



38 “I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May your word to me be fulfilled.” Then the angel left her. (Luke 1:38)

Advent is a season of preparation as we prepare our hearts to celebrate the coming of our Lord. Advent actually celebrates the coming of Jesus in two ways. First, we celebrate the birth of Jesus as it is described in the gospels. This is the way that most of us spend our time celebrating, remembering the holy family in the manger. This is certainly appropriate, as without this reality there would be nothing else to celebrate. The second way which Advent celebrates Jesus coming is by looking forward to his second coming. Advent is both a reminder that Jesus came and that Jesus is coming again.

Advent is also a time of great busyness as we prepare for the rush of activities that have come to define Christmas. These activities, while good, can become our focal point if we allow them to do so. I encourage you to turn your focus back to Jesus and ask yourself during this Advent season. Open your heart to the celebration of Jesus and to whatever God might be calling you to do. Ask yourself, “If God speaks to me during this season, am I prepared to answer in the same manner as Mary did in Luke 1:38?”

In Christ,

Pastor Jared

Christmas

**Holiday Service Hours:
Combined Music Service:
December 22nd
10:00AM in the Sanctuary**

CHRISTMAS EVE

**December 24th
5:00PM in the Family Life Center 7:00PM in the Sanctuary**

Happening at Grace

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Come and join us on **Sunday, December 22nd after the Combined Service** in the Youth Room (Café Grace, room 103) for Coffee, Cookies and Fellowship. **Everyone is welcome!** This is an ongoing event and is usually the 3rd Sunday of each month unless otherwise advertised. Please join us and get to know other members of the church. Please see Amanda de Fays or Diane Spencer if you have any questions or would like to get involved.



Missions

Help us reach out in love with service to our community. The Grace Mission opportunities for December are:

- Lunch on Jesus - Packing lunches and taking them to the homeless shelter - 3rd Sunday of each month.
- Adopt-a-family - Take a tag off the Christmas tree and bring back a wrapped present to help a needy family.
- Hat, Mitten & Glove Basket - Bring in items and put in the box outside of the service. These items will be taken to needy school children.
- Calvary Mission Dinner - We will take a team of volunteers to Canton Calvary Mission to serve a dinner. - Volunteers are needed December 14th from 5:30 - 8:00 pm

Rides for Church

We have 2 to 4 people who are residents of The Inn at Whitewood Village who would love to come to our 10:45 Service on Sundays to worship with us. If there is anyone who would be able to give them a ride on Sunday mornings, even if it is just occasionally, please call the church office at 330-499-2330. We would love to be able to arrange rides for these individuals who are unable to drive for themselves.

Canton Calvary Mission

Grace UMC will be preparing and serving dinner at Canton Calvary Mission on December 14th. Details will be coming out in mid-November so watch for information in the bulletins and newsletter.



New Service Opportunity

We are looking for a team to design a Community Prayer Mailbox. You can be as creative as you'd like. This can be a whole new way for Grace UMC to serve our community. If you are interested in working on this project, please call the church office at 330-499-2330.

Hat and Mitten Tree

We will be doing hats and gloves this year. A basket will be in the hallway by the office for these items.

Thank you

Tuesday evening, I was able for the first time, to attend Trish's card making class. She is so generous with her time and talents. She gave us such beautiful supplies and showed us (with much patience) how to take some pieces and shapes of paper and turn them into such beautiful cards for our church and for ourselves. What a blessing Trish is for all of us.

With Much Appreciation,
Evangeline "Evie" Maronitis Riegler

12/1	Glen Kalb	12/18	Jim Blaine
12/1	Candice Monteith	12/18	Tracie Giffin
12/2	Sarah Moyer	12/19	Kodie McCully
12/3	Coleen Edwards	12/19	Don Royer
12/4	Barbara Baldwin	12/19	Collin Turner
12/4	Brenda Ball	12/19	Kathryn Verna
12/5	Cindy Adair	12/20	Adrien deFays
12/5	Blake Fogle	12/20	Thomas Ferguson
12/6	Marion Freed	12/20	Cynthia Fry
12/6	Kaylee Hazen	12/20	Natalie Gaver
12/7	Paul Wood	12/20	J. Louise Miller
12/8	Wren Lathrop	12/21	Zachary Fry
12/9	Erica Bucklew	12/21	Sharon McConnell
12/9	Mary Lathrop	12/21	Peg Reitz
12/10	Bradley Boszor	12/21	Nancy Sheldon
12/11	Brenya Grier	12/21	Kelly Talbert
12/11	Patricia Grimminger	12/22	Jeff Alessandro
12/11	June Hanna	12/22	Dan Boszor
12/11	Laurie Wolfenden	12/23	Heather Rush
12/12	T.J. Barker, Jr.	12/24	Camille McMannis
12/13	Daniel Smith	12/24	Amya McNary
12/14	Shelby Ailing DeBarr	12/25	Chris Confalone
12/14	Joanne Warder	12/25	Megan Hetrick
12/14	Judy Whitman	12/27	Alice Nicholson
12/15	Jordan Duckworth	12/27	Alice Slutz
12/15	Jim Kennedy	12/28	Gary Ridolfi
12/16	Bryan DeBois	12/29	Tricia Davis
12/16	Shinona Eaglechild	12/30	Edward Crist
12/17	Zoe McCully	12/30	Marilyn Rothermel
12/17	Tammy Sponseller		

PASTOR*Rev. Dr. Jared Williams***CHOIR DIRECTOR &
ORGANIST***Matt Brown***DIRECTOR OF YOUTH
MINISTRY***Kelli Law***OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR***Lorrie Harbert***MAILING COORDINATOR***Judy Carl***CUSTODIAN***Paula Blaine***CHURCH COUNCIL***Diane Spencer***STAFF PARISH
RELATIONS***Sandy Lutz***TRUSTEES***Lee Spencer***FINANCE***Bill Lacy***7th Day Youth**7TH DAY YOUTH SCHEDULE

SUNDAYS FROM 6:00-8:00 @ IN GRACE CAFÉ (UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED)

DEC 1 – CHRISTMAS VISITS TO NURSING HOMES

DEC 8 – NAME EXCHANGE FOR CHRISTMAS

SATURDAY DECEMBER 14 – BABY SITTING LOCK IN – 6:00 – ??

DECEMBER 15 – NO YOUTH – PUPPET SHOW

DEC 22 – ADOPT A FAMILY SHOPPING

DEC 29 – NO YOUTH

North Canton Grace
United Methodist Church

1720 Schneider St NW
North Canton OH 44720
(330)499-2330

Email:
office@northcantongrace.org

Website:
www.northcantongrace.org



OPEN HEARTS. OPEN MINDS. OPEN DOORS.

MISSION:

The mission of Grace UMC is to take the love of Jesus Christ to all people.

VISION:

The vision of Grace UMC is to love God, love our neighbors, and love ourselves.

SERVICE TIMES:

- 8:00 Traditional Service in the Chapel
9:15 Casual Service
9:15 Sunday School
10:45 Traditional Service in the Sanctuary

Treasurer's Report

North Canton Grace United Methodist Church Treasurer Report October 2019

- I. October Year-to-Date (10 months) 2019 Financial Results:
- A. Total Receipts- \$284,172.72 or 96.33% of budget (behind). Identified giving/pledges accounted for 90.33% of total receipts. Through October 2019 identified giving/pledges totaled \$256,684.12 or 97.08% of budget (behind).
 - B. Total Expenses- \$270,606.56 or 85.63% of budget (ahead, mainly because we have not fully paid our apportionments).
 - C. Income less expense \$13,566.16.
 - D. Apportionments- We have paid \$11,624.34 of \$39,975.80 Conference Apportionments (29.08%). We have paid \$2,333.30 of \$2,333.30 District Apportionments (100.0%).
 - E. 2018 Capital Campaign- October collections of \$4,009.00
 - F. Mortgage balance \$339,497.62.
- II. The Finance Committee has begun a strategy for North Canton Grace United Methodist Church to tithe on its giving from contributions and use these funds to pay on its Apportionment obligations. We will be paying District Apportionments first with any remainder going towards Conference Apportionments. For the month of October our gifts totaled \$18,834.00, so \$1,883.40 was paid in the month of October for District and Conference Apportionments.