



August 2026 Newsletter



Ash Cave
Hocking Hills State Park



Church Picnic on August 16th!

The Church Picnic will be held on Sunday, August 16th, at 12:00p.m. in the PCC. This will be a potluck, with the Parish Life Committee providing hot dogs, hamburgers and buns. So we can make sure that we have enough of these items, please let us know by August 12th if you plan to attend. There will be sign-up sheets in the church and at the park. You may also call/text Tina Jones at (614)

316-3108 or call/email the church office. Please bring your favorite side dish or dessert to share. We will hold the picnic in the PCC, but will have outside games such as cornhole and others. Something for everyone! If you have any questions, please contact Tina Jones or the church office.



Get your hotdogs!!!

We will be holding our annual Labor Day Hotdog Giveaway on Monday, September 7th. We are in need of hotdogs (buns are already taken care of), individual bags of chips, bottled water and bagged ice. Items can be brought in starting August 23rd. If you would prefer to donate toward the cost of these items, you can put your donation in the offering plate or donate online if you wish. Please make sure to mark the donation "labor day food". We are also in need of large coolers and pop-up tent/canopies for this event. And last but certainly not least we are looking for

volunteers to work in the kitchen and hand out the goodies! Please call or text Tina Jones at (614) 316-3108 or call the church office if you are interested in helping out. We would like volunteers to arrive by 10:00 a.m. Thank you in advance!



Youth Pool Party on August 23rd!

We will be having a pool party at the Haverfields on Sunday, August 23rd from noon to 4pm. We will be providing the main course and some snacks. Please feel free to bring a snack or covered dish to share if you like. We do ask that all children aged 8 or younger be accompanied by a parent or responsible adult (but ALL parents are welcome

to join us!) To RSVP, or if you have any questions, please call or text Emily at 937-622-8177, or email the church office. Please RSVP by August 21st.

The **Tools For School** program, sponsored by Canal Winchester Human Services, provides students with school supplies throughout the school year. This is offered to students attending Canal Winchester or Bloom Carroll Schools. Currently, they are in need of Ziploc gallon and quart size storage/sandwich bags, and snack size bags. Donation boxes are available both in the Sanctuary and at the park for those attending the 8:00 a.m. service. The drive will continue through Sunday, August 9th. Thank you for your generosity!



FROM THE COUNCIL



1. Pastor was able to make a trip to Wisconsin to visit family. He also thanks everyone who helped with getting their new house ready to move in! He reported that VBS went very well, averaging 50 children and 45 adults over the week. Many thanks to all who made it happen. Over \$1800 was raised for the mission project (Bible camps in Ukraine). Heather Coyan from LifeWise will be sharing at Sunday School on August 2, so he will finish up the series on Christian Heritage the next week. He plans to teach a series on Islam at some point. Blair and Judy Sell have asked to become members at Peace (Council approved at this meeting).
2. The Finance Committee chairperson reported that at this point, expenditures are more than income, however, the summer months are sometimes less than other months. He is working on the 2027 budget to present to Council next month. Additionally, a proposal was made to the Council on ideas for distributing excess General Fund balances should we have that situation in the future. Council will look at it and discuss in an upcoming meeting.
3. The Parish Life Committee chairperson reported that the church picnic will be on August 16th (There will be no 5th Sunday potluck in August). We are planning the Labor Day hotdog giveaway. Chelle Coleman has volunteered to work. We will be asking for donations of hotdogs, chips, and water.
4. The Property Committee chairperson reported that more painting on the outside of the PCC was completed. The wood trim around the church windows (outside) was done. We need to replace chairs in the PCC foyer. Also the bathroom floor in the parsonage needs to be repaired or replaced. Council approved money for this project. Three potholes in parking lot were patched. We are working with the city on the alley (survey done).
5. The Education Committee chairperson reported that we had an average of 45 kids for VBS. There were about 30ish teen/adult helpers. Next year they are thinking about adding Jr High/HS class. Looking ahead, we have talked about the Living Nativity and are deciding on how to divide kids, etc for the 2 nights. We will be using the Living Nativity script for the kids Christmas program. Michelle is working on our yearly calendar for classes and the Home Bible Studies will be starting back up in the next month or so.
6. The Worship Committee chairperson reported that they are working on setting up a meeting soon to discuss/get status on some individual items that team members are working on.
7. The Stewardship Committee chairperson reported that we have Miscellaneous funds remaining from April. There was a distribution of \$260. We donated \$200 to the K-family when they spoke on July 12, 2026. We selected and gave the RASE scholarship to Logan Haverfield (\$1000). The August meeting is cancelled.
8. Council approved additional training hours for Mary Pabst, who is the backup for the church secretary. Patty Bond requested use of a few tables/chairs, which was approved.

August lectors

August 2

8:00am—Michelle Staffan
10:30am—Debbie Rehl

August 9

8:00am—Wendy Leitch
10:30am—Jim Addonizio

August 16

8:00am—Shari Householder
10:30am—Brian Fox

August 23

8:00am—David Schacht
10:30am—Stephanie Fox

August 30

8:00am—Lisa Schacht
10:30am—Lee Pinkerton



**Peace Free Lutheran Church
Financials Through June 2026**

**General Fund Income: \$137,810
General Fund Expenditures:
\$147,159**

**Members may request a copy of the
Council Minutes and Financial
reports from the church office.**



Pastor Steven Carlson

“Ordinary Time”

“Ordinary Time” is not a term we use too often. It is also called “The Time of the Church” as it is the liturgical season of the church that stretches from Pentecost to Advent. It begins with Trinity Sunday and ends with Christ the King Sunday. It is the longest season of the Church as it is almost six months! For many, it is also the “most boring” time in the church calendar, as there are no major holidays like Christmas or Easter. For many people, these are the Sundays when it is not as “exciting” to go to church or to attentively live out the Christian faith.

However, these are the weeks when faith is quietly nurtured and growth takes place! Appropriately, the liturgical color for this season is green, to symbolize our ongoing spiritual growth in our life of faith. In some circles these are called the “Green Sundays.” Usually there is a focus upon the Gospel readings (Matthew this year) and the teachings of Jesus to His disciples through both His divine Word of teaching and Works of healing. In this season, we begin by being reminded that we are baptized into faith in the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We end the season by looking forward to the return of Christ as King of kings, Lord of lords, and the just Judge of all the earth, when He ushers in His eternal kingdom in glory.

I think of “Ordinary Time” as just that, ordinary. Just as in regular life, most of our growth takes place when we simply show up for ordinary things, eat ordinary food together, do our ordinary work at our jobs or schooling each day, do our ordinary grocery shopping, wash our ordinary clothes and dishes, have ordinary conversations with family and friends, etc. Most of our life is “ordinary” and even “boring” but it is during those times that our beliefs and lifestyles; convictions, character, and faith are formed and lived out. It is during the ordinary time of life that we live in the sacramental grace of our Baptism and are sustained by God’s sacramental grace in Holy Communion. We receive God’s forgiveness and grow in His abundant grace as we walk in faith according to His will and in His ways.

I remember as a child, when we had “special company” over and we would eat at our formal dining room table, and everything looked its best. But what I liked most was when “ordinary” people stopped in and we just sat around the plain kitchen table together and shared the ordinary things of life together with those who we “did life together with” on a regular basis. I’m glad that our congregation is rather “ordinary!” I invite you to make sure to not miss the wonderful blessing of doing life together, living out our faith together, gathering together to hear God’s Word and to receive Holy Communion during these “ordinary” weeks of the year!

***I look forward to being with you this Sunday!
I’ll save a place for you at the Table of Holy Communion!***

Pastor Carlson

Carlson Family & House Update

We are enjoying living in our house this summer! The Lord has certainly blessed us with it, and we look forward to using it to bless others. Sadie and Sam are especially enjoying having their own rooms and extra space! Thank you again, to those who helped me with carpeting, painting, fixing doors, cutting trees and clearing brush, etc.! As time allows, we continue to fix things, unpack, and settle in. It has been wonderful to have Ben back with us from Texas for much of the summer as well this year. We still have a couple weeks together, so we are going to try to make a couple day trips together.

Again, it was such a blessing to stay at the parsonage, especially while Jen was in treatment! Thank you for blessing us!!

– Pastor Carlson

VBS was quite the week!

I know that I have already reflected on VBS in my "Together On Tuesdays," etc. but I want to again note what a blessing it is to have a congregation that loves to come together to share the Gospel through this very important ministry! It was a great joy to see our church family working together in the love of the Lord to serve in this way! Special thanks to Emily Haverfield for directing again this year, and for our incredible team of teachers and helpers! It is an extra delight to see our youth and young adults help in so many ways!! Thank you so much, Faith Houck, along with your team, for preparing meals for well over 100 people every night! Earl & Michelle Staffan and others built amazing sets for our theme of The Good Shepherd and Psalm 23 with so many creative props as well for the different settings. It was an added bonus to have Katherine Harrison bring her twin lambs! I loved teaching the adult class again this year! We had over 50 kids and 45 adults, along with 25-30 teachers, helpers, leaders, etc. Thank you, Jo Binkley, for being our photographer! Thank you so much, Janelle and Tim, for your extra work in getting so many things ready for VBS, as well as doing whatever needed to be done throughout the week and cleaning up afterwards. Again, this year, the final clean up on Thursday evening went smoothly with so many staying to help. Good Seed was abundantly sown in the soil of many souls! We continue to pray for an abundant harvest!

It is a privilege to shepherd our congregation, under the leadership of our Chief Shepherd, Jesus Christ!
-Pastor Carlson



Feed My Sheep Needs Your Help

Earlier this spring, Feed My Sheep announced we would be organizing a mission trip to the Dominican Republic to help with some maintenance projects. Due to scheduling conflicts and the weather (flooding issues), we needed to postpone this trip.

Well, the trip has been rescheduled, and the project has changed. Because of the flooding that had occurred in the spring, there is a house in the village of Escalereta that needs to be replaced. As a point of reference, Escalereta is the village with the Community Center that was rebuilt with the help of the United Lutheran Church in Manteca, CA.

Telma is an older woman who lives alone in the house. She has a daughter who rents a house in a neighboring village and cannot have her mother live with her long-term. Telma is also blind and cannot work to support herself. Telma's house is very old and was in disrepair before the rain in May. But when the rain flooded the village in May, Telma could no longer stay. Her neighbors took her in until her daughter could get to her. She stayed with her daughter until the water receded, then went back to her house. She is currently living there now, but her house needs to be replaced before the rains come again in the fall.

This is where Feed My Sheep comes in. We will be going from October 20th to the 27th to help rebuild Telma's house. We will need the help of all of you to help make this happen. First, we will need your prayers. Prayers that Telma will stay safe until we get there. Prayers for workers and the funds to complete this project. Second, we will need workers from the DR and from the US to come together to build her a strong, sturdy home that will keep her safe and dry. And third, we need to raise approximately \$4,000 (US dollars) to build the house.

I realize this is not a lot of time to pull all of this together, but nothing is impossible when praying believers come together to help. Everything you do will put us one step closer to getting Telma into a dry, safe home before the next rainy season. You can contact me at church, by texting me at (614) 676-0112, or by email at feedmysheepdr@gmail.com. You can also contact Doug Hertlien.

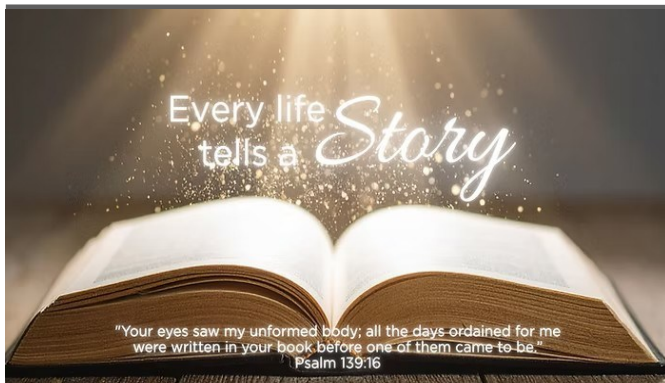


Telma



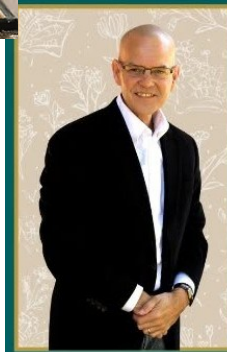
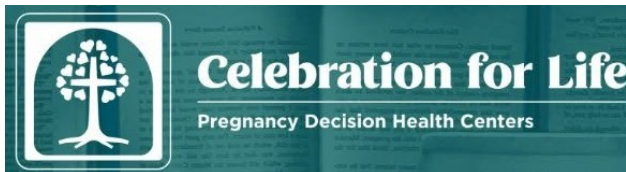
Telma's house

God's blessings, Mary Pabst - Feed My Sheep DR



The 2026 PDHC Gala will be held on Thursday, September 17th at The Tree Church in Lancaster. The doors open at 5:30 p.m. with dinner and a program to start at 6:00 p.m. Go to <https://www.supportlifepdhc.org/gala> for more details on the location and program and also to register for the event. If you are interested in attending this fundraiser with a group from Peace Free Lutheran, please call Faith Houck at (716) 867-9155 by Friday, September 10th so she can register the group.

PDHC Gala 2026! September 17th at 6:00 p.m.



Lancaster Gala

Sept. 17 at 6 p.m. at The Tree Church

Mike Spencer

International speaker,
author of "Humanly
Speaking" and founder of
Project Life Voice.

Introducing the first ever "Life Breakfast"

In conjunction with PDHC, we will be hosting a "Life Breakfast" here at Peace for Pastors and church leaders on Friday, September 18th! Greg Leitch will be coordinating the breakfast. We are inviting local church pastors and leaders to this. This is the first time that PDHC has done this. I am praying and working for at least 40 people! It is so important that church leaders are fully committed to LIFE!
- Pastor Carlson

August "Bible In One Year" Reading Schedule

08/01/26	Psalms 57-59	Acts 21	08/17/26	Psalms 97-99	Gal. 2
08/02/26	Psalms 60-62	Acts 22	08/18/26	Psalms 100-102	Gal. 3
08/03/26	Psalms 63-65		08/19/26	Psalms 103-104	Gal. 4
08/04/26	Psalms 66-67	Acts 23	08/20/26	Psalms 105-106	Gal. 5
08/05/26	Psalms 68-69	Acts 24	08/21/26	Psalms 107-109	Gal. 6
08/06/26	Psalms 70-71	Acts 25	08/22/26	Psalms 110-112	2 Cor. 1
08/07/26	Psalms 72-73	Acts 26	08/23/26	Psalms 113-115	2 Cor. 2
08/08/26	Psalms 74-76		08/24/26	Psalms 116-118	2 Cor. 3
08/09/26	Psalms 77-78	Acts 27	08/25/26	Psalms 119	
08/10/26	Psalms 79-80	Acts 28	08/26/26	2 Cor. 4-5	
08/11/26	Psalms 81-83	1 Peter 1	08/27/26	Psalms 120-122	2 Cor. 6
08/12/26	Psalms 84-86	1 Peter 2	08/28/26	Psalms 123-125	2 Cor. 7
08/13/26	Psalms 87-88	1 Peter 3	08/29/26	Psalms 126-128	2 Cor. 8
08/14/26	Psalms 89-90	1 Peter 4	08/30/26	Psalms 129-131	2 Cor. 9
08/15/26	Psalms 91-93	1 Peter 5	08/31/26	Psalms 132-134	2 Cor. 10
08/16/26	Psalms 94-96	Gal. 1			

The Emerald Isle a success!



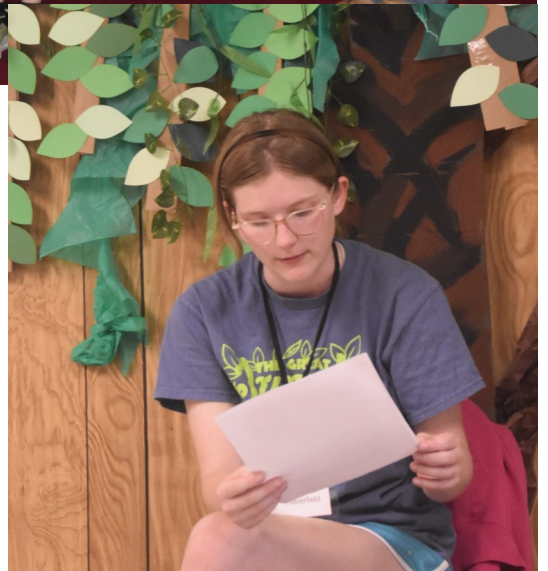
What an incredible week we had at VBS — and it wouldn't have been possible without you, the church! Your energy, kindness, and willingness to serve made such a difference in the lives of our kids. From welcoming smiles to patient guidance, you helped create a space where children could learn, laugh, and grow in their faith.

Thank you for giving your time, heart, and talents so generously. You've planted seeds that will continue to grow long after this week, and we are truly grateful for the joy you brought to our ministry. We had over 30 volunteers between adults, young adults, and teens. Our helpers even brought friends to help. Thank you! Thank you for your love, not just of Christ, but also to our kids. VBS does not happen with 1 person, everyone has a part. Even if you couldn't physically help, you prayed. And we felt your prayers all week. Thank you! Yours in Christ, Emily Haverfield

A big thank you as well to Jo Binkley, who was our roving photographer. You can visit our website at peacecw.org and click on "VBS 2026" at the top left corner of the page to view all of the wonderful pictures that she took during the week. Some are included over the next few pages, but do take some time to enjoy them all on the website!









And here are just some of the many volunteers who helped make this week special (the lamb may not have volunteered.....)



Tres Leches Cake

From the kitchen of Bobbie Jo Harless

Ingredients

1 box Betty Crocker Super Moist White Cake Mix

1 tub Betty Crocker Whipped Frosting (Fluffy White)

1 tsp cinnamon (optional, I do not use it).

3 milk mixture

1 can (14 oz) sweetened condensed milk

1 can (12 oz) evaporated milk

14 oz heavy whipping cream



Directions:

1. Prepare the cake batter according to the directions on the box, adding 1 tablespoon of vanilla extract.
2. Pour batter into a 13x9 inch baking pan that is lightly greased.
3. Bake according to package directions. Let cake cool completely in the pan.
4. Once cooled, use a fork to poke holes all over the cake.
5. SLOWLY pour the three milk mixture all over the cake, making sure it soaks into the holes.
6. Cover the cake tightly with plastic wrap or foil.
7. Refrigerate over night (or at least for 6 hours).
8. Spread the whipped frosting evenly over the top of the cake. Refrigerate until serving. Sprinkle with cinnamon (optional).

Enjoy!



Thank you so much to all those who were able to contribute to our VBS Mission fund to support the Hosanna Church Family Bible Camp in Ukraine. During their time at camp, adults and children get to hear the gospel and learn to know Jesus and to put their trust in Him. God's blessings to you all.

Thank you for all the prayers, cards, and expressions of sympathy at the passing of Diane Poling (both aunt and sister-in-law to our family). We will miss her very much, as she was a very special and unique woman, but we are thankful that she is now safe, healthy, and happy with the Lord. God's many blessings to all, the Poling, Arden, and Addonizio families.

Thank you for the cards, meals and prayers while I was in the hospital and recovering at home. Thank you Pastor for your hospital visits and Sam for your visit as well. I am so grateful for such a wonderful church family who show their love because they love HIM, our Savior. Debbie Crawford

Thank you to my wonderful church family for all your prayers, well wishes, cards, and kindness during my recent hand surgeries. I am so grateful for all of you. God's blessings, Debbie Williams



We are considering having another New Members Class this fall. The class is primarily for people who are new to Peace Free Lutheran Church but is also open to all members and visitors. This class typically covers topics such as: What is a Christian?, The Reliability of the Bible, Overview of the Bible, Core teachings of the Christian Faith

such as: Justification/ Sanctification/ Glorification, Distinctions of the Lutheran Denomination, History of Peace Free Lutheran Church, Opportunities for Involvement at Peace, and Biblical Positions on Contemporary Issues. Please contact Pastor Carlson or the church office if you, or someone you know, might be interested.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 Worship in the woods 8:00am: Worship Svc 10:30am Sunday School 9:15am	3	4 Youth Book Club Meeting 6:30 pm	5 Prayer Meeting 7:00pm	6	7 Kids Bible/Craft Class 3:30pm	8 Men's Breakfast and Bible Study 8:00am Deacons Mtg 10am
9 Worship in the woods 8:00am: Worship Svc 10:30am Sunday School 9:15am Parish Life 11:45am	10	11	12 Prayer Meeting 7:00pm	13	14 Kids Bible/Craft Class 3:30pm	15
16 Worship in the woods 8:00am: Worship Svc 10:30am; Sunday School 9:15am Church picnic 12pm	17	18 Council Meeting 7pm	19 Prayer Meeting 7:00pm	20	21 Kids Bible/Craft Class 3:30pm	22 Men's Breakfast and Bible Study 8:00am
23 Worship in the woods 8:00am: Worship Svc 10:30am Sunday School 9:15am Pool Party 12:00pm	24 Newsletter Submissions Due	25	26 Prayer Meeting 7:00pm	27	28 Kids Bible/Craft Class 3:30pm	29
30 Worship in the woods 8:00am: Worship Svc 10:30am Sunday School 9:15am	31					

Hand Prayer Prompt Book

What you need:



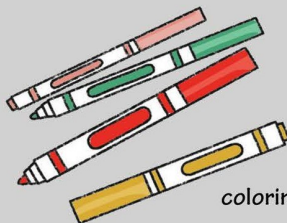
scissors



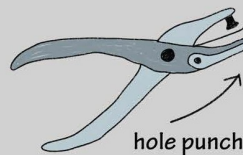
binder ring



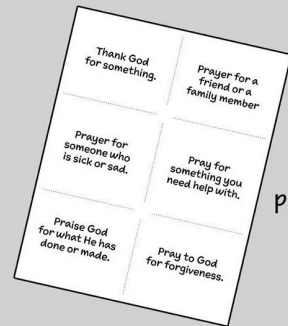
glue



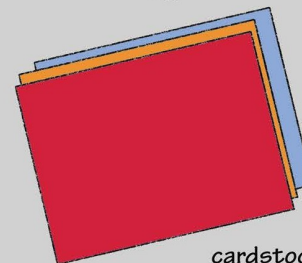
coloring materials



hole punch



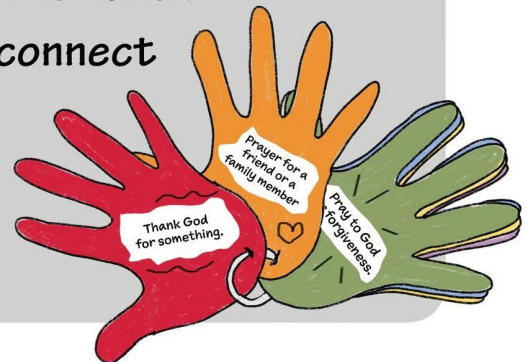
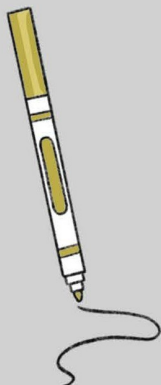
printed sheet



cardstock paper

What to do:

- 1) trace your child's hand on cardstock
- 2) cut out hand shapes & prayer prompts
- 3) glue prayer prompts onto the hands
- 4) hole punch the hands and connect them with a binder clip
- 5) decorate



Thank God
for something.

Pray for a
friend or a
family member.

Pray for
someone who
is sick or sad.

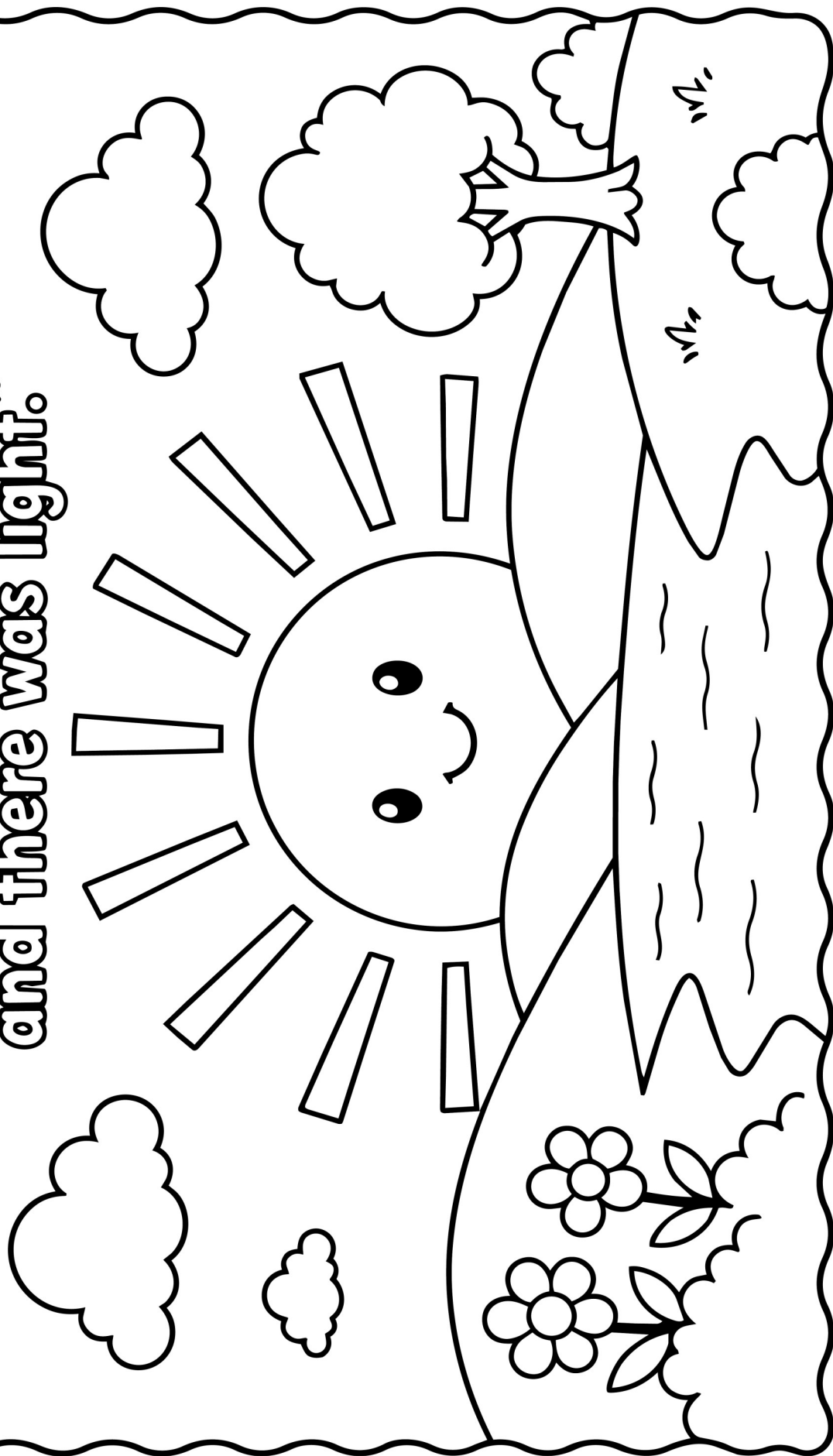
Pray for
something you
need help with.

Praise God
for what He has
done or made.

Pray to God
for forgiveness.

Genesis 1:3 (ESV)

“And God said, ‘Let there be light,’
and there was light.”





1st Laurie Haverfield
2nd Mark Houck
2nd Diana Cary
4th Debbie Williams
6th Ryan Patenaude
8th Nick Boczek
9th Dave Meyer
11th Zeke Hall
11th Bill Kishel
13th Harold Windbigler
15th Jill Money Penny
17th Greg Leitch

19th Amy Voigt
21st Krista Baker
22nd Mary Voigt
24th Shelly Pluta

25th Dorothy Kavanaugh
26th Tim Householder
27th Patty Bond
27th Kym Sherman
29th Doug Hertlein
31st Bob Davis



7th Jeff and Shelly Pluta
9th Bob and Anita Davis
16th Pastor David and Mary Barnhart
22nd Tim and Shari Householder
25th Sean and Nicole Hierl
26th Randy and Jeanne Sherman