



Vol 6 No. 4 DECEMBER 14, 2019

Dear Parents,

December is our month to talk about the beatitude where Jesus said, "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness." Thanksgiving and Christmas are all about good food, family times, and giving to those who are special in our lives. Jesus reminds us that there is a special hunger and thirst. A feeling of desire for something beyond the tangible, or material. A desire to know God, to be with God, and to have Him in our hearts. Learning to have that desire, growing up in an environment where that hunger and thirst are a part of our daily lives is what SVAS strives to do. To plant within each of our students the yearning to be with God, to have Him fill us up. As we end the second semester, please pray for all our families as we seek to be role models for our children in every way.

Our last two programs will feature our main production of the CHRISTMAS MESSIAH for young Voice. Saturday we have the scheduled church visit. We are asking for students to be there by 10:30 for a short 3 song performance. Then on December 19, at 7:00 pm in the SV Adventist Church our big Christmas program has as its sole focus the gift that is Jesus Christ. I know you will be there to listen to our children sing of that great moment. We are asking for each student to be at the church no later than 6:30 pm for to be robed and ready to warm up. They have worked so hard and it will be a very rewarding evening. Please invite friends and family. Let's fill the church to show how unique our school is.

Developing student to a higher standard is not easy, but it is very rewarding.

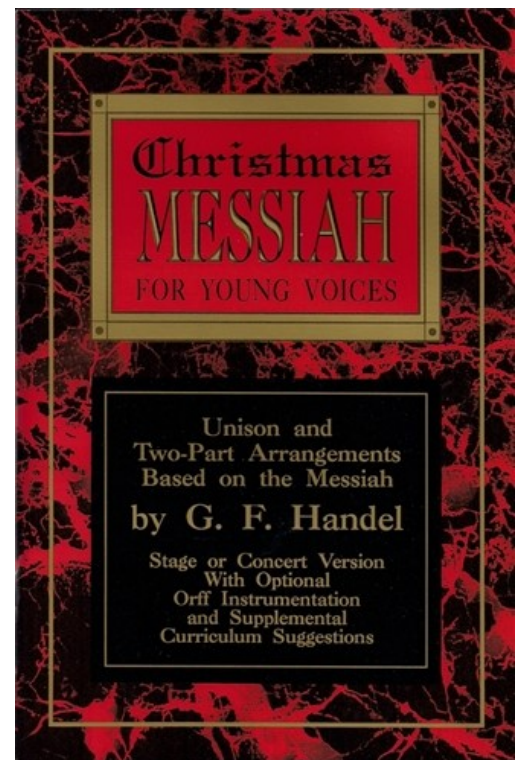
Friday, December 20 is a getaway day. School ends at 12:15 and extended care only goes to 1:00 pm.

In Deepest Gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stephen Stokes'.

Stephen Stokes
Principal

CONTACT MILTON NUNEZ or BRIDGET STAUBACH for HOME and SCHOOL ISSUES!



ARTICLE ONE

Ways to Keep Your Family Focused on Christ this Christmas

Treasured long-standing traditions become Christmas legacies carefully fostered and presented to each new generation of children, who are taught the role they play in maintaining the family's Christmas traditions. Great unity can result from a family that focuses on celebrating and honoring the birth of Christ.

The ideas range from simple activities to focused projects that require serious commitment. It might be helpful to have your family review the ideas together and choose the ones that they want to implement.

1. Have family members dress in biblical-type clothing and act out the Holy Night for family and friends (Many young children will love being part of this.) Take photos and use one for next year's Christmas card.
2. Family Christmas season calendar: Make or buy a large wall calendar dating from Thanksgiving through the first week of the New Year. Decorate it with Christmas stickers or your own illustrations. Hang it in a high-traffic area. List all invitations, announcements, concerts, and other events you will attend as a family.
3. As a family, choose some charitable activities you can do together, such as volunteering at a homeless shelter or helping with a toy drive.
4. Identify an elderly or low-income person or couple who might not have family support during the Christmas season. Invite them to one of your family gathering, offer to take them Christmas shopping, or invite them to attend a Christmas church service with your family.
5. Plan times to bake Christmas goodies for special family dinners, parties, and gifts. Look for cookie cutters that are Nativity related, such as stars, angels, camels, sheep, and Nativity silhouettes.
6. Make family craft keepsakes and heirloom ornaments imprinted with the year they were made and the name of the maker. (Many craft stores sell simple ornament kits).
7. As a family, bake, make, or buy a special gift for your pastor and his family.
8. Keep a Christmas journal expressing your thoughts about what happens throughout the season with your family and friends. Include your reactions to the news, sermons, Christmas programs, parties, and gifts, as well as your meditations about Jesus.
9. Hang a large Christmas stocking, intended for a designated needy person or family, in a central location.
10. Invite members of your family, people from church, or neighborhood families to a potluck carol sing. Prepare copies of favorite carols, and set a loose schedule so that you have time to sing all the songs distributed. As an alternative, consider caroling at a hospital, nursing home, or around the neighborhood. Then return to your home for dessert and hot chocolate.
11. Attend your church's Christmas Eve or Christmas Day service as a family to seal the reverence of the celebration of Christ's birth as a valued family tradition
12. Before opening presents on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day, read Scripture aloud together. Dedicate the occasion to Jesus
13. After the New Year, give thanks, as individuals and as a family, for the gift of Christ and your time together as a family. This ritual will teach your children to treasure carefully preserved family Christmas decorations.

Just a few thoughts. Let me know what your family did to bring everyone together!



In the
Spotlight

GRADE 3

DECEMBER 16