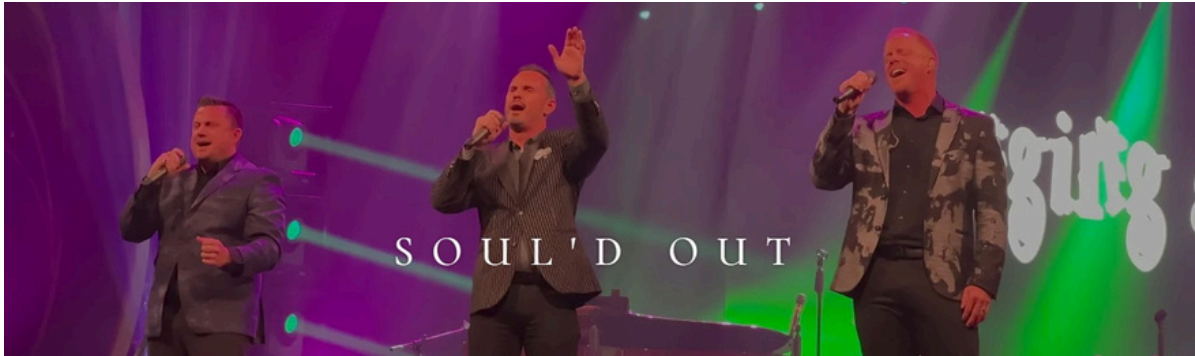


# Forever Remembered

MORGAN'S PLACE CEMETERY

 ♦  
 Fall 2024


## Food for the Soul 3 - October 19, 2024

Our 3rd Annual **Food for the Soul** event with the band Soul'd Out is October 19th at Winners Barn in DeGraff. Doors open at 5pm, dinner at 6pm, performance at 7pm and the quilt auction immediately following the performance. We will have raffle prizes and a 50/50 drawing as well. Tickets are on sale at Zeffy. We have used this platform for the last 3 years and there are no transaction fees. Tickets are \$25.00 for an adult and \$15.00 for a child. Catering our event for the 2nd year is Lesli Huelskamp and our returning auctioneer for the quilt auction is Kyle Andrews from Andrews Auction Services. If you would like to be a sponsor for this event or to donate a quilt please contact Greg and Priscilla Wilt at 937-497-8118. Please come out and support our ministry, enjoy a great meal, wonderful Christian music and the artistry of so many handmade quilts.



QR code to purchase tickets at [Zeffy.com](https://www.zeffy.com), or go to [morgansplacecemetery.org/events](https://morgansplacecemetery.org/events) and click on the Soul'd Out image.

## Morgan's Place Cemetery Fund Created

Last June we created the Morgan's Place Cemetery Fund at the Community Foundation of Shelby County. Creating this fund is part of our long-range planning and good stewardship of all donations we receive. The fund will provide opportunity for growth, stability, and credibility while providing services to grieving families in the years to come. The Morgan's Place Cemetery Fund will give us greater visibility to the community and potential donors, and enable us to reach families needing our services that we might not connect with in other ways. It also provides an easy and trusted option for people who wish to support our ministry financially. Morgan's Place mission is to remove the financial and emotional burdens that separate grieving families from Christ during their time of need, so they can focus on their faith, their family and being open to life again after the loss of their baby. Please consider Morgan's Place when you do your estate planning and charitable giving.

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[morgansplacecemetery.org](https://morgansplacecemetery.org)




## 2nd Annual Morgan's Place Family Picnic a Success!

Morgan's Place held its Family Picnic on September 2nd at the Verdier Family Pond. Grieving families, volunteers and clergy from around the area were in attendance. Families gathered in remembrance of their beloved baby and shared moments of joy with other grieving parents and their children. Thank you to all of the families who trusted us with the care of their babies' forever resting place and also thank you to all of the volunteers and clergy who donate their time and talents to the families we serve.



## Fort Recovery Family Honors Baby Delilah

During the 22 months Morgan's Place has been open we have buried 70 babies on the grounds and served over 110 families. We have expanded our cemetery by adding another continuous footer. These footers allow for easy placement of grave markers year-round. Thank you to Ben and Isaac Wenning, and Bill Johnston for framing and pouring the new footer in memory of Delilah Grace Wenning. Isaac and Jenna Wenning will be speaking at our October 19th event **Food for the Soul** and sharing the story about their daughter Delilah and the 7 beautiful hours that they had with her.



## St. Teresa Parishioner Accepts the Call to Build Urns

The fruits of our church visits this year have been bountiful. This platform of sharing our ministry with fellow Christians allows the Holy Spirit to guide others in serving God through Morgan's Place. Thank you to Roger Heydinger from St. Teresa for answering the call to help us with making wooden urns. When asked why he felt called to help Morgan's Place, Roger said, "After the death of our second oldest daughter Aubrie in early 2023, I wished I had made an urn for her, but I wasn't quite ready at the time of her death and burial. Hearing the need for volunteers I was ready to help in memory of my daughter.

If you would like to assist Roger building urns or gathering wood from lumber yards please reach out to him at: **937-570-6724**

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## Please Help Us Save Under 20 Week Babies from an Undignified Disposition

Morgan's Place recently opened its Hospital Section of the cemetery on July 24th and buried 5 babies from a hospital in the area. Morgan's Place continues to reach out to local hospitals with hope that they will change their disposal policy to allow the option for dignified burials instead of incineration and disposal in medical waste for under 20 week babies that are left for hospital disposition.

Please continue to have conversations with your local hospital and medical professionals about these under 20 week babies. Currently 4 out of the 5 local hospitals in our area that we have reached out to are still choosing to incinerate babies and dispose of them instead of offering a dignified burial. Please pray for these hospitals that they understand that every baby, no matter their size or gestation deserves a dignified burial. This policy change would also allow for parents to visit their baby and know where the remains of their baby are once they have had time to process their grief.



*A dignified hospital burial at Morgan's Place Cemetery's Hospital Section.*

## Opie's Casket Kits



Each family we serve through Morgan's Place handles grief in a different way. Recently I was very blessed to meet Mason and Hannah Homan. The Homan's son Opie was born July 24th at 22 weeks and he was absolutely perfect. From the moment I met Opie and dressed him in his little red tuxedo with his family, I could tell that they were a family of deep faith and love for their son. The day after Opie's loss, his family visited the cemetery to see his forever resting place. During that time Mason and Hannah shared their vision for his funeral and asked if it would be possible for Mason to make the casket and for his grandfather to sew the pillow and blanket for the inside of the casket using Hannah's wedding dress. After seeing the finished casket and seeing how fulfilling the carpentry task was to Mason, I thought how wonderful would it be for a father or grandfather to be able to build their child's casket.

Morgan's Place understands that grief affects the whole family, so our approach is generational. Allowing parents to prepare their babies resting place, personally lay their baby in its grave, cover the grave and set the grave marker are other ways that we help our families channel their grief. If you would like to be involved with helping construct these kits or provide lumber for the kits. Please reach out to Morgan's Place via email at **[morgansplacemb@gmail.com](mailto:morgansplacemb@gmail.com)**.

## Morgan's Place T-Shirts

One of the most beautiful things to me is when a family that we have served in the past, reaches back out to Morgan's Place and comes up with a way to honor their baby and give back to our ministry. Ryan and Allison Berning experienced the loss of their son Remy in March of 2023. Since their loss of Remy, they have been blessed with a son named Joseph. Allison coordinated a T-Shirt Fundraiser with Theresa Barhorst-Hoying from TB8 Designs in Fort Loramie to design some really dignified T-Shirts to match our mission and spread awareness of our ministry in the community. The T-Shirts will be sold online from September 16 thru October 2nd. You can choose to pick up your T-Shirt order at TB8 Designs or at Morgan's Place. Those attending the October 19th event at Winners Barn can pick their shirts up at that time.



*The Berning Family*

**Purchase T-shirts at <https://morgans-place.itemorder.com/shop/home/>**





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Sidney, OH 45365

## Monthly Grief Support Groups

Morgan's Place has devoted the year of 2024 to grief care for its families. The death of a baby affects the entire family in many ways. Statistically 50% of relationships fail after the death of a child and depression affects both the parents and the siblings of the baby. Since we opened our gates in November of 2022, we have been providing individual grief support to families, however we have seen the need to expand our services and also offer a monthly support group for parents. Morgan's Place plans to offer a variety of therapeutic interventions to meet the needs of its families.

In July we brought in grief therapist Edward Luersman from the Columbus area to answer questions and provide grief care to our families. Future sessions include an **art therapist for parents** in Early October, a **music therapist** and we are very excited to have a **sand play therapist** for children to join us to do expressive art through play to help the siblings work on healing. If you would like to sponsor one of our grief support groups please send an **email to [morgansplacemb@gmail.com](mailto:morgansplacemb@gmail.com)**.

## Grants

Morgan's Place was recently the recipient of two grants which will allow for the funeral services of several babies over the coming months. The first award came from The Shelby County United Way Women's Initiative Group, P. O. W. E. R. The letters represent passionate, optimistic, women, encouraging, and results. The mission of this organization is to develop and marshal financial resources to improve the lives of children and their families throughout Shelby County.



The second grant came from the Knights of Columbus. This fraternal benefit society was founded in 1882 through the efforts of Father Michael McGivney and other parishioners at St. Mary's Church in New Haven, Connecticut. Their purpose is to bring financial assistance to the needy. The gift came from the Ohio Charity Foundation, an arm of the Ohio State Council Knights of Columbus. Much help in this process came from Father James O. Byrne Knights of Columbus Council 1592 in St. Marys, Ohio. Thank you to both organizations for their continued support of Morgan's Place Cemetery.

