

*First Presbyterian Church
South Charleston, West Virginia*

October 2024

"Everyday...is the day the Lord has made— Rejoice! and be glad in it!"



A Note from Your Pastor:

We've just finished up a new set of scriptures for this summer. I've never had experience preaching with Ecclesiastes or James; I hope that you enjoyed the last two months as much as I did!

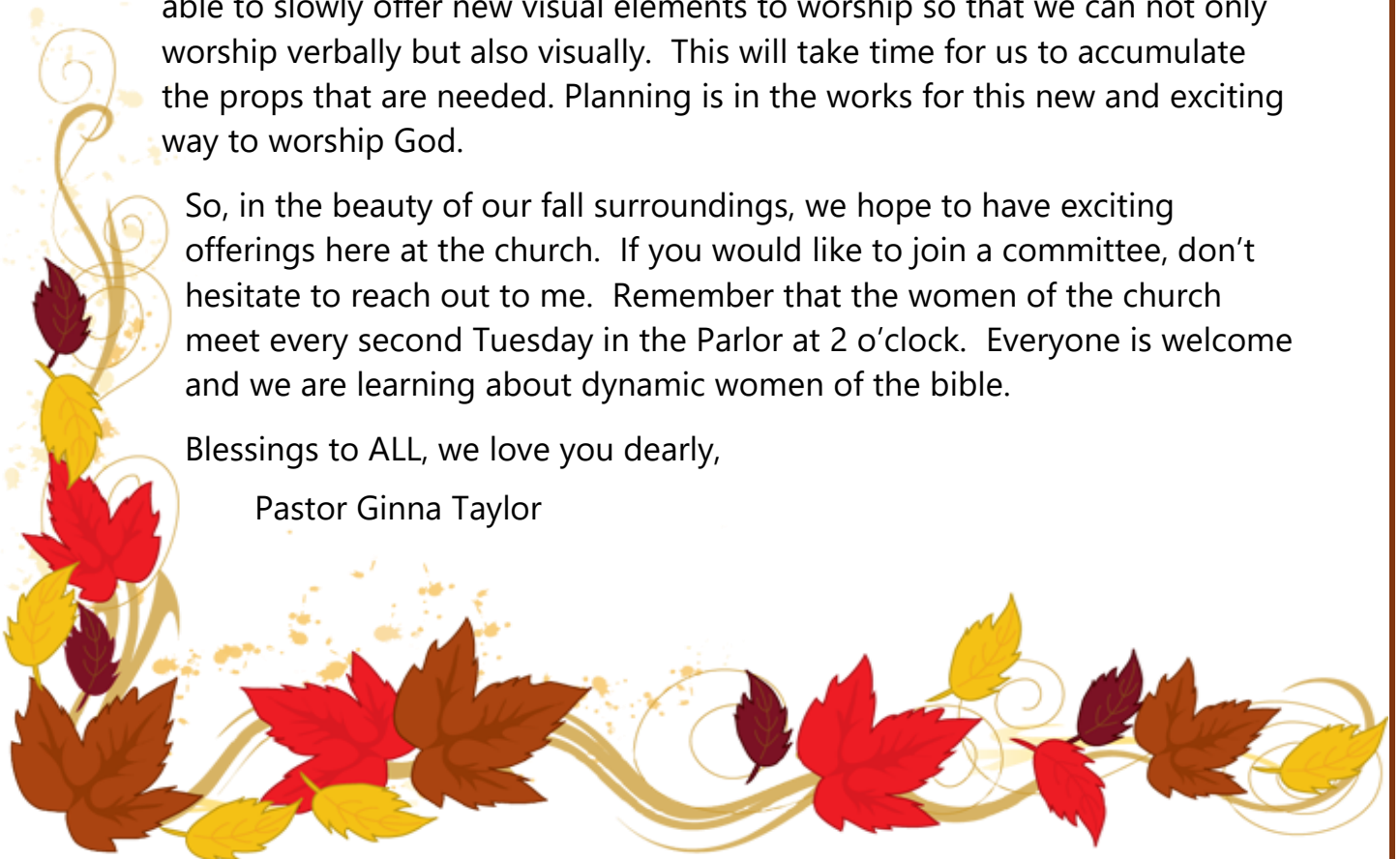
Coming up we will have the children present their "Armor of God" in Time with Children, mid-October. The church will be participating with the city of South Charleston in a Trunk-or-Treat event at Oakes Field, so we're keeping busy. Remember to bring food throughout the month for Heart-n-Hand. Jenny reported this last month on the growth of need they are experiencing, and we can be a very help for those who are in need of food right here in our community.

Keep your eyes on the Sanctuary in the coming months. I am hoping to be able to slowly offer new visual elements to worship so that we can not only worship verbally but also visually. This will take time for us to accumulate the props that are needed. Planning is in the works for this new and exciting way to worship God.

So, in the beauty of our fall surroundings, we hope to have exciting offerings here at the church. If you would like to join a committee, don't hesitate to reach out to me. Remember that the women of the church meet every second Tuesday in the Parlor at 2 o'clock. Everyone is welcome and we are learning about dynamic women of the bible.

Blessings to ALL, we love you dearly,

Pastor Ginna Taylor





World Communion Sunday

October 6, 2024

“Sowing the Seeds of Peace”

(Zechariah 8:12)

The prophet Zechariah casts a vision for peace.
He shows forth a world where each person lives without enmity, fear and destruction.

On World Communion Sunday, we celebrate that Christ’s peace extends throughout all creation. Whenever the church gathers for worship, we are assured of Christ’s peace. We celebrate that we are connected, we are loved, and we are not alone. We worship together and are fed from Scripture and at Christ’s table of peace. Extending the peace of Christ is part of an active, engaged faith—a witness to what it means for us to be the Church, together.

Through participation in the Peace and Global Witness Offering, our church is extending Christ’s peace throughout our community and our world. We begin at the communion table, with our siblings in every time and place, and we celebrate the peace we find there and commit to building a more just and peaceful world. God is with us ... and God in Christ is with us through the Sacrament of Communion, celebrated on World Communion Sunday. We are not alone. Peace begins with each of us.

[PC(USA) Peace-Global Witness Offering]

QUICK FACTS:

- Since 1940, World Communion Sunday is an ecumenical celebration of our oneness in the Spirit and the Gospel of Jesus Christ, bringing churches together in Christian unity.
- This year marks the 40th anniversary of *Peacemaking: The Believers Calling* approved by the 192nd General Assembly (1980).
- World Communion Sunday (October 6) is the most common Sunday for receiving the Offering, but many congregations promote the Offering throughout *A Season of Peace* (September 8 – October 6).
- 25% of the Offering stays with local congregations, and 25% with mid councils to unite congregations to support peacemaking in their regions.
- 50% of this Offering supports the work for peace and reconciliation being done by Presbyterians across the globe.

***Peace & Global Witness Offering Envelopes will be available in the pew racks
on World Communion Sunday, October 6, 2024***

A Note from the Administration & Stewardship Committees

Our **THERMOMETER FUND CAMPAIGN** has begun! We hope you will prayerfully consider supporting this fundraising effort. Watch the Thermometer in the sanctuary to follow our progress.

Thermometer Fund giving envelopes are available in the pews.

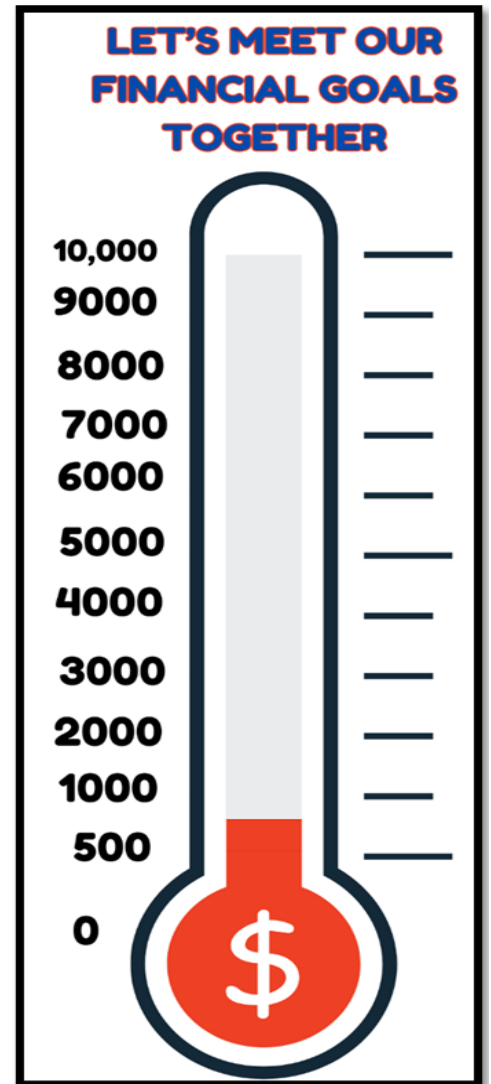
Bob Lilly, Chair

September Budget Report

September Income	\$14,062.39
less September Expenses	-\$16,387.98
Monthly Deficit – September 30	\$2,325.59
YTD Income	\$107,466.60
less YTD Expenses	-\$123,854.98
YTD Deficit as of September 30	\$16,388.38

“Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”

2 Corinthians 9:7



An Autumn Poem

by Emily Brontë

Fall, leaves, fall; die, flowers, away;
Lengthen night and shorten day;
Every leaf speaks bliss to me
Fluttering from the autumn tree.

I shall smile when wreaths of snow
Blossom where the rose should grow;
I shall sing when night's decay
Ushers in a drearier day.



“Be kind to one another,
tenderhearted,
forgiving one another,
as God in Christ has forgiven you.”

--Ephesians 4:32



"Cents-Ability is one way that families, congregations, and presbyteries can support the battle against hunger and poverty. Everyone is invited to contribute 5¢ at every meal. Funds are then used to support local hunger ministries, as well as national and international projects through the Presbyterian Hunger Program."

We receive our offering on the Second Sunday of each month during the Time with Children. The next offering will be received on **Sunday, October 13.**

Start collecting your 5¢ per meal each day. Please remember people who are less fortunate by donating to this, and all Cents-Ability offerings.

Through the Kroger Community Rewards Program, Kroger will donate to First Presby



Presby South Charleston 5% of all grocery and pharmacy purchases YOU make just by using your Kroger Plus Card. Please sign up for this FREE profitable program for First Presby South Charleston. You only have to open an account and register your Kroger Plus Card online at:

krogercommunityrewards.com

-OR-

You can simply telephone Kroger Community Rewards at 1-800-576-4377. They will help you with registering your Kroger Plus Card. You will need to have handy either your Kroger Plus Card number or your alternate ID (your telephone number).

Thanks for your support!



Online Giving

You Can Tithe or Donate Online, Safely & Securely!

We have made it easier to support the life and work of our church through online giving. You may also support our many (more than twenty!) community programs, regardless of where you are in the world. From near or far, you can make sure your precious financial resources are supporting people you know and trust doing important work in our local, regional, national, and global communities.

From feeding the hungry on our doorstep to clothing children and families in need, your financial support allows us to continue being just where God wants and needs us to be.

To make an online contribution, simply go to our website: fpcscwv.org
Click on the "give" button on the menu bar.
Scroll down the bottom of the page to the blue bar.
CLICK HERE to tithe or donate using your credit card, VENMO, or PayPal
and follow the instructions.

"The place God calls you to, is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet."

--Frederick Buechner, *Wishful Thinking: A Theological ABC*



News from the Pews

Our Christian Sympathy and Support to

Margaret Field and Family
at the loss of Margaret's husband,
Robert C. "Bob" Field

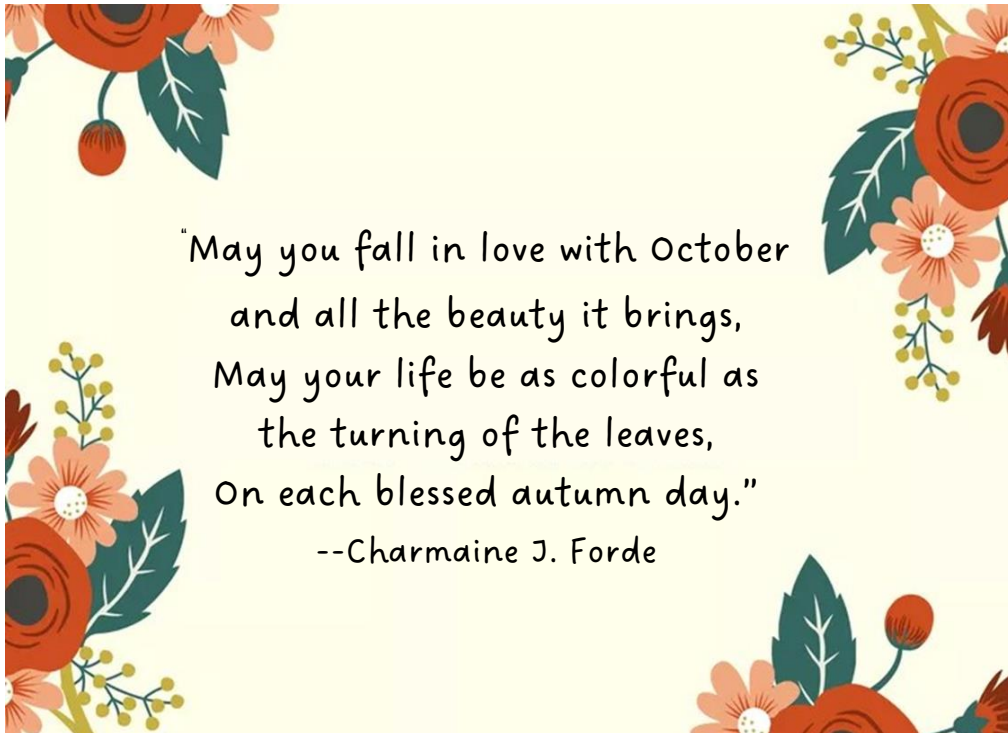
Our Christian Sympathy and Support to

Tom & Sharon Titus and Family
at the loss of Tom's sister-in-law,
Alice "Jo" Titus

Our Christian Sympathy and Support to

Pastor Ginna & Blair Taylor and Family
at the loss of Ginna's father,
William "Bill" Derenburger

We rejoice in the assurance of eternal life that is ours in Jesus Christ!



Missions Committee Update

We continue our support of the Food Pantry at Heart & Hand. Please remember to pick up just a little something every time you go to the store. Here are the items specifically requested by Heart & Hand for the month of October:

October 6	Cereal
October 13	Rice and Dried Beans
October 20	Macaroni & Cheese
October 27	Peanut Butter



First Presby QR Code

(short for *QUICK RESPONSE CODE*).

A QR code is a black-and-white square graphic which can be read by a phone camera, and which takes the phone directly to our church webpage. In this way, you can view anything on our website, on your phone. Point your phone's camera at our QR code on the right, and it will take you directly to our church website.

It's Time to Update Your Information for Our Church Directory!

Have you moved?

Changed your phone number or email address?

Want to add a cell or work phone number to your listing?

Want to add your birthday to our list?

Updated information is critical to providing better communication to our members from Pastor Ginna and committee heads so we all stay well informed.

You may send your information to Becky via
Email: becky@fpcscwv.org OR Phone: 304-744-2333

Thanks so much!

Heart & Hand News . . .



KAY HALL
Hike for Hunger
Heart + Hand Outreach Ministries

Save the Date!
Sunday, October 6, 2024, 2pm
212 D Street, South Charleston
OR
Hike with our Putnam County Friends

Registration:
\$20- Hike T-Shirt
Dogs, \$10-Bandana

Students get 10 hours of Community Service when you Register! Ask us how!

SCAN ME



 **Heart + Hand**
OUTREACH MINISTRIES

100% of the money we raise during the Hike for Hunger will benefit our food pantry to meet the basic needs of families. Last year we helped over 10,000 people.
For more information visit:
www.hhomwv.org
email volunteers@hhomwv.org

Ring Bells for Children in Need at Riverwalk Kroger!

The holiday season is fast approaching, and what better way to embrace the spirit of giving than by coming together as a community to make a difference in the lives of children in need?

We cordially invite families, students, churches, and groups from all walks of life to join us at the Riverwalk Kroger in South Charleston for a heartwarming event that promises to fill the hearts of both givers and recipients with joy.

Please contact Tom Titus to sign up to ring bells for Heart & Hand!



Foster Bed Program

Heart+Hand Outreach Ministries is proud to announce our latest initiative aimed at providing new twin size beds and bedding for families with foster children. Recognizing the importance of having a personal space to call their own, especially during the challenging process of a home study for DHHR, we are committed to ensuring that every child feels comfortable and safe. Through the generous sponsorship of churches, clubs, and community members, each complete bed/bedding setup, costing \$250, is made possible. This initiative not only fulfills a practical need but also extends a message of care and support to foster children and their families. At Heart+Hand Outreach Ministries, we believe that every child deserves a nurturing environment, and we are honored to play a part in making that a reality.

To apply for a bed, please call social services. 304-744-6741.

Pumpkin Prayer

In *The Pumpkin Patch Parable*, Liz Curtis Higgs uses kid-friendly analogies for the Christian life. Many parents now use a Pumpkin Prayer while carving jack-o-lanterns in October. What a great reminder about everything God has done for us!

- While cutting off the pumpkin top, pray, "Lord, open my mind so I can learn new things about you." (Read Proverbs 1:7.)
- While removing the seeds and pulp, pray, "Remove the things in my life that don't please you. Forgive the wrong things I do and help me forgive others." (Read Matthew 6:14-15.)
- While making eyes, pray, "Open my eyes to see the beauty you've made in the world around me." (Read Psalm 104:24.)
- While making the nose, pray, "I'm sorry for the times I've turned up my nose at your many gifts." (Read James 1:17.)
- While making the mouth, pray, "Let everything I say please you." (Read Psalm 19:14.)
- While lighting the candle, pray, "Lord, help me shine your light to others through the things I do." (Read Matthew 5:16.)
- Display your carved pumpkins as examples of how God's love transforms us into new creations. (Read 2 Corinthians 5:17.)



First Presbyterian Church

508 Second Avenue
South Charleston, WV 25303
PHONE: 744-2333
FAX: 746-9948

Ministers:

EVERY MEMBER OF THE CONGREGATION

GINNA TAYLOR, *Pastor*
MARY ELLEN LOGSDON, *Master of Music*
COLLIN NELSON, *Worship Assistant*
BECKY SMITH, *Office Manager*
DAVID SMITH, *Custodian*

Office Hours:

7:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

Pastor's Hours:

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

E-Mail Addresses:

pastor.ginna.fpcscwv@gmail.com
becky@fpcscwv.org

Web Address:

fpcscwv.org

WIFI Network:

1stPresby SC – Guest

WIFI Password:

PresbyGuest

Elders on Session:

Hersha Brown	Bob Lilly
Sarah Clemente	Mark Lovin
Cheryl Eary	Rick Smith
Joe Fuller	Owen Walker
Bill Kimmons	

NUTURING FAITH IDEAS from the Presbytery of WV

Please use these suggested scriptures, questions, and activities to help you explore your faith.

October 6 – Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost: Read Mark 10:2-16

Jesus told the disciples that whoever does not receive the kingdom as a little child will never enter it. We must disregard our goals of fame and fortune and turn to God as powerless children. How do you need to change your thinking to make this happen?

October 13 – Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost: Read Mark 10:17-31

It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God. Wealth and honor will not get you into the kingdom. How do you prioritize your need for wealth and your desire to enter the kingdom of God?

October 20 – Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost: Read Job 38:1-7

Job has suffered greatly, and his friends give advice. Elihu puts Job in his place, so to speak, declaring his unworthiness to question God. God's response is a rebuke to Elihu and friends who speak without knowledge. Job, in his anguish, yells at God; do you ever do the same? How does God respond?

October 27 – Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost: Read Mark 10:46-52

Jesus heals Bartimaeus' eyesight because of the faith with which he shouted out to Jesus, and he becomes a follower of Jesus. Bartimaeus did not fear the rebukes of the disciples but continued to call out in faith. How can you and your family work to strengthen your faith considering your trials and suffering so you can call upon Jesus for help?



Total Immersion

In college, I took an American Sign Language class from a Deaf instructor who couldn't speak. On the first day, another staff member explained that we'd be experiencing total immersion. She left, and the classroom remained silently engaged for the rest of the semester.

Creatively, the instructor began by writing "same" and "different" on the whiteboard and demonstrating those signs. Then he took us through several examples where we were to use the signs to identify what was the same or different. That's how he taught ASL, graciously guiding us without audible voices. We embraced a brand-new approach to communicating.

The church can do that too. We can use "all that is within" us to praise God's holy name (Psalm 103:1). We can get creative and harness everything — all our senses — to worship.

This might mean removing distractions, learning a new style of music, using visual arts or engaging with a different culture — all while offering praise. Instead of feeling bound by what's familiar and comfortable, try to be immersed and all-in while worshiping the Lord!

—Janna Firestone

Music. Food. Community. Charity.

Oakes Field Harvest Festival

Join us as we celebrate the grandeur of Autumn and Halloween through various arts.

Check out this Fun NEW Community Event!

Rick Smith, Sarah Clemente and our Youth Group will be at the gate accepting donations of non-perishable food items for the Food Pantry at Heart & Hand!

Local congregations are also encouraged to take part in

Trunk or Treat

You can put on your favorite Halloween costume, deck out your vehicle, bring candy to share and join us **Oct 26th!**



OCT 26, 2024 • OAKES FIELD, SOUTH CHARLESTON

Enjoy local artisans, food and drink vendors, a trunk or treat for kids, and a live concert all in one afternoon. Free entry, but please bring non-perishable food items for donation to a local food bank.

Kid's Page



Make this craft as a helpful reminder of Jesus' free gift of grace.



What you need:

- Small cardboard box
- Small stones
- Tape
- Wrapping paper and bow
- Permanent marker

What you do:

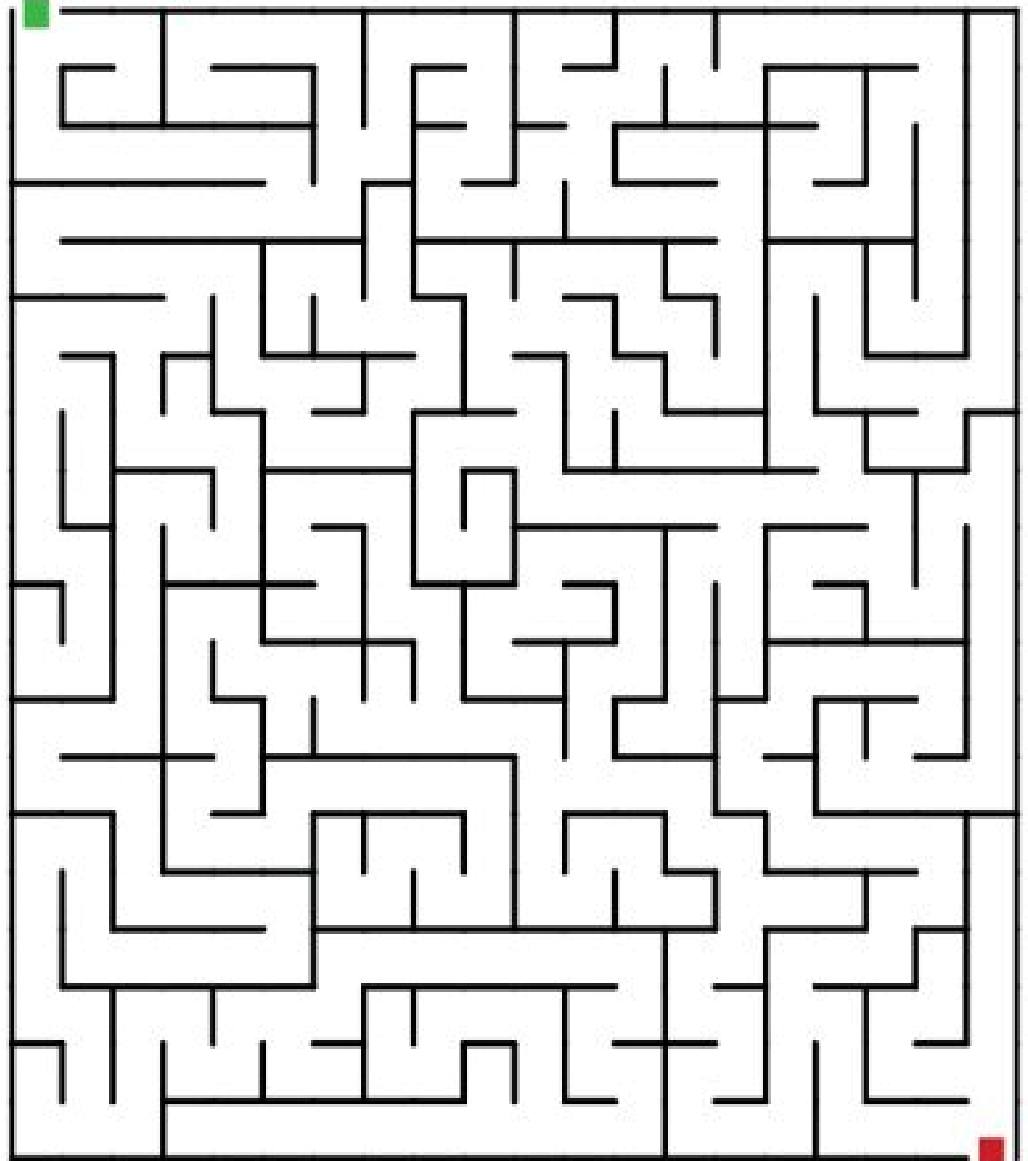
1. Fill the box with small stones to weigh it down. Tape the box securely closed.
2. Wrap the box and add a bow on top.
3. With marker, write a capital letter on each side of the box and the bottom to spell GRACE.
4. Use this as a decoration or paperweight, or give as a gift.
5. Explain GRACE to someone.
For help, use Ephesians 2:8-9 and the acrostic **God's Riches At Christ's Expense**.



Fall Maze



Can you find your way through the maze and reach the caramel apple?





October

Wishing Happy October Birthdays to....

Oct 2	Carly Cole	Oct 17	Bryce Johnson
Oct 3	Becky Smith	Oct 20	Bill Kimmons
Oct 4	Bailey Johnson	Oct 24	Bob Lilly
Oct 9	Barbara Cruickshank	Oct 30	Janet Williamson
Oct 10	Joe Fuller		

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
		7:00 pm Committee Night			1:00 pm Senior Games (Mizpah Room)	
6 Communion Sunday	7	8	9	10	11	12
9:00 Handbell Choir Practice 9:30 Sunday School <i>In person/conference call</i> 10:00 Adult Choir Practice 10:50 Children's Choir Practice 11:00 Worship <i>In person/online</i> 7:00 Al-Anon				2:00 pm Presbyterian Women's Circle Meeting	1:00 pm Senior Games (Mizpah Room)	
13 Pastor Appreciation Sunday	14	15	16	17	18	19
9:00 Handbell Choir Practice 9:30 Sunday School <i>In person/conference call</i> 10:00 Adult Choir Practice 10:50 Children's Choir Practice 11:00 Worship <i>In person/online</i> 12:00 Luncheon for All 7:00 Al-Anon		6:00 pm Stated Session Meeting			1:00 pm Senior Games (Mizpah Room)	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
9:00 Handbell Choir Practice 9:30 Sunday School <i>In person/conference call</i> 10:00 Adult Choir Practice 10:50 Children's Choir Practice 11:00 Worship <i>In person/online</i> 1:30 Youth Group Fellowship 7:00 Al-Anon					1:00 pm Senior Games (Mizpah Room)	Trunk or Treat at Oakes Field
27	28	29	30	Nov 1	Nov 2	Nov 3
9:00 Handbell Choir Practice 9:30 Sunday School <i>In person/conference call</i> 10:00 Adult Choir Practice 10:50 Children's Choir Practice 11:00 Worship <i>In person/online</i> 7:00 Al-Anon					1:00 pm Senior Games (Mizpah Room)	