

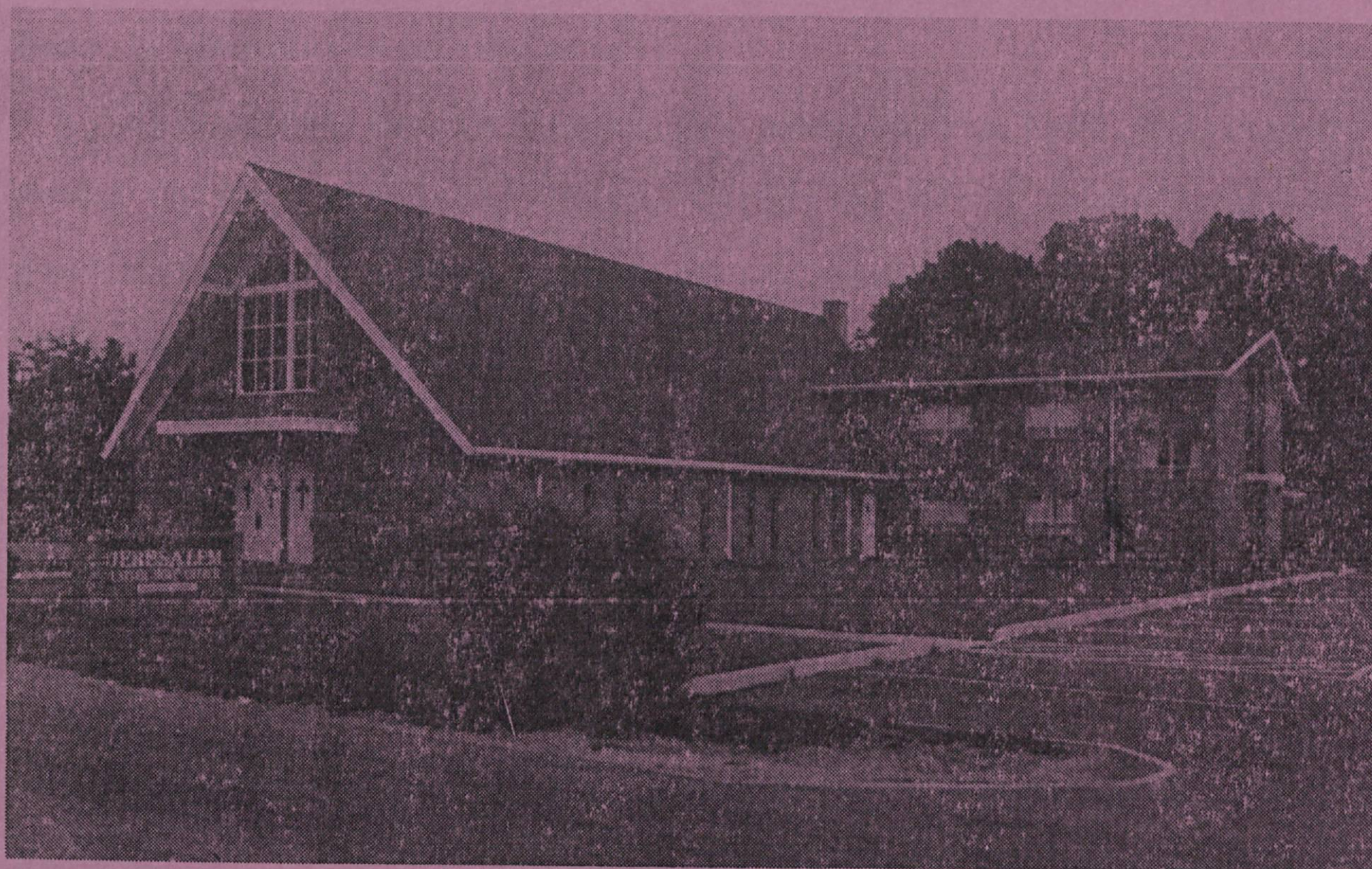
RCVF
Reidsville Churches
Jerusalem United Holy
1992

Insights to Jerusalem

Jerusalem United Holy Church

BISHOP ELIJAH WILLIAMS, PASTOR

Motto: Enduring Til The End



CHRISTMAS

FORTY-NINTH EDITION

1992

RCVF - Black Community / Churches - Rds

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JERUSALEM UNITED HOLY CHURCH OF AMERICA



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December 1992

Dear Fellow Workers in Christ:

Holy greetings to you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who truly lived, suffered, died, arose from the dead, ascended on high and is coming again.

Christmas is the time when we celebrate the birth of Jesus, which was God's gift to the world. Our focus during this season should be on giving and sharing. If we keep pace with the world, we will find ourselves exchanging gifts so that all who gives will receive. Suppose God had given his Son on the condition that the world give back something just as valuable. If that had been the case our redemption would have suffered a great loss. Today, we need to learn how to give to those who are in need and cannot possibly return the favor, any more than the world could return the favor to God for His gift.

This year I have asked the Jerusalem family and friends to give one half of their gift buying money to needy families. We have been talking about this mission for one year and now it is time to act. If you, as a family, will share Christmas with a needy family by giving one half of your shopping money to help that family, this will be one of the greatest Christmases you have ever experienced.

G. Temp Sparkman once wrote:

"If I were God; oh, if I were God - I would have a banquet and invite all the hungry children in this world. Then I would help every child's father find a job. I would attend the board meeting of the power makers and veto the actions that manipulate the oppressed. If I were God; oh if only I were God - I would build a big bonfire to attract all cold people, then I would give them warm clothes for the winter, clean clothes for school and work, and bright clothes for parties. I would do something about the intolerable physical conditions under which they live."

We are not God but we are his hands and feet, we are his instruments in a world of suffering. Please join us in our effort to share the joy of Christmas with other families.

Remember, I am here to serve, don't fail to call if you need me.

Yours in His Service,

Bishop Elijah Williams

TEN COMMANDMENTS FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

1. Thou shalt remember to keep Christ in Christmas.
2. Thou shalt pause in thy business to consider the magnitude of God's gift of Christ to mankind.
3. Remembering that Mary and Joseph found no room in the inn, thou shalt give Christ the chief room in thy heart.
4. Thou shalt participate in the Christmas activities sponsored by thy church.
5. Thou shalt be generous in thy gifts to foreign and home missions at Christmas.
6. Thou shalt take time to plan for the happiness of those outside thine own circle of family and friends.
7. Thou shalt enjoy, in unhurried calm, the priceless heritage of Christmas music which exalts the Lord Jesus.
8. Thou shalt give of thyself in all gifts, giving not for duty, for what you will get, or personal satisfaction-but for the simple joy of sharing.
9. Thou shalt remember, with great patience and understanding all those who serve thee and have the physical burden of the holiday season.
10. Thou shalt teach thy children the true meaning of Christmas, of the Lord Jesus Christ who came to give mankind eternal life and true, lasting happiness.

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Christmas

Christmas Day is a holiday in 140 nations of the world and in all of the fifty states of the United States. Christmas is a Christian holiday that celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ. No one knows the exact date of Christ's birth, but most Christians observe Christmas on December 25th. During the christmas season they also exchange gifts and decorate their homes with holly mistletoe, and christes maesse, an early English phrase that means mass of Christ.

The story of Christmas comes chiefly from the Gospels of Saint Luke and Saint Matthew in the New Testament. In the late 300's Christianity became the official religion of the Roman Empire. By 1100, Christmas had become the most important religious festival in Europe and Saint Nicholas was a symbol of gift giving in many European countries. In the 1800's, Santa Claus replaced Saint Nicholas as the symbol of gift giving in many countries.

The popularity of Christmas grew until the Reformation, a religious movement of the 1500's. During the Reformation, many christians began to consider Christmas a pagan celebration.

The celebration of Christmas became increasingly important to many kinds of businesses during the 1900's. Today, companies manufacture christmas ornaments, lights and other decorations throughout the year.

-Deborah Dalton

IT'S CHRISTMAS

From hill to hill the bells shall ring
to a sad world glad tidings bring.

It's Christmas.

Now take your candle, guard its light,
walk into darkness, dare the night:

It's Christmas.

Of joy and peace now let us sing,
from shore to hill the bells shall ring:

It's Christmas.

Eugene Davis

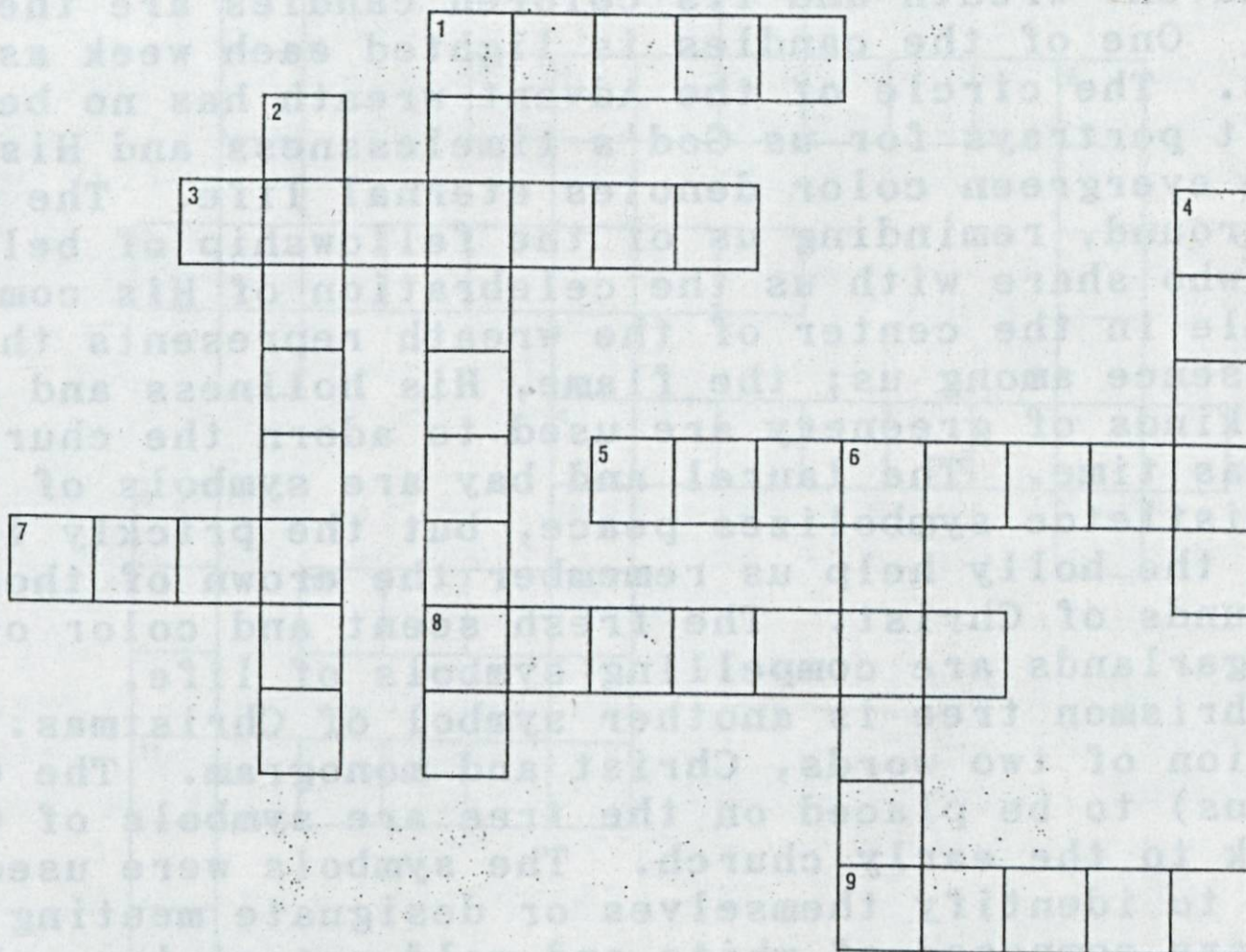
Christmas Gifts

Can you find the names of the Christmas gifts hidden in this puzzle? The names of the gifts are written forward, backward, up, down, and diagonally.

FOOTBALL
JEWELRY
PERFUME
CAMERA
BIKE
CDS
SLED
DOG
GAME
BOOK
SKATES
VIDEO

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

Joseph & Mary



ACROSS:

1. Joseph and Mary's son who wrote an epistle (Matt. 13:55)
3. The angel who told Mary that she would conceive a son (Luke 1:26-31)
5. The number of generations from Abraham to Christ (Matt. 1:17)
7. The number of sons that Mary bore (Mark 6:3)
8. Joseph's relationship to Mary when Jesus was conceived (Luke 2:5)
9. Joseph took Jesus and fled to this country because Herod was trying to kill Jesus. (Matt. 2:13)

DOWN:

1. The city where Joseph and Mary went to celebrate Passover (Luke 2:41)
2. The town where Mary received the news that she would bear a son (Luke 1:26)
4. Joseph's father (Matt. 1:16)
6. Jesus' age when he went to Jerusalem with his parents (Luke 2:41-42)

- Carolyn Freeman

REFLECTIONS

Symbols of Christmas

The Christmas season is a time when we celebrate the coming of the Christ child. There are many rich symbols of this blessed season, and taking the time to reflect on these symbols will be spiritually uplifting for us who know this King of Glory.

I recently attended a service at one of the local churches, entitled, "Hanging of the Greens", which was the beginning of the celebration of the coming of the Christ child - the advent of Christmas. The sanctuary was transformed with symbols of the season and their meaning.

The Advent wreath and its colored candles are the visual focus of Advent. One of the candles is lighted each week as Christmas approaches. The circle of the Advent wreath has no beginning and no end. It portrays for us God's timelessness and His eternal plan. The evergreen color denotes eternal life. The shape of the wreath is round, reminding us of the fellowship of believers around the world who share with us the celebration of His coming. The white candle in the center of the wreath represents the light of Jesus' presence among us; the flame, His holiness and purity.

Many kinds of greenery are used to adorn the church building at Christmas time. The laurel and bay are symbols of victory and triumph; mistletoe symbolizes peace, but the prickly leaves and red berries of the holly help us remember the crown of thorns and the scarlet wounds of Christ. The fresh scent and color of the evergreen garlands are compelling symbols of life.

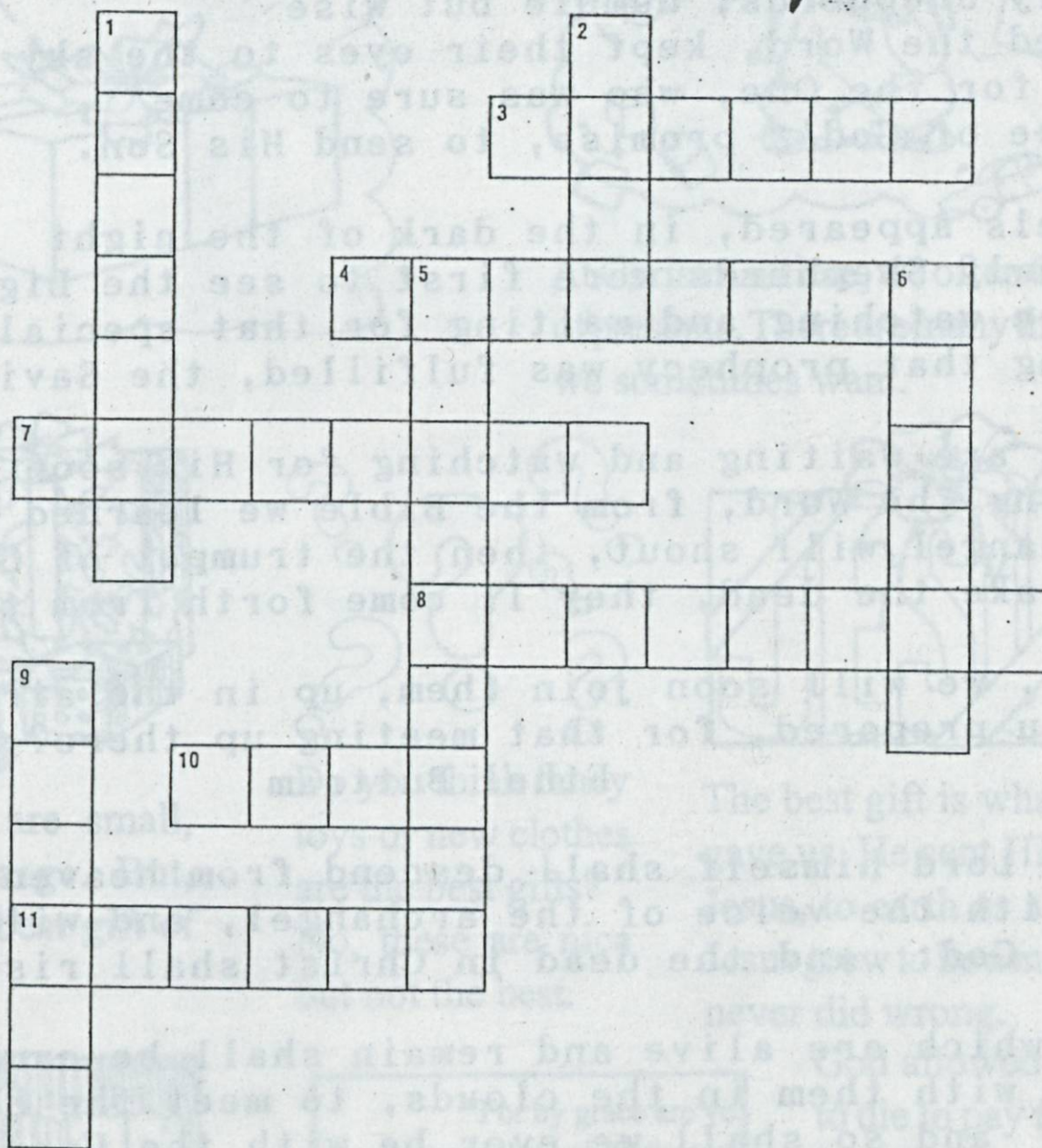
The Chrismon tree is another symbol of Christmas. Chrismon is a combination of two words, Christ and monogram. The Chrismons (decorations) to be placed on the tree are symbols of Christ, dating back to the early church. The symbols were used by early Christians to identify themselves or designate meeting places. The Chrismons are composed of white and gold materials - white being symbolic of our Lord's purity and perfection; gold, the symbol of His majesty, glory, and triumph. The green Balsam tree is symbolic of promised healing.

The poinsettia is a vivid plant, full of meaning. A cluster of small yellow flowers spring forth from among crimson leaves. The star-shaped formation of the red leaves suggests the guiding star of Bethlehem. The crown of yellow flowers reminds us of Him who was born the infant King. The blood-red leaves foreshadow the cruel cross, and underneath, the carpet of green leaves - the reflection of abundant life.

Of all the symbols of Christmas, the one that is most meaningful and most universal is light, pure and perfect light, (I John 1:5). This was the keynote of God's plan for men -- to give men light -- a Redeemer who would be the light of the world. And in the fullness of time, God made His announcement. High in the celestial sky, He hung a star. Light is a perfect metaphor for Christ, the son of God, and for His presence among us. The lights we put on our trees and in our windows are a symbol of His presence. Like the love of Christ, even the flame of the tiniest candle dispels the darkness. This is God's Christmas gift to us. Let the love of Christ shine through you this Christmas season as you take it into a sin-darkened world.

-Debra Allen

John the Baptist



ACROSS:

3. The river in which John the Baptist baptized Jesus (Matt. 3:13)
4. The way John the Baptist was killed (Matt. 14:10)
7. The daughter of this woman asked that John the Baptist be killed. (Matt. 14:6)
8. The sin that John the Baptist accused Herod of doing (Matt. 14:3, Mark 6:18)
10. The temporary affliction given Zacharias, John the Baptist's father, because of his disbelief (Luke 1:20)
11. Jesus identified John the Baptist with this Old Testament prophet. (Matt. 11:14)

DOWN:

1. The angel who told Zacharias of the birth of his son (Luke 1:19)
2. The animal that descended upon Jesus after John the Baptist baptized him (Luke 3:22)
5. John the Baptist's mother (Luke 1:24)
6. John the Baptist lived here until his public appearance. (Luke 1:80)
9. John the Baptist's father's occupation (Luke 1:5)

-Carolyn Freeman

"The gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Romans 6:23
 "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved." Acts 16:31

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WATCHING

The Lowly Shepherds, humble but wise
Studied the Word, kept their eyes to the sky
Looking for the One, who was sure to come
Because of God's promise, to send His Son.

The Angels appeared, in the dark of the night
The lowly Shepherds were first to see the Light.
They were watching and waiting for that special event
Knowing that prophecy was fulfilled, the Savior sent.

We, too, are waiting and watching for His soon return
Studying the Word, from the Bible we learned
The Archangel will shout, then the trumpet of God
Will wake the dead, they'll come forth from the sod.

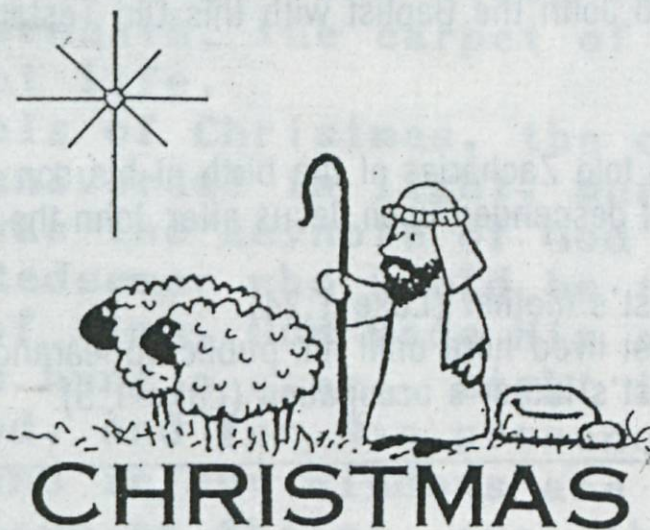
Joyously, we will soon join them, up in the air
Are you prepared, for that meeting up there?
Ethel Buttram

"For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

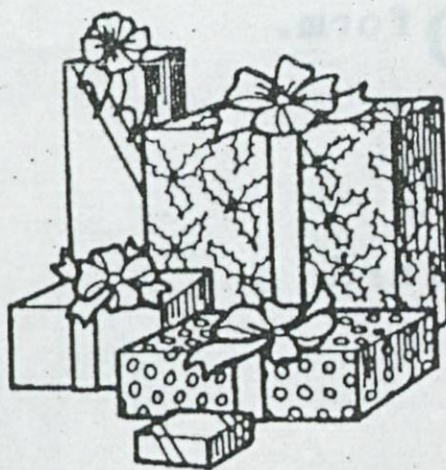
Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

I Thessalonians 1:16,17,18

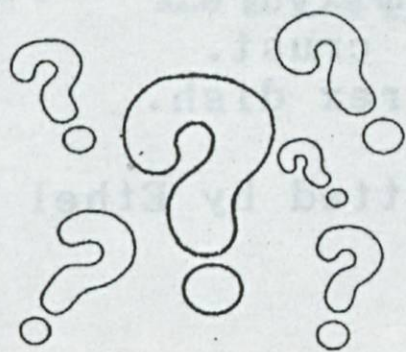




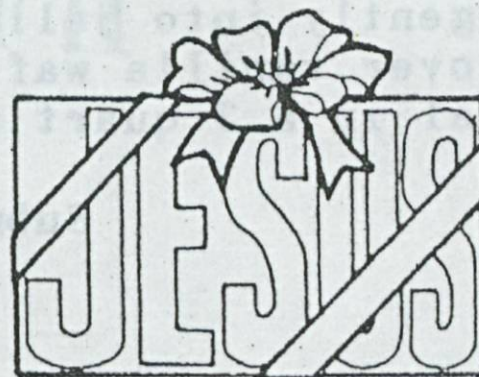
At Christmas time, we often think of presents. There are many things we sometimes want.



Some gifts are small, some are large. But, what is the best gift of all?



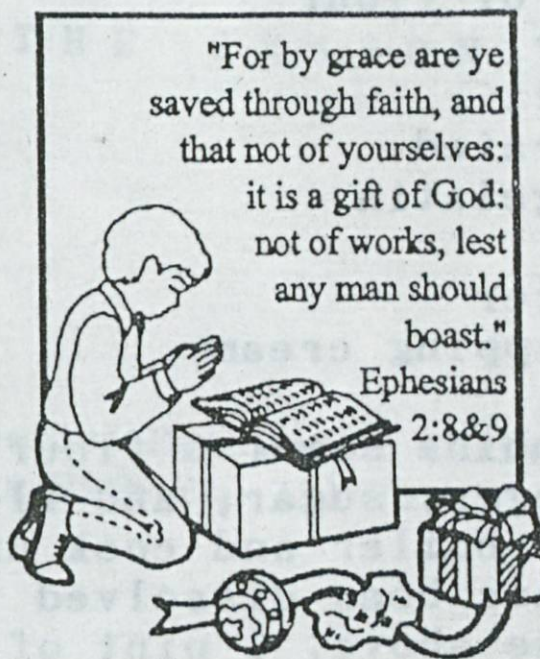
Do you think fancy toys or new clothes are the best gifts? No, these are nice but not the best.



The best gift is what God gave us. He sent His Son, Jesus, to earth as a baby. Jesus grew to be a man and never did wrong.



This gift of God cannot be found wrapped lying under a Christmas tree. This gift cannot be worked for or bought.



"For by grace are ye saved through faith, and that not of yourselves: it is a gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast."

Ephesians 2:8&9

God allowed Jesus to die to pay for the bad things you do. Jesus loved you and wanted to save you so you can go to heaven with God.

The only way to take this gift is to be sorry for all the bad things you do. Then ask Jesus to forgive you for them, and come into your life. Believe and trust Him to save you.

Won't You Accept God's Gift Today?

"The gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Romans 6:23

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved." Acts 16:31

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Lemon Jello Cheesecake

- 1 3 ounce package of lemon jello
- 1 cup of boiling water
- 1 tablespoon of lemon juice
- dissolve together
- 1 8 ounce package of cream cheese
- 1 cup of sugar
- 1 teaspoon of vanilla
- cream until smooth

Mix jello mixture and sugar mixture well.
Whip 1 can of Pet milk until stiff peaks form.
Fold gently into jello mixture.
Pour over vanilla wafer crust.
Congeal in a 3 quart pyrex dish.

Submitted by Ethel Dillard

Angel Food Bavarian Cake

- 1 large angel food cake or 2 small ones
- 1 pint of milk
- 3 tablespoons of flour
- 1 cup of sugar
- 1 pinch of salt
- 4 eggs - separated
- 2 packs Knox gelatin
- coconut
- 1 cup cold water
- 1 1/2 pints of whipping cream

Beat egg yolks, combine sugar & flour, add to eggs, heat milk and add slowly to eggs, sugar, and flour mixture. Place above top of double boiler and cook until it coats the spoon, add gelatin which has been dissolved in cold water, allow to cool. Fold into the above, 1 pint of whipped cream, and 4 stiffly beaten egg whites, break the angel food cake into pieces, place cake and custard into a large tube pan alternating layers. Sit cake in refrigerator over night, remove from pan, top with 1/2 pint whipped cream, sprinkle with coconut. * For pineapple omit water and dissolve gelatin in 1/2 cup of pineapple juice, add 1 large can of pineapple (crushed) drained to custard after custard has cooled.

Submitted by Ethel Dillard

PEACE



ON EARTH

1992

JESUS IS THE REASON
FOR THE SEASON!

May The Special Meaning Of Christmas
Remain With You All Year!

The I. Courts' Family

Ivory, Irene, Ivan, Ian, & Ivie

IN SIGHTS TO JERUSALEM
JERUSALEM UNITED HOLY CHURCH
C/O JENNIFER WATLINGTON
499 N. WASHINGTON AVENUE
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- 1 3 ounce package of Jell-O
- 1 cup of boiling water
- 1 tablespoon of lemon juice
- 1 8 ounce package of cream cheese
- 1 cup of sugar
- 1 teaspoon of vanilla
- cream until smooth



Mix Jell-O mixture with boiling water. Whip 1 can of Pet milk until stiff. Fold gently into mixture. Pour over vanilla wafer crust. Congeal in a 3 quart pyrex dish.

Submitted by Ethel Dillard

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- 1 large angel cake
- 1 pint of milk
- 3 tablespoons of flour
- 1 cup of sugar
- 1 pinch of salt
- 4 eggs - separated
- 2 packs Knox gelatin
- coconut
- 1 cup cold water
- 1-1/2 pints of whipping cream

Beat egg yolks, add sugar, beat until thick and add slowly to egg mixture. Place above top of double boiler and cook until it coats the spoon, add gelatin which has been dissolved in cold water, allow to cool. Fold into the above, 1 pint of whipped cream, and 4 stiffly beaten egg whites, break the angel food cake into pieces, place cake and custard into a large tube pan alternating layers. Sit cake in refrigerator over night, remove from pan, top with 1/2 cup of whipped cream, sprinkle with coconut. * For pineapple omit water and dissolve gelatin in 1/2 cup of pineapple juice, add 1 large can of pineapple (crushed) drained to custard after custard has cooled.

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