

The Good News

MONTHLY PUBLICATION JANUARY 2024 VOLUME 47 NUMBER 1

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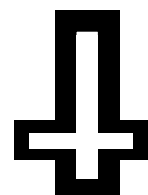


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DATED MATERIAL
Please Deliver by 2nd or
3rd of the month.

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE
10:00 AM
11:00 AM
PASTOR:
Dennis Laherty
PRE-SCHOOL DIRECTOR:
Jonine Soders
Spanish Worship is offered at 2:30 pm by House of Faith.
E-mail: churchinfo@elch.org
Website: www.elch.org



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED
Church: (562)691-0656 Preschool: (562) 694-5316
150 North Palm Street, La Habra, California 90631
Emanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church

I don't participate in New Year's resolutions for myself or the church, but I do get excited about people's needs being met.

By now you have probably heard of a new ministry of Emanuel's. Although it began on Christmas Eve, it is not intended in any way to be a New Year's resolution. It is a decision through the actions of people at Emanuel to help people in need.

In the middle of December, it was brought to the attention of a few members of the church that there is a place called St. Jude's Closet. It is an additional way in which St. Jude Medical Center in Fullerton is meeting needs of people who come to them.

A couple of years ago it was discovered that there are a number of people who come through the Emergency Room of the hospital who are inadequately dressed. I don't mean they fall short of a dress code, they are not wearing adequate clothing to keep themselves warm and thus healthy. At times paramedics need to cut clothing off people involved in accidents. The inadequacy that is being addressed by St. Jude are for people who didn't come adequately dressed in the first place. It was decided that these people could not be sent out in the meager clothes they were wearing when they came into the hospital. St. Jude's Closet was born.

Initially a closet was set aside to store a few articles of clothing. Then, after a while, two rooms were set aside by the hospital to store clothing. With today's need for clothing at St. Jude, the turnover of clothing occurs rather quickly.

Following one email sent to the congregation the week of Christmas, the people of Emanuel brought enough clothing to the church on Christmas Eve to surround the base of the Christmas tree with a pile of clothing for St. Jude's Closet.

A thank you goes out to all who participated on such short notice. In the future there will be a container in Moerer Hall to collect additional clothing. No doubt, several more people will be participating in this ministry.

It's not only a great way of ending 2023 but a tremendous way to begin 2024.

Pastor Dennis Laherty

**Help with
"Unhanging of the
Greens"**

3-5 pm Monday,



BLOOD DRIVE
Emanuel Lutheran Church

Location: Moerer Hall
 150 N. Palm Street
 La Habra, CA 90631

Thursday, Jan. 18
12:00 noon to 6:00 pm

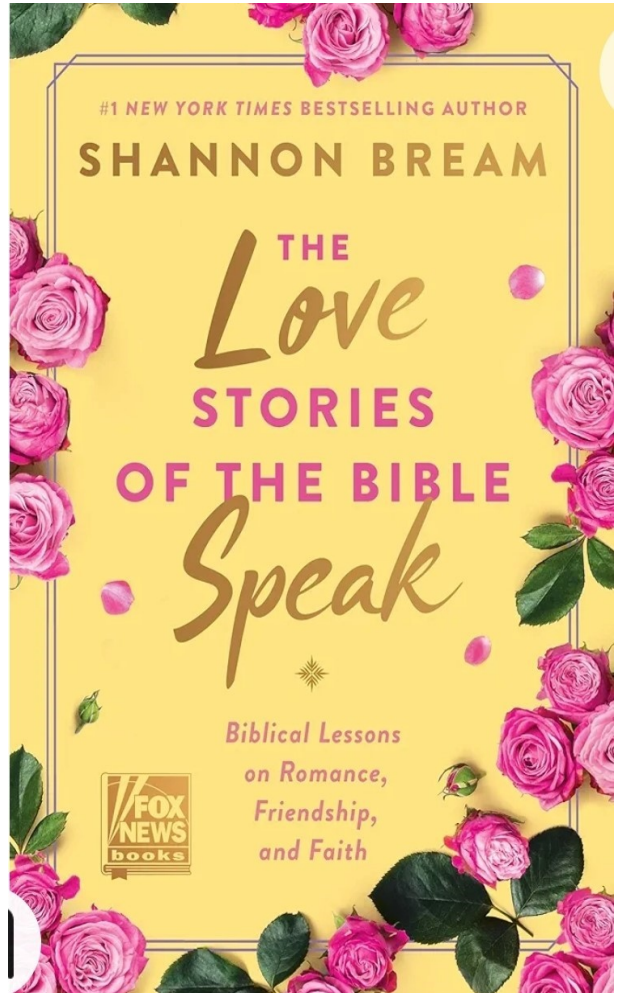
PICTURE ID REQUIRED AT REGISTRATION AND DURING HEALTH EXAM.

Please schedule an appointment online by visiting www.redcrossblood.org and enter sponsor code: **EMANUELLC** or call 1-800-RED-CROSS.



1-800-RED-CROSS | RedCrossBlood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

Book group starts again
 Thursday Jan 4th 1 PM in the library
 Join us !



What's 4Lunch Ladies?
Friday, January 19
11:30 AM
 Join us! Bring a friend!

Oriental Chinese Restaurant
2380 W. Whittier Blvd.
Whittier

~ SUNDAY BIBLE READINGS ~

Baptism of our Lord
January 7

Genesis 1:1-5
 Psalm 29
 Acts 19:1-7
 Mark 1:4-11

2 Epiphany
January 14

1 Samuel 3:1-1-10
 Psalm 139:1-6,13-18
 1 Corinthians 7:29-31
 John 1:43-51

3 Epiphany
January 21

Jonah 3:1-5, 10
 Psalm 62:5-12
 1 Corinthians 7:29-31
 Mark 1:14-20

4 Epiphany
January 28

Deuteronomy 18:15-20
 Psalm 111
 1 Corinthians 8:1-13
 Mark 1:21-28



HEART AND HANDS OUTREACH SHARING THE GOOD NEWS!

"Feed My Sheep" – John 21

OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND TO SERVE GOD BY SERVING OUR NEIGHBORS!

" GOD" S WORK...OUR HANDS!"



FOR 41 RESIDENTS OF THE WINGS SHELTER, YOU MADE CHRISTMAS VERY SPECIAL. THEY ARE OVERJOYED! AIDEN, FROM TPS ON A BREAK, HELPED US PACK THE TRUCK... THANKS AIDEN.

GOT FOOD?!

Many of our neighbors don't! At least 125 families are fed every week from the Caring Hands Foodbank which we support. We thank you for your generous food donations and pray for continued support in the New Year. Need a list of the most needed items? See the Welcome Table.

GOT CLOTHES?!

We have new outreach ministry, led by Sharon Frazier. We will be collecting gently used men's and women's clothing for the Clothes Closet at St. Jude. Patients often arrive with nothing to wear home. This is a great time of year to clean your closets and share the gift of warmth and comfort. A list of needed items is available at the Welcome Table and in the Office. Let us know if you'd like to receive one by e-mail.

Happy New Year!

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Please join us at the next HAHO Meeting January 13, 2024.



FROM THE BOARD OF PARISH EDUCATION

Sunday School January Schedule: Sunday School has resumed meeting at 11:00 a.m.

Kids age 3 years through sixth grade are invited to join us. Visitors are always welcome!

Sunday School: We will continue to learn about the Wise Men and the importance of their gifts they gave to Jesus and the story of Lydia from Acts 16.

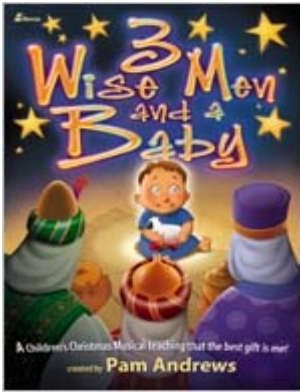
“3 Wise Men and a Baby” Play : We thank all our children who participated in our musical play. They did a great job and we learned that the greatest gift we can give Jesus this year is giving our hearts to Him. We thank Susan Wright, Cindy Reyes, Susan Fallon, and Francis Cuyno for helping with our play rehearsals and working out details for this presentation. We also thank Denise Witcher for creating our camels for the three Wise Men. We are so blessed to have dedicated volunteers. A potluck was enjoyed by all after the play.

Angel Tree: Children gave generously as we collected donations for buying gifts for children at the WINGS Shelter. We gave to a nine year old girl and a twelve year old boy. Our students discovered that when we give offerings, it goes to help others, even kids their own ages.

Offerings: During January, offerings will be used to reach out and help others in special ways. The kids will be choosing where they would like their offering to be used.

Please pray for the spiritual growth of our youth and adults.

Parish Ed Team

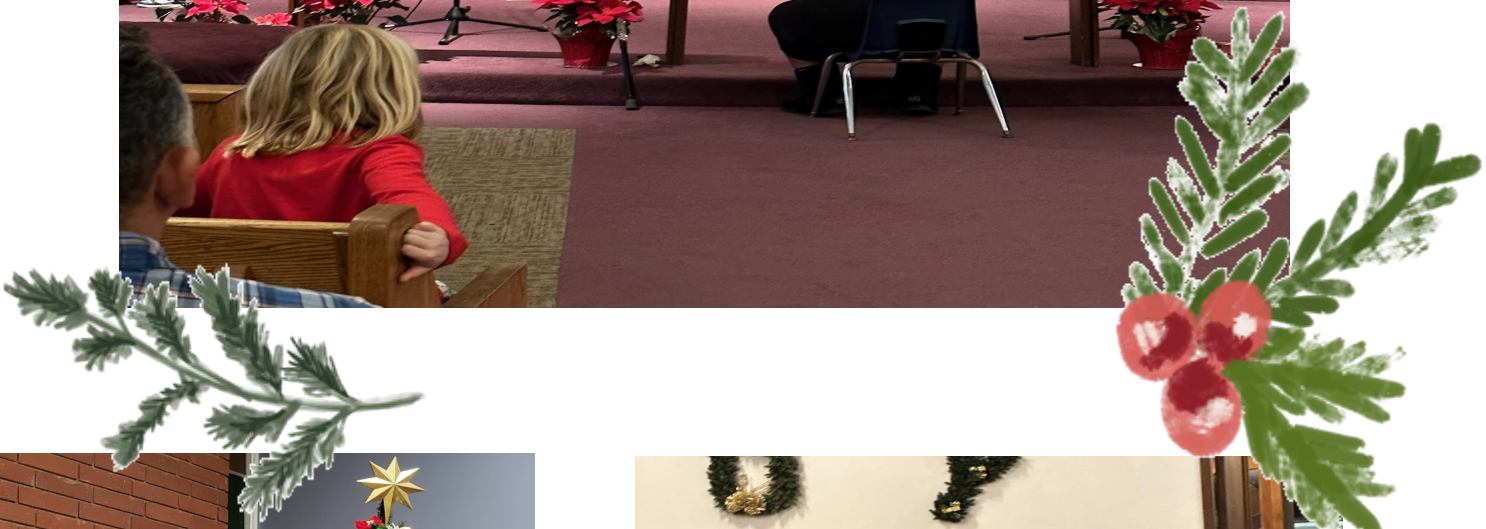


3 Wise Men And A Baby

Presented by Emanuel Lutheran Sunday School
and youth



Preschool Christmas Program





~Thanks to all of Emanuel who has generously provided 3 carts of food for the food bank and to those who faithfully deliver the food...Jo Ellen Dobson, Sue Morgan, Mary Ann Carlson, Janine Ward, Jeanette Parr and for AJ Ward for continuing the communication for this event.

~Thanks to Jerry Schnakenburg, Jack Ward, Jonine Soddors, and others who have worked diligently on repairing the gas leaks.

~Thanks to all who worked on the Trunk or Treat event, including food prep...Janine Ward, Rose Ward, Mary Ann Carlson, Kim Beard, Emily Beard, Cindy Reyes and for all those who provided decorated trunks; thanks also to Kirsten Garcia for leading up the trophy competition.

~Thanks to all of Emanuel for gift cards for P & P.

~Thanks to Denise Witcher, Susan Morgan, Mary Ann Carlson, Janine Ward, and Jeanette Parr for setting up the Angel Tree and making the gift cards.

~Thanks to all of the Study Buddy tutors who give generously of their time every week.

~Thanks to all the people/groups who contributed to the annual report for 2023 and to Robyn Ospital and her team* who organized and cleaned up after the potluck. (*John Ospital, Ricki Fehr, Celeste Templeton, Janine Ward, Bob Fallon, Susan Fallon, Jeanette Parr, Carl Pulley, Jerry Schnakenberg) and who provided yummy food.

~Thanks to all the singers and musicians, under the direction of Stephanie Young and accompanied by Kevin Wiley for the lessons and carols on December 10. The singers, handbell choir, praise band, and lesson readers made it a service to remember. We especially want to acknowledge Eric Hindley for his rendition of Joseph's Song, which was very meaningful to many people.

~Thanks to Jack Ward and Geoff Roberts who always manage to get our sound systems working and in sync with the PowerPoint to make a seamless service.

~Thanks to MaryAnn Carlson, Susan Wright, Cindy Reyes, Susan Fallon, Denise Witcher and Francis Cuyno and all of the youth who provided an amazing presentation of 3 Wise Men and a Baby.

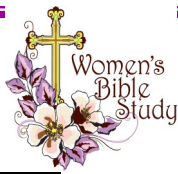
~Thanks to Kim and Emily Beard who spearheaded the potluck after the children's presentation.

~Thanks to the team who did the “hanging of the greens” on December 8 and 9. Robyn Ospital, John Ospital, Jeff Ospital, Kerry Ospital, Susan Fallon, Susan Morgan, Ricki Fehr, Jeanette Parr, and Luke Ospital all spent several hours on making the sanctuary beautiful. Climbing ladders is dangerous duty primarily by John and Bob. We especially want to thank Jeff and Kerry Ospital for purchasing this new taller tree. Also thanks to MaryAnn and Jonine who make sure the poinsettias stay moist. We also give thanks to our support team of Pepper and Chaz who cheered us on. us is as good as All of us! Praise to our God!

~Thanks to Lorrie Freeman for her unfailing help in training Lilly Hernandez at this particularly busy time of the year. Both of these ladies do so much to keep our service and our office on track they are invaluable.

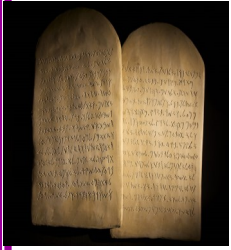
~Thanks to the members of Emanuel who have faithfully continued to bring food for the Caring Hand Food Bank at First Lutheran Church. Every one of you is helping to feed the 125 families every





COME JOIN US AT JOY CIRCLE WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY JANUARY 15TH

9:30 – 11 AM MONTHLY ON 3RD MONDAY



Happy New Year to all Emanuel women. This is the perfect time to give this group a try! We meet the third Monday of every month. We begin at 9:30 a.m. with light refreshments and coffee and conclude at 11:00 a.m. There is no advance preparation as copies of the Bible Study are available when you arrive, and sent in advance for those who want to look ahead. The Studies are taken from the ELCA Gather Magazine.

Give it a try, it is truly a time of easy discussion without any pressure at all. Praying we will have many more join us in 2024! Call JoEllen Dobson or Janine ward with question.

FREE STUDY BUDDIES TUTORING

TUESDAY & THURSDAY, 3-4:30 PM



Study Buddies, our FREE tutoring program for grades 1-6, meets at Emanuel on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3-4:30 PM in the Hope Center Library.

If you'd like to contribute to the fun, they are always in need of snacks for the kids. Lunch box size bags of chips and small water bottles are supplied to our students while they study.

Invite a friend or neighbor! Flyers are available at Sunday's Welcome Table.

Questions? Call Jill Drummond (714-403-0956).

NOTE: NO STUDY BUDDIES JANUARY 2 & 4

~ PRAYER ~

GOD'S WORD TELLS US IT IS THE MOST POWERFUL FORCE GOD HAS ENTRUSTED TO US!

Have a prayer request for yourself or others?

Call or email the church office and we will share it with the Prayer Team.

Want to make time to pray with others?

Consider joining the Prayer Group in person in the Youth Room or via Zoom 8:30-9:30 AM Saturday mornings.

Want to be part of the Prayer Team?

Contact the church office.

You Tube



TO WORSHIP WITH US ONLINE AND VIA LIVE STREAM, GO TO

- Emanuel's website: <http://elclh.org>
- YouTube: Emanuel Lutheran Church La Habra <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC4Fu6qvPdYF2MM92JzoU9uA>
- Facebook: Emanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church <https://www.facebook.com/emanuel.lutheran.1>

Closed captioning is available on both YouTube and Facebook. Visit Emanuel's website or find us on Instagram (emanuellahabra) for upcoming events and information.

St Jude Medical Center has a community closet that supplies clothes to patients and homeless in need. Emanuel, through HAHO, has decided to take on the task of helping to keep that closet stocked. Here's where you can help. Check your closets for the following items you aren't using and bring them to church – gently used, please. A collection box will be available in the narthex.

They are in HIGH need of the following:

Men's pants sizes 28-34 and 44-48. Men's shirts sizes M, XXL

Men's jackets sizes L, XL, XXL, XXXL

Women's pants sizes 20+

Women's sneakers sizes 8 and above / Tube socks

Men's sneakers sizes 10 and above / Tube socks

They have an ongoing need for the following:

Men's and Women's casual clothing (gently used, no stains or holes)

Men's & Women's jackets/coats (Men's are in high demand)

Undergarments (new only)

Belts/Scarves/mittens/beanies/backpacks/totes/ponchos (no wallets or purses please)

Shoes (Men's are in high demand)

Also, if you have crutches, walkers, canes, or manual wheel chairs you no longer need, they will be glad to take them. A tax donation letter is available upon request.

This project is being coordinated through HAHO. If you have questions, please call Sharon or Jeanette.



YOUR GIVING MATTERS!

EASY WAYS TO SUPPORT EMANUEL FINANCIALLY

Thank you for your financial gifts to God through Emanuel Lutheran Church!!! Below are 4 ways to give:

- Entryway offering plate
- Mail to the Church Office
- "Giving" link online at www.elclh.org
- Text dollar amount to 562-210-0007

Our bank has recently notified us how checks must be written in order to be accepted. We are asking for your assistance to avoid future checks being refused.

- Checks must be made payable to **EMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH** (full name written out)
- Checks are to be written using **blue or black ink only** (other colors not acceptable)
- Make sure the **number in the amount is the same as the amount written in words** (\$100.00 = one-hundred and no/100 dollars)
- **Sign Your Check**
 - Please indicate in the memo line if the check is for a specific ministry.

Thank you SO MUCH for your assistance. If more convenient, you may also give online through our website



PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER ~ JANUARY 2024

*** Save this for reference throughout the month. ***

“Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, and faithful in prayer.” Romans 12:12

Special Prayer Focus for This Month

~ Lord God, Creator of all things. Thank You for this new month that You have given me...a new month in which to start fresh. Thank You, that You have the ability – and the desire – to wipe my slate clean. Thank You that forgiveness is there for the asking and You are the God of restoration and new beginnings. Your Word says, “Anyone who belongs to Christ is a new person. The past is forgotten, and everything is new.”

Continuing Prayers

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| ~ Ruth Fehr | ~ V.J. Roberts | ~ Stephanie Young |
| ~ Sharon Frazier | ~ Dan Toussaint | ~ Shelley Reesman |
| ~ Mischelle and John Uhlman | ~ Jerry Schnakenberg | ~ Charlotte |
| ~ Maiju and Wolfgang Hessel | ~ Chuck Holtzendorff | ~ Cathy Spangler |



In Our Hearts and Prayers

Assisted Living Centers/Homebound

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| ~ Shirley Jordan – Park Vista | ~ Jean Arata |
| ~ Margaret Roberts – Addie’s Cottage Anaheim | ~ Lee Reitzel – Emerald Court |

Friends and Family to Remember

- | | |
|--|--|
| ~ Ruth Ann Kiszka (Celeste Templeton cousin) | ~ Matt Rossoni (Doris Rossoni stepson) |
| ~ Mike Petrelli (Doris Rossoni son) | ~ Abigail and Belinda and her family |
| ~ Jesse Valdez | ~ Diana Holzendorff and family |
| ~ Dani, Luke, Jane & family | |
| ~ “Mo” & Andy | |

Prayers of Thanksgiving

- ~ We offer prayers of thanksgiving for the life of Eric Sessing. Eric died on December 20, 2023. We keep his family in our prayers.
- ~ We offer prayers of thanksgiving for the life of Ruth Wolfarth. Ruth died Sunday December 31, 2023. We remember her three children Cindy, Ron and Richard in our prayers.
- ~ For all God’s blessings, those we see and so many big and small ways God provides for our needs, often before we even know our need
- ~ Thank You, God, for those who are here to share these blessings this month, for the generosity of our hosts that make this possible. Bless those who are here and those who are in our hearts, and all those who are not as fortunate.
- ~ For all people dealing with natural disasters around the world. Those who have lost loved ones, homes, pets and everything they own.

If you have prayer concerns to add to Emanuel’s list, please contact the church office at (562) 691-0656. Once a month, names will be removed from the list that have been in print at least eight consecutive weeks (except those who request extended prayer). You are welcome to re-submit any names removed from the list, or you may remove a name at any time by contacting the church office. Thank you.

JANUARY 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 7-9p HOF (4) 7:30p AA (H)	2	3 9a Bible Study (LIZ) 10a Bridge Club (H) 6-9p HOF (4) 7:30p Al-Anon (C)	4 1p Book Club (L) 6:30p District 18 (H) 7-9p HOF(4)	5 6-10:30p HOF (S) 7:30-8:30p HOF (1-4, Y) 8p AA (H)	6 7-9:30a BSF Leaders (H/ F) 8:30a Prayer Group (Y) 6-9p HOF (4)
7 10a Blended Worship (S) 11a Sunday School (H) 12:45-7p HOF(ALL)	8 4p Stephen Ministry (C) 7-9p HOF (4) 7:30p AA (H)	9 3-4:30p Study Buddies (L) 6p BSF (S/H/F/L/C/Y)	10 9a Bible Study (LIZ) 10a Preschool Brd (C) 10a Bridge Club (H) 6-9p HOF (4) 7:30p Al-Anon (C)	11 1p Book Club (L) 3-4:30p Study Buddies (L) 7-9p HOF(4)	12 6-10:30p HOF (S) 7:30-8:30p HOF (1-4, Y) 8p AA (H)	13 7-9:30a BSF Leaders (H/ F) 8:30a Prayer Group (Y) 10a HAHO Mtg (H) 6-9p HOF (4)
14 10a Blended Worship (S) 11a Sunday School (H) 12:45-7p HOF(ALL)	15 MLK Holiday 9:30a Joy Circle (L) 7-9p HOF (4) 7:30p AA (H)	16 3-4:30p Study Buddies (L) 6p BSF (S/H/F/L/C/Y)	17 "Good News" Deadline 9a Bible Study (LIZ) 10a Bridge Club (H) 6-9p HOF (4) 7:30p Al-Anon (C)	18 1p Book Club (L) 3-4:30p Study Buddies (L) 7-9p HOF (4)	19 6-10:30p HOF (S) 7:30-8:30p HOF (1-4, Y) 8p AA (H)	20 7-9:30a BSF Leaders (H/ F) 8:30a Prayer Group (Y) 5-9p HOF (Y)
21 10a Blended Worship (S) 11a Sunday School (H) 12:45-7p HOF(S/C/H/Y/ -4) 5p House of Faith (S)	22 7-9p HOF (4) 7:30p AA (H)	23 3-4:30p Study Buddies (L) 5:30p Council Mtg (L) 6p BSF (S/H/F/L/C/Y)	24 9a Bible Study (LIZ) 10a Bridge Club (H) 6-9p HOF (4) 7:30p Al-Anon (C)	25 10a Book Club (L) 3-4:30p Study Buddies (L) 7-9p HOF(4)	26 6-10:30p HOF (S) 7:30-8:30p HOF (1-4, Y) 8p AA (H)	27 7-9:30a BSF Leaders (H/ F) 8:30a Prayer Group (Y) 10-4p District 18 (H) 5-9p HOF (Y)
28 10a Blended Worship (S) 11a Sunday School (H) 12:45-7p HOF(S/C/H/Y/ -4) 5p House of Faith (S)	29 7-9p HOF (4) 7:30p AA (H)	30 3-4:30p Study Buddies (L) 6p BSF (S/H/F/L/C/Y)	31 9a Bible Study (LIZ) 10a Bridge Club (H) 6-9p HOF (4) 7:30p Al-Anon (C)			

Kid's Korner



HAPPY NEW YOU!

Changing the calendar each January is a reminder that God makes all things new.

Directions: Use the clues and the calendar code to complete 2 Corinthians 5:17, ESV.

JANUARY 2024						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	God	night	word	in	love	Jesus
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
glory	therefore	speak	give	light	Christ	a
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
saw	beginning	anyone	waters	help	is	many
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
he	again	through	earth	made	while	back
28	29	30	31			
new	if	and	creation			

- The second Monday _ _ _ _ _
- The last Monday _ _
- The 16th _ _ _ _ _
- One day before the 20th _ _
- The day before the first Friday _ _
- The last weekday of the second week _ _ _ _ _
- The day after the 20th _ _
- The day after 18th _ _
- The first day of the second weekend _
- The last Sunday _ _ _
- The last day of the month _ _ _ _ _

Answers: Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.



Geodes look plain on the outside but contain beautiful crystals. Create these "rocks" to show how God makes us new on the inside.

What you need:

- Clean cardboard egg carton
- Scissors (and adult help)
- Epsom salt
- Plastic zippered bags (one per color of dye)
- Food coloring
- Glue
- Paintbrush



What you do:

1. Cut out the tops and bottoms of all the egg compartments so you can make 6 ball shapes.
2. In each bag, put 3 tablespoons of Epsom salt and a drop or two of food coloring. Seal and shake to mix.
3. With the paintbrush, spread glue inside two egg-carton halves. Sprinkle a spoonful of Epsom salt into those halves. Then close and shake.
4. Open your homemade geode and shake out excess salt.
5. Optional: Preserve the crystals with a coat of clear-drying glue.

