



2021



The Mountain Top Messenger

ZION LUTHERAN EVANGELICAL CHURCH, ASHLAND, WI DECEMBER 2021

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
Elders: Dec. 1 Randy Dec. 5 Darryl Dec. 8 Scott Dec. 12 Andy Dec. 15 Doug Dec. 19 Scott Dec. 22 John Dec. 24 4:00 Randy/Scott Dec. 24 7:00 John Dec. 25 9:00 Darryl Dec. 26 Andy Dec. 29 Doug Jan. 2 Darryl Jan.5 Randy			1 6:30pm Advent Worship 6:30pm Evening Prayer Study	2 6:30pm Women's Bible Study	3	4
5 9:00am Worship 10:15 SS 10:15 Bible Study LGP 2:00pm	6 10am Bible Study	7 1:00pm Sewing Circle	8 6:30pm Advent Worship 6:30pm Evening	9	10	11
12 9:00am Worship 10:15 SS 10:15 Bible Study	13 10am Bible Study	14	15 6:30pm Advent Worship 6:30pm Evening	16 6:30pm Women's Bible Study	17	18
19 9:00am Worship 10:15 Bible Study LGP 2:00pm	20 10am Bible Study 5:30pm council Mtg.	21 1:00pm Sewing Circle	22 6:30pm Advent Worship 6:30pm Evening	23	24 Christmas Eve Service 4pm and 7pm	25 Christmas Day Service 9:00am
26 9:00am Worship	27	28	29 6:30pm Worship 6:30pm Evening Prayer Study	30	31	

Welcome to Advent! It is indeed a special time of year as we prepare to celebrate the first Advent of our Lord and Savior. It is a time of lights, music, singing, family, and food. It is a time when we look to celebration of the Christ child being born in Bethlehem. It should be a time of celebration, after all we just finished the church year looking towards the second Advent of our Lord. That time when Christ indeed returns and brings all of His children home to the new heaven and new earth to live with Him in eternity. It is the time of the final judgement, the separation of the sheep and the goats. And all of that is preceded by His birth, by the Lord stepping off of His throne in heaven and coming to earth to save us. To share with us that saving Gospel message that we are then in turn to share with others.

And that my friends is where I a struggling a bit today as we enter this Advent season. As a pastor, there are some challenges, and one of those challenges is knowing what kind of job you are doing, of wondering, is the message you are preaching hitting home? Are people getting it? Do they recognize the Holy Spirit working in their lives, are they confident in their salvation? Sometimes it is pretty obvious, other times you scratch your head and wonder. One part of the challenge is knowing that you can only do your best and the rest is up to the Holy Spirit. After all, He is the one who really has the burden on Him. I can plant the seed, I can water the seed, I can even share the sunlight, but He makes it grow. Without Him we, I, am nothing.

The other challenge is trying to live up to challenges that I place on you. As you probably know, I preach heavily, or at least I try to, on the fact that we need to share the Word. We need to preach the Gospel to everyone around us. It is our calling, it is a part of that great commission that Jesus left for us to accomplish prior to His return. I try and stress that there are only two options, Heaven or Hell, Up or down. There is no middle of the road, no grey area. Every single person is you know, every single person you love, every single person you work with or care about, Heaven or Hell. That is why I share this with you every time I preach. Nothing is more important. With that being said, I also know that doing that simple thing of sharing the Good News can be the hardest thing in the world to do. We build up all kinds of ideas and notions in our head about why we can't or shouldn't share the message, sometimes its not even that complex, sometimes its just simple procrastination, I can do it later. The reason I bring all this up is because I too am a victim of the very thing I preach to you.

I was impacted by a number of deaths this week, and they all hit me differently, but I want to talk about two of them. First was the passing of Walt. I am going to miss Walt, I have been visiting Walt first at his home with Herb and Alice and then at the assisted living center since I started serving here at Zion. I loved to visit Walt, he always had wonderful stories to share with me about his life and how he was blessed throughout his life. He always shared with me how much he missed Agnes and how he was longing for the day he would join her. Walt always shared that he was ready to go whenever the Lord was ready to take him. There is not a doubt in my mind that Walt is at peace with the Lord now and he and Agnes will be together again. With Walt there was never a question of his salvation, he trusted in the Lord completely. I knew it and I felt it, sharing the Gospel message, sharing the Lord's supper with Walt was a blessing. Walt's passing was a positive impact on me because of all that we shared and his shared faith in the Lord.



Shannon Esala
715-292-0711
Justin Esala
715-292-5326

(cont. from previous page)

In the other one I found out about yesterday, my friend Steve, whom I met in high school, who I hung out with, who I played in a band with for a number of years, passed away. Throughout high school Steve was part of a group that I hung out with for years, as I said we played in a band together, we even played for a while after high school. During those years we saw a lot of each other, then as I went of to the Air Force and Steve headed off to college we lost contact. Then a number of years ago I saw Steve playing in a band at a dance that June and I had gone to. We reconnected a bit and became Facebook friends and talked back and forth since then. Besides playing in a band Steve was in real-estate and had a grown son who sometimes played in band with him as well. Steve was also having some health issues, He had a lung issue that was recently diagnosed as a very rare condition that would require a lung transplant. Steve seemed to take it all in stride and I sent the usual praying hands and blessings through Facebook, while not really conversing with him.

Then last week Steve let us know that he had developed covid and was admitted to the hospital but was keeping a positive attitude. From what I was told he was actually recovering from the Covid and was supposed to be discharged yesterday but apparently something happened and Steve passed away. It was when I received the call that Steve had passed away that I began to question just how good a friend was I. Steve, while surprised to hear I was a pastor after our long separation had always said we should sit down and talk about it. We never did, it's not like he was a long way away, Steve lived in Superior. We just never seemed to connect. All my good intentions mean nothing at this point. My opportunity to talk to Steve, my time to find out if Steve knew Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior is gone. Every Sunday I preach about how we don't know when that last day is, whether our last day or the day that Christ returns. We don't know. We don't know if or when we will have another opportunity to share God's message with someone. I pray that Steve knew the Lord, I pray that on that great day of the resurrection I will see Steve again and we can really catch up. I also ask the Lord to forgive me, forgive me for not using every opportunity that I have to share His Gospel message. What was I afraid of, did I think Steve might unfriend me is I asked him if he knew the Lord? Whether he did or didn't I will never know, at least not in this lifetime.

The moral of the story? Don't procrastinate, don't wait for the perfect time, don't be afraid of rejection, do not be afraid. We do not know if or when we will ever have the opportunity again. We need to do our best with the time we have to share the message of salvation with those we know and love.

I close with two quotes from our Savior, the first reminds us to take care of things today:

"Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble." Matthew 6:34

The other I give to you so that you don't say; but I won't know what to say or how to say it. Jesus in speaking to his disciple and tells them this, and while you are not being delivered over to the authorities, when you try to talk to a friend or a relative it may feel like it and I believe this verse still applies, I know it has for me;

¹⁹ *When they deliver you over, do not be anxious how you are to speak or what you are to say, for what you are to say will be given to you in that hour.* ²⁰ *For it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. Matthew 10:19-20*

Sorry for getting a little long but hopefully it will help stress how important I feel this is. I pray the Lord bless all of you this Advent season.

"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." Luke 2:11

My friends, the Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you, the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

Pastor Rick

Christmas Celebration Banned - 1695

Let us go back in time; back to the year of our lord 1695, and to the place called Bay Colony in Massachusetts. We arrive at the meeting house just in time to hear the General Council pass a law forbidding the celebration of Christmas. To enforce their diktat the Council require a five-shilling fine from anyone caught, 'Observing any such day as Christmas or the like, either by forbearing of labour, feasting, or any other way.' We have to remember that in 1695 these colonists were strict Puritans, thus they took the line that there was no Biblical reference to seasonal excess at Christmas. Consequently, they kept to the pure religious observance of Christmas with no feasting.



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH - Ashland WI Balance Sheet as of October 31, 2021

Monday, November 15, 2021

Page 1 of 1

Account #	Account Name	Beginning Balance	YTD Balance
Assets			
101.101	FM & I CK ACCOUNT Gen.	48,372.32	52,839.06
	General Checking	\$48,372.32	\$52,839.06
101.201	GEN FUND SAVINGS Northern Stat	33,239.21	33,653.24
119.999	TO BALANCE 01/01/2015 - 12/31/2015	0.00	0.00
	Total Assets	\$81,611.53	\$86,492.30
Liabilities			
202.102	M & I Line of Credit Loan	0.00	0.00
202.103	BULDG LOAN PAYABLE	95,714.71	95,714.71
202.104	Principle from Bldg Fund	(52,301.45)	(61,905.51)
	Note payables LCEF & M& I bank	\$43,413.26	\$33,809.20
200.000	Accounts Payable/Vendors	791.08	678.78
201.101	BORROWED WITHIN ORGANIZATION	0.00	0.00
201.201	EMPLOYER'S TAXES PAYABLE	1,456.48	(851.98)
201.203	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PAYABLE	271.27	394.59
	Total Liabilities	\$45,932.09	\$34,030.59
Fund balance			
	Total Fund balance	\$35,679.44	\$52,461.71
	Total Liabilities and Fund balance	\$81,611.53	\$86,492.30

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH - Ashland WI
Treasurer's Report as of October 2021



ZION LUTHERAN
CHURCH

Monday, November 15, 2021

Page 2 of 2

Account Name	Period Activity	Monthly Budget	YTD Balance	Over/Under YTD+(-)	Annual Budget
TRUSTEE SPECIAL PROJECTS	0.00		0.00		
Church Maint. & improvements	\$4,148.50	\$1,469.00	\$9,829.35	(\$5,805.65)	\$17,617.00
BANK SERVICE CHARGES	39.00	8.00	213.89*	133.89	100.00
JANITORIAL SUPPLIES	72.25	57.00	167.50	(402.50)	678.00
KITCHEN SUPPLIES	0.00		0.00		
Member services in and out	0.00		0.00		
MUSIC	0.00	20.00	100.00	(109.00)	250.00
Office Supplies	398.70	83.00	592.51	(237.49)	996.00
POSTAGE	165.00	20.00	350.60*	150.60	240.00
Technology - Marketing	1,077.45	248.00	7,694.71*	5,214.71	2,976.00
WORSHIP SUPPLIES	20.98	177.00	2,151.03*	381.03	2,124.00
Church Supplies	\$1,773.38	\$613.00	\$11,270.24*	\$5,131.24	\$7,364.00
\$ FOR CONFER/ CONVENTIONS	89.00	167.00	466.37	(1,200.63)	2,000.00
\$ TO EDUCATION	287.47	342.00	526.05	(2,893.95)	4,104.00
\$ TO EVANGELISM	0.00	83.00	0.00	(830.00)	1,000.00
\$ TO LFOJ CHILD CARE SUPPORT	0.00		0.00		
\$ TO STEWARDSHIP	0.00	8.00	0.00	(80.00)	100.00
\$ TO YOUTH PROGRAMS	0.00	83.00	0.00	(833.00)	1,000.00
BRICK MISSION	135.00	135.00	1,350.00	0.00	1,620.00
MISSION varoius	0.00		0.00		
MISSIONS TO SYNOD	800.00	800.00	8,000.00	0.00	9,600.00
OVERALL OFFERINGS PD TO SYNOD	0.00		0.00		
PUBLICATIONS LUTH WIT. ETC	0.00	33.00	447.86*	117.86	400.00
Ministry Disbursements	\$1,311.47	\$1,651.00	\$10,790.28	(\$5,719.72)	\$19,824.00
interest on line of credit	0.00		0.00		
LOAN FEES	0.00		0.00		
Mort. & credit card interest	154.86	250.00	1,802.56	(697.44)	3,000.00
PRINCIPAL payment	891.36	1,035.00	9,604.06	(745.94)	12,425.00
Total PRIN. AND INT. payments	\$1,046.22	\$1,285.00	\$11,406.62	(\$1,443.38)	\$15,425.00
Ordination Expenses	0.00		0.00		
principal to principal from bl	(891.36)		(9,604.06)		
TRUSTEE CONTROLLED DISBURSEMNT	0.00		0.00		
Total Expense	\$16,843.36	\$14,012.00	\$120,039.77	(\$11,430.17)	\$168,160.00
Difference	(\$3,207.92)	(\$44.00)	\$16,782.27		(\$540.00)

* = Income/Expense exceeds amount budgeted to date

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH - Ashland WI
Consolidated Fund Activity Report for October 2021

Monday, November 15, 2021

Page 1 of 1

Account Name	Beg Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Transfers/JE's	End Balance
BUILDING ACCOUNT TO BALANCE	(34,700.56)	0.00	(891.36)	0.00	(33,809.20)
LOAN					
BUILDING CAPITALIZED	(6,362.00)	0.00	0.00	0.00	(6,362.00)
General Fund	96,732.19	13,635.44	17,734.72	0.00	92,632.91
ORGAN FUND	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	\$55,669.63	\$13,635.44	\$16,843.36	\$0.00	\$52,461.71

Sunday Worship Service 9:00am in-church service and live streamed
Wednesday Advent Evening Service 6:30pm in-church service and live streamed
Pre-recorded Online Wednesday Prayer Study 6:30pm
Sunday School - 1st - 7th grade
Women's Group Thursdays 1st & 3rd monthly 6:30pm
Bible Studies— Sundays 10:15am Mondays 10:00am
Women's Bible Study 6:30AM

Pastor Rick Williams - 715-209-0479

Office Hours: M /T/Th 9-5 Wed. 12-8 Fri. off

Please call ahead if you need to speak with Pastor.

Office Secretary Lynn Ladd 715-682-6075 Office Hours M/W/Th 8:30-2:30

Days and times may change.

Church President: John Pruss 715-292-4825 Head Elder: Darryl Warren 715-492-0488

Little Friends of Jesus Child Care Center: 715-682-5185

LFOJ Administrator: Karyn Leino 715-682-6075

Website www.zionashland.org **E-mail** secretary@zionlutheranashland.com

PRAYERS for Home-bound, Assisted Living, Nursing Home

Those who aren't able to attend common worship that they would find comfort knowing that the Lord is with them.

Walt Schutte
Arlene Zimmerman
Violet Basina
Madge Houle
Nancy Zehe

PRAYERS FOR PROTECTION

For our full-time troops and public servants, for travel, missionaries, and for peace and protection for families.

David Wright
Jordan Thimm
Andrew Pruss



Please let us know if there are any names that can be removed from the list.

PRAYERS FOR HEALTH AND HEALING

For good test results, treatment, positive thinking, healing, and comfort during cancer treatments, for those suffering from addiction, mental illness and for healing, strength, comfort, and peace for family we pray for:

Brad Prill	Madge Houle
Alice Balmer	Penny Larson
Francis Balmer	LeAnn Billing
David Gustafson	Vi Basina
Andrea Gunderson	Dave Pearson
James Fletcher	Pastor Bob
Brett Everman	Judith Wismeth
Walt Schutte	Sheryl Hildebrandt
John Schutte	Harold Larson
Nancy Beiersdorf	Sherry Gurski
Danny Pocernich	Larry Tody
James Lavasseur	Lisa Thomson
Haylee Fisher	Sally Gustafson
Russel Joyner	Carmella Kortekaas
Tyler Hildebrandt	Steve Bauer
Diane Beiersdorff	Terry Haas

and those in our hearts

Christmas

Monday, November 15, 2021

Account Name	Period Activity	Monthly Budget	YTD Balance	Over/Under YTD+(-)	Annual Budget
Income					
BUILDING CAP PROJ FUNDRAISER	0.00		10.00		
EDUCATION FUNDRAISERS	0.00		0.00		
EVANGELISM FUNDRAISERS	0.00		10.00		
GEN. FUND ENVELOPE RECEIPTS	13,897.72	13,968.00	137,627.22	(2,052.78)	167,620.00
GEN. FUND INTEREST EARNED	0.47		18.57		
GENERAL FUND LOAN PROCEEDS	0.00		0.00		
LFOJ FUNDRAISERS	0.00		0.00		
Member services\$ etc	0.00		0.00		
Mission MISC IN/OUT	(500.00)		(500.00)		
ORGAN FUNDRAISER	0.00		0.00		
Special Gifts	0.00		1,250.00		
STEWARDSHIP FUNDRAISERS	0.00		0.00		
Transfers in/out general fund	237.25		(1,997.75)		
Trivent Choice Dollars	0.00		404.00		
TRUSTEE FUNDRAISERS	0.00		0.00		
YOUTH FUNDRAISERS	0.00		0.00		
Total Income	\$13,635.44	\$13,968.00	\$136,822.04	(\$2,052.78)	\$167,620.00
Expense					
CHOIR DIRECTOR SALARY	0.00		0.00		
Guest/vacancy pastors	0.00	25.00	230.00	(20.00)	300.00
MILEAGE OR TRAVEL EXPENSES	0.00	42.00	0.00	(420.00)	500.00
ORGANISTS SALARY	640.00	337.00	1,920.00	(1,450.00)	4,040.00
PASTOR'S SALARY	3,734.10	3,956.00	39,250.10	(309.90)	47,475.00
SECRETARY SALARY	810.00	926.00	9,663.77*	403.77	11,115.00
SEXTON SALARY	175.00	275.00	1,903.13	(846.87)	3,300.00
SMP PROGRAM VICAR ED	0.00		0.00		
Treasurer Salary	0.00		0.00		
Church Salaries	\$5,359.10	\$5,561.00	\$52,967.00	(\$2,643.00)	\$66,730.00
EMPLOYEE RELATIONS	0.00	42.00	150.00	(270.00)	500.00
EMPLOYER'S FICA TAX EXP	409.99	473.00	4,174.17	(555.83)	5,677.00
HEALTH & DISABILITY INS.	121.04	115.00	1,212.40*	62.40	1,382.00
PASTOR'S HOUSING ALLOW.	1,153.84	1,250.00	12,692.24*	192.24	15,000.00
PASTOR'S PENSION PLAN	460.69	453.00	4,614.64*	84.64	5,441.00
PASTOR'S PROFESSIONAL EXP	0.00	42.00	0.00	(420.00)	500.00
Pastor's retirement Savings	0.00		0.00		
SEC. PENSION PLAN	0.00		0.00		
Employee Benefits	\$2,145.56	\$2,375.00	\$22,843.45	(\$906.55)	\$28,500.00
ELECTRICITY - CHURCH	1,139.34	333.00	3,368.08*	38.08	4,000.00
FUEL - CHURCH	67.86	250.00	2,322.60	(177.40)	3,000.00
INTERNET SERVICE & SOFTWARE	79.99	115.00	890.47	(259.53)	1,380.00
TELEPHONE - CHURCH	124.97	117.00	1,182.38*	12.38	1,400.00
WASTE DISPOSAL	408.75	93.00	1,632.26*	702.26	1,120.00
WATER - CHURCH	129.58	150.00	1,141.10	(358.90)	1,800.00
Church Utilities	\$1,950.49	\$1,058.00	\$10,536.89	(\$43.11)	\$12,700.00
BUILDING CAPITALIZED PROJ	0.00	531.00	0.00	(5,310.00)	6,372.00
CHURCH MAINTENANCE	197.00	167.00	1,504.85	(165.15)	2,000.00
ORGAN PURCHASE EXPENSE	0.00		0.00		
PRESCHOOL BLDG. MAINTENANCE	0.00	167.00	0.00	(1,670.00)	2,000.00
PROPERTY/WORK COMP INSURANCE	3,951.50	604.00	7,379.50*	1,339.50	7,245.00
Snow Removal	0.00		945.00		

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

Christ Child Baby Born Wisemen
 Shepherds Angels Sing Hallelujah Savior
 King Prince Peace Love Joy
 Manger Hay Swaddling Mary Joseph



How Well Do You Know Your CHRISTMAS Cookies?

Match the clue to the Christmas cookie it describes.

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 1. _____ Spins round and round | A. Shortbread |
| 2. _____ Used to decorate a gift | B. Truffles |
| 3. _____ Opposite of tall bread | C. Pumpkin |
| 4. _____ Rolled flakes pressed together | D. Haystacks |
| 5. _____ Red Christmas plant | E. Gingerbread |
| 6. _____ Rare wild mushrooms | F. Cathedral Windows |
| 7. _____ Piled, mowed & cured grass for cows | G. Pinwheel |
| 8. _____ They hide in their shells | H. Sugar |
| 9. _____ Decorated men, women & houses | I. Snickerdoodles |
| 10. _____ "Spoonful" of this helps medicine go down | J. Thumbprint |
| 11. _____ Churned cream | K. Snowball |
| 12. _____ Carved faces adorn this veggie | L. Meringue |
| 13. _____ Don't leave this at a crime scene | M. Ribbon |
| 14. _____ Girl Scouts age 7-10 | N. Brownies |
| 15. _____ Twice-baked biscuits from Italy | O. Poinsettia |
| 16. _____ Stain glass accents on church building | P. Turtles |
| 17. _____ Stiffly beaten egg whites & sugar | Q. Biscotti |
| 18. _____ Laughing while drawing absentmindedly | R. Butter |

TOTAL: _____



12-4
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"How come the only kid Baby Jesus got to have at his birthday party was that little drummer boy?"

BILL and JEFF KEANE

Confirmation October 31, 2021

Thank you Bonnie for helping the girls with their ban-



Gloria Anne Darling

Judge not, lest ye be judged.

Matthew 7:1

Confirmed: October 31, 2021
Zion Lutheran Church,
Ashland, Wisconsin



Ayeisha Deragon

Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved.

Acts 16:31

Confirmed: October 31, 2021
Baptized: April 29, 2012
Zion Lutheran Church,
Ashland, Wisconsin

Christmas Word Scramble

Unscramble the letters to find words which have to do with Christmas. Some of the words have religious meanings, others are secular in nature.

1. Groceos _____
2. Naclorig _____
3. Rats _____
4. Scunttshe _____
5. Porduhi _____
6. Naast _____
7. Skagceap _____
8. Dresseph _____
9. Gramen _____
10. Galen _____
11. Limesotte _____
12. Vanijitt _____
13. Gotscink _____
14. Virasou _____
15. Traweh _____
16. Gisehl _____
17. Wamsonn _____
18. Ejuss _____
19. Stranneom _____
20. Scamsthir _____

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Jesus... Reason For The Season

Be First To Fill In Blanks To Questions About Jesus Using Words Provided.

- | | |
|--|----------------------|
| 1. _____ Which angel appeared to Mary? | A. Isaiah |
| 2. _____ Who was father of Joseph the husband of Mary? | B. Anna |
| 3. _____ Where was Jesus born? | C. Shepherds |
| 4. _____ Means "God with Us" | D. King David |
| 5. _____ Who was King of Judea when Jesus was born? | E. Caesar Augustus |
| 6. _____ He was one of Jesus' brothers | F. Simeon |
| 7. _____ Who came to visit Baby Jesus? | G. Gabriel |
| 8. _____ Who was Jesus descended from? | H. Messiah |
| 9. _____ To whom did an angel say, "Do not be afraid"? | I. Matthew |
| 10. _____ Who told Mary and Joseph to go to Bethlehem? | J. Savior |
| i.i. _____ Who was it revealed to by the Holy Spirit that he wouldn't die before he saw the Messiah? | K. Emmanuel |
| 12. _____ Which title of Jesus means "Anointed One"? | L. Micah |
| 13. _____ Which book in the Bible references the Magi? | M. Jacob |
| 14. _____ Which prophet called Jesus Prince of Peace? | N. Mary |
| 15. _____ What does the name Jesus mean? | O. Angel of the Lord |
| 16. _____ Who prophesied where Messiah would be born? | P. Bethlehem |
| 17. _____ Who spoke to shepherds in the fields? | Q. King Herod |
| 18. _____ Which prophet never left the temple and spoke about Jesus to his parents when they took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord? | R. James |

TOTAL _____

Prophets Foretold Jesus' Birth Spot the Differences

Compare the picture on the top with the picture on bottom. Circle the 10 things that are different.



Zion Lutheran Church Council Meeting
November 15, 2021

Call to order

Opening – Darryl Warren

Roll Call

John Pruss, President

Nick Jarvela, Trustees

Chuck Chronis, Financial

Lisa Guski, Treasurer, Education, LFOJ

Pastor Williams, excused

Darryl Warren, Elders

Jule Jarvela, Secretary

Lori Landry, Evangelism

Approval of Minutes – No October meeting

Pastor’s Report – None

Approval of Treasurer’s Report – 1st Darryl Warren, 2nd – Chuck Chronis MMC

Approval of Agenda – 1st – Nick Jarvela, 2nd– Chuck Chronis MMC

Board Reports

Trustees – printed from Oct. Added: lift out of order until permit is received, sand will again be used on ice on entry stoop, Jim Solberg has agreed to become a Trustee.

Financial Secretary –2022 Offering envelopes in members boxes in December...

Envelopes for 2023 have been ordered.

Little Friends of Jesus – Staff needed

Evangelism – No meeting

Education – No full Christmas program. Children will participate in services.

Elders - None

Official Acts - none

Old Business:

Paid Treasurer’s position was voted on by the Congregation on October 24, 2021...

Motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

The preliminary budget was presented by Treasurer... Any changes by Boards must be given into treasurer by December 10, 2021... Treasurer’s position will become a line item.

Next meeting – December 20, 2021

Motion to adjourn 1st – Lisa Guski, 2nd – Chuck Chronis MMC

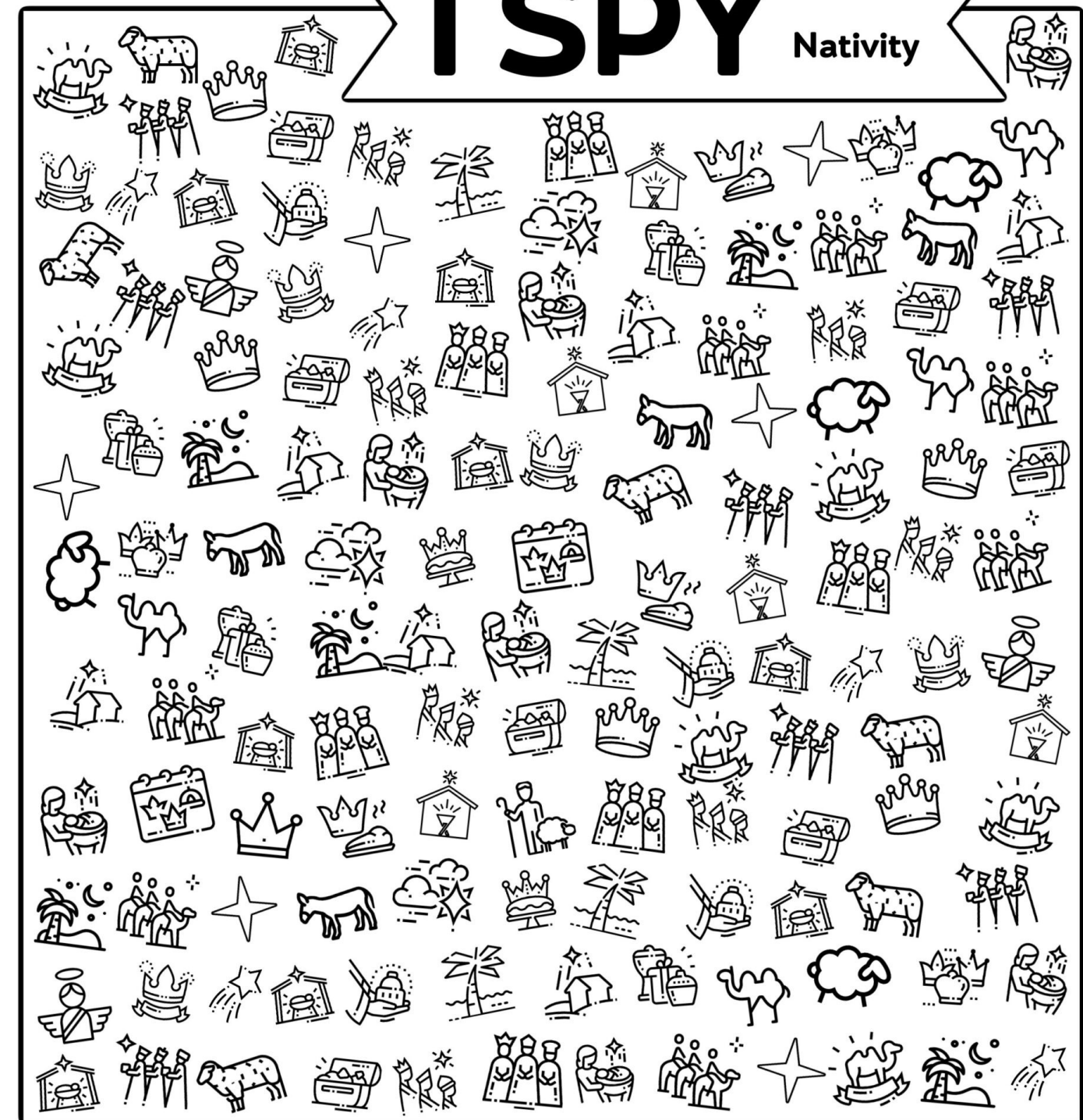
Closed with the Lord’s Prayer



OUR WALL OF Hope Peace Joy

On the wall going into the conference room you will find our heading. The holder on the wall holds the various Christmas balls. Please add your note on one of the balls and we’ll place it on the wall. It can be pertaining to one or all of Hope, Peace and Joy. It can be very personal or worldly, You can put your name, initials or leave it blank. You can do more than one. Please participate, we would like to see the wall filled with balls.

ISPY Nativity



- | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|
| 2 | | 4 | | 4 | | 5 | | 4 | | 5 | | 7 | | 4 | | 6 | | 5 | |
| 1 | | 6 | | 7 | | 1 | | 3 | | 6 | | 7 | | 4 | | 7 | | 5 | |
| 3 | | 3 | | 4 | | 6 | | 2 | | 7 | | 5 | | 9 | | 6 | | 3 | |

Christmas Story: For the Man Who Hated Christmas

By Nancy W. Gavin

It's just a small, white envelope stuck among the branches of our Christmas tree. No name, no identification, no inscription. It has peeked through the branches of our tree for the past ten years.

It all began because my husband Mike hated Christmas. Oh, not the true meaning of Christmas, but the commercial aspects of it – overspending and the frantic running around at the last minute to get a tie for Uncle Harry and the dusting powder for Grandma – the gifts given in desperation because you couldn't think of anything else.

Knowing he felt this way, I decided one year to bypass the usual shirts, sweaters, ties and so forth. I reached for something special just for Mike. The inspiration came in an unusual way.

Our son Kevin, who was 12 that year, was on the wrestling team at the school he attended. Shortly before Christmas, there was a non-league match against a team sponsored by an inner-city church. These youngsters, dressed in sneakers so ragged that shoestrings seemed to be the only thing holding them together, presented a sharp contrast to our boys in their spiffy blue and gold uniforms and sparkling new wrestling shoes.

As the match began, I was alarmed to see that the other team was wrestling without headgear, a kind of light helmet designed to protect a wrestler's ears. It was a luxury the ragtag team obviously could not afford.

Well, we ended up walloping them. We took every weight class. Mike, seated beside me, shook his head sadly, "I wish just one of them could have won," he said. "They have a lot of potential, but losing like this could take the heart right out of them." Mike loved kids – all kids. He so enjoyed coaching little league football, baseball and lacrosse. That's when the idea for his present came.

That afternoon, I went to a local sporting goods store and bought an assortment of wrestling headgear and shoes, and sent them anonymously to the inner-city church. On Christmas Eve, I placed a small, white envelope on the tree, the note inside telling Mike what I had done, and that this was his gift from me.

Mike's smile was the brightest thing about Christmas that year. And that same bright smile lit up succeeding years. For each Christmas, I followed the tradition – one year sending a group of mentally handicapped youngsters to a hockey game, another year a check to a pair of elderly brothers whose home had burned to the ground the week before Christmas, and on and on.

The white envelope became the highlight of our Christmas. It was always the last thing opened on Christmas morning, and our children – ignoring their new toys – would stand with wide-eyed anticipation as their dad lifted the envelope from the tree to reveal its contents. As the children grew, the toys gave way to more practical presents, but the small, white envelope never lost its allure.

The story doesn't end there. You see, we lost Mike last year due to dreaded cancer. When Christmas rolled around, I was still so wrapped in grief that I barely got the tree up. But Christmas Eve found me placing an envelope on the tree. And the next morning, I found it was magically joined by three more. Unbeknownst to the others, each of our three children had for the first time placed a white envelope on the tree for their dad. The tradition has grown and someday will expand even further with our grandchildren standing to take down that special envelope.

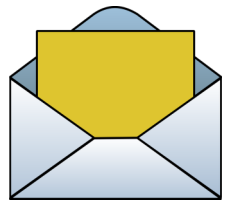
Mike's spirit, like the Christmas spirit will always be with us.



Travel with the Wise Men

Make your way across the desert from the oasis to Bethlehem. Stay on the lighter colored paths and do not cross over rocks, plants or any little desert creatures.





Chippenham George worked for the Post Office and his job was to process all the mail that had illegible addresses. One day just before Christmas, a letter landed on his desk simply addressed in shaky handwriting: 'To God'. With no other clue on the envelope, George opened the letter and read: **Dear God**, I am an 93 year old widow living on the State pension. Yesterday someone stole my purse. It had £100 in it, which was all the money I had in the world and no pension due until after Christmas. Next week is Christmas and I had invited two of my friends over for Christmas lunch. Without that money, I have nothing to buy food with. I have no family to turn to, and you are my only hope. God; can you please help me? Chippenham George was really touched, and being kind hearted, he put a copy of the letter up on the staff notice board at the main Fareham sorting office where he worked. The letter touched the other postmen and they all dug into their pockets and had a whip round. Between them they raised £95. [\$170 USD] Using an officially franked Post Office envelope, they sent the cash on to the old lady, and for the rest of the day, all the workers felt a warm glow thinking of the nice thing they had done. Christmas came and went. A few days later, another letter simply addressed to 'God' landed in the Sorting Office. Many of the postmen gathered around while George opened the letter. It read,



Dear God, How can I ever thank you enough for what you did for me? Because of your generosity, I was able to provide a lovely luncheon for my friends. We had a very nice day, and I told my friends of your wonderful gift - in fact we haven't gotten over it and even Father John, our parish priest, is beside himself with joy. By the way, there was £5 [\$10 USD] missing. I think it must have been those thieving fellows at the Post Office. George could not help musing on Oscar Wilde's quote: 'A good deed never goes unpunished'



Crossword Puzzle Words

- | | | |
|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| 8A Isaac | 10A Haste | 11A Manger |
| 13A Highest | 15A Jesus | 16A Three |
| 19A Bethlehem | 21A Judah | 22A Shepherds |
| 24A Star | 26A News | 27A Glory |
| 28A So | 29A Handmaid | 31A Hungry |
| 32A Blessed | 1D John | 2D With |
| 3D Birth | 4D David | 5D Joseph |
| 6D Canticle | 7D Gabriel | 9D Fourteen |
| 12D Angel | 14D Judeah | 17D Zechariah |
| 18D Rehoboam | 20D Herod | 21D Jews |
| 23D Syria | 25D Afraid | 27D God |
| 30D Infants | | |

American English

1. sidewalk
2. sled
3. sneakers
4. soccer
5. stroller
6. subway
7. suspenders
8. sweater
9. takeout (food)
10. thumbtack
11. tic-tac-toe
12. trunk (of a car)
13. turn signal (on a car)
14. undershirt
15. vacation
16. vest
17. washcloth
18. zip code
19. zucchini

Riddle Answers

1. Because on the cruise, everybody is married!
2. A Christmas candle.
3. "Are you asleep yet?"
4. Your word.
5. A pineapple!
6. It's Christmas, Eve!
7. A snowman.
8. Frost.
9. A wreath!
10. Give you the cold shoulder.

British English— Do you know the American English synonym?

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. pavement | 2. sledge |
| 3. trainers | 4. football |
| 5. pushchair | 6. underground |
| 7. braces | 8. jumper |
| 9. takeaway | 10. drawing pin |
| 11. noughts and crosses | |
| 12. boot | 13. indicator |
| 14. vest | 15. holiday |
| 16. waistcoat | 17. flannel |
| 18. postcode | 19. courgette |

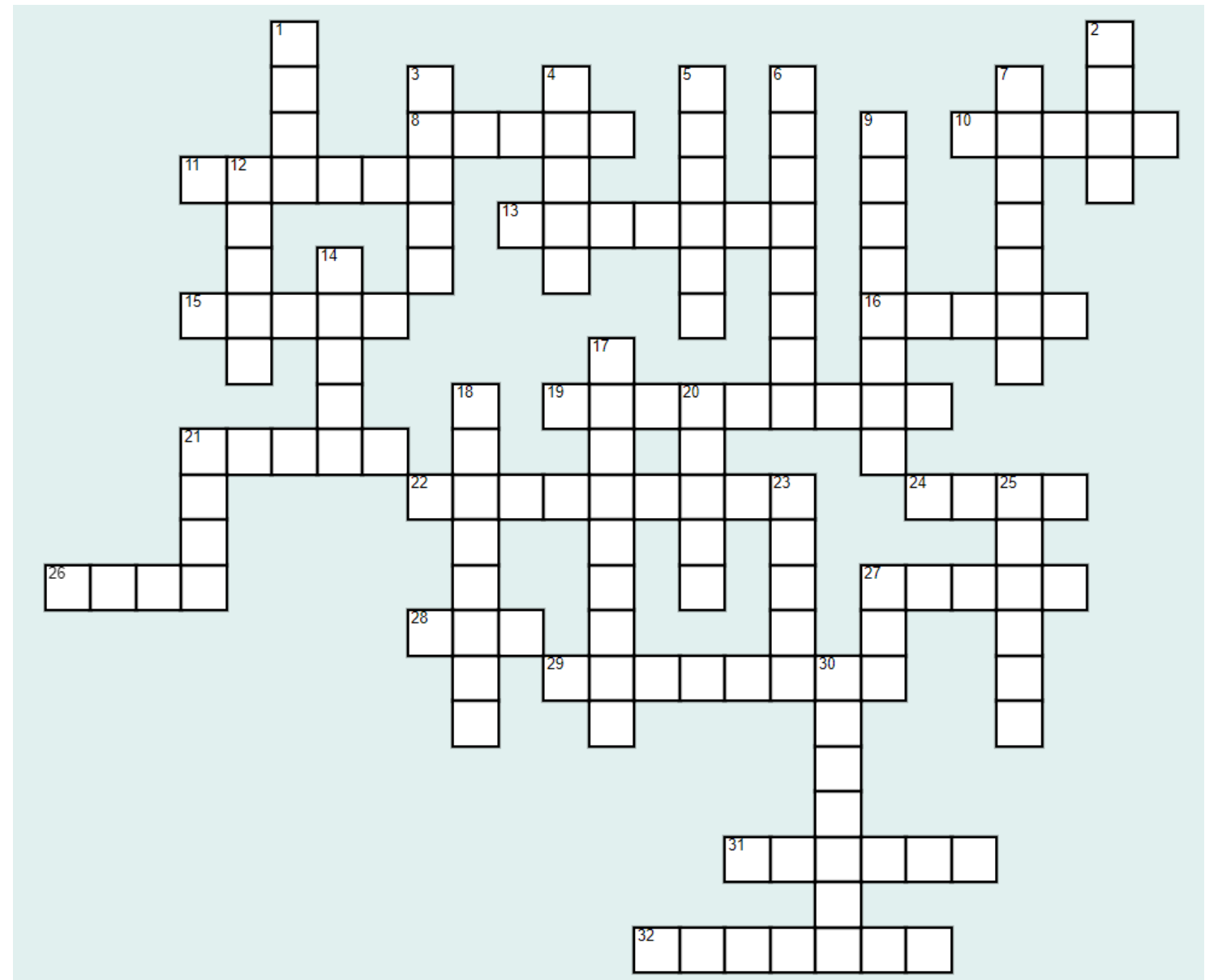
FOOD SHELF SUNDAY

Last Sunday of each Month

The BRICK appreciates your food donations each and every month. It truly helps our community giving those are need of food to sustain their life. It's hard to believe that these days that are still some who are surprised by a layoff, lose their home, have a dysfunctional family, can't cope with things. They need a helping hand and Zion tries to provide some help every month to The BRICK. Thank you Ron

Birth of Christ in Scripture Puzzle

I thought I would do a bit of an extra step with this puzzle. On the next page are the clues for words that would be for the puzzle squares, but, they are mixed up. Across and Up & Down are mixed together and they are not in numerical order. So, you'll have to figure out the clues first, then work them into the puzzle. Have Fun! (I hope)



"now, this is how the _____ of Christ came about" (Matt 1:18)

Mary remained with her how many months? (Luke 1:56)

Mary's husband (Matt 1:18)

Number of generation from Abraham to David (Matt 1:17)

You will find an infant, lying in a _____ (Luke 2:12)

'Do not be _____' (Luke 1:30)

Bethlehem of _____ (Matt 2:5)

Glory to God in the _____ (Luke 2:14)

"She will bear a son, and you will call him _____" (Matt 1:21)

The angel _____ was sent from God. (Luke 1:26)

Luke 1:46-55 is titled the _____ of Mary

Where Jesus was born (Matt 2:1)

Jesus will in who's throne? (Luke 1:32)

So they went in _____ (Luke 2:16)

Now, there were _____ in that region. (Luke 2:8)

Emmanuel means, 'God _____ us' (Matt 1:23)

Where is the newborn king of the _____ (Matt 2:2)

They were overjoyed at seeing the _____ (Matt 2:10)

What is the name of the baby in Luke 1:63

...I proclaim to you good _____ of great joy (Luke 2:10)

"_____ are you who believed" (Luke 1:45)

...the _____ of the Lord shone around them (Luke 2:9)

Who will praise the Lord? (Psalm 8:2)

The child will be called holy, _____ of God (Luke 1:35)

Who called the magi? (Matt 2:7)

Nothing is impossible for _____ (Luke 1:37)

Who's house did Mary enter? (Luke 1:40)

"The _____ of the Lord appeared to him" (Matt 1:20)

Quirinius was the governor of _____ (Luke 2:2)

I am the _____ of the Lord (Luke 1:38)

Abraham is the father of (Matt 1:2)

Solomon is the father of (Matt 1:7)

The _____ have been filled with good things (Luke 1:53)

Where did Mary travel to? (Luke 1:39)

"now, this is how the _____ of Christ came about" (Matt 1:18)

Mary remained with her how many months? (Luke 1:56)

Christmas Riddles

1. You're invited to attend a Christmas party on a cruise ship. When you arrive, you see many people having fun on the boat, but when you board the cruise, there is no single person to be found. How is that even possible?
2. I am tall when I am young, and I am short when I am old. What am I?
3. Every Christmas eve, what kind of question can children never answer yes to?
4. What is something you can keep after giving it to someone?
5. What do you get when you cross an apple and a Christmas tree?
6. What does Adam say on the night before Christmas?
7. My job often leaves me frozen; I am a man that all should know, but I only come out during times of sleet or ice or snow. Who am I?
8. What bites but doesn't have any teeth?
9. I've crowned victors' heads since ancient Rome. Around Christmastime, I might be in your home. What am I?
10. What do snowmen do when they're angry at you?

