

Colorado Family Church: September and October Local Highlights

Michael and Adonia Hentrich  
November 1, 2024



September and October brought us a beautiful fall season this year. We hope everyone had a chance to go into the mountains to enjoy the aspens. Now we are heading into winter and we hope everyone can enjoy some of the highlights from these past couple months below.

Fall Festival



We had so many great costumes and activities for this year’s Fall Festival. Thank you to everyone that helped organize an activity and that came all dressed up. It

was a lot of fun and we hope to see you again next year. [Here are a few photos to enjoy!](#)

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## Grant News



We wanted to let you know that we applied for and have received a \$58,000 grant from the Department of Homeland Security to support safety and security improvements for our church building. This is our second time receiving this annual grant. This year, the funds will be used to add better lighting to our parking lot, automated locks for the front doors of the church, replacing some of our windows, and adding a retaining wall & fence to the north area of the church property.

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## Pastors' 10 Year Anniversary Celebration





On October 6, we had a special service to celebrate the 10 year pastoring anniversary of Pastors Mike & Adonia. Justino and Joelle, on behalf of the community and council, gave the pastors a beautiful bouquet of flowers, chocolates, and a generous financial offering that was collected beforehand. We had a fun service with door prizes for everyone, most



of which were donated by members of the community, balloon animals by Tim Birdsong, free items from the Welcome Cafe, and a new group photo. Look for the new photo to be hung in the Church hallway. We look forward to many more wonderful years to come.

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## Ukraine Generator Fundraiser Results



On behalf of our entire Gryganskyi family, we would like to express our deepest gratitude to everyone who contributed to this project. Your generous support in the form of a charging station is not just assistance, it is a beacon of hope during the blackouts when we needed it the most. It would have been impossible for us without your involvement. Words cannot convey the depth of our gratitude for your kindness, compassion, and organization. Your contribution has significantly improved our lives, and we will always be grateful for it. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

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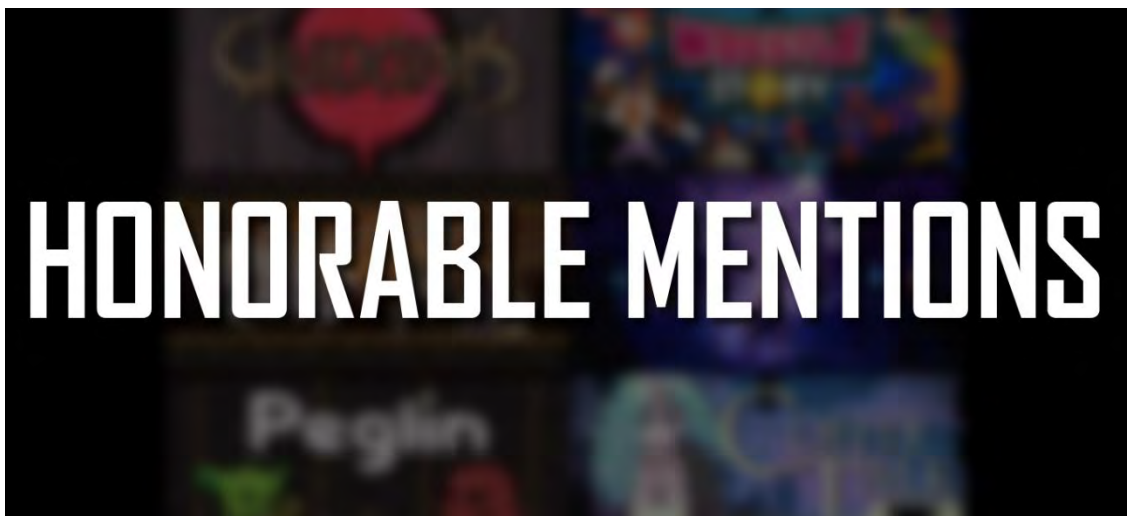
## Quarterly Golden Age Luncheon



September was our quarterly Golden Age luncheon. Pictures of participants' grandchildren and grandparents were displayed. Poppy Richie presented her "Values and Virtues" program and website. Marjorie Buessing and David Mahardy won cornhole and Julie Arnold won a gift card for being our only great grandparent. A lot of fun and inspiration was had by all.

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## Honorable Mentions



We also would like to note that many activities do not get included in this email due to their more sensitive nature or due to the fact that we don't have pictures for



them, but we want to mention a few here that happened these past two months, Some examples are the Marriage Course, which is happening right now, the Date Night on September 28, the Sunday morning Prayer Gatherings, and the many youth-oriented activities that happen on a regular basis. Thank you for creating the magic that is propelling our community forward.

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## Ongoing Interfaith Work in Grand Junction

On September 5, Gales Alves attended the First United Methodist Church's Women of Faith's monthly program. They have also supported our WFWP events.

The guest speaker, a young woman, Cameron Cunningham, founded Reverent Rhythms. It is a non-profit organization that has a touring dance company, a school of arts, community outreach programs, and overseas missions. She could be a potential future recipient of the WFWP HerStory award.

It feels so good to get out into the community and get to know more of the Women in Faith members and they appreciated Gale's participation in their program.



On Thursday night, September 26th, we resumed our monthly Interreligious Sharing program. We had paused for the summer as people travel and host family.

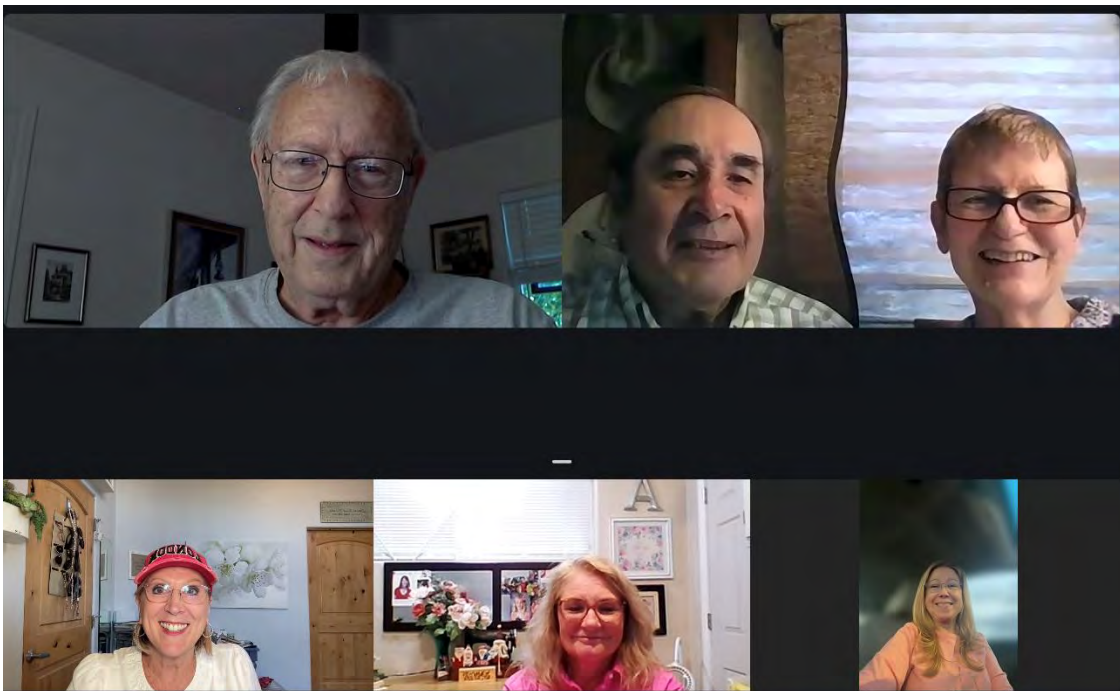
We had 2 communication directors from the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter –Day Saints, one chaplain of the First United Methodist Church, a leader from Christian Science, and Antonio and myself from WFWP and UPF.

We usually have a theological/spiritual topic that we each address. This time we thought it would be nice to take the time to get to know each other better.

These are the questions we each shared from:

- Where did you grow up? In the city, suburb, countryside?
- What was your house or apt. like?
- Siblings? How many, any details you want to share.
- Parents? What did they do for a living? What were their skills and talents?
- Childhood memories of holidays.
- What are your special skills and talents.
- Did you attend church or a house of worship as a family? Did you have any spiritual experiences as a child or in your youth?

Each person shared such interesting things, touching on each question and more. It brought a lot of joy to everyone—being heard and reciprocating by listening intently. We all learned a lot about each other and deepened our relationships.



Our topic for October's Interreligious Sharing was "How Have You Experienced God in Your Life so far This Year?"

We were quite impressed with the richness of each person's spirituality.

Bahai:

" I lost my mom this year which has been a very difficult and lonely time for me. I turned to our scripture for strength and comfort. God was there embracing me through the holy text. Even though I have been low, I make an effort to give joy and God's love to other people such as at the pool where I swim a few days a week. I naturally bring God into my conversations with people."

"I like to pray and talk to God anywhere and everywhere. The sun on my back feels like a warm caress from God. I feel a warm presence when I commune with God. I had a dream with our founder, Baha' u' llah, where I entered into the pitch black dungeon full of stench where he was held with his followers and saw how he was shackled with a great weight around his neck. He was suffering yet he was praising God. I was afraid, but was amazed by his attitude."

" At a conference in Glenwood Springs that commemorated where one of our founder's had spoken in the past, I recounted to the audience Abdul'Baha's message of internally being consistent, steadfast, and moving forward in our lives of faith. I cried the whole time in the telling, later realizing I was witnessing to myself."

United Methodist:

" I work in a Children's Hospital and I have seen God in his mercy take his children to the spirit world who are suffering too much with their illnesses. And I have seen Him heal those who seemed unhealable. God gives me the words to say in prayer time and time again, that are exactly what the parents need to hear to comfort them and to give them hope. I immerse myself in prayer and Scripture before going to work so that I can be more in tune with the spirit of God."

WFWP/UPF:

"I like to pray outdoors in nature. The trees, the mountains, the wind all inspire me to pray freely, talking to my heavenly Parent who we understand to be our heavenly Father and heavenly Mother. The sunsets on the farm are so striking, I see them as God's artwork created just for me."

"God gave me the gift of being able to be aware of my loved ones in the spirit world. I cannot see them, but can feel their presence. During our times of morning devotion, I often feel my parents and sister near me, giving me support. Gale's parents came to me last week and told me to tell Gale that they love her. I feel God's love for me through this spiritual gift."

We all inspired each other with our testimonies. We could see that we all practice a living



not abstract faith. We hope God was inspired,too!



## Ongoing Renovations & Improvements

These past couple of months, David Mahardy has been working all over all 4 buildings to fix a number of issues that have been coming up and making improvements whenever possible. Dr. Hentrich has been working on tuckpointing grout on the 4plex and prepping/painting the church building. We look forward to the finished product that will leave all of our buildings looking much more presentable.



Through the Sunday services this month, we had messages on a variety of subjects that we hope were meaningful and inspirational. If you missed any of them, you can find them all on our [Facebook page](#) and [YouTube channel](#). For quick reference, this month's recordings are below.



- [Faith in God's Promises](#)
- [Stop and Smell the Roses](#)
- [Where the Rubber Hits the Road](#)
- [Freedom & Fulfillment](#)
- [Freedom & Fulfillment Part II](#)
- [The Power of Vision](#)
- [Failure Isn't Final](#)
- [Better Together](#)
- [Fruits of the Spirit](#)

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Give back

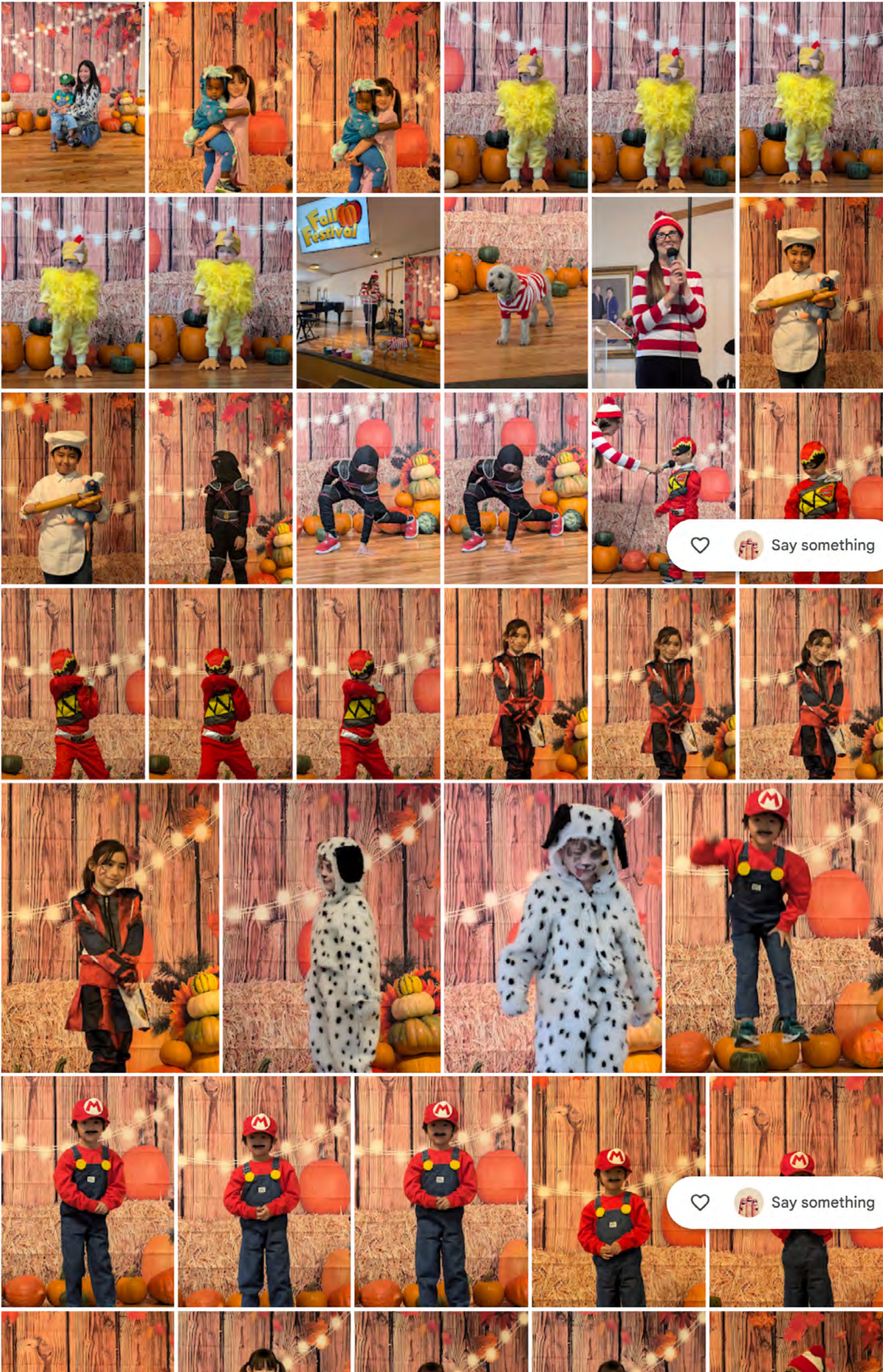




Join



Colorado Family Church



















Say something



Say something







Say something

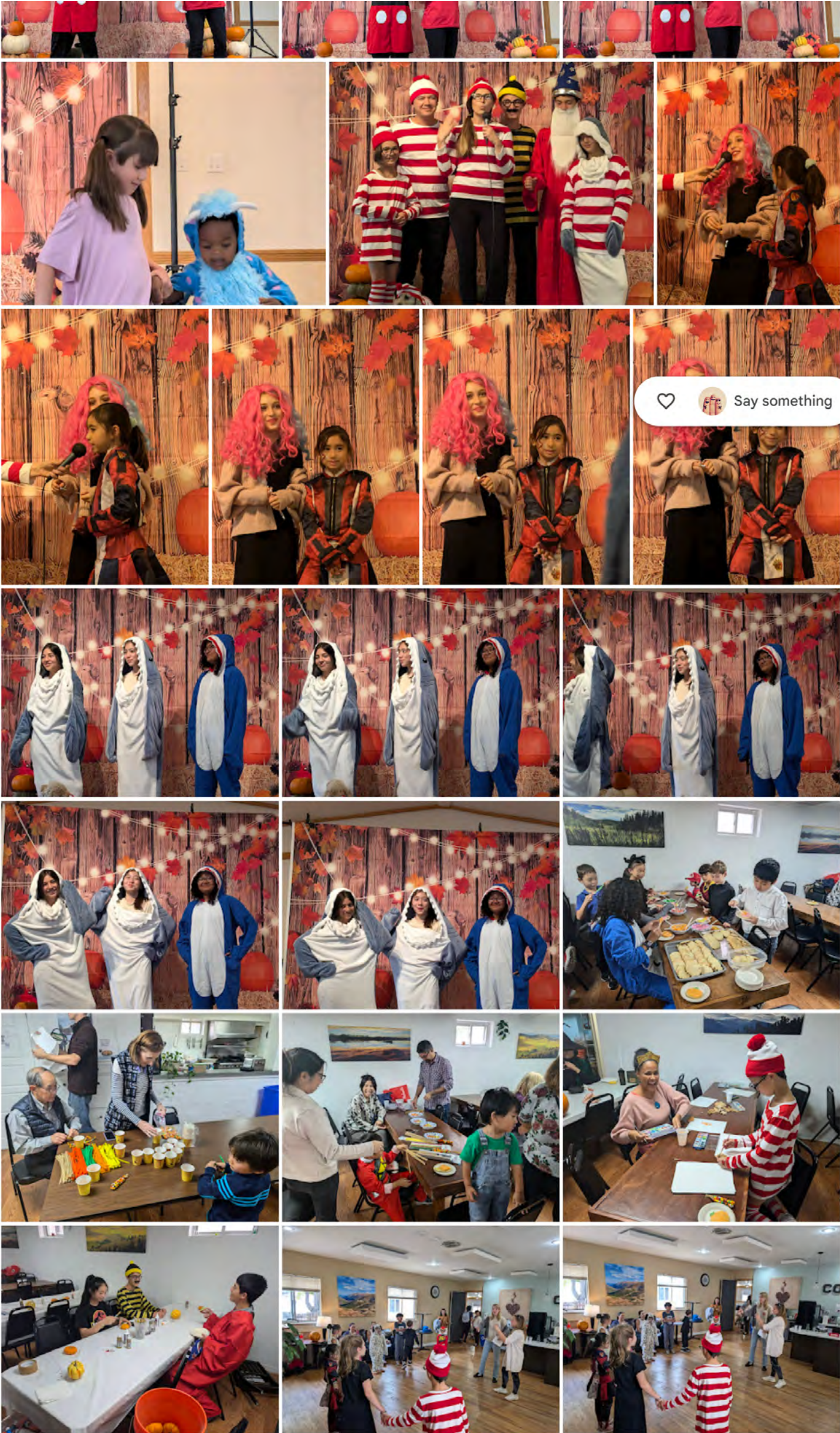



Say something




Say something





♡  Say something

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