
November
NEWSLETTER
Maquoketa
First United Methodist Church
1019 Wesley Drive | Maquoketa, Iowa 52060
(563) 652-4420 | www.maquoketa1stumc.com
Rev. J. Cephas Z. K. Davis
Senior Pastor
Maquoketa First United Methodist
HOLY BIBLE



ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Classes with Steve Schmudde & Jo Johnson are held on Sundays at 10:30 am in the memorial room.
Classes with Steve Kahler and Colleen Petaros are held on Sundays at 10:30 am in the library.

PRAYER GROUP

Pastoral Care Need If you have a pastoral care need, please contact Pastor Cephas Davis - 903.714.9974 or Colleen Petaros – 563.321.0450

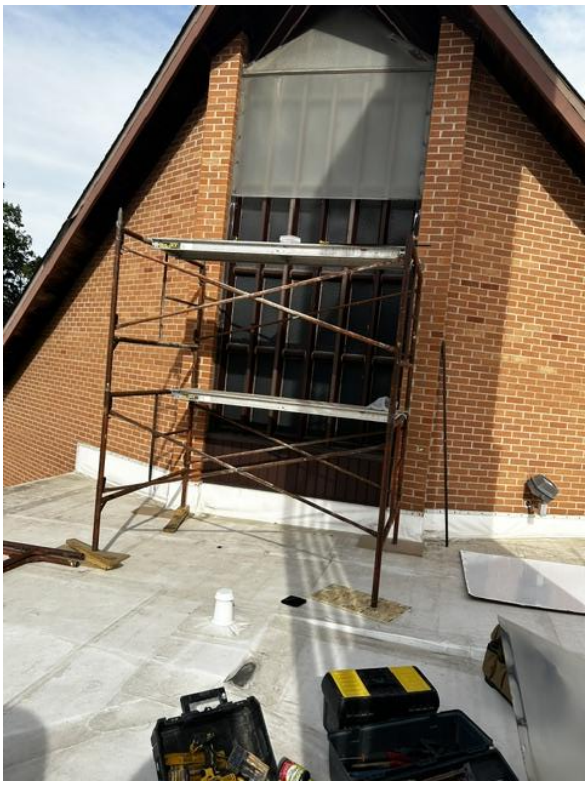
YOUTH GROUP

Youth Group started back up last month for those in 2nd-12th grade! There is a light supper served at 5pm with Youth Group following from 5:30-7pm. Pick up will be at 7pm at Fellowship Hall.
In October we helped hand out the treat bags for the Trunk or Treat event held at the YMCA.





The weather is telling us time to finish up the outdoor projects before it is too late. The parsonage was inspected and two areas were found that will need to be addressed. Two spots on the ceiling showed signs of moisture damage. When looking for a possible cause it was noted that the roof is in need of replacement and we agreed that it will need replacing sooner than later. The trustees are looking into the cost involved as well as what our options are. Lately we've noticed some new faces in church and realize many of these people are looking for a church to attend. First impressions are often lasting impressions so the Trustees are making some" first impression" improvements. The outside hand rail on the east side of the church by the kitchen has been scraped and painted. New signage is being arranged to welcome worshipers. And the poly carbonate panels have been replaced above the entry way of the sanctuary. The old panels were not only weathered and yellowed but they had become brittle .To make these projects possible the work was done in house when possible using the time and talents of volunteers. We still have projects we're working on and with your continued support we will be ready for winter.







WIC

The government Women, Infants and Children (WIC) clinic takes place in our church the first Wednesday and Thursday of each month. Our church supplements the assistance WIC provides for families with 12 diapers, a package of wipes, a book, and the clothing we have available. Another important part of our ministry is visiting with the families who come to WIC and making them feel welcome in our church.
The next WIC sessions are **Wednesday, November 4th** and **Thursday, November 5th** from 9a – 3p**.**
Colder weather is approaching so any jackets and coats (up to 6T) would be welcomed as well.
If you would like to be a part of this ministry, you could also become part of our team!
Team members: Holly Parmer, Rachel Parmer, Becky James, Sarah Hogan, Linda Stewart, Lana Flagel and Ann Otteman.

PLARN MATS

Maquoketa, DeWitt, Camanche, and Delmar all help in the making of the plarn mats created out of your recycled plastic bags. We are currently working on mat number 10!
We meet on Mondays to work on these mats. If you would like to join us or donate your clean plastic shopping bags, reach out to the office or to Holly Parmer.

UNITED WOMEN in FAITH

Who we are: We're a sisterhood acting in faith to tackle the hard work of the world without hesitation.
Our Mission: We seek to connect and nurture women through Christian spiritual formation,
leadership development, creative fellowship and education so that they can inspire, influence and impact local and global communities.
At our meeting in September, we made 500 snack bags for the upcoming Trunk or Treat. The Youth Group added some ramen noodles to our goodie bags as well. We plan to hand out those Truck or Treat bags on October 30th at the YMCA. We can't wait to see how many of you can scare us with your ghoulish costumes!

We continue to collect pop tabs for The Ronald McDonald House. There are collection boxes in the narthex and outside the serving window by the kitchen.



As we approach the final quarter of the year, we want to share an update on the financial health of our church and invite everyone to be part of the solution.
Throughout the first nine months of the year, our expenses have remained steady. Unfortunately, our income has declined and has not kept pace with those expenses. As of September 30, our General Fund is facing a deficit of approximately $6,400.
We are grateful for the generosity of our congregation and for the many ways you support our church's ministries and special projects throughout the year, including Fifth Sunday offerings, Women at the Well, apportionments, the Community Cupboard, and other important initiatives. Your generosity makes a meaningful difference in the lives of so many.
At the same time, it is important to remember that the General Fund is the foundation that keeps our church operating day to day. It helps cover the essential expenses that allow us to maintain our church and support its ministries.
If you made a financial pledge for 2026, we encourage you to prayfully review your giving and consider fulfilling your pledge by December 31. If you do not make a formal pledge, please take a moment to reflect on what you may be able to contribute toward the ongoing needs of our church. Every gift matters.
One opportunity to support the General Fund is our Harvest Dinner and Silent Auction on November 14! The proceeds from this event will go directly toward helping reduce our General Fund deficit. We recognize that $6,400 is a significant shortfall, and we know that closing this gap will take a shared effort.
Together, through prayer, generosity, and a shared commitment to our church's mission, we can strengthen our financial foundation and ensure that our church continues to thrive.

With gratitude and faith,
The Finance Committee



The Fall Gather Together Dinner is coming up on November 14th. We are in need of volunteers to help serve, clean up and make some yummy desserts and donate food. Please sign up in the narthex or reach out to the church office.





November 2026

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;
His love endures forever.
Psalm 107:1

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 **10:30 AM** **Bible Study** with Steve & Jo (Memorial Room) **10:30 AM** **Bible Study** with Steve & Colleen (Library)	**2**	**3**	**4** **WIC** 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM **W.O.W.** 5:00 – 7:00 PM	**5** **WIC** 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM	**6**	**7**
8 **10:30 AM** **Bible Study** with Steve & Jo (Memorial Room) **10:30 AM** **Bible Study** with Steve & Colleen (Library)	**9**	**10**	**11** **Caregiver Support** 1:30 PM **Worship Meeting** 4:00 PM **W.O.W.** 5:00 – 7:00 PM **Trustees Meeting** 6:00 PM	**12**	**13** **Women's Club** 1:30 PM	**14** **Fall Gather Together Dinner** **4:00 – 7:00 PM**
15 **10:30 AM** **Bible Study** with Steve & Jo (Memorial Room) **10:30 AM** **Bible Study** with Steve & Colleen (Library)	**16**	**17**	**18** **Circuit Meeting** 9:00 AM **W.O.W.** 5:00 – 7:00 PM	**19** **Care Team Meeting** 4:00 PM	**20**	**21**
22 **10:30 AM** **Bible Study** with Steve & Jo (Memorial Room) **10:30 AM** **Bible Study** with Steve & Colleen (Library)	**23**	**24** **Finance Meeting** 5:30 PM **Church Council** 6:00 PM	**25**	**26** *Happy Thanksgiving!*	**27**	**28**
29 **10:30 AM** **Bible Study** with Steve & Jo (Memorial Room) **10:30 AM** **Bible Study** with Steve & Colleen (Library)	**30**					

In every season
we have something
to be thankful for.

November
BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Celebrating God's Blessings in Our Church Family

Birthdays

Nov. 2	Randy Robinson
Nov. 4	Tom Messerli Audi Schwenn
Nov. 6	Alysa Davis Julianna Kuepker
Nov. 7	Barbara Mayberry Jan Kahler Stephanie Lippins
Nov. 9	Tom Petaros
Nov. 13	Geoff Dammann
Nov. 14	Isla Driscoll
Nov. 16	Kevin Davis Danielle Lippens
Nov. 20	Ruth Sheets Dede Dammann
Nov. 22	Dawn Strait-Carstensen
Nov. 23	Lennon Miller
Nov. 25	Gary Willimack
Nov. 27	Savanna Riehle

Anniversaries

Nov. 19 Randy Robinson & Sara Hogan

Give Thanks

for each of you and the many ways you bless our church family.



Radio Sponsors in November

November 1st Don & Connie Patridge
November 8th United Women in Faith
November 15th Bob & Ruth Sheets
November 22nd Don & Connie Patridge
Novmber 29th Don & Connie Patridge

If you wish to sponsor a Sunday broadcast ($28.00), please ccall the office at (563) 652-4420 to sign up. Thank you for considering this opportunity to help spread the word of our faith!

Listen to our Sunday broadcast every week on KMAQ 95.1 FM @ 10:30 a.m.

Fall Gather Together Dinner

Saturday, November 14th
4:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Menu

Roast Beef & Baked Chicken
Mashed Potatoes & Gravy
(real)
Green Beans
Various Side Salads
Dinner Rolls
Homemade Pies

DINE-IN OR CARRY-OUT

FREE-WILL OFFERING
Suggested $15

SILENT AUCTION



First United Methodist Church
1019 Wesley Drive • Maquoketa, IA 52060

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Invites you to our annual

Christmas TEA

Join us for a time of fellowship, delicious treats, and the true spirit of Christmas.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2026

9:30 AM – 11:00 AM

Coffee & Goodies

11:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Soup, Sandwich & Dessert

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Everyone is welcome!

Free-will offering



ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION

CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP



2nd Wednesday of each month
1:30 P.M.

First United Methodist Church
1019 Wesley Dr. Maquoketa

USE EAST ENTRANCE

Join in person or by Zoom

For more information contact Sally at 563-221-1081 or Sally918@osterhausrx.com

2026 SUPPORT GROUP DATES

JULY 8	AUGUST 12
SEPTEMBER 9	OCTOBER 14
NOVEMBER 11	DECEMBER 9



SCRAP METAL DONATIONS ACCEPTED!



PLACE ITEMS IN THE TRAILER LOCATED AT
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH PARKING LOT
1019 WESLEY DR, MAQUOKETA

METAL ITEMS ACCEPTED



NO TIRES

NO ITEMS CONTAINING FREON

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE TRUSTEES BUILDING FUND.

Thank You FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Turkeys Needed for the COMMUNITY Thanksgiving Dinner



Once again, the churches of the Maquoketa Ministerial Association (MMA) are partnering with the Eagle's Club to provide delicious hot meals for all community members on Thanksgiving Day.

Volunteers are needed to cook and debone one or more turkeys for the annual **Maquoketa Community Thanksgiving Dinner.**

The MMA will provide the turkeys on a date to be announced.

Prepared, fully cooked, deboned (NOT frozen) turkeys should be returned to the Eagle's Club between **8:00 A.M. and noon on Tuesday, November 24.**

If you can help,

please contact the church office at

563-652-4420

or

fumcsecty2@gmail.com

as soon as you are able to do so.



Be on the Lookout

for dates for the

Ring the Bell

Salvation Army Campaign!

Looking Ahead to Advent:

This year the Mission Committee has chosen a project to support the

Jackson County Campaign for Grade Level Reading.

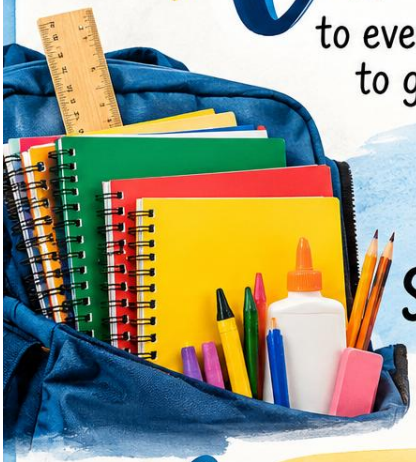
This organization has been a good community partner in our efforts to support the WIC clinic, supplying books for us to give to families. There will be three ways to support this project:



1. **We will again have the little Christmas tree in the narthex.** Stocking ornaments indicating various amounts will be available.
2. **If you'd like to make a donation of an amount not available on the tree, that would be welcome.** That can be put in the festive collection box next to the tree.
3. **You can contribute to the quarter collection.** The Jackson County Campaign for Grade Level Reading is one of the community efforts that will benefit from that fund.

A HUGE Thank You

to everyone who donated to and helped in any way to get the Midwest Mission kits completed.



30 SCHOOL KITS

20 PERSONAL DIGNITY KITS



to send to the Bishop's Ingathering.

May God bless each of you

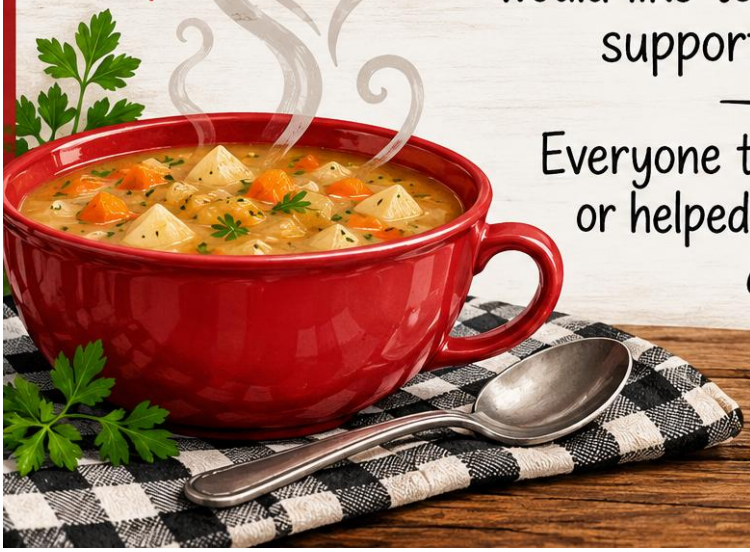
for your generosity and each one who receives one of the kits.

Thank You!

The Preston United Methodist Church

would like to thank everyone for your support of our soup supper.

Everyone that said a prayer, attended or helped in anyway we appreciate and thank you all.



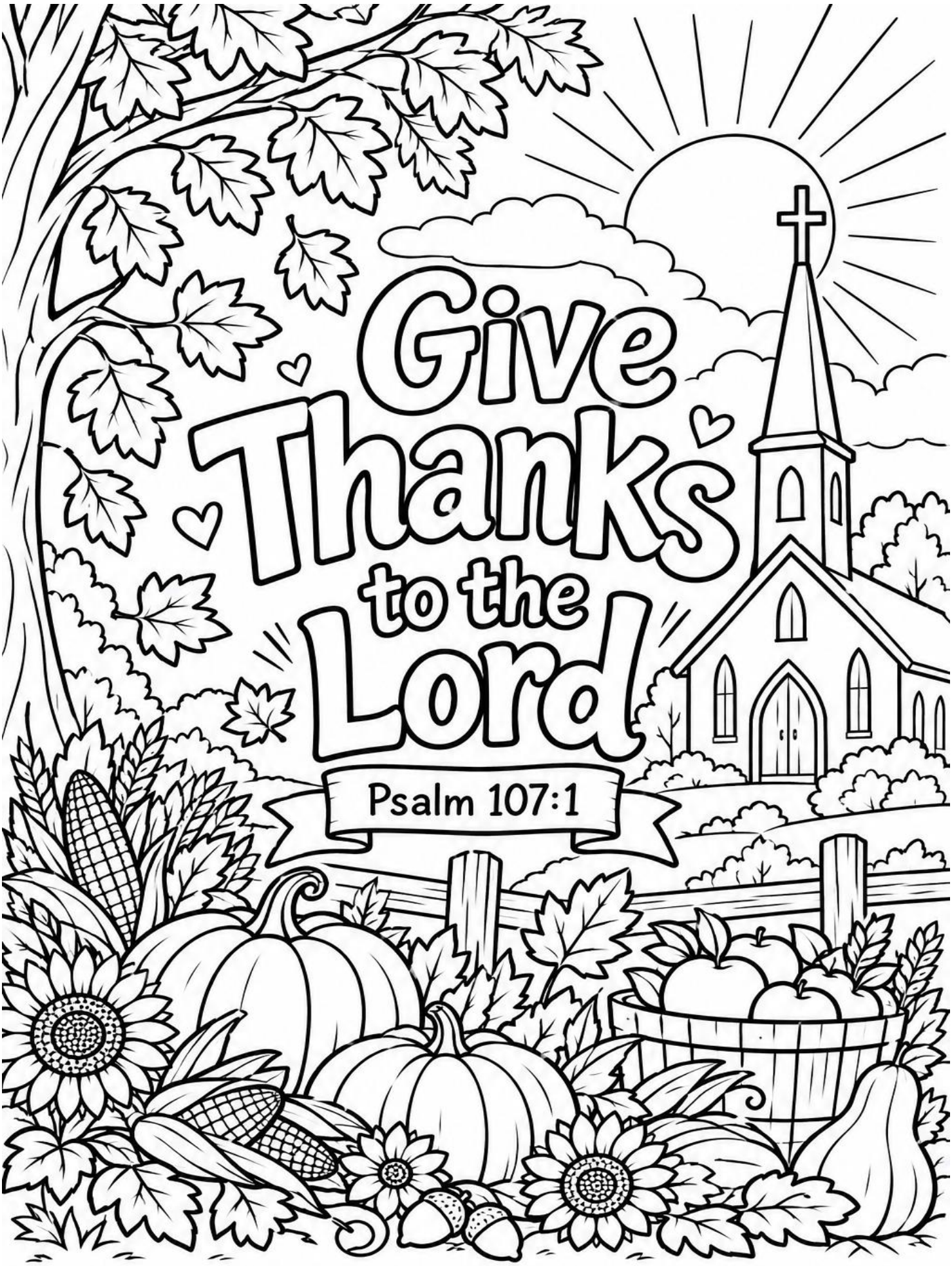
Thank You

to all that attended my birthday celebration!

Your presence, kind words, thoughtful gifts, and well wishes made my day so special. I am truly blessed to have such wonderful family, friends, and loved ones in my life.

With heartfelt gratitude,

Sheila Bentley


Give Thanks to the Lord
Psalm 107:1

Walking in Faith

Inspired by
Hebrews 12:1-12
Philippians 4:4-7
Luke 17:11-19
Isaiah 64:1-9

Find the hidden words below.
Words can be across, down, backward or diagonal.

P	E	R	S	E	V	E	R	A	N	C	E	P	E	A	C	E	T
R	E	J	O	I	C	E	H	O	P	E	T	H	A	N	K	S	W
E	N	D	U	R	A	N	C	E	G	R	A	T	I	T	U	D	E
S	P	R	A	Y	E	R	C	O	M	P	A	S	S	I	O	N	O
E	F	A	I	T	H	L	O	V	E	B	L	E	S	S	I	N	G
V	G	O	D	J	O	Y	G	E	N	T	L	E	N	E	S	S	R
E	P	E	O	P	L	E	H	E	A	L	E	D	T	R	U	S	T
R	C	O	U	R	A	G	E	S	T	R	E	N	G	T	H	W	O
A	T	H	A	N	K	F	U	L	H	U	M	I	L	I	T	Y	C
N	R	I	G	H	T	E	O	U	S	N	E	S	S	L	O	R	E
C	R	E	S	T	O	R	E	C	O	M	F	O	R	T	O	J	R
E	R	U	N	W	I	T	H	P	A	T	I	E	N	C	E	Y	S
T	R	I	A	L	S	D	I	S	C	I	P	L	I	N	E	C	R
G	L	O	R	Y	C	R	E	A	T	O	R	G	R	A	C	E	O
N	E	E	D	S	P	R	A	Y	E	R	S	A	L	V	A	T	I	O	N
C	H	I	L	D	R	E	N	B	L	E	S	S	E	D	P	U	R	E
F	R	E	E	D	O	M	K	I	N	D	N	E	S	S	S	O	U	L
W	A	I	T	L	O	R	D	A	W	A	K	E	P	E	O	P	L	E
H	E	A	R	T	H	O	L	Y	G	O	O	D	N	E	S	S	J	O
R	E	P	E	N	T	M	E	R	C	Y	F	U	T	U	R	E	Y

Word List

AWAKE
BLESSED
BLESSING
COMFORT
COMPASSION
COURAGE
CREATOR
DISCIPLINE
ENDURANCE
FAITH
FREEDOM
GRACE
GOODNESS
GRATITUDE
HEALED
HOPE
HUMILITY
JOY
KINDNESS
LORD
MERCY
NEEDS
PEACE
PEOPLE
PRAYER
REJOICE
REPENT
RIGHTEOUSNESS
RUN
SALVATION
STRENGTH
THANKFUL
TRIALS
TRUST
WAIT

These readings remind us to run with perseverance, rejoice always, be thankful, and trust our loving Creator who hears and restores His people.

