



January/February 2026

Allen AveNews

Allen Avenue Christian Reformed Church, Pastor Mark Hofman
695 Allen Avenue, Muskegon, MI 49442



January 1
New Years Day



January 19
Martin Luther King Jr. Day



January 25
Cadet Sunday



February 2
Groundhog Day



February 14
Valentine's Day



February 16
Presidents Day

Special Collections



January 25
Cadets
February 8
World Renew

RESOLUTE

Resolute – a Study in Proverbs by Pastor Mark



“And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.”
(Luke 2:52)

The **Resolute desk**, also known as the Hayes desk, is a nineteenth-century desk that's been used by several presidents of the United States in the White House Oval Office. The desk was a gift from Queen Victoria to President Rutherford B. Hayes in 1880 and was built from the oak timbers of the British Arctic exploration ship HMS Resolute. HMS Resolute was abandoned in the Arctic in 1854 while searching for Sir John Franklin and his lost expedition. The ship was found in 1855 by George Henry, an American whaling ship, repaired, and returned to the United Kingdom in 1856 as a gesture of goodwill from the United States.

Many moments in our nation's history have been decided and signed into law at the resolute desk. As a symbol of leadership and resolve, this desk – made from a shipwreck – symbolizes the best of what we aspire to as a people. Its aim is wisdom and its message to the citizens of the USA is to seek this same wisdom in all affairs.

Yet, what all of our hearts can't not know, is that no one pursues or can claim such wisdom. As Paul wrote in Romans 1:21-22, “For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools.”

Our sinful foolishness causes us to turn from God's wisdom. Our futile aspirations and self-glorification lead us away from God and his words for our good. But thanks be to Him, he came to us as wisdom personified. Again, Paul writes in 1 Cor. 2:7, “...we declare God's wisdom, a mystery that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began.” Paul says we have the mind of Christ, and by that he points us to Jesus, the fullness of the wisdom of God. “It is because of [God the Father] that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption.” (1 Cor. 1:30)

Jesus is wisdom, and we are called to be resolute in our pursuit of Him and wisdom in relationship to him. This January and February at Allen Avenue, we will study the book of Proverbs and be resolute in seeking God's face as he reveals himself to us in wisdom.

Note: If you exchange assignments with someone, let Susan Vanderlaan know so she can have it right in the bulletin.
 susan.vanderlaan@allenavechurch.org or 231.722.6411

Another Year Is Dawning

Another year is dawning,

Dear Master, let it be,

In working, or in waiting,

Another year with Thee.

Another year of mercies,

Of faithfulness and grace;

Another year of gladness

In the shining of Thy face.

Another year of progress,

Another year of praise,

Another year of proving

Thy presence all the days.

Another year of service,

Of witness of Thy love,

Another year of training

For holier work above.

Another year is dawning,

Dear Master, let it be

On earth, or else in heaven

Another year for Thee.

--Francis Ridley Havergal (1874)

Nursery Schedule



January	4	Stephanie Hofman, Beth VanRees
	11	Laurie DeJong, Deb Anderson
	18	Carol Peterman, Maelin Vlasma
	25	Amber Johnson, Becki Fisher

February	2	Susan Vanderlaan, Addie Maat
	9	Charry Snyder, Karen Alphenaar
	16	Renee Vlasma, Toni Schuitema
	23	Dale Johnson, August Hofman



Coffee Schedule

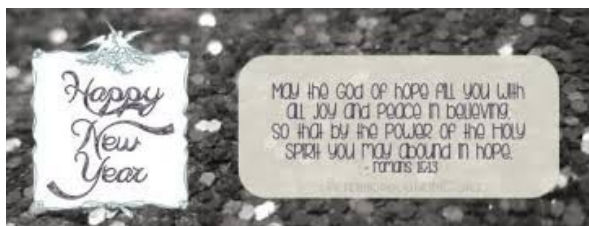
January	4	Susan & Bob Vanderlaan
	11	Laurie & Roger Slorf
	18	Sherrie & Jack Wolffis
	25	Judy Vaandering and Eric & Stacy

February	1	Amber & Dean Johnson
	8	Becki & Randy Fisher
	15	Barb & Jim Malda
	22	Sue & John Sytsema



Sunday & Catechism

January	4	Kelly Dauser, Judy Vaandering
	11	Jill Schuitema, Amber Johnson
	25	Deb Anderson, Carol Peterman





Potluck

Districts 2 & 4



Bishop Small Group Christmas Party

The Bishop Small Group met at Bob & Susan's for a fish fry and potluck. That was followed by a rousing game of Bible trivia bingo. It included singing some of the answers. While we played trivia, Tucker played a game of keep away.



Brian was
busy looking
up answers
on his phone



Rop Small Group Christmas Party

The Rop small group had pizza, played goofy games and had a really good time. Best prize ever was the Golden Shoes!



Lighting of the Advent Candle



Travis & Jasmine Snyder
Hope Candle



Jack & Sherrie Wolffis
Faith Candle



John & Sue Sytsema, Joy Candle



Ron Friday & Sandy Volkers
Love Candle



Dave & Beth VanRees, Christ Candle



The Christmas Story



Narrators:
Maelin, Tayla





Christmas at Allen Avenue



CREATION Word Search



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



God
Heaven
Earth
Light
Darkness

Day
Night
Waters
Dry Land
Vegetation

Trees
Sun
Moon
Stars
Sea Creatures
Beasts

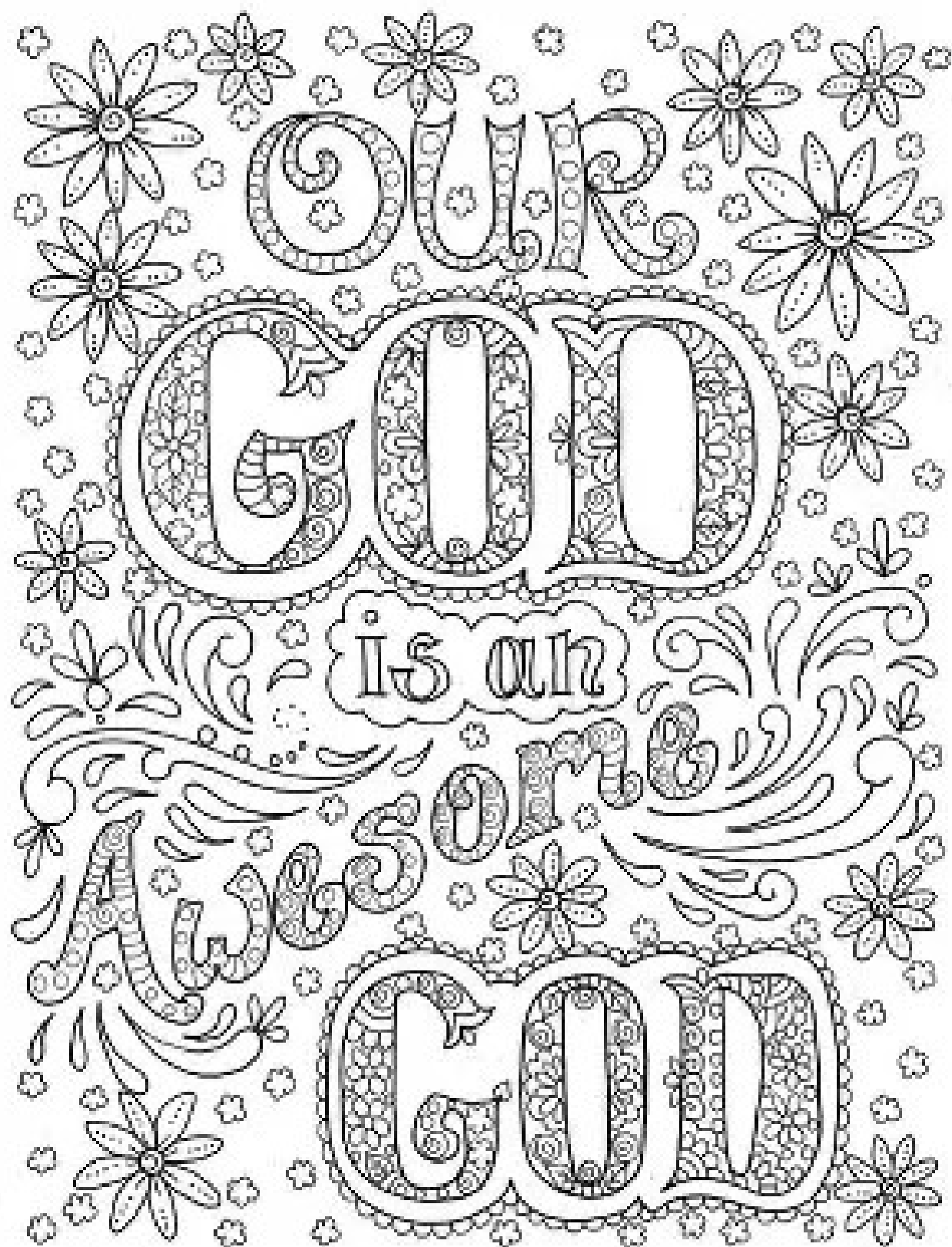
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9 BIBLE

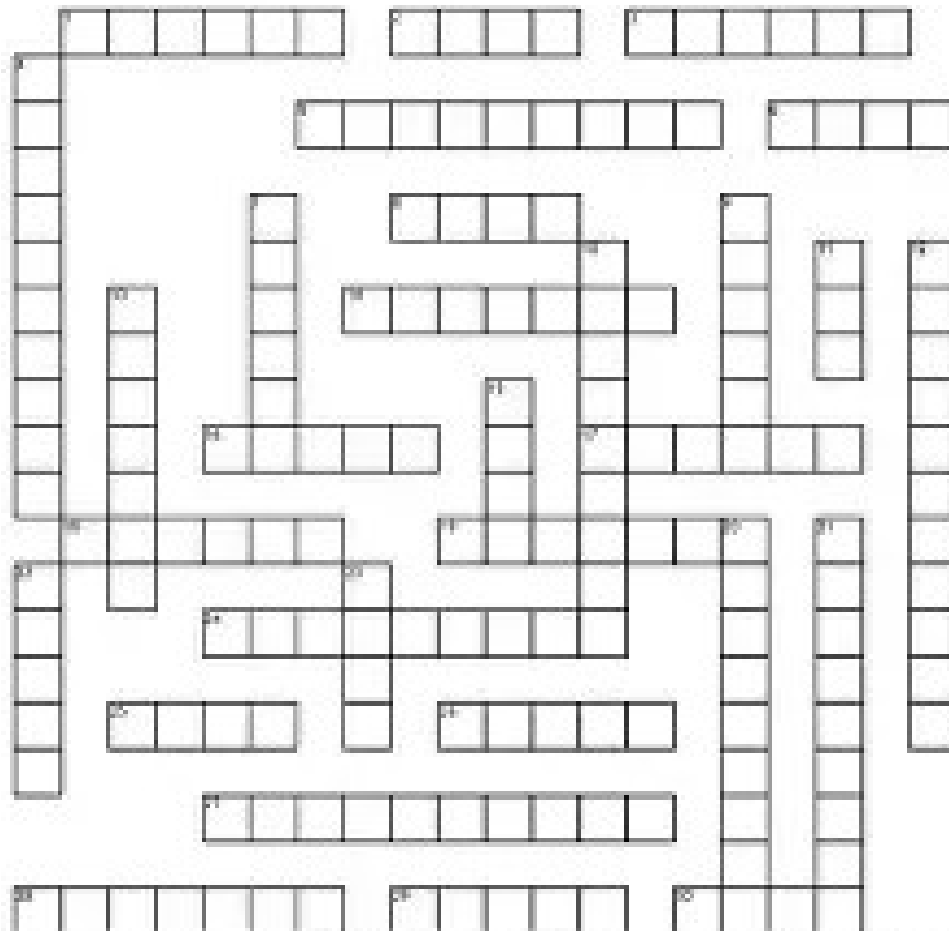
Noah builds an ark.
Genesis 6:1-22



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The bible crossword



Across

1. Ezekiel 16:47 (9)
2. 1 Samuel 18:21 (21)
3. Isaiah 37:16 (11)
5. Isaiah 65:7 (19)
6. Ruth 1:5 (5)
8. Job 42:6 (4)
14. Isaiah 65:7 (22)
16. Titus 3:2 (4)
17. Job 42:6 (15)
18. Ezra 5:9 (17)

19. Jeremiah 1:11 (22)

24. Proverbs 3:25 (7)
25. Amos 2:5 (5)
26. Isaiah 37:33 (15)
27. 1 Esdras 6:29 (35)
28. Judges 9:2 (10)
29. 2 Maccabees 3:1 (19)
30. Jonah 2:2 (23)

Down

4. Ezekiel 16:47 (16)
7. Ruth 3:2 (7)

9. Matthew 5:21 (10)
10. Zechariah 1:5 (4)
11. Genesis 37:2 (42)
12. Daniel 11:30 (14)
13. Judges 6:34 (15)
15. 2 Maccabees 3:1 (20)
20. Sirach 35:10 (15)?
21. Isaiah 37:12 (6)
22. Ruth 1:1-2 (4)
23. Judges 7:19 (16)