

Baptist Bugle



November 2019

First Baptist Church of Morris - Pastor Steve Larson

1650 West Route 6 - Morris, Illinois

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Pastor's Ponderings –

The writer of Hebrews 10:25 writes, *“Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another – and all the more as we see the Day approaching.”*

Paul writes in his letter to the Galatians 6:9-10, *“Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.”*

And once more I refer back to Hebrews 10:23-24, *“Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for He who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.”*

When we look at our relationship with Christ, we should see growth. There should be evidence that we are becoming more like Christ. The same is true for our church. When I look at our congregation, I see a lot of growth. And don't necessarily mean in numbers, although it's always nice when we have someone who wants to become a part of the fellowship. I'm thinking more in terms of spiritual growth. Growing that demonstrates people are looking to become involved in the life of the congregation. I see people reaching out to others, asking them how they're doing. I see people asking, “How can I pray for you?” And in so many, many ways people are giving of themselves, wanting to be used for the Lord. God is working.

I say this to encourage us. As Paul writes he encourages us to never tire of doing the right thing. The harvest will come, in God's time, the harvest will come if we don't give up. People are prone to giving up way too quickly. They give up on doing what's right. They give up on coming to church. They give up on God's best for their life. But we have the promise that God is faithful. We should never disregard our hope and our faith in Jesus.

It was quite an encouragement last Sunday night as so many gathered at the church with the youth, in order to be paired up with one of the kids to be their “Prayer Partner”. Praying for each other is encouraging one another. Gathering together to be engaged in a relationship with each other in order to spur one another on to growing in Christ. It was a

fun evening, carving pumpkins and sitting around a camp fire. It's just one example of all the different ways we have opportunity to meet together, encouraging each other.

I have to say how much I appreciate each of you. And I have to say how much I appreciate what each of you does for our church family. Your willingness to be where God is calling you to be, and to be who God is calling you to be. Thank you for the part that you play in the life of our church family, and your love for the Lord.

Paul writes in his letter to the Philippians 1:3-6, *"I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the Gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."*

May God give us a thankful heart this month as we look forward to Thanksgiving, and consider His many blessings to us.

Pastor Steve

thank
you!

Kristi and I would like to thank everyone as we begin November. We have been so blessed during October and Pastor Appreciation month. Thank you so much for your cards, gifts and kind words.

We are so thankful to be serving together with you at First Baptist. Again, thank you for your fellowship and your partnership in the ministry.

Steve and Kristi

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

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRAYER AND BIBLE STUDY



Women of Prayer
Tuesdays at 2:00 pm

Men of Action

Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm
All men are invited to come!



Women's Afternoon Bible Study

Wednesdays at 1:00 pm

Are now studying "*Book of James-Growing in the Christian Life*"

All women are invited to come

Please contact Helen Brehm at 815-942-6625

Women's Evening Bible Study

Wednesdays at 6:30 pm

All women are invited to come

Are studying "*The Armor of God*" by Priscilla Shirer.

Please contact Colette Kirby at 815-942-9527



Single Moms' Group

Every other Wednesday Evening at 5:30 pm

If you are a single mom or know of one who would
enjoy meeting with others, please invite them to come with you!



Congregational Prayer

Sunday, November 3

4:30 pm

Come gather together for prayer
and praise!

We will be meeting in the
old Adult Sunday School Room

Boards to Meet on Tuesday, Nov. 12

5:30 pm - Board of Christian Education

5:30 pm - Board of Trustees

6:30 pm - Board of Diaconates





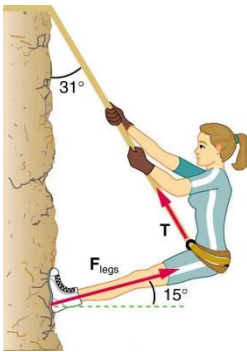
Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes October 27 – November 17

We, as a church family, are once again participating in filling shoeboxes for Samaritan's Purse/Operation Christmas Child. Our "ShoeboxTeam" - Sue Hoaglund, Carol Adair, Carla O'Brien, Diane Wakeman, Kay Hemmersbach and Judy Needham have ordered plenty of shoeboxes, which are now available at the church. You may take as many as you would like to fill. There is a pamphlet in the box that tells you "How to Pack a Shoebox". You also have the opportunity to put a donation of \$9.00 in the envelope for the postage it takes to ship the box, as well as labels showing it is for a boy or girl. Deadline for returning your filled boxes will be Sunday, November 17. If you would rather just donate money toward filling a box, please give your donation to one of the "Shoebox Team" and they will purchase and pack a shoebox for you! Last year we delivered **203** shoeboxes to the distribution center!

Great Rivers Region American Baptist Churches **AREA 1 YOUTH LOCK-IN**

November 15-16
Lifetime Fitness Center
900 E. Higgins Road
Schaumburg, IL 60173

Grade 6 – Age 21
Doors open at 9:00pm on Friday
Event ends at 5:30am on Saturday
Cost \$25



Send the registration to Area 1 Youth at 190 W. 4th St., Coal City, IL 60416
Please make checks payable to: Area 1 Youth
Or email to areaoneyouth@gmail.com

You can get the paperwork needed to be filled out from
Colleen Miller or the church office

SWIMMING, ROCK CLIMBING
PIZZA AND SNACKS
HANGING OUT WITH FRIENDS



First Responders Sunday
November 17 @ 8:00am only

Please plan to attend this service to
honor our First Responders!

"Be on your guard;
Stand firm in the faith;
Be courageous;
Be strong"
1 Corinthians 16:13 NIV



Good News Club

Good News Club began Thursday, October 3rd and will finish Thursday, April 30, 2020. Club is held every Thursday during the time period that school is in session a full day, 2:45-4:00pm.

We are excited to see what God has planned for this school year and appreciate the prayers of our "Family of Faith" as God brings the kids! It's our fervent hope and prayer that many will come to know Jesus as their personal Lord and Savior and that they will be little missionaries in their homes, neighborhoods and school.

Staff for the 2019-2020 school year –
Carol Adair, Kara Paulson, Kristi Larson, Kay Hemmersbach,
Helen Brehm, Bella Aguilar and Paula Misek



Feed My Starving Children
Saturday, November 9
11:30am – 1:30pm

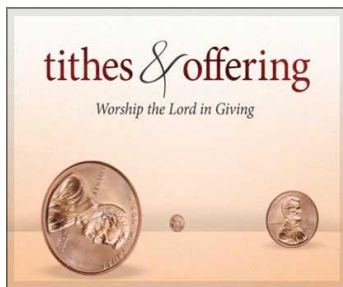
We will once again be volunteering at the "Feed My Starving Children" facility in Aurora. Please meet at the church at 9:45am. This is the 6th year we have gone, and it is an amazing day of packing meals to feed the children around the world!
Any questions, please contact Jen Goebel.

UNIFIED GIVING

<u>Month</u>	<u>Monthly Amt. Needed</u>	<u>Monthly Amt. Received</u>
October	\$25,720.00	\$24,866.45

Church Mortgage Balance as of October 27, 2019 \$119,711.00

Thank you for your generous and faithful giving!!!



This past year \$11,005 has been given to be applied to the 'principal only'! Anyone wishing to contribute toward lowering the principal should write 'apply to principal only' on their check. For accounting purposes, it would be appreciated if you would write a separate check if giving for 'principal only', rather than including it in your regular giving check. Thank You!

 *"When you are hanging on by a thread, make sure it's the hem of His garment"*

JEWEL-OSCO FRESH DONATION

Jewel-Osco continues to donate fresh food each Sunday morning.
The donated fresh food is that which is dated and must be used.

We have a great need for volunteers to go to Jewel at 11am on Sunday mornings to pick up the food and bring it back to the church. If you are able to serve in this capacity once a month or so, please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board near the library.
If you have any questions, please see Deb Ritke, our coordinator.

Our Deepest Sympathy
to the family of
Pat Sanders.

Pat went to be with the
Lord on Thursday, Oct. 17.

Our prayers for comfort go
out to her husband, John
their daughter, Jen
their two sons, Rick & Scott
and their families.



A personal note.....

Thank you so much for all of the love and support during our time of loss; of our wife, mother and grandma, Pat Sanders. Words cannot express how much it all means to us. We are so blessed. We will miss her until we see her again someday.

Love, The Family of Pat Sanders
John
Rick (Jean)
Jennifer (Keith)
Scott
Donovan, Sara, Sophie & Kane



Operation Christmas Child "Shoebox" Packing/Pizza Party

Sunday, Nov. 10
5:30pm

Youth Group & Church Family are invited to join in!
There will be a sign-up sheet on foyer table,
so we know how many pizzas to get!



Operation Christmas Child Special!



"If you declare
with your mouth,
"JESUS IS LORD"
and believe in your heart
that God raised
Him from the dead,
you will be saved."

Romans 10:9 NIV



"At the end of the day, I am thankful
that my blessings are bigger than my problems."



JOIN US FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL!

Sunday mornings
9:30 am – 10:30 am

Nursery – 3 years and under
Preschool – 2nd Grade – Teacher Lisa Vaksdal
3rd – 5th Grade – Teacher Kara Hill
6th – 8th Grade – Teacher Diane Gagliardo
9th – 12th Grade – Teachers Mark and Gayle Conrod
Adults – Teachers Jeff and Claudette Swiggett

“Direct your children onto the right path, and when they are older, they will not leave it.” Proverbs 22:6



Awana Club
First Baptist Church
Ages 4 yrs. to 8th grade

We are very excited to have started an Awana Club here **at First Baptist Church!**
Awana Club is held the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month at **6:00 – 7:15pm**
You may register by calling the church office @ 815-942-0812
Registration is required

Awana Club mtgs. this month...
Awana will meet on November 3 and 17!



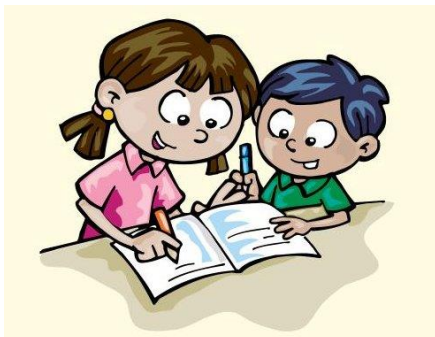
Youth Group
Ages 5th – 12th Grade

Saturday, Nov. 9
TBA
Zach Williams Concert
Harvest Church
Oswego

Sunday, Nov. 10
6:00pm
Bowling

Sunday, Nov. 24
6:00pm
Youth Group

Any questions, contact
Leslie Meloun



**“Children are a gift from the LORD;
they are a reward from Him.”
Psalms 127:3**

November Birthdays

1 Matthew Findlay
2 Ryan West, Axton Valdivia
3 Joshua Downey, Duane McComas
4 Colin Zierman, Gary Brian, Jerry Brian
5 Grahm Wilkinson, Gina Misek
6 Esther Ritke, Dominyk Zavala
7 Mason Chapman, Austin Conrod, Diane Wakeman, Kevin Groll
8 McKenna Malone
9 Ray Burnside
10 Jenna Emmons
12 Linda Cunningham
14 Joe Doyle
15 Zach Ellis, Blake Delockery, Christina Hemmersbach
16 Charlotte Mayden, Laurel Wehr
17 Judy Kuntz, Dan Swiggett
21 Lyla Wilkinson
22 Mariah Diaz
24 Stan Motter, Jeran Suksdorf
25 Virginia Edmundson
26 Jodi Johnson
29 Ed Krug
30 Amy Beal, Palin Goebel, Taylor Marx

November Anniversaries

4 Bucky and Chris Phillips
7 Stan and Mary Motter
23 Dan and Laurie Wilkinson
30 Mike and Kim Bricker

November





CHECK OUT WHAT'S NEW IN THE CHURCH LIBRARY!

You'll find the books in the "Check Out What's New" section,
located on the top shelf next to the book return basket.

HAPPY READING!

Uncertain. Confused. Overwhelmed.

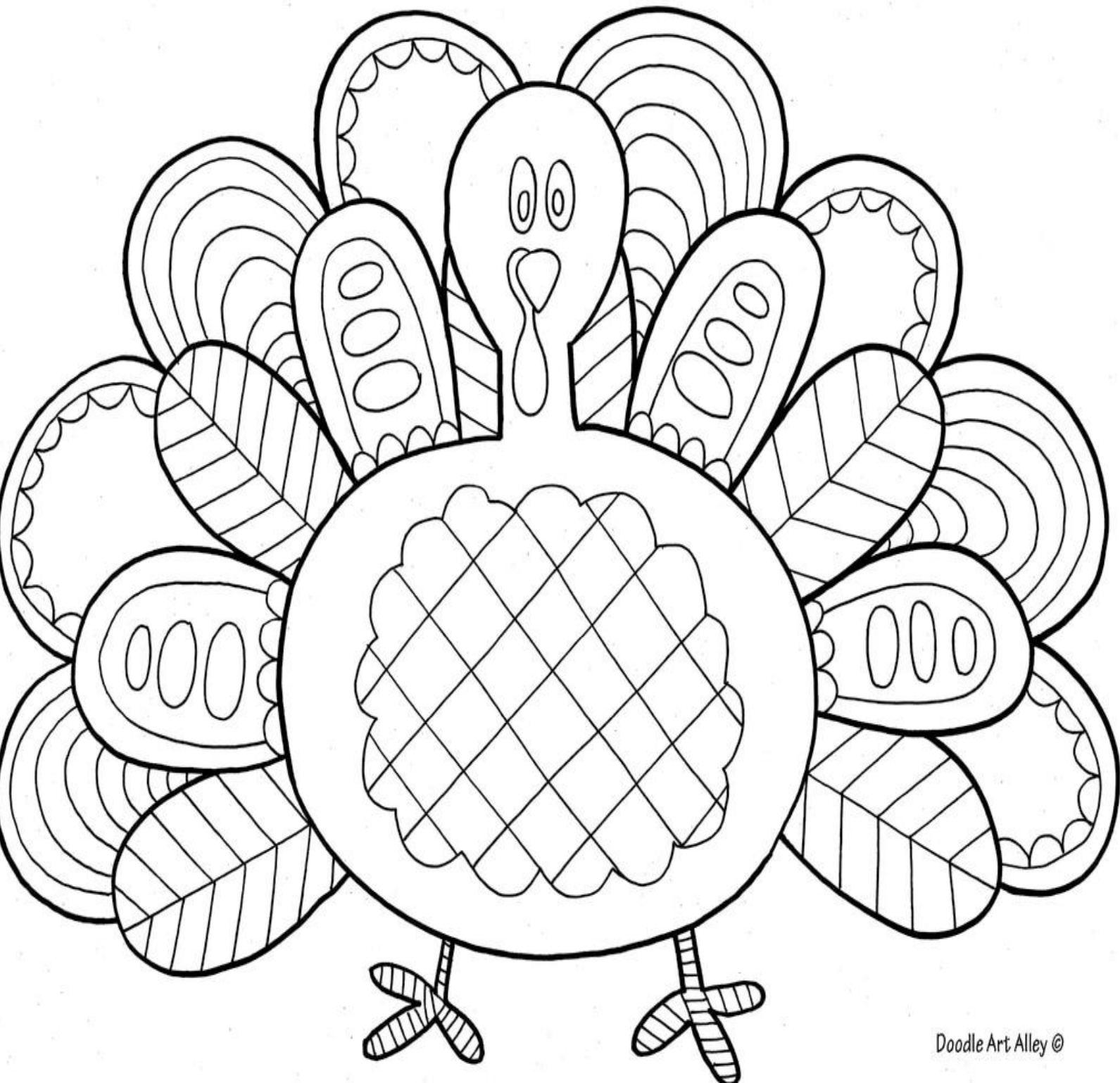
Many Christians feel bombarded by the messages they hear and the trends they see in our rapidly changing world.

How can we resist being conformed to the pattern of this world? What will faithfulness to Christ look like in these tumultuous times? How can we be true to the gospel in a world where myths and false visions of the world so often prevail?

In *This is Our Time*, Trevin Wax provides snapshots of twenty-first century American Life in order to help Christians understand the times. By analyzing our common beliefs and practices (smartphone habits, entertainment intake, and our views of shopping, sex, marriage, politics, and life's purpose), Trevin helps us see through the myths of society to the hope of the gospel.

As faithful witnesses to Christ, Trevin writes, we must identify the longing behind society's most cherished myths (what is good, true, beautiful), expose the lie at the heart of these myths (what is false and damaging), and show how the gospel tells a better story – one that exposes the lie but satisfies the deeper longing.

You can find this book in our Library on the top shelf under "Check Out What's New".



Doodle Art Alley ©

Have a Happy Thanksgiving!



Thanksgiving Day

Fourth Thursday of November



AMERICA
CANOE
COLONY
CORNUCOPIA
ENGLAND
FALL
FAMILY
FEAST
FREEDOM

GRATITUDE
HARVEST
HOLIDAY
INDIANS
MAIZE
MAYFLOWER
MILES STANDISH
NEWWORLD
NOVEMBER

PILGRIMS
PLYMOUTH
PUMPKIN PIE
PURITANS
SQUASH
STUFFING
THANKSGIVING
TURKEY
YAMS





College Care Packages

The board is now in the foyer to choose items from....

All items need to be back to the church by Sunday, November 17th.

This ministry provides a box full of goodies and a reminder of how much our students
Are loved and prayed for, especially during their exams!

Basket of Courage

..... is designed for

Anyone who would like to send a basket of courage to someone they know that needs some encouragement. At this time, we only make baskets for women and children.

We can be reached at basketofcourage@gmail.com or you can send a private message through Basket of Courage Facebook.



Apple Cider Outreach

Friday, November 29
4 - 6pm

In front of Brianna Lynn's
on Liberty Street

Saturday, November 30
10am - 12pm
Courthouse Lawn

Our church will hand out hot apple cider and small gifts, reminding people of the true meaning of Christmas during Home for the Holidays Celebration in downtown Morris

Norma Arnsdorff and her family are coordinating this event and will have a volunteer sign-up sheet available soon!



Christmas Program Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019

...details coming soon!





Salvation Army Bell Ringing

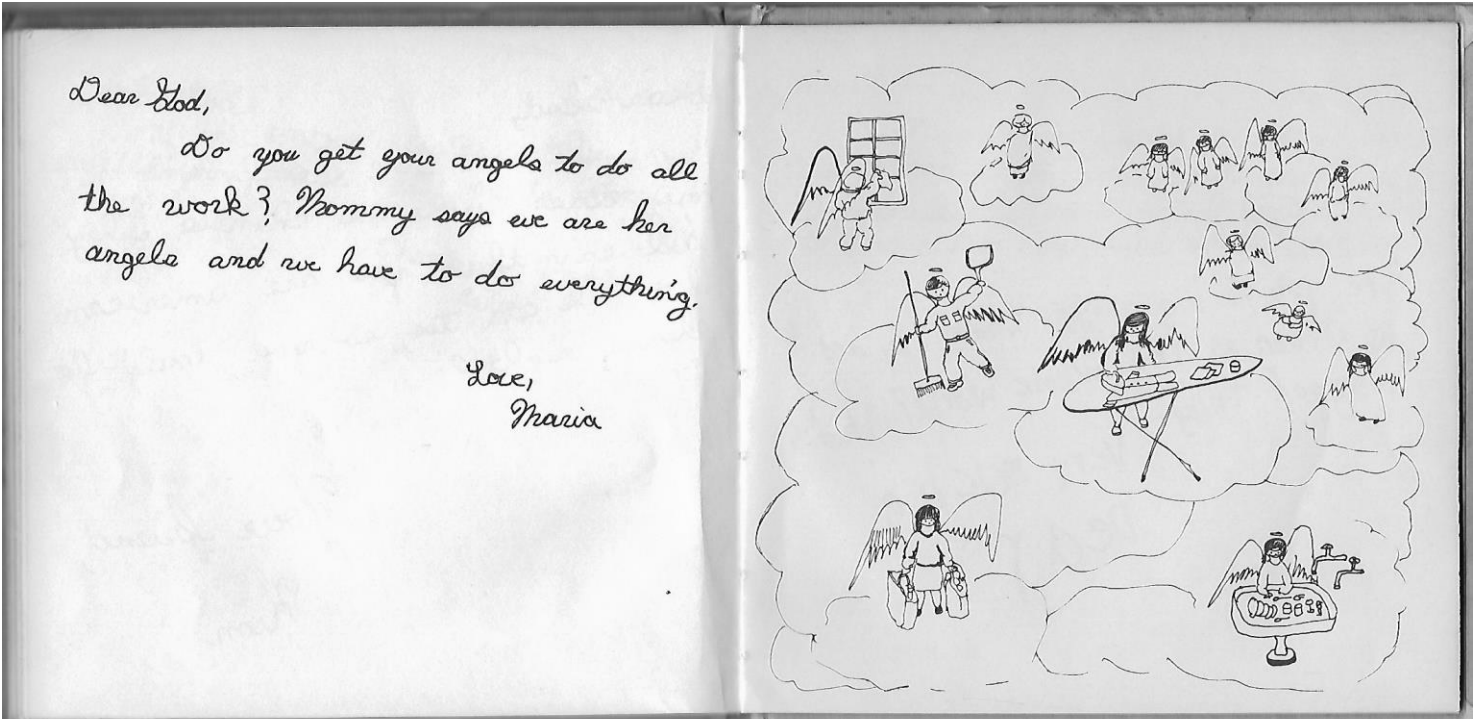
Friday, December 6

4-9pm, North and South Doors at Walmart

We will once again be ringing bells for 'We Care'.

This is such a great ministry annnnnnnnd a chance to give shoppers a smile! Watch for a sign-up sheet closer to this date.

Any questions, you can call the church office.



Dear God,

Do you get your angels to do all the work? Mommy says we are her angels and we have to do everything.

Love,
Maria

From the book "Children's Letters to God"

Compiled by Eric Marshall and Stuart Hample

Illustrated By Yanni Posnakoff



Saturday, Nov. 2 at 2am!

DON'T FORGET TO

**FALL
BACK**



Looking for a volunteer willing to fill the need of organizing people and food for those that require a few meals brought to them while recovering from surgery or illness. Please call the church office at 815-942-0812

