



Nuggets of Treasure **Christmas**



December 2023

Volume 33 Issue 8

We now find ourselves in the Christmas season. Christmas means different things to individuals. Some people love this time of year; others dread this time of year. Many people do not like all the activities that seem to occur in December, with school, work, and planning their own holiday time. So, for some, it causes them to be frazzled, and they do not enjoy their family or friends. Others want everything to be perfect, having a Hallmark Christmas, a sentimental view of Christmas. Some think about eating their favorite foods and desserts. Others think about giving and receiving gifts. The world has changed what Christmas is all about. As believers, what do we expect? What does Christmas mean to us? Christmas comes every year, and it is time to reflect on its true meaning, rejoice, praise, and thank God for all He has done. Christmas to a believer should remind us of the gift of salvation—a celebration of God's love, the gift of His only Son.

John 3:16 (NKJV) "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him

should not perish but have everlasting life." A summary of the Gospel message. God's motivation toward people is love. He did not wait for us to turn to Him before He loved the world. God's love is not limited to only a few or just one group of people, but His gift is for the whole world. God's love was expressed in the giving of His most priceless gift—His Son. He sent His Son to save us from eternal destruction. What an amazing gift. God is our example in giving, loving, and having relationships. Our life should consist of giving daily, loving always, and taking time for relationships with others.

Think about all the gifts we have been given through salvation. We have received eternal life. All the gifts we have been given to us can be extended to others or, as people would say today, be re-gifted. We have received forgiveness, which we, in turn, give to others. We have received hope, which we can provide for those around us. All the gifts we need have been given love, mercy, peace, joy, and righteous-

ness, and the list is endless. What gifts are we giving others? Do we give love, seeing others as valuable? Are we making time for others because they are important to us? Are we giving of our time, talent, and treasure?

We have been given the gift of the Holy Spirit. He gives us grace. The Holy Spirit is the comforter, counselor, helper, intercessor, advocate, strengthener, and standby. Are we relying on the gift of the Holy Spirit? Some people are given gifts they never use; they just sit somewhere gathering dust. They are not grateful for the gift. Do not let the Holy Spirit be laid aside; embrace the gift of the Holy Spirit in your life and rely on Him daily. God's gifts are ongoing throughout the whole year.

Does Christmas fuel a sense of worship? Isaiah 9:6-7 (NKJV) "For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government

Nuggets of Treasure



Happy Birthday
12/12 John Westing
12/24 Joe McHenry

Upcoming Events 2023

December 24 Christmas Eve

December 25 Christmas



December 31 New Year's Eve

2024

January 1 New Year's Day



January 15 Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Church Offices

The Administrative Office is not located at the church building.

Ministry Office is at the church by appointment only:
13th & Fillmore, Caldwell, ID
Phone 208-459-6000
FAX 208-459-6600

“God is still writing your story. Quit trying to steal the pen.”—Toby Mac

“No matter what the climate is, what the troubles are, what the difficulties are, there is joy for the child of God, because joy is produced supernaturally by the Holy Spirit in us.”—Billy Graham

“The presence and the manifestation of the presence are not the same. There can be the one without the other. God is here when we are wholly unaware of it. He is manifest only when and as we are aware of His presence. On our part there must be surrender to the Spirit of God, for His work it is to show us the Father and the Son. If we cooperate with Him in loving obedience, God will manifest Himself to us, and that manifestation will be the difference between a nominal Christian life and a life radiant with the light of His face.”—A.W. Tozer

“He is making a way where there seems to be no way.”—Toby Mac



Our Helping Hands Show A Loving Heart

Get involved, find a place to help. We all have something to give. We need greeters, ushers, maintenance, socials, visitations, children, youth, food center, music, socials, driving etc.

VOLUNTEER



Oasis Food Center Update

November 2023 (as of 11/29/23)
Families: 1,277
New Families: 69
Total People: 4,827

Year to Date 2023 (as of 11/29/23)
Families: 14,213
New Families: 774
Total People: 55,035

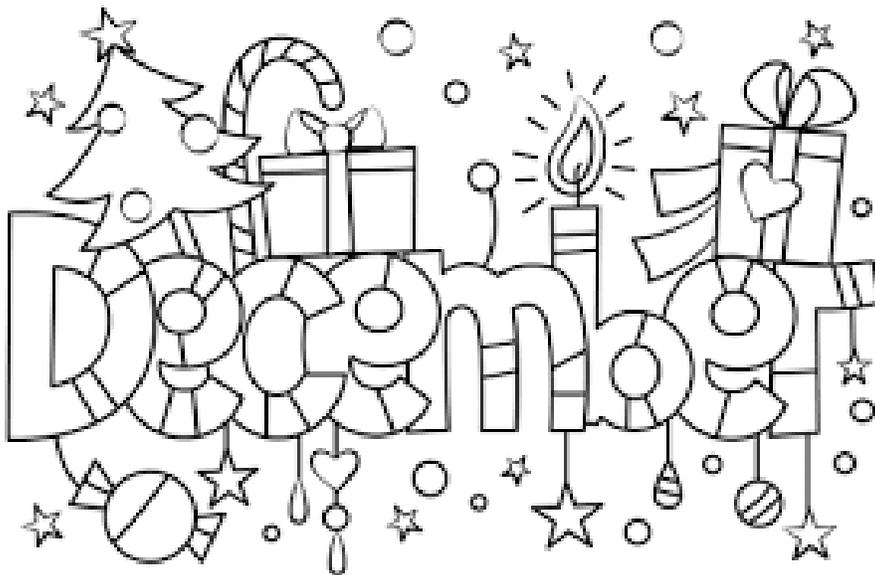
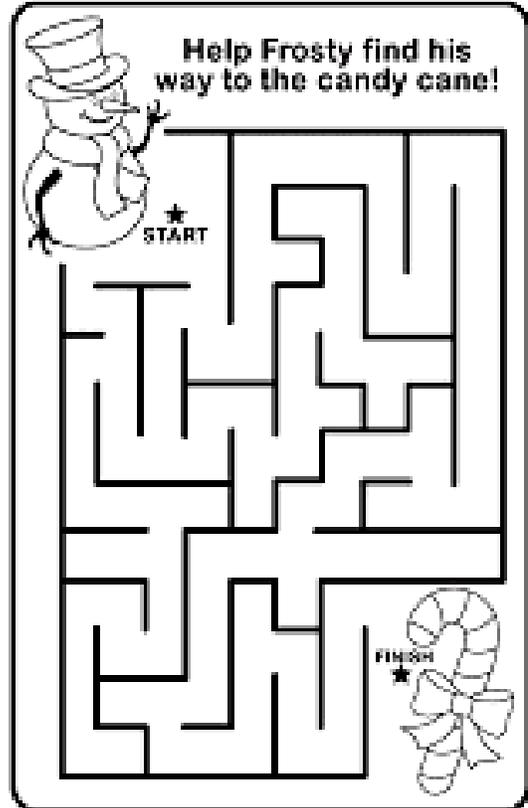
Year to Date 2022
Families: 15,288
New Families: 7660
Total People: 60,604

DECEMBER



- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| CANDLES | REINDEER |
| COOKIES | RIBBON |
| GIFTS | SLEIGH |
| HOLIDAYS | STOCKINGS |
| JOY | TRAVEL |
| LIGHTS | TREATS |
| MILK | WINTER |
| ORNAMENTS | WREATH |

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



Bring Your Friends and Join the Fun at Church!

Sunday Morning
10:30 am





RECIPE CORNER

Nuggets of Treasure

and peace, there will be no end, Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever.”

We can enjoy the Christmas season, giving gifts to family and friends and spending time with others, but let's not get so busy we forget about the greatest gift we have received and all it encompasses. Let us spread love, peace, hope, and joy this Christmas and throughout the year. Give of yourself all the time. Celebrate God's love for us by spreading God's love continually.

Citrus Crinkle Cookies

Ingredients

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/4 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1 stick (8 tablespoons) unsalted butter, at room temperature
- 1/2 cup packed light brown sugar
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1 large egg
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2 tablespoons finely grated citrus zest (lemon, lime or orange) plus 3 tablespoons juice
- 4 to 6 drops yellow, green or orange gel food coloring
- 1/2 cup confectioners' sugar



Directions

Whisk together the flour, baking powder and salt in a medium bowl. Combine the butter, brown sugar and 1/2 cup granulated sugar in the bowl of a stand mixer fitted with the paddle attachment. Beat on medium-high speed until light and fluffy, scraping the sides of the bowl as needed, about 2 minutes.

Add the egg and beat until incorporated. Add the vanilla extract, citrus zest, citrus juice and food coloring and beat until incorporated. Decrease the mixer speed to low and add the flour mixture, beating until just combined. Cover the bowl and refrigerate until firm, at least 2 hours and up to overnight.

Put the confectioners' sugar in a small bowl and the remaining 1/2 cup granulated sugar in another small bowl. Scoop tablespoons of the chilled dough and roll into balls. Toss each ball in the granulated sugar first, then in the confectioners' sugar, coating them very generously and thoroughly. Arrange the balls about 1 inch apart on 2 baking sheets (you should have 24 balls). Refrigerate for 20 minutes.

Position the oven racks in the top and bottom thirds of the oven and preheat to 350 degrees F.

Bake until the cookies spread, the tops crack and the edges are firm, 14 to 16 minutes. Let cool on the baking sheets for a few minutes, then transfer the cookies to a wire rack to cool completely. Store in an airtight container at room temperature for up to 3 days.



Nuggets of Treasure

Prayer is the answer in all situations and conditions. Prayer is for everyone, young or old.

When we are unsure what we need to execute, do we pray to the Lord? When we feel overwhelmed by circumstances and obstacles, we should pray. When we experience discouragement or disillusionment, we should seek the Lord in prayer. The Word tells us we should pray and not faint. We should always have a willingness to pray.

Philippians 4:4-9 “Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! 5 Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. 6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. 7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. 8 Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. 9 Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.” Do not be anxious or worry about anything but pray. In every situation, as we pray, the peace of God comes to our hearts and minds.

Everyday Godly Living

Pray is vital in our walk as believers. Jesus instructed His disciples to “pray at all times.” We must pray no matter how we find ourselves in a difficult situation or overflowing with blessings. We need to stay in tune with the Lord in fellowship with Him. Prayer is communication with the Lord God. Like all communication in relationships, it can develop into great intimacy or deteriorate. What are we choosing?

It is easy to be distracted by everything in life and not pray. It is easy to become complacent in life and just think we got it. Too often, people who say they are believers and trust the Lord live their lives as if they do not need Him. The Lord wants us to be diligent and faithful in prayer.

Do we stop and give thanks for the beautiful sunset day that we have a place to live and food to eat? Do we intercede on their behalf if we see someone hurting under challenging circumstances? Do we pray for salvation if someone does not know the Lord? Do we see everything in life in relation to the Lord God? We need to make prayer an ongoing part of our day. In prayer, often, the Lord gives us strength and prepares us for the things that lie ahead.

Prayer is more than just praying at mealtimes, bedtime, or church services. As believers, we are to communicate with

the Lord all the time. Just as we might discuss something with a close friend, we must discuss things with the Lord. Always be ready to receive His perspective on things. We need to be conscious of His presence and take advantage of the intimate fellowship He offers and desires with us. The Lord God loves us and wants to share thankfulness, discouragement, joy, sorrow, triumph, and setbacks in our lives. Make a new commitment to desire to commune with Him more faithfully.





DECEMBER 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 10:30am MW/ Children/Youth 6:30pm Music Prac- tice 7pm Evening Service	4	5	6 Feed the Needy 12 pm- 2:00 pm 7pm Bible Study	7 Feed the Needy 4 pm- 6 pm	8	9
10 10:30am MW/ Children/Youth 6:30pm Music Prac- tice 7pm Evening Service	11	12	13 Feed the Needy 12 pm- 2:00 pm 7pm Bible Study	14 Feed the Needy 4 pm- 6 pm	15	16
17 10:30am MW/ Children/Youth 6:30pm Music Prac- tice 7pm Evening Service	18	19	20 Feed the Needy 12 pm- 2:00 pm 7pm Bible Study	21 Feed the Needy 4 pm- 6 pm	22	23
24 Christmas Eve 10:30am MW/ Children/Youth	25 Christmas	26	27 Feed the Needy 12 pm- 2:00 pm 7pm Bible Study	28 Feed the Needy 4 pm- 6 pm	29	30
31 New Year's Eve						