

1823

2023

Edinburg United Church  
200 Years Strong  
&  
Still Growing

# THE OPEN DOOR

Vol. 796 November 2023

From Lisa , Church Moderator

Happy November...In a few weeks we will be celebrating Thanksgiving. Did you know that the first Thanksgiving was held in November of 1621 after the Pilgrims first corn harvest proved successful. The celebratory feast included the Wampanoag Indians. Now, we know the Pilgrims did not know what they were getting into so who taught them to grow corn you ask. It was a Native American by the name of Squanto who was a member of the Pawtuxet tribe who had been kidnapped and sold into slavery. He escaped and made his way back to his homeland and he taught the Pilgrims to cultivate corn extract sap from maple trees, catch fish in the river and avoid poisonous plants. He also helped them forge an alliance with the Wampanoag tribe and they endured more than 50 years of harmony between themselves and Native Americans.

It wasn't until 1863, in the midst of the Civil War, that President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed a national Thanksgiving Day to be held each November.

You all know I love history and I hope you all have enjoyed this tidbit of information. Have a wonderful Blessed November and celebrate Thanksgiving with your loved ones. Mike and I will be headed home to my parents and siblings this Thanksgiving holiday.

Happy Thanksgiving, Lisa

**Psalms 9:1 NIV. I will give thanks to you, LORD, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.**



### **Halloween's Ecclesiastical History**

Traditionally, All Hallows Eve is a vigil for the observance of All Saints Day and All Souls Day, which fall respectively on the first two days of November. The name itself means "holy evening". The night is marked within the Church with prayers, hymns, fasting, and the reading of various scriptures in preparation for the celebration of the faith of the saints and martyrs the following day, November 1.

**All Hallows Eve falls on the 31st of October,** which also happens to be the day for the Protestant celebration of the Reformation. Pope Gregory IV set the date for All Saints Day in the early ninth century.

### **All Hallows Eve and Autumn Celebrations**

Despite the Church's success in establishing a Christian foundation for the autumn celebrations, many of the ancient customs and traditions associated with them were still practiced by the population. The carving of gourds and the wearing of costumes and masks to scare away malevolent spirits are typical of the superstitions carried over from these celebrations into the All Hallows Eve observance.

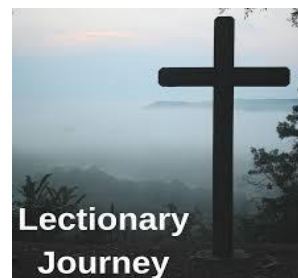
**The custom of "trick-or-treating"** has its origins in a ritual wherein the elders of a village or town would go from house to house and receive offerings of food and gifts for the souls of dead friends and relatives thought to visit on this night. This practice evolved during the Middle Ages, when beggars would travel from village to village and beg for "soul cakes". Villagers would offer prayers along with the cakes to those who had died in the past year for their transition to heaven.

**In her *Cooking for Christ*, Florence Berger** tells of a legend of a zealous cook who vowed she would invent soul cakes to remind them of eternity at every bite. So, she cut a hole in the middle of a cake and dropped it in hot fat, and lo--a doughnut. The Circle suggests the never-ending of eternity. Truth or legend, it serves a good purpose at Halloween.

The refrains sung at the door varied from  
"a soul cake, a soul cake, have mercy on all  
Christian souls for a soul cake,"

to the later:

"Soul, soul, an apple or two,  
If you haven't an apple, a pear will do,  
One for Peter, two for Paul,  
Three for the Man Who made us all."



### **November 5th**

Joshua 3:7-17 and Psalm 107:1-7,33-37  
OR Micah 3:5-12 and Psalm 43  
1 Thessalonians 2:9-13 Matthew 23:1-12

### **November 12<sup>th</sup>**

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25 and Psalm 78:1-7  
OR Wisd of Sol 6:12-16 OR Amos 5:18-24  
AND Wisd of Sol 6:17-20 or Psalm 70  
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 Matthew 25:1-13

### **November 19<sup>th</sup>**

Judg 4:1-7 and Psalm 123 OR Zeph 1:7,12-18  
and Psalm 90:1-12,  
1Thessalonians 5:1-11 Matthew 25:1-14

### **November 26 ~ Reign of Christ Sunday Communion Sunday**

Ezekial 34:11-16, 20-24 and Psalm 100 OR  
Ezekial 34:11-16, 20-24 and Psalm 95:1-7a  
Ephesians 1:15-23 Matthew 25:31-46

### **December 3<sup>rd</sup> HOPE ~ 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent**

Isaiah 64:1-9 Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19  
1 Corinthians 1:3-9 Mark 13:24-37

*We will celebrate All Saints' Day on Sunday, Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> as we remember loved ones who have journeyed to their eternal home.*

We remember the saints and allow the memory of their faith to spur us on to deeper worship and greater service to the Lord. All Saints Day, is a Christian celebration in honor of all the saints from Christian history.



*We Remember Them...*

*In the rising of the sun and in its going down,  
We remember them.*

*When we are weary and in need of strength,  
We remember them.*

*When we are lost and sick at heart,  
We remember them.*

*When we have joys we yearn to share,  
We remember them.*

*So long as we live, they too shall live,  
for they are now a part of us, as  
We remember them.*

*In the blowing of the wind and in the chill of  
winter,  
We remember them.*

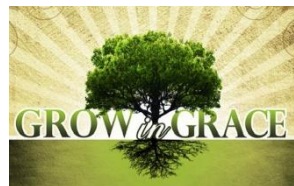
*In the opening of buds and in the rebirth of  
spring,  
We remember them.*

*In the blueness of the sky and in the warmth of  
summer,  
We remember them.*

*In the rustling of leaves and in the beauty of  
autumn,  
We remember them.*

*In the beginning of the year and when it ends,  
We remember them.*

*May your memories be a source of comfort for you  
From the Rabbi's manual, 1988*



*2 Peter 1:5-8*

One year ago, on October 29<sup>th</sup> Baxter and I were driving back to Edinburg; officially moved into the parsonage.

My first unofficial task was bagging apple pies for the freezer, just as Pat instructed, on your last night of pie making !

As Edinburg United Church UCC has been celebrating 200 years of ministry you've been rediscovering things from your past that bring you joy and discovering new directions in ministry. You continue to come up with new ideas to explore as you listen to God's calling. It's exciting to hear your ideas as you express your passions. Your previous committees are growing into new areas of ministry and service in the church and community as you nurture your Spiritual Gifts.

I am very grateful for the dedication of each member of the Transition Team, and your openness and willingness to share as a church family. Your responses will help to shape your vision and mission of who you are and where God is calling you as your Search Committee begins their work.

As we prepare for our work together in 2024 we will continue to explore and discover your ideas, passions and the leading of the Spirit. What makes EUCUCC a Spiritual Home not just another group doing stuff in the community. You have a really special group of youth who have amazing questions and ideas! Be prepared for their growing presence in the life of the church. The up-and-coming salad bar was their idea!

I want to thank you for your open hearts, grace, and patience over this past year as I have navigated this new calling in my service in ministry as an Interim.

Grace&Peace, Pastor Susan, Interim

# Congratulations

Alyanna was baptized Oct. 15, 2023. Many blessing to her!



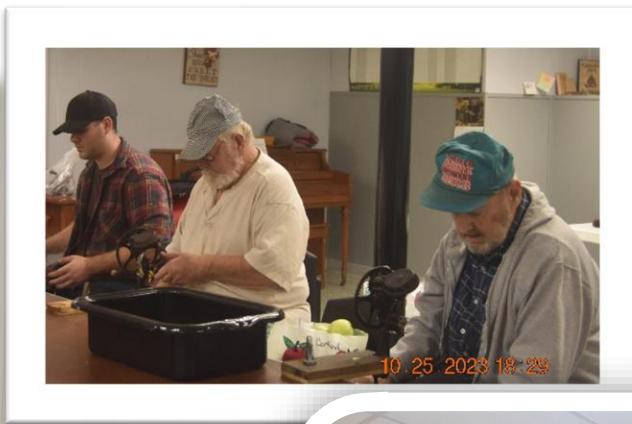
Thank you to all those who donated candy for trunk or treat, we filled over 400 bags!!!  
We had a great time, tons of laughs (thank you Dianne).



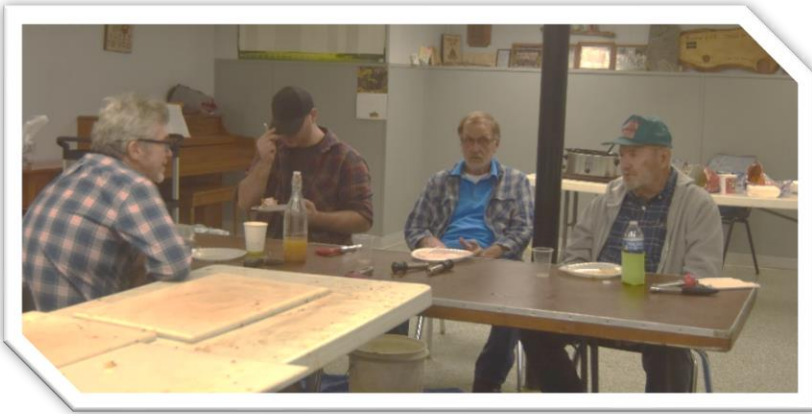
Youth group making shirts!!!



Thank you to everyone that came out to help with apple pies this year!!!



Last night of apple pies for the year. We even had sloppy joes, that were **unbelievable**.





## *The United Church of Christ believes in:*

### *The Authority of Scriptures*

The Bible is the ultimate rule of faith and practice.

### *Doctrinal Freedom*

Different covenants and confessions of faith are accepted in different congregations.

### *Christian Unity*

All Christians are brothers and sisters in Christ and must help each other.

### *The Trinity*

Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit are one God.

### *God*

Acting in love, God is ever active in the world.

### *Jesus Christ*

In Christ, the only head of the church, God has come, conquering sin and reconciling the world to Divine Love.

### *Holy Spirit*

God sent the Holy Spirit as the Eternal One's continuing presence and activity in the world.

### *The Church*

The church consists of a group of people united in Christ through worship, work, and witness.

### *Salvation*

Forgiveness, grace and eternal life are promised to all who have faith.

### *Bearing Witness*

Members must be disciples, in word and in deed ~ the strength of their faith.

### *Redefining Faith*

Each generation is responsible for rethinking its beliefs, as God's word unfolds, and the conditions of life and the world change.

### *Serving Others*

The mission of the church is to work for justice for all and to establish God's rule in the world.



**Food Pantry Needs**



**We will be having Communion  
November 26<sup>th</sup>  
All are Welcome!!!**

**Pastor Susan will be on vacation Nov. 12<sup>th</sup>.  
Rev. Glen Shedlock will be our guest.**



**Don't forget to turn your clocks  
back on November 5<sup>th</sup>!!**

**Sunday Funday (all ages) after  
service until 11:00.**



**We will be having youth group  
November 12<sup>th</sup> starting at 10:00 a.m.  
(after service) in the fellowship hall  
until 11:00. Grades 6<sup>th</sup> thru 12<sup>th</sup>**



**Youth group will be collecting items for  
gifts bags (from Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> to Nov. 26<sup>th</sup>)  
for older members and shut ins. The  
following are some of the items we  
would like donated:  
Hand lotion, lip balm, single serve  
fruit/pudding, large print  
crossword/wordsearch puzzles, gift  
cards, thank you cards, stamps,  
paper/notepads /, Cheese crackers, etc.  
(We will have about 40 people we will  
be passing out bags to.)**

**Here is the scoop on the Sunday Fun Day  
Middle School and up class for the month of  
November.**

**They will be collecting packaged foods for the  
Back Door pantry which serves the Southeast  
school district in the month of November.**

**The pantry is looking for items such as soups,  
macaroni and cheese, rice a roni type pasta /  
rice pouches, peanut butter, jelly, etc.**

**November 19** after church the youth will be  
hosting a salad bar and taking a free will  
offering- again to help the food pantry. We will  
be doing food prep on  
Saturday November 18- details to follow.



**Senior Funday**  
**Wednesday, November 1<sup>st</sup>** from 11:30 to 2:00, Come out and enjoy the fun!!!  
 Bring a dessert or something to share. **All are welcome**



We will be having a movie night on Friday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Popcorn will be provided. Bring your own drinks and chair (or use one of the churches. November 3<sup>rd</sup> movie is "All Dogs Go To Heaven".

### POINSETTIAS



6" pot     \$ 9.00  
 7" pot     \$16.00  
 8" pot     \$20.50  
 10" pot    \$26.00

Red, White, Pink, Marble &  
 Burgundy (limited supply)  
 Jingle Bells (6" pot only)

Orders and money are due by **November 19<sup>th</sup>**  
 Form is on the table or contact the church via email or phone.



Who is ready for **Ham Balls???**!!! Cost is \$20.00  
**Orders are due by Nov. 12<sup>th</sup>**. Order form is on the whiteboard. If you take any orders just put in how many total orders you need.  
 We will be making ham balls on Wednesday, November 29<sup>th</sup> at starting at 6:00 p.m.! All are welcome. Ham balls are 1 ½ lbs meat (6 balls). They come frozen (you need to cook them)

Ingredients: Ham, pork, cracker crumbs, eggs, milk, brown sugar, mustard, and vinegar.



We need people to help decorate the church for Christmas!!!! November 26<sup>th</sup> after church. All help is appreciated!



### *Christmas Party*

December 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.  
 RSVP by on or before **November 12<sup>th</sup>** to Lisa or Cyndi, to attend!! This event is being catered so we can not take anymore forms after this date. If you won't be at church to get the invitation, call the office and Cyndi will make sure you get one.

Liturgist for November are:



Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> Connie McCambridge  
Nov. 12<sup>th</sup> Eva Rowley  
Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> Barb Rohn  
Nov. 26<sup>th</sup> Cindy Jarrett

Cookie queens for November are:



Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> Julia Hayes  
Nov. 12<sup>th</sup> Genny Pavlich  
Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> Julia Hayes  
Nov. 26<sup>th</sup> Brenda Hards

### MINISTRIES OF THE CHURCH

If you would like to do any of the following:

**Liturgist:** see Cindy Jarrett

**Cookies:** Lisa Morehead

**Greeter:** Sabrina Finney

**Bell Ringer:** Cyndi Oblisk

**Offertory:** **Need a contact person** (see Pastor Susan or Cyndi Oblisk)

### Future Council Dates

(2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the Month) 6:30 p.m.

Nov. 9

Dec. 14

**Council members:** Lisa Morehead, Lenny Reiter, Barb Rohn, Audie Morehead, Cyndi Oblisk, Diane Ringer, Jeneen Kubula, Matt Finney, Roger Mansfield & Sabrina Finney

### FINANCE

#### Jan-Sept. 2023

Tithes/Offerings: \$75,799

Income: \$85,011

Total spending YTD: \$114,400



Just because, some people talking about them.

Who remembers when the drive in had speakers to hook to your car???

Starting in January, we will have a GUESS WHO! Email to [EUCNEWS1823@gmail.com](mailto:EUCNEWS1823@gmail.com) or give Cyndi baby pictures or something about yourself to let people guess who it is!!!



Have the kids, grandkids and adults color a page (or more) to hang up at the Church!! Pictures are available at the Church or bring your own.

Do you need to fill out a building use form?? Go to our website at

<https://www.edinburgunitedchurch.org>

Click on resources and then forms. Click on the link and it will take you to the form.

Have you, your kids, grandkids or anyone else done something you would like to announce???. If you would like anything added to the newsletter, please let Cyndi know by the November 22.

**NEW EMAIL: [EUCNEWS1823@gmail.com](mailto:EUCNEWS1823@gmail.com)**



# NOVEMBER 2023

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
<p><b>5</b></p> <p>Worship 9:00 a.m.</p> <p>Celebrating All Saints Day</p> <p>Clocks back an hour</p>						
<p><b>6</b></p>		<p><b>7</b></p> <p>Davinda Baldasare Cindy Stuart</p>	<p><b>1</b></p> <p>Jace Simmons</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>Kim Bradley</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>Jennifer Mix Movie at 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>Scouts spaghetti fundraiser</p>
<p><b>7</b></p> <p>Senior Funday 11:30</p>		<p><b>8</b></p> <p>Damian Dech Debbie Phile</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>Nicole &amp; Lenny Reiter</p>	<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>Veterans Day Arlene Shambach Rick Oblisk</p>	
<p><b>12</b></p> <p>Worship 9:00 a.m.</p> <p>Last day to RSVP for Christmas Party</p> <p>Ham Roll orders due</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p>Donn Bell</p>	<p><b>14</b></p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p>Jenna Phile Cathy Thomas Ryan Zimmerman</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>Fran Pruchenski</p>	<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>18</b></p>
<p><b>19</b></p> <p>Worship 9:00 a.m.</p> <p>Adain Campbell</p> <p>Salad Bar</p> <p>Poinsettia orders due</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>Lin Dennis Rick Mann</p>	<p><b>21</b></p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p>Last day for information for newsletter</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>Thanksgiving Kevin Kibler</p>	<p><b>24</b></p>	<p><b>25</b></p>
<p><b>26</b></p> <p>Worship 9:00 a.m.</p> <p>Communion</p> <p>Reign of Christ</p> <p>Travis Brown</p> <p>Decorate for Christmas (after service)</p>	<p><b>27</b></p>	<p><b>28</b></p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p>Tina Finney Nicole Reiter</p>	<p><b>30</b></p>	<p><b>31</b></p>	

EDINBURG UNITED CHURCH

Official Minutes

September 14, 2023

PRESENT: Pastor Susan, Matt and Sabrina Finney, Lisa Morehead, Audra Morehead, Roger Mansfield, Cyndi Oblisk, Lenny Reiter, Diane Ringer, Barb Rohn.

The Meeting was called to Order at 6:30 by Lisa Morehead

Council members proceeded to the Sanctuary to hear Transition Team's presentation that will be shared with the Congregation after Service on Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>. Council indicated that this was well presented and received by them.

The August Council Meeting Minutes were read and approved as read.

Upcoming Congregations Meeting Agenda: This was discussed. By=Laws of the Church need to be reviewed and updated. Pastor Susan and Reverend Nayiri Karjian will guide us with the process; it will not be ready for this Congregational Meeting. Budget for 2024 was also discussed and consensus was to move this presentation to January Congregational Meeting also. Council Minutes are not being included with Open Door each month and it was suggested that Finances also be included. Reverend Nayiri will be here the Sunday we have our Congregational Meeting.

Finances: It was announced that Eva Rowley will be retiring from paying Church's bills. She will continue with doing the payroll. It was also stated that she is training Cyndi Oblisk to do the bill paying.

Council Nominations: These will be asked for and accepted prior to voting at the Congregational Meeting.

Septic: Matt shared that the estimates for septic repair have all be in \$15,000 range. He plans to get a start date as soon as possible.

Flagpole: Sabrina shared that Scout Neveah Berringer plans to have this erected in October.

Food Pantry: Ladies at St Joseph Church will take any food donations we collect at our Church. It was suggested that we alternate with Palmyra Church Pantry with their donations.

Bench: Roger shared that he has delivered the Bench that is in Memorial to Daniel, Bill and Donna Kibler's grandson to them.

Miscellaneous: It was announced that Alyanna Todd will be baptized October 8 or 21 during service. Worldwide Communion will be observed October 1 during Service. A smoke detector has been ordered for Kid Watch and Pastor Susan needs a fire extinguisher with Matt stated he would supply for her. Elaine Burkey has possibly agreed to play piano intermittently for Sunday Services.

Scouts: Matt shared that the Troop will have a Church lawn overnight campout October 6-7 with a tower and Spaghetti Dinner on November 4<sup>th</sup>.

The Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 by Lisa. Morehead.

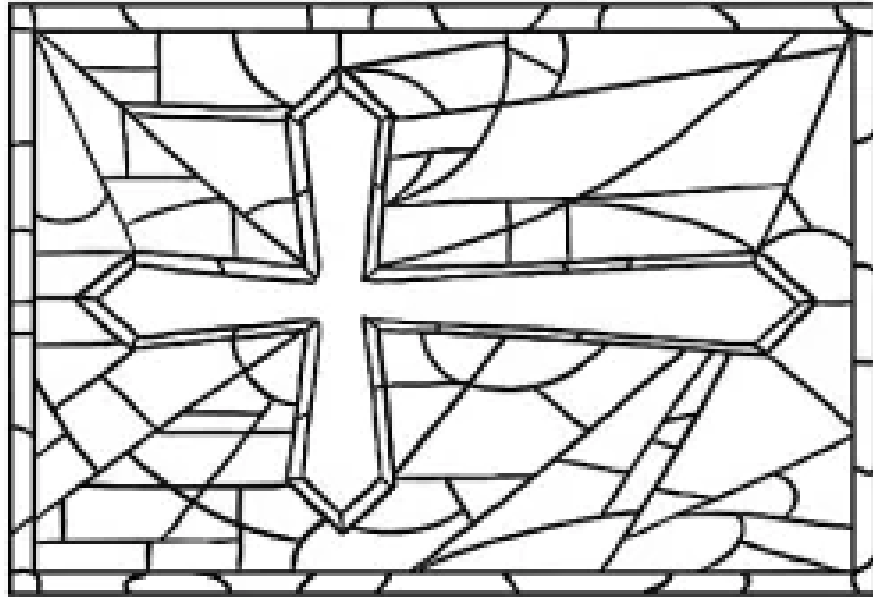
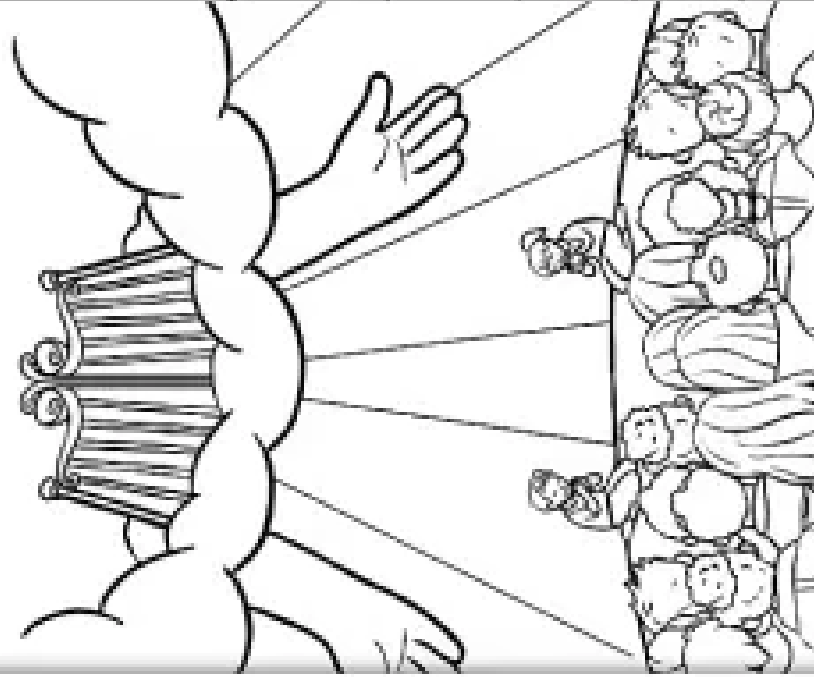
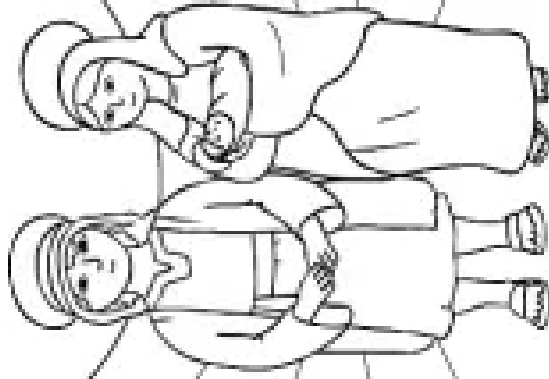
Minutes approved by council 10/12/2023

November  
1

All Saints  
Day



# Happy All Saints' Day



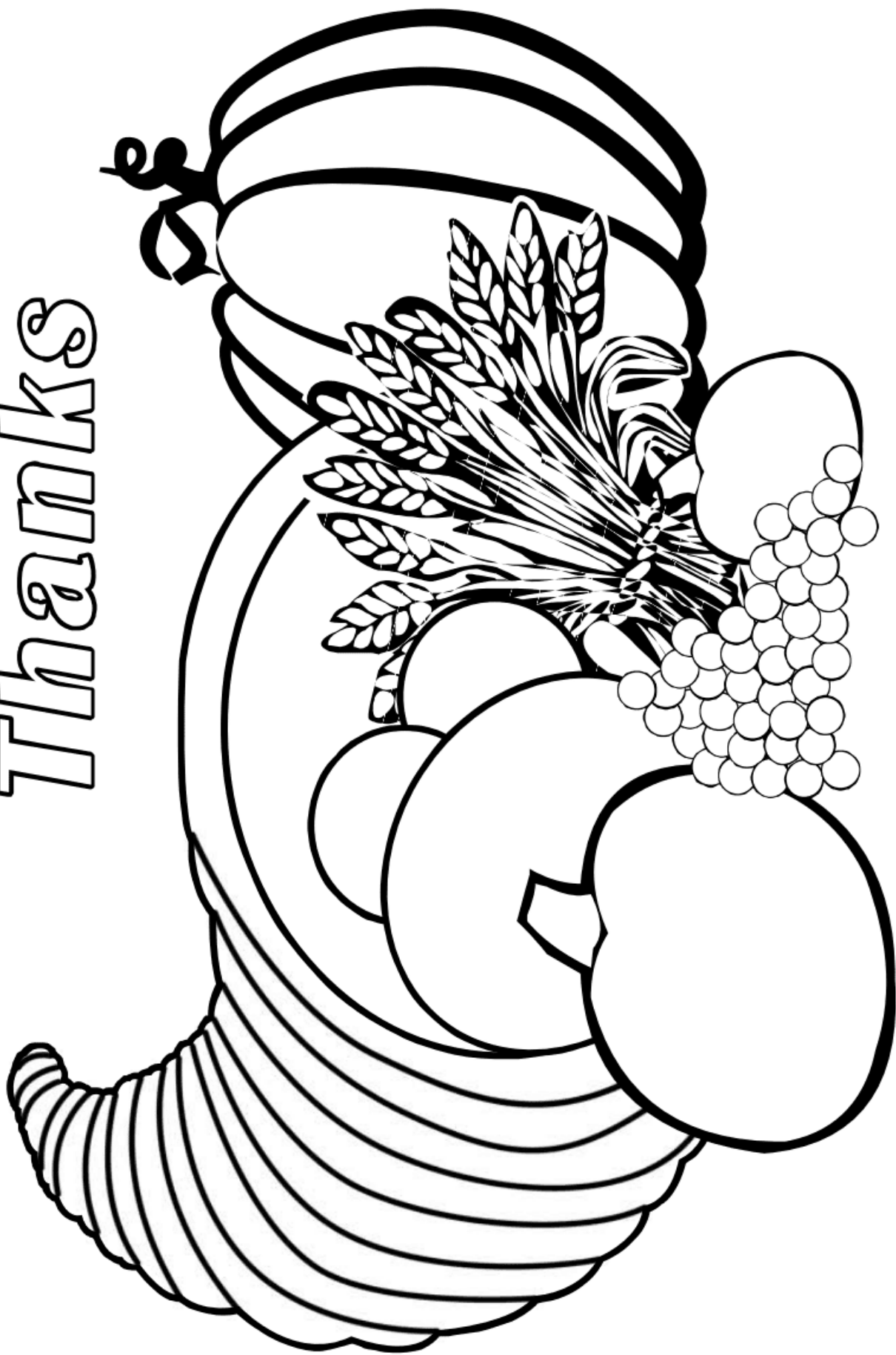


GRATEFUL

THANKFUL

BLESSED

*Give  
Thanks*



GOBBLE

GOBBLE

