

LOVE EVERYONE

lifebylife



Mission of Hope

Disaster relief and 40,000 meals to kids with no access to nutrition.

World Relief Burundi

Empowering, training, and equipping 1,840 church leaders across Burundi in preventing gender-based violence in their communities as well as strengthening 2,694 marriages and families through discipleship, training, and accountability.

Impact India 360

30 Pastors Trained, 5 new churches planted, and 20 orphans provided education, food, housing, medical care, and clothing.

East West

Pastoral and Discipleship training for 950 pastors and leaders among unreached people groups in North Africa and Southeast Asia.

Missionary Gift

Christmas gift to Gateway missionaries to continue their work around our city and the world.

IRC

Renovation of building on church property to accommodate 200 people for worship, prayer, meals, and discipleship training.

serve.pray.give

**MORE
INFO**



gatewaychurch.com

Hope Clinic

Provide bibles, translation, heb gift cards, and free medical care to the refugee community.

Sunland (Yemen)

Provide funding for pastors and church leaders in Yemen and support for families affected by civil war in Yemen.

OneKingdom (Europe/Bosnia and Herzegovina)

Social media ads directed to unreached people groups telling about Jesus and engaging individuals with spiritual conversations.

MISSIONARIES



Denny Isaac
Lyny, India



Jim & Kelly Sautner
Austin, Texas



Ken Kornele
Southeast Asia



Kimberly Gillis
East-West Ministries

Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age. **Matthew 28:19-20 (NLT)**



Kirby Holmes
Eastern Europe



Madeline Sautner
Cru Middle East



**Matthieu & Stephanie
Koumarians**
Paris, France



Mike & Valerie Smith
Brittany, France

GLOBAL PARTNERS



East-West Ministries
Nepal



Hope Clinic
Austin, Texas



Impact India 360
India



Intl. Restoration Church
Austin, Texas



Mission of Hope
Caribbean



One Kingdom
Across Europe



World Relief
Burundi



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H A I T I A N B U T T E R C A K E

Cake Ingredients:

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1 teaspoon freshly grated nutmeg
- 1 cup unsalted butter 2 sticks
- 1 1/2 cups sugar
- 3 eggs
- 2 tablespoons water or apple juice
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 1 tablespoon almond extract (optional)
- 1 cup evaporated milk

Glaze ingredients:

- 1 cup powdered sugar
- 5 tablespoons Cremas or eggnog

Instructions

- Preheat oven to 350 F.
- Spray a bundt pan very well with non-stick spray.
- Sift the flour and add the salt, nutmeg, and baking powder. Stir to combine.
- Using an electric mixer with the paddle attachment, beat butter and sugar on medium speed until combined.
- Increase the speed to high and beat for 3 minutes until very light and creamy.
- Add the eggs, one at a time, beating well, after each addition.
- Add water(or juice) and vanilla (and almond extract). Beat for about 2-3 minutes on high speed.
- Add half of the flour combination and beat for about 3 minutes on medium speed.
- Add half of the evaporated milk and beat for about 3 minutes on medium speed.
- Repeat and add the remaining flour and milk.
- Finally, on high speed beat another 1-2 minutes until the batter is light and creamy, almost a whipped cream consistency.
- Transfer the batter to the prepared cake pan.
- Bake for 50-60 minutes, until the cake is done.

(continued on reverse side)

- Test doneness with a toothpick inserted near the center of the cake
- If it comes out clean, it's time to remove the cake from the oven.
- Leave the cake in the pan for 15 minutes to cool.
- Then remove the cake from the pan and allow it to cool completely.
- Now it's time to prepare the simple glaze.
- Sift the powdered sugar.
- Add the Cremas to the confectioner's sugar and whisk well until well combined.
- While turning the cake, slowly drizzle the glaze over the cake.



R U S S I A N T E A C A K E S

Ingredients:

- ½ Cup Butter (softened)
- ¼ Cup Powdered Sugar
- ½ tsp Vanilla Extract
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- ¼ cup almond flour or finely ground pecans/walnuts
- Extra powdered sugar for rolling

Instructions:

- Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Line a sheet pan with parchment paper or a silicone baking mat.
- Beat together butter and powdered sugar.
- Add in vanilla extract, all-purpose flour, and almond flour (or other ground nuts)
- Continue to mix until the dough comes together.
- Use a cookie scoop or a spoon to make balls of dough about 1 inch in diameter.
- Cook in the oven for 8-10 minutes or until the bottoms of the cookies are lightly golden brown.
- Once the cookies are removed from the oven, roll them in powdered sugar and let them cool.
- Enjoy!



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FRENCH NATIVITY SCENE





Merry Christmas in American Sign Language

CAROL OF THE BELLS

*Music by Ukrainian composer Mykola Leontovych in
1914 and lyrics by Peter J. Wilhousky*

Hark! how the bells
Sweet silver bells
All seem to say
'throw cares away.'
Christmas is here
Bringing good cheer
To young and old
Meek and the bold

Ding, dong, ding, dong
That is their song
With joyful ring
All carolling
One seems to hear
Words of good cheer
From ev'rywhere
Filling the air

Oh how they pound
Raising the sound
O'er hill and dale
Telling their tale
Gaily they ring
While people sing
Songs of good cheer
Christmas is here
Merry, merry, merry, merry
Christmas
Merry, merry, merry, merry
Christmas

On, on they send
On without end
Their joyful tone
To ev'ry home

ENGLAND



In England, families often celebrate Christmas together, so they can watch each other open their presents.

Like a lot of countries, Nativity plays and carol services are also very popular at Christmas time.



In England, Santa Claus is called Father Christmas.



Most families have a Christmas Tree in their house for Christmas. The decorating of the tree is usually a family occasion, with everyone helping.



These are normally hung up by the fire or by the children's beds on Christmas Eve.



Children believe that Father Christmas or Santa Claus leaves presents in stockings or pillow-cases.



Children write letters to Father Christmas listing their requests, but sometimes instead of putting them in the post, the letters are tossed into the fireplace.



Holly, ivy, and mistletoe are also sometimes used to decorate homes or other buildings.

The main Christmas meal is usually eaten at lunchtime or early afternoon on Christmas Day.



FRANCE



In France, the main Christmas celebration, called 'Réveillon', is held on Christmas Eve/early Christmas morning, after people have returned from the midnight Church Service.



In French,
Merry Christmas is

*Joyeux
Noël*

Réveillon food might include roast turkey with chestnuts or roast goose, oysters, lobster, venison and cheese. For dessert, a chocolate sponge cake log called a bûche de Noël is normally eaten.



Another celebration, Les Treize Desserts de Noël, is one where 13 different desserts are eaten!

All the desserts are made from different types of fruit, nuts, and pastries.



In France, a Nativity crib is often used to help decorate the house. French cribs have clay figures in them.



Santa Claus
is called Père Noël
(Father Christmas).



Yule Logs made out of Cherry Wood are often burned in French homes.



GERMANY



In German Happy/Merry Christmas is 'Frohe Weihnachten'. A big part of the Christmas celebrations in Germany is Advent. Several different types of Advent calendars are used in German homes.



As well as the traditional calendar with little doors you open each day, there are also ones made out of a wreath of fir tree branches with 24 decorated boxes or bags hanging from it.



Christmas Eve is the main day when Germans exchange presents with their families.

Christmas Day is called "Erste Feiertag" ('first celebration') and the 26th December is known as "Zweite Feiertag" ('second celebration')..

Christmas Trees are very important in Germany. They were first used in Germany during the late Middle Ages. They are usually brought into the house on Christmas Eve.



Sometimes wooden frames with electric candles inside, are put in windows to make the house look pretty from the outside.



Germany is well known for its Christmas markets where all sorts of foods and decorations are sold.



ITALY



In Italy on Christmas Eve, it's common that no meat is eaten. Often a light seafood meal is eaten and then people go to the Midnight Mass service. The types of fish and how they are served vary between different regions in Italy.



Epiphany is also an important celebration.

On Epiphany night, children believe that an old lady called 'Befana' brings presents for them.

In Italian,
Merry Christmas is
'Buon Natale'.

*Buon
Natale*



One of the most important ways of celebrating Christmas in Italy is the Nativity crib scene. A lot of Italian families have a Nativity crib in their homes.

On Christmas day 'Babbo Natale' (Santa Claus) might bring them some small gifts, but the main day for present giving is on Epiphany.



An old Italian custom is for children to go out carol singing and playing songs on shepherds pipes.

At Christmas, a cake called a "Panettone" is often eaten after Mass service.



ISRAEL

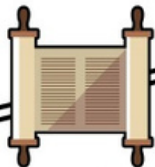


Even though the Christmas Story took place in Israel, Christmas isn't commonly celebrated there at all! Only about 2.5% of the people of Israel are Christians. The Jewish festival of Hanukkah is often celebrated around the same time as Christmas.



To wish someone a Happy Hanukkah, say "Hanukkah Sameach!"

Happy Hanukkah



During hanukkah, for eight days and nights, lighting candles, singing songs, and spinning dreidels help celebrate one of the most joyous of Jewish holidays.

During the nights of hanukkah candles are lit in a menorah, a candelabrum that holds nine candles—



one for each night plus a helper candle called the 'shamash'.

Potato pancakes, known as 'latkes', are a traditional food made and eaten with applesauce and sour cream for Hanukkah.



A dreidel is a four sided spinning top that is used to play a game on Hanukkah. Each side is one letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

Is it Hanukkah or Chanukah? The answer is that both are considered correct, but Hanukkah is the most common.

MEXICO



In Mexico, Christmas Eve is known as 'Noche Buena' and is a family day. There are many 'Posada' ceremonies. Posada is Spanish for inn or lodging. the Bible story of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem and their search for a place to stay is re-enacted.



In Mexico,
Happy/Merry Christmas

*Feliz
Navidad*



One game that is often played at parties is piñata.

A piñata is a decorated clay or papier-mâché container filled with sweets and hung from the ceiling or tree branch. People hit the piñata with a stick to release the candy.



At midnight, many people go to a Midnight Mass service, known as the 'Misa de Gallo' (which means Mass of the Rooster) because of the early hour.



Poinsettia flowers are known as 'nochebuena' (Christmas Eve) flowers and are the main decoration for the holiday.



Popular dishes for the main Christmas meal include Pozole (a traditional soup), roast turkey, roast pork, tamales, and Ensalada Nochebuena.



Nativity scenes, known as the 'nacimiento', are very popular in Mexico.



SOUTH AFRICA



In South Africa, Christmas comes in the summer, so there is lots of sun and beautiful flowers in full bloom during the holidays!



In Afrikaans
Merry Christmas is

Geseënde
KERSFEES

Santa Claus is also known as Sinterklaas (St Nicholas) & Kersvader (Father Christmas) for people who speak Afrikaans.



On Christmas day afternoon, people visit family and friends or might go for a trip to the countryside to play games or have a swim.



The Christmas meal is either turkey, duck, roast beef, mince pies or suckling pig with yellow rice & raisins and vegetables.



The schools are closed for the Christmas holidays and some people like to go camping.

Christmas Trees are popular and children leave a stocking out for Santa Claus.



RUSSIA



In Russia, New Year is a more prominent holiday than Christmas. The New Year is a big time for spending lots of money and eating and drinking lots. Christmas is much more religious and private.



On New Years, people sometimes fast and then eat 'sochivo' or 'kutia'; a porridge made from wheat or rice served with honey, poppy seeds, and fruit.



In Russian,
Happy New Year
is

С Новым
Годом



After revolution in 1917, Christmas was banned as a holiday and Christmas trees were banned until 1935 when they turned into New Year's trees!

After the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, people were free to celebrate Christmas again.



New Year is when 'Grandfather Frost' (known in Russian as 'Ded Moroz') brings presents to children. He is always with his granddaughter (Snegurochka).



On New Year's Eve, children gather around the tree and call for Ded Moroz and Snegurochka. When they appear, the lights on the tree turn on!

Christmas in Russia is normally celebrated on January 7th.



NETHERLANDS



For most children in The Netherlands, the most important day during December is the 5th, when Sinterklaas (St. Nicholas) brings them their

presents! The name Santa Claus comes from the name Sinterklaas.

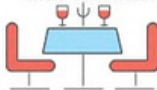


In Dutch
Happy/Merry Christmas
can be said as
'Zalig Kerstfeest' or
'Zalig Kerstmis'



The traditional way to eat with the family is called 'gourmetten', which is a little stove that is put on the table and where everyone prepares their own meal while seated.

Sinterklaas, dressed in his red robes, leads a procession through the town, riding a white horse.



On the evening that Sinterklaas arrives in The Netherlands, children leave a shoe out by the fireplace or sometimes a windowsill and sing Sinterklaas songs.



They also believe that if they leave some hay and carrots in their shoes for Sinterklaas's horse, they will be left some sweets or small presents.



Sinterklaas parties are often held where treasure hunt games are played with poems and riddles giving the clues.

SWEDEN



Christmas Eve is very important in Sweden. This is when the main meal is eaten. This is often a 'julbord' which is a buffet, eaten at lunchtime. Cold fish is important on the julbord. There is often herring, gravlax, and smoked salmon.



In Sweden,
Happy/Merry Christmas
is 'God Jul'.



In Sweden, the 'Yule Goat' is thought to be an invisible spirit that looks on and makes sure all the preparations are going well.



A custom going back to the 1890s, is lighting the first candle in the Advent candlestick.

This is always a special event, eagerly awaited.

Each Sunday until Christmas, a candle is lit until all four candles are lit.



The Christmas season in Sweden lasts until January 13th (twenty days after Christmas) and is celebrated with a 'Tjugondag Knut' dance.



In Sweden, presents are brought by the "Christmas Gnome", or "Jultomten".

One of the biggest celebrations is St. Lucia's Day (or St. Lucy's Day) on December 13th.



AMERICA



America is a melting pot of so many different cultures. Various traditional meals can include turkey or ham with cranberry sauce, kielbasa (a Polish sausage), cabbage dishes, and soups and even lasagna!



Americans celebrate Christmas in many ways. Some light bonfires and 'luminarias', attend church services, have family dinners, and even sing together!



Some Americans use pop-corn threaded on a string to help decorate their Christmas tree. Baking gingerbread houses is also popular to make and eat at Christmas!

Some people in America like to decorate the outsides of their houses with lights and sometimes even statues of Santa Claus, snowmen and reindeer.



Cookies and a glass of milk are often left out as a snack for Santa on Christmas Eve!



Most homes decorate Christmas trees inside in addition to their outside decorations.



Many churches have special Christmas Carol services and events.



ARGENTINA



In Argentina the weather is warm at Christmas. Houses are beautifully decorated with lights and wreaths of green, gold, and red flowers.



In Argentina Merry Christmas is 'Feliz Navidad'.

Feliz Navidad

At midnight on Christmas Eve, there will be the sound of lots of fireworks. People also like to 'toast' the start of Christmas Day.

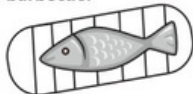


Another Christmas Eve night tradition are 'globos', paper decorations with a light inside that float into the sky (like Chinese Lanterns).

The sky is filled with them on Christmas Eve after midnight.



The main Christmas meal is eaten during the evening of Christmas Eve. It might be served in the garden or be a barbecue!



Christmas trees are very popular and they are often decorated by December 8th.

Dessert can be Christmas bread and puddings like 'Pan Dulce', and fruit salad.



BRAZIL



On Christmas in Brazil, the main meal is normally served around 10 pm on Christmas Eve and exactly at Midnight people greet each other, make a toast wishing everyone a Happy Christmas and after that, they will exchange presents.



Merry Christmas
in Brazil is 'Feliz Natal'.

*Feliz
Natal*

There are often big firework displays and in big towns and cities, there are big Christmas tree shaped displays of electric lights.



Favorite Christmas foods in Brazil include pork, turkey, pork, ham, salads, and fresh and dried fruits. The lunch on Christmas day is also special and afterwards, some people go to relatives and friends' houses to visit.



Sometimes children leave a sock near a window. If Papai Noel finds your sock, he'll exchange it for a present!



It's summer and very hot at Christmas time in Brazil. Many people like to go to the beach.



In Brazil, Santa Claus is called Papai Noel & Bom Velinho (Good Old Man).



AUSTRALIA



During the Christmas holidays in Australia, most families try to be home together and the main meal is normally eaten at lunchtime. Most people have a cold dinner or a barbecue with seafood such as prawns and lobsters along with the 'traditional English' food.



Did you know that Christmas comes in summer in Australia?!

Some houses decorate with bunches of 'Christmas bush', a native Australian tree with small green leaves and cream colored flowers.

Most towns and cities have festivals and parades. In some places, there is a fireworks display at a local park.



In summer the flowers turn a deep shiny red.



Some Australians hang wreaths on their front doors and many go out Christmas carol singing on Christmas Eve.



In each state capital city, there are large Carols by Candlelight services.

Australians often have Christmas Crackers at Christmas meal times.



CHINA



Christmas is not widely celebrated in China. Christmas is only often celebrated in major cities. In these big cities, there are Christmas trees, lights and other decorations on the streets and in stores.



In Chinese
Merry Christmas is
'Sheng Dan Kuai Le'.



People give apples on Christmas Eve because in Chinese Christmas Eve is called "Ping'an Ye", meaning peaceful or quiet evening, which has been translated from the carol 'Silent Night'. The word for apple in Mandarin is "pingguō" which sounds like the word for peace.

In China, Santa Clause is known as 'Sheng dan lao ren' (means Old Christmas Man). The postmen might dress up as Santa when delivering letters before Christmas!



Only a few people have a Christmas tree. If people do have a tree it is normally a plastic one and might be decorated with paper chains, paper flowers, and paper lanterns.



Christmas is regarded as a "Valentine's Day" by many young Chinese people.

Many of China's Christians celebrate Christmas as the top event of the year.



CANADA



Christmas in Canada is celebrated as it is in other Western countries, with December 25th being the official holiday in Canada, with many Canadians also taking time off on the afternoon of the 24th for Christmas Eve.



Merry Christmas!



The main Christmas meal is often roast turkey with vegetables and 'all the trimmings' like mashed potatoes and vegetables.



The Eastern Canadian province of Nova Scotia is known all over the world for its fir and pine Christmas Trees, so most families in Canada have a fir or pine Christmas Tree.



Canadians like to decorate their houses with Christmas Trees, lights and other decorations. There's often Christmas stockings hung by the fireplace.



Christmas crackers are popular with many people in Canada. And, like England, are present at the Christmas meal.

A rich fruit Christmas Cake is also normally eaten around Christmas time!



PRAY

FIRST

Join us
January 8th, 2023



PRAY FIRST 2023

Pray First is an opportunity to start off 2023 doing what matters most above all - connecting with God and growing in relationship with Him.

As we enter a new year, we want to collectively pursue God through prayer and daily connection with Him churchwide. As a church we know that apart from connection with Him we cannot experience the transformation we long for in our lives and in the lives of those in our city and spheres of influence. Taking time to put Him first, sets us on the trajectory personally and collectively to experience the transformative power of His love that comes from regular connection with Him.

Join us as we learn to grow in recognizing His voice and experiencing His presence together as we kick off 2023 with Pray First!

WAYS TO ENGAGE PRAY FIRST:

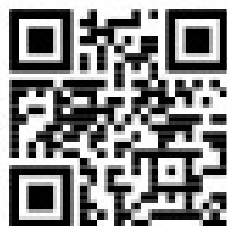
All Campus Worship Night - Jan 8th @ 7pm at Gateway North

Daily Devotional - Download a copy on our app, or our prayer page at gatewaychurch.com/prayer. We will also have print versions available at your campus Connect Spot on January 8.

"Noon Zoom" - Zoom webinar style Jan 8-Jan 14 12:00-12:30. We will hear from Gateway staff and others as they share their hearts about the day's devotional topic and lead us in prayer.

Worship Playlist - Playlists aligning with the Pray First daily devotional topics available each day

More Resources - Find ways to further your journey of connecting with God and others throughout 2023 through Hearing God Workshops, Life Groups, All-Campus Worship Nights, Alpha Prayer Courses, Transformation Conference and more.



More details at gatewaychurch.com/prayer



JANUARY 1ST
AT GATEWAY

**SERVICES WILL BE
ONLINE ONLY**

9:15 & 11:15

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