



## WHAT is a **Matthew 25** CHURCH?

Matthew 25:31–46 calls all of us to actively engage in the world around us, so our faith comes alive and we wake up to new possibilities. Convicted by this passage, both the 222nd and 223rd General Assemblies (2016 and 2018) exhorted the PC(USA) to act boldly and compassionately to see our neighbors through Jesus' eyes and serve those who are marginalized or in need — people who are hungry, thirsty, naked, sick, imprisoned, strangers, poor or oppressed in other ways and in need of welcoming.

## HOW the **VISION** unites all Presbyterians

This work is a direct response to the good news of Jesus and a faithful expression of what it means to be Christ's disciples in this time and place.

By accepting the Matthew 25 invitation, you can help our denomination become a more relevant presence in the world by:

- Connecting and uniting the PC(USA), creating a spark that energizes and joins us in our common mission together.
- Showing our understanding as Presbyterian Christians that we are "saved to serve" those who need God and the radical love of Jesus.
- Celebrating and calling forth churches that actively engage the world.



## Matthew 25:31-46

<sup>31</sup> "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. <sup>32</sup> All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, <sup>33</sup> and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. <sup>34</sup> Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; <sup>35</sup> for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, <sup>36</sup> I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' <sup>37</sup> Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? <sup>38</sup> And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? <sup>39</sup> And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' <sup>40</sup> And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' <sup>41</sup> Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; <sup>42</sup> for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, <sup>43</sup> I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' <sup>44</sup> Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' <sup>45</sup> Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' <sup>46</sup> And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

## Sunday School News

November

MEMORY  
VERSE

*"if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."  
Romans 10:9*



How are your boxes coming? It seems early to think about Christmas, but shipping boxes to all parts of the world requires early planning. In the end, so many children will smile and laugh with delight as they receive their gift of a shoebox and so much more. The love and light of Jesus will reach out and touch a child who never before may have received a Christmas gift.

Please have your box packed, labeled and to the church on or before **Sunday, November 15**. All boxes will be dedicated at the worship service that day, then brought to the collection point here in Winona.

We wish to thank an anonymous donor who is paying for the shipping costs for each box from our church. Thank you for your generosity!!

## Christmas Program and Practice



This year it is more difficult to have a Christmas Program, but Nancy Dornfeld and Rena Dornfeld are working hard to plan a program that is as safe as possible while still proclaiming the Good News of Jesus' birth, not only in our country, but in many other nations as well. Our congregation looks to our annual Christmas Program as an essential part of celebrating the birth of our Lord. We are planning ahead now, and are praying that we are able to have the program.

**Color of Our King** is the title of our Christmas Program planned for **Sunday, December 20**, during our worship service at 10:30. Practices are scheduled for **Saturday, December 12 - just for the older children** who are readers in the program and **Saturday, December 19 for all children in the program**. Both practices begin at 9 am at the church and will last until approximately 10:30 a.m.

Thank you for your help, parents, teachers, Pastor Rachel and children!

### Review of Ronald McDonald House

As we said in the October newsletter, the Ronald McDonald House is our children's mission for the 2020-2021 school year. It is interesting to note how much our money helps! For example, \$20 will help a family stay for four nights, and \$100 helps for 20 nights! That is a low cost, offering food and a place to stay, while their child is receiving treatment for a serious disease or illness.

A box is provided on the table at the back of the sanctuary for donations for RHMC. Children and adults are encouraged to donate when it's your birthday, the first Sunday of the Month, or whenever you like!

Thank you for your support!!



## News from Session

Session held their regular meeting, mask to mask with social distancing, on Thursday, October 15, 2020, and approved the following items:

- The following slate of officers was presented by the Nominating committee: Ruling Elder Class of 2023: Ron Dietrich and Christine Schantzen; Deacons Class of 2023: O. J. Jacobson and Jeanette Karjala; At-Large Nominating Committee members for 2021: Mary Rennells, Audrey Smith, and Kathy Weiner.
- To have our Congregational Meeting on October 18, 2020 simultaneously be a ZOOM meeting so that we are including all members who are able to and choose to, participate in the election of officers, and to ensure that we have the necessary number of members present to declare a quorum.
- Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, at our April 29, 2020 Session meeting we adopted an amendment to the Session Manual to enable us to meet electronically. We held three electronic meetings via ZOOM on April 29, 2020, May 29, 2020, and June 6, 2020. We now affirm all decisions made during these three electronic meetings in accordance with the mission of the church.

Pam Lica, Clerk

## From the Church Office



The Church Office will be  
**CLOSED**  
**Thanksgiving Day, November 28**  
**and Friday, November 29**

Enjoy time with your families!!



*Thanks everyone for your prayers and support for us during Ron's kidney transplant and recovery. A miracle happened and we are forever grateful to the donor. Ron was so excited to receive the best gift ever for his birthday, a new kidney! We were in Madison for his birthday and our wedding anniversary. Thank you for continued prayers for healing and a full recovery.*

*Helen & Ron Philipps*

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

*A very special thank you to the Grace Kids for the colorful cards and sweet notes they have sent to me.*

*Also thank you to the Deacons for the many beautiful cards and kind and encouraging words.*

*I really enjoy getting mail and look forward to receiving the card.*

*With sincere thanks, Jeanne Nelson*

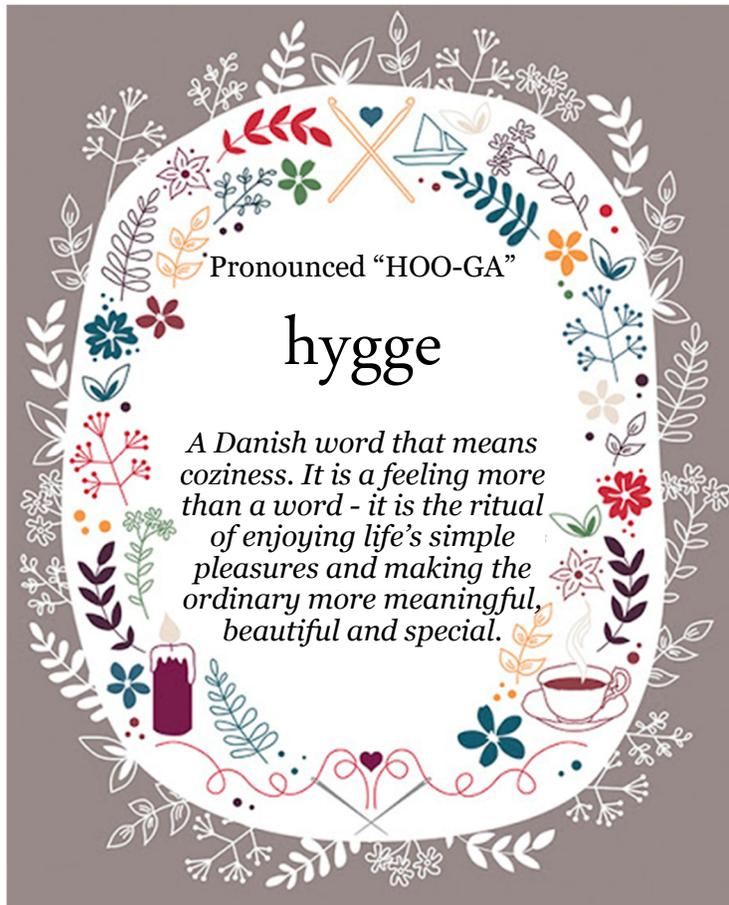
### Happy Birthday!

Caiden Mrkvicka	November 3
Simon Engstler	November 6
Kollin Foss	November 7
Brent Dornfeld	November 8
Larry Johnson	November 11
Janet Nustad	November 11
Brady Foss	November 22
Howard Rockwell	November 24
Kathy Mrkvicka	November 27

### Happy Anniversary!

Mark & Kjersti Anderson	November 29
Rob & Tori Schultz	November 30

**Please let us know if we missed your birthday or anniversary** and accept our apology. It was not our intent to leave you out.



Hygge (hoo-guh) is a Danish and Norwegian word for a mood of coziness and hospitality with feelings of wellness and contentment. The word *hygge* comes from a Danish word meaning "to give courage, comfort, joy." *Hygge* is

built from the Old Norse word *hugr* which later became the *hug* which means the soul, mind, consciousness. In a sense that is what Hygge is – a warm hug. It is a word that describes a feeling of comfort, warmth, and

wellbeing. Hygge is about happiness. Moreover, it is about intentionally creating space for happiness through environment, relationships, introspection, comfort, and joy.

Though all Hygge concepts fit well into the Advent season, it was the last part that caught my eye.



When we begin Advent we begin with a cry from Isaiah: "*Comfort O' Comfort my people.*" It is in this 40<sup>th</sup> chapter that we see the prophecy of the coming Messiah. The purpose of Advent, then, is to prepare to be comforted by the King, who is our Savior and ultimate joy. But this preparation for comfort and joy often gets lost in the shuffle of the season. Between all the shopping, parties, and in-laws coming to visit, our minds get focused on other things, and we lose out on some of the comfort of this season.



That being said, we all know that Christmas will be different than before. Many of us will have fewer visitors, and fewer events for merrymaking. Our shopping will be impeded by restrictions or done entirely online. Though these things were never the reason for the season, their absence, without a doubt, will have an effect on our yuletide cheer. With so many things to worry about today, we need to be intentional about preparing for the comfort Christ brings into our lives; and we need to be able to do that both in our worship and in our homes. That is why a very *Hygge Advent* is exactly what we need.

Here is what you will need for Hygge:

**Candles** – Light is a huge part of Hygge. There is just nothing like the warm comforting light of a fireplace or candle. Light is also an important concept for Advent, as we prepare to welcome the light of the world. I would suggest that you take this opportunity to create an Advent wreath at home. There are many ways to do so; but if you need some help or extra candles, swing by the church where we will have supplies for a DIY Advent wreath.



**Warm Clothes** - Dress for comfort and warmth.

Find a pair of warm socks, or as the Danish say "hyggesokker," comfy trousers (Hyggebukser), a nice blanket, robe or sweater that can lift our mood to full on cozy!



# Presbyterian Women News

**A Hygge** - A Hygge is a dedicated hygge space. Find your most comfortable armchair, bean bag, or cozy nook in the house and make it your hyggerkrog. Set up there with a blanket, a space for your candles or Advent wreath, something to read (like the devotionals your lovely church will be sending you every week - hint hint), and be sure to leave a bit of room for a nice hot beverage and snack.



**A ready heart** - Okay, this one was not in the books for Hygge, but it is included when we are Hyggeing Grace Church style. Setting up your space should be done intentionally, and the intention is to have a place where you can invite the promised comfort of Christ to fill your heart and mind. A good way to focus in on this is to set aside time in this space to do your daily devotionals. Come to this space to pray, to reflect, and to relinquish your worries to God.



Additionally, for our Advent season you will receive a book of daily devotionals and a once weekly Hygge focus devotional, for use as a way to explore together different ways to add some hygge to our lives. In the meantime, you are welcome to explore this concept on your own. Consider purchasing *"The Little Book of Hygge"* [HERE](#). Search Hygge on Pinterest, type it into your web browser, or listen to the Hygge NPR radio station. I hope that we all can embrace this concept so that every one of us can experience the Comfort and Joy of this Advent season.



**The PW of Grace Church** regret to inform you that the **2020 Holiday Fair** has been cancelled.

It has been suggested that you think about how much money you normally spend and consider making a donation to the PW of Grace Church in that amount.

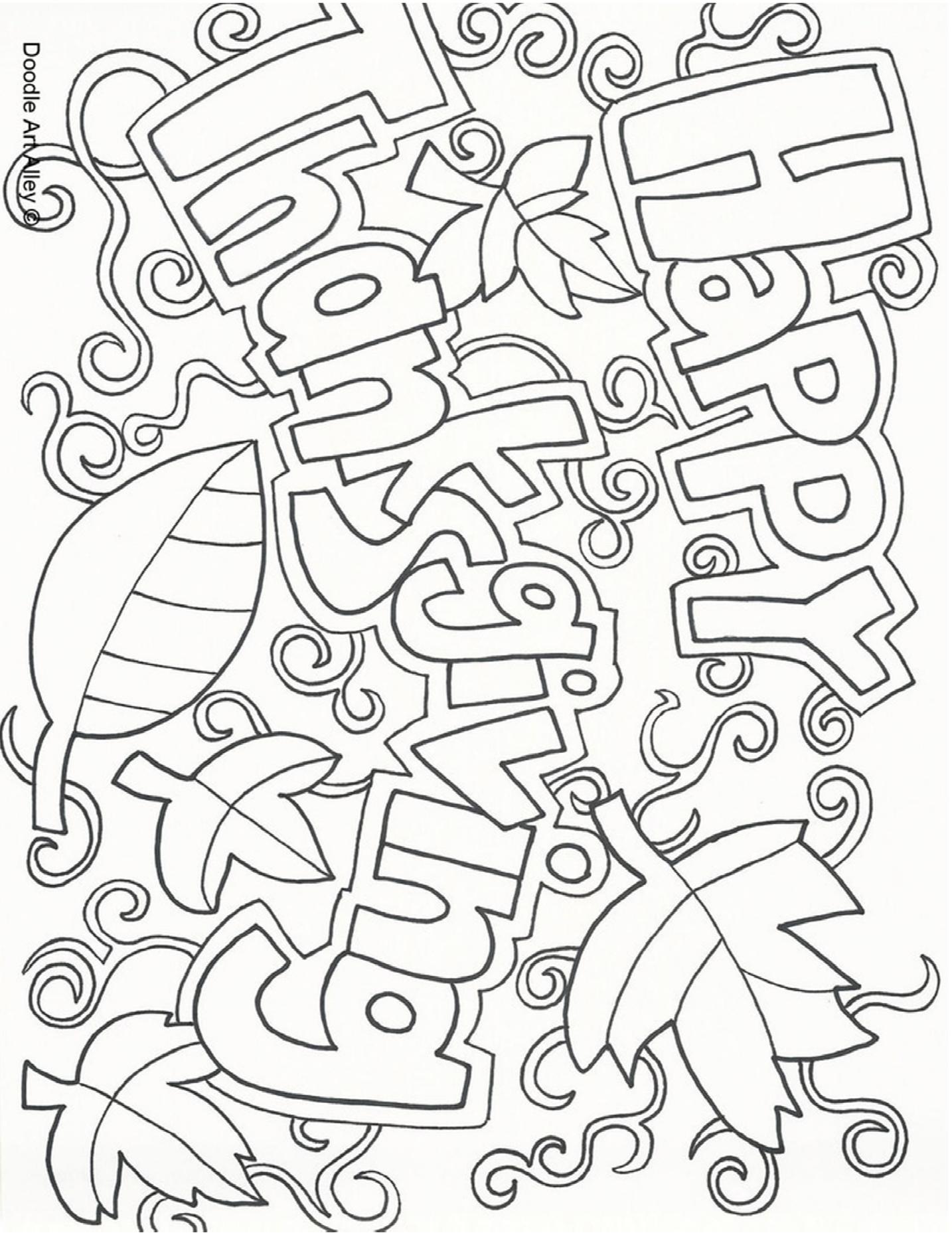
This is their major fundraiser of the year, and need your help so they can continue their ministry to the community and the world.

## From the Deacons

**Please continue to save** your "G" dollar bills for the **Grace Deacons Fund**. This Deacons fundraiser will go until the end of the year. Please remember to bring your dollar bills to church!

Thank you for your generosity!

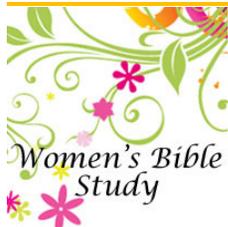




Doodle Art Alley ©

# November 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>October 31</b> 
1 9:30 - Sunday School 10:30 - Worship w/ Holy Communion	2	3 <b>Election Day</b> 3:45 - Christian Education Comm.	4 4:30 - Worship Committee	5	6	7
8 10:30 - Worship through our Web-site	9	10	11 4:30 - Deacons	12	13	14
<i>Cheri on Vacation from Saturday, November 7 through Monday, November 16</i>						
15 9:30 - Sunday School 10:30 - Worship	16	17	18 6:30 - Session	19	20	21
22 9:30 - Sunday School 10:30 - Worship	23	24	25	26 	27 <i>Office Closed</i>	28
29 <i>1st Sunday in            Advent</i> 9:30 - Sunday School 10:30 - Worship	30					



**An Ecumenical group of ladies** meets each Monday morning from 9:00 until 11:00 for Bible study. This group is open to any woman who would like to join them.



**NA (Narcotics Anonymous) Group** uses Grace Church for their meetings:  
 ♦ *Fridays at 7:00 pm*



**AA - "Keep Coming Back" Group** uses Grace Church for their meetings:  
 ♦ *Monday - Friday at Noon*  
 ♦ *Tuesday & Thursday at 5:00 pm*  
 ♦ *Saturday at 7:00 pm*  
 ♦ *3rd Thursday - AA District mtg.*



**December newsletter deadline is November 15.**

Submit your articles to Lori by Noon!  
 Contact her at [lorigpcnewsletter@charter.net](mailto:lorigpcnewsletter@charter.net)  
 Thank you!

Because we are  
unconditionally loved by  
God, we are called to do the  
same in thought, word, and  
deed with our family,  
community, and world.

**Mission**

*Thank God!*

GRACE  
HAPPENS  
+

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**Office Hours**

8:00 am - 1:00 pm

Tuesday - Friday

**Sunday Morning**

**Sunday School**

9:00 am

**Sunday Worship**

10:30 am

**Fellowship Time**

11:30 am

**Minister**

Rev. Rachel Rosendahl

**Office Administrator**

Cheri Looman

**Accompanist**

Myranda Orlovsky

**Treasurer**

Jennifer MacAskill

**Church School Director**

Kathy Rosendahl

**Newsletter Editor**

Lori Fort-Hoerig

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**Session Elders**

Kjersti Anderson ~ Fellowship / Nominating

Ron Dietrich ~ Corporation / Nominating

Rena Dornfeld ~ Christian Education / Fundraising

Nancy Dornfeld ~ Worship / Personnel

Pam Lica ~ Clerk of Session / Stewardship

Jennifer MacAskill ~ Fellowship / Fundraising

Chris Schantzen / Mission / Personnel

**Board of Deacons**

2020: Gayle Arndt, Kathy Randall

2021: Ann Lubinski, Kathy Rosendahl

2022: Candi Kohner, David Rosendahl