

**Community Dinner . . .
is January 13.**

**If you'd like to volunteer, please sign
up at the Communications Table.
We appreciate volunteers arriving
@ 3:00. Doors open for serving @
4:15.
The next
one is
February
10.**



Grace Notes 2026

Grace Lutheran Church
146 High St, Wadsworth 44281

Our Mission Statement

Grace is a community, building its tradition through the sharing of the good news of Jesus and caring for all God's children.



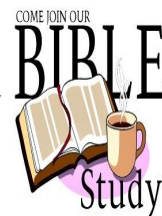
Artful Souls . . .

will meet on Tuesday, January 27 at 10:00am in the Fireplace Room or in the second floor art room, whichever is most convenient and available. This will be a 'bring your own' project get-together but there will be a few simple options for those who might not have a current project they're working on. Just come, relax and enjoy the company if you're so inclined! See you all then!



Thursday Night Bible Study

. . . is on hiatus until February 19 when we'll pick up a new series for the Lenten and Easter season. In the meantime, there are daily devotionals available in the Gathering Space with daily readings and prayers.



Grace Represents at Memorial Park Tree Lighting

Thank you to Steve and Sarah McIlvaine and to all who helped us represent our community at the Memorial Tree Lighting this year in Memorial Park.



*Jesus said, "And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."
-Matthew 28:20*

The New Year is a time pregnant with potential. For me, there's nothing like a blank calendar, an empty page, a fresh reset and a new beginning that gets my creativity flowing.

I find myself doing a lot of planning, hoping, and dreaming when the New Year comes around. What do I want this year to look like? What projects do I hope to accomplish? What trips do I want to take? What do I want to change in my routines and habits? What do I want to keep the same?

Despite our planning, many of us know well that our best laid plans are the ones that often go awry. As the famous saying goes, "we plan and God laughs."

The truth is, we don't know what 2026 will bring. We don't know what the world will look like or what might happen in our lives. Does that mean we shouldn't plan? Of course not. Dreaming and planning is important as we live out God's call for our lives. But ultimately, we don't know how those plans will shake out.

But God knows.

God doesn't promise that each year will be all sunshine and roses, and that every plan we make will come to fruition. But God does promise to be with us in all of it, no matter what comes our way.

So whatever this year brings you, as you hope and dream of what God might have in store for you, know that God will be with you in it. Because Jesus came so that we would know God's love for us and God's presence among us, no matter what happens.

Join me in prayer:

Dear Jesus, as I hope, dream, and plan for the year ahead, help me remember that you are always with me. Amen.

-Pastor Morgan

**Committee Chairpersons,
it's time to start working on your
year-end reports for the ANNUAL
REPORT!!!**

**Reports can be given to Cathy
anytime. Deadline is February 16 for
preparation of the Annual Report.**

**Annual
Report**



**THE DATE FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING
WILL BE DECIDED AT THE JANUARY
18 COUNCIL MEETING so please watch
for more information.**



December Breakfast Church

We had an awesome time at our first ever Breakfast Church the Sunday after Christmas, where we gathered around a meal, had conversation with one another, and continued to ring in the Christmas season. Thank you to Karen Sisler and Pam Blubaugh for preparing food, the Worship and Music team, all who brought diaper and wipe donations, and all who participated in making our Breakfast Church a wonderful time of worship and community.



We continue to collect ALUMINUM CANS for recycle. ONLY aluminum cans - no food cans or aluminum foil. Please bag the cans. Please leave the tabs on the cans. We are no longer collecting them separately. Thank you to Bill & Gayle Hall for taking the cans to PCS Recycling in Barberton.



PLEASE EMPTY THE CANS!!!

We appreciate the important, continuing support of the congregation. If you'd like to mail your offering to the office, please include your offering envelope and send to:

146 High St, Wadsworth OH 44281

or

PO Box 406, Wadsworth OH 44282

Confirmation's December Service Project

At our December meeting, our confirmation students made tie blankets to donate to families in need through the Salvation Army. They learned about serving God by serving others, and were excited to share their love and prayers for those who received the blankets. Please continue to pray for our confirmation youth as they grow in service and faith this year.

A thank you . . .

Dear Friends,

Cooler weather has brought a lot of excitement to The Wadsworth Salvation Army. Kettle Season is here and construction on the new facility is underway! We want to take a moment to thank you for your display of generosity with your recent donation of blankets. This donation will assist us in our effort to help over 400 children from our community this Christmas season. We are looking forward to big things this year in our Learning Center, Food Assistance and many more programs.

With your help, we will continue to grow programming, build our new facility and show the love of Jesus to everyone we serve. We cannot express how much your support means to us and we consider ourselves blessed to serve alongside of you.



May God bless you and yours,
Ashley Smith, Envoy
Charles Smith, Envoy
Corps Leaders
The Wadsworth Salvation Army



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE was beautiful. Thank you to everyone who assisted with the service and a special thank you to everyone who attended. It was wonderful to see so many gather to celebrate.



There were 191 people in attendance.

SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY - FEBRUARY 2



SM Is a month away, but now is the time to stock up on soup! We'll be collecting soup this month to give to the Wadsworth Salvation Army.

On February 2, we'll count the soup and donations, register our totals with *Souper Bowl of Caring* and deliver the soup that week. Let's tackle hunger and fill the end zone!!

SOCIAL MINISTRY EMPHASIS

During January, we continue to collect socks (any size, any kind), gloves (any size, any kind) and coffee for *Haven of Rest, Akron*. Please bring the items to the church.



You are invited to join us to play euchre (whether you're a pro, novice or would like to learn). The date is **Friday, January 16**.

Our evening begins at 6:00 p.m. with snacks and fellowship. The euchre game ends at 9:00pm. Please bring snacks to share. Please sign up at the Communications Table.



The *Card Creators* invite you to create cards. **THEY WILL NOT MEET IN JANUARY**, but will resume on February 5. It looks like fun. The cards are then sent to our shut-ins for special occasions and sometimes just for *thinking of you*.



Follow us on Social Media

Are you on Instagram and Facebook? Now, you can subscribe to our YouTube channel too! Follow our church pages for even more updates, photos, devotions, and more!



@GraceLutheranWadsworth



2 Marla Bianco	13 Daniel Sisler
3 Marli Elsass - 88 David Tenley	14 Nancy Blewitt
5 Charlotte Rogan	16 Gayle Hall
8 Sandra Miracle - 87	22 Rena Hakin
9 Melissa Otanicar	29 Norma Kepner Carol Kettenbauer



December Family Ice Skating

Though the crowd was small, our families had a blast on the ice!

Poinsettias . . .

- * *As a Thankoffering by Marli Elsass*
- * *In memory of Janet & Chris Siesky and Beverly & Bob Schumann by Susan Siesky*
- * *In memory of Harold Chapline by Pat Chapline*
- * *In memory of Robert & Elaine Ramsthaler by Rena & Jerry Hakin*
- * *In memory of dear loved ones by Norma Kepner*
- * *In memory of Gale, Jim and Pete by Kay Edmonds*
- * *In memory of our parents, Carl & Alice Gettemy and William & Rita Savage; Jan Weidrick and Ellen's children, Christine Houser and John Flukey, Jr. by Dave Gettemy and Bill & Ellen Savage*
- * *In memory of Roger, Evelyn and Thomas Haag by Tony & Marilyn Menich*
- * *In honor of our grandchildren – Jay, Rowan and Maya Hall Budde by Bill & Gayle Hall*
- * *In memory of loved ones by Garland & Elaine Parsons and family*
- * *In honor of our family by Glenn & Shirley Rahe*
- * *In memory of my family by Lisa Lauck*
- * *In memory of our loved ones by Dennis & Grace Romis*
- * *In memory of Rose & Jack Golz, Mike Golz; Ed & Helen Otanicar and Bob Otanicar by Ed & Melissa Otanicar, Sara, Natalie and Addison Glenn; Justin Otanicar and Rachel Frank*

Volunteers are always welcome to lector, serve as Communion assistants, ushers and Fellowship. Please consider volunteering for any of these 'duties'. Your help is much appreciated (and essential). If you can help, there's a sign-up sheet on the Communications Table.



Praying for Nancy Blewitt, Ray Buck, Marilyn Chapman, Jim Crawford (Bill Young's friend), Kim Donovan, Marli Elsass, Vicki Graf, Kim Hall, Rae Jean Heberling, Jon Hibian, Carol Kettenbauer, Cindy Kindig, Debbie Liddy, Jan Louis, Sandy Miracle, Carol Prentiss, Angie Sass and Emily Schott (friends of Melissa Otanicar), David Snyder, Isla Stewart (Walt & Cindy Kindig's granddaughter), Maida White.



Praying for those serving in the Armed Forces – Sam Adams, Antonio Buccino, Aaron Burnham, Bryan Chapman, Dan Hines, Ryan Crymes, Matthew McMillen, Michael Mogg.

We hope you're enjoying (and opening) our new email format - it comes to you from "Grace Lutheran Church" through a program called "Constant Contact". It's still from me. It's fun to work with and I'm getting better at it. This program allows me to see how many people opened it and gives me all kinds of information.

Allows 'buttons' to access the items we're sharing - the sermon, upcoming bulletin and that week's *Grace News*. Please take the time to look at it.

OFFICE HOURS (330-335-6501)

Monday, 9:00am-1:00pm

Tuesday, 9:00am-1:00pm

Wednesday – OFFICE CLOSED

Thursday, 9:00am-1:00pm

Friday, 9:00am-1:00pm

Pastor Morgan Annable

(pastor's workdays are Sunday through

Thursday - please call to make an appointment if you wish to meet with her.)

Cathy Byers, Office Administrator

Max Miller, Council President

Kalyn Davis, Organist

Bill Young, Custodian



Parking Lot Acquisition Update

In July, the congregation approved the pursuit of bidding on a parking lot property on the northwest side of the building. On December 17, the Property Committee submitted a bid of \$15,000 to the city on behalf of the congregation. As we wait for their response, we pray that God will guide the process.

We will continue to update as we get more information.

JANUARY, 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1  Office Closed	2 Cathy/out 5:30 First Friday	3
4 9:00 Worship	5 1:00 WWC Bd (GS) 6:30 Bal Class	6	7 6:30 AA (FR)	8 6:30 Worship	9	10
11 9:00 Worship	12 6:30 Bal Class	13 10:00 KM (N) 5:00 Community Dinner	14 10:00 KM (N) 6:30 AA (FR)	15 10:30 Finance 11:00 WWC (FH) 6:30 Worship	16 6:00 Euchre	17
18 9:00 Worship 10:30 Council	19 6:30 Bal Class	20 8:00 LifeLine Screenings (FH) 10:00 KM (N)	21 10:00 KM (N) 6:30 AA (FR)	22 1:00 Comm Coalition 6:30 Worship	23	24
25 9:00 Worship	26 6:30 Bal Class	27 10:00 KM (N) 10:00 Artful Souls 5:00 MSW & FL (FH, GS)	28 10:00 KM (N)	29 6:30 Worship	30	31
WORSHIP Sunday 9:00 Thursday 6:30 Bible Study 7:30 (watch the calendar)	GS - Gathering Space FR - Fireplace Room L - Library S - Sanctuary	FL - Footlighters HS - Head Start KM - Kindermusik	WWC Wadsworth Women's Club AA Alcoholics Anonymous			