

GOOD-NEWS LETTER

DECEMBER 2021:

CHRISTMAS EVE.

READ Luke 1:26-37



Faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.

— Hebrews 11:1 (NIV)

I live in a two-season tropical country where churches have large windows and vents to keep us cool in the summer. During one Christmas service, wind and rain came into the church during the candle-lighting procession, making it hard

for the congregation to keep their candles burning. A few times I had to ask the person sitting next to me to relight my candle.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY Amid the uncertainty in the world I can look to scripture to keep my faith strong.

The birth of Jesus is a symbol of hope following the long wait for the Savior as our peacemaker. For me, the candlelight procession on that Christmas Eve symbolizes my efforts to keep my hope and faith alive in a world full of uncertainty and chaos.

It is hard to hold on to faith and hope when prayers seem unanswered and reality does not match our expectations. In times like this, through reading the Bible and asking our fellow Christians to pray for our faith to be strengthened, we can keep the flame of hope alive.

Prayer: God Almighty, thank you for giving us Jesus Christ. Help us to keep his peace and hope alive in our hearts. We pray as Jesus taught us, "Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth. Give us day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins; for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil" (Luke 11:2-4, KJV). Amen.

Juita Kartini (Jakarta, Indonesia)

Prayer Focus: PEOPLE WHO FEEL HOPELESS

SAT DEC 25 2021

CHRISTMAS DAY

READ Luke 2:4-7

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

— 2 Corinthians 9:7 (NIV)

I sometimes feel sorry for the poor Bethlehem innkeeper in all our modern Christmas stories and plays. He is usually depicted as a mean man who somehow should have been able to manufacture a room for Joseph and the pregnant Mary. Instead, he sent them out into the cruel dark night. But the innkeeper had no space. He may have already had people

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Regardless of the circumstance, I can always do my part to serve God.

sleeping in the halls and on the kitchen floor because of the huge crowds that had come for the census.

So, perhaps we can see the innkeeper in a different

light. He offered what he had. He could have just told them to go away, but he figured out what he had left that might help and let them use his barn. I'm sure Mary and Joseph were very glad to get out of the elements and to have a sheltered birthing place.

When a ministry needs a large amount of money for a mission, or a friend needs many hands to help, we can't give them everything they need or do all the work by ourselves. But we can pray, and, as the innkeeper did, give what we have. When we give our best in God's name, it is good for us to remember what God gave — his Son.

Prayer: Loving God, you have given us our talents and our lives; help us to use them for your purposes today. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Ken Claar (Idaho, USA)



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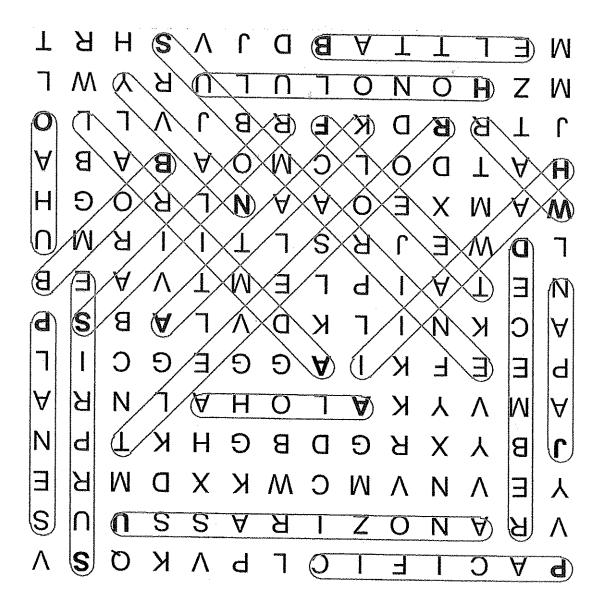
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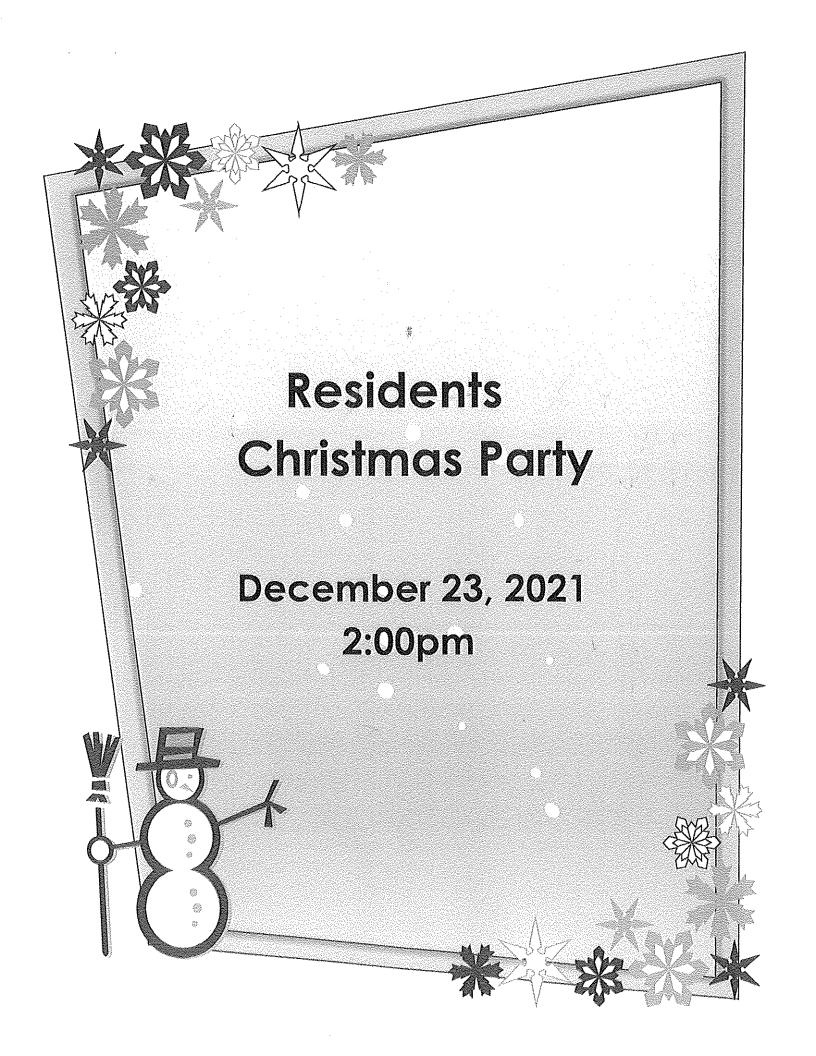
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Pearl Harbor Word Search

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Kwanzaa Word Search

(solution)







Christmas Word Search

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Christmas Word Search

solution







Names for Santa Claus Around the World

Australia			Papai Noel
Belgium	Manager and Commission of Comm	and.	Joulupukki
Brazil	· ·		Kanakaloka
China		र्षे •	Father Christmas
Finland		-	Dun Che Lao Ren
Germany			Swiety Mikolaj
Hawaii		•	Sinterklaas
Holland		•	Pere Noel
Hungary		-	Ded Moroz
Italy		-	Babbo Natale
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Names for Santa Claus Around the World

(solution)

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Hawaii Kanakaloka

Holland Sinterklaas

Hungary Mikulas

Italy Babbo Natale

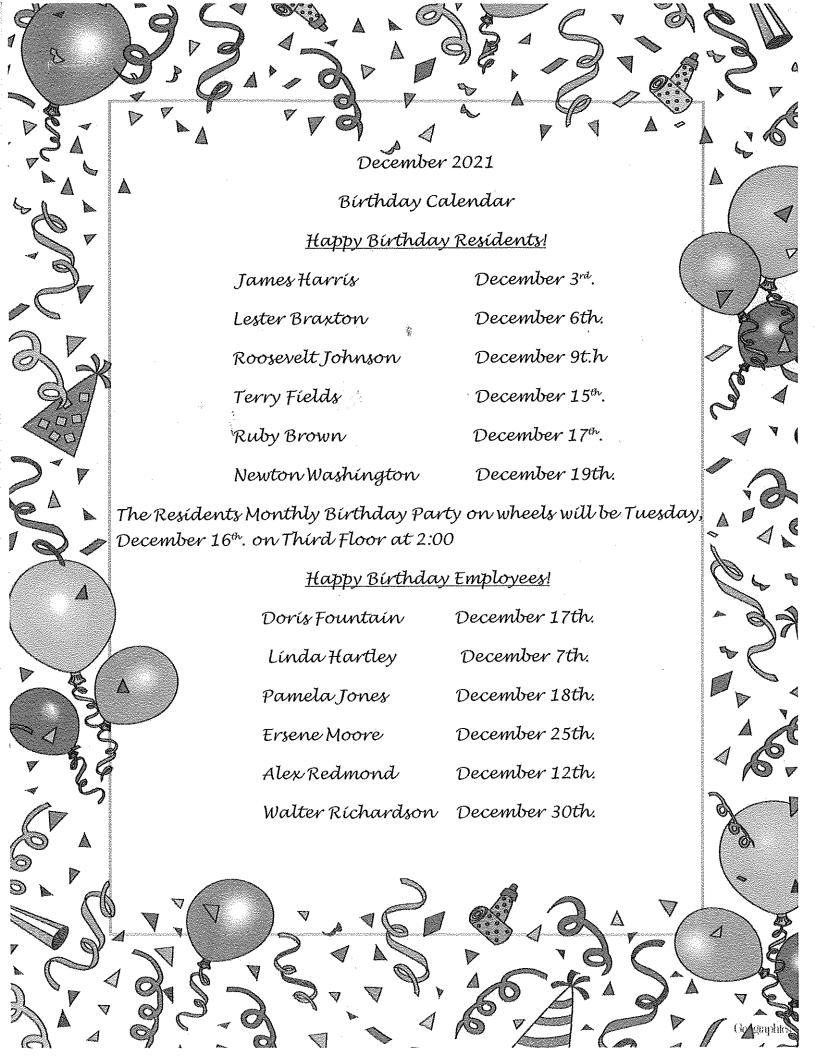
Poland Swiety Mikolaj

Russia Ded Moroz

Sweden Jultomten

Turkey Noel Baba

U.K. Father Christmas





New Year Eve Party
On Wheels
December 31st.
2:00PM.