



FEBRUARY 2025 GRACEGRAM

Grace alone . . . Faith alone . . . Word alone . . .



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Now we look back on all this and thank God, a geyser of thanks!

1 Thessalonians 2:13

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

I thanked God for President Jimmy Carter. At the end of his funeral we sang a hymn of praise and thanksgiving, *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!* We will someday join the sacred throng in singing this and many other songs of thanksgiving.

I am so thankful for the generosity of the people of God here at Grace Lutheran Church. **Did you know that besides the food and gifts you purchased for the six adopted families at Christmas we collected and gave away \$1,774.59 to these families and Green Gables?** Because of you the joy and love of Jesus was shared. So I say THANK YOU!

We thank Amy and Phil Poholski for buying the church a new potato dicer. We were also blessed this past year with a ton of anonymous gifts to Hand2Hand, purchasing of lightbulbs, a vacuum sealer, purchasing of coffee, sweeteners, creamer, plastic wine cups, grape juice, money given to Helping Hands Fund, money given to Grace Projects, and your support to the general fund. MANY THANKS!



We thank God for the beauty that we experience here at Grace Lutheran Church

Cindy Olson says, "Thank you for your support of her. It is greatly appreciated." Kim Domke says, "Many thanks for the generous Christmas gift. Barry Bucks are always appreciated." Aurora Collins said, "I am floored with the abundance shared with me." Nathan Freedlund said, "I wanted to thank Grace Lutheran Church for the 2024 Christmas gift." Anna Scheck said, "I am grateful for all the fun Christmas gifts the people of Grace gave me this year. Your generosity was surprising—I hadn't expected gifts to come along with being Parish Administrator. I was certainly touched that you thought of me." I am thankful that I serve as pastor here at this wonderful place that God continues to gather, shape and lead. May we continue the good work of sharing God's grace with others. We do have so much fun here at Grace Church!

Thanking God for you,
Pastor Ken +

*All Hail the
Power of
Jesus' Name!*

Oh, that with
yonder sacred
throng

we at his
feet may fall!

We'll join the
everlasting
song

and crown him
Lord of all.

We'll join the
everlasting
song

and crown him
Lord of all.

~ Edward Perronet

**Deadline for the
March GraceGram is
February 17, 2025.**

Send your articles to:
Anna Scheck
parishadmin@grace-
hastings.org

Soup-er Bowl Sunday Lunch

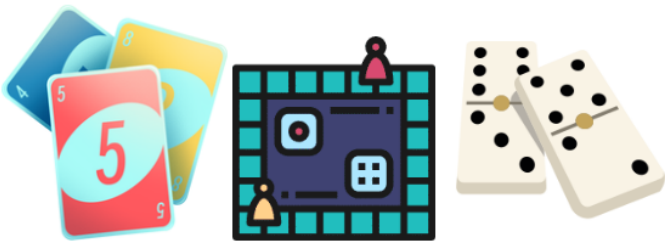
February 9 after worship

We are looking for soup makers to bring delicious soups and we'll vote for the winner! You're also welcome to bring bread, other sides, or a dessert. Like the halftime show, these are often better than the main event. Please sign up in the gathering area even if you aren't bringing a dish, so we can make sure we have enough food.



Game Day

Presented by the Social Activities Committee, games will follow the soup lunch on February 9th. Before we go home and watch the big game, please join us in playing some board and card games. All ages are welcome, and children are especially encouraged to bring their favorite games to play. If you have a game you'd like to share with us, feel free to bring it, or just bring yourself!



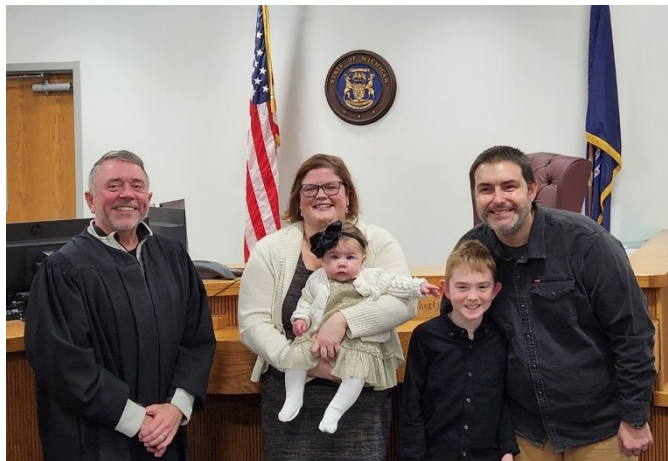
Happy Gotcha Day

Ruby Gibbons!

Born July 24, 2024

Adopted January 9, 2025

We celebrate with Shayna, James, & Rayland that Ruby is officially part of the family! We love you, Ruby.

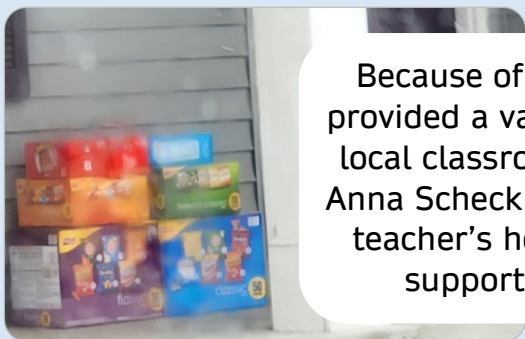


Ruby will be baptized on February 23

Please join us in welcoming her as our sister in Christ.

The Giving Tree: Delivered to Two Teachers

Because of your generosity, we provided a variety of snacks to two local classrooms. Pastor Ken and Anna Scheck delivered them to the teacher's homes. Thank you for supporting this ministry!



We are **PREPARED TO BE . . .**

Ugly Sweater / Cookie Exchange Blood Drive Success Story

Our last blood drive had 21 units donated - a very good turn out for being after Christmas.

Pastor Paul's homemade cookies with this recipe card were very well received.

RECIPE FOR A HAPPY HOME

IN A LARGE BOWL OF LOVE, MIX:

- 2 cups of faith
- 2 cups of patience
- 1 cup of sympathy

BLEND IN:

- 1 cup of forgiveness
- 2 teaspoons of kindness
- 1/2 cup of courage

• Pour into a heart of joy, sprinkle with harmony

• Top with a spread of understanding, sweeten with respect, and bake in an oven of trust

• Serve with a tender smile

Thank you for giving blood this holiday season at Grace Lutheran Church



Many of our donors stated they like coming back to give blood here for the refreshments and the fun we have!



Again, many thanks for the prayers, blessings, and participation of our Grace Family.

Mark your calendars for this month's drive
February 25, 2025
from 10 am - 4 pm

Call 1-800-733-2767 or go to www.redcrossblood.org/give to make an appointment

WELCOME TO

Club
Grace



FEATURING "THE SUPERHEROES"

*ID cards will be required

We are PREPARED TO BE ...

Giving Statements

Thank you for your generosity that is shared with Grace Lutheran Church through your contributions to the Ministry of Jesus Christ.

2024 Giving Statements are included in this GraceGram.

If we have mistakenly left you out and have not provided you a statement, or if there is an issue with your contribution statement please contact Anna at the church office 269-945-9414 or parishadmin@grace-hastings.org so she can help you.

Thank you again for your continued generosity.

Hand2Hand

The Outreach Committee invites you to help the Hand2Hand Program.

We are collecting Yoo Hoo chocolate milk, individual pudding cups, Slim Jims, granola bars, individual instant oatmeal, ramen noodles, and individual mac and cheese. Check the bulletin board in the Gathering Area for February's additional need items. Please place all donations in the box at the front entrance. The deadline for this month is February 23rd. If you have any questions, please contact Patti Comp. Thank you for helping otherwise hungry children on the weekends at our local schools.



Scan this QR Code to access secure online giving.

We are PREPARED TO BE . . .

Worship is at
9:30 am

Sunday Mornings, One Service
Adult Forum following Worship

Worship will remain
one-service at 9:30 am.
The council is hopeful that all are
able to worship our great God.



A Note from Kay Howell:

Thank you all so much for the prayers, cards, calls, and the visits received from everyone at Grace. I really appreciate the love sent my way recently.

Also, I got a new phone number:

269-290-7068

Please call using this number in the future.



February Meetings

- 2/3 Social Activities Committee 4:30 pm
- 2/4 Women of Faith 11 am
- 2/6 Brothers of Grace 6 pm
- 2/10 Outreach Committee 3 pm
- 2/11 Women of Faith 11 am
- 2/11 Executive Committee 5:30 pm
- 2/18 Women of Faith 11 am
- 2/18 Congregation Council 5:30 pm
- 2/25 Women of Faith 11 am

Women of Faith

The Women of Faith Bible Study meets
Tuesdays at 11 am
They invite any women to join when they
can—don't worry about missing a week here
and there. The current study topic is the
women of the New Testament.



JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT

Hastings' spring musical is
*Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor
Dreamcoat*, and a group from Grace
will be attending the matinee on

Saturday, March 15 at 2 pm

The Social Activities Committee will make a
reservation for dinner at a local restaurant after the
musical. Please sign up on the bulletin board.

Please purchase musical tickets on YOUR OWN
through the HPAC ticket website: <https://hastings.ludus.com/index.php>
Contact Bill Freedlund if you need help ordering tickets.

Our Ash Wednesday Service will be at
Noon on March 5 here at Grace.

Ash Wednesday



If you're interested in an evening
service, there will be an Ecumenical
Service at **Hastings Nazarene at 7pm.**

**Well
Done**

You did a great job
bringing in plastic bags
for the Hastings
Women's Club!

They have collected
enough for now—thank
you for supporting this
outreach program.

Thanks

**A poem
fit for
February**

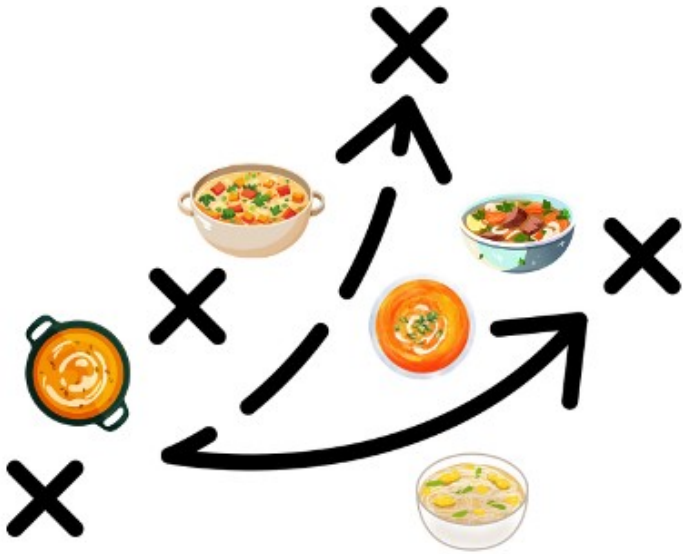
*Here delicate snow-stars, out of the cloud,
Come floating downward in airy play,
Like spangles dropped from the glistening crowd
That whiten by night
the milky way.*

-"The Snow-Shower," by William Cullen Bryant (1794-1878)



Soup-erbowl Sunday

February 9 after worship



Stick around to play board games after the meal.

We raised \$277 for



**during our Advent meals.
The funds we shared helps
those seeking refuge from
domestic violence.**

STUDY STATEMENT




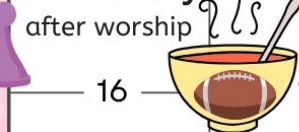





We believe we are all created in God's image and are all called to love our neighbors as Jesus loves us. We believe we are many members, but one body in Christ, and called to unite all people in God's love. We welcome and affirm all people. We invite those who are seeking God's presence in their lives to join us in our common journey, which includes the **LGBTQIA+** community. Our faith community seeks to unite persons of all ages, race, nationalities, ethnic background, sexual orientations, gender identities, mental and physical abilities, socioeconomic levels, and theological backgrounds. Together in our diversity, and being empowered and directed by the Holy Spirit, we will continually strive to "Do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God." (Micah 6:8)



LGBTQIA+ = Lesbian, Gay,
Bi-sexual, Transgender, Queer,
Questioning, Intersex,
Asexual/Aromantic.

We are **PREPARED TO BE . . .**

FEBRUARY 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
26 Worship 9:30 am <i>In person and Online</i>	27	28 Women of Faith 11 am 	29	30	31	1
2 Worship 9:30 am <i>In person and Online</i>	3 Social Activities Committee 4:30 pm 	4 Women of Faith 11 am	5	6 Brothers of Grace 6 pm 	7	8
9 Worship 9:30 am Soup-erbowl Lunch & Game Day after worship 	10 Outreach Committee 3 pm	11 Women of Faith 11 am Executive Committee 5:30 pm	12	13	14 Valentine's Day 	15
16 Worship 9:30 am <i>In person and Online</i>	17 President's Day 	18 Women of Faith 11 am Congregation Council 5:30 pm	19	20	21	22
23 Worship 9:30 am <i>In person and Online</i>	24 	25 Women of Faith 11 am Welcome to Club Grace featuring the Superheroes Blood Drive 10am - 4pm 	26 	27	28	1

*Grace Office Hours:
Monday - Thursday
9 am - 1 pm*

*Pastor Ken's Office Hours:
Monday - Thursday
10 am - 12 pm*

Ash Wednesday is on March 5
Worship at Noon here at Grace

Let Us Pray: If you are aware of others that should be put on the lists, please notify the office.

Our Homebound Friends:

Opal Gillons	Thornapple Manor 2700 Nashville Road Hastings, MI 49058
Elsie Merrow	Woodlawn Meadows 1825 East Street Hastings, MI 49058
Doris Allerding	Woodlawn Meadows #15
Shirley Beck	Hope Landing 1252 North Cochran #116 Charlotte, MI 48813
Karl Golnek	c/o Medilodge 2786 - 56th Street, SW Wyoming, MI 49418

Loved Ones Serving in the Military:

Grandson of Freedlunds
Parker Stancil (US Army)

Daughter & son-in-law of Cherie Clements
Myrina & Cody Crawford

Granddaughter of Gwen Hansen
Cynthia Rudesill

Nephew of Joe & Sharon Varkula
LT Joel Taggart (USN, Virginia)

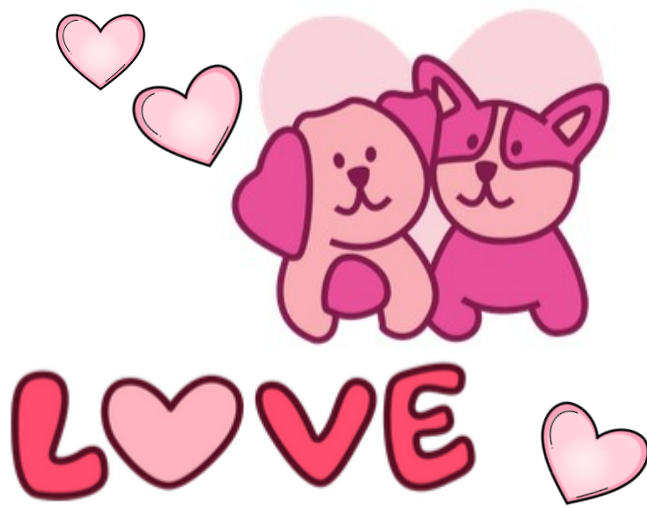
Nephew and Godson of Ed and Kim Domke
Seth Domke (Cherry Point, North Carolina)

Nephew of Ed and Jeanette Markwart
Nathen Schick (US Marines)



February Birthdays

Tori Schoessel	02/10
Jack Vos	02/14
Liz Markwart	02/15
Mattea Markwart	02/15
Teresa Burdick	02/16
Steve Rider	02/16
Nyla Rounds	02/16
Joe Longcor	02/19
Lorraine Freedlund	02/22
Ron Hayward	02/23
Kate Watson	02/28



February Anniversaries

Matt and Sandra Mikolajczyk	02/20
Frank and Ann Bolton	02/28





Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

God's work.

Our hands.

SUNDAY WORSHIP

9:30 am

Worship also On-line:
www.grace-hastings.org



**OUR
MISSION**

Saved by Grace.
Called to Worship.
Sent to Serve.

Our Staff:

Ken Scheck II

Minister of Word and Sacrament

kscheckii@aol.com

Cindy Olson, *Minister of Music*

Kim Domke, *Bell Choir Director*

kdomke08@gmail.com

Anna Scheck, *Parish Administrator*

and Financial Coordinator

Mon-Thurs 9AM - 1PM

parishadmin@grace-hastings.org

Aurora Collins, *Nursery*

Nathan Freedlund, *Custodian*

Leadership for 2024-2025

Executive Committee:

President: *Tim Schoessel*
Vice President: *Jamie Heise*
Secretary: *Lisa Pohl*
Treasurer: *Randy Teegardin*

**Church Council
Members/Liaisons:**

Erin Franks
(Congregational Care)
Doug Neeb (Property)
Patti Comp (Outreach)
Mark Anton (Youth & Family)
Bill Freedlund
(Social Activities)
Greg Franks (Stewardship)
Deb Watson (Small Groups)
Gary Golnek (Worship)

2024 Giving Statement Enclosed

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Grace Lutheran Church

239 E. North Street
Hastings, MI 49058

Website:

www.grace-hastings.org

Facebook:

Grace Lutheran Church– ELCA
Hastings, MI

Phone:

269-945-9414
269-945-2645

2024 Giving Statement Enclosed