The Good Hews

MONTHLY PUBLICATION NOVEMBER 2021 VOLUME 27 NUMBER 11



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address label here

3rd of the month. Please Deliver by 2nd or DATED MATERIAL

Website: www.elclh.org E-mail: churchinfo@elclh.org

Spanish Worship is offered at 2:30 pm by House of Faith.

Jonine Sodders PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR: Sandy Bentz :AOTSA9 MIRETNI PRAISE WORSHIP SERVICE MA 34:01 MA 00:01 SUNDAY SCHOOL MA 00:6 TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICE



BELURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Preschool: (562) 694-5316

150 North Palm Street, La Habra, California 90631 (562) 691-0656

LIVING OUR THANKS

Reading through the Old Testament, someone commented to me about how, again and again, the people forgot all that God had done. "How is that possible?" they asked. "No matter how many times God's people sinned and went their own way, God was faithful and delivered them from the flood, from slavery in Egypt, from enemy nations, from exile in Babylon and Persia? How could they forget? How could they be so ungrateful?"

It's amazing, isn't it? As soon as we ask those questions about THEM – God's people in the Old Testament – we realize that we're not so different from THEM after all. The truth is, every one of us has times where we're so caught up in our lives, in our busy-ness, in our personal or family challenges and victories, that we really can forget about God, forget about our God who Psalm 103 says, "forgives all our sins and heals our diseases, who redeems our lives from the pit and crowns us with love and compassion, who satisfies our desires with good things . . . who is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love."

Giving thanks – living our thanks – is the best way I know to overcome our forgetfulness. Like God's people in the Old Testament, when we stop to acknowledge God's presence, when we stop to say, "Thanks, God!" and remember all God has done, our perspective on our lives, on our situations, is completely changed.

Don't get me wrong, stopping to give thanks to God doesn't mean our lives are suddenly made easier or that we won't have challenges before us, but when we stop to give thanks, our focus moves off ourselves and centers on God's faithfulness and God's promise to be with us, to provide for our needs.

Thanksgiving is NOT a day or an event – it really is a way of living. Thanksgiving is stopping in the midst of our busy-ness, in the midst of our victories AND challenges to remember God's presence and love and to give thanks for God's faithfulness, even when we forget all that God has done for us.

Many have faced hardships this past year . . . the death of loved ones, isolation, anxiety, job changes, illness, broken relationships with family or friends. There will, no doubt, be more challenges in the year to come. Will we face them with fear or trust in God's providing? Will we close our hearts to try and protect ourselves? Will we live tightly gripping all we have or will we live generously, openhanded, sharing our time, talents and treasures with others? How will you and I LIVE our THANKS in the coming year?

God has so richly blessed us — you, me, Emanuel, our nation and world. I pray we will all make time and space every day, individually and as a community of faith, to not only give thanks to God, but to celebrate and remind one another of God's unconditional love and generous faithfulness. How loved and beloved by God we are!!

In God's Gracious Grip,

Pastor Sandy Bentz

HEART AND HANDS OUTREACH SHARING THE GOOD NEWS!



"Feed My Sheep" - John 21



THANK YOU FOR THE MANY PAIRS OF GLASSES AND CASES FOR THE LIONS' VISION OUTREACH! You have provided the gift of sight to many throughout the world! Thanks to Cindy Reyes for leading this project.

PATRIOTS & PAWS THANKSGIVING BAGS FOR VETERANS!

Please fill and return bags by <u>Sunday</u>, <u>November 7</u>. Your GENEROUS gifts help veterans, active military and reservists enjoy a special Thanksgiving with their friends and families. THANK YOU!



ITEMS TO BE IN THE HOLIDAY DINNER BAGS

- \$20 Grocery gift card for the Turkey
- 2 cans Chicken Broth
- 1 box/bag Instant Mashed Potatoes
- 1 can Cranberry Sauce
- 1 pie or other dessert (optional)
- 2 packets Dry Gravy or 2 cans Turkey Gravy
- · 2 cans Green Beans
- 1 box/container Stuffing Mix
- 1 large can Yams

<u>THE ANGEL TREE IS COMING!</u> Gift tags for children and families at HIS HOUSE and WINGS will be available mid November. All of us love to give — the tags go fast! Jo Ellen Dobson has graciously agreed to coordinate this Angel Tree ministry along with Mischelle Uhlman and Janine Ward.

Foop! Ricki Fehr assists with food distribution every week in our community at Our Lady of Guadalupe. (The first person to contact the church office by email when they see this note in the Good News will receive a Starbucks gift card.) We continue to collect food every Sunday at Emanuel. Please bring a nonperishable item and put it in the food cart to share with our neighbors.

NOTE: HAHO WILL MEET IN PERSON IN THE YOUTH ROOM ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13 AT 10 AM

PLEASE JOIN US IN PLANNING OUTREACH MINISTRIES

Jeanette Parr Facilitator



FROM THE BOARD OF PARISH EDUCATION

Sunday School is now meeting in person each Sunday! Join us for Sunday morning classes for ages 3 years through 6th grade from 10-10:45 AM in Moerer Hall. Visitors are always welcome!

What we learned at Sunday School

- We began learning about disciples by going on a scavenger hunt. Then we discovered how
 Jesus chose his first disciples. Jesus needs kids to be his disciples by following Him and by
 talking about God to others.
- God gives us special gifts and we can share our gifts with others. He calls us to fish for people and everyone is special to Him.
- "David" God sends Samuel to find a new king for Israel. Samuel went to Jessie's house.
 God chose David to be king even though he was just a boy. The most important thing God saw in David was his heart for God. Samuel anointed David.
- "David and Goliath" David used his slingshot to protect God's people from the giant. David was able to be brave because he trusted that God would protect him. We also can trust that God will protect us.

<u>Offerings</u>: During November and December, offerings will be used to purchase gifts for a boy and a girl from the Angel Tree. The students can see how their offering can help others in this special way.

Seekers: Seekers are not meeting at this time.

<u>Study Buddies:</u> Study Buddies meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:00-4:30 PM for children grades 1-6. This program is open to all children in our surrounding neighborhood as well as our Emanuel Lutheran family. Invite your friends! Talk to Jill Drummond or Char Ponzio for details.

<u>Trunk or Treat</u>: Many thanks to all who participated, decorated trunks, and helped with this festive event. We also thank Kirsten Garcia for making the trophies for the trunk decorating contest. See pictures on page 5.

Please continue to pray for the spiritual growth of the youth and adults.

Board of Parish Ed

TRUNK-OR-TREAT AT EMANUEL!









Thank you to everyone who participated in Trunk or Treat. It was a festive evening with decorated trunks, fellowship and children going from car to car in their costumes.

Special thanks to Kirsten Garcia for organizing and creating trophies for the trunk contest.





ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SUNDAY, NOV 14, 4:30 PM



Our Annual Congregational Meeting will be held <u>Sunday, November 14</u>, at 4:30 PM in the sanctuary. We will use the same COVID-19 safety precautions we use during our worship services. If you need to participate via Zoom please contact the church office by noon Thursday, November 11 to receive the Zoom link.

A copy of the 2021 Annual Report will be emailed to Emanuel members on Friday, October 29. Beginning Reformation Sunday (October 31) a limited number of printed copies will be available at the "check-in table" before worship services and from the church office. During this meeting we will approve the 2022 budget and elect new Church Council members. Please make every effort to be a part of this important meeting in the life of our community of faith.



GIVE BLOOD, SAVE A LIFE MON, NOV 1 — NOON TO 6 PM

Emanuel will hold its next blood drive in Moerer Hall from 12:00 to 6:00 PM on **Monday, November 1st**. Go to https://www.redcrossblood.org/ to schedule your donation or to create an account.

Give blood, save a life. We know you've got it in you!



THRIVENT MEMBERS REMEMBER TO DESIGNATE CHOICE DOLLARS

Thrivent members, please don't let this opportunity pass by. Though your Choice Dollars will continue to accumulate through March 31, 2022, you may designate them at any time. Should you choose to do so around the holidays, be sure to designate them again by March 31. In order to simplify the process, you may simply call the local office and speak personally to Laurie or Katie and they will take care of your request.

Questions regarding the eligibility of a particular charity can be found online. Many thanks to each of you who have supported our church or your favorite charity through direction of these monies.

For your information, undesignated funds are never wasted or lost. They are funneled into areas such as the Action Team gift cards which have helped us often in the past for special events such as VBS. Thanks again for remembering the needs of others.



JOIN EMANUEL IN-PERSON & ONLINE FOR WORSHIP (ELCLH.ORG, FACEBOOK OR YOUTUBE)

9 AM Traditional Worship

10:45 AM Praise Worship

10 AM Sunday School meets in the hall between services for children 3 years through 6th grade.

Emanuel's Church Council continues to prayerfully balance congregational safety with a desire to make worship as accessible and enjoyable as possible for everyone. While Orange County has not mandated it, the CDC strongly encourages mask wearing indoors regardless of vaccine status. For the safety of our neighbors, the congregation is encouraged to wear a mask while singing and to practice social distancing.

THANK YOU FOR SERVING CHRIST THROUGH EMANUEL!

Scripture says that we ARE Christ's body in the world, God's hands and feet. God has given ALL of us gifts for ministry and when we use those gifts together, God is glorified!

Each month we want to lift up a few people in our congregation that have gone "the extra mile" in helping us be Christ's Church. Please call or email the church office (churchinfo@elclh.org) to suggest others who might be thanked in future newsletters!



THANK YOU TO ...

- John Ospital for helping keep us safe by replacing batteries and continuing to oversee Emanuel's 3 emergency defibrillators
- Marsha Maynard serving as liaison with House of Faith and helping coordinate the sharing of Emanuel's campus
- Jack Ward for his research and knowledge of Emanuel's sound and video systems and his
 unfailing servant's heart in repairing and finding solutions that keep things running at minimal
 cost
- Ricki Fehr for her efforts to make the church office entrance so warm and welcoming
- Mary Ann Carlson, Kirsten Garcia, Cindy Reyes and Denise Whitcher, Emanuel's Parish Ed Team, for coordinating this year's Trunk or Treat and for all who decorated trunks, handed out candy and came to support the event
- Jeanette Parr for applying for a Pacifica Synod Matthew 25 grant to help provide emergency clothes for those recovering from domestic violence



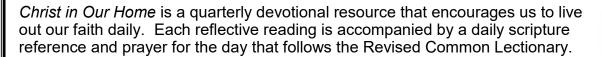




God's Blessings Will Family and Welcome to our Emanuel Family!!

On Sunday, October 3, we shared in the baptism of Makayla Will and welcomed her, parents Matt and Melissa, and sisters Maggie and Madisyn as Emanuel members!

CHRIST IN OUR HOME OCT/NOV/DEC





Christ in Our Home devotional booklets for <u>October-November-December 2021</u> are available in the narthex or church office. Email churchinfo@elclh.org if you would like a copy mailed to you.

~ SUNDAY BIBLE READINGS ~

All Saints Sunday November 7

Isaiah 25:6-9 Psalm 24 Revelation 21:1-6 John 11:32-44

November 14

Daniel 12:1-3 Psalm 16 Hebrews 10:11-14 [15-18] 19-25 Mark 13:1-8

November 21

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 Psalm 93 Revelation 1:4-8 John 18:33-37

Advent 1 November 28

Jeremiah 33:14-16
Psalm 25:1-10
1 Thessalonians 3:9-13
Luke 21:25-36



JOY CIRCLE Mon, Nov 15, 9:30 AM

The Joy Circle is a women's Bible Study that meets the 3rd Monday of each month from 9:30-11:00 AM for discussion and fellowship.

We will meet in Moerer Hall on Monday, November 15. Everyone is encouraged to wear a mask and bring a drink for themselves. Coffee will be provided.

Participate in person or via Zoom. A copy of the study and Zoom link are emailed the week before. New to Joy Circle? Email the church office (churchinfo@elclh.org).

Through November, our study will be on "The Gift of the Spirit" from the Gather Magazine, the official magazine of Women of the ELCA. All women are invited — we hope you will join us.



HELP WITH EMANUEL'S SOUND & AUDIO VISUAL TEAMS

Help with video recording as well as running sound/PowerPoint is needed:

<u>Sound</u> – talk with Jack Ward (562-201-9168) to help with 10:45 sound. Talk with Geoffrey Roberts to help with the 9AM service. Keep them "company" in the sound booth and see how it's done!

<u>Video Recording</u> – talk or sit with Kerry Ospital, Ricki Fehr or Geoffrey Roberts. You will learn how easy it is.

Call or email the church office (562-691-0656, churchinfo@elclh.org).

STEP OUT IN FAITH! WORSHIP ASSISTANTS NEEDED!!



As we prepare to return to two worship services, many more worship leaders will be needed. PRAYERFULLY consider how God might use YOU!

Consider serving with your children, grandchildren, spouse or best friend!

Thank you to Susan Fallon for scheduling worship assistants. Call or email her (562-694-5557, rsfallon@aol.com) to be added to the schedule as a:

Reader - read the Bible lessons during worship

Greeter – be the first smiling face to welcome worshippers

<u>Usher</u> – share a worship bulletin, help worship go smoothly

Altar Guild – help prepare or put away communion for Sunday worship.

Call or email the church office (562-691-0656, churchinfo@elclh.org). You will be blessed by the experience!



EMANUEL PRESCHOOL SEEKS ADDITIONAL STAFF PERSON

Emanuel currently has one class of students aged 2-5 years and the search is on for staff that want to join or return so we can add another classroom. We presently have 15 confirmed students with inquiry calls coming in for our new school year. Please keep us in prayer as we seek qualified, loving staff to add to our program.

If you or someone you know has worked in early childhood education and is interested in a part-time position, please contact Jonine Sodders, Emanuel's Preschool Director, at 562-694-5316.

STUDY BUDDIES TUTORING TUES & THU, 3-4:30 PM

Study Buddies, our free tutoring program for grades 1-6, takes place here at Emanuel on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3-4:30 PM in the Hope Center Library.

Questions? Call Jill Drummond (714-403-0956)



~ PRAYER ~

GOD'S WORD TELLS US IT IS THE MOST POWERFUL FORCE GOD HAS ENTRUSTED TO US!

Have a prayer request for yourself or others?

Call or email the church office and we will share it with Pastor Sandy and the Prayer Team.

Want to make time to pray with others?

Consider joining the Prayer Group in person in the Youth Room or via Zoom 8:30-9:30 AM Saturday mornings.





Hope Center entryway received a make-over compliments of Ricki Fehr! Nice job!



LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE IS THERE!

Did you know that wherever this is a need, Lutheran Disaster Response is there? They arrive at the beginning and often stay after other organizations have left. 83% of all their receipts go directly to assist in the disaster.

If you are wondering how to make a difference and help in our current difficult situations, including those below, you may wish to write a check to Emanuel, mark it for Lutheran Disaster Response, and Emanuel will send it to them.

- Afghan Humanitarian Crisis
- Haiti Crisis From Earthquake
- Hurricanes Ida and Nicholas Crisis
- · U.S. Wildfires

Thank you for you generous hearts!!

While I was pondering the content of this article, I decided to browse previous articles I'd published. The following previous article is perfect for what I wanted to say, but I also want to add that Stephen Ministers are here to listen to whatever is going on in your life right now. This past year and a half have been very disturbing for the best of us. It has left us wondering "what's next?"



Stephen Ministry would like to provide you with someone you can ponder those questions with, someone you can just sit and talk with, be it for an hour or two, or however long you need. We don't judge what you say, and we don't lecture on what you should do. And as always, your conversations with a Stephen Minister are confidential and are never shared. Please consider us if you want to talk.

People often ask "What exactly is a Stephen Minister?" One way to put it is that Stephen Ministers are the "After People."

Stephen Ministers are there:

- . . . after the phone call you hoped you'd never get.
- . . . after the funeral, when everyone has left and the emotions you've held at bay come crashing in on you.
- . . . after the relationship falls apart and the bottom falls out of your life.
- ... after the doctor says, "I'm sorry, but there's nothing more we can do."
- . . . after the nursing home director shakes your hand and says, "Welcome to your new home."
- . . . after the last child honks the horn, waves, and drives away -- and the house suddenly seems empty.
- . . . after the baby arrives, demanding more of you than you ever dreamed possible.
- . . . after you find a pink slip with your final paycheck.
- . . . after your family and friends have heard your story one too many times, but you still need to talk it out.

Stephen Ministers are the After People. They are ready to come alongside you and provide comfort and support for as long after as needed. Please consider letting a Stephen Minister walk with you in your time of need. Contact Pastor Sandy or call me.

See you in Church,

Sharon Frazier



PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER ~ NOVEMBER 2021

*** Save this for reference throughout the month. ***

"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, and faithful in prayer." Romans 12:12

Special Prayer Focus for This Month — "Thanks-living"

- ~ Reformation Day (October 31) We give thanks for Martin and Katie Luther and other saints and reformers who have courageously challenged the church and God's people to be rooted in God's word. May God continue to deepen our commitment to regular worship, daily prayer and Bible study. And may God help us recommit ourselves to serve Christ by caring for our neighbor friend, enemy and stranger every day.
- ~ All Saints Sunday (November 7) We give thanks for 'the saints' all God's people who have been set apart for God's holy purposes. We celebrate that WE are the saints of God, called to follow Christ, inspired by the example and faith of those who have gone before us and now rest with God. We give thanks for the saints to come, as we prepare Christ's church to welcome them and to help all of us live and grow in faith, love and charity. May we grow more like Christ every day in every way.
- ~ May God help us to see, even in our challenges, all the ways God continues to sustain and provide for us and for the world. May we live every day finding new ways to thank God by generously sharing all we have with others.

Continuing Prayers

~ Jean Arata	~ Warren Parr	~ Dan Toussaint
~ Marge Dalby	~ Shelley Reesman	~ Jacob Toussaint
~ Maiju Hessel	~ Jerry Schnakenberg	~ Mischelle Uhlman
~ Chuck Holtzendorff	~ Cathy Spangler	~ Ruth Wolfarth

Assisted Living Centers/Homebound

- ~ Shirley Jordan Park Vista
- ~ Betty Gould Home
- ~ Lois Lundberg St. Elizabeth

- ~ Eric Sessing Posada Whittier
- ~ Margaret Roberts Addie's Cottage Anaheim

Friends and Family to Remember

- ~ Peggy Toussaint-Vowel (Daniel Toussaint's sister)
- ~ Susan Blackstock (Tammy Mora's cousin)
- ~ Lori Sering (Shirley Jordan's daughter)
- ~ Denise Timberlake (Sharon Frazier's daughter)
- ~ Mike Petrelli (Doris Rossoni's son)
- ~ Matt Rossoni (Doris Rossoni's stepson)
- ~ Mike Rossoni (Doris Rossoni's stepson)

Prayers of Thanksgiving

- ~ for all God's blessings, those we see and so many big and small ways God provides for our needs, often before we even know our need
- ~ for vaccinations making increased freedom possible as well as decreasing numbers of hospitalizations and deaths due to Covid
- ~ for recent rain and the success of firefighters in containing wildfires and first responders as they work to meet the needs of those recovering from loss and tragedy
- ~ for God's work in and through us in forming Emanuel's Transition Team and guiding us toward the new pastor Emanuel will call in the coming year

If you have prayer concerns to add to Emanuel's list, please contact the church office at (562) 691-0656. Once a month, names will be removed from the list that have been in print at least eight consecutive weeks (except those who request extended prayer). You are welcome to re-submit any names removed from the list, or you may remove a name at any time by contacting the church office. Thank you.

(Updated 10/25/2021)

		NOVE	OVEMBER 2021	121		
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 7:30p AA (H)	3p S udy Buddies (L) 6p BSF (S/H/F/L/C/Y)	3 9a Bible Study (Z) 6p House of Faith (S/C) 7:30p Alanon (C)	4 10a Book Club (Z) 3 p Study Buddies (L)	5 6p House of Faith (S, 2- 4) 8p AA (H)	6 7a BSF Leaders (H/F) 8:30a Prayer Group (Y/Z) 6p House of Faith (S/H/
-	12-6:00 PM BLOOD DRIVE (H)					6-4)
7 ALL SAINTS SUNDAY Daylight Saving Time Ends 9a Traditional Worship (S) 10a Sunday School (H) 10:45a Praise Worship (S) 1-6p House of Faith Worship (S/C/Y/1-4)	8 4p Stephen Ministry (C) 7:30p AA (H)	9 3p Study Buddies (L) 6p BSF (SH/F/L/C/Y)	10 9a Bible Study (2) 11a Preschool Brd (C) 6p House of Faith (S/C) 7:30p Alanon (C) REJOICE CONFERENCE 1 PM (ANAHEIM)	11 VETERAN'S DAY 3p Study Buddies (L)	12 8p AA (H)	13 7a BSF Leaders (H/F) 8:30a Prayer Group (Y/Z) 10a HAHO Mtg (Y)
14 9a Traditional Worship (S) 10a Sunday School (H) 10:45a Praise Worship (S) 1-6p House of Faith Worship (S/C/Y/1-4) ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING 4:30 PM (S)	15 9:30a Joy Circle (Zoom) 7:30p AA (H)	16 3p Study Buddies (L) 5:30p Council Mtg (L/Z) 6p BSF (SAI/F/L/C/Y)	17.Good News" Deadline 18 9a Bible Study (2) 6p House of Faith (S/C) 7:30p Alanon (C)	18 3p Study Buddies (L)	19 8p AA (H)	20 7a BSF Leaders (H/F) 8:30a Prayer Group (Y/Z)
21 9a Traditional Worship (S) 10a Sunday School (H) 10:45a Praise Worship (S) 1-6p House of Faith Worship (S/C/Y/1-4)	22 \$) 7:30p AA (H) iip	23 (no Study Buddies) 6p BSF (S/H/F/L/C/Y)	24 9a Bible Study (2) 6p House of Faith (S/C) 7:30p Alanon (C)	25 THANKSGIVING Sup	26 8p AA (H)	27 7a BSF Leaders (H/F) 8:30a Prayer Group (Y/Z) 6p House of Faith (Y)
28 1ST SUNDAY IN ADVENT 9a Traditional Worship (S)	29 7:30p AA (H)	30 3p Study Buddies (L)		(OFFICE & PRESCHOOL CLOSED	r 2021
10a Sunday School (H) 10:45a Praise Worship (S) 1-6p House of Faith Worship (S/C/Y/1-4)		6p BSF (SM/F/L/C/Y)	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	22 23 1 22 23 1 22 23 8 29 30	5 6 7 8 12 13 14 15 19 20 21 22 26 27 28 29	5 M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

Emanuel Lutheran Church: 150 No. Palm Street, La Habra, CA 90631 • Phone 562-691-0656, Fax 562-691-8897 • www.elclh.org
Preschool: 562-694-5316

Al-Anon meets in Hope Center, Wednesday @7.30 pm; AA (Alcoholics Anonymous) meets in Moerer Hall Monday @7.30 pm & Friday @ 8pm
Legend: C: Hope Center Classroom; CH: Chapel; F: Fireside Room; H: Moerer Hall; L: Hope Center Library; S: Sanctuary; Y: Youth Room; Z: Zoom

Kid's Korner

PRAISE-FILLED PRAISE-FILLED

Create an interactive display of God's provision for a Thanksgiving centerpiece.

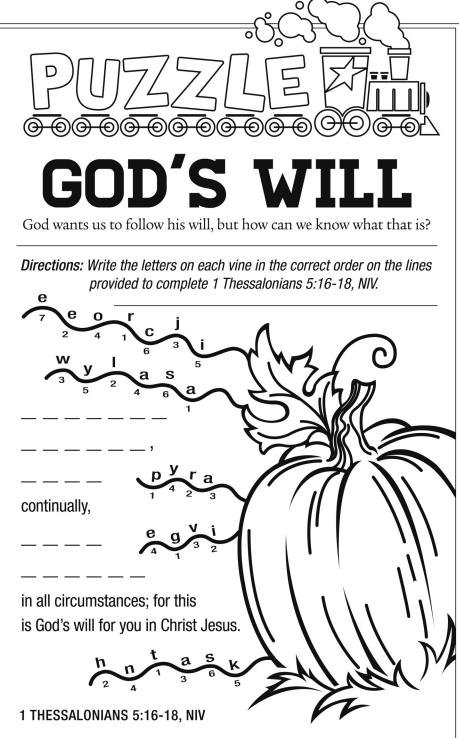


What you need:

- Colorful sheets of thin paper
- Scissors
- Black pen
- Dish of water

What you do:

- 1. From the paper, cut out various shapes and sizes of flowers and petals.
- 2. In the center of each flower, write a praise to God. Thank him for who he is and for answered prayers.
- 3. Fold petals inward, toward the center of each flower.
- 4. Gently place flowers on the water. Petals will slowly unfold to reveal the words.
- 5. Invite meal guests to participate in this center-piece that blooms with thanks.



Answer: rejoice, always, pray, give, thanks