his hands and feet.

April 25 - 4th Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:5-12 Peter testifies before the high priest.

Psalms 23 God is my shepherd.

1 John 3:16-24 Let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action.

John 10:11-18 Jesus is the good shepherd.

