

THE GOOD NEWS

"Called and sent into the world, we seek to be the living expression of God's compassion,
forgiveness and love"



Worship Schedule

Sundays at 8:30 A.M.
and 10:30 A.M.

10:30 A.M. online and
in-person

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Congregation Council

President

Chris Zechman

Vice President

Merritt Wichner

Secretary

Deb Botkin

Co-Treasurers

Diane Timmons

Terry Rust



2025 Council Members:

Janis Bell, Deb Botkin, Terry
Rust, Sharon Slusher, Diane
Timmons, Merritt Wichner,
Chris Zechman



Good Shepherd's Staff

Pastor

Don Humphreys

Choir Directors

Nancy Davis, Mike Morris

Handbell

Director

Nancy Davis

Organist

Sharon Safley

Secretary

Maria Taylor

Find us online at the links below:

Website:

jointheflock.org

Facebook:

facebook.com/GoodShepherdSpringfield

YouTube:

Good Shepherd Springfield Ohio

The Good News is a monthly publication from
Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church
712 North Fountain Ave, Springfield, OH 45502

937-322-7222

gseclflock@gmail.com

Custodial service provided by: The Abilities Connection



The Minister's Musings

I love the Thanksgiving/Advent season .. ever since I was a little kid, I was always filled with anticipation during this time. The Christmas lights will go up, Christmas music is playing everywhere, the snow flurries begin to blow. In fact, Christmas Day was always (and to a certain extent, remains) a real let down for me. I loved living in the season of expectation. I get a real sense that our church is experiencing a new season of expectation.

This past week, a few of us met with a youth group representative from the Synod to pick his brain on how we might cater more to the youth in our church (those who attend and those who do not yet attend!).

Rally Day was a huge success, with many new volunteers for our mission here at Good Shepherd. Bible Study kicked off in October on Tuesday mornings at 9:00, and we will be planning our first Pub Theology evening discussion group for November. I love the vibe and energy I feel each Sunday. ... I hope you do too.

So, we wait with anticipation and expectation for what the Lord will do through us at Good Shepherd.

~Don



From the Council President

November 2025

Good Day Fellow Members of the Flock

Thanks to everyone who participated to make Rally Day such a success. The sign-up sheets have been distributed to the chairmen of the various teams and you should be hearing shortly if you have not heard already. I feel a new energy pulsing through the congregation and that is terrific. If you know members who have not been attending, please contact them and let them know we miss them and would like to have them join us.

It is so nice to have the choir back after their summer hiatus. We see the familiar faces as well as some new faces in the choir this year. They sound terrific and add so much to Sunday services. Thanks to Nancy Davis, the choir director, for all she does. If you feel the pull to express your joy through music, I am sure you would be welcomed in either the choir or the bell choir.

Just a reminder about the congregation meeting on **Sunday, November 9, at 9:30 A.M.** We will be meeting between the services, so it is imperative that we start on time. We will be voting on our Mission Spending Plan for 2026 as well as electing council members. The nominating committee has been working very hard seeking those who are willing to serve on council. We have four available positions. This is a very important service you can provide the church. If you feel a call to do this after prayerful consideration, please contact a member of the nominating committee: Jenny Miller, Mark Roberts or Shelby Dunn. Besides making those important decisions on the day to day running of the church, each council member serves as a liaison between council and the church committees. It is vital to the smooth running of the church to have good people in those positions.

I would also like to thank Edie Vrooman, who recently resigned from council. Edie served on the executive Board as Secretary. We will miss her astute observations. Thank you for your service, Edie.

We are in the process of changing treasurers. Terry Rust has volunteered to take over that position, and Diane Timmons has worked very hard preparing him to take over the reins. Thanks to both of them. So do not be surprised when you see an additional face explaining our proposal for the new mission spending plan.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the 2025 church council. They have served the church faithfully for the past 10 months. They arrive every 2nd Tuesday with purpose and are ready to tackle the business of the church. Even when council meetings run a little longer, they do not complain (at least not out loud). We have seen a lot of change this year, and the church could not have been in better hands to see us through it all.

Yours in Christ,

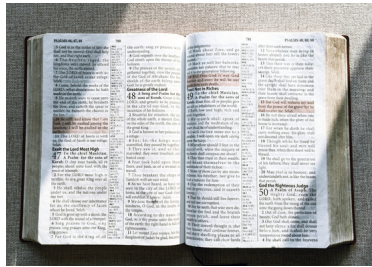
Chris Zechman

Life at Good Shepherd

WORSHIP

Join us for **in person** worship, Sunday mornings at **8:30 A.M. & 10:30 A.M.** Watch our late service live stream at **10:30 A.M.** on Facebook or anytime just by going to our page!

(Click the Facebook icon to be taken directly to our page.)



Bible Study at Good Shepherd

Join in Bible study, **Tuesday mornings at 9:00 A.M.** each week, for in-person class. The materials for each week are sent out the day prior via email. Everyone is welcome to attend!

Important Dates to Remember in November

Bible Study at Good Shepherd - Tuesdays in November - 4, 11, 18, 25

All Saints Sunday - Sunday, November 2

Daylight Savings Time Ends - Monday, November 2

Congregation Meeting - Sunday, November 9

Veteran's Day - Tuesday, November 11

Church Council Meeting - Tuesday, November 11

Thanksgiving Carry-In/Cookie Sunday - Sunday, November 16

December Newsletter Submission Deadline - Monday, November 17

Men's Breakfast Club - Thursday, November 20

Food Pantry - Thursday, November 20

Christ the King Sunday - Sunday, November 23

Thanksgiving Day - Thursday, November 27 (Church Office Closed)



Annual Congregation Meeting

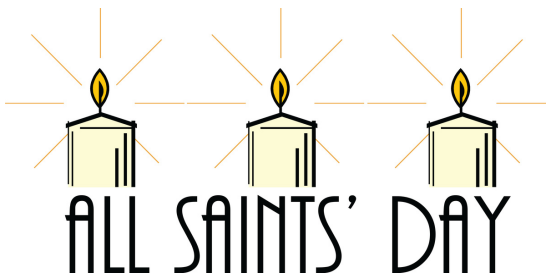
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING
will be held
Sunday, November 9, at 9:30 A.M.

Together we will accomplish these items:

1. Nominating Committee Report
2. Vote on 2026 Council Members
3. 2026 Mission Spending Plan
4. Acceptance of Meeting Minutes 2024-2025

Copies of the 2026 Mission Spending Plan are available
at the church
and will be at the meeting.

Your presence & involvement is needed and welcome!



ALL SAINTS SUNDAY is **November 2nd**. Good Shepherd's tradition is to remember those in the church who have passed to the Church Triumphant in the past year, as well as to remember our family and friends who have also passed. In addition, we recognize all of God's children, who are a part of the Communion of Saints: Those around you on Sunday, and those whom have not come to be with us yet. We are all saints in the eyes of God.

Christmas Poinsettia Orders

Christmas poinsettia order time is here again! Starting Sunday, **November 2**, order forms will be included with bulletins for both services. This year there will be a choice of red or white poinsettias (as in years past, if white isn't available, the order will be filled with red). They will be **\$12.00/each** and come in a **6-inch foil covered pot**. Be sure to use a special offering envelope for your order, marked "Poinsettias," and please be sure to include that notation on your check. Return your orders to the church office no later than **Sunday, December 7, 2025**.





Some Photos from Oktoberfest!



The choir prepared special music
for the day!



The German themed luncheon included
brats, potato salad, sauerkraut and a
plethora of desserts.



Community Garden



On Saturday, October 18th we wrapped up most of the Community Garden activity for the season...the last of the vegetables are picked, plants are pulled, weeds are pulled, and tomato cages are tucked away in the shed. Thanks to Susan and Richard Kogler, and Karen Beckett for their work on Saturday, and thanks to Skip Warner for letting us dump the garden refuse in the back of his pickup truck. The garden was a great producer this year with over 200 pounds of vegetables going to the Soup Kitchen, the Food Pantry, and our community neighbors. Thanks also, to all of you who helped make the garden successful all during the summer by planning, planting, watering, and praying...and a special thanks to Susan Kogler...the garden wouldn't have survived without you.

God's work, our hands.

Deb B

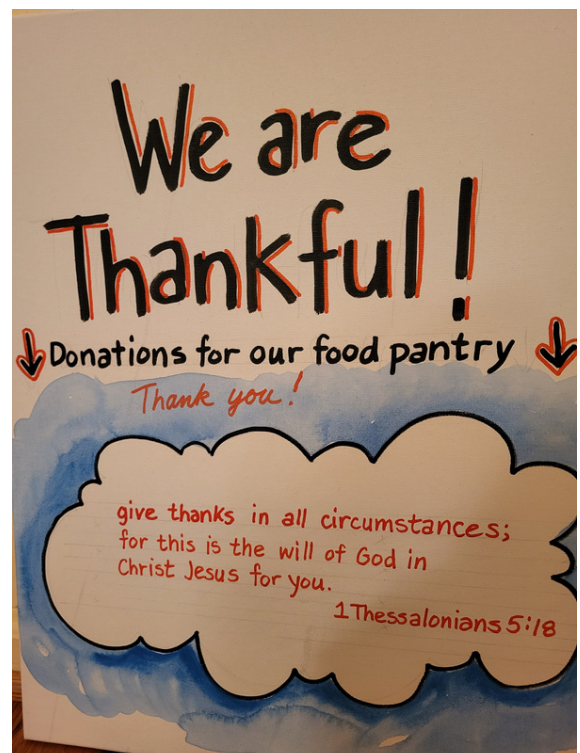
that's a
WRAP





We are Thankful!

Ouch, everything costs more! So, if you can spare some extra groceries for our hungry neighbors, bring them to church. Like last year, we will have a "**We are Thankful**" table as you enter. This will continue **through Advent**. But feel free to donate anytime! Consider using the handy blue bags. Remember, you don't need to buy everything on the list. Perhaps you catch a sale of one item, go for it! We appreciate your generosity! Thanks, denise roberts



Good Shepherd



Food Pantry

Our talented, caring pantry volunteers handed out tomatoes from the garden, fresh plums, eggs, groceries and meat to 250 grateful neighbors. The weather was glorious!

Thank you to all of you who donated food, funds and prayers to our cause. It is good to do something we know is right!

Here are this month's volunteers:

Mike Acton, Richard & Susan Kogler, Shelby Dunn, Nick Lubber, Skip Warner, Edie Vrooman, Mark Roberts, Dianne Kress, Barb Hairston, Mary Parsons, Terry Rust, Linda Orum, Chris Zechman, Deb Botkin, Nancy Finke, Karen Beckett, Pastor Don & Becky Humphreys, Nancy & Doug Davis, Richard Meeks, Cindy Warrington, Philip & Pam Winchell

Please consider joining us **Thursday, November 20th at 5:30pm.**

God's work. Our hands!

denise roberts

Shop at Kroger? Sign up for the **Kroger Community Rewards Program!**

This gives our pantry a check at least three times a year. Just log on the internet to the Kroger Community Rewards Program and every time you shop at Kroger, you help our pantry!

Pantry Needs

breakfast items

canned meat

pasta

peanut butter

soup

tomato sauce

AND

plastic shopping bags





Property Committee Update!

Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church November 2025 Newsletter

As previously reported Terry Rust and Skip Warner began painting the exterior doors of the Church on July 22, 2025, and completed all 8 of them Friday, October 17, 2025. There remains a few “finishing/touch up items” on all the doors such as painting or staining the thresholds, installing a brass kick plates and door sweeps but these items will be completed the week of Sunday through Saturday, October 19 – 25, 2025, respectively.

On Saturday, October 18, 2025, Property Committee members Richard Kogler, Terry Rust and Skip Warner cut down the Maiden Grass on the south lawn. The Garden Committee members were also very active and cleaned up the Garden Plots as well. The Maiden Grass and garden recycling was hauled off to C & S Tree Service, 2551 Dayton Rd, for recycling.

The North and South Tower Roofs were inspected over the months of September and October of 2025. A roofing vendor has been chosen, and the South Tower “Arch Window Level Roof” (i.e., roof above the Old Sacristy) will be replaced, as well as rebuilding of 2 North Tower Hatches that had deteriorated to the point of requiring replacement. All 4 roofs will be cleaned and the “field cloth/screening mesh” around all Arch Windows will be inspected and secured as necessary. Stay tuned to learn more about this planned work at the upcoming Congregational Meeting on Sunday, November 9, 2025.

Good Shepherd experienced heavy rain on Sunday, October 19, 2025. This rainfall emphasized the need for the South Tower “Arch Window Level Roof” replacement as water flooded the Old Sacristy space. The water was kept mopped up and as a further precaution the gutters in that area were cleaned out on Monday, October 20, 2025.

*Respectfully Submitted by,
Don “Skip” Warner, GSELC Property Committee Tri-Chair
Monday, October 20, 2025*

The Quilting Room

Rally Day was a success for the quilting group. There were new signatures on the list! That's a good thing. Now how to organize and use our new talented quilt group is the next challenge. We have 6 bags of material to sort through. The day for this fun activity will be **Saturday, November 8 at 10:00 A.M.** (we should be finished by 11:00 or 11:30 A.M.) We need people to sort by color, size and type of material. If there are extra hands, they can select some compatible materials to use in a quilt top and bottom. There are rotary cutters and cutting mats that can be used to cut quilt blocks. I will bring an assortment of cut squares for any one who wants to sew them at home. Not everyone needs to sew to help the quilt process. Hope to see everyone **Saturday, November 8, at 10:00 A.M.** for a little material work.

God's Work, Our Hands. Mary Parsons



Mary,

I just wanted to thank you for your generous gift of blankets. They look amazing and they will make those who receive them feel loved and seen! I will make sure and let the recipients know they were made with love! Thank you!
Aaron Ray



Special Offerings

Each month, Good Shepherd highlights one of our outreach programs, and asks the congregation to remember them with gifts to continue their missions.

These programs include, Habitat for Humanity, the Community garden, the Pastor's Discretionary Fund, and the Food Pantry.

By featuring these, it will be a gentle reminder of the work that your generous contributions make in helping others.

To make a donation, use an Special Offering envelope, found in the back of the pew, and mark it with the charity's name. You may also mail your gift to the church, be sure to note the program your donation is designated for on your check or in a note.

The outreach for November and December will again benefit the **Pastor's Discretionary Fund.**

In Christ,
Christine Zechman

Groups, Gatherings and Constant News



Announcement Page Prayer Chain

The list of names for prayer concerns is included on the announcement page. If you would like to add someone to this list, please contact the office by Thursday of the current week. You may fill out the Members of the Flock insert under Prayer Requests, call the church office, or email the church office. Once the prayer concern has passed, please contact the office to remove the name(s).

Altar Flowers

Would you like to give altar flowers to brighten the sanctuary on a special Sunday? You can now check for open altar flower dates, each week, in the announcement page. We do not limit the number of vases so feel free to order for any special occasion!



Audiovisual Center

We're excited to share that our streaming capabilities have never been better! Many of you have enjoyed our services online thru Facebook, whether live or on demand in the days that follow. Now, our equipment has a new, dedicated home—replacing the old folding table with a professional, organized and very beautiful Roll Top desk. This upgrade enhances security plus the quality and reliability of our streams, ensuring a seamless experience for everyone tuning in. Please feel free to stop back by the organ and check it out!





Bible Study

In-person bible study is back at Good Shepherd. Come join us **Tuesdays at 9:00 A.M.** Bible study materials are sent out the day prior to Tuesday's class. Everyone is welcome to attend!!



Coffee Hour

Volunteers are needed for this **every Sunday event**. A sign-up calendar and instructions are in the Fellowship room. Volunteers for Coffee Sundays can bring cookies or sweets to share on Cookie Sunday. We appreciate all of our volunteers and look forward to a little warmth for all who gather to worship! - **The Fellowship Team**

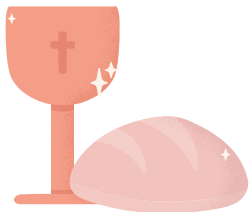


Hot beverage menu:

Coffee (decaf [until it all used] and regular)

Hot water for tea and cocoa

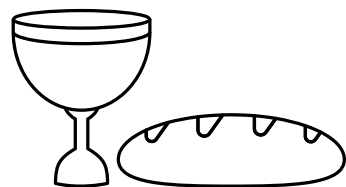
Communion Stewards/Servants of the Lord



Would you like to be a part of our team of communion stewards? We set up the communion bread, wine and grape juice each Sunday and do a small amount of clean up after the service. Our group is organized so that most teams just serve every other month and there are plenty of us who would be happy to show you how it works. If you're interested in being a part of this important ministry, please contact Sandy Falkner at (937) 215-2956 or mom_falkner@hotmail.com.

Communion Update

We are blessed to commune together with the Community of Saints in the Eucharist! God's grace abounds! We will commune at the communion rail (come to communion rail, kneel or stand, and elements will be brought to you) for the foreseeable future.



Cookie Sundays

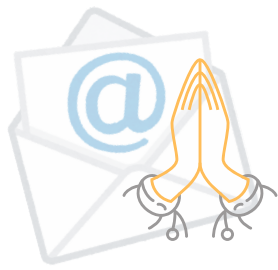
Cookie Sundays are the **3rd Sunday** of each month. You are invited to join in community and share some coffee and cookies!



Digital Outreach

Please go to jointheflock.org to see our website, it is open for viewing to all, share it with your friends. Help get the word out about Good Shepherd, and have a look if you haven't already seen our website.

Also please "like" our page on Facebook; search "good shepherd Springfield." Our late Sunday services are available to view online during the service and any time afterwards, as streaming video.



Email Prayer Chain

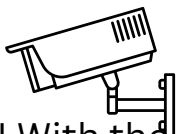
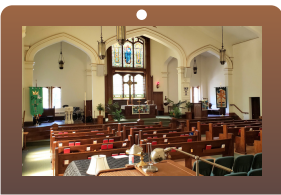
Would you like to be a part of the Email Prayer Chain? Call or email the Church office and we will put you on that list.



Homebound Communion

It is time to renew our homebound communion ministry! If you would like to be a part of this important ministry, by taking the consecrated elements from our worship service to those who are unable to be with us in person, please contact the office. We Share in God's grace by building relationships!

Invitation to Join the A/V Team



Good Shepherd has a wonderful online presence now! With the new audio/visual system we are able to provide a welcoming and more pleasing visual experience for those watching on Facebook. We would love for you to be a part of the A/V team! Please contact Nick Lubbers at (937) 408-0104, if you would like to be a part of this important outreach ministry.

Men's Breakfast Club

Please consider joining us for good conversation, fellowship, and breakfast. We will continue to meet at Studebaker's on Troy Rd, the third Thursday of each month. *Our next meeting will be **Thursday, November 20, at 9:00 A.M.*** Questions? Contact Don Bendure: dbendure136@gmail.com



One Call Now is a platform for sending voice, text, and email messages to a large group. Good Shepherd is using One Call Now to notify congregants of things like unexpected closings and special messages, as well as weekly Bible verses provided by the church leader. One Call Now is up and running and you should have received messages if you have signed up to be included in One Call Now. If you want to sign up for One Call Now, be taken off the "Call" list, or change your mode of contact (message or email), contact Deb Botkin at dkbotkin@outlook.com or (937) 271-7688.



The Pilot Club of Springfield is a member of the Kentucky-Ohio9 West Virginia Region of Pilot Club International, an organization of service clubs around the world, and is grateful to use the facilities at Good Shepherd for their regular monthly meeting. The local Pilot Club supports a variety of nonprofit organizations in and around Springfield. The Pilot Club does a seasonal craft project every month for the local Hospice program to cheer up the care givers. They raise funds to support the Alzheimer's Association and Pet Assisted Therapy. Pilot Club meets at **5:30 PM on the second Monday of the month** at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. Anyone interested in joining the club should contact Chris Zechman (937-399-1867).

Do more. Care more. Be more.



The Good Shepherd WiFi connection is named: **GSELC_WIFI_Guest**. The password is available on a sign at the back of the sanctuary or in the Fellowship room near the television.

If you are connecting to the WiFi for the first time, be sure you enter the password exactly as you receive it, so that you can access the WiFi.



Yarners

Yarners is a group of women who meets **every Wednesday** at various homes for crafting, fun and conversation.

Everyone brings their own craft, be it knitting, sewing, drawing, crocheting, and works at their own pace while sharing life. We'd be happy to have you join us, no need to be a church member. Contact Barb Bendure (bbendure136@gmail.com) or Marcia Morris (mmorris937@aol.com) for more information.

12-Step Program
Tuesdays at 4:30 P.M.
Call Dan at 937-206-2372
Al-Anon
Fridays at 8:00 P.M.



**LUTHERAN
WORLD RELIEF**

Thank You!

October 7, 2025

Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church
712 N Fountain Avenue
Springfield, OH 45504-2263

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your gift of \$673.61 to Lutheran World Relief's Quilt and Kit Shipping Fund.

Thanks to caring and compassionate people like you, LWR Quilts and Kits have brought comfort and blessing to people in their time of need for an incredible 80 years. Their first recipients were families in Europe recovering from World War II. Since then, these lovingly handmade gifts have comforted millions of people enduring famine, disaster, conflict and generational poverty all over the world, including in the United States.

All told, more than 28 million quilts — and millions more kits on top of that — have blessed our neighbors near and far since this unique ministry began. Thanks to your dedicated support, we will continue to heap blessings upon those who need them most ... until your love reaches every neighbor.

In Christ,

Ambassador Daniel V. Speckhard
President and CEO

P.S. God bless you and your generous spirit.

As required by the IRS, this letter confirms that Lutheran World Relief has given you no goods or services in return for this gift. This letter is your receipt for your charitable gift of \$673.61 –Quilt & Kit Shipping Fund.

Please retain this letter for tax purposes

Upcoming Community Events



Blood Drive Sponsored By First Lutheran Church Springfield

Wittenberg Hall
30 S. Wittenberg Ave.
Springfield, OH 45502

**Thursday, November 20, 2025
1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: FLSpringfield to schedule an appointment.

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.



Give blood Nov. 17-Dec. 7 for an exclusive pair of Red Cross x PAC-MAN socks, while supplies last!

Schedule your blood donation appointment today!

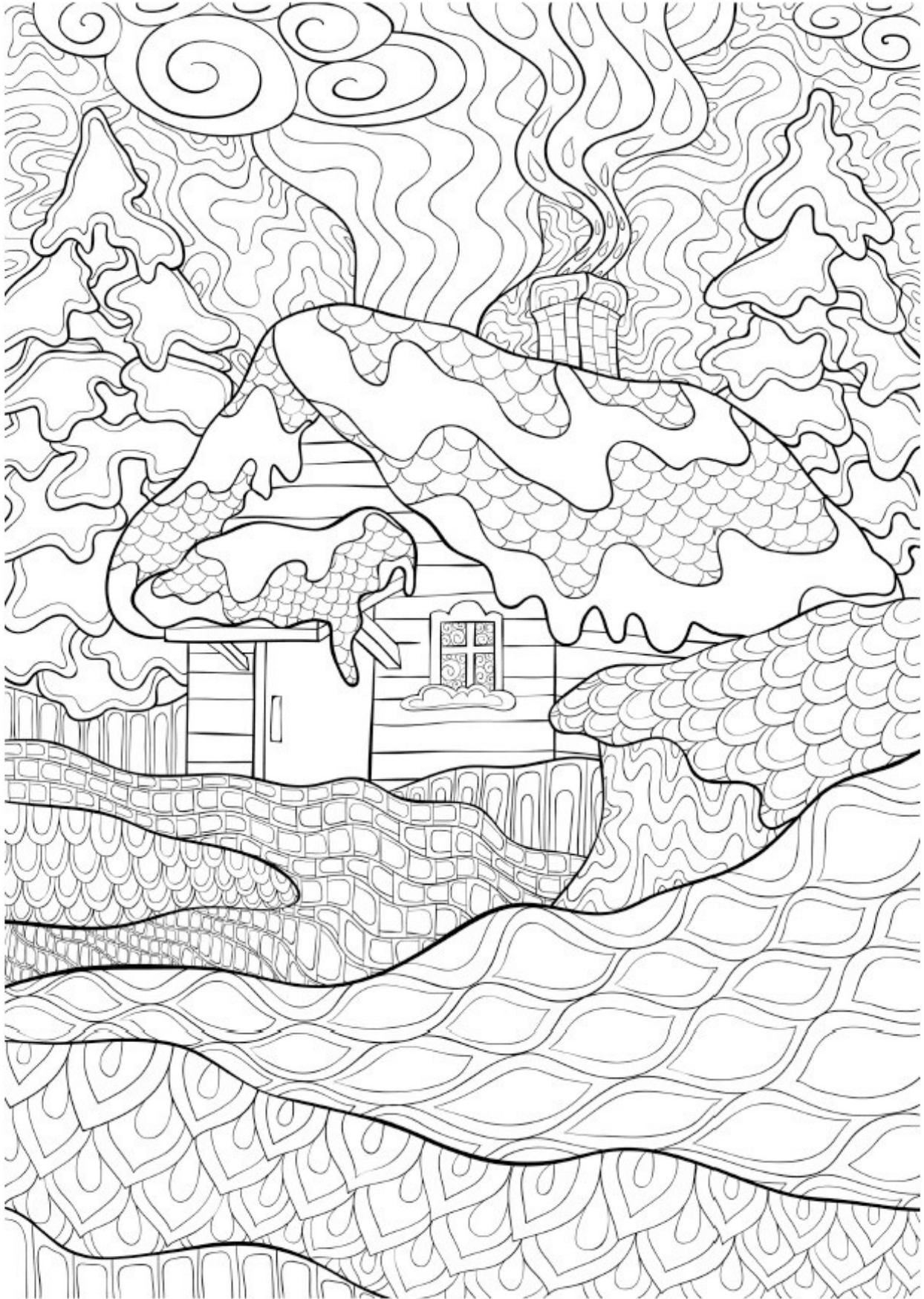
1-800-RED CROSS | RedCrossBlood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

© 2025 The American National Red Cross | 504301-3

[58] Order ID: 185323 - Item ID: 944713 - Qty: 1 of 1 - 3025-APL054-2025-APL0742 - ARCO - 250322

*Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands;
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.*

Psalms 98



Prayer Coloring: Take some time to color and pray. Meditate on the message.
Spend some time alone with God.