Peace Free Lutheran Church

November 2026 Newsletter



The Veterans Day Tribute - Joanna Fuchs

When America had an urgent need,
These brave ones raised a hand;
No hesitation held them back;
They were proud to take a stand.

They left their friends and family;
They gave up normal life;
To serve their country and their God,
They plowed into the strife.

Other veterans answered a call
To support the ones who fought;
Their country had requirements for
The essential skills they brought.

They fought for freedom and for peace
On strange and foreign shores;
Some lost new friends; some lost their lives
In long and brutal wars.

We salute each and every one of them,
The noble and the brave,
The ones still with us here today,
And those who rest in a grave.





So here's to our country's heroes;
They're a cut above the rest;
Let's give the honor that is due
To our country's very best.

Thanksgiving Eve Service and Pie Social



President George Washington, in 1779, during his first year as president, declared a National Day of Thanksgiving. It was to be a ***"Day devoted to God, Giver of all the good that was, that is, and that is to come."***

We will be celebrating Thanksgiving together with a Thanksgiving Eve service on Wednesday, November 25th at 7:00 pm. Following the service there will be a pie social in the PCC so bring your favorite pie or topping to share!



We will be decorating the Sanctuary and the PCC for Christmas on Sunday November 29th, after the 10:30am service. A lunch of soup and sandwiches will be provided. Come join us in getting ready for a beautiful and blessed season.



Canal Winchester Adopt-A-Family program coming soon!

We will be participating in the Canal Winchester Human Services Christmas Adopt-A-Family program again this year. The gift information/tags will be ready by mid-November. Stay tuned for more details in upcoming bulletin announcements!



Pastor Steven Carlson

The Great Hall of Faith

"Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen … And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him. … All these died in faith, without receiving the promises, but having seen them and having welcomed them from a distance, and having confessed that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. … But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore, God is not ashamed to be called their God; for He has prepared a city for them. … And all these [saints], having gained approval through their faith, did not receive what was promised, because God had provided something better for us, so that apart from us they would not be made perfect." - Hebrews 11:1,13,16,39,40

Hebrews 11 is an incredible chapter in the Bible! It is often called ***"The Great Hall of Faith"*** because it is the chapter in which so many followers of God are listed by name, and they are introduced in this way: ***"By faith Abel, … by faith Enoch, … by faith Noah, … by faith Abraham, … by faith Sarah, … by faith Isaac, … by faith Jacob, … by faith Joseph, … by faith Moses, … by faith Rahab, … by faith Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel, …."***
They are each introduced as people who lived "by faith." Faith is the key! Faith lays hold of what is not seen. Faith pleases God. Faith will be rewarded. Faith sees beyond this world and lays hold of heaven. Faith continues to be lived out faithfully, even when what is promised is not experienced in this world but waits for the next.

This ***"Great Hall of Faith"*** contains some people who we might have expected, but also others might surprise us. Noah got drunk. Abraham and Sarah doubted. Isaac was deceived. Jacob lied and cheated. Joseph bragged. Moses murdered a man, and argued with God. Rahab had been a harlot. Gideon was afraid. Barak passed the buck. Samson struggled mightily with lust and temper tantrums and lived a selfish life, until as a blinded prisoner he turned to God with a whole heart. Jephthah sacrificed his daughter through a rash and ungodly vow. David committed adultery and murdered a man. Samuel was a good prophet but a lousy father. Every one of these "saints" of God had their dark spots. They were all saved by grace alone, through faith alone, by the promise of God alone! (They were all Lutherans!) They were all brought to the place of seeing their spiritual brokenness and absolute need for salvation through the Savior!
The Good News is, God can save anyone!

The author of Hebrews is like a preacher who runs out of time but still has most of his message left! In verse 32 he writes "And what more shall I say? For time will fail me if I tell of …" Here he realizes that he has over 1,000 years of Biblical history to go through in which he was going to list the names and talk about the saints of God! So, he starts just throwing out names and naming events without context, but his readers would have known each of these, and each one is precious in the eyes of the Lord. The Lord knows all His saints and is with them in every trial and time of suffering.

Notice that many of these saints suffered greatly for their faith. Abel is the first one named, and he was murdered by his brother for offering a sacrifice to God in faith. Some of these saints saw mighty miracles done for them, but others experienced great suffering and martyrdom. Some were "delivered from lions" (v.33) while others "were scourged, chained, imprisoned, even stoned, and sawn in two" (v.36,37). Others were "put to the sword, afflicted, wandered in deserts, caves, and holes in the ground." (v.37,38) The author sums it up saying these saints were people "of whom the world was not worthy." (v.38) They looked like fools to this world, but this world was not their home, they were just passing through as they journeyed to a heavenly city, the city of God. (v.16) *(continued on next page)*

They recognized that they were not "receiving the promises" of God in their fulness in this life, but through faith they "saw them and welcomed them from a distance." While here on earth, they looked into the spiritual realm and saw heaven! They did not give up or give in. They held steadfast through faith and lived for the Lord.

I am looking forward to singing *"For all the Saints"* as we begin the worship services this Sunday! We celebrate that we are made to be the saints of God by the righteousness of Christ! I am so glad that we have a congregation that is mindful of the saints who have gone before us and who are alive with the Lord right now. As we come to the altar rail for Holy Communion, we also are reminded that on the "other side of the veil" we are joined by those saints as they celebrate the Presence of the Lamb in glory. In Holy Communion, we receive Christ's Real Presence which is "veiled" in the bread and wine; but in heaven the saints of God are in the "unveiled" Presence of Christ at the Feast of the Lamb.

"For all the saints who from their labors rest, who Thee by faith before the world confessed, Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!

O blest communion, fellowship divine, we feebly struggle, they in glory shine; yet all are one in Thee, for all are Thine. Alleluia! Alleluia!

On All Saints Sunday, we remember that we are in good company! We also are saved by Grace Alone, through Faith Alone, by the Sacrifice of Christ Alone, according to the Promises of God in Scripture Alone, and we live for the Glory of God Alone. We are God's holy ones, His precious saints, and by faith we believe in Him and in His promises and we look forward to the Day of the Lord when "our faith shall be sight" and we live forever with our Savior in the New Jerusalem of the New Heavens and New Earth.

Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!
Pastor Carlson

"Divine Liturgy" - What Does This Mean?

Over the past couple years, I have commented from time to time about what "Divine Liturgy" means. Our Worship Committee has talked about it. I included an aside about it, in the sermon last Sunday as well. Usually when we think of the Sunday "worship service" we think exclusively about what "we do" to worship God. And yes, we are certainly worshipping God and "giving God His 'worth.'" But really, as the Lutheran church has always been careful to emphasize, the worship service is a service of "Divine Liturgy." What does this mean? "Divine" is obvious enough; it refers to God. The word "liturgy" means "work" or "service." "Divine Liturgy" means that at this service "God at work" and He is doing us a service by working in our lives through the Word and the Sacraments. To remind us of this important truth, we have included in our bulletin the phrase: ***"Divine Liturgy of the Word and Sacrament."***

New AFLC publication available in the PCC library

The newly published book: ***"The Confessions and Rules for Work of the AFLC"*** is available in our church library. The AFLC recently published it, and a copy was given to our church. It is a handsome volume and only around 100 pages. It contains a brief History of the AFLC and its Declarations of Faith, along with the three Ecumenical Creeds of the Christian church, Martin Luther's Small Catechism, the Unaltered Augsburg Confession which lays out the doctrinal positions of the Lutheran church, the Fundamental Principles of the AFLC, and the Rules for Work which guide the AFLC church body. I recommend that you check it out for an informative read regarding our national church denomination. - Pastor Carlson

International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church is November 1st

At Peace, this is not just a "one day a year event" for us. We pray continuously for our brothers and sisters in Christ who are suffering around the world. Just last weekend, while we were safely worshiping, over 60 Christians were killed for their faith in Ethiopia. We have grown accustomed (unfortunately) to hearing this kind of news from Nigeria on a weekly basis, but now it has spread to Ethiopia and other African nations as well. Christians throughout the entire continent are endangered as Islam advances with violence.

I love the quote from Theodore Beza, one of the Reformers in the 1500's – **"It is not for the church to inflict blows, but to suffer them. However, the church is the anvil that has worn out many hammers."**

"Remember the prisoners, as though in prison with them, and those who are ill-treated, since you yourselves also are in the body [of Christ, the church]." – Hebrews 13:3

I am so thankful that our congregation loves our brothers and sisters in Christ who are suffering for the faith!
- Pastor Carlson

Winter Applesauce Cake



Ingredients

- 1 package of yellow cake mix
- 1½ cups unsweetened applesauce
- 3 large eggs (room temperature)
- 1/4 cup vegetable oil
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1 tbsp ground cinnamon
- 3 tbsp melted unsalted butter

Frosting

- 2½ cups powdered sugar
- 1/2 cup unsalted butter, slightly melted
- 1/3 cup brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 350°F. Spray a 9x13-inch baking pan with nonstick spray. Set aside.

2. In a large bowl, using a whisk, beat the cake mix, unsweetened applesauce, eggs, and vegetable oil together until well mixed, about 2 minutes.

3. Pour the cake batter into the prepared baking pan. Set aside.

4. In a separate small bowl, stir the brown sugar, ground cinnamon, and melted butter together until well mixed.

5. Use a spoon to place small scoops of this brown sugar mixture evenly around the top of the cake.

6. Use a table knife to swirl this brown sugar mixture into the cake batter until it looks well combined.

7. Place cake in oven and bake for 26-27 minutes, or until a toothpick inserted in middle comes out clean. The top of the cake should look lightly brown.

8. Let cake cool completely before frosting.



For the Cinnamon Brown Sugar Frosting:

1. In a large bowl, using a hand mixer, beat (on high) the powdered sugar, butter, brown sugar, vanilla extract, and ground cinnamon together until light and fluffy, about 5 minutes.

2. Use a spatula to evenly coat top of cake with frosting. Garnish with chopped walnuts if desired.

3. Slice cake and serve. Enjoy!

FROM THE COUNCIL

1. Pastor reported that several people are interested in a new member class. It would seem that the Sunday School hour would be the best time but he needs to finish up the adult class. He will be teaching Confirmation on Nov.29th. The PDHC sponsored *Pastor & Spouse Life Breakfast* went well and was a wonderful outreach. Pastor is in the process of filling out the Board Member application for LifeWise Ministry, which is in Canal Winchester this year. Jo Binkley has stepped down as chair of the Worship Committee but will be staying on as a committee member. Debbie Chotkevys has offered to help arrange musicians and vocalists for Advent and Christmas. The Living Nativity continues to come together. Pray that it is added as a "trolly stop" by the *Christmas in the Village* planners. After more thought concerning hiring an intern, Pastor floated the idea of a Parish Worker instead (like the role Ryan Patenaude filled).

2. The Parish Life chairperson reported that the Chili/cornbread cookoff went great! We had 14 crock pots of chili to taste and enjoy along with many cornbreads. Upcoming events include a pie social following the Thanksgiving Eve Service on November 25th, a soup/sandwich lunch on November 29th for those volunteering to decorate the church/PCC for Christmas, and the annual Christmas Party/White Elephant exchange on December 12th at 3pm.

3. The Property chairperson reported that a new (donated) washer/dryer was picked up and installed in the parsonage, and the shut-offs were replaced. In addition, a new mattress cover, sheets, and pillows were provided for the master bedroom. We had Waterworks come to snake an outside church drain. Also, some cracks in the church parking lot were sealed, and the windows on the back of the church were painted.

4. The Finance chairperson reported that our expenditure was more than our income in September. We had a few large maintenance items that came up (drains, etc). The Rase Scholarship fund is doing well, and our bank account with CDs is about $283K.

5. The Social Concerns chairperson reported that the PDHC Lancaster Gala was a great success, as was the Pastor & Spouse Life Breakfast the next morning here at the PCC. She contacted CW Human Services to convey our interest in participating in the Adopt-A-Family program and to request a list of 4 children. We have volunteers for Foundation Dinners up through the end of the year and have started filling spots for next year. The Samaritans Purse deadline for shoebox returns is November 8th.

6. The Stewardship chairperson reported that of the missions interest money, we sent $700 to Samaritan's Purse for Ohio Flooding. We gave $100 to Feed My Sheep for Telma's house out of the Miscellaneous funds (given to the Lantiguas during their visit to Canal Winchester). Our meetings were moved to Thursdays going forward.

7. The Evangelism chairperson reported that they are busy with preparations for the Living Nativity on Dec 4 &5. They are working on scripts, costumes, signage, sound system issues, sets, and advertising. The team requested $500 in additional funds to augment our budget.

November lectors

November 1
8:00am—Shari Householder
10:30am—Stephanie Fox

November 8
8:00am—Jill Moneypenny
10:30am—Diana Cary

November 15
8:00am—Winnie Minor
10:30am—Stephanie Fox

November 22
8:00am—Mary Pabst
10:30am—Debbie Williams

November 29
8:00am—Bill Minor
10:30am—Jeremy Hess

Church FINANCES

Peace Free Lutheran Church Financials Through September 2026

General Fund Income: $204,638
General Fund Expenditures: $212,058

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



We had a great turnout for the chili cook-off! There were 14 crock pots of chili and 10 pans of various types of cornbreads/ muffins to taste and enjoy. There were also a lot of delicious desserts that were not judged, but definitely enjoyed. Many thanks to Tina Jones and the Parish Life team, the judges, and all who helped to make this a success!

Chili winners

1. Sarah Stearns
2. Tyler Richardson
3. Andy/Leslie Hall

Cornbread winners

1. Barb Jauert
2. Pat DeWitt
3. Denise Clark














Bill Minor


FIRST AID KIT
INSIDE










COOK-OFF











Christmas Cards! If you would like to participate in the Peace Christmas card exchange this year, there will be a box in the back of the sanctuary at the end of the month where you can drop off your cards. The last day for drop-off is Sunday, December 13th, but please try to get them in as early as you can. Cards will be placed in manila envelopes with the names of the recipients on the front. You can collect your cards following the services on December 20th. NOTE: If sending cards to those no longer attending church, please drop them off at the post office.





Introducing the Peace Free Lutheran Living Nativity!

Imagine the front lawn of the PCC transformed into a Bethlehem village square, where visitors will step back in time to find soldiers, townspeople, live animals, and a newborn baby with his parents in a humble stable. Guided by the innkeeper and his wife, guests will discover the true meaning of this miraculous night. This is what you will find on the evenings of December 4th and 5th!

Canal Winchester's *Christmas in the Village* event will take place that Friday and Saturday from 5:00pm - 9:00pm. Our Peace Living Nativity will be presented from 6:00pm - 8:00pm. Visitors will also be invited into the PCC to warm up with cookies and drinks, and children can do a craft with the message of Jesus' birth.

If you would like to help out with these activities, please contact Michelle Staffan or Shane Clark. If you would like to donate monetarily, please add “Living Nativity” to your check memo, or if giving online, make that same notation.















Adult Patriotic Painting Class 2026

Who knew we had such talent here? Many thanks to Pam White for planning, setting up, and teaching the adult painting class. It was an afternoon of fun and creativity!



Constitution Class coming in the new year!

DiAnn and Richard Cole have offered to teach a Constitution class here at Peace, as a follow up to our Sunday School series on "America's Christian Heritage" this past summer. Today, most people know that we have a national constitution, but few have ever read it. The U.S. Constitution is the oldest and most excellent constitution in the history of the entire world. We are extraordinarily blessed to live in our nation! If you would be interested in this class, please email or call the church office.

Don't Forget Your Shoeboxes!

Operation Christmas Child shoebox collection is underway! The Samaritan's Purse project provides a way to bless children in need across the world by filling shoeboxes with toys, hygiene items, school supplies, and fun gifts.. Shoeboxes and labels with packing instructions are located under the tables in the back of the sanctuary. Please bring your packed shoeboxes back and put them in the designated area at the back of the church no later than Sunday, November 8th. You can go to https://samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/pack-a-shoebox/ for more information and ideas on what to pack in your shoebox. In addition, this year we are introducing a way for our church members to "build" their shoeboxs online. Please go to https://build-a-shoebox.samaritanspurse.org/goal/view/bc707db3-544e-43a3-ad9a-cafbdf344e5e to check it out!

November Acolyte Schedule

First Service (8:00 a.m.)

November 1	Fred Voigt
November 8	Makenna Cassidy
November 15	Micah Haverfield
November 22	Laurie Haverfield
November 29	Andy Young

Second service (10:30 a.m.)

Eli Hess and Becky Mosher-Wheeler will alternate



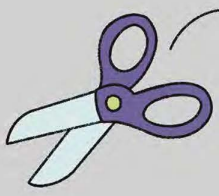
November "Bible In One Year" Reading Schedule

11/01/26	2 Sam. 19-20	2 John 1	**11/16/26**	1 Chron. 16-18	
11/02/26	2 Sam. 21-22	3 John 1	**11/17/26**	1 Chron. 19-21	Luke 2
11/03/26	2 Sam. 23-24	Col. 1	**11/18/26**	1 Chron. 22-24	Luke 3
11/04/26	Nahum 1-3	Col. 2	**11/19/26**	1 Chron. 25-27	
11/05/26	Habakkuk 1-3	Col. 3	**11/20/26**	1 Chron. 28-29	Luke 4
11/06/26	Zeph. 1-3	Col. 4	**11/21/26**	2 Chron. 1-3	Luke 5
11/07/26	Ezra 1-2	2 Tim. 1	**11/22/26**	2 Chron. 4-6	
11/08/26	Ezra 3-5	2 Tim. 2	**11/23/26**	2 Chron. 7-9	
11/09/26	Ezra 6-8	2 Tim. 3	**11/24/26**	2 Chron. 10-12	Luke 6
11/10/26	Ezra 9-10	2 Tim. 4	**11/25/26**	2 Chron. 13-14	
11/11/26	1 Chron. 1-3	Jude 1	**11/26/26**	2 Chron. 15-16	Luke 7
11/12/26	1 Chron. 4-6		**11/27/26**	2 Chron. 17-18	
11/13/26	1 Chron. 7-9		**11/28/26**	2 Chron. 19-20	Luke 8
11/14/26	1 Chron. 10-13		**11/29/26**	2 Chron. 21-22	Luke 9
11/15/26	1 Chron. 14-15	Luke 1	**11/30/26**	2 Chron. 23-24	

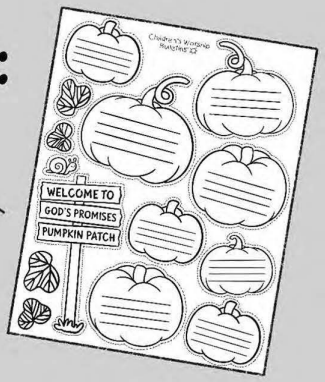
Children's Worship Bulletins™

God's Promises Pumpkin Patch

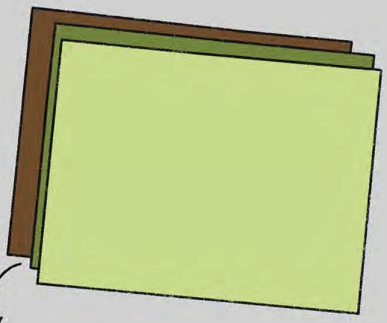
What you need:



scissors

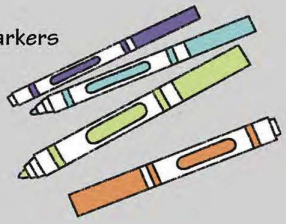


pumpkin patch page



green or brown construction paper

crayons or markers





glue

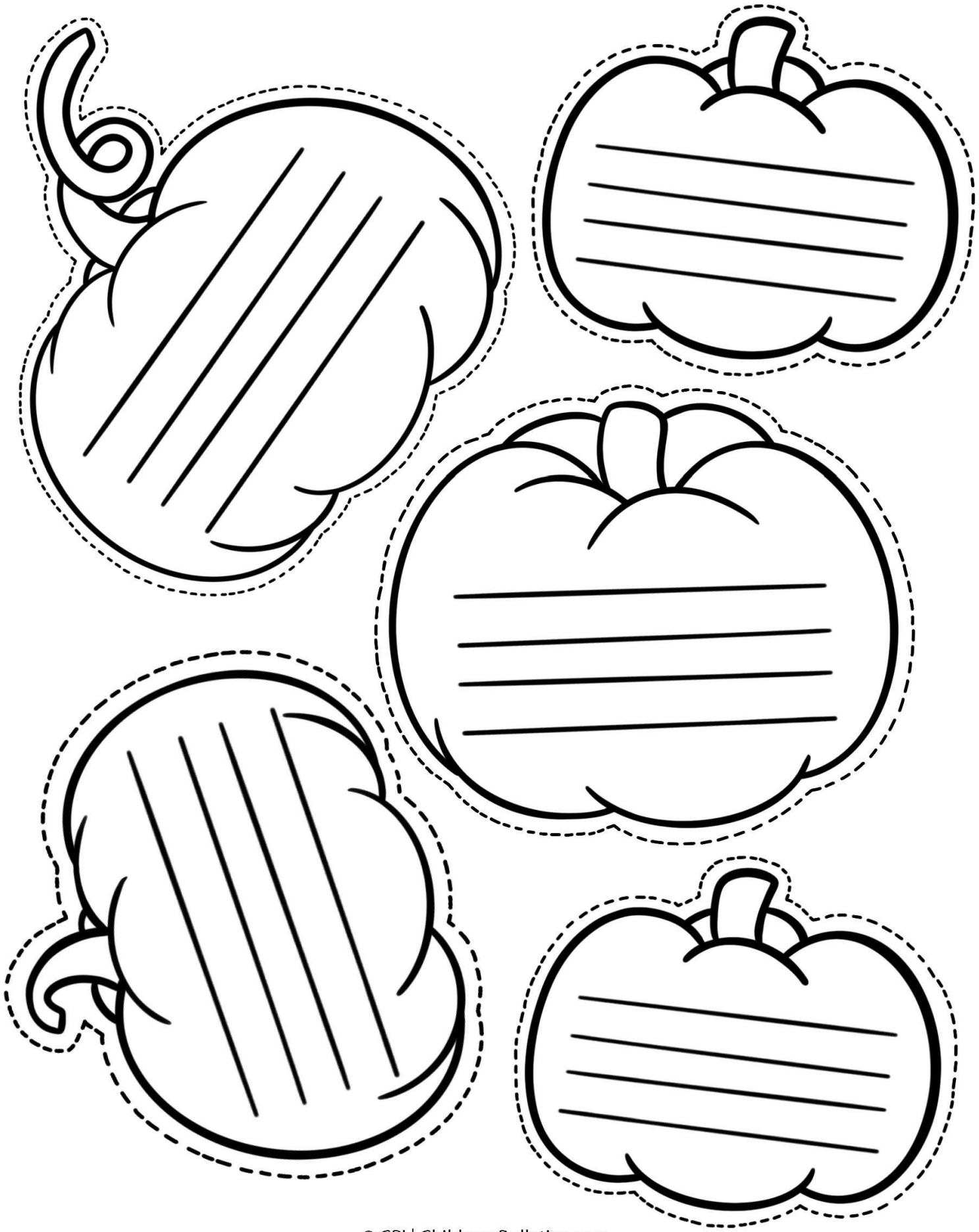
What to do:

1) write a promise from God on each pumpkin
2) color your pumpkin patch page
3) cut and glue on pumpkins, leaves, snail and sign
4) optional - decorate with vines, birds or anything you'd like

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November 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Worship services ***8:00am & 10:30am*** Sunday School ***9:15am*** Haverfield Home Bible Study ***6:00pm***	**2** Leitch Home Bible Study ***7pm***	**3** Women's Daytime Bible Stdy - Lunch at Senior Center-***11:30am*** Bible Study in PCC-***1:00pm***	**4** Helping Hands Meeting ***6pm*** Prayer Meeting ***7:00pm***	**5**	**6** Kids Bible/Craft Class ***4:30pm***	**7**
8 Worship services ***8:00am & 10:30am*** Sunday School ***9:15am*** Jauert Home Bible Study ***6:30pm***	**9**	**10** Women's Daytime Bible Stdy - Lunch at Senior Center-***11:30am*** Bible Study in PCC-***1:00pm*** Women's Evening Bible Stdy ***6:30pm***	**11** Prayer Meeting ***7:00pm*** ***Veterans Day*** 	**12**	**13** Kids Bible/Craft Class ***4:30pm***	**14** Men's Breakfast and Bible Study ***8:00am*** Deacons Mtg ***10am***
15 Worship Svcs ***8am&10:30am;*** Sunday School ***9:15am*** Parish Life Mtg ***11:45am***	**16**	**17** Women's Daytime Bible Stdy - Lunch at Senior Center-***11:30am*** Bible Study in PCC-***1:00pm*** Council Meeting ***7pm***	**18** Prayer Meeting ***7:00pm***	**19** Stewardship Meeting ***2pm***	**20** Kids Bible/Craft Class ***4:30pm***	**21** Living Nativity Rehearsal ***9am***
22 Worship Svcs ***8am&10:30am;*** Sunday School ***9:15am***	**23** Newsletter Submissions Due	**24** Women's Daytime Bible Stdy - Lunch at Senior Center-***11:30am*** Bible Study in PCC-***1:00pm*** Women's Evening Bible Stdy ***6:30pm***	**25** Thanksgiving Eve Service ***7pm***	**26**  ***Office Closed***	**27** ***Office Closed***	**28** Men's Breakfast and Bible Study ***8:00am*** Living Nativity Rehearsal ***9am***
29 Worship Svcs ***8am&10:30am;*** Sunday School ***9:15am*** Decorate for Christmas ***12pm***	**30**					



Peace Free Lutheran Church

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NOVEMBER Birthdays

1st Rachel Vancil
1st Thor Patenaude
1st Duane Root
5th Colin Cassidy
8th Hayden Grey
9th Marilyn Thoreson
12th Hatty Noland
15th Stephanie Fox
16th Shari Householder
17th Lee Pinkerton
19th David Richardson
23rd Pastor David Barnhart
25th Andrew Hess
27th Janelle Arden
27th Janene Addonizio
30th Tom Bartholomew



NOVEMBER Anniversaries

2nd Sean and Jill Moneypenny
5th Jim and Janene Addonizio
27th Brian and Rose McKinley
29th Doug and Lori Hertlein

