

First Presbyterian Church  
1322 19th Street  
Auburn, NE 68305

October 2023  
Volume 1, Issue 2



## THE PRESBY TIMES

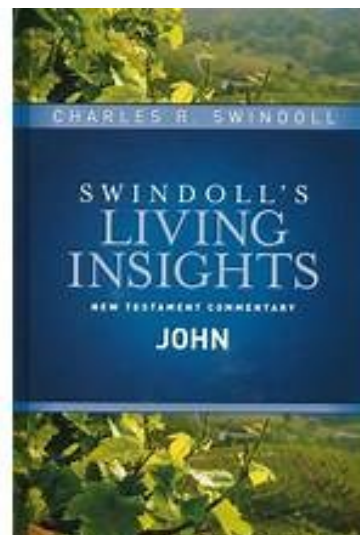
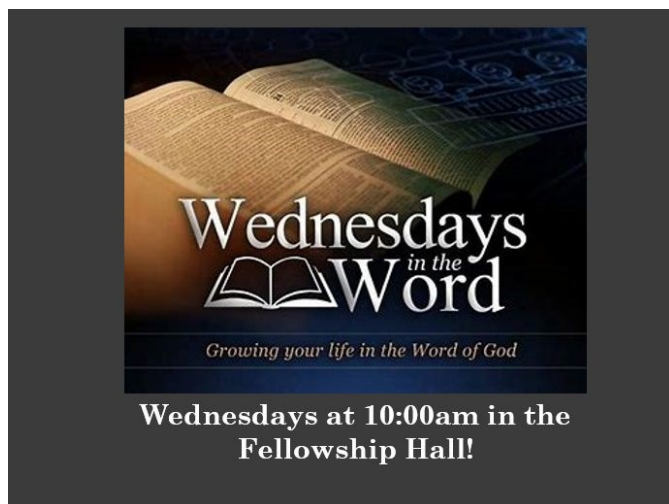
Have you noticed the weather getting cooler? How about the leaves starting to change colors? Have you been seeing the fields change from green to brown and combines in the fields? It is the changing of the seasons. A time when we harvest, gather, and store our crops for next year. We always pray that we have a good season so that we have enough food to last through the winter, or at least we would if we still lived on the prairie. But we do want to have a good harvest so that we can invest in a good crop for next year. But this is the time of year when we begin to get ready for the cold and short days and long nights. A time when it is harder to be outside and enjoy nature.

Have you ever felt like your Christian life goes through a seasonal change? Do you feel like it sometimes feels a little cooler than at other times? What are you doing to get it warmer? Our Christian lives should never be cool. To help us prepare for hard times, like winter, we need to take every day and spend time in the Word with God. Even if it is just looking at a single verse and taking a few moments to ponder what it means. And don't forget to take time to talk with God...AKA PRAY! And listen.

What do ghosts wear when their eyesight gets blurred?

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Bible Study.....	2
Book Bag Drive .....	2
Devotion.....	3
Communion/Fellowship.....	4
Youth Group .....	5
Christmas Story .....	5
Bdays/Anniv/Prayer List.....	6
Activities Page.....	7



Join us on Wednesday morning at 10am in the Fellowship Hall as we continue to study the Gospel of John. Currently, we are using the Layman's Commentary by Swindoll as we delve deeper into the Gospel. In October we will continue to work through the second half of John with the events leading up to Lent, Easter, and the death and resurrection of Christ Jesus. We would love to see you there! Wednesday morning led by Ruth Leslie.

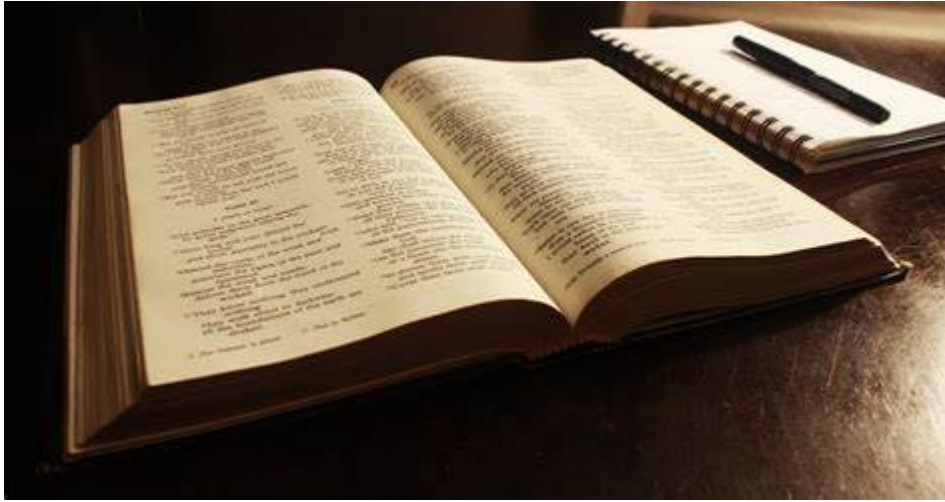
*Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in the fact you are doing.*

*1 Thessalonians 5:11 (NIV)*

### WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

A new adult Bible Study has been started. On the fourth Wednesday evening of the month, you are invited to join together as we study the Bible. We meet from 6pm—7:30pm at someone's home. Bring a covered dish to share and enjoy some fellowship and get fed both physically and spiritually. It is a wonderful atmosphere and one that you won't want to miss out on. The location will be determined at a later day, so make sure you pay attention. You may also contact Carla Patterson at [22carlap@gmail.com](mailto:22carlap@gmail.com).





## OCTOBER DEVOTION

*Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.*

*Joshua 1:9 (NIV)*

This passage comes right after the death of Moses. Following the long walk to the Promised Land, Joshua has just been elected as the new leader of the Israelites. He has momentous sandals to fill. I'm sure that he is feeling a little overwhelmed, to say the least. But, here we have a single verse out of a conversation between God and Joshua. God is giving Joshua the encouragement that he needs to be able to lead God's people into their next era.

Now, I don't know about you, but I know I would need a boost of encouragement if I were in Joshua's sandals as well. And to be honest, while I haven't been in Joshua's sandals exactly, I have been in positions where I have had to have a bit of encouragement from God. It usually comes at times that are challenging. I struggle and feel like I'm not getting anywhere. Then, out of the blue, things are better. I have made it through the struggle. When I look back at my experience, I notice that some of the best memories and my ability to just stay strong come from the times when I am struggling the most. There is no doubt in mind that it is those times when God is the closest in my life. He is truly walking beside me all the way.

I encourage you to think about times in your life where you have struggled. What life lessons do you still glean from when you went through those struggles? What are your memories from those times? When you make God the center of your life, you will never fail...which is not the same as not struggling. But God will never let you walk alone.ki9

Answer: Spooktacles



### October 1st, 2023

So many things happening this Sunday.

- 1) **World Communion Sunday**—We will join together with people from around the world in celebrating communion as a single body of Christ.
- 2) **Session** will meet at 9am.
- 3) **Fellowship meal** will take place after worship this Sunday as well. You definitely will not want to miss out on the meal. All we ask is that you join us...nothing else.



### Would you like to receive communion?

We know and understand that there are those who cannot attend church on Sundays. On Sundays that we are serving communion, we would like to be able to take communion to those who cannot attend. If you would like to receive communion, please contact Deacon Desaray at 402-414-0352.



**Time:** 6pm—7:30pm (Door facing courthouse opens at 5:45pm. Head downstairs.)

**Who:** All elementary aged children and older.

**Questions:** Contact Bonnie Ratcliff: 706-936-0327

Youth group is up and going! We have 2nd graders all the way up to high schoolers and it is wonderful! We start with some games and attempt to get out some of the wiggles. Then, we eat a dinner and finally we delve into the Bible.

During the month of October, we are going to be looking at different "common" Bible stories. We will take a story and look at the many different parts and see how the story is relatable to our current lives.

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*Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.*

*1 Corinthians 15:58 (NIV)*

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How many different Christmas programs have you been to over the years? You might see or recognize a few of them in the Christmas show this year. You may be surprised to find out how many are going to make an appearance this year. This year, our Christmas program will Nov. 24, 25, & 26 at 6pm. Bring your family for a great show!





### *October Birthdays*

October 5—Mark Patterson  
October 9—Rebecca Liess  
October 18—Jade Mellage  
October 23—Jim Kite  
October 23 Michelle Schuetz  
October 31—Kyle Blessing

### *October Anniversaries*

We do not have any anniversaries this month.  
Do you know of anyone in our church family  
whom we should be celebrating?

Do you know of someone who is not on the list for birthdays or anniversaries? We would love to make sure that they are included in our church family.

Also, if you have a someone with whom you like to put on the prayer list, please contact Deacon Desaray at 402-414-0352



### **Prayer List**

Laura Lea Bucher  
Al & Yancy Armstrong  
Will Ratcliff  
Helen Moody  
Sandy Kite  
Janet Kirkendall  
Sheril Petet  
Augie Rauner  
Hunter Hestermann





# Halloween Word Search and Riddle Puzzle



Find the words in the Word Search. Color each word a different color. When you have found them all, go across the rows, and write the letters that are left on the lines below. This will give you an answer to the riddle.



h	h	w	i	z	a	r	d	t	m
a	g	h	o	s	t	p	e	r	i
u	w	a	s	d	t	u	s	e	d
n	c	c	o	a	r	m	p	a	n
t	b	a	f	r	i	p	i	t	i
e	f	a	n	k	c	k	d	w	g
d	i	n	t	d	k	i	e	e	h
h	o	u	s	e	y	n	r	b	t



haunted  
house  
candy  
ghost

trick  
treat  
dark  
wizard

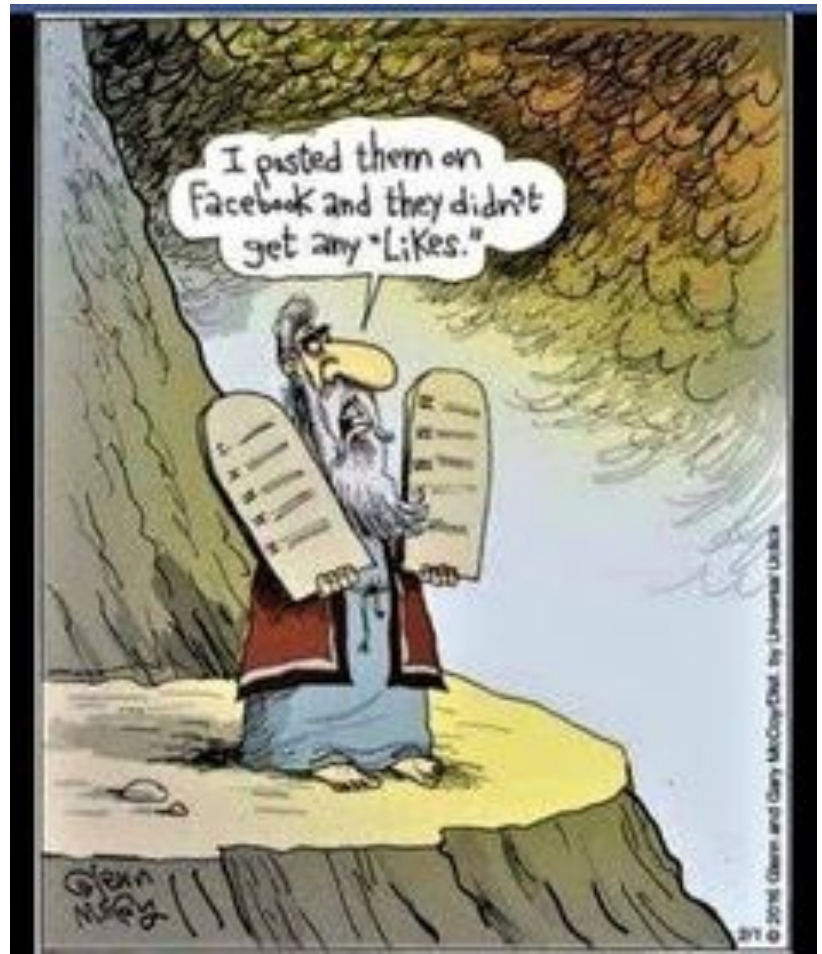
midnight  
bat  
pumpkin  
spider

web



Why did Dracula take some medicine?

\_\_\_\_\_!



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