



CHRISTMAS ACTIVITY KIT

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Recipe

Chocolate Chip Cookie with a Touch of Oatmeal

Ingredients:

- 1 ½ Flour
- 1 tsp. Salt
- 1 tsp. Baking Soda
- 1 Cup Shortening
- ¾ Cup Brown Sugar
- ¾ Cup White Sugar
- 2 Eggs
- 1 tsp. Vanilla
- 2 Cups Semi-Sweet Chocolate Chips
- 2 Cups Uncooked Rolled Oats

Steps:

- Sift the first 3 ingredients together (flour, salt, baking soda).
- In a separate bowl, cream shortening and sugars.
- In the bowl with shortening and sugars, beat in eggs + vanilla until light and fluffy.
- Stir in dry ingredients, rolled oats, and chocolate chips.
- Bake on an ungreased cookie sheet at 350° for 12 minutes.



Gluten Free Christmas Tea Cakes

Ingredients:

Gluten Free Flour Blend (1) Cup

I like to use Bob's 1 to 1

Sweet Cream Butter (1/2) Cup

Unrefined Cane Sugar (3) Tbl Salt (1/4) tsp

Pure Vanilla Extract (1) Tbl

Fresh *Walnuts (1) Cup *Roughly Chopped

Powdered Sugar (1) 16 Oz



Measure out the flour and set aside. In a mixing bowl cream, the butter, sugar, salt and vanilla. Gradually add your flour blend. Next, add in the walnuts.

Tightly pack the cookie dough in a #40 cookie scoop. Bake on a cookie sheet with parchment paper in a 325° oven for 15 minutes. Let cool for only 5 minutes on the baking tray. Then *roll (gently toss) cookie in and with the powdered sugar. Completely cool on a cooling rack.

*Make sure you have plenty of powdered sugar. Use a deep container large enough to handle all your cookies. Try a deep 9x12" dish with at least a couple of inches of powdered sugar. Carefully place several cookies into the container with room to powder each cookie. It won't hurt to

leave the cookies sitting in the powdered sugar for a bit while you roll the other cookies.

These cookies will be a bit fragile until they cool so take great care in gently tossing and rolling them in the powdered sugar.

The heat of the cookie will melt the powdered sugar into a yummy creamy covering. Once they are completely cooled you can always sprinkle more powder sugar on top of each cookie if you like a uniformed look.

This recipe makes about a dozen cookies. Enjoy.

Feel free to email me, Karen, if you have any questions.

WestSacBread@gmail.com





Gingerbread Cookies

1/2 cups butter softened	2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/4 cup brown sugar packed	1 tablespoon ground ginger
1/4 granulated sugar	2 1/4 cups flour
1 large egg	1/4 cup molasses
	1 (dash) Love

Cream butter and brown sugar together. Stir in molasses, then egg. In separate bowl, mix flour with spices. Stir in butter/sugar mix. If dough is too moist, add 2 tablespoon of flour. Knead dough lightly, then chill for 40 minutes. Shape dough into desired shapes. Bake at 350F. Bake cookies until tops are set (8 to 12 minutes). Cool cookies on wire rack for 2 minutes.

Store cookies in airtight container at room temperature for up to 1 month.

Happy Holidays 





Week 1 / Genesis 3:1-15

From the beginning of time, God created humans to be with Him. So He gave Adam and Eve instructions. He filled the garden of Eden with delicious food, and they were free to try it all! But he instructed them to stay away from just one tree that would not be good for them. Even though God had been kind to Adam and Eve, the serpent made them doubt Him. They thought perhaps God was keeping something good from them, so they disobeyed. When they broke the only rule, their actions showed that they wanted to make their own rules instead of listening to God. This is called sin. And because God is perfect, he sent Adam and Eve away to make their own rules somewhere else. This is sad. God didn't want to send them away. So He made a promise—God promised to send someone to save the people from the evil snake and the curse of sin. He promised to send someone who would make everything right, so people could be with God again!

1. Have you ever tried to make your own rules instead of listening to people who love you?
2. Adam and Eve doubted God. Have you ever felt like that? How did you respond?
3. Genesis 3 is a sad story because the people are separated from God, but there is a happy ending. What is the happy ending? What does that tell you about God?

Week 2 / Isaiah 9:2-7

Have you ever felt like everything was going wrong? God's people felt this way too. They were scared when their enemies started wars against them. When they felt discouraged, they asked God, "Where are you? Don't you care that our enemies are coming after us?" When it seemed like God had forgotten His promises, the people turned their backs on Him. They did things God told them not to, and they worshiped other gods. This made God sad because the people were doing things that would hurt them. So He sent prophets to warn them. When the people didn't listen, God still promised He would send a Messiah to save them. God always keeps his promises. Did today's passage sound familiar? At Christmas, we read this passage to celebrate Jesus' birth. God made this promise hundreds of years ago, before Jesus was born, even when the people were disobeying Him. But God still kept His promise!

1. Think of a time when you made a promise to someone or God. Did you keep it? What happened?
2. Can you think of a time in your life when you felt like God forgot you or everything was going wrong? When you look back now, can you see how God was helping you?
3. God always keeps promises. How does this make you feel? Pray about something you need His help with.





Week 3 / Matthew 1:18–25

God is faithful. He never forgets His people. Throughout history, He sent prophets to promise His people that He would send a Savior. The people trusted that God's Messiah would come to save them one day. But then, God stopped sending prophets. For 400 years, the people waited and wondered if God had forgotten them. One day, an angel appeared to a young girl named Mary and told her she would give birth to the Son of God. The man she was going to marry thought she was making up a crazy story. But then, God sent an angel to tell him the news, too! From that point on, He trusted in God's plan as well. Our Bible passage today even tells us that the way this happened fulfilled one of God's promises from the prophets. The angel told Joseph to name the child Jesus. And when the baby was born, He did! So when God tells us His plan and gives us instructions, we can trust Him. Joseph did what God asked, and that's how Jesus got His name.

1. Why was it hard for God's people to trust that God would keep his promise?
2. When Joseph doubted God's plan, how did God reassure him?
3. Sometimes God lets us help with His plans, but doesn't explain every detail. Why was it good that Joseph named the child Jesus? How should we respond when God gives us instructions?

Week 4 / Luke 2:1–18

The promises God made came true one night in Bethlehem. The Savior of the world was born! This news was so exciting that angels appeared in the sky to announce the news to shepherds nearby! Can you imagine how those shepherds must have felt? God didn't choose to share the information with kings. Instead, he first announced it to regular people, like you and me. If you've ever felt unimportant, this is good news. Just because you're not rich or powerful doesn't mean God has forgotten you. He loves you so much that He sent the world's Savior to people just like us. When the angels announced the good news, the shepherds were so excited that they ran to see the baby. And when they saw Him, they were so amazed that they went through the town telling everyone they met. The Savior of the world loves each of us personally. And when we know Jesus, we want to tell everybody that God always keeps his promises!

1. How do you think the shepherds felt when the sky filled with angels sharing the good news?
2. Why did they run to tell everyone?
3. The story of how Jesus came is exciting! This Christmas, who can you share this wonderful news with?







Christmas

word search puzzle

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



CHRISTMAS
JESUS
HAPPY
JOY
BRIGHT
WINTER
HOLLY
SNOW



DECEMBER
ELF
EVE
SANTA
COOKIE
BELLS
BIRTH
TREE





THE STORY OF CHRISTMAS



1

God has always had a plan to help the world heal from all the hurt people have. In fact, He promised He would send help. God's people waited and waited for this help to arrive and then one day it did

2

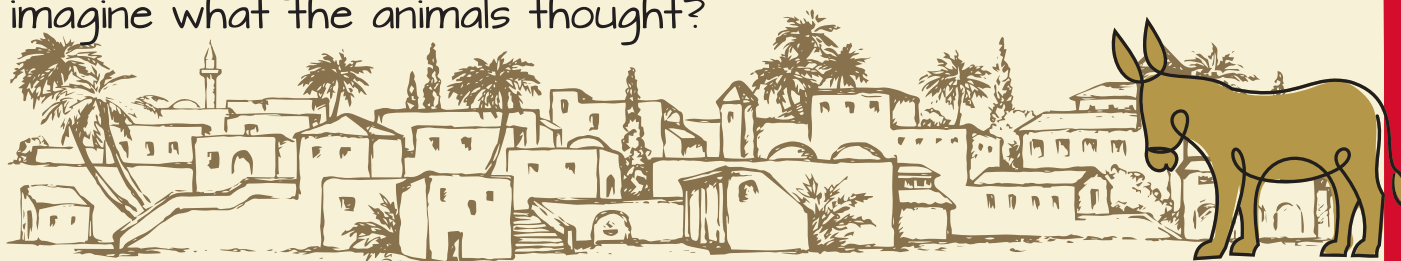


On one very ordinary day, God did something special. He sent an angel to talk to a young woman named Mary. The angel told Mary that she was pregnant with God's son and He would bring help to all people. At first, Mary was confused by the news. But God used angels to calm her fears and remind her that this was good news for everyone!

3

When it was almost time for the baby to be born, Mary and her husband Joseph went on a trip to their hometown, Bethlehem. When they arrived, Mary knew the baby was coming soon. Joseph tried to find them a

place to stay but everywhere was full. Their only option was to stay the night in a barn- with the animals! That very night Jesus was born. Imagine that- the son of God born in a barn. Can you imagine what the animals thought?



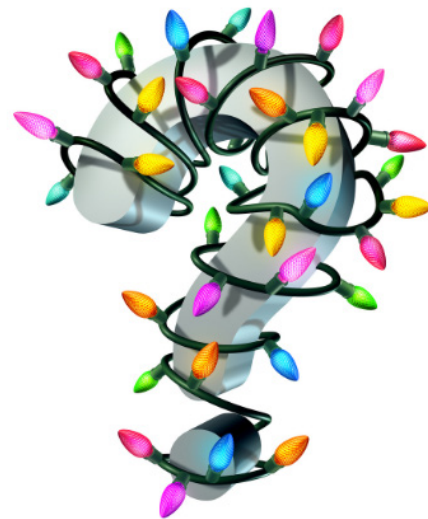
4

In a field nearby, shepherds were taking care of their sheep. All of a sudden, the night sky lit up and filled with angels singing, announcing the birth of the Messiah. At first, the shepherds were shocked but quickly realized something very good had happened. They ran to see where Jesus had been born. When they saw the baby and realized that God's plan to help His people was finally happening- they were so excited! The great help of the world that they had been waiting for was finally here! Jesus was born.



FAMILY CHRISTMAS TRIVIA

AS A FAMILY, ENJOY A CHRISTMAS TRIVIA GAME. YOUR FAMILY
EITHER TEST THEIR MEMORY OR ENCOURAGE EVERYONE TO REVISIT
MATTHEW 1-2 AND LUKE 1-2.



1. WHAT WAS THE NAME OF THE FATHER WHO RAISED JESUS?
JOSEPH
2. WHO WAS THE LEADER OF ROME AT THE TIME JESUS WAS BORN?
CAESAR AUGUSTUS
3. WHAT WAS THE NAME OF JESUS' COUSIN?
JOHN THE BAPTIST
4. HOW DID THE SHEPHERDS RESPOND WHEN THEY SAW THE ANGEL OF THE LORD?
THEY WERE AFRAID
5. IN WHAT CITY WAS JESUS BORN?
BETHLEHEM
6. HOW DID THE SHEPHERDS FIND MARY AND JOSEPH?
THE BIBLE DOESN'T SAY. THE ANGELS SAID THE SHEPHERDS
WOULD FIND THEM IN BETHLEHEM
7. WHO WAS KING OF JUDEA DURING THE BIRTH OF JESUS?
HEROD
8. WHAT PRESENTS DID THE MAGI PRESENT TO JESUS?
GOLD, FRANKINCENSE, MYRRH
9. AFTER JESUS WAS BORN, WHERE DID HIS FAMILY GO NEXT?
EGYPT
10. UPON RETURNING TO ISRAEL, IN WHAT TOWN DID JESUS GROW UP?
NAZARETH





GAMES

Two Truths and a Lie... About Christmas

Each player shares three statements recalled from Christmas memories or traditions — the more far-out the better for the purposes of this game. The object for the other players is to guess which one of them is the lie.



Marshmallow-Stuffing Contest

Get out the camera for this one! The object for each player is to see how many marshmallows they can fit in their mouth at one time. The party guest who can handle the most marshmallows wins (and may never want to see another marshmallow again!). Just be sure to supervise children when they are doing this, or leave it to the adults.



Guess How Many

Fill a larger jar or vase with Christmas candies, mini ornaments, or other small and festive items, counting them as you place them inside. The challenge is for each player to guess the number of items by sight. The closest one to the correct number wins.



Christmas Scavenger Hunt



● BELLS

● CANDY CANE

● NUTCRACKER

● SNOWGLOBE

● NATIVITY SCENE

● COOKIE CUTTER

● POINSETTA

● CHRISTMAS SOCKS

● MISTLETOE

● CHRISTMAS CARD

● THE GRINCH

● BLUE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS



● SANTA HAT

● WREATH

● HOT COCOA WITH MARSHMALLOWS

● RUDOLPH

● NORTH POLE SIGN

● FAKE SNOW

● GINGERBREAD MAN



● _____

● _____

● _____

● _____

● _____





SUNDAYS OF ADVENT

November 27, December 4, 11, and 18
8:30 and 11:00am Worship in the Sanctuary
10:45am Ignite Modern Worship in Fellowship Hall

Join us each Sunday as we focus on the expectation of Christ's birth! We will sing familiar carols and light the candles of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love in the Advent wreath. Our pastors will bring messages from the series entitled, "Glory to God in the Highest."

A nursery is provided for all services.

The WORSHIP & MUSIC MINISTRY presents

CHRISTMAS@FIRST

GLORY *To* GOD IN THE HIGHEST

Saturday, December 10, at 3:00pm & 7:00pm

Sunday, December 11, at 3:00pm

\$10 TICKETS ON SALE NOW

FirstPresGreenville.org

Brighten your holiday season and celebrate our Savior's birthday at this year's Christmas@First concerts. Enjoy old and new favorites, including "Polar Express Suite" and "Ring Those Christmas Bells," along with sacred carols and a setting of the ancient "Gloria" text.

Featuring the FPC choir and orchestra, handbell choir, children's choirs, Resonate! student ensemble, along with a piano quartet and members of the Greenville Symphony Orchestra

YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS THIS MEMORABLE EVENT!

Tuesday, December 13

6:30pm in the Sanctuary

All are invited to this beautiful candlelight service to honor and remember loved ones who will be especially missed during the Christmas season. The service will include Scripture readings with a time of reflection and meditation, the observance of Holy Communion, special seasonal music, and commemorative candle lighting.

A nursery is available; contact Evelyn Penkert for nursery reservations, epenkert@firstpresgreenville.org.



SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

JOIN US!

AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Christmas Eve Services

2:00pm, 4:00pm,* 7:00pm, and 11:00pm

*4:00pm Children's Service with Santa
Come early!

Christmas Day Service

11:00am



MORE INFO AT FIRSTPRESGREENVILLE.ORG

Merry
Christmas



— AND A —
JOYFUL NEW YEAR



First Presbyterian Church
Greenville, SC