

the Friend

DECEMBER 2007



Friends by Mail



Christmas

Christmas is all about the love and remembrance we give the Lord. It is not all about presents

and Santa Claus coming down the chimney. Most people say that Christmas is about being with your family and friends. They are right, but they left out a very important detail—that we should think of the Lord and His birth. Today we celebrate



Christmas with toys, CDs, and all the stuff you can think of. When Jesus was born, they didn't have all that stuff. They just had love and a few gifts from the Wise Men. So, it's not all about presents. It's about the love

we share with our families. Christmas is a very sacred holiday. We celebrate it with peace in our hearts, good thoughts in our minds, and good actions toward all mankind. I hope we can all remember the true meaning of Christmas.

Cydnie Rae H.,
age 9, Nevada

The Snowy Night



One night my family and I were traveling back to Utah from my aunt's house in Arizona when it started to snow. The snow began to come

down harder and harder. I was getting really scared because it was hard to see the road in front of us. I asked my mom if we should say a prayer for help. We said a prayer and we made it to our hotel for the night. I am glad Heavenly Father answers prayers.

Megan C., age 7, Utah

Black Widow Warning

After school I went to get my rain boots off the porch and put them on so I could play in the puddles. But I felt a warning from the Holy Ghost not to put them on because there was a spider in one of them. I went inside and told my grandma to get the spider out. She swished her fingers around

inside the tops of the boots and told me to put them on—there wasn't any spider. But I knew there was! I told her to turn my boots upside down and bang them on the cement. She did, and a black widow spider about the size of a nickel came out. Grandma showed me the bright-red hourglass shape on it and then smashed it. If I had put my foot inside, the spider might have bitten me. I'm thankful that the Holy Ghost warned me.

Sally H., age 10, Idaho



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the Friend

See the
Guide to the Friend
(inside back cover)
for family home
evening ideas.



A children's magazine published by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Stories and Features

- IFC Friends by Mail
- 2 A Christmas Message from the First Presidency to the Children of the World:
The Savior Is Born
- 4 The Most Unusual, Quite Remarkable, One-of-a-Kind Christmas Stocking
- 8 Friend to Friend: The Holy Ghost Is Real / Elder Craig A. Cardon
- 10 Trying to Be Like Jesus
- 11 They Spoke to Us
- 12 Sharing Time: The Greatest Gift
- 16 A Christmas Visitor
- 20 The Last Present
- 27 Special Witness: Elder Dieter F. Uchtdorf
- 32 From the Life of President Spencer W. Kimball: Holding Priesthood Keys
- 34 The Hot Chocolate Mishap
- 36 Friends in the News
- 37 Matt and Mandy
- 40 Our Creative Friends
- 44 *Friend* Index 2007
- IBC Guide to the *Friend*

For Little Friends

- 28 Just What I Needed
- 30 Jesus Was Born in a Stable
- 31 When I Think of Baby Jesus
- 31 Cookie Wreaths

Verse

- 19 Jesus Is Born

Music

- 38 Come to Bethlehem

Things to Make and Do

- 15 Coloring Page
- 23 Funstuf
- 24 Nativity Figures and Facts
- 26 Funstuf
- 42 Christmas Workshop

Cover by Jim Madsen





**A Christmas Message from the First Presidency
to the Children of the World**

The Savior Is Born

At this wonderful time of year, we remember the angelic message given to the humble shepherds so long ago:

“Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

“For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

“And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

“And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men” (Luke 2:10–14).

The message of the birth of Jesus Christ gives us the knowledge of what we must do to return to live with our Father in Heaven. As we keep the commandments and become more like our Savior, we will find peace in our hearts and joy in our lives.

We testify that Jesus Christ is our Savior and Redeemer. As we follow His example of obedience and service to others, our own lives are blessed with happiness and peace. ●

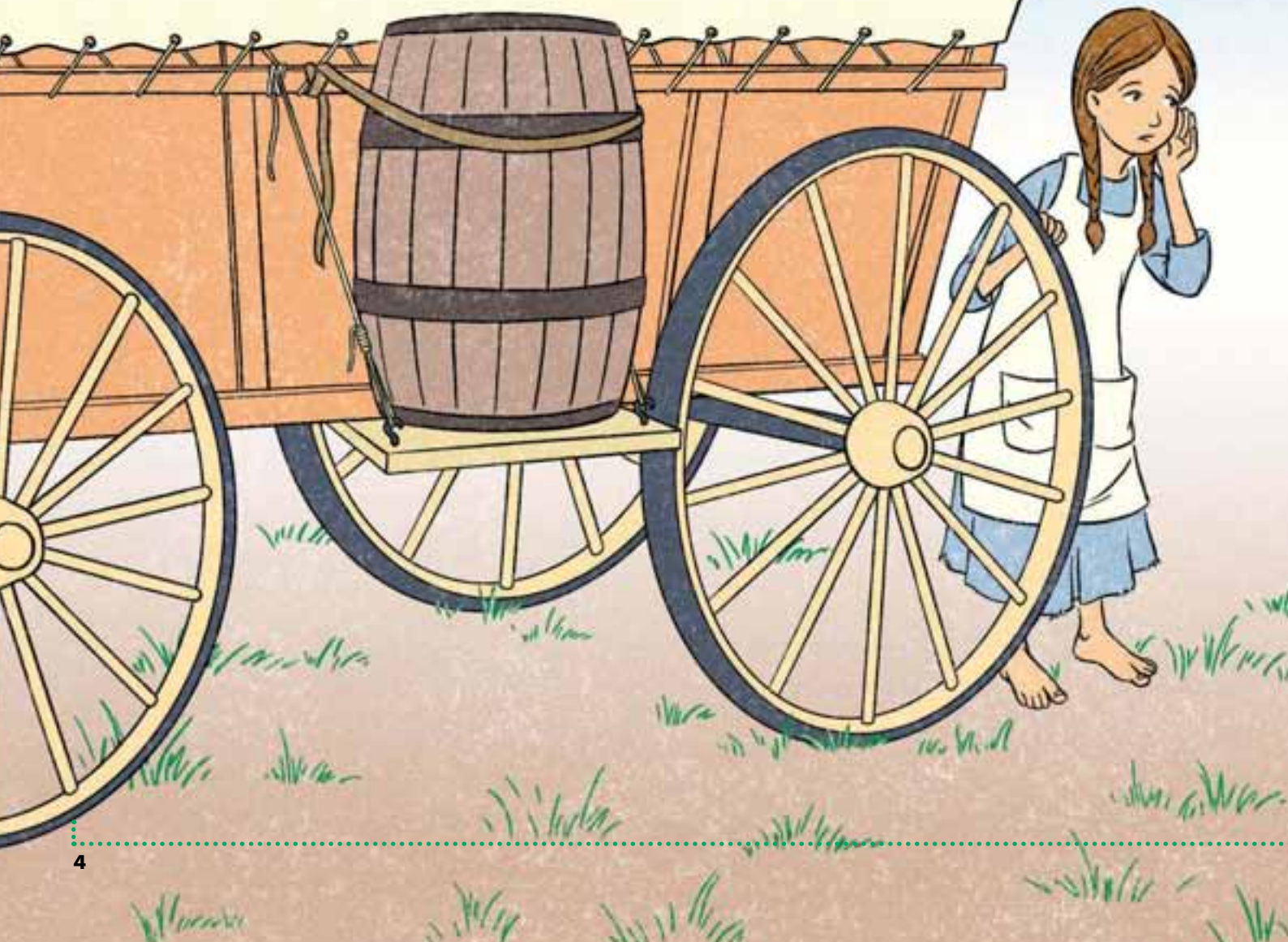
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The Most Unusual, Quite CHRISTMAS

BY GERALDINE T. FIELDING
(Based on a true story)



Remarkable, One-of-a-Kind

STOCKING

Look up the following scriptures: 1 Corinthians 16:14, Mosiah 4:15, Alma 7:24. Circle the one you think fits the story best.

Rachel peeked around the wheel of the covered wagon and whispered, "Psst, Mary Ann!" When her friend did not respond, she spoke louder: "Mary Ann, come here!"

Mary Ann was sitting on an old quilt tending her baby brother. She looked up. "I can't come there," she said. "My mama told me not to move off this quilt until she was through cooking the biscuits."

Rachel made her way to the quilt, which was spread on the ground under a shady tree. They were traveling west with their families in a wagon train. They had left Missouri with everything they owned loaded into the wagons. Rachel was ready to cry as she sat down on the quilt.

"I've looked and looked," Rachel groaned. "It's gone!"

"What's gone?" Mary Ann asked.

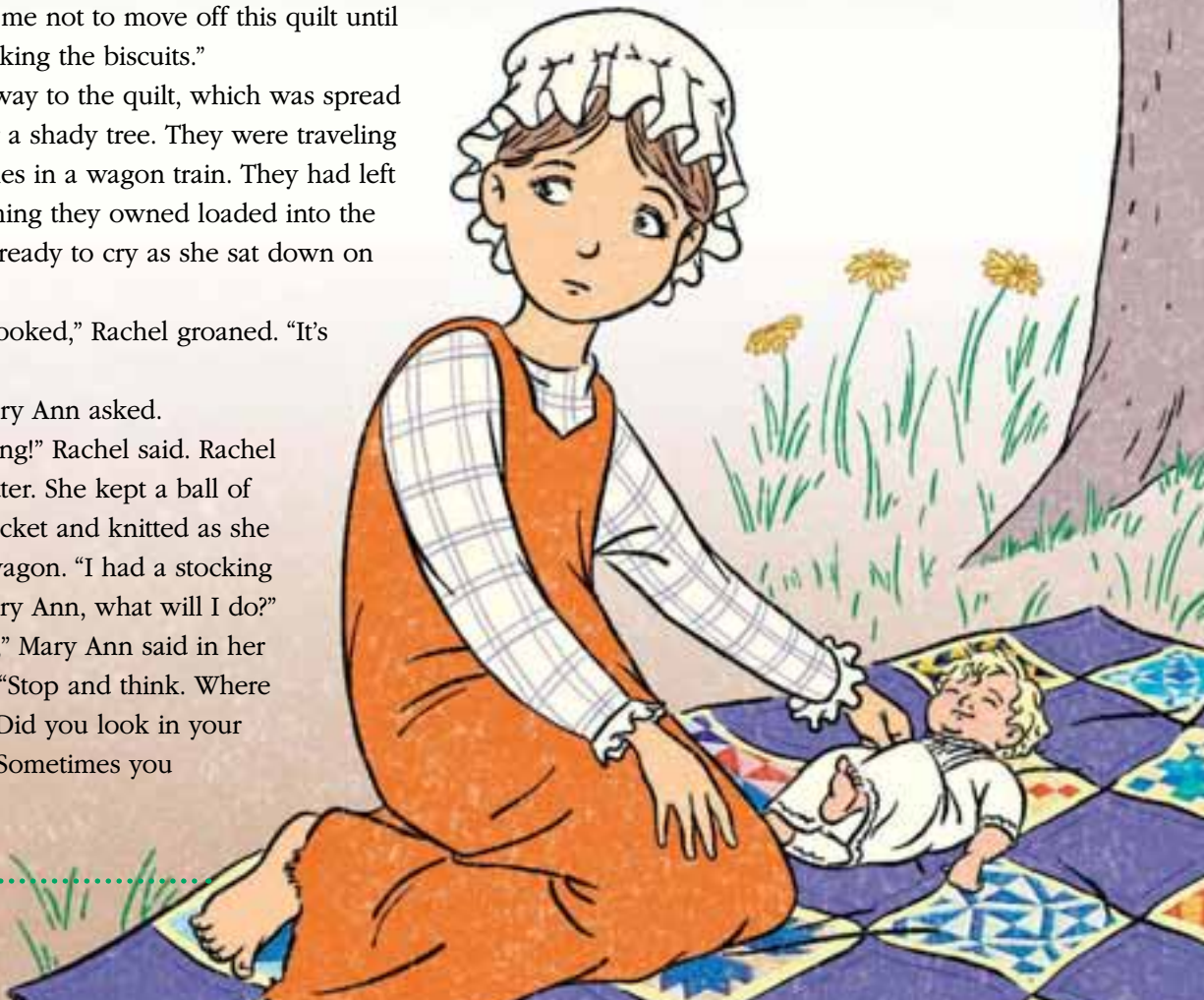
"I've lost my knitting!" Rachel said. Rachel was a very good knitter. She kept a ball of yarn in her apron pocket and knitted as she walked behind the wagon. "I had a stocking almost half done. Mary Ann, what will I do?"

"Now, calm down," Mary Ann said in her best motherly voice. "Stop and think. Where did you have it last? Did you look in your little wooden trunk? Sometimes you put it in there."

"I looked everywhere," Rachel said. "My last ball of yarn and my metal knitting needles are gone. My papa traded a whole pound of nails for those knitting needles in St. Louis. He'll never forgive me for losing them."

"I'm sure he will understand," Mary Ann said. "But I'll help you look in your wagon tonight after supper."

The girls searched the family's wagon together, but they didn't find Rachel's knitting.





“How can I tell Mama and Papa?” Rachel asked.

“Tell us what?” a voice asked.

The girls whirled around. There was Rachel’s father, standing next to the wagon checking the level of the water barrel.

“Oh, Papa,” Rachel sobbed. “I am so careless, and I have done such an awful thing. I’ve lost my metal knitting needles, my yarn, and a half-finished sock.”

Rachel’s father put his arms around her. “That is sad, but it’s not the end of the world.”

The following Saturday when the wagon train stopped for the night, it was announced that they would camp there until Tuesday to give the horses and oxen a chance to rest, and to let the men make repairs to the wagons and harnesses.

Rachel tried to keep busy. She helped her mother cook. She washed clothes in the nearby stream. She helped Mary Ann with her little brother. Rachel sighed. “If I had my knitting, I could have had that stocking almost finished,” she told her friend.

“Never mind,” Mary Ann said. “When we get to the Salt Lake Valley, you can get some new needles and yarn.”

“I hope so,” Rachel said sadly.

“Rachel, please come here,” her father called. “I have a surprise for you.” He was standing near the campfire with his hands behind his back. He brought out one hand. “I whittled a new pair of knitting needles for you,” he said. “They are not as sturdy as the metal ones, but I think they will do. They are made of alder wood, and they are quite

straight and smooth.”

Rachel squealed with delight. “Oh, Papa, they are beautiful!”

Then he brought out his other hand from behind his back. He was holding a ball of red yarn.

“Yarn! Where in the world did you get it?” Rachel asked.

“Sister Davis donated it. She said it was just taking up space in her sewing basket.” Her father smiled. “And here is a bit of green yarn that Sister Harper found, and a small ball of yellow from Sister Rogers.” He hugged his daughter. “Everyone felt so bad about you losing your knitting that they all found what scraps of yarn they could so that you could continue knitting the rest of the trip.”

"This is wonderful," Rachel said. "I must tell everyone how much I appreciate it." Rachel started off, but she turned around quickly and went back to her father. "Thank you so much for the knitting needles, Papa. I will take very good care of them." Rachel ran off to show all the ladies of the wagon train the wonderful gift she had received.

As they walked along with the wagons, Rachel knitted and knitted. At night, Rachel held her needles and yarn safely in her pocket. "I'm not taking any chances with this knitting," she told Mary Ann. "It is too special."

The day finally came when they looked down into the Salt Lake Valley. They were relieved to have arrived before winter. The nights were getting colder and they knew that snow would not be long in coming.

"Did you finish the sock?" Brother Carter asked Rachel as he led his horses down the steep mountain trail.

"I did," Rachel said. She pulled out her knitting to show him her finished work.

"Well, now, that is a most unusual stocking," he said.

"I know." Rachel laughed. "Papa called it 'quite remarkable.'"

The knitted stocking had wide and narrow stripes in many different colors. Rachel looked at it thoughtfully. "It's one of a kind," she said. "There will never be another like this. I am going to hang it on the mantle at Christmastime when we get a house built. It will be my most unusual, quite remarkable, one-of-a-kind Christmas stocking!"

"In any community of Saints, we all work to serve each other in the best way we know how."

Elder L. Tom Perry of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, "Building a Community of Saints," *Ensign*, May 2001, 37.



Rachel enjoyed hanging up her special Christmas stocking for many years. It was a colorful and happy reminder of her trip across the plains, and the generosity and kindness of her fellow travelers. ●





From an interview with Elder Craig A. Cardon of the Seventy; by Callie Buys

The Holy Ghost Is Real

The Holy Ghost . . . will show unto you all things what ye should do (2 Nephi 32:5).

In my kindergarten class we had a box of toys, and during playtime we could choose a toy to play with. The

most treasured of all the toys was

a carved wooden train with wooden wheels and a caboose. All the children in my class always wanted to play with the train and caboose.

One day I thought of a way I could play with that caboose without sharing with the

other children. I slipped the caboose into my lunch pail and took it home with me. As I did that, I felt bad inside. At age five, I knew I was doing something wrong.

At home, I hid in the corner of our hall closet to play with the little caboose. I did this for a few days. Then one day my mom opened the closet door and saw me playing with the caboose. She asked me about it, and I told her. She and my father then began to teach me. They helped me understand that I felt bad because I had done something wrong. The Holy Ghost was prompting me to do the right thing. They told me that I needed to return the caboose.

Mom walked with me back to school, and watched me as I said sorry to the teacher and gave her the caboose. The teacher told me the consequences, and for the next few days I did not get to play with the toys. But even with the discipline, I felt good inside.

A few years later, when I was about 10 years old, my mother and I went to a special meeting. Because so many people were there, we sat in the choir seats behind the speaker. With Mother's help I had brought a notepad and a pencil so



I could take notes. As the speaker started talking about the Holy Ghost and I started taking notes, I began to feel the influence of the Holy Ghost so powerfully that I couldn't take notes and I started getting tears in my eyes. I kept my head down, and the tears rolled down my cheeks and dropped onto the page where I'd been taking my notes.

These memorable experiences confirmed to

me that the Spirit is very real. The gift of the Holy Ghost that comes to us at an early age is a discernible, recognizable blessing. He will help us know what Heavenly Father wants us to do, and will help us return to Him someday. ●





Trying to Be Like Jesus

He that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life (John 8:12).

Christmas Books

By Beau B.



My mom told my brother and me that if we would read two

issues of the *Friend* from cover to cover she would let us pick something from our school book order. I read the November and December 2005 issues. When I was looking through the book order to choose a book, I saw some Christmas books that I knew my little sister Emmalie would like. Christmas was just a few weeks away. I asked my mom if I could choose those books and give



them to my sister for Christmas. My mom said that would be very generous and something that Jesus would do. It felt good to see my sister's face when

she unwrapped her books on Christmas. I made someone else happy, and I think that's what Jesus would do.

Beau B., age 9, Utah

Comforting Mom

By Nicholas J.

On April 14, 2006, my 11-year-old sister, Alexandra, died in a car accident. A few weeks later, my mom was reading to me and she started crying because she missed my sister. I hugged her and told her not to cry, that my sister would want us to be happy because she was in a happy place. Several months later, Mom began to cry again. I put my arms around her. I comforted her



and told her not to cry, and that everything would be OK.

When I was baptized, my mom reminded me that I made a covenant with Heavenly Father. In Mosiah 18:8–9 it says we need to be “willing to bear one another’s burdens, that they may be light; Yea, and are willing to mourn with those that mourn; yea, and comfort those that stand in need of comfort.” I’m grateful I was baptized and could be there to comfort and help my mom.

Nicholas J., age 9, Ohio

Offer of Tea

By Lyssa L.

Once while I was playing with my friends, we had a tea party. They asked me if I wanted any tea, and I said no. They asked me why not, and I told them about the Word of Wisdom.

Lyssa L., age 10, Virginia



They Spoke to Us

Quotes from the October 2007 general conference

“All families need strengthening, from the ideal to the most troubled. That strengthening can come from *you*. . . . The example of your righteous life will strengthen your family.”

Mary N. Cook, Young Women general presidency



“I plead with you to control your tempers, to put a smile upon your faces, which will erase anger; speak out with words of love and peace, appreciation, and respect. If you will do this, your lives will be without regret.”

President Gordon B. Hinckley

“With all the strength of my soul I testify that our Heavenly Father loves each one of us. He hears the prayers of humble hearts; He hears our cries for help.” President Thomas S. Monson

“It is the Holy Ghost who testifies that Jesus Christ is the Beloved Son of a Heavenly Father who loves us and wants us to have eternal life with Him in families. With even the beginning of that testimony, we feel a desire to serve Him and to keep His commandments.” President Henry B. Eyring

“No member of the Church is esteemed by the Lord as more or less than any other. It just does not work that way! Remember, He is a father—our Father. The Lord is ‘no respecter of persons.’ ”

President Boyd K. Packer

“Eternal principles will take root in us as we take time not only to read the teachings of the prophets and the scriptures but also to ponder them in the spirit of prayer.”

Elder Walter F. González

“Enduring to the end is a process filling every minute of our life, every hour, every day, from sunrise to sunrise. It is accomplished through personal discipline following the commandments of God. The restored gospel of Jesus Christ is a way of life. It is not for Sunday only.” Elder Dieter F. Uchtdorf



Shepherd: *"I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep."* —John 10:11

King: *"And the Lord said: Blessed is he through whose seed Messiah shall come; for he saith—I am Messiah, the King of Zion."* —Moses 7:53

Note: This activity may be copied or printed from the Internet at www.friend.lds.org.

Star: *"There came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him."*
—Matthew 2:1-2

Lamb: *"The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world."*
—John 1:29



Gift: *"Wherefore, by faith was the law of Moses given. But in the gift of his Son hath God prepared a more excellent way; and it is by faith that it hath been fulfilled."*
—Ether 12:11



The Greatest Gift

This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven (Acts 1:11).

BY ELIZABETH RICKS



Do you like to receive gifts? We all do.

Gifts show us that someone cares about us.

Knowing that someone cares about us and loves us makes us happy. When we love people, we want to give them gifts.

What kinds of gifts do you like to give to the people you love? The gifts that you give do not need to be fancy or expensive. Your gift can be reading a story to a younger child, helping your mom or dad prepare a meal, or saying a kind word.

Because our Heavenly Father loves us, He gives us many gifts. In John 3:16, we read about a most precious gift: “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

Jesus came to earth as a baby born in Bethlehem.

His life is an example for us. He also atoned for our sins and gave us the opportunity to return to live with our Heavenly Father again. If we follow Jesus Christ in faith, we can receive another wonderful gift: “If thou wilt do good, yea, and hold out faithful to the end, thou shalt be saved in the kingdom of God, which is the greatest of all the gifts of God” (D&C 6:13).

As we follow Jesus Christ in faith, we look forward to the time when He will return to earth. We know that He will come again and that someday we will receive the greatest of all the gifts of God—eternal life. ●

Activity

Each of the ornaments on the opposite page is a symbol of Jesus Christ. Read the scripture references to find out how the ornaments are symbols. Mount the ornaments on heavy paper, and cut them out. Cut out the scriptures. Glue or tape each one on the back of the correct ornament to remind you how the ornament is a symbol of Christ. Put a ribbon through the top of the ornament, and hang it where your family can enjoy it.

Sharing Time Ideas

(Note: All songs are from *Children's Songbook* unless otherwise noted; GAK = Gospel Art Picture Kit; TNGC = Teaching, No Greater Call.)

1. Display a flag, a heart, and a smiley face. Ask the children what they may represent (country, love, happiness). Explain that each of these is a symbol—something that stands for something else. Ancient prophets told people that Jesus Christ would come to earth. Some, like Isaiah and Samuel the Lamanite, were specific, while others used symbols to teach of Christ. Display a picture of a lamb (see *Primary 2* manual, 123) or a stuffed animal lamb. Explain that although you do not have a real lamb in Primary, your object is a symbol of a lamb, and a lamb is a symbol of Jesus Christ. Discuss ways that Jesus Christ is like a lamb (see “Comparisons,” *TNGC*, 163–64).

For older children: Pass out the following scripture references: Genesis 22:3–8; Exodus 12:21–28; Isaiah 53:7; John 1:29; 1 Nephi 12:6. Read the scriptures, and discuss how each tells of Christ. Explain that when we understand symbols, we can see that the ancient prophets foretold Christ's coming to the earth. Bear testimony that just as you know that Christmas is coming soon, the prophets knew that Christ would be born. Sing “Sing of Christmas” (*Friend*, Dec. 2003, 28).

For younger children: Tell the children that sometimes we have to look hard to understand what “the Lamb” means in the scriptures and that they will need to look hard to find their lamb in Primary. Using the same object as before, have one child leave the room and another child hide the object. Sing songs about the Savior from the *Children's Songbook* while the child who left the room returns to find the object. Have the children sing louder the closer the child gets to the object. Repeat with different songs. Bear testimony of the Lamb of God, Jesus Christ.

2. Write “The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight” on a chalkboard or poster. Ask them who or what “thee” might refer to. Explain that sometimes poets like to refer to things that aren't people as if they were people. Tell the children that “thee” in this sentence is a place. Play a guessing game to discover that the place is Bethlehem and the night is the night when the Savior was born. (See “O Little Town of Bethlehem,” *Hymns*, no. 208.)

To learn more about Bethlehem, divide the Primary into four groups. Give each group one of the following: a map of the Holy Land (found in the Bible or your meetinghouse library); scripture reference Micah 5:2; a Bible, opened to the Bible Dictionary; and scripture reference John 6:51. Have the first group show the location of Bethlehem. Have the second group read Micah 5:2 and explain that our Heavenly Father's plan was for Jesus to be born in Bethlehem. Have the third group find the meaning of the word *Bethlehem* (House of Bread). Have the fourth group explain why Jesus is the Bread of Life. Point out that the Bread of Life was born in the House of Bread.

Teach the first verse of “O Little Town of Bethlehem.” For older children, after the first verse is taught, pass out hymnbooks and sing all three verses. Describe how Bethlehem might have looked on the night Jesus was born, and explain that Jesus is the “Light” spoken of in the song. Explain the last line, which is written on the chalkboard. Tell how people beginning with Adam and Eve looked forward to Christ's coming to earth. People hoped that He would come, and some feared that He might not come.

Have the children draw a picture of Bethlehem using the information

they have learned in the song (see “Drawing Activities,” *TNGC*, 166–67). Testify that Jesus Christ, by coming to the earth, fulfilled the prophecies and made it possible for us to live with God again.

3. Display three wrapped gifts. Tell the children that at Christmastime we celebrate the gift of Jesus Christ coming to the earth (see John 3:16). By coming to the earth and promising to return again, Jesus has given us three wonderful gifts! Tell them that by answering questions about Jesus Christ they can find out what those three gifts are. (Before Primary, write in large print the words *peace*, *happiness*, and *love*, and then cut out the letters.) Invite three children to hold the packages. Explain that as the children answer each question correctly, they will get a letter that will tell them what their gift is. Ask questions such as “Who is Jesus's mother?” (Mary), “Who is Jesus's father?” (Heavenly Father), “Where can we read about Jesus?” (in the scriptures), “When we take the sacrament, what does the bread represent?” (Jesus's body). Each time a correct answer is given, give a letter that goes with the box to the child who is holding it. Let groups of children work together to unscramble the letters and reveal the word. At the end of the game, the boxes will display the words *peace*, *happiness*, and *love*. When the children have unscrambled the words, have them open the packages. Inside each have a key word and a scripture: Peace—John 14:27; Happiness—Mosiah 2:41; Love—John 15:13. Have the child holding the box read the scripture. Sing “I Feel My Savior's Love” (pp. 74–75).

4. *For older children:* Invite two children to hold GAK 238 (The Second Coming) and GAK 239 (The Resurrected Jesus Christ). Have the Primary children compare the two pictures, pointing out what is the same and what is different. Ask the children holding the pictures to read the title of the picture and the summary that appears on the back of the picture. Explain that one is a picture of what Jesus might look like when He comes again and the other is a picture of what He might have looked like when He was resurrected. Tell them that there is a reason for the similarity. Help all the children look up Acts 1:11. Tell them to put their fingers on the scripture and look at you when they are ready. Display either a globe or GAK 600 (The World). Read the scripture, moving the picture of the resurrected Jesus away from the globe as you read, “. . . taken up from you into heaven.” Move the picture of the Second Coming toward the globe as you read, “. . . shall so come in like manner.” Repeat, allowing different children to move the pictures as the rest of the children read the scripture. (This is a good opportunity to involve a child who is disabled.)

Sing “When He Comes Again” (pp. 82–83). Tell the children that the song presents different details about how the Savior might come again and that the scripture they just learned also tells them how the Savior will come.

The week before Primary, invite several children to be prepared to share things they have learned in Primary this year that will help them prepare for the Second Coming. They might recount a favorite sharing time, a memorable Primary lesson, or something they learned from an activity day. Intersperse songs with the participants, singing songs that you learned this year and reviewing the principles that they teach. Bear testimony that Jesus will come again and that as we follow Him in faith, we can enjoy eternal life.

5. *Friend* references: “By These Names,” Apr. 1995, 14–15; “If I Had Been in Bethlehem,” Dec. 1989, 32–33; “Jesus Christ Is Born,” Aug. 2000, 16–18; “Jesus Will Come Again,” Dec. 1999, 10–11; “Testimony of Truth,” Dec. 2003, 42; “His Little Lamb,” Dec. 1997, 18; “Gifts of the Savior,” Dec. 2001, 2.



Jesus Christ once lived on the earth, and I have faith that He will come again.

“This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner
as ye have seen him go into heaven” (Acts 1:11).

A Christmas Visitor

I am filled with comfort, I am exceeding joyful
(2 Corinthians 7:4).

BY GWEN S. JONES
(Based on a true story)

Please, Mom, can we invite Sister Fuhriman just *one* more time?" Greg pleaded. His younger brothers' anxious faces poked out from behind Greg like pegs on a coat rack.

"It will be Christmas Eve, and she shouldn't be alone," Layne said. Scott and Jim nodded.

"You know how many times we have tried to invite Sister Fuhriman to our house," Mom said. "She rarely goes out. But you may invite her for Christmas Eve if you like."

The boys cheered and bounded outside.

Soon the door burst open again. "It's a miracle, Mom!" Greg called. "She said she'd love to come. Isn't that great?"

The next day snow started falling. Greg knew that Sister Fuhriman avoided going outside in bad weather, even to the mailbox. "Do you think she will still come tomorrow?" Greg asked. Mom wasn't sure.

On Christmas Eve, Aunt Carolyn and her three children arrived just as Layne finished cleaning up the kitchen after dinner. "Can we go get Sister Fuhriman now?" Layne asked.

"All right," Dad said. "Remember to help her as she walks across the road. It's slick outside."

"We will, Dad," Scott said.

"And if she decides not to come after all, don't make her feel bad about not coming," Dad said.

"We won't, Dad," Greg said. The boys stepped outside into the snow-covered landscape. The snow had stopped falling, and there was still a little daylight to show them the way.



Eight-year-old Adam was helping Bekah and Jill get into their costumes for the family Christmas pageant when the boys stepped through the door—helping Sister Fuhriman inside! She smiled cheerily, her cheeks bright from the cold.

The family tried not to seem so surprised that their guest of honor had really come.

Dad made Sister Fuhriman feel welcome and helped her choose a seat next to Mom. Greg slipped out of his coat and sat at the piano. After an opening prayer, he began to play Christmas hymns softly. Scott read from the Bible as the younger children acted out the story of the first Christmas. Wearing a bathrobe, three-year-old Bekah reverently played the part of Mary while Dan pretended to be Joseph. Jill played the part of an angel with a gold garland pinned in her hair. Cousins played shepherds and Wise Men, all come to worship the infant King.





Soon the strains of “Silent Night” faded, and the reverence of the sacred story gave way to hugs, smiles, and compliments all around. To finish off the night, they enjoyed Mom’s warm cinnamon rolls. All too soon, the evening was over.

The boys again put on their coats, hats, and mittens to escort Sister Fuhriman across the road. The glow of the porch light pushed away the darkness, making their walk across the snow-packed country road pleasant in spite of the cold.

“Good night, Sister Fuhriman,” Greg called as he and his brothers turned back toward their house.

“Merry Christmas,” Sister Fuhriman called. “And thank you.”

Greg glanced over his shoulder just before he stepped back into his house. Sister Fuhriman was still on her porch, watching. She waved.

Some months went by, and the family moved to a different town. The following December, Greg came into the house carrying an envelope. “We got a letter from Sister Fuhriman,” he called. He tore it open and read:

“I will miss your family this Christmas. I don’t believe

I ever told you how much I enjoyed Christmas Eve in your home. I must tell you now what I did not tell you then.

“Some years before you moved into the house across the road from me, I had a dream. I could see your house, all lit up and glowing. When I awoke from that dream, I had the most wonderful, happy, peaceful feeling—something I had not experienced very often since my husband’s death.

“Months went by, and I forgot all about my dream. Then came your invitation for Christmas Eve. I had such a wonderful time sharing in your family celebration.

“After the boys walked me back home, I stood on my porch to make sure they returned home safely. Just then I noticed your house all aglow. It was the same picture I had seen in my dream years ago, and I had the very same feeling of peace. I just wanted

you to know how I appreciated you.”

As Greg read Sister Fuhriman’s words, he remembered the warmth he had felt that night. He was grateful his family had shared their celebration with Sister Fuhriman, bringing her Christmas comfort and joy. ●



President Gordon B. Hinckley,
“A Season for Gratitude,”
Ensign, Dec. 1997, 4.

“Christmas is more than trees and twinkling lights. . . . It is peace.”



Jesus Is Born

BY LOIS ANNE WILLIAMS

Christmas is coming.
It soon will be here.
News of Christ's birthday
Has filled us with cheer.
With joy we are singing—
Our songs fill the air.
Soft sounds are ringing
From chimes everywhere.
We are all happy
That Christmas is near.
Jesus is born, and we're
Glad He is here!





The Last Present

BY CHARMAYNE GUBLER WARNOCK

(Based on a true story)

God loveth a cheerful giver (2 Corinthians 9:7).

Thud! Kristi plopped down on the ice. For a moment, she sat looking at the skates she'd found in the attic. They were wrinkled, black, and three inches longer than her feet. Someday she would be a figure skater and sail across the rink in a glittering blue skirt. But right now all she had were old skates, a coat that was too small, and a patch of ice in the horse pasture.

"Hey, ballerina! Where did you get those ugly skates?"

Kristi looked up and saw her 17-year-old brother, Jake, sitting on the fence. She wondered how long he'd been watching her. "Go away!" she yelled.

"You should've seen your face, like you were a famous skater or something. Then—crash!" Jake laughed.

Kristi scrambled to her feet, slipping on the ice. "Just you wait. Someday I'll be famous."

Jake backed away from the fence, still grinning. "OK, OK. I believe you. But you'll need better skates."

That evening, Kristi told her mother that she wanted ice skates for Christmas.

Mother leaned over and hugged her. "We'll have a wonderful Christmas this year just because it's Christmas." She looked serious. "But try not to get

your hopes up about skates. What money we have has to buy things we need."

Still, Kristi hoped.

Three days before Christmas, she noticed a box under the tree without a name tag. It was shaped like a big shoe box. She knew it had to be skates! Kneeling under the tree, she picked it up and shook it.

Just then, Jake walked in. He smelled like hamburgers because he worked at a fast-food place after school. Quickly, Kristi set the box down.

"What are you doing?" he asked.

"Nothing," she said, trying to look innocent.

He had a funny look on his face. "You probably think . . ." he started to say.

"Think what?" Kristi asked.

"Nothing," he said.

On Christmas morning, Kristi sat by the tree while her father passed around the gifts. She got a new coat, socks, and a mystery book.

Kristi waited, watching the box with no name tag. Finally, her mother leaned over, picked it up, and handed it to Kristi's father. "Merry Christmas, Dear." She kissed him on the cheek. "You've needed these for a long time."

It was a pair of work boots.

Kristi bent her head over her new book, seeing just a blur of words. She wasn't going to cry and ruin everyone's Christmas.

The next day, Kristi went sledding with her friends. She wore her new coat and had so much fun she almost forgot that she had wanted skates. Later that afternoon she sat curled up in a chair reading her book when Jake came in the door. He was still wearing his work uniform and he smelled like french fries.

"I'm going to the store," he said. "Do you want to go with me?"

Surprised, Kristi closed her book. "OK."

Soon they were driving downtown in his old car. It stalled at a stoplight and people behind them honked while Jake restarted it. The car sputtered down the road to a sports equipment store.

"You have to come in and try them on," Jake said.

"Try what on?"

"Skates," he said. "I thought I'd get you some, since—"

"Skates?" Kristi cried. "Skates? Really?"

"Yeah," he said, scratching his ear.

They went inside and the salesman pulled out a box. Nestled in blue tissue paper were the skates, their silver blades shining. Kristi sniffed their newness and tried them on, balancing carefully on the blades.

When they got home, it was almost dark. But there was a full moon. "There's enough moonlight to go skating if you want," Jake said. He picked up the old black skates. "Maybe I'll skate too."

Together they walked out to the pasture. With trembling fingers, Kristi laced up her skates and stepped onto the ice. They were firm around her ankles. She glided across the ice and did a smooth turn, amazed at how much easier it was.

Jake put on the old skates and joined her. They skated a long time, sometimes falling down and laughing. Over by the fence, the horses watched.

"The horses probably think we're crazy," Jake said.

Kristi looked at the horses, then stopped to watch her tall brother as he wobbled across the ice. It was then she noticed his pants were too short, and his coat sleeves were frayed at the cuffs.

Kristi watched as Jake took long, awkward strides around the ice. "He could have gotten himself some clothes," she thought, "or maybe fixed his car." But he bought her skates. A warm feeling started in her chest and grew until she felt so warm she could almost take off her coat. Suddenly, Kristi wanted to do something kind for someone else. She wanted to be as kind to everyone as Jake was to her.

Kristi looked toward the fence where the horses were quiet and watching. "Do you want to know what the horses really think?" she asked Jake. "They think you're the best brother ever." ●



"Giving, not getting, brings to full bloom the Christmas spirit."

President Thomas S. Monson, First Counselor in the First Presidency, "Christmas Gifts, Christmas Blessings," Ensign, Dec. 1995, 2.



Funstuf

12 Days of Christmas Surprise

BY HILARY M. HENDRICKS

You can show your love to your parents with this fun surprise. To make this gift you will need:

Twelve envelopes

Twelve pieces of paper

Pens or colored pencils

1. Number the envelopes from 1 to 12 and decorate the envelopes with Christmas colors. Write "To Mom" or "To Dad" on each envelope.

2. Number each piece of paper 1 through 12.

3. On the first paper, write, "On the first day of Christmas, I'll show my love for you by _____." Fill in the blank with one thing you will do to help your parents, such as washing the dishes after one meal.

4. On the second paper, write, "On the second day of Christmas I'll show my love for you by _____." Fill in the blank with two things you will do to help your family, such as making two beds.

5. Write a similar message on each of the remaining papers. On the last paper, fill in the blank with 12 things you will do to help your family, such as putting 12 dishes in the dishwasher or baking 12 cookies. Put each paper in its envelope. Remember to sign your name on each piece of paper!

6. Twelve days before Christmas, hide the first envelope where your mom or dad will find it. Each day until Christmas, hide a new envelope and do the tasks you promised.

Hint: you could also team up with brothers and sisters to give this special gift to your parents. Your help will be one of the best presents your mom or dad will get this Christmas.

Nativity Figures and Facts





BY PAT GRAHAM



This matching game offers some interesting ideas about the figures of the Nativity. Most of the information is found in the scriptures. You can learn something new while you have fun playing this game with your family or friends.

Instructions: Glue the rectangles on heavy paper, and cut them out. Begin the game with the rectangles

spread out facedown. The first player turns over two rectangles. If the figure and the fact do not match, the rectangles are turned facedown again, and the next player takes a turn. If the figure and the fact match, the player reads the fact aloud, keeps the pair, and takes another turn. Play until all the rectangles are matched. The player with the most matches wins.

	<p>Star of Bethlehem</p> <p>The heavenly sign of Jesus's birth had been foretold by prophets in Israel and in the Americas. The Wise Men in the East knew the meaning of the star (see Matthew 2:1–2, 7, 9).</p>
	<p>Jesus</p> <p>The scriptures refer to Jesus by many names: Messiah, Redeemer, Savior, Jehovah, Firstborn, Good Shepherd, Lamb of God, Light of the World, Only Begotten Son, and Son of God. Can you name any others? (See Topical Guide, "Jesus Christ," 240; Guide to the Scriptures, "Jesus Christ," 127.)</p>
	<p>Mary</p> <p>Although Jesus's father was Heavenly Father, Jesus's birth fulfilled the prophecy that Jesus would be a descendant of King David, because Mary was a descendant of King David.¹</p>
	<p>Angels</p> <p>Angels appeared to Mary, Joseph, and shepherds (see Matthew 1:20; Luke 1:26–27; 2:8–9).</p>



Stable
 During this time, inns were rectangular with a courtyard in the center for animals. Because the rooms surrounding the courtyard were filled, Joseph may have cared for Mary's delivery in that center courtyard.²



Manger
 Joseph and Mary placed the baby Jesus in a manger probably filled with sweet straw (see Luke 2:7). Many artists have shown the Christmas manger as a wooden trough. But it may also have been carved from rock.³



Shepherds
 The work of a shepherd was to lead the sheep to food and to protect them. Often the shepherd slept at the entrance of the stone-enclosed sheepfold.⁴ Those who help with the Lord's work are like shepherds. Jesus asks them to feed His lambs and sheep (see John 21:15-17; D&C 112:14).



Joseph
 Joseph, the husband of Mary, was a noble, kind man. He was a carpenter. It is thought that he died before Jesus began His ministry.⁵



Wise Men
 The Wise Men came to worship the Savior. They did not go to the stable but to a house some time after Jesus was born.⁶ They received revelation not to report the whereabouts of the child to Herod but to return to their own country (see Matthew 2:12).

NOTES

1. See James E. Talmage, *Jesus the Christ*, 3rd ed. (1916), 86.
2. See Russell M. Nelson, "Christ the Savior Is Born," *New Era*, Dec. 2006, 4.
3. See Madeleine S. and J. Lane Miller, *Harper's Bible Dictionary*, 8th ed. (1973), "manger," 416.
4. See *Harper's Bible Dictionary*, "shepherd," 675.
5. See *Harper's Bible Dictionary*, "Joseph," 351.
6. See *Jesus the Christ*, 97-99.

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S T A S A T S
A T R T R T A
R R A A A R T
S T A R A T S
A R A A A A T
T T R T R T R
S R A S A R S

Star of Bethlehem

BY JOAN M. ERICKSON

How many times does the word “star” appear in the puzzle above? Circle each one.

I'm a Wise Man in the school pageant, and Sam's going to be my camel.



Why is it important to follow the prophet?



Elder Dieter F. Uchtdorf of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles shares some of his thoughts on this subject.

We have a living prophet on the face of the earth. He knows our challenges and fears.

Today, we have again apostles, seers, and revelators who are watchmen on the tower. God speaks to us through them.

The prophets speak to us in the name of the Lord and in plainness.

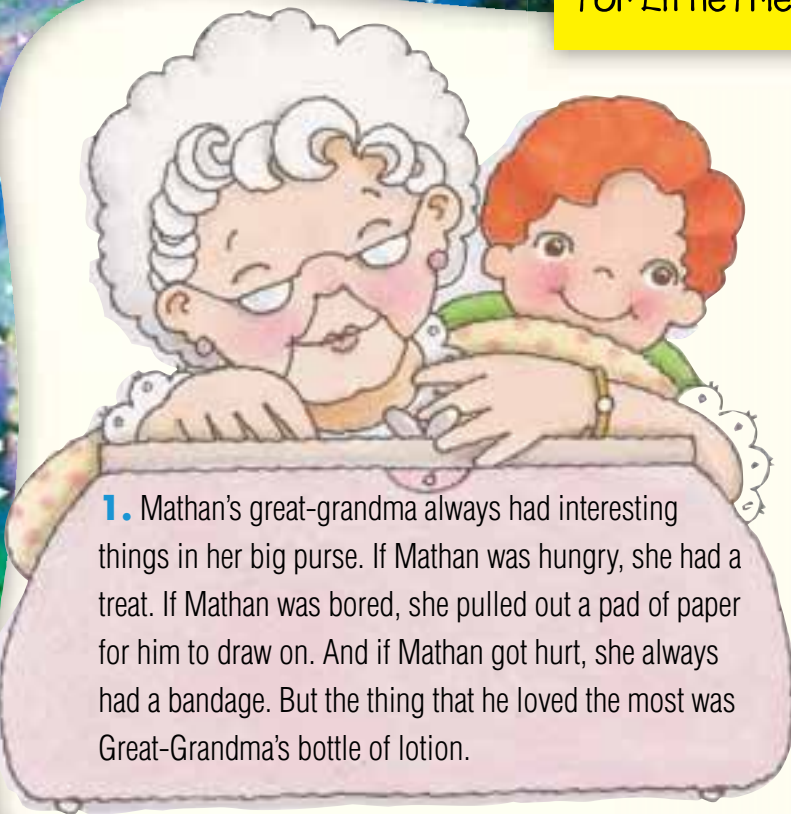
The Lord loves you; that is why He has given you the words of prophets to guide you on your journey through life.

Let us listen and be instructed and edified by those who hold all the keys of the kingdom.

Let us listen to the prophets of our days as they help us to focus on the things that are central to the Creator's plan for the eternal destiny of His children.



From "See the End from the Beginning," Ensign, May 2006, 44; "The Global Church Blessed by the Voice of the Prophets," Ensign, Nov. 2002, 12.



1. Mathan's great-grandma always had interesting things in her big purse. If Mathan was hungry, she had a treat. If Mathan was bored, she pulled out a pad of paper for him to draw on. And if Mathan got hurt, she always had a bandage. But the thing that he loved the most was Great-Grandma's bottle of lotion.

2. Great-Grandma often took out her lotion and rubbed it on her hands. She said it helped keep her hands smooth and soft. Mathan thought this was important because he knew that Great-Grandma did a lot with her hands. She made delicious grape jelly, she sewed soft baby blankets, and she played the piano.



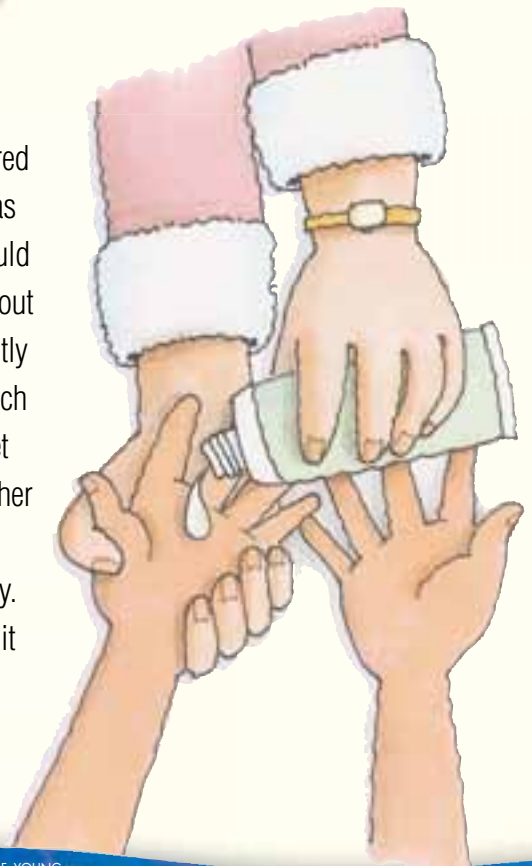
By love serve one another (Galatians 5:13).

Just What I Needed

BY SHEILA KINDRED
(Based on a true story)



3. Sometimes Great-Grandma shared her lotion with Mathan. When he was feeling restless or unhappy, she would take his hands in hers and squeeze out the cool lotion. Then she would gently rub it on his fingers, the backs of each hand, and then the palms. The sweet smell of the lotion and the touch of her soft hands made him feel calm and content. "There now," she would say. "That's just what you needed." And it was just what Mathan needed.





4. Over time, Great-Grandma got very old. She couldn't make jelly or sew blankets or play the piano. She no longer carried her big purse full of treats, pads of paper, bandages, and lotion. Most of the time she didn't even look at Mathan. She just sat in her wheelchair with her hands in her lap. Mathan thought she looked unhappy and tired. It made him feel sad.

5. One day when Mathan went to visit Great-Grandma, he brought a bottle of lotion with him. While she was sitting in her wheelchair, Mathan gently took her wrinkled hands in his and squeezed out the cool lotion. He gently rubbed it on her fingers, the backs of her hands, and then the palms.



6. When Mathan was finished with her hands, he carefully removed her slippers and rubbed the lotion on her feet. After he replaced her slippers he looked up to see Great-Grandma's bright blue eyes looking at him. "Thank you, Mathan," she whispered. "That's just what I needed."



Jesus Was Born in a Stable

When Joseph and Mary arrived in Bethlehem, they could not find a place to stay. After they found no room in the inns, someone offered to let them stay in a stable. Help Joseph and Mary find the stable, then color the picture.



When I Think of Baby Jesus

BY CINDY J. NEWELL



When I think of baby Jesus
(Hold arms as if cradling a baby)



Sleeping in the hay,
(Rest head on hands)



I think of angels singing,
(Open mouth as if singing)



Of stars in heaven twinkling,
(Stretch arms overhead and wiggle fingers)

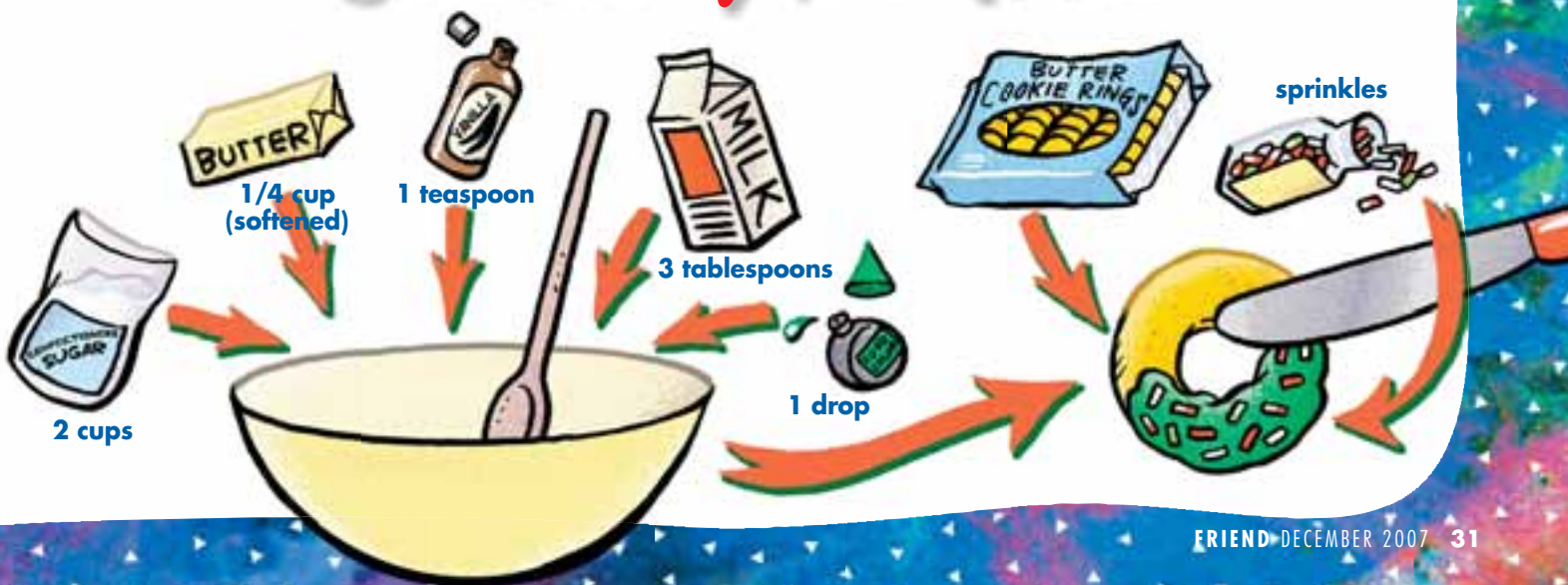


Of shepherds, Wise Men hasting
(Swing bent arms in running motion)



To give thanks for Christmas Day.
(Fold arms and bow head as if in prayer)

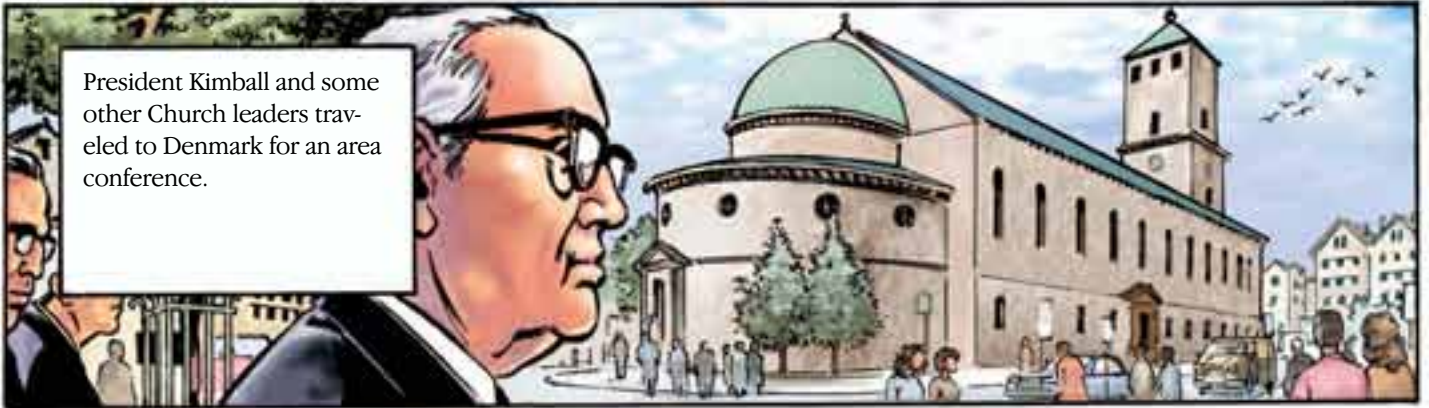
Cookie Wreaths





FROM THE LIFE OF PRESIDENT SPENCER W. KIMBALL

Holding Priesthood Keys

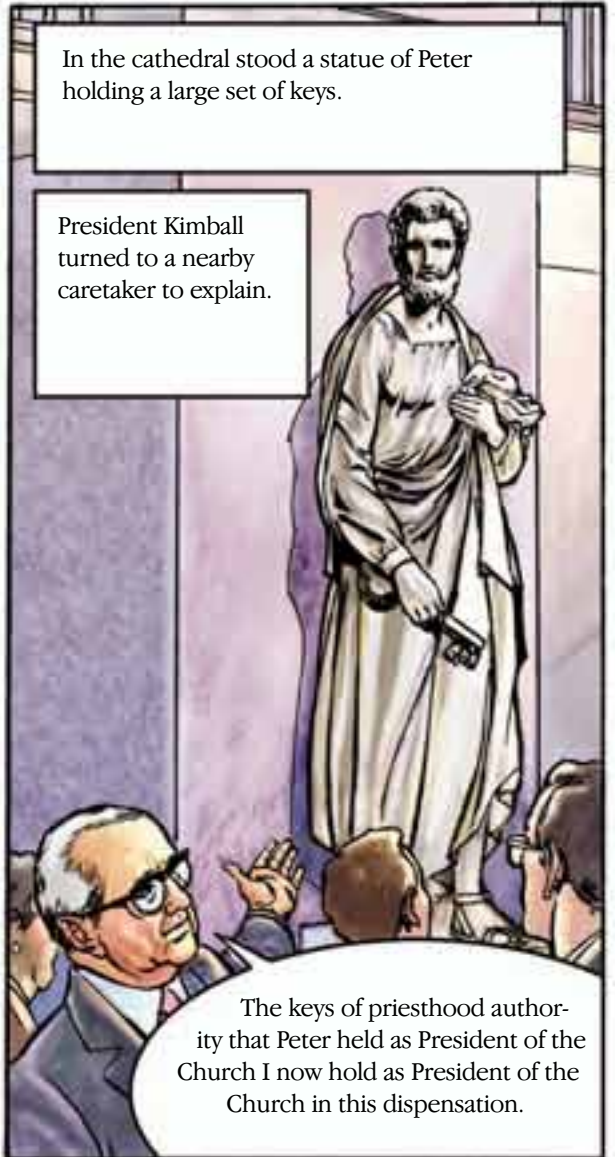


President Kimball and some other Church leaders traveled to Denmark for an area conference.



While there, they visited a cathedral to see Thorvaldsen's original famous sculpture, the *Christus*.

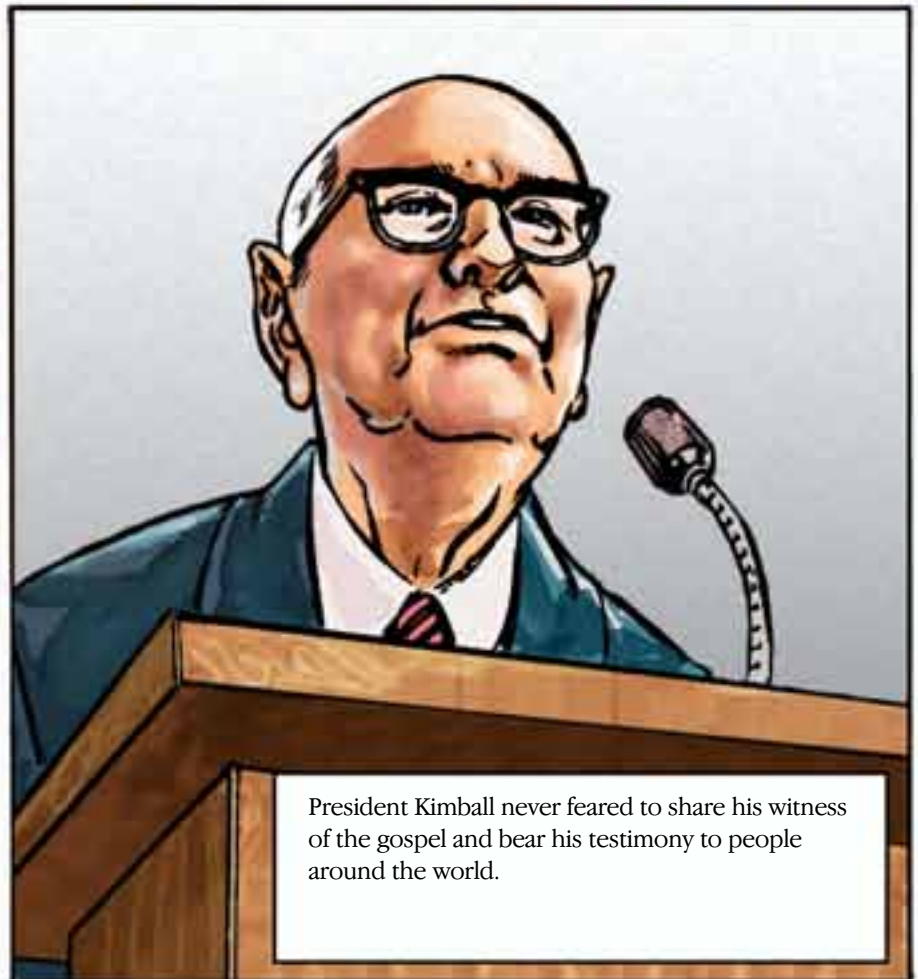
Isn't it beautiful?




In the cathedral stood a statue of Peter holding a large set of keys.

President Kimball turned to a nearby caretaker to explain.

The keys of priesthood authority that Peter held as President of the Church I now hold as President of the Church in this dispensation.





All saints who remember to keep and do these sayings . . . shall receive health in their navel and marrow to their bones
(D&C 89:18).

The Hot Chocolate Mishap

BY MELANIE MARKS

(Based on a true story)

It was cold! Nicole and her friends hurried into the busy café to warm up for a few minutes. As they stood inside, Nicole glanced at the menu.

“I’m going to get some hot chocolate,” she said.

“Me too,” Beth said.

Audrey looked at her watch, and Heather said, “We don’t have much time. Remember, my mom is picking us up at two o’clock.”

Nicole looked at the long line. It would sure be nice to have a cup of hot chocolate to keep her warm while they finished their Christmas shopping. “Beth and I will meet you in the clothing store next door,” she told Heather. “We won’t take long.”

Heather and Audrey left, and Beth and Nicole got in line.

“Look, they have French vanilla,” Beth said, pointing at the menu.

Nicole’s eyes brightened. “Yum! I love French vanilla hot chocolate.” But then she frowned, a little uncertain. “It doesn’t say French vanilla *hot chocolate*,” she said. “It just says French vanilla.” She bit her lip. “Isn’t there a French vanilla *coffee* too?”

Beth shrugged. When it was Nicole’s turn to order, she asked the employee about it, just in case.

“It’s hot chocolate,” the lady behind the counter assured her.

“Great!” Nicole said. “I’ll have a large French vanilla.”

Beth ordered one too, and they left the café. When they met up with Heather and Audrey, Nicole sniffed her steaming cup. She gasped. “I think this is French vanilla coffee!”

Beth took a sip. “I think so too. But oh well. It’s nice and hot. I’m getting all warmed up.”

“But it’s coffee!”

“So?”

Nicole told her friend, “I belong to The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. I’m not supposed to drink coffee.”

“You can drink coffee this one time,” Heather said impatiently. “You don’t have to be perfect every second

of the day. We won't tell anyone. Just come on. We need to hurry."

Nicole could see that the line in the café was now even longer, and they didn't have much time left to shop. But she knew what she needed to do. "I'm going to exchange this for hot chocolate," she said firmly. "You guys go ahead. I'll meet you at the toy store."

She started to walk away alone, but Audrey caught up to her. "I'll wait with you," she said. Audrey was a Latter-day Saint too.

As the girls stood in line, Audrey said, "I'm glad you didn't drink the coffee."

Nicole smiled. "Me too."

When Nicole explained to the lady behind the counter that the drink was actually coffee, the lady apologized and exchanged it for hot chocolate. Then Nicole and Audrey hurried through the cold to catch up with their friends. Nicole felt warm inside, but not just from the hot chocolate. She knew she had chosen the right. Despite what her friends had said about no one ever knowing, Heavenly Father knew. And she felt He would be proud of her. ●



"Distinguish yourself from worldly crowds. . . . Choose to be different; you will be blessed both physically and spiritually."

Elder Russell M. Nelson of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, "Addiction or Freedom," *Ensign*, Nov. 1988, 8.

Friends in the News



Spencer and McKay J., 8 and 8, Utah, are twin brothers. Their older brothers, Adam and Jared, are twins too! Spencer and McKay were baptized by their older brothers. They're grateful to have such a wonderful memory to share.



Ethan Wade R., 7, Poland, is imaginative and enjoys drawing, riding his bike, and playing with his friends. His favorite Primary song is "Book of Mormon Stories." He can't wait to be baptized soon!



Celine Lizabeth L., 8, California, says, "I love reading the *Friend* magazine. I shared most of the stories with my teacher and friends at school." She likes going to church and attending Primary to listen to the sharing time lessons and sing Primary songs.



Joshua C., 11, Illinois, enjoys playing soccer, baseball, video games, and the piano. He enjoys playing with his cousins and loves his little brother. His family was sealed in the Nauvoo Illinois Temple.



Julianna S., 4, Texas, likes to sing all the Primary songs and read the scriptures with her family. She is starting to read some words on her own. She has learned what CTR means, and she tries to choose the right each day.



Northpoint Ward

Sunbeams from the Northpoint Ward, Mesa Arizona Alta Mesa Stake, had a great year learning about Jesus Christ. They enjoy going to church and Primary each Sunday. One of their favorite activities is reading the stories in the *Friend*.



Gabriel, Natalie, and Elisabeth J., 5, 9, and 3, Colorado, have nicknames—Gabe, Natty, and Ellie. Ellie likes praying and looking at books. Natty enjoys memorizing the Articles of Faith and playing her clarinet. Gabe enjoys hitting a baseball, rock-wall climbing, and visiting the Oregon coast.



Dallin N., 3, Alaska, enjoys dressing up as his favorite hero characters. His favorite scripture hero is Nephi. Dallin likes to fish for salmon and halibut with his dad and go four-wheeling. He loves his little brother, Aaron.

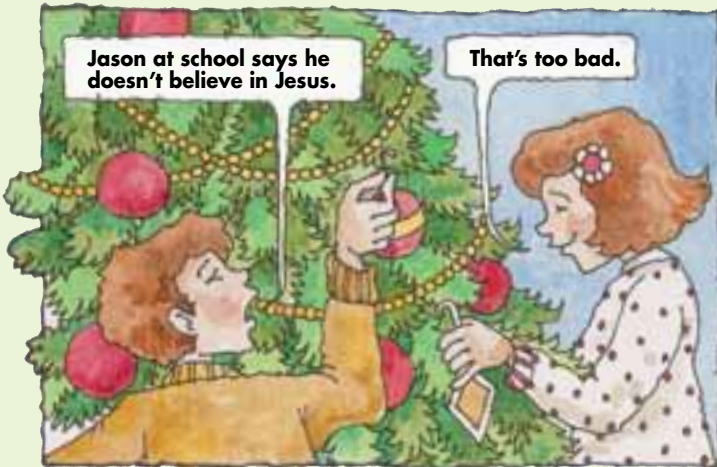


Brigham City 24th Ward

Activity day girls of the Brigham City 24th Ward, Brigham City Utah Stake, learned how to knit hats using a loom. All summer they made hats. Meanwhile, they practiced playing Christmas songs on chimes. At Christmastime, they donated 80 hats to the Church to help those in need, and they presented their musical Christmas program at local nursing homes. The girls felt good about spreading Christmas cheer and helping others.



MATT AND Mandy



Jason at school says he doesn't believe in Jesus.

That's too bad.



But his family still has Christmas. They put up a tree and have decorations and gifts and even sing carols.

Well, that's good, I guess.



But he says it's just a fun holiday. He says I'm silly to really believe.

That's not so good.



Mandy, Christmas is my very most favorite day of the year.

Mine too.



But I'd rather have Jesus without Christmas than Christmas without Jesus.

So would I.

So cheer up! We get to have both!



That's why Christmas is my favorite day.

Come to Bethlehem

Joyfully ♩ = 84 96

Words: Mabel Jones Gabbott
Music: Michael F. Moody

1. O let us go, the shep-herds said, to Beth - le - hem, to Beth - le - hem. The
let us come all men to - day to wor - ship Je - sus, Lord and King, To
let us come, let each one come to Je - sus Christ to wor - ship Him. For

Child is born, the Christ is come; O let us go and wor - ship Him.
bring the Babe of Beth - le - hem our faith, our love, our songs to sing.
then will heav - en come to earth and crown the Bahe of Beth - le - hem.



To Beth - le-hem, to Beth - le-hem, The Child is born, the Christ is come, To

Beth - le-hem, to Beth - le-hem, Now let us come and wor - ship Him. 2. 0
3. 0

Him. Now let us come and wor - ship Him.

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Our Creative Friends

lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest,

My Hero

There once lived a person who I really do love.
 He does not live on earth; He lives up above.
 He was born as a baby like you and me.
 He was born in Bethlehem. His mother was Mary.
 He lived in a land that is far, far away.
 Wherever He went, people wanted Him to stay.
 He loved all people, both young and old.
 They loved hearing the stories He told.
 He performed lots of miracles, like making blind people see.
 He made lame men walk and cured others' leprosy.
 The foolish men thought the things He did were wrong.
 He was too perfect for this world. He did not stay long.
 He has shown me how to be good.
 I am trying to do all that I should.
 By the way I live, I am able to show
 That Jesus Christ is my hero!

Emma B., age 9, Virginia

My Season

My season's filled with whipping snowstorms all around,
 Very frosty with quiet hissing sounds.
 My season's for skiing and sledding galore.
 Add some snowboards—it's a holiday roar.
 My season's for sipping hot chocolate that's boiling
 When coming in from frosty snow toiling.
 My season's for shivering in 0 degrees
 While mothers beg their kids to come in, please.
 My season's a time for buying windshield ice scrapers,
 Peeling off sheets of thin frosty ice paper.
 My season's for yelling, "Look out for that tree!"
 While on their sled, shouting with glee.
 My season's for buying presents and wrapping paper with deer,
 Always remembering true holiday cheer.
 If you don't like my season, I'm telling you guys,
 What is better than a starry winter sky?

Jonah S., age 12, Colorado

Drawings

- 1 *Vanessa M., age 8, Virginia*
- 2 *Patrick W., age 11, Arkansas*
- 3 *Sarah H., age 6, Idaho*
- 4 *Erin D., age 11, Texas*
- 5 *Caroline C., age 7, Idaho*
- 6 *Jacob L., age 7, Missouri*
- 7 *Mary Eliza B., age 7, Washington*
- 8 *Chloe B., age 6, Nova Scotia, Canada*
- 9 *Adam A., age 10, Nebraska*
- 10 *Breyden H., age 10, Montana*
- 11 *Tyler R., age 7, Utah*
- 12 *Jacob M., age 9, Ohio*
- 13 *Tembi A. P., age 11, Utah*
- 14 *Ellie M., age 8, California*
- 15 *Parker W., age 11, Kentucky*

4



5



Christmas

Here comes Christmas. It is near.
 My dad wants a great big reindeer.
 Sister wants a doll for her pocket.
 My brother wants a flying rocket.
 My mom wants a stamping set.
 But most importantly yet—
 I want a Book of Mormon set.

Justin W., age 10, Wisconsin

Christmastime

Snow is falling, falling to the ground,
 Lightly sprinkling white specks all around.
 Merrily, joyously, the children are singing.
 Do you, do you hear sleigh bells ringing?
 Carolers strolling, singing down the street;
 The time of year no one nor anything can beat.
 Love, joy, and happiness we'll gain.
 Christmas, Christmastime is here again.

Taylor J., age 10, Utah



them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you



CHRISTMAS

STAINED GLASS WINDOW CARD

BY D. A. STONE

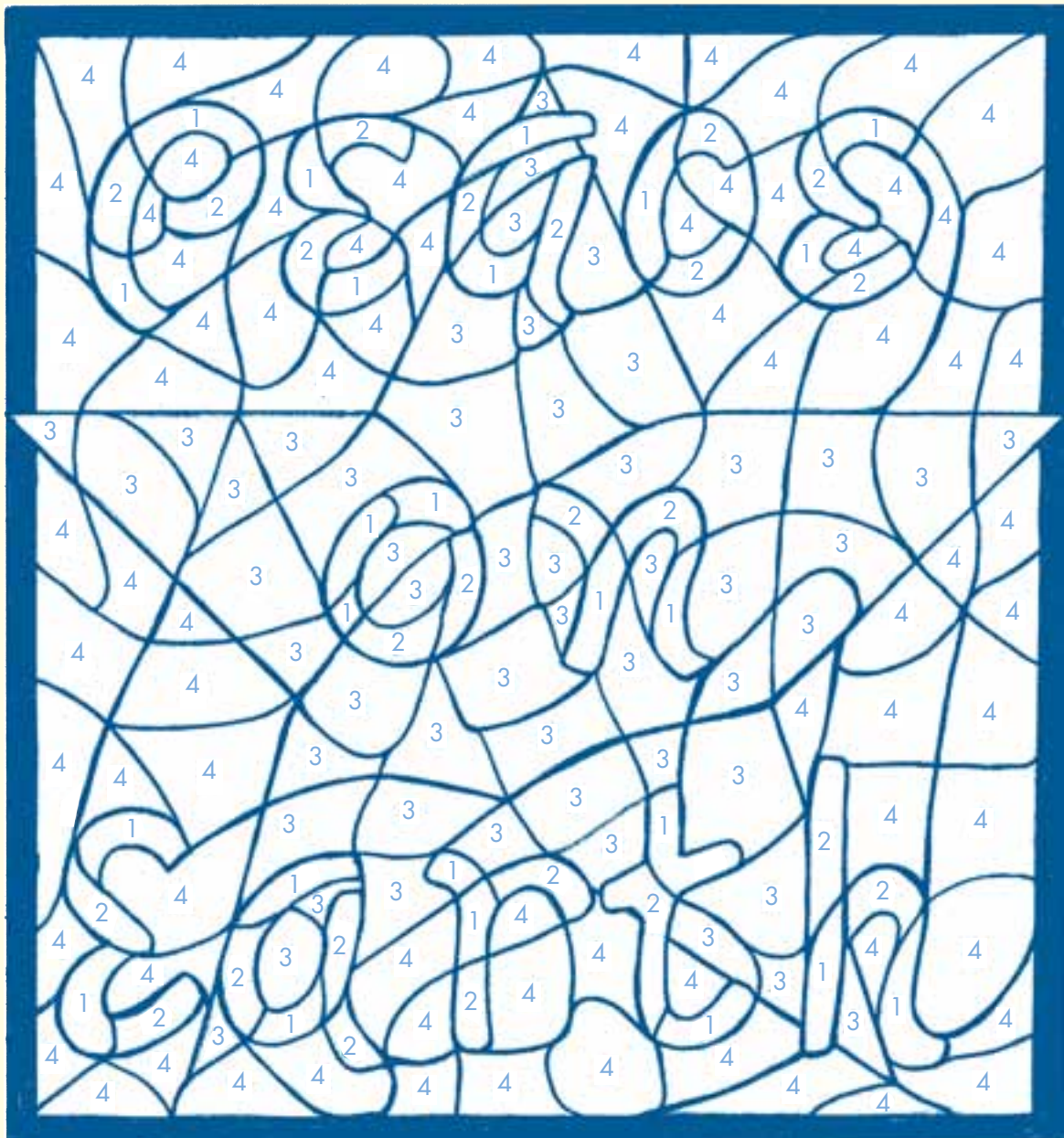
To make a Christmas card, you will need: red, green, yellow, and blue crayons, pencils, or markers;

scissors; glue; and an 8 1/2 x 11-inch (22 x 28-cm) piece of heavy paper.

1. Color the stained glass window using the following key:

1 = red, 2 = green, 3 = yellow, 4 = blue.

2. Cut out the window. Glue it to the heavy paper, leaving room at the bottom to write a message and sign your card.





HOT BUTTERSCOTCH DRINK

BY RONDA GIBB HINRICHSEN

- 2 cups milk
- 1/4 cup butterscotch chips
- Optional: whipped cream or marshmallow cream

1. Place 2 tablespoons of the milk and all the butterscotch chips in a saucepan. Stirring frequently, cook over low heat until the chips are melted.



2. Gradually stir in the remaining milk and heat to desired temperature. (If the mixture becomes lumpy, mix in a blender before serving.)

3. Add whipped cream or marshmallow cream if desired.

Makes 2 servings.

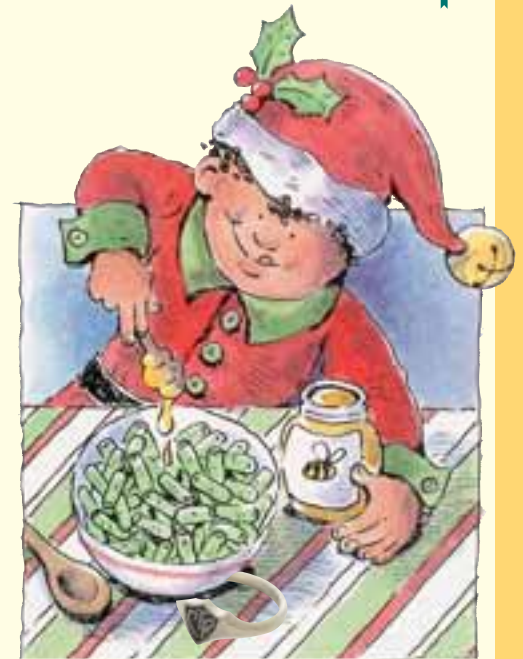
ILLUSTRATIONS BY ELISE BLACK

CHRISTMAS GREEN BEANS

- 1 package (16 ounces/454 g) frozen green beans
- 1 1/2 tablespoons honey
- 1/3 cup dried cranberries

1. Follow the package directions to cook the green beans, then drain.
2. Drizzle the honey over the green beans, add the cranberries, and gently toss.

Makes 4 servings.



SURPRISE SNOWBALLS

- 1/2 pound (227 g) semisweet chocolate
- 1/2 cup heavy cream
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 1/2 cup confectioners' sugar

1. Chop the chocolate into fine pieces. Place the pieces in a medium-sized bowl.

2. Pour the cream into a small saucepan and bring to a full boil over low heat.

3. Add the cream to the chocolate pieces, cover the bowl with aluminum foil, and let stand 5 minutes.

4. Use a wire whisk to blend the mixture until smooth. Mix in the vanilla.

5. Gently press plastic wrap on the surface of the chocolate. Refrigerate until the chocolate is firm but not hard, about 30-60 minutes.

6. Cover a cookie sheet with waxed paper. Make individual

1/2-inch balls by rolling a teaspoonful of the mixture in the palms of your hands. (Cold hands work best.) Place the balls on the waxed paper.

7. Roll the balls in the powdered sugar. Store in the refrigerator. Makes about 24.



Friend Index 2007



January



February



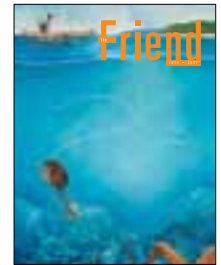
March



April



May



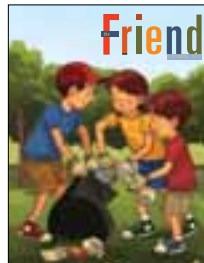
June



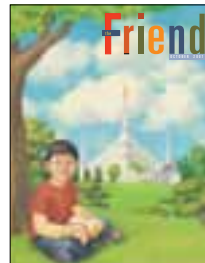
July



August



September



October



November



December

Key:

- (FF) Friend to Friend
- IBC inside back cover
- IFC inside front cover
- (m) music
- (p) poster
- (PV) Come Listen to a Prophet's Voice
- (ST) Sharing Time

A

Aaron and the Relief Society, *Lisa Passey Boynton*, Mar, 40
 All Clean, *Darlene Young*, Sept, 20
 All Kinds of Cake, *Jane McBride Choate*, June, 42
 All Kinds of Heroes, *Jane McBride Choate*, May, 18
 Anderson, Sharon Price
 July Jubilee, July, 17
 Answer, The, *Debra B. Nance*, Nov, 34
 APOSTLES. *See also* SPECIAL WITNESS
 President James E. Faust (1920–2007), Oct, 4
 They Spoke to Us, June, 23; Dec, 11
 As Joseph Did, *Tara Wade*, May, 7
 ATONEMENT. *See* PLAN OF SALVATION

B

BAPTISM
 All Clean, *Darlene Young*, Sept, 20
 Coloring Page, June, 33
 Invitation to a Baptism, *Marianne Sorensen Lemon*, Oct, 32
 Jacob's Testimony, *Leslie Neilson*, Feb, 46
 Luke's Best Birthday, *Dawn Nelson*, June, 4
 Be More Forgiving (PV), *Gordon B. Hinckley*, Mar, 2
 Be Not Afraid (ST), *Elizabeth Ricks*, Jan, 46
 Being a Leader, Aug, 38
 Being Smart, *Kelly Corless*, Feb, 34

Best Friends: Blake Waters of Pikeville, North Carolina, *Julie Wardell*, Feb, 40
 Best of Show, *Karlon A. Steele*, Jan, 28
 Bickel, Susan
 Share God's Love, Sept, 7
 Blessings of the Temple, Paul E. Koelliker (FF), *Heather Kirby*, July, 6
 BOOK OF MORMON. *See also* SCRIPTURES
 Five Little Nephites, *Elizabeth Giles*, May, 34
 Real Hero, A, *Marianne Sorensen Lemon*, July, 46
 BOOK REVIEWS
 May, 22; Nov, 22
 Boynton, Lisa Passey
 Aaron and the Relief Society, Mar, 40
 Bridges, Angi
 Changing Places, June, 34
 Budge, Vicki H.
 Helping Kevin, July, 18
 Honest Morgan, Mar, 27
 Burton, Allison Lee
 Cannon's Commitment, Mar, 10
 Buys, Callie
 Holy Ghost Is Real, The, Craig A. Cardon (FF), Dec, 8
 Listen to the Prophet, Apr, 7
 Mother's Influence, A, Carlos H. Amado (FF), Apr, 8
 Prayer and Work, Neil L. Andersen (FF), Nov, 8
 Small Things, Dennis B. Neuenschwander (FF), Aug, 8

C

Camilla, a Cherished Companion, Nov, 42
 Campbell, Kersten
 Language Lesson, Sept, 46
 Cannon's Commitment, *Allison Lee Burton*, Mar, 10
 Caring and Sharing: Melissa Isabel Gallardo Truman of Springvale, Victoria, Australia, *Julie Wardell*, May, 46
 Caught in the Act, *Dawnell Griffin*, June, 20
 Changing Places, *Angi Bridges*, June, 34
 CHILD OF GOD
 Child of God with Wrinkles, A, *Jane McBride Choate*, Feb, 30
 Never Give Up (PV), *Thomas S. Monson*, Jan, 2
 What's the Difference? *Jennifer Rose*, Sept, 16
 Child of God with Wrinkles, A, *Jane McBride Choate*, Feb, 30
 Choate, Jane McBride
 All Kinds of Cake, June, 42

All Kinds of Heroes, May, 18
 Child of God with Wrinkles, A, Feb, 30
 Friends through Fire, Aug, 46
 Helping Trisha, Apr, 32
 It Is Enough, July, 4
 Nine Lepers and a Thank-You Note, Nov, 46
 Promise Kept, A, Mar, 44
 CHOOSE THE RIGHT. *See also* FRIENDS BY MAIL and TRYING TO BE LIKE JESUS
 Being a Leader, Aug, 38
 Don't Be Afraid to Be Different (PV), *James E. Faust*, May, 2
 Following Jesus, *Maryalice Wallis*, Jan, 15
 Help from the Holy Ghost, *Erin Renouf Mylroie*, Aug, 27
 Honest Morgan, *Vicki H. Budge*, Mar, 27
 I'll Follow Him in Faith (p), Jan, insert
 Live without Regret, Richard G. Hinckley (FF), *Hilary M. Hendricks*, Feb, 8
 Right Way Home, The, *Mary Ann Snowball*, Mar, 13
 Special Witness: Elder David A. Bednar, July, 43
 Standing Up for Molly, *Julie C. Donaldson*, Oct, 38
 Too Old for Primary, *Rebecca Wilkinson*, Nov, 28
 Try, Try, Try (ST), *Elizabeth Ricks*, Mar, 14
 Choosing Kindness, Paul V. Johnson (FF), *Hilary Hendricks*, Jan, 8
 CHRISTMAS. *See* December issue
 Christmas Workshop, Dec, 42
 Christmas Visitor, A, *Gwen S. Jones*, Dec, 16
 CHURCH HISTORY. *See also* FROM THE LIFE OF PRESIDENT SPENCER W. KIMBALL and SMITH, JOSEPH
 Coloring Page, May, 27
 Do You Know the Smith Family? *Amie Jane Leavitt*, June, 26
 Gathering to Zion, July, 24, 28
 Restoration (ST), *Elizabeth Ricks*, May, 14
 Clara Christensen of Keewatin, Ontario, Canada, *Melvin Leavitt*, Apr, 28
 COME LISTEN TO A PROPHET'S VOICE
 Be More Forgiving, *Gordon B. Hinckley*, Mar, 2
 Courage in a Cornfield, *James E. Faust*, July, 2
 Deadly Maka-fekes, *Thomas S. Monson*, June, 2
 Don't Be Afraid to Be Different, *James E. Faust*, May, 2
 Empty Cart, The, *James E. Faust*, Oct, 2
 Five Little Fish, *Gordon B. Hinckley*, Nov, 2
 Following a Prophet, *Gordon B. Hinckley*, Aug, 2
 Joy Cometh in the Morning, *Thomas S. Monson*, Apr, 2
 Never Give Up, *Thomas S. Monson*, Jan, 2

Sacred Ground, *Thomas S. Monson*, Sept, 2
Sacred Light, A, *James E. Faust*, Feb, 2
Come to Bethlehem (m), *Mabel Jones Gabbott and Michael F. Moody*, Dec, 38
CONFIRMATION. See BAPTISM
Colorless, Kelly
Being Smart, Feb, 34
COURAGE
Courage in a Cornfield (PV), *James E. Faust*, July, 2
Standing Up for Faith, *Valynn Grant Woolley*, May, 38
Courage in a Cornfield (PV), *James E. Faust*, July, 2
COVENANTS. See PROMISES, BAPTISM, and TEMPLES
CREATION. See also PLAN OF SALVATION
Creation, The, Feb, 32
God's Love, *Elsie Palmer*, Feb, 7

D
Day, Ruth Kathryn
Who Is My Neighbor? Aug, 42
Deadly Maka-fekes (PV), *Thomas S. Monson*, June, 2
DEATH
Joy Cometh in the Morning (PV), *Thomas S. Monson*, Apr, 2
Decker, Meghan
Ready to Go! July, 8
Denney, Susan
Jake's Miracle, Oct, 16
DISABILITIES
Helping Trisha, *Jane McBride Choate*, Apr, 32
Go, Jag! Jaganath Martin of Riverton, Utah, *Erica Hammon*, July, 40
Treat Others Kindly: Jason Alford of Huntsville, Alabama, *Richard M. Romney*, Mar, 18
Donaldson, Julie C.
Standing Up for Molly, Oct, 38
Don't Be Afraid to Be Different (PV), *James E. Faust*, May, 2
Dyck, Myra Hawke
Miraculous Escape from Danger, A, June, 10

E
EASTER. See April issue
EDUCATION. See WISDOM
Ellison, Wendy
Tanner and the Happy Dance, Sept, 30
Empty Cart, The (PV), *James E. Faust*, Oct, 2
EXAMPLE. See also TRYING TO BE LIKE JESUS
All Kinds of Heroes, *Jane McBride Choate*, May, 18
Jacob's Testimony, *Leslie Neilson*, Feb, 46
Kindness, Won Yong Ko (FF), *Melvin Leavitt*, June, 8
Missionary Friends, Gary J. Coleman (FF), *Hilary M. Hendricks*, Mar, 8
Power of Example, The, June, 14
Spencer's Mother, May, 44

F
FAITH
Be Not Afraid (ST), *Elizabeth Ricks*, Jan, 46
Coloring Page, Jan, 41; Feb, 37; Mar, 48; Apr, 31; July, 21; Aug, 21
Family Faith (ST), *Elizabeth Ricks*, July, 14
Growing Faith, *Briney Rule*, Mar, 7
I Have Faith in the Lord, Jesus Christ (m), *Janice Kapp Perry*, Oct, 21
I'll Follow Him in Faith (p), Jan, insert
I'll Follow Him in Faith (ST), *Elizabeth Ricks*, Feb, 14
I'm Here, *Patricia R. Jones*, May, 28
Manna for Mother, *Kimberly Webb*, July, 32
Opposite of Fear, The, *Patricia R. Jones*, Jan, 18
Special Witness: Elder Joseph B. Wirthlin, Jan, 31
Special Witness: Elder Robert D. Hales, Sept, 19
Women of Faith, John B. Dickson (FF), *Hilary M. Hendricks*, May, 8

FAMILY
Best Friends: Blake Waters of Pikeville, North Carolina, *Julie Wardell*, Feb, 40
Camilla, a Cherished Companion, Nov, 42
Caring and Sharing: Melissa Isabel Gallardo Truman of Springvale, Victoria, Australia, *Julie Wardell*, May, 46
Changing Places, *Angi Bridges*, June, 34
Coloring Page, July, 21
Counting on Family, *Miriam A. Roberts*, July, 36
Family Faith (ST), *Elizabeth Ricks*, July, 14
Family Love, *Pat Graham*, July, 39
Funny and Faithful: Dexter and Quinlan Mann of Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, *Melvin Leavitt*, June, 30
Growing in Faith: Yondonjants of Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, *Don L. Searle and Julie Wardell*, Oct, 18
In a Good Place: Naomi Hug of Münchenstein, Switzerland, *Kimberly Webb*, Jan, 20

In the Footsteps of My Dad, *Jeannie Saunders Smedley*, June, 7
Magic Doors: The Kearyl Family of Calgary, Alberta, Canada, *Melvin Leavitt*, Nov, 18
Mother's Influence, A, Carlos H. Amado (FF), *Callie Buys*, Apr, 8
Small Branch on the Big Prairie: Alex Spencer of Ituna, Saskatchewan, Canada, *Melvin Leavitt*, Sept, 38
Special Witness: Elder L. Tom Perry, Oct, 41
Family Faith (ST), *Elizabeth Ricks*, July, 14

FAMILY HISTORY
Jump into Journaling: Nicole Antúnez of Santiago, Chile, *Adam C. Olson*, Aug, 14
FAMILY HOME EVENING. See also GUIDE TO THE FRIEND
Following a Prophet (PV), *Gordon B. Hinckley*, Aug, 2
FASTING
Jake's Miracle, *Susan Denney*, Oct, 16
FAUST, JAMES E.
President James E. Faust (1920–2007), Oct, 4
Faust, James E.
Courage in a Cornfield (PV), July, 2
Don't Be Afraid to Be Different (PV), May, 2
Empty Cart, The (PV), Oct, 2
Sacred Light, A (PV), Feb, 2

FEAR. See FAITH
Fielding, Geraldine T.
Most Unusual, Quite Remarkable, One-of-a-Kind Christmas Stocking, The, Dec, 4
Finding the Sheep, *Patricia R. Jones*, Feb, 4
First Presidency, The
Savior Is Born, The, Dec, 2
Five Little Fish (PV), *Gordon B. Hinckley*, Nov, 2
Following a Prophet (PV), *Gordon B. Hinckley*, Aug, 2
FORGIVENESS
Be More Forgiving (PV), *Gordon B. Hinckley*, Mar, 2
Friendship Bracelets, *Jennifer Rose*, Mar, 4

FRIEND TO FRIEND
Blessings of the Temple, Paul E. Koelliker, *Heather Kirby*, July, 6
Choosing Kindness, Paul V. Johnson, *Hilary Hendricks*, Jan, 8
Glory of God Is Intelligence, The, David A. Bednar, *Kimberly Webb*, Oct, 6
Holy Ghost Is Real, The, Craig A. Cardon, *Callie Buys*, Dec, 8
Kindness, Won Yong Ko, *Melvin Leavitt*, June, 8
Live without Regret, Richard G. Hinckley, *Hilary M. Hendricks*, Feb, 8
Missionary Friends, Gary J. Coleman, *Hilary M. Hendricks*, Mar, 8
Mother's Influence, A, Carlos H. Amado, *Callie Buys*, Apr, 8
Prayer and Work, Neil L. Andersen, *Callie Buys*, Nov, 8
Small Things, Dennis B. Neuenschwander, *Callie Buys*, Aug, 8
Truckload of Saints, A, Benjamin De Hoyos, *Melvin Leavitt*, Sept, 8
Women of Faith, John B. Dickson, *Hilary M. Hendricks*, May, 8

FRIENDS BY MAIL
Baptism Doll and Beyond, June, IFC
Biking Prayer, Nov, IFC
Birthday Visit, Mar, IFC
Black Widow Warning, Dec, IFC
Christmas, Dec, IFC
Easter Prayer, May, IFC
Facing Fears, Jan, IFC
Following Kayla and the Spirit, Nov, IFC
Force Field from Heaven, Feb, IFC
Friend First Aid, Sept, IFC
Friendly Gift, A, May, IFC
Friendly Medicine, Oct, IFC
Grateful for Primary Songs, Aug, IFC
Heavenly Father Helped Me, Apr, IFC
I Know Jesus Christ Helps Us, July, IFC
I Love the Friend, June, IFC
I Love the Friend, May, IFC
Jesus's Atonement, Oct, IFC
Ladybug Lesson, Apr, IFC
Lessons from My Pet Goat, June, IFC
My Baptism, Nov, IFC
My First Family Fast, Oct, IFC
Never Alone, Aug, IFC
Prayer for Help, A, Mar, IFC
Praying for Dad, July, IFC
President Hinckley, Oct, IFC
Razor, The, Mar, IFC
Reading the Book of Mormon: A Talk, Feb, IFC
Runaway Horse, Sept, IFC
Sacrament Bread, Aug, IFC
Snake and a Prayer, A, Apr, IFC
Snowy Night, The, Dec, IFC

Stop Sign, Jan, IFC
Sunburn Medicine, July, IFC
Temple Goal, Jan, IFC
Temple Testimony, Jan, IFC
Three Wonderful Letters, Sept, IFC
Together in Primary, May, IFC
FRIENDS IN THE NEWS
Jan, 36; Feb, 18; Mar, 38; Apr, 34; May, 42; June, 46; July, 12; Aug, 40; Sept, 42; Nov, 40; Dec, 36
Friends through Fire, *Jane McBride Choate*, Aug, 46
FRIENDSHIP. See LOVE AND KINDNESS
Friendship Bracelets, *Jennifer Rose*, Mar, 4
FROM THE LIFE OF PRESIDENT SPENCER W. KIMBALL
Being a Leader, Aug, 38
Camilla, a Cherished Companion, Nov, 42
Holding Priesthood Keys, Dec, 32
Overcoming Challenges, Oct, 42
Playing the Piano, Apr, 42
Power of Example, The, June, 14
Reading the Bible, Mar, 30
Rescued! Feb, 38
Resist Evil Influences, July, 44
Simple Act of Service, A, Sept, 44
Spencer's Mother, May, 44
Working on a Farm, Jan, 10
Funny and Faithful: Dexter and Quinlan Mann of Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, *Melvin Leavitt*, June, 30
FUNSTUF
Jan, 15, 23; Feb, 23, 26; Mar, 7, 26; Apr, 17, 26; May, 13, 26; June, 26, 48; July, 26, 35; Aug, 23, 26, 37; Sept, 23, 26; Oct, 11, 26, 48; Nov, 13, 26; Dec, 23, 26

G
Gabbott, Mabel Jones and Michael F. Moody
Come to Bethlehem (m), Dec, 38
Galoshes, *Aronell Rappleye*, Jan, 4
GAMES. See THINGS TO MAKE AND DO
GENERAL CONFERENCE
General Conference Activity, *Marie Waldvogel*, Oct, 31
Look and Listen, Apr, 24
They Spoke to Us, June, 23; Dec, 11
Giles, Nichole
Matthew's Prayer, Jan, 44
Glory of God Is Intelligence, The, David A. Bednar (FF), *Kimberly Webb*, Oct, 6
Go, Jag! Jaganath Martin of Riverton, Utah, *Erica Hammon*, July, 40
GOALS
Reading the Bible, Mar, 30
God's Love, *Elsie Palmer*, Feb, 7
Goldrup, Ray
Miles and Miles of Smiles, Sept, 4
Graham, Pat
Nativity Figures and Facts, Dec, 24
When I Begin to Pray, Mar, 34
GRATITUDE
Be Thankful, *Guy Belleranti*, Nov, 13
Coloring Page, Nov, 48
God's Love, *Elsie Palmer*, Feb, 7
My Busy Body, *Jacqueline Schiff*, Nov, 7
Nine Lepers and a Thank-You Note, *Jane McBride Choate*, Nov, 46
Rock Soup, *Michele H. Mirabile*, Nov, 4
Special Witness: Elder Dallin H. Oaks, Nov, 31
Thankful, *Erin Shakespeare*, Nov, 36
Two Little Words (ST), *Elizabeth Ricks*, Nov, 14
Greatest Gift, The (ST), *Elizabeth Ricks*, Dec, 12
Griffin, Dawnell
Caught in the Act, June, 20
Growing in Faith: Yondonjants of Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, *Don L. Searle and Julie Wardell*, Oct, 18
GUIDE TO THE FRIEND
Jan, IBC; Feb, IBC; Mar, IBC; Apr, IBC; May, IBC; June, IBC; July, IBC; Aug, IBC; Sept, IBC; Oct, IBC; Nov, IBC; Dec, IBC

H
Hammon, Erica
Go, Jag! Jaganath Martin of Riverton, Utah, July, 40
Hapi, J. Harvey
Only a Prayer Away, Mar, 36
He Lives! (ST), *Elizabeth Ricks*, Apr, 14
HEAVENLY FATHER. See also FAITH, JESUS CHRIST, PRAYER, and TRYING TO BE LIKE JESUS
Greatest Gift, The (ST), *Elizabeth Ricks*, Dec, 12
Help from the Holy Ghost, *Erin Renouf Mylroie*, Aug, 27
Helping Kevin, *Vicki H. Budge*, July, 18
Helping Trisha, *Jane McBride Choate*, Apr, 32
Hendricks, Hilary M.
Choosing Kindness, Paul V. Johnson (FF), Jan, 8

Live without Regret, Richard G. Hinckley (FF), Feb, 8
 Missionary Friends, Gary J. Coleman (FF), Mar, 8
 New Friend, A, Oct, 28
 Sharing Susie, Apr, 36
 Twelve Days of Christmas Surprise, Dec, 23
 Women of Faith, John B. Dickson (FF), May, 8

HIDDEN PICTURES
 Christopher Columbus, *Robert A. Peterson*, Oct, 48
 Daniel in the Lions' Den, *Val Chadwick Bagley*, Sept, 23
 Helping Can Be Fun, *Val Chadwick Bagley*, Sept, 33
 Hidden Pictures, *Robert Peterson*, June, 48
 Summer Exercise, *Liz Ball*, Aug, 37

Hinckley, Gordon B.
 Be More Forgiving (PV), Mar, 2
 Five Little Fish (PV), Nov, 2
 Following a Prophet (PV), Aug, 2

Hinrichsen, Ronda Gibb
 Pray Always, Jan, 32
 Holding Priesthood Keys, Dec, 32

Holt, Joyce
 Taking Care of Mommy, May, 32

HOLY GHOST. See also BAPTISM and PRAYER
 Being Smart, *Kelly Corless*, Feb, 34
 Coloring Page, Aug, 21
 Help from the Holy Ghost, *Erin Renouf Mylroie*, Aug, 27
 Holy Ghost Is Real, The, Craig A. Cardon (FF), *Callie Buys*, Dec, 8
 Holy Ghost, The, *C. G. Lindstrom*, Aug, 26
 Listen to the Still, Small Voice (ST), *Elizabeth Ricks*, Aug, 10
 Put the Wheat in the Buggy and Go, *Kimberly Watrin*, Sept, 34
 Special Witness: President Boyd K. Packer, Mar, 21
 Trained by the Spirit, *Marianne Sorensen Lemon*, Aug, 4
 Voice of Warning, A, *Terry Reed*, Aug, 18

Holy Ghost Is Real, The, Craig A. Cardon (FF), *Callie Buys*, Dec, 8

Honest Morgan, *Vicki H. Budge*, Mar, 27

HONESTY. See CHOOSE THE RIGHT

Hosanna! *Britney Rule*, Jan, 7
 Hot Chocolate Mishap, The, *Melanie Marks*, Dec, 34
 How Great Shall Be Your Joy (ST), *Elizabeth Ricks*, Oct, 12
 Hughes, Helen
 Mean Maggie, Sept, 10

I
 I Have Faith in the Lord, Jesus Christ (m), *Janice Kapp Perry*, Oct, 21
 I'll Follow Him in Faith (ST), *Elizabeth Ricks*, Feb, 14
 I'm Here, *Patricia R. Jones*, May, 28
 In a Good Place: Naomi Hug of Münchenstein, Switzerland, *Kimberly Webb*, Jan, 20
 In Step, *Sheila Kindred*, Mar, 28
 In the Footsteps of My Dad, *Jeannie Saunders Smedley*, June, 7

INTEGRITY. See CHOOSE THE RIGHT

Invitation to a Baptism, *Marianne Sorensen Lemon*, Oct, 32
 It Is Enough, *Jane McBride Choate*, July, 4

J
 Jacob's Testimony, *Leslie Neilson*, Feb, 46
 Jake's Miracle, *Susan Denney*, Oct, 16
 Jeffrey's Stop Sign, *Clare Mishica*, Aug, 28

JESUS CHRIST. See also FAITH, HEAVENLY FATHER, PRAYER, and TRYING TO BE LIKE JESUS
 Be Not Afraid (ST), *Elizabeth Ricks*, Jan, 46
 Coloring Page, Jan, 41; Feb, 37; Mar, 48; Apr, 31; June, 33; Dec, 15
 Come to Bethlehem (m), *Mabel Jones Gabbott and Michael F. Moody*, Dec, 38
 Finding the Sheep, *Patricia R. Jones*, Feb, 4
 Go Fish, *Kimberly Webb*, Mar, 33
 Greatest Gift, The (ST), *Elizabeth Ricks*, Dec, 12
 He Is . . . , *Ronda Gibb Hinrichsen*, Feb, 23
 He Lives! (ST), *Elizabeth Ricks*, Apr, 14
 Hosanna! *Britney Rule*, Jan, 7
 I Have Faith in the Lord, Jesus Christ (m), *Janice Kapp Perry*, Oct, 21
 Jesus Christ Loves Everyone, *Pat Graham*, Apr, 38
 Jesus Is Born, *Lois Anne Williams*, Dec, 19
 Jesus Was Born in a Stable, Dec, 30
 Lost Sheep, *Kimberly Webb*, Jan, 23
 Master Served, The (ST), *Elizabeth Ricks*, Sept, 12
 Nativity Figures and Facts, *Pat Graham*, Dec, 24
 New Testament, The, Jan, 24
 Remember Jesus Christ during the Sacrament, *Laurel Rohlfing*, June, 36
 Savior Is Born, The, *The First Presidency*, Dec, 2
 Sharing Time Butterfly, *Amy Kirby*, Apr, 4
 When I Think of Baby Jesus, *Cindy J. Newell*, Dec, 31
 Jesus Is Born, *Lois Anne Williams*, Dec, 19

Jones, Gwen S.
 Christmas Visitor, A, Dec, 16

Jones, Patricia R.
 Finding the Sheep, Feb, 4
 I'm Here, May, 28
 Learning God's Law, Apr, 10
 Opposite of Fear, The, Jan, 18

Jones, Tricia K.
 Missing Coat, The, Jan, 12

JOURNALS. See FAMILY HISTORY

Joy Cometh in the Morning (PV), *Thomas S. Monson*, Apr, 2

JUDGMENT
 Missing Coat, The, *Tricia K. Jones*, Jan, 12
 July Jubilee, *Sharon Price Anderson*, July, 17
 Jump into Journaling: Nicole Antúnez of Santiago, Chile, *Adam C. Olson*, Aug, 14
 Just What I Needed, *Sheila Kindred*, Dec, 28

K
 Kimball, Karen A.
 Testimony to Share, A, Oct, 24

KINDNESS. See LOVE AND KINDNESS

Kindness, Won Yong Ko (FF), *Melvin Leavitt*, June, 8

Kindred, Sheila
 In Step, Mar, 28
 Just What I Needed, Dec, 28
 Missing Michael, Oct, 44
 Promises to Elizabeth, Part 3: Elizabeth Alone, Jan, 38
 Sustaining Bishop Sheets, Feb, 10

Kirby, Amy
 Sharing Time Butterfly, Apr, 4

Kirby, Heather
 Blessings of the Temple, Paul E. Koelliker (FF), July, 6

KITCHEN KRAFTS. See also RECIPES

Apple Pancake Wraps, Apr, 27
 B.A.T. Sandwich, June, 27
 Baked Apple Dessert, Oct, 27
 Brown Sugar Muffins, Apr, 27
 Chicker Enchiladas, May, 21
 Crescent Rolls, Nov, 27
 Easy Cheese Dessert, Sept, 48
 El Paso Pizza, May, 21
 Empanadas, Aug, 17
 Frozen Mint Fudge Sandwiches, *Ronda Gibb Hinrichsen*, June, 27
 Garlic Biscuits, Feb, 43
 German Butter Cookies, Jan, 27
 Ham and Cheese Biscuits, Sept, 48
 Hawaiian Haystacks, Mar, 43
 Lime Water, *Hilary M. Hendricks*, July, 27
 Mini Omelettes, Apr, 27
 Muesli, Jan, 27
 Pear Sandwich, Jan, 27
 Pebre (Chilean Salsa), Aug, 17
 Polynesian Meatballs, Mar, 43
 Pumpkin Soup, Oct, 27
 Rosemary Chicken Drumsticks, June, 27
 Rosti Potatoes, Jan, 27
 Ship's Biscuits, *Hilary M. Hendricks*, July, 27
 Shipshape Sandwiches, *Hilary M. Hendricks*, July, 27
 Strawberry Squares, Feb, 43
 Sweetheart Pasta Pie, Feb, 43
 Tortillas, May, 21
 Tropical Coconut Cake, Mar, 43
 Veggie Kabobs, June, 27
 Veggie Macaroni, Sept, 48

Krumwiede, Lana
 Old Sock and a New Friend, An, Apr, 44
 What Daniel Forgot, Nov, 38

L
 Language Lesson, *Kersten Campbell*, Sept, 46
 Last Present, The, *Charmayne Gubler Warnock*, Dec, 20
 Learning God's Law, *Patricia R. Jones*, Apr, 10

Leavitt, Melvin
 Clara Christensen of Keewatin, Ontario, Canada, Apr, 28
 Funny and Faithful: Dexter and Quinlan Mann of Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, June, 30
 Kindness, Won Yong Ko (FF), June, 8
 Magic Doors: The Kearl Family of Calgary, Alberta, Canada, Nov, 18
 Small Branch on the Big Prairie: Alex Spencer of Ituna, Saskatchewan, Canada, Sept, 38
 Truckload of Saints, A, Benjamin De Hoyos (FF), Sept, 8

Leduc, Carolyn
 Nathan's Monkey Mystery, Feb, 20

Lehnardt, Michelle
 Most Important Part, The, June, 40

Lemon, Marianne Sorensen
 Invitation to a Baptism, Oct, 32

Real Hero, A, July, 46
 Trained by the Spirit, Aug, 4

Lesson in Learning, A, *Kimberly Webb*, Apr, 18

LIGHT OF CHRIST
 Sacred Light, A (PV), *James E. Faust*, Feb, 2

Linford, Marilynne
 Missionary Now, A, Aug, 6
 Listen to the Prophet, *Callie Buys*, Apr, 7
 Listen to the Still, Small Voice (ST), *Elizabeth Ricks*, Aug, 10
 Live without Regret, Richard G. Hinckley (FF), *Hilary M. Hendricks*, Feb, 8

LOVE AND KINDNESS. See also FAMILY, SERVICE, and TRYING TO BE LIKE JESUS
 All Kinds of Cake, *Jane McBride Choate*, June, 42
 Be More Forgiving (PV), *Gordon B. Hinckley*, Mar, 2
 Best Friends: Blake Waters of Pikeville, North Carolina, *Julie Wardell*, Feb, 40
 Caught in the Act, *Dawnell Griffin*, June, 20
 Choosing Kindness, Paul V. Johnson (FF), *Hilary Hendricks*, Jan, 8
 Christmas Visitor, A, *Gwen S. Jones*, Dec, 16
 Friendship Bracelets, *Jennifer Rose*, Mar, 4
 From the Heart, *Rosie Centrone*, Feb, 26
 Helping Kevin, *Vicki H. Budge*, July, 18
 In Step, *Sheila Kindred*, Mar, 28
 Jeffrey's Stop Sign, *Clare Mishica*, Aug, 28
 Just What I Needed, *Sheila Kindred*, Dec, 28
 Kindness, Won Yong Ko (FF), *Melvin Leavitt*, June, 8
 Last Present, The, *Charmayne Gubler Warnock*, Dec, 20
 Mean Maggie, *Helen Hughes*, Sept, 10
 Miles and Miles of Smiles, *Ray Goldrup*, Sept, 4
 Missing Michael, *Sheila Kindred*, Oct, 44
 Most Unusual, Quite Remarkable, One-of-a-Kind Christmas Stocking, The, *Geraldine T. Fielding*, Dec, 4
 New Friend, A, *Hilary M. Hendricks*, Oct, 28
 Old Sock and a New Friend, An, *Lana Krumwiede*, Apr, 44
 Share God's Love, *Susan Bickel*, Sept, 7
 Sharing Susie, *Hilary M. Hendricks*, Apr, 36
 Snowflakes for Sam, *Kristin Warehime*, Jan, 34
 Standing Up for Molly, *Julie C. Donaldson*, Oct, 38
 Tanner and the Happy Dance, *Wendy Ellison*, Sept, 30
 Treat Others Kindly: Jason Alford of Huntsville, Alabama, *Richard M. Romney*, Mar, 18

Luke's Best Birthday, *Dawn Nelson*, June, 4

M
 Magic Doors: The Kearl Family of Calgary, Alberta, Canada, *Melvin Leavitt*, Nov, 18

MAKING FRIENDS
 Best Friends: Blake Waters of Pikeville, North Carolina, *Julie Wardell*, Feb, 40
 Caring and Sharing: Melissa Isabel Gallardo Truman of Springvale, Victoria, Australia, *Julie Wardell*, May, 46
 Clara Christensen of Keewatin, Ontario, Canada, *Melvin Leavitt*, Apr, 28
 Funny and Faithful: Dexter and Quinlan Mann of Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, *Melvin Leavitt*, June, 30
 Go, Jag! Jaganath Martin of Riverton, Utah, *Erica Hammon*, July, 40
 Growing in Faith: Yondonjams of Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, *Don L. Searle and Julie Wardell*, Oct, 18
 In a Good Place: Naomi Hug of Münchenstein, Switzerland, *Kimberly Webb*, Jan, 20
 Jump into Journaling: Nicole Antúnez of Santiago, Chile, *Adam C. Olson*, Aug, 14
 Magic Doors: The Kearl Family of Calgary, Alberta, Canada, *Melvin Leavitt*, Nov, 18
 Small Branch on the Big Prairie: Alex Spencer of Ituna, Saskatchewan, Canada, *Melvin Leavitt*, Sept, 38
 Treat Others Kindly: Jason Alford of Huntsville, Alabama, *Richard M. Romney*, Mar, 18

Manna for Mother, *Kimberly Webb*, July, 32

Margaret McNeil's Great Escape, *Britney Rule*, Aug, 34

Marks, Melanie
 Hot Chocolate Mishap, The, Dec, 34
 Master Served, The (ST), *Elizabeth Ricks*, Sept, 12

MATT AND MANDY
 Jan, 26; Feb, 17; Mar, 17; Apr, 48; May, 17; June, 45; July, 48; Aug, 13; Sept, 15; Oct, 15; Nov, 17; Dec, 37

Matthew's Prayer, *Nichole Giles*, Jan, 44
 Mean Maggie, *Helen Hughes*, Sept, 10
 Miles and Miles of Smiles, *Ray Goldrup*, Sept, 4
 Mirabile, Michele H.
 Rock Soup, Nov, 4
 Miraculous Escape from Danger, A, *Myra Hawke Dyck*, June, 10
 Mishica, Clare
 Jeffrey's Stop Sign, Aug, 28
 Missing Coat, The, *Tricia K. Jones*, Jan, 12
 Missing Michael, *Sheila Kindred*, Oct, 44
 Missionary Friends, Gary J. Coleman (FF), *Hilary M.*

Hendricks, Mar, 8
Missionary Now, A, *Marilynne Linford*, Aug, 6
MISSIONARY WORK. See also FRIENDS BY MAIL,
EXAMPLE, TESTIMONY, and TRYING TO BE LIKE JESUS
Caring and Sharing: Melissa Isabel Gallardo Truman of
Springvale, Victoria, Australia, *Julie Wardell*, May, 46
Coloring Page, Oct, 35
How Great Shall Be Your Joy (ST), *Elizabeth Ricks*, Oct, 12
Karl's Mission, *Britney Rule*, Nov, 24
Missing Michael, *Sheila Kindred*, Oct, 44
Missionary Friends, Gary J. Coleman (FF), *Hilary M.
Hendricks*, Mar, 8
Missionary Now, A, *Marilynne Linford*, Aug, 6
Preparing for a Mission, *Val Chadwick Bagley*, Oct, 30
Special Witness: Elder M. Russell Ballard, May, 41
MODESTY
New Dress, Old Rules, *Linda G. Paulsen*, May, 10
What Should I Wear? *Jennifer Rose*, Feb, 24
Monson, Marianne
Running Prayer, The, Oct, 46
Monson, Thomas S.
Deadly Maka-fekes (PV), June, 2
Joy Cometh in the Morning (PV), Apr, 2
Never Give Up (PV), Jan, 2
Sacred Ground (PV), Sept, 2
Moody, Michael F. and Mabel Jones Gabbott
Come to Bethlehem (m), Dec, 38
Most Important Part, The, *Michelle Lehnardt*, June, 40
Most Unusual, Quite Remarkable, One-of-a-Kind Christmas
Stocking, The, *Geraldine T. Fielding*, Dec, 4
Mother's Influence, A, Carlos H. Amado (FF), *Callie Buys*,
Apr, 8
MUSIC
Come to Bethlehem, *Mabel Jones Gabbott and Michael F.
Moody*, Dec, 38
I Have Faith in the Lord, Jesus Christ, *Janice Kapp Perry*,
Oct, 21
Prophet Joseph, The, *Sandra Peck Nelson*, Apr, 12
My Busy Body, *Jacqueline Schiff*, Nov, 7
MY GOSPEL STANDARDS. See also TRYING TO BE LIKE
JESUS
Don't Be Afraid to Be Different (PV), *James E. Faust*,
May, 2
Language Lesson, *Kersten Campbell*, Sept, 46
Promise Kept, A, *Jane McBride Choate*, Mar, 44
Too Old for Primary, *Rebecca Wilkinson*, Nov, 28
Mylroie, Erin Renouf
Help from the Holy Ghost, Aug, 27

N
Nance, Debbra B.
Answer, The, Nov, 34
Nathan's Monkey Mystery, *Carolyn Leduc*, Feb, 20
Neilson, Leslie
Jacob's Testimony, Feb, 46
Nelson, Dawn
Luke's Best Birthday, June, 4
Nelson, Sandra Peck
Prophet Joseph, The (m), Apr, 12
Never Give Up (PV), *Thomas S. Monson*, Jan, 2
New Dress, Old Rules, *Linda G. Paulsen*, May, 10
New Friend, A, *Hilary M. Hendricks*, Oct, 28
NEW TESTAMENT
Let Your Light Shine, *Regina Thompson*, Oct, 11
New Testament, The, Jan, 24
Nine Lepers and a Thank-You Note, *Jane McBride
Choate*, Nov, 46
New Testament, The, Jan, 24
Nine Lepers and a Thank-You Note, *Jane McBride Choate*,
Nov, 46

O
OBEDIENCE. See CHOOSE THE RIGHT
Old Sock and a New Friend, An, *Lana Krumwiede*, Apr, 44
Olson, Adam C.
Jump into Journaling: Nicole Antúnez of Santiago, Chile,
Aug, 14
Only a Prayer Away, *J. Harvey Hapi*, Mar, 36
Opposite of Fear, The, *Patricia R. Jones*, Jan, 18
OUR CREATIVE FRIENDS
Jan, 42; Feb, 28; Mar, 22; Apr, 22; May, 30; June, 38;
July, 30; Aug, 44; Sept, 28; Oct, 36; Nov, 44; Dec, 40
Overcoming Challenges, Oct, 42

P
Palmer, Elsie
God's Love, Feb, 7
Paulsen, Linda G.
New Dress, Old Rules, May, 10

Perry, Janice Kapp
I Have Faith in the Lord, Jesus Christ (m), Oct, 21
PERSISTENCE
Clara Christensen of Keewatin, Ontario, Canada, *Melvin
Leavitt*, Apr, 28
Go, Jag! Jagannath Martin of Riverton, Utah, *Erica
Hammon*, July, 40
Manna for Mother, *Kimberly Webb*, July, 32
Never Give Up (PV), *Thomas S. Monson*, Jan, 2
Overcoming Challenges, Oct, 42
Playing the Piano, Apr, 42
PLAN OF SALVATION
Greatest Gift, The (ST), *Elizabeth Ricks*, Dec, 12
Sharing Time Butterfly, *Amy Kirby*, Apr, 4
Playing the Piano, Apr, 42
POSTER
I'll Follow Him in Faith, Jan, insert
Power of Example, The, June, 14
Pray Always, *Ronda Gibb Hinrichsen*, Jan, 32
PRAYER. See also FRIENDS BY MAIL and TRYING TO BE
LIKE JESUS
Answer, The, *Debbra B. Nance*, Nov, 34
Finding the Sheep, *Patricia R. Jones*, Feb, 4
Galoshes, *Avonell Rappleye*, Jan, 4
I Can Pray for Others, *Karen Ashton*, Sept, 32
I'm Here, *Patricia R. Jones*, May, 28
Margaret McNeil's Great Escape, *Britney Rule*, Aug, 34
Matthew's Prayer, *Nichole Giles*, Jan, 44
Miraculous Escape from Danger, A, *Myra Hawke Dyck*,
June, 10
Nathan's Monkey Mystery, *Carolyn Leduc*, Feb, 20
Only a Prayer Away, *J. Harvey Hapi*, Mar, 36
Opposite of Fear, The, *Patricia R. Jones*, Jan, 18
Pray Always, *Ronda Gibb Hinrichsen*, Jan, 32
Prayer and Work, Neil L. Andersen (FF), *Callie Buys*,
Nov, 8
Prayer Reminders, *Julie Wardell*, Jan, 33
Running Prayer, The, *Marianne Monson*, Oct, 46
Special Witness: Elder Henry B. Eyring, June, 19
When Daniel Forgots, *Lana Krumwiede*, Nov, 38
When I Begin to Pray, *Pat Graham*, Mar, 34
Prayer and Work, Neil L. Andersen (FF), *Callie Buys*, Nov, 8
PREPAREDNESS
Ready to Go! *Meghan Decker*, July, 8
PRIESTHOOD
Holding Priesthood Keys, Dec, 32
Sustaining Bishop Sheets, *Sheila Kindred*, Feb, 10
Promise Kept, A, *Jane McBride Choate*, Mar, 44
PROMISES. See also BAPTISM and TEMPLES
Cannon's Commitment, *Allison Lee Burton*, Mar, 10
Promise Kept, A, *Jane McBride Choate*, Mar, 44
Promises to Elizabeth, Part 3: Elizabeth Alone, *Sheila
Kindred*, Jan, 38
Remember (ST), *Elizabeth Ricks*, June, 16
Promises to Elizabeth, Part 3: Elizabeth Alone, *Sheila
Kindred*, Jan, 38
Prophet Joseph, The (m), *Sandra Peck Nelson*, Apr, 12
PROPHETS OF THE CHURCH. See also COME LISTEN TO
A PROPHET'S VOICE and FROM THE LIFE OF
PRESIDENT SPENCER W. KIMBALL
Following a Prophet (PV), *Gordon B. Hinckley*, Aug, 2
Learning God's Law, *Patricia R. Jones*, Apr, 10
Listen to the Prophet, *Callie Buys*, Apr, 7
Prophet Joseph, The (m), *Sandra Peck Nelson*, Apr, 12
Special Witness: Elder Dieter F. Uchtdorf, Dec, 27
They Spoke to Us, June, 23; Dec, 11
PROTECTION
Rescued! Feb, 38
Put the Wheat in the Buggy and Go, *Kimberly Watrin*,
Sept, 34

R
Rain Boots and Muddy Water, *Darlene Young*, Oct, 8
Rappleye, Avonell
Galoshes, Jan, 4
Reading the Bible, Mar, 30
Ready to Go! *Meghan Decker*, July, 8
Real Hero, A, *Marianne Sorensen Lemon*, July, 46
RECIPES. See also KITCHEN KRAFTS
Banana Bun, Nov, 39
Christmas Green Beans, Dec, 43
Cookie Wreaths, Dec, 31
Hot Butterscotch Drink, *Ronda Gibb Hinrichsen*, Dec, 43
Marshmallow Covered Wagon, *Pam Voelker*, July, 36
Orange-Apple Jack-o'-Lanterns, Oct, 31
Pita Bread Dad, *Reneé Roy Harding*, June, 35
Polka-dot Sandwiches, May, 33
Surprise Snowballs, Dec, 43
Reed, Terry
Voice of Warning, A, Aug, 18
Remember (ST), *Elizabeth Ricks*, June, 16

REPENTANCE. See also FRIENDS BY MAIL
All Clean, *Darlene Young*, Sept, 20
Rain Boots and Muddy Water, *Darlene Young*, Oct, 8
Resist Evil Influences, July, 44
RESTORATION. See CHURCH HISTORY
Restoration (ST), *Elizabeth Ricks*, May, 14
RESURRECTION. See PLAN OF SALVATION
REVERENCE
What Should I Wear? *Jennifer Rose*, Feb, 24
Ricks, Elizabeth
Be Not Afraid (ST), Jan, 46
Family Faith (ST), July, 14
Greatest Gift, The (ST), Dec, 12
He Lives! (ST), Apr, 14
How Great Shall Be Your Joy (ST), Oct, 12
I'll Follow Him in Faith (ST), Feb, 14
Listen to the Still, Small Voice (ST), Aug, 10
Master Served, The (ST), Sept, 12
Remember (ST), June, 16
Restoration (PV), *Val Chadwick Bagley*, July, 14
Try, Try, Try (ST), Mar, 14
Two Little Words (ST), Nov, 14
Right Way Home, The, *Mary Ann Snowball*, Mar, 13
Robinson, Kerri
Sing a Song of Joseph, May, 4
Rock Soup, *Michele H. Mirabile*, Nov, 4
Romney, Richard M.
Treat Others Kindly: Jason Alford of Huntsville, Alabama,
Mar, 18
Rose, Jennifer
Friendship Bracelets, Mar, 4
What Should I Wear? Feb, 24
What's the Difference? Sept, 16
Rule, Britney
Hosanna! Jan, 7
Karl's Mission, Nov, 24
Margaret McNeil's Great Escape, Aug, 34
Running Prayer, The, *Marianne Monson*, Oct, 46

S
SABBATH DAY. See also FRIENDS BY MAIL and TRYING
TO BE LIKE JESUS
Cannon's Commitment, *Allison Lee Burton*, Mar, 10
Doing Good on the Sabbath Day, *Julie Wardell*, Sept, 24
Sunday Activities, *Val Chadwick Bagley*, July, 35
Truckload of Saints, A, Benjamin De Hoyos (FF), *Melvin
Leavitt*, Sept, 8
SACRAMENT
Most Important Part, The, *Michelle Lehnardt*, June, 40
Remember Jesus Christ during the Sacrament, *Laurel
Rohlfing*, June, 36
Sacrament Time, *Anne Hess Clark*, May, 24
Sacred Ground (PV), *Thomas S. Monson*, Sept, 2
Special Witness: Elder Jeffrey R. Holland, Aug, 22
Sacred Ground (PV), *Thomas S. Monson*, Sept, 2
Sacred Light, A (PV), *James E. Faust*, Feb, 2
Savior Is Born, The, *The First Presidency*, Dec, 2
Schiff, Jacqueline
My Busy Body, Nov, 7
SCRIPTURES. See also BOOK OF MORMON and NEW
TESTAMENT
Scripture Heroes, *Arie Van De Graaff*, Aug, 23
Reading the Bible, Mar, 30
Special Witness: Elder Russell M. Nelson, Feb, 13
Searle, Don L. and Julie Wardell
Growing in Faith: Yondonjants of Ulaanbaatar,
Mongolia, Oct, 18
SELF-WORTH. See CHILD OF GOD
SERVICE. See also LOVE AND KINDNESS
Aaron and the Relief Society, *Lisa Passey Boynton*, Mar, 40
Best of Show, *Karlton A. Steele*, Jan, 28
Child of God with Wrinkles, A, *Jane McBride Choate*,
Feb, 30
Coloring Page, Sept, 41
Empty Cart, The (PV), *James E. Faust*, Oct, 2
Friends through Fire, *Jane McBride Choate*, Aug, 46
Master Served, The (ST), *Elizabeth Ricks*, Sept, 12
Simple Act of Service, A, Sept, 44
Taking Care of Mommy, *Joyce Holt*, May, 32
Twelve Days of Christmas Surprise, *Hilary Hendricks*,
Dec, 23
Who Is My Neighbor? *Ruth Kathryn Day*, Aug, 42
Shakespeare, Erin
Thankful, Nov, 36
Share God's Love, *Susan Bickel*, Sept, 7
Sharing Susie, *Hilary M. Hendricks*, Apr, 36
SHARING TIME
Be Not Afraid, *Elizabeth Ricks*, Jan, 46
Family Faith, *Elizabeth Ricks*, July, 14
Greatest Gift, The, *Elizabeth Ricks*, Dec, 12
He Lives! *Elizabeth Ricks*, Apr, 14

How Great Shall Be Your Joy, *Elizabeth Ricks*, Oct, 12
 I'll Follow Him in Faith, *Elizabeth Ricks*, Feb, 14
 Listen to the Still, Small Voice, *Elizabeth Ricks*, Aug, 10
 Master Served, The, *Elizabeth Ricks*, Sept, 12
 Remember, *Elizabeth Ricks*, June, 16
 Restoration, *Elizabeth Ricks*, May, 14
 Try, Try, Try, *Elizabeth Ricks*, Mar, 14
 Two Little Words, *Elizabeth Ricks*, Nov, 14
 Sharing Time Butterfly, *Amy Kirby*, Apr, 4
 Simple Act of Service, A, Sept, 44
 Sing a Song of Joseph, *Kerri Robinson*, May, 4
 Small Branch on the Big Prairie: Alex Spencer of Ituna,
 Saskatchewan, Canada, *Melvin Leavitt*, Sept, 38
 Small Things, Dennis B. Neuschwander (FF), *Callie Buys*,
 Aug, 8
 Smedley, Jeannie Saunders
 In the Footsteps of My Dad, June, 7
 SMITH, JOSEPH. *See also* CHURCH HISTORY
 As Joseph Did, *Tara Wade*, May, 7
 Prophet Joseph, The, (m), *Sandra Peck Nelson*, Apr, 12
 Sing a Song of Joseph, *Kerri Robinson*, May, 4
 Snowball, Mary Ann
 Right Way Home, The, Mar, 13
 Snowflakes for Sam, *Kristin Warehime*, Jan, 34
 SPECIAL WITNESS
 Elder Dallin H. Oaks, Nov, 31
 Elder David A. Bednar, July, 43
 Elder Dieter F. Uchtdorf, Dec, 27
 Elder Henry B. Eyring, June, 19
 Elder Jeffrey R. Holland, Aug, 22
 Elder Joseph B. Wirthlin, Jan, 31
 Elder L. Tom Perry, Oct, 41
 Elder M. Russell Ballard, May, 41
 Elder Richard G. Scott, Apr, 21
 Elder Robert D. Hales, Sept, 19
 Elder Russell M. Nelson, Feb, 13
 President Boyd K. Packer, Mar, 21
 Spencer's Mother, May, 44
 Standing Up for Faith, *Valynn Grant Woolley*, May, 38
 Standing Up for Molly, *Julie C. Donaldson*, Oct, 38
 Steele, Karlton A.
 Best of Show, Jan, 28
 Sustaining Bishop Sheets, *Sheila Kindred*, Feb, 10

T
 Taking Care of Mommy, *Joyce Holt*, May, 32
 Tanner and the Happy Dance, *Wendy Ellison*, Sept, 30
 Temple Is His House, The, *Marli Walker*, Mar, 32
 TEMPLES
 Blessings of the Temple, Paul E. Koelliker (FF), *Heather Kirby*, July, 6
 It Is Enough, *Jane McBride Choate*, July, 4
 Temple Cards, Sept, 27
 Temple Is His House, The, *Marli Walker*, Mar, 32
 TEMPTATION
 Deadly Maka-fekes (PV), *Thomas S. Monson*, June, 2
 Resist Evil Influences, July, 44
 Voice of Warning, A, *Terry Reed*, Aug, 18
 TESTIMONY. *See also* JESUS CHRIST, MISSIONARY WORK,
 and PRAYER
 Courage in a Cornfield (PV), *James E. Faust*, July, 2
 It Is Enough, *Jane McBride Choate*, July, 4
 Listen to the Still, Small Voice (ST), *Elizabeth Ricks*, Aug, 10
 Plant a Seed, Aug, 24
 Small Things, Dennis B. Neuschwander (FF), *Callie Buys*, Aug, 8
 Special Witness: Elder Richard G. Scott, Apr, 21
 Special Witness: Elder Russell M. Nelson, Feb, 13
 Testimony to Share, A, *Karen A. Kimball*, Oct, 24
 Testimony to Share, A, *Karen A. Kimball*, Oct, 24
 Thankful, *Erin Shakespear*, Nov, 36
 They Spoke to Us, June, 23; Dec, 11
 THINGS TO MAKE AND DO. *See also* FUNSTUF, KITCHEN
 KRAFTS, RECIPES, and SHARING TIME
 Barnyard Music, *Gail E. Hedrick*, Aug, 30
 Coloring Page, Jan, 41; Feb, 37; Mar, 48; Apr, 31;
 May, 27; June, 33; July, 21; Aug, 21; Sept, 41; Oct, 35;
 Nov, 48; Dec, 15
 Counting on Family, *Miriam A. Roberts*, July, 36
 Creation, The, Feb, 32
 Doing Good on the Sabbath Day, *Julie Wardell*, Sept, 24
 Family Love, *Pat Graham*, July, 39
 Five Little Nephites, *Elizabeth Giles*, May, 34
 Gathering to Zion, July, 24, 28
 General Conference Activity, *Marie Waldvogel*, Oct, 31
 Go Fish, *Kimberly Webb*, Mar, 33
 Karl's Mission, *Britney Rule*, Nov, 24
 Heading West, June, 24
 I Can Pray for Others, *Karen Ashton*, Sept, 32
 Jesus Christ Loves Everyone, *Pat Graham*, Apr, 38
 Jesus Was Born in a Stable, Dec, 30

Jumping for Joy, *Carrie Blakely*, July, 38
 Let Learning Lift You, Mar, 24
 Look and Listen, Apr, 24
 Nail Wind Chime, *Julie Wardell*, June, 35
 Nativity Figures and Facts, *Pat Graham*, Dec, 24
 New Testament, The, Jan, 24
 Paper-Sack Turkey, *Chauncey Mobberly*, Nov, 39
 Plant a Seed, Aug, 24
 Prayer Reminders, *Julie Wardell*, Jan, 33
 Preparing for a Mission, *Val Chadwick Bagley*, Oct, 30
 Remember Jesus Christ during the Sacrament, *Laurel Rohlfing*, June, 36
 Sacrament Time, *Anne Hess Clark*, May, 24
 Sing a Song of Joseph, *Kerri Robinson*, May, 4
 Snowflake Art, *Kristin Warehime*, Jan, 35
 Stained Glass Window Card, *D. A. Stone*, Dec, 42
 Surprise Door Hanger, *Julie Wardell*, May, 33
 Temple Cards, Sept, 27
 Twelve Days of Christmas Surprise, *Hilary M. Hendricks*,
 Dec, 23
 What Should I Wear? *Jennifer Rose*, Feb, 24
 When I Begin to Pray, *Pat Graham*, Mar, 34
 When I Think of Baby Jesus, *Cindy J. Newell*, Dec, 31
 Who Caught the Fish? *Val Chadwick Bagley*, May, 35
 TITHING
 Five Little Fish (PV), *Gordon B. Hinckley*, Nov, 2
 Learning God's Law, *Patricia R. Jones*, Apr, 10
 Tithing Shoes, *Patricia and DeWayne Warnock*, Nov, 10
 Tithing Shoes, *Patricia and DeWayne Warnock*, Nov, 10
 Too Old for Primary, *Rebecca Wilkinson*, Nov, 28
 Trained by the Spirit, *Marianne Sorensen Lemon*, Aug, 4
 Treat Others Kindly: Jason Alford of Huntsville, Alabama,
Richard M. Romney, Mar, 18
 Truckload of Saints, A, Benjamin De Hoyos (FF), *Melvin Leavitt*, Sept, 8
 Try, Try, Try (ST), *Elizabeth Ricks*, Mar, 14
 TRYING TO BE LIKE JESUS
 Bad Magazine, The, Feb, 45
 Bicycle Service, July, 23
 Book of Mormon Brothers, July, 22
 Boy Sitting Alone, A, June, 28
 Brave Friend, A, Nov, 32
 Bus Buddy, Oct, 22
 By Teaching Just One, Sept, 37
 Christmas Books, Dec, 10
 Close Call, A, Mar, 47
 Cold Outside, Warm Inside, Jan, 17
 Comforting a Friend, Aug, 32
 Comforting Mom, Dec, 10
 CTR Rings in the Principal's Office, Mar, 46
 Dangerous Game, A, Sept, 37
 Dinosaur Decision, Jan, 17
 Example of Jesus, The, Feb, 45
 Example through Song, July, 22
 Extra Pound, Mar, 47
 Fighting Isn't OK, Feb, 44
 Finding Courage, Apr, 41
 Five-Dollar Bill, The, Oct, 23
 Food Bank Birthdays, Oct, 22
 Game Ended, Apr, 41
 Giving Garden, The, June, 29
 Good Choice about Bad Words, May, 37
 Good Example, A, Apr, 40
 Good Example, A, June, 28
 Good Food, Aug, 32
 Good Samaritan Sledder, Jan, 16
 I Said "Sorry," Nov, 32
 I Will Only Listen to Music that Is Pleasing to Heavenly
 Father, Sept, 36
 I Will Use the Names of Heavenly Father and Jesus
 Christ Reverently, Jan, 17
 Kind Invitation, A, Aug, 33
 Kind at School, July, 23
 Missionary Bear, Feb, 45
 Missionary VIP, Oct, 23
 My Buddy, Nov, 33
 Of Good Report, May, 36
 Offer of Tea, Dec, 10
 Picture of Peace, Feb, 45
 Piercing Promise, Aug, 33
 Pink Wallet, The, Apr, 40
 Popularity or Responsibility? June, 28
 Repentance and Reverence, July, 23
 Ring of Kindness, Apr, 40
 Ring of Truth, Nov, 33
 Sabbath Example, May, 37
 Safe and Obedient, Oct, 23
 Sharing the Gospel, Jan, 17
 Sharing the Gospel through Service, May, 36
 Sitting by Bintu, Apr, 40
 Soothing Songs, June, 29
 Standing Strong, June, 29

Stop Picking on Her! May, 37
 Suitable Suit, A, Oct, 23
 Surprising Things, Feb, 44
 Sweet-smelling Service, Mar, 47
 Twenty-Dollar Bill, The, May, 37
 Web-Site Warning, Nov, 33
 Zero Lies, Aug, 33
 Two Little Words (ST), *Elizabeth Ricks*, Nov, 14
V
 Voice of Warning, A, *Terry Reed*, Aug, 18
W
 Wade, Tara
 As Joseph Did, May, 7
 Walker, Marli
 Temple Is His House, The, Mar, 32
 Wardell, Julie
 Best Friends: Blake Waters of Pikeville, North Carolina,
 Feb, 40
 Caring and Sharing: Melissa Isabel Gallardo Truman of
 Springvale, Victoria, Australia, May, 46
 Wardell, Julie and Don L. Searle
 Growing in Faith: Yondonjams of Ulaanbaatar,
 Mongolia, Oct, 18
 Warehime, Kristin
 Snowflakes for Sam, Jan, 34
 Warnock, Charmayne Gubler
 Last Present, The, Dec, 20
 Warnock, Patricia and DeWayne
 Tithing Shoes, Nov, 10
 Watrin, Kimberly
 Put the Wheat in the Buggy and Go, Sept, 34
 Webb, Kimberly
 Glory of God Is Intelligence, The, David A. Bednar (FF),
 Oct, 6
 In a Good Place: Naomi Hug of Münchenstein,
 Switzerland, Jan, 20
 Lesson in Learning, A, Apr, 18
 Manna for Mother, July, 32
 What Daniel Forgots, *Lana Krumwiede*, Nov, 38
 What's the Difference? *Jennifer Rose*, Sept, 16
 When I Begin to Pray, *Pat Graham*, Mar, 34
 Who Is My Neighbor? *Ruth Kathryn Day*, Aug, 42
 Wilkinson, Rebecca
 Too Old for Primary, Nov, 28
 Williams, Lois Anne
 Jesus Is Born, Dec, 19
 WISDOM
 Being Smart, *Kelly Corless*, Feb, 34
 Glory of God Is Intelligence, The, David A. Bednar (FF),
Kimberly Webb, Oct, 6
 Lesson in Learning, A, *Kimberly Webb*, Apr, 18
 Let Learning Lift You, Mar, 24
 Women of Faith, John B. Dickson (FF), *Hilary M. Hendricks*, May, 8
 Woolley, Valynn Grant
 Standing Up for Faith, May, 38
 WORD OF WISDOM. *See also* TRYING TO BE LIKE JESUS
 Hot Chocolate Mishap, The, *Melanie Marks*, Dec, 34
 WORK
 Prayer and Work, Neil L. Andersen (FF), *Callie Buys*,
 Nov, 8
 Working on a Farm, Jan, 10
 Working on a Farm, Jan, 10

Y
 Young, Darlene
 All Clean, Sept, 20
 Rain Boots and Muddy Water, Oct, 8

Guide to the *Friend*



The *Guide to the Friend* can help you find stories or articles for preparing lessons or talks for church or for family home evening. The Primary theme for December is “Jesus Christ once lived on the earth, and I have faith that He will come again.”



Family Home Evening Ideas

Look for the FHE symbol on the pages mentioned below.

1. Have everyone draw pictures of things they love about Christmas. Why does the Christmas season seem to make people feel so happy? Read the First Presidency’s Christmas message, “The Savior Is Born” (pp. 2–3). Why does this message bring the greatest joy of all? How can our knowledge of Jesus Christ’s birth help us feel peaceful all year, even when we may face challenges?

2. Read the poem “Jesus Is Born” (p. 19). Why is singing a good way to celebrate Christmas? Look for ideas by reading *Hymns*, page x. Fill the air with your own singing by choosing one verse of each family member’s favorite Christmas hymn or Primary song to sing. If possible, share your family’s holiday joy by going caroling to members of your neighborhood, ward, or branch.

3. Christmastime is fun and busy, but it can be easy to forget the real reason we celebrate it. Read “Matt and Mandy” (p. 37). As you celebrate, how can you remember why Christmas is so important? Test your memory and learn more about the Savior’s birth by doing the “Nativity Figures and Facts” activity on pages 24–25.

4. Instead of writing a list of what you want this Christmas, write a list of meaningful gifts you could give. Then read “The Last Present” (pp. 20–22). Instead of being disappointed by gifts you might not receive, you could choose to be like Jake this Christmas and look for ways to make someone else’s holiday special. Even if you don’t have money, you can find ways to sacrifice and show others that you love them. Can you think of someone lonely who might appreciate a nice letter? Make him or her a Stained Glass Window Card and some Surprise Snowballs (pp. 42–43). Choose the best gift-giving ideas on your list and follow through with them in the coming weeks.



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Topical Index to this Issue of the *Friend*

(FLF) = For Little Friends
(f) = Funstuff
(IBC) = inside back cover
(IFC) = inside front cover
(m) = music
(v) = verse

Baptism 10
Choose the Right 8, 34
Faith 12, 15
Family 16, 20, 23 (f), 24, 28 (FLF), 42
General Conference 11
Heavenly Father IFC, 12, 34
Holy Ghost IFC, 8
Jesus Christ IFC, 2, 10, 12, 15, 16, 19 (v), 24, 26 (f), 30 (FLF), 31 (FLF), 37, 38 (m)
Love and Kindness 4, 10, 12, 16, 20, 23 (f), 28 (FLF)
Missionary Work 16, 32
My Gospel Standards IFC, 2, 8, 10, 15, 20, 23 (f), 34, 36
Pioneers 4
Prayer IFC
Priesthood 32
Prophets 2, 18, 22, 27, 32
Quorum of the Seventy 8
Quorum of the Twelve Apostles 7, 27, 32, 35
Scriptures 12, 15, 24
Service (see Love and Kindness)
Word of Wisdom 10, 34

The *Friend*

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What's in the *Friend* this month?



page 2

Read a Christmas message to the children of the world.

page 4

What did Papa do when Rachel lost her knitting needles?



page 20

What made Kristi realize how much her brother loved her?

