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Dear friends in Christ,

I hope that this letter finds you well, as we begin the autumn season and draw closer to Thanksgiving, I am reminded of how much I am thankful for, especially amidst the strange and trying year we have experienced. I am thankful for the ways that God has sustained us throughout the past 7 months; I am thankful for your immense faithfulness in continuing to support the church and support one another even as we continue to remain largely apart; I am thankful that we have been able to reopen our church for worship and that so far everything has gone smoothly. I am also especially thankful for everyone who is making decisions that keep other people safe and serve us in frontline positions during this time of crisis.

Remembering what we are thankful for is important every year, but even more so this year as we continue to face uncertain times and an uncertain future as cases continue to surge throughout our province. We do not know what the future holds, we do not know how long we will be able to remain open, we do not know when cases will slowdown, when a vaccine will be ready or when the pandemic will finally be behind us.

What we do know is that God is with us, that Jesus bears all the suffering and pain that we are experiencing throughout this trying time, and that as the church it is our duty and honour to spread hope in the world. God has called us to love our neighbours as ourselves, this means that we need to continue to find ways to love and serve our neighbours – something as simple as properly wearing a mask and sanitizing your hands is a powerful act of love these days; helping at our Thanksgiving to-go meal, supporting the St. Ninian's food bank (details below) are just a few ideas of the ways you can love and serve your neighbour but I am confident that in your context you can find meaningful ways to heed God's call.

St. Ninian's Food Bank Thanksgiving Donations

Each year in celebration of Thanksgiving the congregation of Grace Church has brought donations of non-perishable goods and other seasonal food to decorate our sanctuary and ultimately provide them to St. Ninians for the many people in Scarborough that they serve. This year more than ever I encourage you to participate. Any non-perishables you can bring such as: **Canned goods, Cereal, Peanut Butter, Jam, Honey, Cookies, Pasta** and much more. We will be accepting donations throughout the next two weeks, so even if you cannot bring donations by Thanksgiving Sunday (Oct 11th), your donation will still make its way to St. Ninian's Food Bank. Please bring your donations on Sundays or Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10-1pm.

Our mission is to worship God and proclaim Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit and to embody – in word and action – God's reconciling love, justice, compassion and liberation, through which knowledge of God's reign is extended.



A Parish of the
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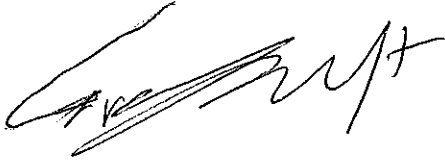
Thank you, Doreen Brown!

It is with some sadness that I announce to the parish that Doreen Brown has stepped down as our parish administrator effective September 2020. Doreen has spent many years serving the church, here at Grace but also at St. Crispin's before that, and her tireless dedication and faithfulness has kept me honest and accountable throughout my time here and she will most definitely be missed. Doreen is not leaving our parish, however so while this is goodbye from one role she will continue to be a vital part of our Grace Church family!

Pauline Flemming, who had been serving as our rental coordinator, has taken over Doreen's position as office administrator combining with her previous role. If you have need of anything from the office, please don't hesitate to leave Pauline a message or give her a call when she is in the office on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

As we continue on this journey through the new and challenging landscape brought on by the pandemic I want to thank you for being a part of Grace Church, for remaining faithful to God through trying times and remaining steadfast in hope that a better world is possible in Jesus, on earth as it is in heaven. May God Bless you and yours this Thanksgiving season, and may you all remain safe and well.

Blessings,



Rev. Graham McCaffrey

