

The Grace Greeter!

Grace Lutheran Church 2225 Washington Lincoln, NE 68502
October 2021



LEARN FROM THE LEAVES!

*Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come:
The old has gone, the new is here! - 2 Corinthians 5:17*

As you're enjoying the fall colors and sipping apple cider, ponder this saying: "Autumn shows us how beautiful it is to let things go." When leaves stop producing chlorophyll, they turn vibrant shades of yellow, orange and red. This yearly spectacle makes way for the leaves to let go and fall.

It also serves as a good reminder of things we may need to drop: clutter around the home, a desire for control, commitments that no longer bring joy, personal expectations that cause added stress, a need to always be right or responsible for other's choices and so on.

Just as the Israelites had to let go of their past as slaves in Egypt and Saul-turned-Paul had to abandon his persecuting ways, we, too, can let go of what weighs us down and gets in the way of God's best for our lives. Embrace fall as a season of change and see just how beautiful it is to let things go!

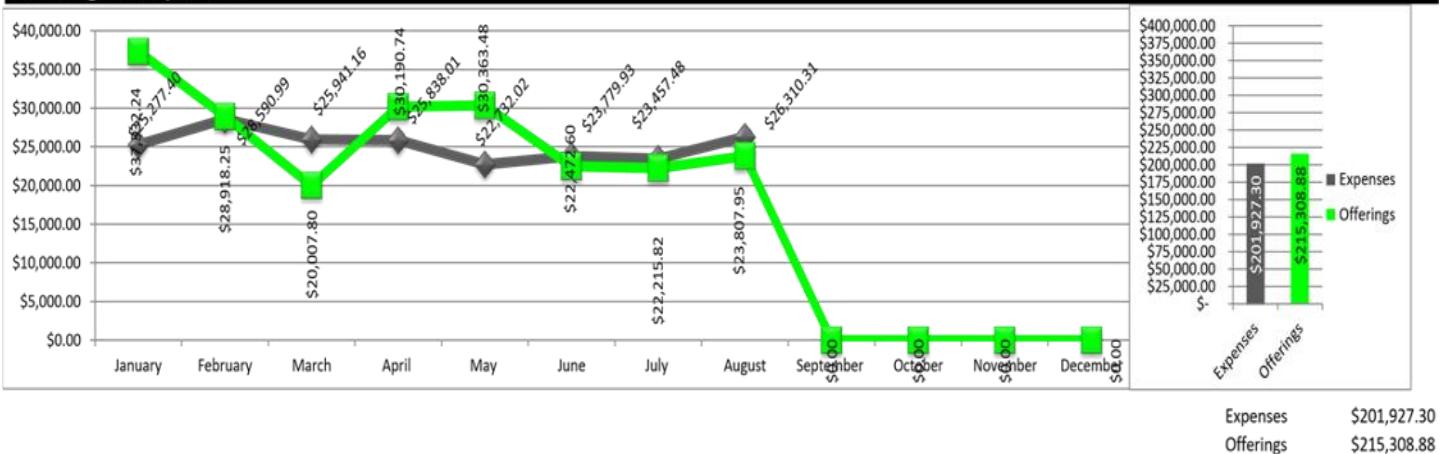
Pr. Eric Tesher



- ♦ **PLEASE CONTACT US!** HIPPA laws do not allow the hospital to notify the church if there is a member in the hospital. The patient or a family member must contact the church office to let us know that about the hospitalization. **During office hours, call 402-474-1505 or email office@egrace.org to let us know. Thank you!**
- ♦ To contact Pastor Eric after office hours, you can call or text him at 308-708-1146 or email pr.eric@egrace.org.
- ♦ The deadline for the next Greeter will be **October 20th**.
- To help us stay connected during our time apart please send an email or letter with any personal update you want to share about yourself or prayer concern for someone else. We will post these under news and prayers in our weekly digital newsletter and/or our monthly newsletter.

Update

Offerings & Expenses



2021 Giving Envelopes

You can pick-up your box of 2021 giving envelopes in the atrium after worship on Sunday morning or during the week Monday-Friday 9am-3pm.

This year's annual pledge campaign theme is **"Every Perfect Gift"**. As we share our gifts through our offerings and through our service to the world, we participate in the ongoing creation of God's abundance and generosity. **Stewardship Sunday will be October 17th.**



The **Lincoln CROP Hunger Walk** is October 10th.

To sign up as a walker please go to:

<https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2021/event/lincolnne>

Thanks!

October 24 will be a tentative "Reunion Sunday" for this year's *God's Work. Our Hands Sunday*.

We hope to have a brunch featuring breakfast casseroles, baked goods and fruit salad. After brunch we will create emergency water bottle kits for the homeless.

So look for further announcements in the bulletin and weekly email.

Thanks for your understanding and patience.



This year's Trunk or Treat event will be **October 23 from 6:00-7:30 pm** in the church parking lot.

This year church members, Cub Scouts and Boys Scouts will participate!

So bring your trunk full of treats or donate a bag of candy during the month of October.

Donations can be placed in the "Candy Box" located in the narthex on Sunday or atrium during the week.

Reformation Sunday

Come join us **October 31st** for a celebration of our reformation past and future. Worship will be led by our Bell Choirs and our Chancel Choir. We will be blessing our LWR quilts and kits as well.





The Gathering Place

Procedures at The Gathering Place continue much the same as during the past several months. Two volunteers from each assisting organization help to serve food in containers that are distributed on the porch. No donated food is accepted from the volunteers.

On August 30 and September 20, Regina and Steve Paschold represented Grace on the regular service dates. They also substituted for other volunteers on September 11. The number of meals distributed has been around 80 lately.

In news that might be of interest to those who have served at The Gathering Place in the recent past, kitchen manager James Riley has resigned in order to take a position with the Lincoln Food Bank.

THE LUTHERAN FOOD PANTRY

CURRENT NEEDS LIST:

- Canned fruits (pears, peaches, pineapple, fruit cocktail)
- Canned peas & mixed vegetables
- Condensed soups (chicken noodle, tomato, vegetable, cream of chicken, cream of mushroom)
- Saltine crackers
- Ramen noodles
- 1 pound bags of white rice
- Fruit juice (large bottles or boxes/packets)
- Breakfast bars (Pop Tarts, granola bars)
- Instant mashed potatoes
- Instant oatmeal packets
- Pork and beans
- Canned beans (chili, kidney, pinto)
- Canned tomatoes
- Pancake syrup
- Spaghetti sauce
- Personal care items (shampoo, bar soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes)

PANTRY HOURS:

Please bring your donations to St. Andrew's Lutheran at 1015 Lancaster Ln between the hours of 8-3 Tuesday through Friday.

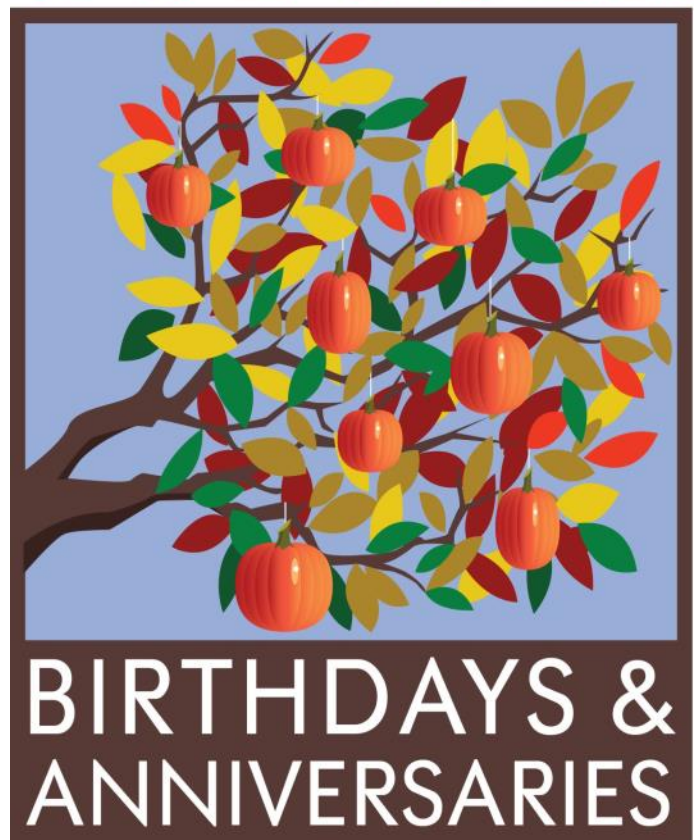
Birthdays

Sarah	Mischnick	1-Oct
Brian	Carnes	4-Oct
Amy	Ostermeyer	4-Oct
Richard	Brown	5-Oct
Erin	Krueger	6-Oct
Larry	Genthe	8-Oct
Gerald	Hilde	10-Oct
Elizabeth	Heim	11-Oct
Douglas	Krueger	13-Oct
Joyce	Benedict	14-Oct
Aiden	McKillip	15-Oct
John	Winterfeld	16-Oct
J. P.	Winterfeld	16-Oct
Brent	Hoffman	17-Oct
Duane	Mischnick	18-Oct
Lynette	Lewis	19-Oct
Ruby	Johnson	20-Oct
Amy	Filbert	22-Oct
Frances	Gade	23-Oct
James	Krueger	23-Oct
Laura	Lawrence	23-Oct
Brittany	Hoxie	24-Oct
Dylan	Hughes	24-Oct
Beth	Kimmerling Dumler	25-Oct
Helen	Carnes	30-Oct
Penny	Group	31-Oct
Megan	Morrow	31-Oct
Norma	Sturgeon	31-Oct

Wedding Anniversaries

Scott and Lori Drake on Oct 4
John and Elizabeth Johnson on Oct 7
Duane and Sarah Mischnick on Oct 11
Doug and Sarah Krueger on Oct 17
Ben and Megan Ptacek on Oct 20
Roger and Potts on Oct 24

OCTOBER



Every Perfect Gift



QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION



Whether it's God's seventh day, or Jesus' invitation, how do you accept the invitation to rest?


How can you make space for others to rest? Are there invitations you can issue to coworkers, loved-ones, or friends to take some time to restore and refresh?

In the spring of 2021 we were told that the fully vaccinated could go back to a normal life again. Now we are told that both the vaccinated and non-vaccinated must wear masks, physically distance ourselves and get tested if we are sick. It's exhausting! Our lives are again filled with uncertainty.

In the Gospel of Mark, Jesus moved around a lot, crowds followed him, every day was different, the next day was uncertain and his disciples were exhausted!

Jesus, having compassion on his disciples, extends an invitation. "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while."

Certainly, we did not experience a year of multitudes gathering around us but virtual gatherings extended our screen-time, lengthened our workdays, increased our burdens to communicate. We need rest.

Getting away to a deserted place and being with the ones we have not been able to see in so many months has become even more important. And it is essential. The work must go on but to be fully engaged means we must also rest. 

Finance/Stewardship – The annual pledge campaign is titled "Every Perfect Gift". Stewardship Sunday will be October 17.

Worship & Music - Altar Guild, Bread list, wine list and usher list have all been updated. Choirs and Jazz band will be leading worship in-person.

Parish Ed – Unfortunately the committee is still deciding between in-person or take-home curriculum based on the surge in current Covid case numbers. Especially among children. Confirmation and Adult Class have restarted in-person.

Congregational Life – Is tentatively planning a "God's Work. Our Hands." Sunday. This might get moved to Stewardship Sunday in October. Also planning an outdoor "Trunk or Treat" event in the parking lot on October 23 with the Scouts.

Property – Added new security cameras. Looking at a new livestream camera.

Social Ministry – Most events on hold due to recent Covid surge.

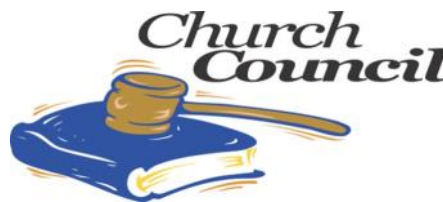
Memorials – Approved spending for security cameras. Landscaping project on hold. Will

Council Corner

Grace Lutheran Congregational Council Minutes

Lincoln, Nebraska

August 10, 2021



Members present:

Neil Larson, Doug Krueger, Roger Potts, Glatha Rathjen, Amy Knobbe, Pr. Eric

Members absent:

Connie Thorson, Carla Ingersoll, Jan Branting and Cindy Eberspacher

Meeting (in-person and online) started with opening prayer at 7:00 pm.

Otto Schultz gave a presentation about Faith Partners. A Nebraska Synod ministry that helps congregations develop a team approach to substance abuse prevention and recovery

June 2021 council meeting minutes were approved. No July minutes because Council did not meet in July. Roger P. moved and Doug K. seconded to approve minutes. Motion carried.

No President's Update and/or Correspondence

Staff Reports:

Pastor

Director of Music

Financial Secretary's Report

Treasurer's Reports

Motion made by Doug S. and seconded by Glatha R. to accept reports. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Finance/Stewardship – The annual pledge campaign is titled “Every Perfect Gift”. Stewardship Sunday will be October 17. Initial committee budgets need to be submitted before our next meeting.

Worship & Music - The Music and Worship committee communicated via text messaging. Anne will continue to select songs. We agreed that a year-rotation for worship leaders could work much like altar guild. A new liturgy will be introduced in September.

Parish Ed – Unfortunately the committee is still deciding between in-person or take-home curriculum based on the surge in current Covid case numbers. Especially among children.

Congregational Life – Is tentatively planning a “God’s Work. Our Hands.” Sunday. This might get moved to Stewardship Sunday in October. Also planning an outdoor “Trunk or Treat” event in the parking lot.

Property – Added new security cameras. More to come.

Social Ministry – Most events on hold due to recent Covid surge. They are looking for a team leader for this year’s Crop Walk.

Memorials – Approved spending for security cameras. Landscaping project on hold.

Motion to accept reports made by Roger P. and seconded by Doug K. Motion carried.

Business:

Safety Protocol review – If Lincoln goes to the Orange Zone then everyone in worship will be required to wear a mask. Motion made by Roger and seconded by Doug. Motion carried.

Faith Partners of Nebraska – Faith Partner Sunday will be September 19th. Pr. Otto Schultz will be asked to preach.

Kitchen use request – A small, for-profit, business has asked to use our kitchen to prepare “finger foods” for a catering business. Request denied. Motion made by Amy K. Seconded by Doug. Motion carried.

Nominating Committee – will not need to meet this year because Jan is the only member going off council. This brings us to 8 members per the constitution. We will need a committee for next year.

No other business.

Meeting closed with prayer at 9:00.

CALENDAR

◀ October 2021 ▶						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 5:30–6:15 PM: Worship
3 9:00–10:00 AM: Worship 10:15–11:15 AM: Adult Choir	4 2:00–3:00 PM: Lincoln Literacy Staff Meeting 4:00–6:00 PM: Lessons 7:00–8:00 PM: Boy Scouts	5 9:30–10:30 AM: Al- Anon meeting 4:00–6:00 PM: Lessons 6:30–7:30 PM: Cub Scouts 7:00–8:00 PM: Committee Meetings	6 6:00–7:00 PM: Bell Choir A Practice 7:00–8:00 PM: Bell Choir B Practice	7 9:00 AM–12:00 PM: Quilting	8	9 1:00–2:00 PM: Danish Sisterhood 5:30–6:15 PM: Worship
10 9:00–10:00 AM: Worship 10:15–11:15 AM: Adult Choir	11 4:00–6:00 PM: Lessons 7:00–8:00 PM: Boy Scouts	12 9:30–10:30 AM: Al- Anon meeting 4:00–6:00 PM: Lessons 6:30–7:30 PM: Cub Scouts 7:00–8:00 PM: Wildlife Rescue 7:00–8:30 PM: Council Meeting	13 6:00–7:00 PM: Bell Choir A Practice 7:00–8:00 PM: Confirmation Class 7:00–8:00 PM: Bell Choir B Practice	14 9:00 AM–12:00 PM: Quilting	15 4:00–9:00 PM: BNRR	16 5:30–6:15 PM: Worship
17 9:00–10:00 AM: Stewardship Sunday 10:15–11:15 AM: Adult Choir	18 4:00–6:00 PM: Lessons 5:00–6:00 PM: Gathering Place 7:00–8:00 PM: Boy Scouts	19 9:30–10:30 AM: Al- Anon meeting 4:00–6:00 PM: Lessons 6:30–7:30 PM: Cub Scouts 7:00–8:30 PM: WELCA Group 6	20 1:00–2:30 PM: WELCA Group 3 6:00–7:00 PM: Bell Choir A Practice 7:00–8:00 PM: Confirmation Class 7:00–8:00 PM: Bell Choir B Practice	21 9:00 AM–12:00 PM: Quilting	22	23 5:30–6:15 PM: Worship
24 9:00–10:00 AM: Reunion Sunday 10:15–11:15 AM: Adult Choir 2:30–6:00 PM: Recital	25 4:00–6:00 PM: Lessons 7:00–8:00 PM: Boy Scouts	26 9:30–10:30 AM: Al- Anon meeting 4:00–6:00 PM: Lessons 6:30–7:30 PM: Cub Scouts	27 6:00–7:00 PM: Bell Choir A Practice 7:00–8:00 PM: Bell Choir B Practice 7:00–8:00 PM: Confirmation Class	28 9:00 AM–12:00 PM: Quilting	29 3:00–6:30 PM: Suzuki Group	30 5:30–6:15 PM: Worship
31 9:00–10:00 AM: Reformation Sunday 10:15–11:15 AM: Adult Choir						

Grace Staff & Council

Rev. Eric Lesher

Senior Pastor

308-708-1146

pr.eric@egrace.org

David Sage

Parish Administrator

office@egrace.org

Anne Melang-Thoren

Director of Music

anne@egrace.org

Jennifer Aliwarga-Carlson

Assistant Organist

Robert Stimbert,

Custodian

2021 Church Council

Neil Larson

Carla Ingersoll

Connie Thorson

Jim Krueger

Glatha Rathjen

Jan Branting

Amy Knobbe

Doug Krueger

Roger Potts

Cindy Eberspacher

President

Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

Congregational Life

Social Ministry

Parish Education

Memorials

Property

Stewardship/Finance

Current monthly council minutes and reports are available in the narthex.

Contact the church office to get connected to a council member.



UNL Campus Ministry is looking for volunteers from local congregations to cook a meal for the student congregation at the Lutheran Center following the 11am Sunday service.

Campus ministry serves about 40-60 people. You can bring the food prepared or prepare it here at the Lutheran Center (new commercial kitchen!) the Saturday before or Sunday morning, and you can attend worship with us as well. You can also provide your own ingredients, or we can purchase them for you with a \$100 budget. We do have members who are vegetarian, gluten free, and dairy free, so we ask that you could accommodate them in the meal also. We hope to hear back from you soon. Here is the sign-up link:

<https://forms.gle/CiKrZa2hZHxK4qJy6>

Sincerely,
Melissa Graue
Campus Ministry



EMMAUS

Empowering Disciples through Lifelong Learning.

What if our vision is a church full of curious disciples eager to continue learning and forever mining treasures of their faith? We commit to this vision by partnering with them and their leaders to ensure access to high-quality, well-grounded formation materials and lifelong learning opportunities which are well-coordinated and well-communicated through a single umbrella—Emmaus.

As lifelong learners we recognize the beauty and gift of the Emmaus story. Cleopas and companion share their recognition and new insights with one another as a result of Christ's inspiration and turn those insights into actions. It is a learner-to-learner-with-Christ model. Emmaus is for all ages, levels of expertise and learning styles. Participants may choose to engage in online or in-room workshops, webinars and conversation groups.

Emmaus is learning how to be a congregational treasurer, minister to grieving people, implement the "Growing Young" strategy, lead from your strengths and/or care for creation. Emmaus is a new way to engage in education around the Bible, Theology and Ethics, Lutheran Confessions, Church History and Worship taught and facilitated by a faculty of qualified pastors in the Nebraska Synod.

Each quarter Emmaus will offer a new schedule of classes and workshops. Schedule and registration will be posted on the web site. Topics will vary based on needs and interest. The Emmaus: Lifelong Learning Team will curate resources, establish the schedule, set fees and recruit presenters always keeping in mind the vast diversity of the Nebraska Synod.

Whether you're discerning a call to rostered ministry, stepping into lay leadership or ready to go deeper as a growing disciple, Emmaus: Lifelong Learning is for you.

For more information and a schedule of upcoming courses please visit:

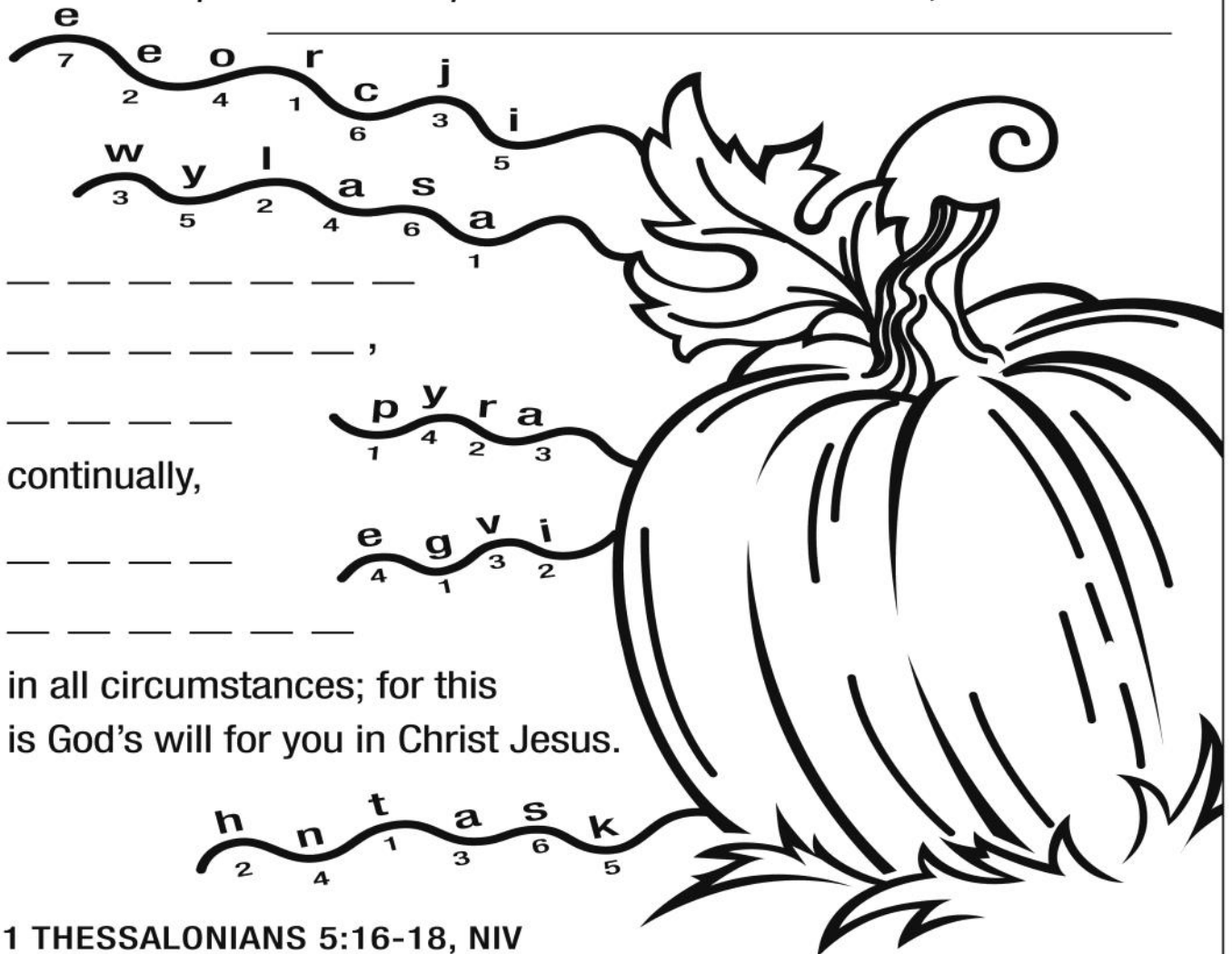
<https://nebraskasynod.org/faith-in-action/leadership/emmaus/>



GOD'S WILL

God wants us to follow his will, but how can we know what that is?

Directions: Write the letters on each vine in the correct order on the lines provided to complete 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, NIV.



Answer: rejoice, always, pray, give, thanks

Grace Lutheran Church
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