

Halloween Word Search

Q M T J V M P L P L S W R Y N Y
S B R L E F W H X B V C L P K W
P H P Q V F T O S H T F X H X H
O B F H D J I J N O T E L E K S
O R Q C A N D Y I F U Q I O O B
K G H O S T S L K J J E N D O S
Y M Z L G J F C P H E K Y J X Y
I T E C O S T U M E S L A H X A
V G A X B K L M U M M Y H A K S
E A A B L Z S T P P I B U L H M
D M W F I T P A R T Y Q G L C U
A E Y Q N U G E S S L H Z O T S
S S B J E C C R F F K X P W I Y
T R I C K U P T J A S L Z E W E
F T Z Q W P X B J Q A B I E U W
M T V C R J K U D T M U S N H O

BOO
GAMES
HALLOWEEN
PARTY
SPOOKY
WITCH

CANDY
GHOSTS
MASK
PUMPKINS
TRICK

COSTUMES
GOBLIN
MUMMY
SKELETON
TREAT

ACCORDING TO READER'S DIGEST ... DID YOU KNOW?

- ➔ One-quarter of all the candy sold annually in the United States is purchased for Halloween.
- ➔ Halloween first started around 600 AD with the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain.
- ➔ Bobbing for apples was originally a fortune-telling game, where it was believed that the first person to catch an apple would be the next to marry.
- ➔ It's unknown where and when the phrase "trick or treat" was coined, but the custom was firmly established in American pop culture by 1951, when trick-or-treating was depicted in the Peanuts comic strip. In 1952, Disney produced a cartoon called "Trick or Treat" featuring Donald Duck and his nephews Huey, Dewey and Louie.
- ➔ Candy Corn was originally referred to as "chicken feed."

With pointed fangs I sit and wait
With piercing force, I dole out fate
Over bloodless victims, I proclaim my might
I can eternally join with a single bite.
What am I?
(Dracula or a stapler)



01 ~ Linda Parham
03 ~ Polly Stanberry
20 ~ Glenn Parham
25 ~ Betty Adams
28 ~ Joan Fisher
30 ~ Tiffany Walker



It's Pastor Appreciation Month

2026

Small Groups
meet every Sunday
at 9:30 a.m.
(unless otherwise noted)

OCT 04 COMMUNION SUNDAY	10:55 a.m. 4:45 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Morning Worship Choir Practice Quarterly Business Meeting CIA / Youth
OCT 06	10:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Group Bible Study Prayer Meeting
OCT 07	6:30 p.m.	Women's Bible Study
OCT 11	9:00 a.m. 10:55 a.m. 4:45 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	2 nd Sunday Celebration Morning Worship Choir Practice Bible Study / CIA / Youth
OCT 13	10:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Group Bible Study Prayer Meeting
OCT 14	6:30 p.m.	Women's Bible Study
OCT 18 ABCCM SUNDAY	10:55 a.m. 4:45 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Morning Worship / Baptism Choir Practice Family Night Adults on Mission / CIA / Youth
OCT 20	10:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Group Bible Study Prayer Meeting
OCT 21	6:30 p.m.	Women's Bible Study
OCT 25	10:55 a.m. 4:45 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Morning Worship Choir Practice Bible Study / CIA / Youth
OCT 27	10:55 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	Morning Worship Bible Study with the Pastor CIA / Youth
OCT 31	6:00 to 8:00 p.m.	Trunk or Treat

What do you call a skeleton that makes
you laugh and giggle when you're sad?



What goes "ha, ha, ha, THUD?"
(a zombie laughing with his head off)



RECLAIMING THE HEART OF THE GOSPEL Why Reformation Day Still Matters



On October 31, 1517, a young German monk named Martin Luther walked up to the heavy wooden doors of All Saints Church in Wittenberg and nailed a document containing 95 academic arguments to the front. He wasn't trying to start a global revolution or split the church; he simply wanted to spark a debate about practice and theology, specifically the sale of indulgences—certificates promising forgiveness

in exchange for money. Instead, that single act ignited the Protestant Reformation, changing the course of Christian history forever.

At its core, Luther's breakthrough was not about institutional politics, but about the human heart standing before a holy God. Struggling under the weight of his own sin, Luther tried everything the church offered to earn God's favor—rigorous fasting, constant confession, and self-denial. Yet peace eluded him until he closely studied the Apostle Paul's words in Romans 1:17: *The righteous shall live by faith.*

Salvation is a
free gift of God's
unmerited favor.

Luther realized what many in his day had forgotten: salvation cannot be bought, earned, or inherited. It is a free gift of God's unmerited favor.

Out of this rediscovery came the core principles of the Reformation, often summarized as the **Five Solas**:

- * **Sola Scriptura (Scripture Alone):** God's Word is our ultimate authority for faith and practice.
- * **Sola Fide (Faith Alone):** We are justified through faith, not by our good works or religious rituals.
- * **Sola Gratia (Grace Alone):** Salvation is entirely an act of God's unmerited grace.
- * **Solus Christus (Christ Alone):** Jesus Christ is our only mediator and the sole Savior of humanity.
- * **Soli Deo Gloria (Glory to God Alone):** All of life and salvation exist for God's glory alone.

As we look back on the Reformation, we aren't just celebrating a 16th-century historical event; we are celebrating the truth that sets us free today. The Reformation reminds us that the church must always be *semper reformanda*—always reforming, continually aligning our hearts, practices, and teachings with the truth of God's Word.

This month, take a moment to thank God for the grace that saved you. Rest in the knowledge that your standing with Him depends not on how hard you strive, but on what Christ has already finished on the cross.

I love being your Pastor,
Chris

OCTOBER
Pastor
Appreciation
MONTH

ENCOURAGING THE PASTOR

As you attend church, God has placed people in your path whose job it is to train you in righteousness and speak truth into your life. Your pastor, who loves you and cares about your spiritual well-being, needs to know you care about him too. In 2 Timothy 1:1-6, Paul models the way we're to encourage those who minister:

- ◆ Tell your pastor—and his family—you love him. Nothing is more uplifting than to know someone cares. Words are valuable, and actions can speak even more loudly. So intentionally seek ways to demonstrate your love for them.
- ◆ Express confidence in the pastor. Let him know you recognize the sincerity of his faith and appreciate his commitment to instill God's truth in your life.
- ◆ Affirm the call of God on his life. Work with your pastor; respond to him in a way that shows you understand he's been called to minister and God's hand is upon him.

When you experience the Lord working through him, let him know. When was the last time you expressed appreciation to your pastor and his family?

This month, look for ways to show them love (1 Thessalonians 5:12-13). Above all, pray for them: Ask the Lord to guide and strengthen them as they follow Him.

~ Copied

Happy Pastor Appreciation Month
Chris L. Reese!
We LOVE being your congregation!

IN CASE YOU DIDN'T KNOW...

OCTOBER IS PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

Pastor Appreciation Month is observed every October, with **Pastor Appreciation Day** on the second Sunday of the month, honoring the service and dedication of pastors and clergy.

This observance became official in 1992 as a way to show gratitude to those who have given their time and talents to selflessly serve in the ministry. The organization, *Focus on the Family*, first initiated the drive to promote October as National Clergy Appreciation Month. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the estimated number of employed clergy in the U.S. is 53,140!

And we have the BEST ONE right here at Enka Baptist Church!

Here are 5 reasons we should celebrate our Pastor this month:

1) YOUR PASTOR WORKS HARD

Pastoring is not an easy job! Your pastor works long hours, often behind the scenes. Preparing a sermon requires lots of work, and that's not all they do. They're also responsible for leading, administration, and pastoral care responsibilities.

A pastor is one of the first people called in times of emergency. And you can never predict when accidents, hospitalizations, or tragic events will occur, whether it's in the middle of the night or while your pastor is on vacation.

Although people like to joke that preachers only work one day a week, that couldn't be further from the truth.

2) YOUR PASTOR DEALS WITH TOUGH STUFF

Pastors have to deal with difficult and often tragic situations. In any given week, they might hear about someone getting a terminal cancer diagnosis, a marriage on the brink of divorce, or an untimely death.

It's not uncommon for this to become a challenge for their mental and emotional health over time. And there are other issues that can cause stress to their emotional and spiritual well-being. It's not always easy being the person everyone comes to with their problems and complaints. And yet, they continue to show up week after week because they know that God has called them to ministry.

3) YOUR PASTOR NEEDS ENCOURAGEMENT

Pastors are often seen as being strong and capable of handling any situation that comes their way. But they're only human. They need support, words of affirmation, and encouragement just like everyone else. In fact, because of the unique challenges they face, pastors often need it more than most.

4) YOUR PASTOR NEEDS REST

Based on all we've mentioned above, your pastor needs regular time off to rest and recharge. Unfortunately, most pastors don't get enough vacation time, and Sunday is always coming! The truth is, your pastor needs regular time away from work to prevent burnout. They need time to relax, enjoy hobbies and interests outside of the church, and connect with family and friends.

Pastor Appreciation Month is the perfect time to rally around your pastor and their family to give them a much-needed break. You can provide meals, do chores or errands, or provide them with a vacation or getaway.

By helping your pastor rest, you're also helping to prevent burnout. And that's something we can all get behind.

5) YOUR PASTOR DESERVES HONOR

The Bible is very clear about honoring our leaders. And that includes our pastors!

When we take the time to celebrate Pastor Appreciation Month, we are acknowledging them for their service. We are saying "thank you" for all they do to shepherd us and lead us closer to Jesus.

It's a way of showing our appreciation for the dedication, hard work, and sacrificial love.

Here are some Bible verses that speak to both those who honor and what the Bible says to encourage.

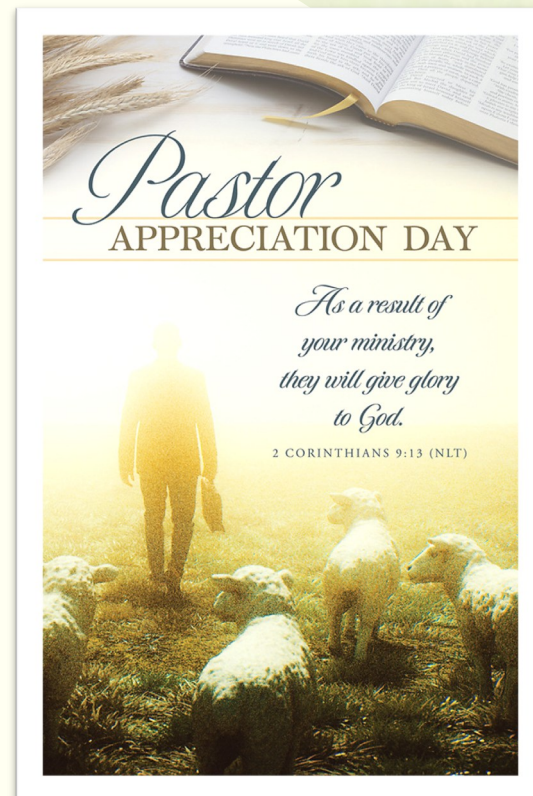
Now we ask you, brothers and sisters, to acknowledge those who work hard among you, who care for you in the Lord and who admonish you. Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other. ~ 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

The elders who are good leaders are to be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who work hard at preaching and teaching. For the Scripture says: Do not muzzle an ox while it is treading out the grain, and the worker is worthy of his wage. ~ 1 Timothy 5:17-18

Have confidence in your leaders and submit to their authority, because they keep watch over you as those who must give an account. Do this so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no benefit to you. ~ Hebrews 13:17

Don't forget the unsung heroes, either. Your Sunday school leader, youth pastor, or worship director is often just as committed and in need of encouragement. A simple thank you from the people they serve may mean more than you realize.

This October, let's make sure our pastors and leaders feel loved, honored, and supported. Whether through gifts, words, or acts of service, your expression of thanks has the power to encourage them for months to come. ~ Copied



PASTOR CHRIS, THANK YOU FOR HAVING *the heart of a servant leader* and FOR TEACHING US *as we grow in relationship with JESUS, OUR LORD & SAVIOR.*

God Hears

The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. He fulfills the desires of those who fear him; he hears their cry and saves them. Psalm 145:18-19 (NIV)

The cat had kittens on the trundle bed in the downstairs guest room. We didn't think that was such a good idea, so we collected them and placed them on rags in a cardboard box in front of the kitchen fireplace until we could come up with something more suitable.



But the mother cat had a mind of her own. We watched with amusement as she entered the kitchen silently, stood on her back legs, front legs on the box, sniffing for her babies. Then leaping nimbly over the side, she checked them over, picked one up by the back of the neck, leaped out, and quietly returned it to the trundle bed. This was repeated until all that was left was the runt of the litter.

She did not come back. She may have been exhausted from her efforts, or she may have been busy playing lunch counter to the others. We waited.

Finally the tiny scrap in the bottom of the box let out more of a squeak than a mew. It was almost a non-sound.

Instantly, soundlessly, the mother cat appeared, bounded in and out of the box, the littlest kitten in her mouth, and carried it back to the guest room. Three doors, two rooms and two hallways away, and yet she heard. It wasn't even a full-fledged cry.

Nor are our prayers necessarily full-fledged prayers—or even articulated cries for help. According to the Bible, God responds to our sighs, our tears and our murmurs. Even our longings can be interpreted as prayer. John Trapp said in commenting on Psalm 145, “The Lord is near to all that call upon Him; yea, He can feel breath when no voice can be heard for faintness.”

Prayer for the Day:

I am thankful, Lord, that You hear my faintest cries for help. Help me to understand how important it is to call out to You for help in every circumstance. In Jesus' name, Amen.

~ *Letters from Ruth's Attic*
by Ruth Bell Graham



across the street and around the world

It's coming... the night in October full of spine-chilling, hair-raising, terrifying monstrous shenanigans and skullduggery... otherwise know as Halloween. But EBC is preparing for our safer and more delightful version... **“TRUNK OR TREAT!”** So shake the spiders out of your best spooky disguise, bedeck and bedazzle your car trunk and join us for an evening of sharing goodies & treats with neighbors who may be looking for a church home and the love of Jesus.



OCTOBER'S MISSION is donating candy for that festive evening. A basket is waiting in the foyer for your generosity. OR if you would rather give money, just indicate **TRUNK OR TREAT** on your offering envelope.

As always, thank you for blessing our community with your generosity, kindness and love.

The God-Centered Heart of Prayer



GOD-CENTERED PRAYER

2 Chronicles 20:1-18

Once, when someone asked if I'd ever heard myself pray, I decided to record my voice as I prayed about a matter of deep concern. After listening to the recording, I realized it was filled with negative descriptions of how bad the situation was and how discouraged I felt. My focus was all wrong.

On encountering a fearful situation, Jehoshaphat chose a different approach: *God-centered prayer*. Instead of coming to the Lord with a “woe is me” attitude, Jehoshaphat began by focusing on God's power and sovereignty (2 Chro 20:6), His past faithfulness to Judah (vv. 7-8), and His promise to hear and deliver His people (v.9). Only after strengthening his faith through these reminders of God's adequacy did the king make his petitions (vv. 10-12).

In prayer, we can choose to magnify either the Lord or our difficulty. Are you concentrating on the faithfulness of almighty God or your overwhelming problem and negative feelings? Let's keep our eyes on Him and wait with complete confidence until we see the great things He'll do for His glory and our good.

~ Copied from *A Word From Dr. Charles Stanley*

MORE
OF HIM
less of me