

BETHESDA NEWS

Welcome to Worship!

January 4, 2026

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

"A community caring for all God's people, being transformed by Christ's love,
serving others as a witness of God's grace and peace."

CONNECT, EQUIP, SEND

MINISTRY TEAM

Pastor Andrea Wall: 402-710-3195

andrea@mainstaycomm.net

Pastor Chelsea Vaught: 402-363-7004

chelsea.vaught@bethesdamc.org

(On Sabbatical)

Pastor J Epp: 402-366-7475

j.epp@bethesdamc.org

CONTACT US

Bethesda Mennonite Church
930 16th Street PO Box 130
Henderson, NE 68371-0130
Church Office: 402-723-4562

BMC Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

BMC Office Manager Email: bethesda@mainstaycomm.net

BMC Treasurer Email: treasurer@bethesdamc.org

BMC Website: www.bethesdamc.org

WORSHIP SERVICES

Can be viewed/listened to live...

† Livestream @ <http://bethesdamc.org/watch-live>

† Facebook

† KOOL Radio 103.5 FM

† Local Cobalt Cable Channel 3207

Reminder...

† The east doors will remain open during office hours 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Monday through Thursday. If you drop off items in the Et Cetera room and
need to have the north door unlocked, please call the office.

WEEKLYCALENDAR

<i>Sunday, January 4</i>	EPIPHANY 8:45 a.m. Deacons Meet 9:30 a.m. Worship with Deacon Affirmation 10:40 a.m. Sunday School
<i>Monday, January 5</i>	2:30 p.m. Legacy Square Communion
<i>Tuesday, January 6</i>	9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 7:00 p.m. Preschool Committee 7:30 p.m. Board of Deacons and Pastors
<i>Wednesday, January 7</i>	12:00 p.m. Bulletin Announcements Due 6:30 p.m. High School Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Cornerstone 7:00 p.m. Midweek 8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Church Offices Closed
<i>Friday, January 9</i>	
<i>Sunday, January 11</i>	8:45 a.m. Deacons Meet 9:30 a.m. Worship Message: Pastor J Epp Music: Sandra Quiring, Pianist/Chancel Choir Offering to God 10:40 a.m. Sunday School 12:00 p.m. Potluck

CHURCHFAMILY

Please keep in prayer those with health concerns, grief, or family needs:
Rachelle Schweitzer, Lisa Friesen, Bryan Bechtel, Wyona Friesen, Blanche Franz and Elly Siebert (Marge Siebert's granddaughter).

Death

Doris A. (Quiring) Daniels, 81, passed away December 25, 2025 in Alexandria, Nebraska. Funeral services were held Tuesday, December 30 at the Gerdes-Meyer Funeral Home in Fairbury, Nebraska. She is Marvin Quiring's oldest sister. Please keep her family and Marvin in your prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Meals on Wheels Volunteers Needed

Henderson Health Care is in desperate need of volunteers to deliver Meals on Wheels weekdays at 11 a.m.

Deliveries are ONLY in Henderson. It takes 15 minutes or less. You choose the day(s)! Contact Tyler at (402) 723-4512 for more information.

Deacon Affirmation

On Sunday, October 5, 2025, both Kara Janzen and Norm Yoder were affirmed to each serve another three-year term as Deacons. The Deacon Affirmation of Kara Janzen and Norm Yoder will take place this morning. Please keep both Kara and Norm in your prayers.



New Address

Dale and Laura Steingard: 704 Parkview Ct., P.O. Box 341, Henderson, NE, 68371

If your address or phone number has changed please let the church office know. You may email bethesda@mainstaycomm.net or call 402.723.4562 with the information.

Food insecurity in York County

Blue Valley Community Action has seen a sharp rise in need for food in York County. Henderson Ministerial Pastors (Bethesda, FEBC and Living Hope) met together with Lisa Epp who works for Blue Valley out of York. She offered pastors resources and shared about some of the most effective ways to provide support to anyone who may struggle with food needs.



- If you know of someone who may be in need of food, please contact one of the ministerial pastors. There is food available:
 - Blue Valley, located at 3401 N. Lincoln Ave. in York, hosts a food pantry once a month, which participants will need to provide contact information to participate.
 - Blue Valley also hosts the Feeding America Program Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:30-10 a.m. You may pick up bakery items, bread, eggs and many other items.
 - The York Mission also provides a food basket once a month if you attend a chapel service. Contact the Hope Gospel Rescue Mission at 402-362-0127.
 - The Henderson Ministerial will also be funding vouchers for Blue Valley to give out for milk at the Henderson Pharmacy. You may find them at Blue Valley in York.

For more information on other resources provided by Blue Valley Community Action you may call them at 402-362-3516 or find them online at www.bvca.net.
The Deacon Board

School Kit Bags

School kit fabric for bags has been cut at this time. They are available to be picked up in the office across from the church office. Thank you!

Lindy Siebert

From the Office

The 2026 Annual Congregational Meeting will be held Sunday, February 1, 2026. Chairs or secretaries of boards and committees, please submit your 2025 reports to the church office no later than January 8, 2026. Please email reports to bethesda@mainstaycomm.net. Thank you!



BETHESDA WOMEN'S MINISTRIES



Bethesda Women's Ministries Winter Sewing Days

Are you looking for a way to be God's Hands in this hurting world? Do you need a place where you can fellowship and be of service to others for a few hours? Then join Bethesda Women's Ministries at their Winter Sewing Days, tie some knots in a comforter, put a few stitches in a quilt or tea towels, crochet/knit a prayer shawl, or just come for the Fellowship. All projects benefit MCC Winter Warm Up or the Nebraska MCC Relief Sale. January dates are **Tuesday, January 13 and January 27, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.** Come as your schedule allows. Lunch will be served at Noon. You are also welcome to come just for Lunch and Fellowship. Winter Sewing days are the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of January, February and March.

Come for a time of service and fellowship.

College Graduation

Reminder, please let the church office know if you have a college graduate in your family so that we can keep our records up to date and give them a shout out. Contact Kerri at bethesda@mainstaycomm.net or call the office at 402.723.4562.

YOUTH MINISTRIES

Swan Lake Christian Camp Winter Retreats

Swan Lake Christian Camp is hosting Winter Retreats this winter. 8th-12th grade retreat will be held January 9-11 and 5th-8th grade retreat will be held January 16-18.

Activities include Bible studies, campfires, worship, indoor games and hot chocolate. As weather permits kids can enjoy winter activities, sledding, outdoor games and fun on the ice.

The cost is \$100 and registration is necessary and needs to be in two weeks prior to the weekend. There is an additional fee for late registrations. You can register online at myslcc.com as well as find out more information on the weekend.



MISSIONS LOCAL/GLOBAL



December 2025 Newsletter

About a month ago, the employees who work at Swan Lake Christian Camp were all challenged to do a thirty day reading of the book of Mark. As a couple of these people are newer to faith in Jesus, this challenge included daily written responses to the readings. I love the book of Mark. It is a fast paced overview of the ministry of Jesus. I found myself striving each day to make a comment that would foster discussion and engage in a better understanding of this gospel. There were comments I made that, after I re-read them, it was like "wow" God is good and I am pretty clever also. Others made comments that revealed how their brains were engaging with the text and, as a group, we were learning together.

As we approached the Christmas season and the Easter account, though, for me, the purely academic engagement came to an abrupt halt. As I read the familiar account of Jesus entering Jerusalem, his anguish over the impending humiliation and torture, his death, and his resurrection, I found myself in awe. No longer was I looking for clever insights or new understandings. Words like awe and gratitude were all that I could write.

Christmas sets the stage for discipleship, growth in faith, fellowship with other believers, but ultimately it set the stage for God's redemption. This is all about YOU!! It is God's love for you. Jesus came to Bethlehem as a newborn human being so that we could be redeemed back into relationship with God. He did it for us. Babies are cute. I love my new grandson. But, I for one, don't ever want to go back to laying in a crib, being misunderstood and unable to communicate with those I love. I don't want to learn to walk again and let's not even talk about puberty. Becoming a child again is nothing that I aspire to do. The account of his death is even more difficult to fathom. To consider that the King of the universe would humble himself to that level just for me is almost too much. Almost. It is perfect. Jesus did it for me. He did it for you. He is love in flesh. As we continue to prepare for the celebration of Christmas, join me in remembering the whole story. It is not too late to read Mark's gospel. Delve into all that Jesus did for you and remember that he did it all for you. Sometimes we get so involved in the festivities that we forget what we are celebrating. Jesus came as a child. He spent time with us teaching, loving, healing and calling us. He sent us with a mission to tell others. Then he died as the only acceptable sacrifice for the redemption of our souls. He rose on the third day demonstrating mastery over death and he goes to prepare a place for us.

— Jerry Kroeker
Swan Lake Christian Camp Director

**Read the rest of the December Swan Lake Newsletter online at: myslcc.com*

Gator Wilderness Camp School

See the updated newsletter from Gator Wilderness Camp School on the east bulletin board.

MCC's Great Winter Warm-up

The chill of winter is settling in and that means it's time for **MCC's Great Winter Warm-up!** From January to March, the goal is 10,000 comforters to help spread warmth, joy and comfort to people around the world. Start plans now to gather with friends and family to make comforters for MCC this winter! Find inspiring stories and instructions at mcc.org/gww.

GIVINGATTENDANCE

Sunday, December 30, Worship Attendance: 189

Sunday, December 30, Sunday School Attendance: 62

Worship Offering: December 30, 2025

Bethesda General Operating Receipts	\$16,827.00
Christmas Eve Service	\$4,169.00
Sunday School Offering	\$176.00
Total Sunday Offering	\$21,172.00

Bethesda Operating Fund

January 1 through December 30, 2025

2025 – Approved Annual Operating Budget \$1,059,046

Bethesda Income \$909,351

**We have received 85.87% of our approved budget.

Operating Expenses \$1,003,029

** We have spent 94.71% or our approved budget.

Income Minus Expense -93,678

Arise, Your Light Is Come!

FESTAL SONG SM

Descant, verse 4

4 A - rise, your light is come! The moun - tains burst in song! Rise up!

A D A D B7 E

1 A - rise, your light is come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
 2 A - rise, your light is come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
 3 A - rise, your light is come! All you in sor - row born,
 4 A - rise your light is come! The moun - tains burst in song!

Rise up like ea - gles on the wing; God's pow'r will make us strong.

A D Bm E D Esus E7 A

show forth the glo - ry of your God, which shines on you to - day.
 pro - claim the cap - tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.
 bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
 Rise up like ea - gles on the wing; God's pow'r will make us strong.

Text: Ruth Duck (USA), 1974, © 1992 GIA Publications, Inc.

Music: William Henry Walter (USA), 1894; desc. Diana McLeod (Canada), © 1995 Diana McLeod

John 1:35-39

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

Interpreted
Behold
Again
Saith
Hour

Disciples
Master
Heard
Speak
Lamb

Dwellest
Walked
Jesus
Stood
Saw

Followed
Abode
Rabbi
Tenth
Two

NEW YEAR

BIBLE SCAVENGER HUNT

ACCORDING TO PSALM 107:1, WHY SHOULD WE GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD?

1

LAMENTATIONS 3:22-23 SAYS THE LORD'S MERCIES NEVER END. HOW OFTEN ARE HIS MERCIES NEW?

2

HAPPY NEW YEAR

IN JAMES 1:17, WHERE DOES EVERY GOOD AND PERFECT GIFT COME FROM?

5

PSALM 100:4 TELLS US HOW TO ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE. WITH WHAT TWO ATTITUDES SHOULD WE COME BEFORE HIM?

4

ACCORDING TO 1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-18, WHAT THREE THINGS ARE WE TOLD TO DO IN EVERY CIRCUMSTANCE?

3

PAUL THANKED GOD EVERY TIME HE DID WHAT IN PHILIPPIANS 1:3?

6

IN 2 CORINTHIANS 5:17, WHAT HAPPENS TO ANYONE WHO IS IN CHRIST?

7

NEW

ISAIAH 43:19 SAYS, "SEE, I AM DOING A _____ THING!" WHAT WORD COMPLETES THE VERSE?

8

ACCORDING TO EZEKIEL 36:26, WHAT DOES GOD PROMISE TO GIVE HIS PEOPLE?

9

10

ROMANS 6:4 SAYS WE WERE BURIED WITH CHRIST IN BAPTISM SO THAT WE MAY LIVE HOW?

15

IN ISAIAH 30:21, WHAT WILL YOU HEAR WHEN YOU TURN TO THE RIGHT OR LEFT?

PSALM 119:105 SAYS GOD'S WORD IS LIKE WHAT FOR OUR FEET AND PATH?

14

READ PROVERBS 3:5-6. WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE TRUST THE LORD WITH ALL OUR HEART AND ACKNOWLEDGE HIM?

13

COLOSSIANS 3:10 SAYS BELIEVERS ARE PUTTING ON WHAT WHEN THEY FOLLOW CHRIST?

12

IN REVELATION 21:5, WHAT DOES GOD SAY HE IS MAKING NEW?

11

ACCORDING TO PSALM 37:23-24, WHAT DOES THE LORD DO FOR THOSE WHO DELIGHT IN HIM?

16

WHAT COMMAND AND PROMISE DOES GOD GIVE JOSHUA IN JOSHUA 1:9?

17

ACCORDING TO PHILIPPIANS 4:13, WHAT CAN WE DO THROUGH CHRIST WHO STRENGTHENS US?

18

19

ISAIAH 40:31 SAYS THOSE WHO HOPE IN THE LORD WILL DO WHAT THREE THINGS?

20

IN DEUTERONOMY 31:6, WHAT PROMISE DOES GOD GIVE HIS PEOPLE WHEN HE TELLS THEM TO BE STRONG & COURAGEOUS?

21

IN REVELATION 22:13, WHAT THREE TITLES DOES JESUS USE TO DESCRIBE HIMSELF?

24

ROMANS 8:28 SAYS GOD WORKS ALL THINGS TOGETHER FOR GOOD FOR WHOM?

23

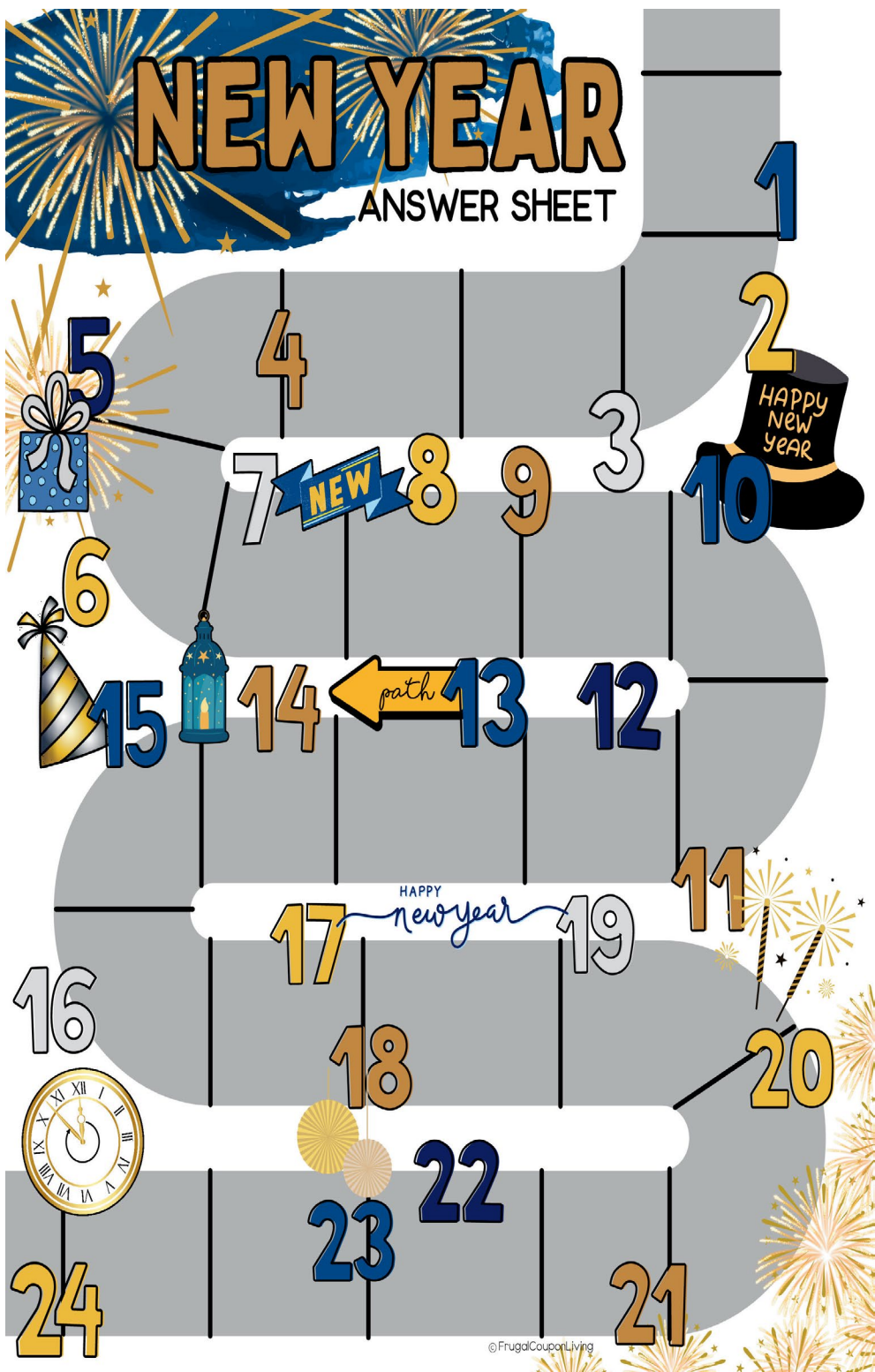
ACCORDING TO ISAIAH 58:11, WHAT WILL THE LORD ALWAYS DO FOR HIS PEOPLE?

22

JEREMIAH 29:11 SAYS GOD'S PLANS ARE TO DO WHAT FOR HIS PEOPLE?

NEW YEAR

ANSWER SHEET



EMMANUEL:

"GOD WITH US"



FOR THERE IS BORN TO YOU THIS DAY IN THE CITY OF DAVID
A SAVIOR, WHO IS CHRIST THE LORD. - LUKE 2:11

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2026

WORD SCRAMBLE

FIND THE NUMBERS 1-10 AS YOU
COUNTDOWN TO THE NEW YEAR!

APHYP _____
RPTYA _____
SDFNERI _____

RAYE _____
WNE _____
(LOOK AT THE WORD SEARCH FOR CLUES!)

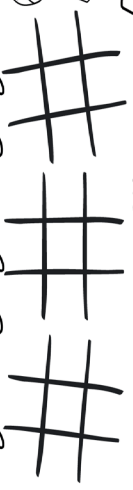
WORD SEARCH

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

Three things I'd like to learn next year:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

TIC TAC TOE



How many
can you find?

☐

The best thing about last year was:

My funniest memory from last year:



CONNECT

For more information, complete the form below and drop this tear-off in the offering or the church office.

I would like more information about:

- ☐ Children’s Programs
- ☐ Youth Programs
- ☐ Bible Studies
- ☐ Choirs
- ☐ Serving
- ☐ Baptism
- ☐ Membership
- ☐ Other _____

☐ I would like to receive the weekly e-Bethesda News and bulletin. Please enter your email address: _____

☐ I am new to Bethesda Mennonite Church.

☐ Please update/add my contact information to the Bethesda yearbook.

Name	
Address	
City, State, Zip	
Email	
Home Phone	
Cell Phone	

My age range:

- ☐ Elementary School
- ☐ High School
- ☐ Adult
- ☐ Junior High
- ☐ College

Comments/Bulletin Announcement...

NEW YEAR

ANSWER KEY

used ESV 

Because He is good; His love endures forever.

1

Every morning.

2

HAPPY NEW YEAR

10

A new life.

A new heart and a new spirit.

12

The new self, being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.

All things.

11

Renew their strength, soar on wings like eagles, run and not grow weary, walk and not be faint.

20

He will never leave them nor forsake them.

To prosper them, not to harm them, to give them hope and a future.

21

Guide them, satisfy their needs, and strengthen their frame.

23

For those who love Him and are called according to His purpose.

The Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning & the End.

24



16

He makes their steps firm, and though they stumble, they will not fall.

17

Be strong & courageous; do not be afraid or discouraged for the Lord is with you wherever you go.

18

All things.

19

HAPPY new year

13

He will make our paths straight.

14

A lamp for our feet and a light on our path.

15

A voice saying, "This is the way; walk in it."

6

Every time he remembered the believers.

5

From above, from the Father of lights.

4

With thanksgiving and praise.

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances.

3

8

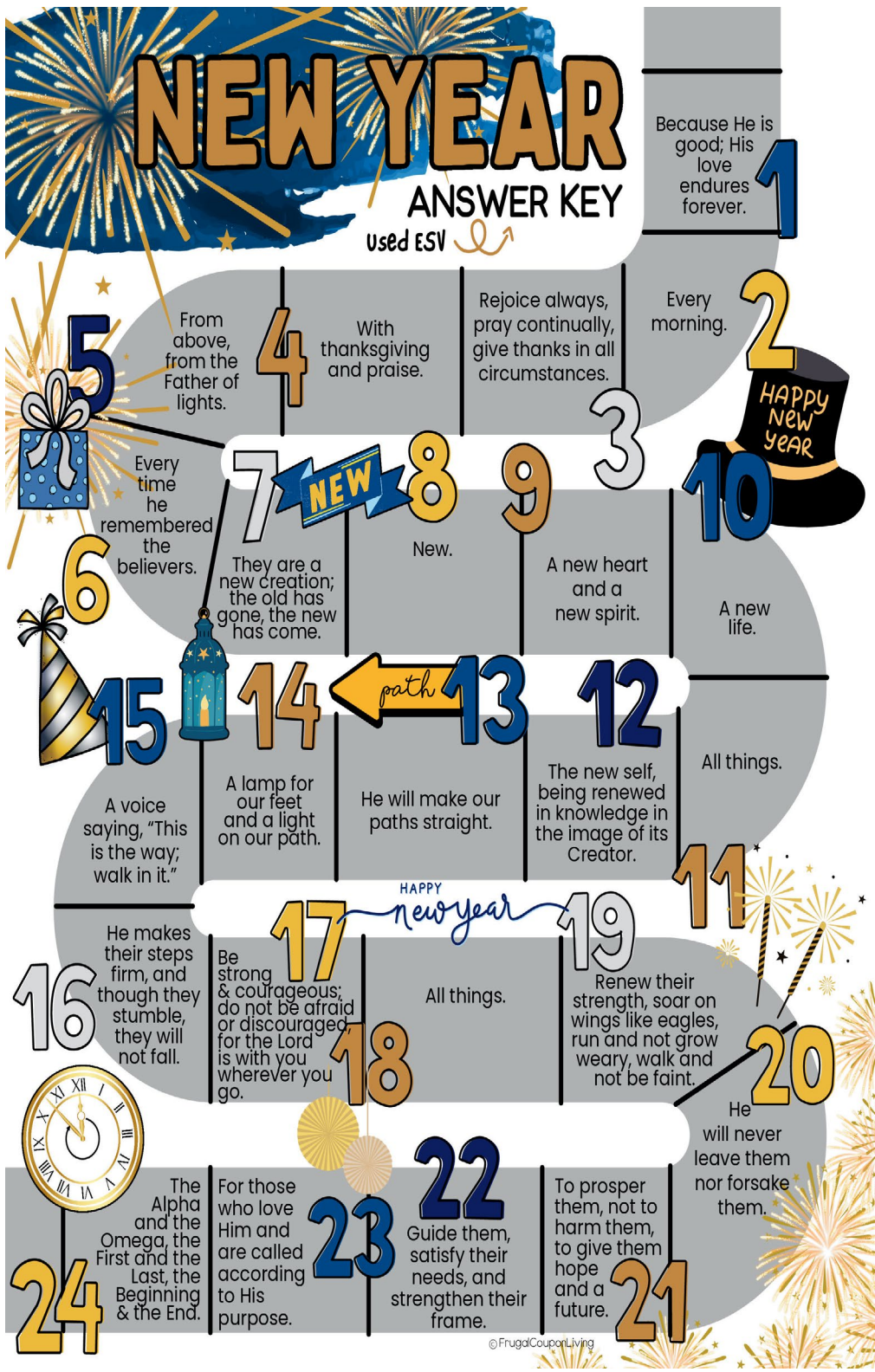
New.

9

NEW

7

They are a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come.



MESSAGENOTES

"Be Amazed!: Come and see"

Pastor Andrea Wall

John 1:35-50 (NRSV)