

A CHRISTMAS COLORING BOOK

# *"For Such a Time as This."*

Esther 4:14

Story and Illustrations by  
Ted Dawson





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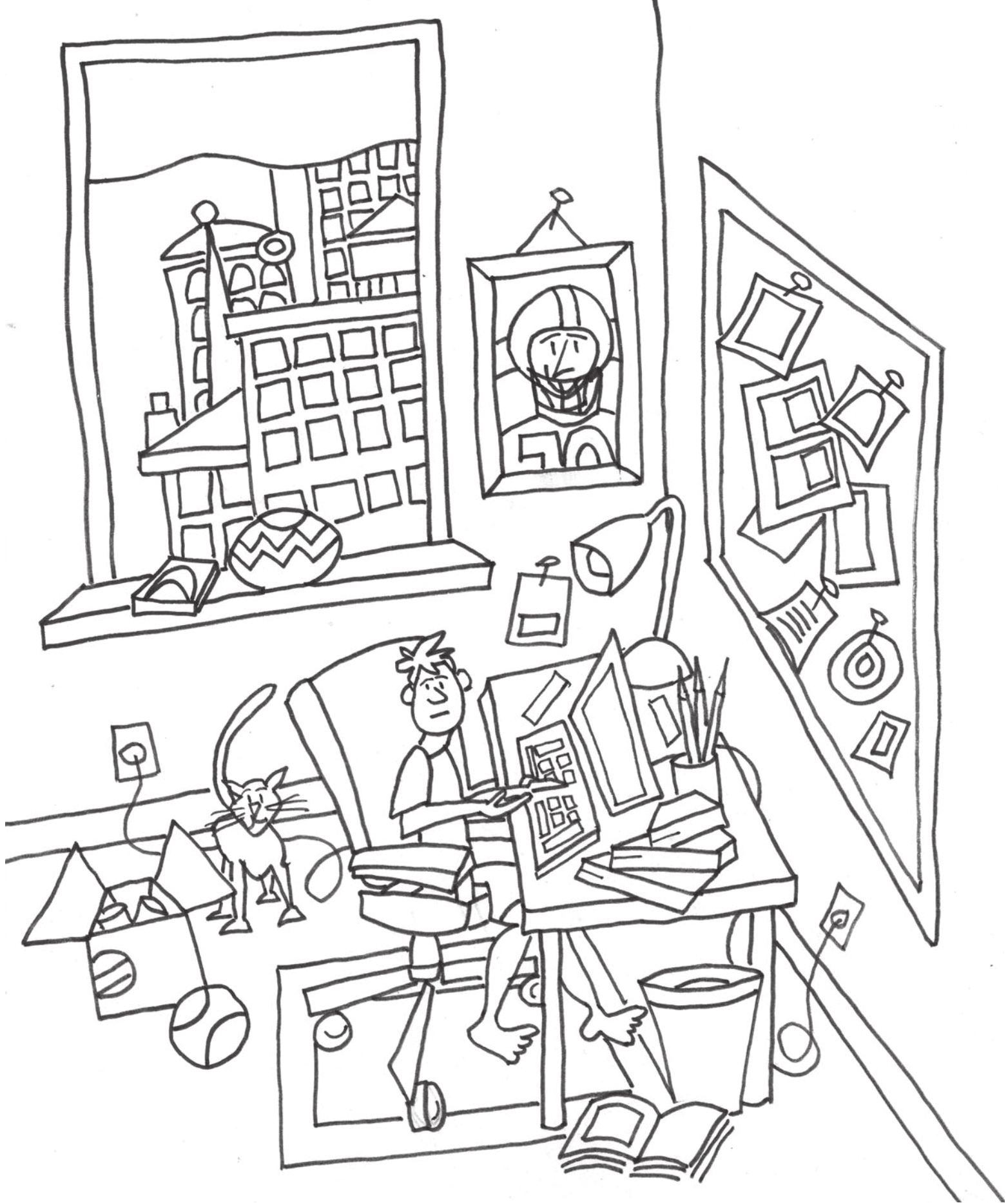


GOD'S LOVE COLORS EVERYTHING



OSCAR HAS BEEN AT HOME FOR A LONG TIME.





QUARANTINE HAS BEEN HARD.

OSCAR TAKES CLASSES AND SEES HIS FRIENDS ONLINE.  
BUT HE STILL MISSES SEEING THEM IN PERSON.





"I'M GOING OUT TO GET SOME THINGS."  
OSCAR'S MOM, RUBY, TELLS HIM.





RUBY WAITS IN LINE, AS USUAL.  
THE SHOPS ARE STARTING TO DECORATE FOR THE HOLIDAYS





RUBY'S NEIGHBOR KARL HAS EVEN BOUGHT HIS CHRISTMAS TREE.





"WILL WE STILL HAVE TO STAY AT HOME, EVEN FOR CHRISTMAS?"  
OSCAR ASKS HIS MOM WHEN SHE GETS HOME.

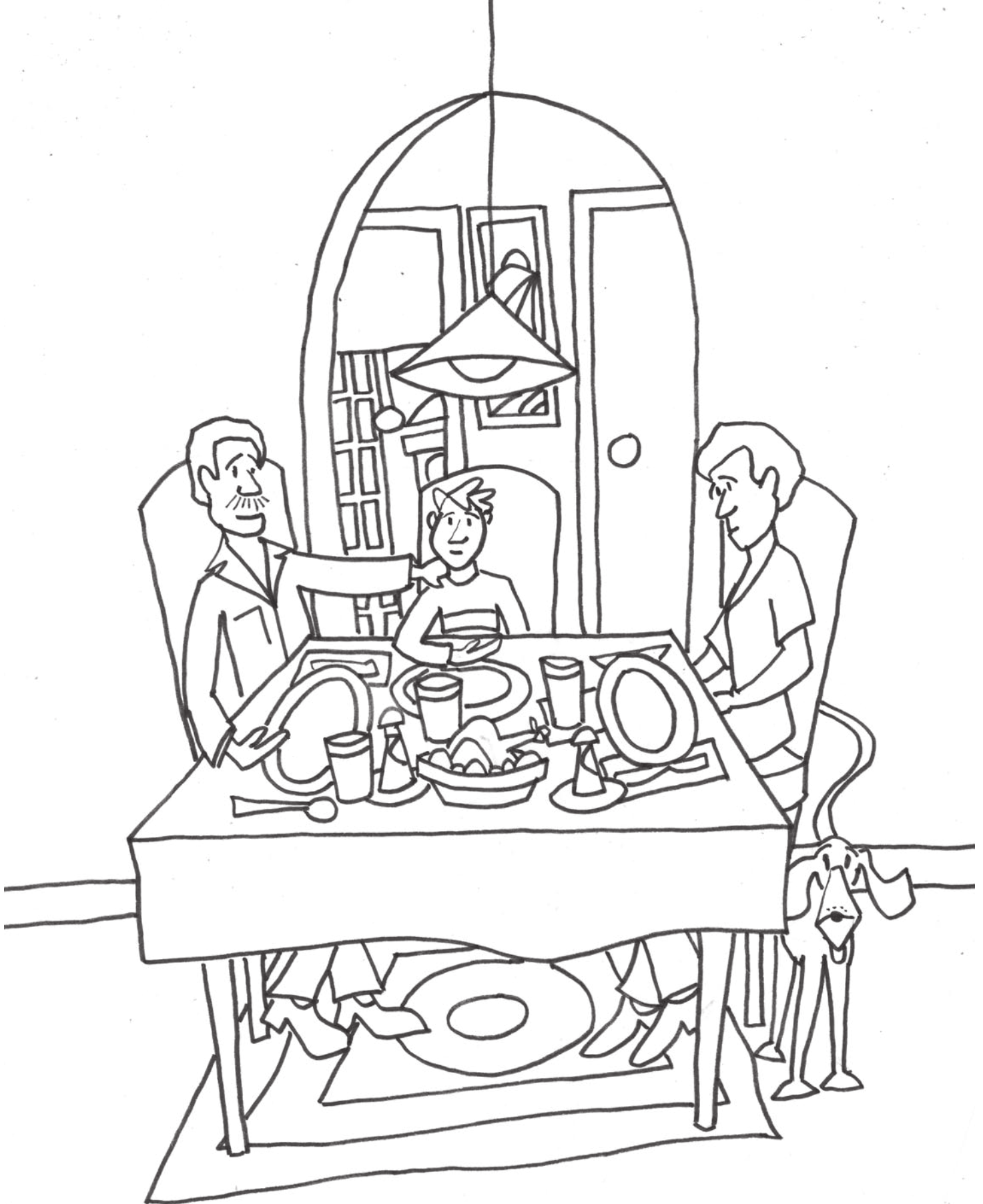




NO GRANDPARENTS,  
NO AUNT TALISHA,  
NO UNCLE JOE,  
NO COUSINS,  
NO NEIGHBORS,  
NO FRIENDS!

THAT'S NOT CHRISTMAS!  
OSCAR SAYS.





"OUR CHRISTMAS WILL BE JUST LIKE THE FIRST CHRISTMAS."  
TOM, OSCAR'S DAD, TELLS HIM.





"JUST THREE OF US."






BUT OSCAR CAN'T IMAGINE CHRISTMAS WITHOUT GOING TO CHURCH.

"CHRISTMAS ISN'T ABOUT BRICKS AND MORTAR." PASTOR JANE TELLS OSCAR. "CHRISTMAS IS ABOUT JESUS' LOVE FOR ALL OF US. AND WE CAN STILL SHARE THAT LOVE WITH EACH OTHER, EVEN IF WE CAN'T BE IN CHURCH THIS YEAR."







OSCAR  
HAS AN IDEA!

"MOM, PASTOR JANE, SAYS  
WE CAN STILL SHARE GOD'S  
LOVE WITH EACH OTHER  
THIS CHRISTMAS."

"LET'S MAKE SOME

"THAT'S A GREAT  
IDEA OSCAR!"  
RUBY SAYS.

MASKS!"





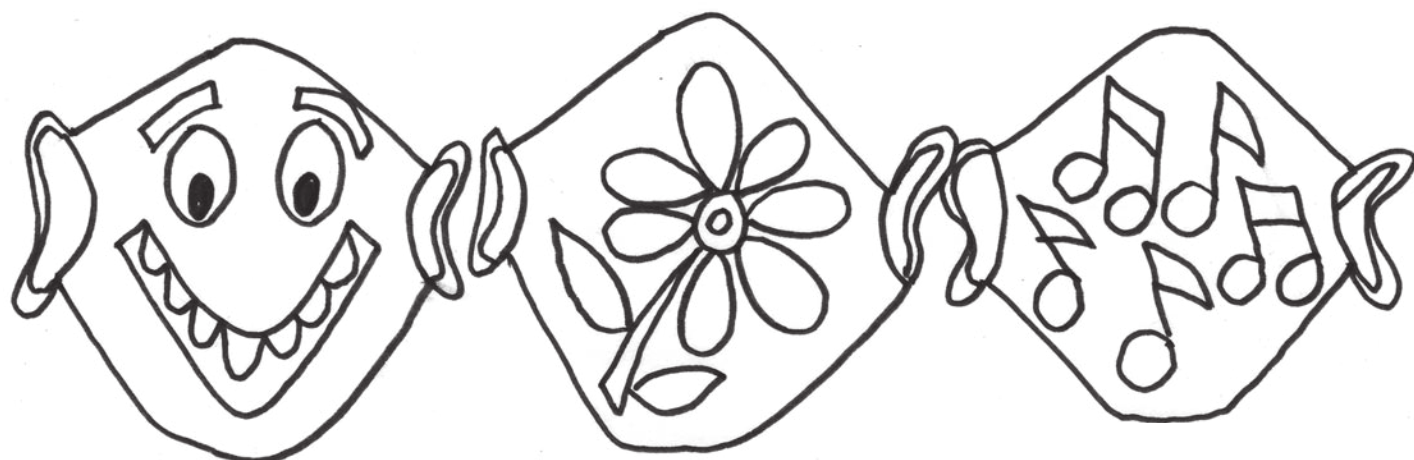
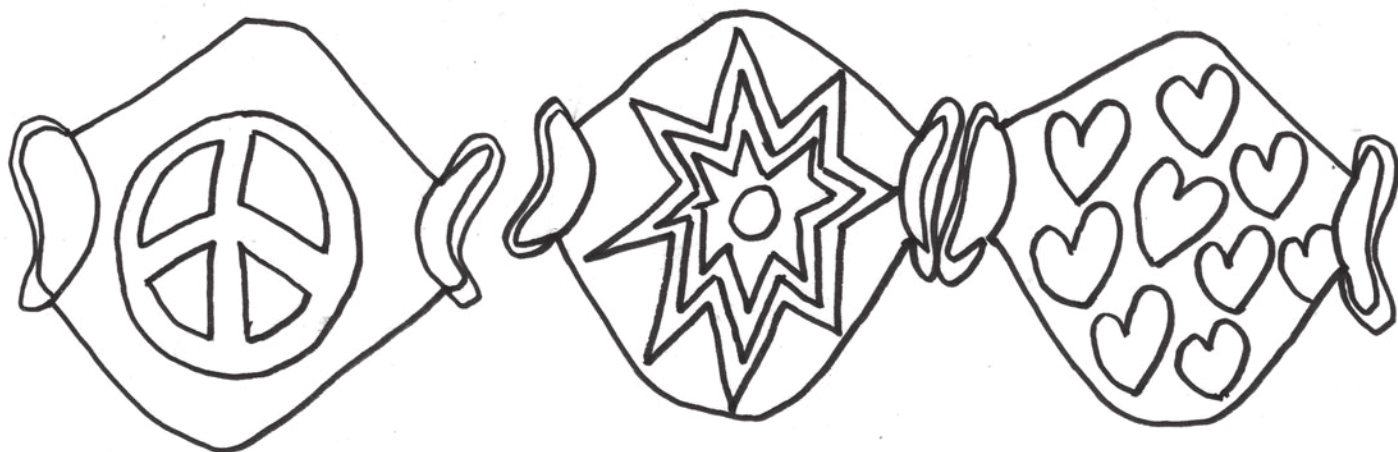
RUBY GETS OUT HER SEWING MACHINE.  
SHE AND OSCAR START TO MAKE MASKS...MANY, MANY MASKS.



"PASTOR JANE SAYS THAT SHE  
COULD REALLY USE SOME MASKS  
AT THE FOOD PANTRY."  
OSCAR TELLS HIS MOM.

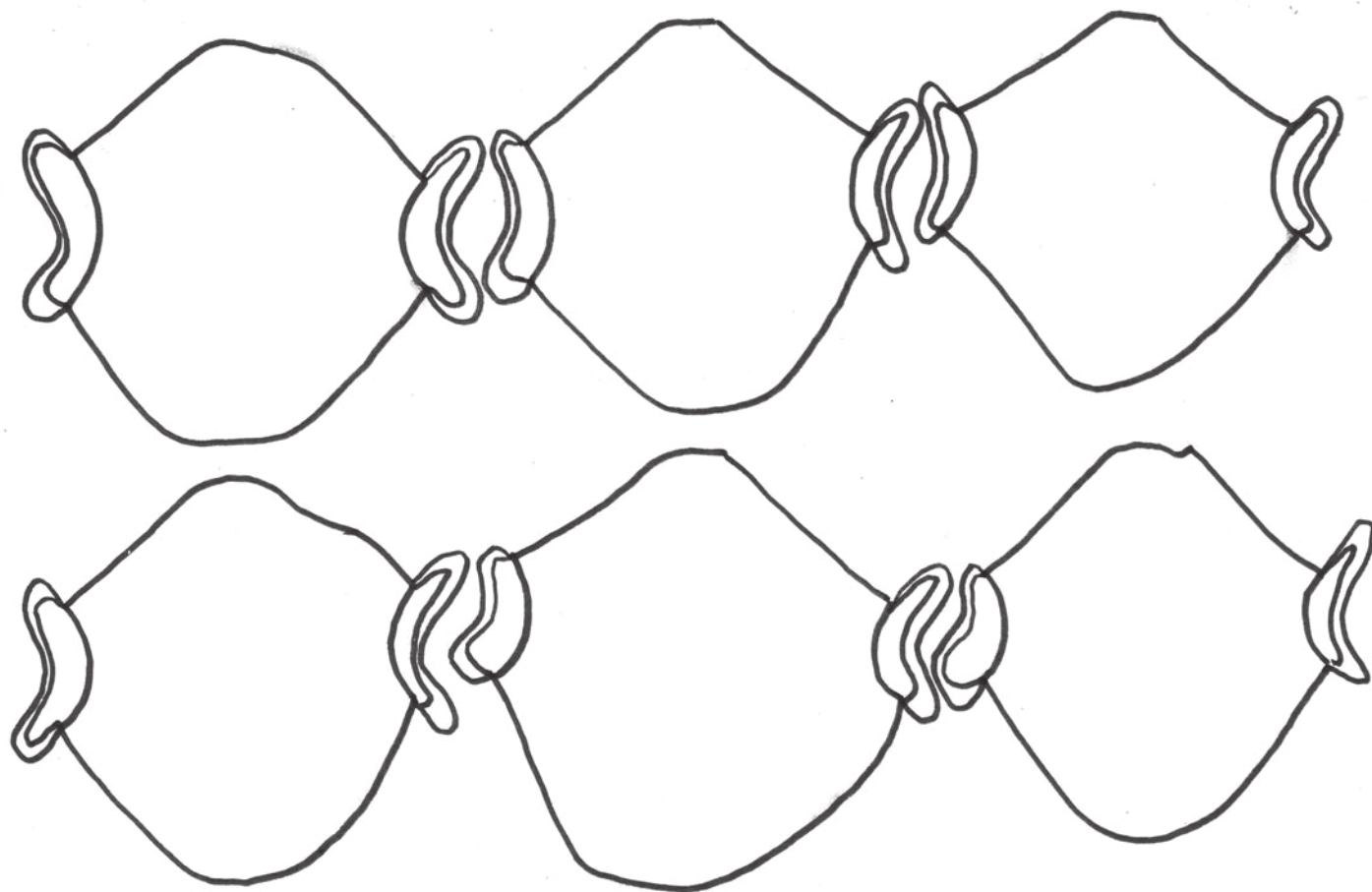




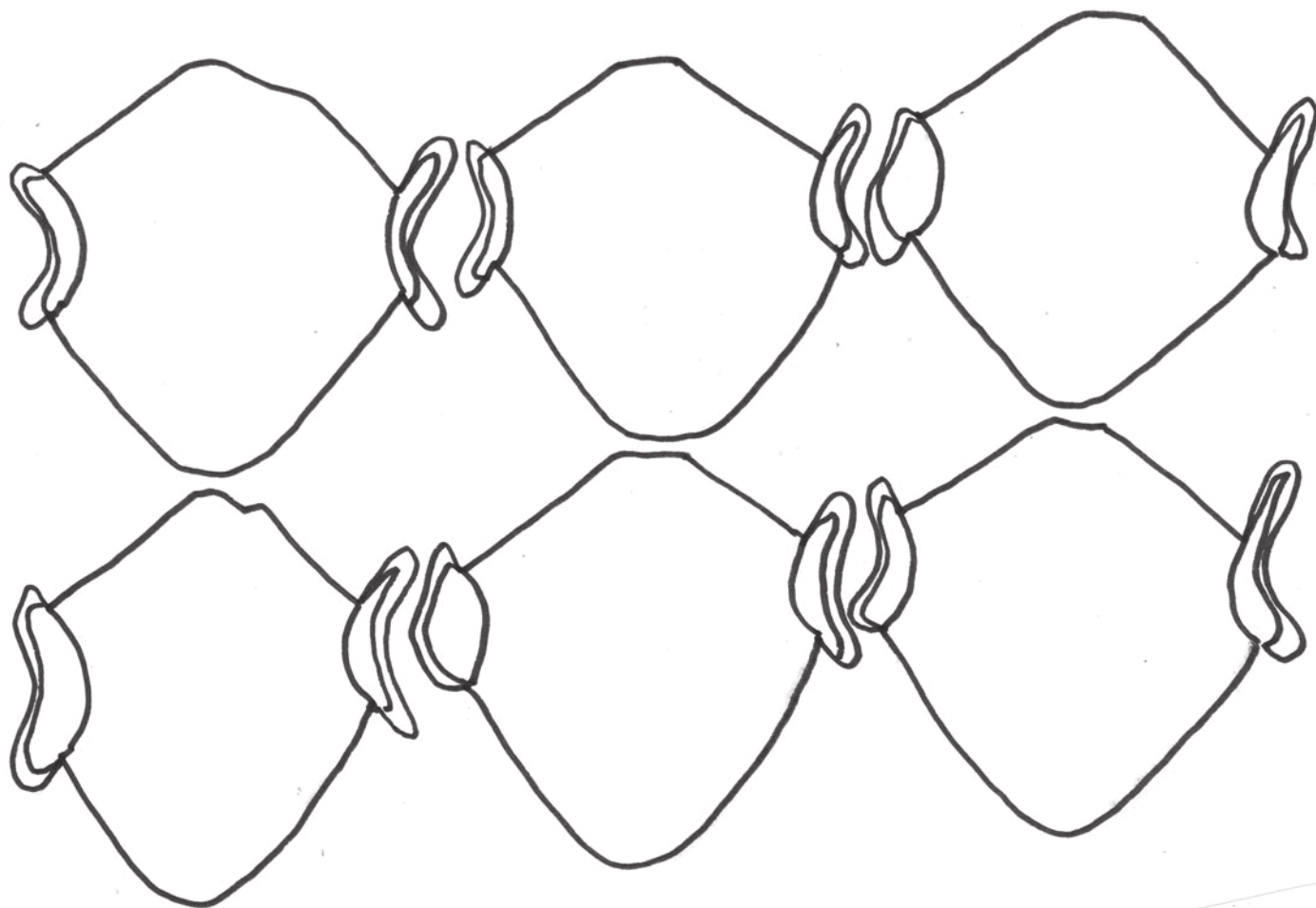


OSCAR DECORATES THE MASKS HIMSELF.





HOW WOULD YOU DECORATE YOUR MASKS? **TRY IT!**





"IT'S STARTING TO FEEL A LOT LIKE CHRISTMAS!"  
OSCAR PACKS UP HIS MASKS TO TAKE TO CHURCH.



"EVERYONE WILL BE SO HAPPY!" PASTOR JANE TELLS OSCAR.  
"ITS THE PERFECT GIFT, THANK YOU!"





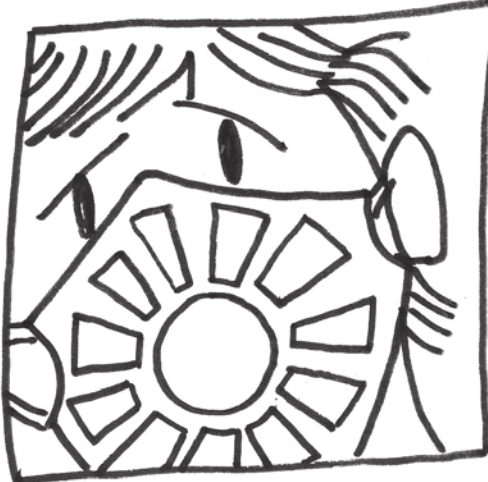
THANK YOU!



THANK YOU!



THANK YOU!



THANK YOU!



THANK YOU!



THANK YOU!



OSCAR GETS  
MANY "THANK YOU'S!"  
OSCAR HAS MADE  
MANY NEW FRIENDS.



THANK YOU!

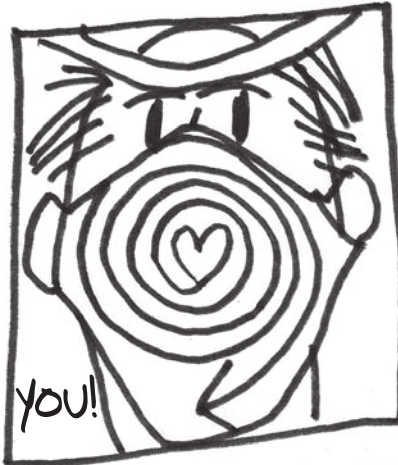


THANK YOU!

THANK YOU!



THANK YOU!



THANK YOU!



THANK YOU!







AND OSCAR, RUBY AND TOM CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS AT HOME . . .



JUST THE THREE OF THEM.





AND OSCAR DIDN'T FEEL SO ALONE AFTER ALL.



We have developed this coloring book to help United Church of Christ congregations tell the story of how they have dealt with being Church, without Going to Church, particularly during the COVID pandemic.

The Story and Illustrations are by Ted Dawson, a member of Judson Memorial Church in New York City.

# ★ THE CHRISTMAS FUND

for the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund

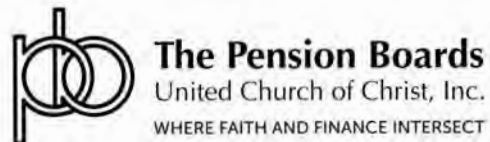
The Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund has been a tangible expression of God's love and light in the world for over 115 years. One of the four Special Mission Offerings of the United Church of Christ, the Christmas Fund provides UCC congregations and members an opportunity to reach out in compassion to those who have faithfully shepherded our Church and who now find themselves facing worrisome financial needs. The United Church Board for Ministerial Assistance, the charitable arm of the Pension Boards, on behalf of the whole church, passes on this direct support so that these needs may be met and our support may be felt.

**Through your gifts to the Christmas Fund, you can help ensure our support for those who have so faithfully served our church, even during "Such a Time as This."**

*Additional copies of this coloring book can be downloaded for free at*

**[www.christmasfund.org](http://www.christmasfund.org)** *or purchased at*

**[www.uccresources.com](http://www.uccresources.com).**



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