



Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

July 25, 2021

Westminster Presbyterian Church extends an enthusiastic welcome, in Christ's name, to all who worship here or join us in fellowship. Our church family seeks to embody God's boundless love by embracing, liberating and empowering people – whoever they are and wherever they may be on their faith journeys – to realize the transforming power of Christ in our congregation, community and the world beyond.



**Covenant Network Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)
Earth Care Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)
Matthew 25 Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)**

1502 West 13th Street ♦ Wilmington, DE 19806 ♦ 302-654-5214 ♦ www.wpc.org

We hope you will stay connected with our community of faith during this season of social distancing by subscribing to the *Westminster Weekly Word* e-newsletter through the homepage of our website (www.wpc.org), liking us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/wpcdelaware), or following us on Instagram (www.instagram.com/wpcdelaware).

Today at Westminster

8:30 – 10:00 a.m. **Food Collection** for Emmanuel Dining is in the Westminster parking lot.
Vegetable Collection is at the back of the Westminster parking lot.
WPC/Friendship House School Uniform Collection is in the Westminster parking lot.

9:00 – 9:45 a.m. **Worship** in the Sanctuary. See new guidelines on page 7.

9:00 – 9:45 a.m. **Prayground** in Community Hall. Worship is live streamed and activities are provided for children. Masking (for those over the age of 2) and social distancing are required. See new guidelines on page 7.

Please see page 6 for information on Educational Offerings for Adults.

Today's Music: We welcome Gayle Martin, piano, as our guest instrumentalist in worship. Gayle achieved international prominence as sole American laureate in the sixth International Tchaikovsky Piano Competition in Moscow—the third American woman ever to reach the finals. The Houston native was one of the last students of Rosina Lhévinne at Juilliard and has presented solo recitals and performed as concerto soloist with orchestras around the world. Her latest CD recording, *To Keep the Dark Away*, has received rave reviews and is available on Amazon.com.

Westminster has been certified as an Earth Care Congregation by the Presbyterian Church (USA) for the 11th consecutive year. This honor means we exhibit exceptional leadership in protecting God's creation and are good stewards of earth's resources through our worship, education, outreach and advocacy. Only 2% of the 10,000 Presbyterian congregations in the U.S. have earned this honored distinction.

Westminster is a Matthew 25 Congregation that strives to eradicate systemic poverty, dismantle structural racism, and build congregational vitality. The gospel calls us to actively engage in the world so that our faith comes alive.

Westminster is a member of the Covenant Network of Presbyterians whose mission is to strengthen the church of Jesus Christ, with the help of God's grace, by working for the unity of the church, furthering the inclusion of LGBTQ persons, seeking understanding and reconciliation, and joining with others seeking a more just and inclusive church.

The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in memory of Pauline "Polly" Wilson who passed away in May at age 102 by Gail and Ells Edwards.

Recently hospitalized: Linda McGregor

Consider giving the flowers for Sunday worship to remember or honor loved ones or to celebrate an event, while expressing praise and thanksgiving to God. Please contact Linda Watson during business hours at 302-571-6719 or lwatson@ycst.com. Available dates are August 15, 22, and 29, and September 19.

Westminster's Prayer Team prays for the needs of our community of faith. You may submit a prayer request by email: wpcprayerlist@gmail.com.

You can make a contribution to Westminster Presbyterian Church by visiting our website www.wpc.org and click the "Donate Now" button or scan the QR code on your smart phone.



ORDER OF WORSHIP- SUNDAY, JULY 25, 2021

TOWER CHIME

Craig Checkel

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Fantasia in C Major, Op. 17 (excerpt)
Gayle Martin, piano

Robert Schumann

CALL TO WORSHIP

All who thirst, come to the waters!
Listen to me and eat what is good;
enjoy the richest of feasts!

Our souls thirst for the living God.

I am the bread of life;
come to me and never be hungry.
Believe in me and thirst no more.

Our souls hunger for the living God.

All who hunger, gather gladly!
Seek the One who satisfies our longings;
call upon the One who sustains our souls.

Let us worship the living God!

HYMN NO. 509

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly (Vs. 1, 2 & 3)

HOLY MANNA

All who hunger, gather gladly; holy manna is our bread. Come from wilderness and wandering. Here, in truth, we will be fed. You that yearn for days of fullness, all around us is our food. Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.	All who hunger, never strangers, seeker, be a welcome guest. Come from restlessness and roaming. Here, in joy, we keep the feast. We that once were lost and scattered in communion's love have stood. Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.
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All who hunger, sing together; Jesus Christ is living bread.
Come from loneliness and longing. Here, in peace, we have been led.
Blest are those who from this table live their days in gratitude.
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**O Christ, when the crowds surrounded you,
hungry for bread and for your word,
you took an offering — five loaves, two fish —
and made for them a feast.
Still, O Lord, we doubt the abundance of your grace.
Still, O Lord, we are hesitant to share the gifts we have.
Still, O Lord, we wonder whether there is enough for all.
Forgive us, O God, and make of us a more generous people.
Empower us to share the gift of our lives,
and enlighten us to see the miracles around us.
For you are the giver of grace upon grace,
the one who turns want into plenty. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

[Click here](#) to watch today's TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN on Westminster's YouTube channel.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 6:1-15

David Robertson

HYMN NO. 460

Break Thou the Bread of Life (Vs. 1 & 2)

BREAD OF LIFE

Break thou the bread of life, dear Lord, to me,
as thou didst break the loaves beside the sea.
Beyond the sacred page I seek thee, Lord.
My spirit pants for thee, O living Word!

Bless thou the truth, dear Lord, now unto me,
as thou didst bless the bread by Galilee.
Then shall all bondage cease, all fetters fall.
And I shall find my peace, my all in all.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 6:25-35

SERMON

Sudie Niesen Thompson

ANTHEM

I Am the Bread of Life
Hye Eun Choi, soprano

Suzanne Toolan

I am the bread of life. You who come to me shall not hunger;
And who believe in me shall not thirst.
No one can come to me unless the Father beckons.
And I will raise you up on the last day.
The bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world,
And if you eat of this bread, you shall live forever.
I am the Resurrection; I am the life.
If you believe in me, even though you die, you shall live forever.
Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God.
Who have come into the world.
And I will raise you up on the last day.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

HYMN NO. 65

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah (Vs. 1, 2 & 3)

CWM RHONDDA

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, Open now the crystal fountain,
pilgrim through this barren land. whence the healing stream doth flow.
I am weak, but thou art mighty. Let the fire and cloudy pillar
Hold me with thy powerful hand. lead me all my journey through.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
feed me till I want no more; be thou still my strength and shield;
feed me till I want no more. be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside.
Death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever give to thee; I will ever give to thee.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Holy Manna

John S. Dixon

GOING FORTH: OFFERING OUR GIFTS AND OUR LIVES TO GOD

With gratitude for the grace we have received, we go forth from worship to offer our energy, our hands, and part of our income in service to God. One way we respond to Christ's call is by giving our financial gifts to further God's mission in the world. You may mail a check to the church or make an online offering to support the many ministries of Westminster Presbyterian Church by clicking "Donate Now" on the homepage of our website (www.wpc.org).

SOURCES AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The resources for children attached at the end of the online bulletin are provided by Illustrated Ministry. Please print them to participate in this service or for family devotions throughout the week.

The Prayer of Confession is from *Call to Worship (2020-2021)*, edited by Kimberly Bracken Long and published by the Office of Theology and Worship of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

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"I AM" Sermon Series:

If four artists were to paint the same model, they would create four unique portraits. Their works would differ based on perspective, personal style, or simply the play of the light. In the same way, the four Gospel writers create four unique portraits of Jesus the Messiah. One way John paints his portrait is through metaphor — comparing Christ to images that would be familiar to the Gospel's original audience: bread, light, shepherd, vine. Throughout the Gospel, Jesus likens himself to various objects and concepts through statements that always begin the same way: "I am ..." During Dr. Jones' sabbatical, the Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson — along with the Rev. Jill Getty and the Rev. Dr. Tracy Keenan — will explore the seven "I AM" statements of John's Gospel and the ways they contribute to a unique portrait of the Messiah who dwells among us.

July 25 —	I am the Bread of Life
August 1 —	I am the Light of the World
August 8 —	I am the Gate for the Sheep
August 15 —	I am the Good Shepherd (Jill Getty)
August 22 —	I am the Resurrection and the Life
August 29 —	I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life (Tracy Keenan, New Castle Presbytery Missional Presbyter)
September 5 —	I am the True Vine

EDUCATIONAL OFFERINGS

You can find virtual Christian education and small group opportunities on the homepage of the Westminster website (www.wpc.org) and check out other Education Offerings for Adults on [YouTube](#).

Online Bible Studies

Wednesday afternoons, 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. on Zoom (Midweek Manna Bible Study)

The Midweek Manna Bible Study, facilitated by the Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson, is taking a break until September 8. See you back in the fall!

Wednesday evenings, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. on Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88941171153?pwd=MmxuZWVvREhZSVExS3IveXQvTUhaQT09>

Our Bible Study, facilitated by Randy Williamson and Mary Anne Peters, continues and new faces are always welcome.

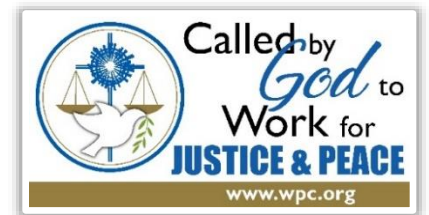
WPC Peace & Justice Online Education Events

Thursday, July 29, 7 p.m. on Zoom

Rethink Foster Care

Presented by Christine Hoehn, DE Division of Family Services

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86027521655>



Currently there are over 500 foster care children in Delaware. We invite you to join us to learn about Delaware's foster care system from Christine Hoehn, with the Delaware Division of Family Services and a former foster parent. You will have a bird's-eye view on what challenges and opportunities currently exist, as well as what you can do about it. Use the Zoom link above, or go to zoom.us/join, enter Meeting ID **860 2752 1655** and click "Join."

Adult Education Series – “After the New Testament: Early Christian Apocrypha”

Wednesday evenings in July, 7 p.m. on Zoom

Facilitated by Bob Cox

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89904680006?pwd=UDg0M0IzbWNCa1NqcEc3V0pjd1ZVdz09>

Christians didn't stop writing after the first century. The gospels, letters, and other writings in our New Testament canon are not the only writings early Christians were reading in the first centuries of the church. Some of those writings fill gaps and answer questions arising from the works that were later canonized. "Why was Mary chosen to be the mother of Jesus?" "What was Jesus like as a child?" "If Mary was a perpetual virgin, who were Jesus' siblings?" "Why isn't Joseph in the gospels?" "What's going to happen to the people who don't go to heaven?" We'll explore these and other questions over the four weeks of this study.

The final class is July 28 – Other Apocalypses

Sunday Worship COVID Policy

- If you are fully vaccinated and comfortable going without a mask please sit in the front part of the sanctuary and the side transepts. These sections are open seating and mask optional for fully vaccinated people. Please access these sections via the lectern-side transept door off the main hallway.
- If you are not vaccinated or choose to wear a mask, you will be able to social distance in the back part of the sanctuary and balcony. Masks must be worn at all times in these sections. Please access these sections through the Narthex (behind the screen at the rear of the sanctuary).
- Ushers at both entrances will be masked and available to direct you to the proper section.
- *Everyone* is required to wear a mask when entering or exiting the building. This is for the well-being of those who are not vaccinated.
- If you have children too young to be vaccinated, you are welcome to worship in the sanctuary, but we have also created a safe, kid-friendly space. We are calling it the **Prayground**. This worship space is in Community Hall. We livestream our worship service into Community Hall and provide materials to help young children engage in worship. Masking (for those over age 2) and social distancing is required.



Vacation Bible School 2021 is On!

**Monday, July 26 – Friday, July 30
9 AM – 12 PM**

\$25 per child / \$40 maximum per family

All children Pre K – 6th grade are welcome to participate in “Knights of North Castle: Quest for the King’s Armor”. Stories, music, crafts, and games will be lively and fun as we explore Bible stories about the armor of God in our lives. Ready to register your child(ren) for VBS? Fill out this short form (<https://forms.gle/t2eq4Q49HqRV8WhX7>) to let us know, and we’ll send you an online registration packet! The registration fee is \$25 per child or \$40 maximum per family. Teen and adult helpers are invited to contact VBS Director Robin Rosser (rlrosser@aol.com) as soon as possible. [Click here](#) to read our COVID-19 safety guidelines for VBS this year.

PASTORAL STAFF

Gregory Knox Jones, Head of Staff
Sudie Niesen Thompson, Associate Pastor
Jill Getty, Pastoral Care Assistant

MUSIC STAFF

Director of Music/Organist: Dr. F. Anthony Thurman
Director of Music for Children and Youth: Alexis Droke
Choristers: Hye Eun Choi, Sharon Babcock, Teddy Austin, Brenton Mattox

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES STAFF

Director of Preschool Ministries: Teisha Fooks
Nursery: Beatrice Taylor, Kristen Wolanski

YOUTH LEADERS

Tommy Neilson: Interim 180 Leader
Josh Cox, Emily Knepper, Molly McPheeters

SUPPORT STAFF

Susan Alexander, Reception Area Supervisor
Mary Clark, Office Assistant for Data and Archives
Paul Crothamel, Director of Facilities and Security
Colleen Falasco, Director of Financial Operations
Nicole Hughes, Director of Marketing and Communications
Jerry Hunter, Manager of Accounting and Reporting
Suzie Hurlock, Administrative Assistant
Cathy Lang, Administrative Assistant
Sextons: Robert King, Daniel Steele, Joan Truitt, John Young

SESSION

Michelle Butler, Sally Buttner, Clark Collins, Bob Cox, Michael Enderle, Jessica Fischer, Dick Jolly, Carla Krupanski, Faith Kuehn, David Máthé, Kelly McCulloch, Susan McPheeters, KC Morrison, Jan Patrick, Chip Pfleegor, Todd Piercy, Roger Reinicker, Carrie Saathoff, Kent Smith, Janet Steinwedel, Barbara Stratton, Gill Timon, Mary Vane, Susan Williamson

BOARD OF DEACONS

Amy Bickhart, Jennifer Blackford, Russ Butler, Kyle Carrick, Ron Carrick, Beatty Chadwick, Diane Chandler, Eadie Churchill, Joe Daley, Tammy Daley, Kate Dietz, Nancy Fleming, Kendra Gallagher, Lili Gerstenschlager, Jamie Hickey, Paul Kelly, Mary Laskaris, Tara Lee, Arun Loptes, Gathoni Murugi-Jenkins, Marsha Mah, Dan McAllister, Blair McConnel, Debbie McCullough, Robert Moore, Roland Pamm, Lynne Perkins,
Emily Pfaff, Sandie Reinicker, Patti Ridout, Robin Rosser, Lisa Stoddard, Lois Underhill, Sue Weissinger, Sandra Wermus, Pam White, Pam Wilson

TRUSTEES

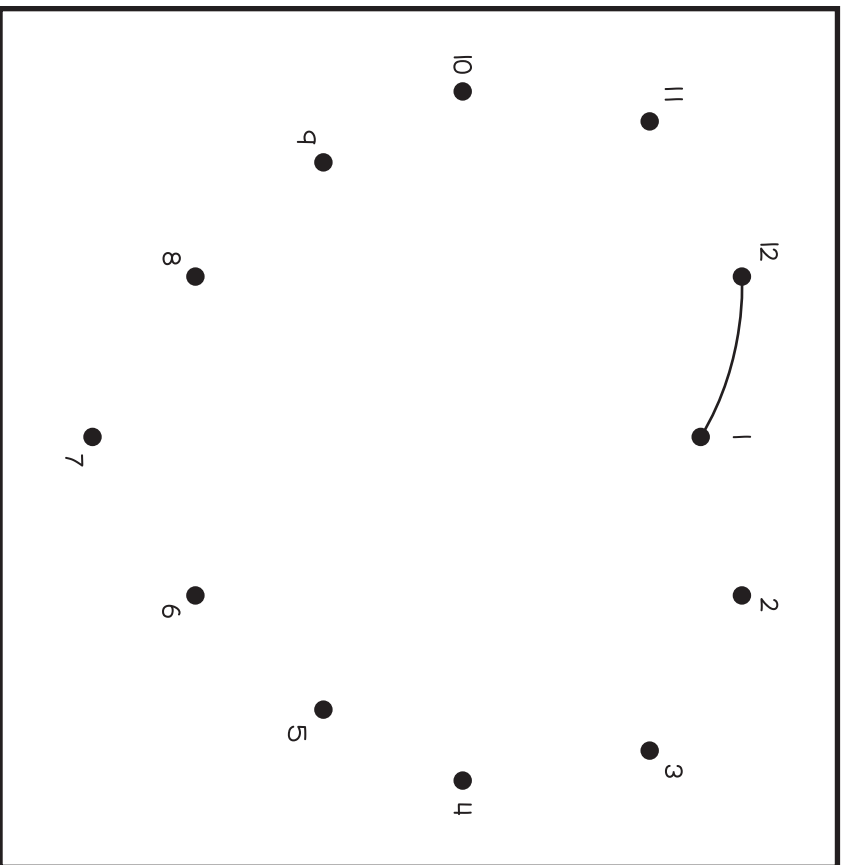
Rich Albert, Charles Babcock, Mark Gerstenschlager, Fred Iobst, Brock Jobe, Sue Linderman, Tom Preston, Kris Qualls, Bob Ridout, Stan Stevenson, Bruce Weber, Dan Weintraub

PARTNERS IN WORLDWIDE MINISTRY

DR Congo – PCUSA Mission Co-workers: Jeff and Christi Boyd, Larry and Inge Sthreshley;
Kananga Presbytery and Members of Kamulumba-Ditalala Parish
Iraq, Syria and Lebanon – PCUSA Mission Co-workers: the Reverends Elmarie and Scott Parker
Fellowship of Middle East Evangelical Churches, Ibillin and Haifa, Israel/Palestine – Peace Drums Steel Band
Guatemala – CEDEPCA, AJPU, Rosario Diaz and the Association of Mam Christian Women for Development

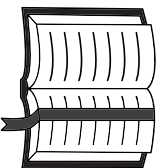
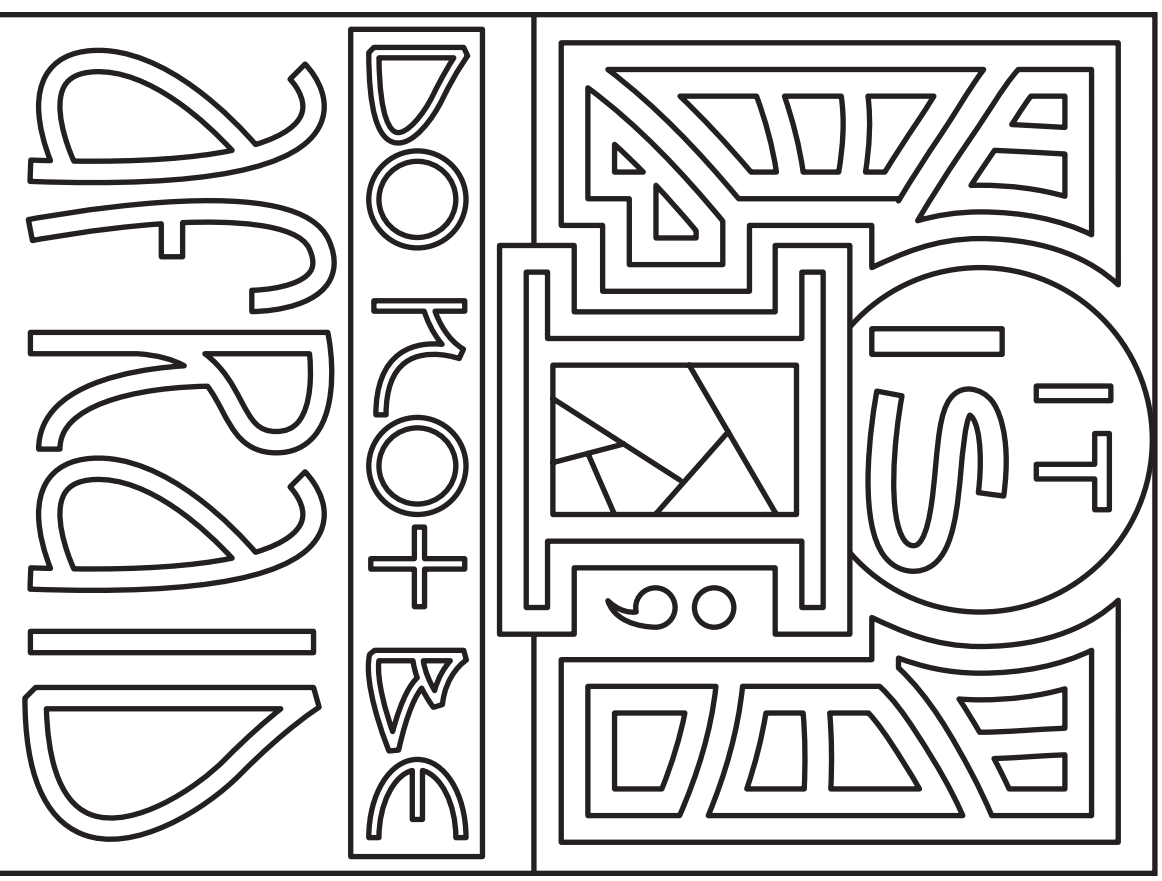
CONNECT the DOTS

In Ephesians 3, Paul prays we will know the breadth and length and height and depth of God's incredible love. Connect the dots to form a heart. Inside, write or draw a way you can share God's love.



CHILDREN'S WORSHIP • BULLETIN

Activities based on Ephesians 3: 14-21 and John 6: 1-12.

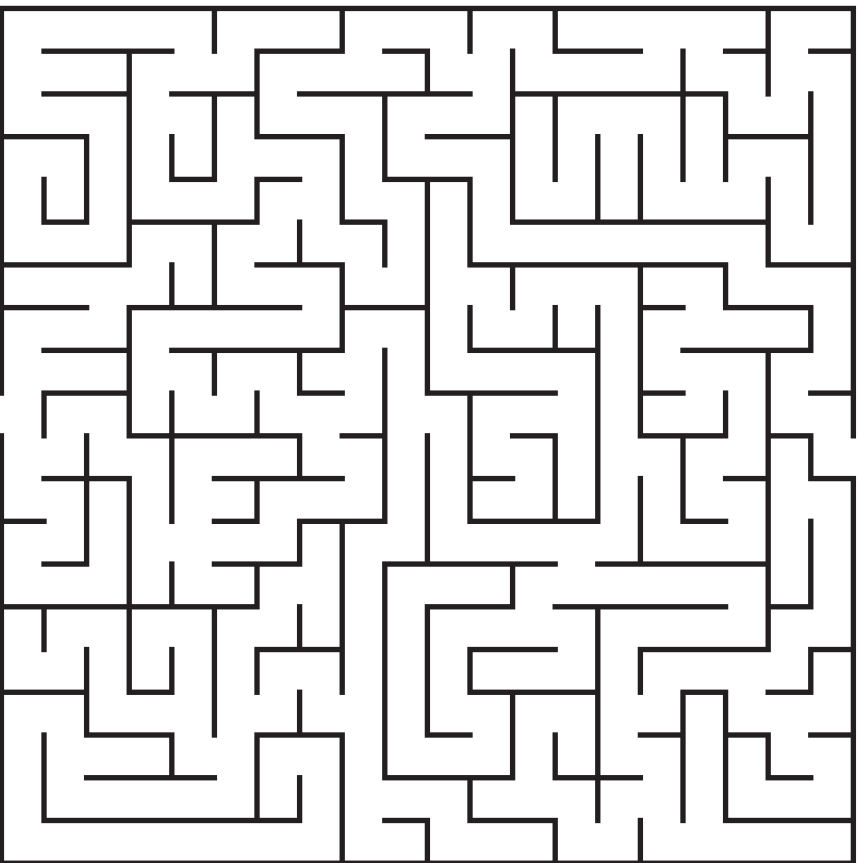
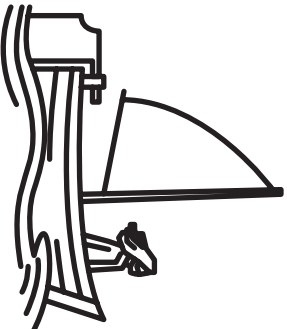


ILLUSTRATED
MINISTRY

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SOLVE (the) MAZE

In John 6, Jesus travels to the other side of the Sea of Galilee. Help him through the maze in his boat!



DRAW IT

Jesus did many miracles, including feeding hundreds of hungry people from a lunch a young boy shared. A kid gave Jesus his loaves of bread and fish, and Jesus used it to help a huge crowd! Draw what you imagine this scene looked like. Jesus can do beautiful things with what you offer and share too!

