

# 3

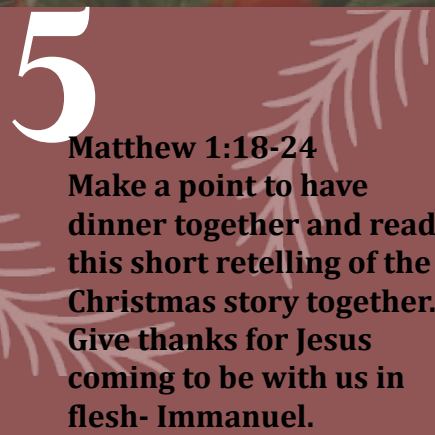
## First Sunday in Advent

Today is the first day of the Advent RIDGE Class!

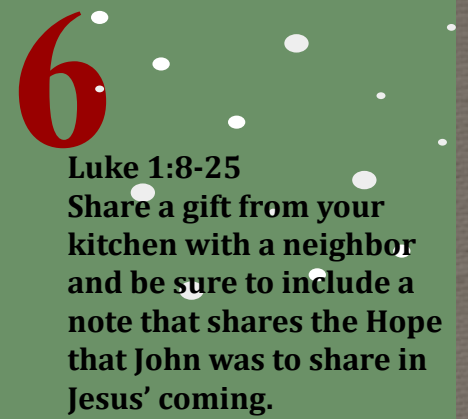
**This week's Advent focus is on sharing food.**



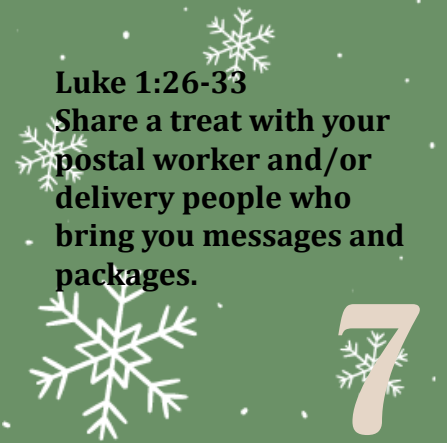
Isaiah 7:14  
God provides for us long before we even know we have a need. We can help provide for others. What non-expired food items do you have in your pantry that you could give to the Tree of Life? As a family, decide what items you could contribute to the Tree of Life Food Bank. Pray for those receiving your giving.



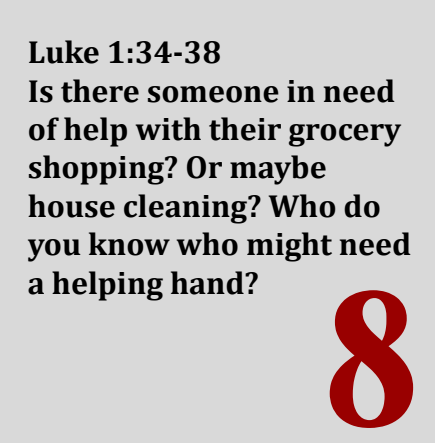
Matthew 1:18-24  
Make a point to have dinner together and read this short retelling of the Christmas story together. Give thanks for Jesus coming to be with us in flesh- Immanuel.



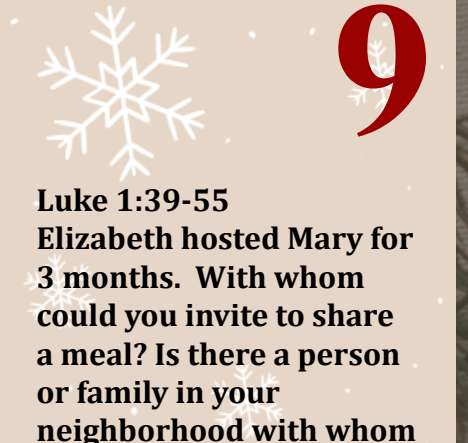
Luke 1:8-25  
Share a gift from your kitchen with a neighbor and be sure to include a note that shares the Hope that John was to share in Jesus' coming.



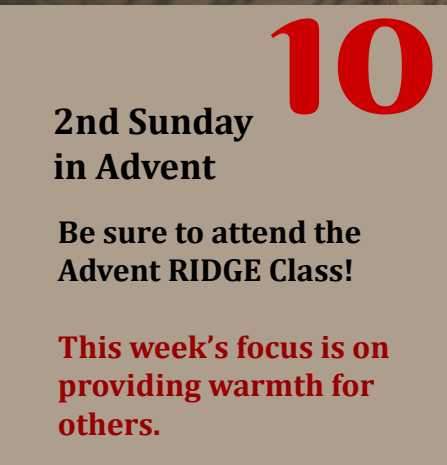
Luke 1:26-33  
Share a treat with your postal worker and/or delivery people who bring you messages and packages.



Luke 1:34-38  
Is there someone in need of help with their grocery shopping? Or maybe house cleaning? Who do you know who might need a helping hand?



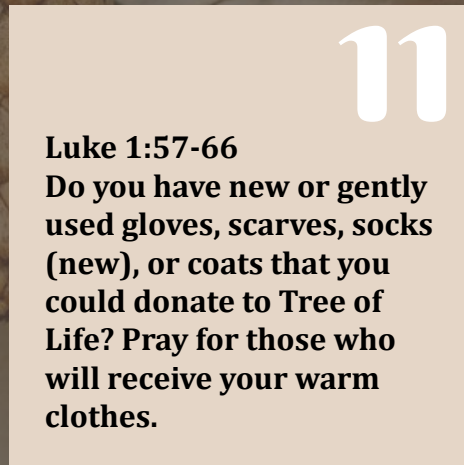
Luke 1:39-55  
Elizabeth hosted Mary for 3 months. With whom could you invite to share a meal? Is there a person or family in your neighborhood with whom you have been meaning to get to know?



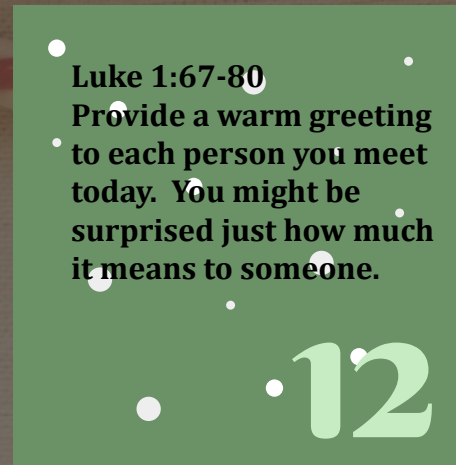
## 2nd Sunday in Advent

Be sure to attend the Advent RIDGE Class!

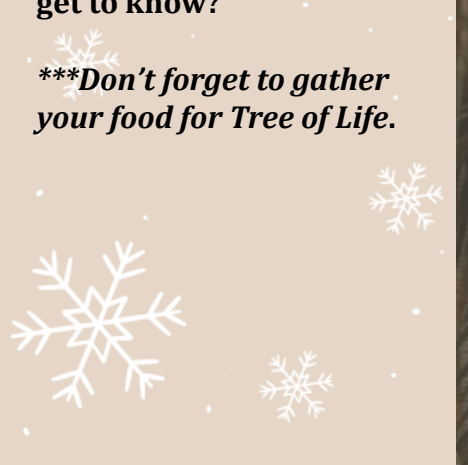
**This week's focus is on providing warmth for others.**



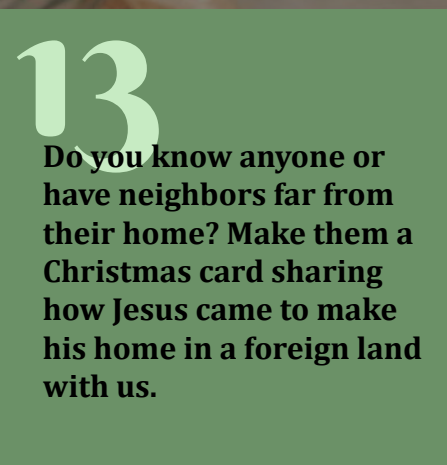
Luke 1:57-66  
Do you have new or gently used gloves, scarves, socks (new), or coats that you could donate to Tree of Life? Pray for those who will receive your warm clothes.



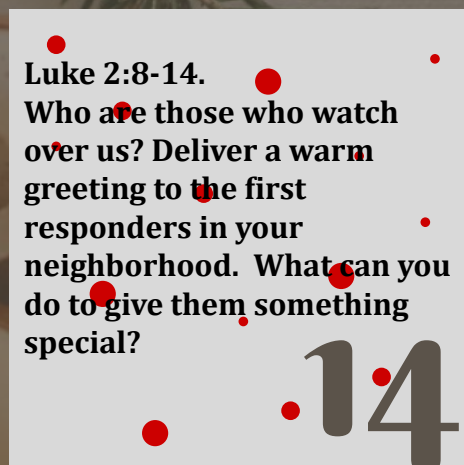
Luke 1:67-80  
Provide a warm greeting to each person you meet today. You might be surprised just how much it means to someone.



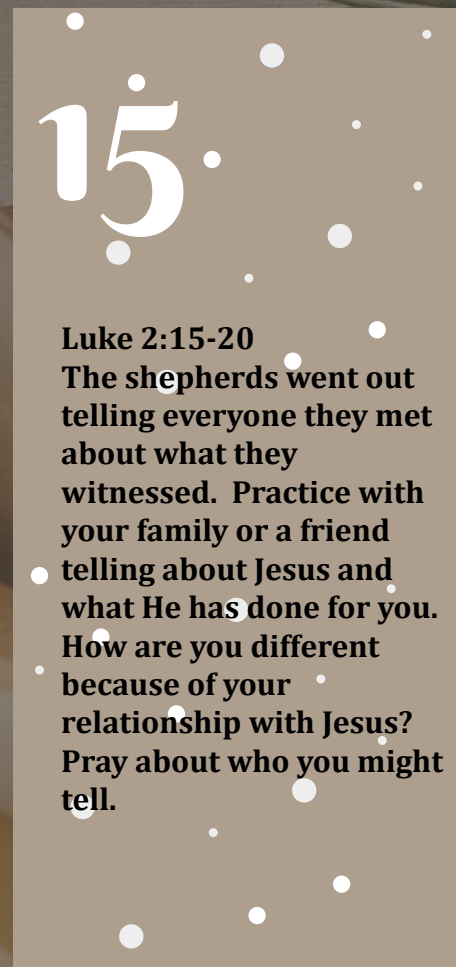
**\*\*\*Don't forget to gather your food for Tree of Life.**



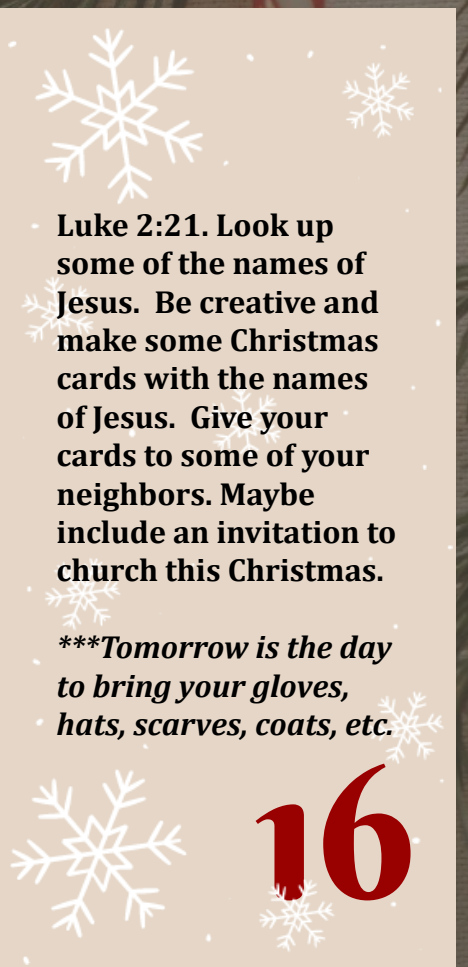
Do you know anyone or have neighbors far from their home? Make them a Christmas card sharing how Jesus came to make his home in a foreign land with us.



Luke 2:8-14.  
Who are those who watch over us? Deliver a warm greeting to the first responders in your neighborhood. What can you do to give them something special?



Luke 2:15-20  
The shepherds went out telling everyone they met about what they witnessed. Practice with your family or a friend telling about Jesus and what He has done for you. How are you different because of your relationship with Jesus? Pray about who you might tell.



Luke 2:21. Look up some of the names of Jesus. Be creative and make some Christmas cards with the names of Jesus. Give your cards to some of your neighbors. Maybe include an invitation to church this Christmas.

**\*\*\*Tomorrow is the day to bring your gloves, hats, scarves, coats, etc.**

The true meaning of Christmas often gets lost amid the holiday rush. This Reverse Advent Calendar aims to help us pause and focus on sharing Christ's love. In Matthew 25:34-40, Jesus guides us on practical ways to express our love for Him by helping those in need.

Joseph and Mary's journey in the Christmas Story, from Nazareth to Bethlehem, provides for us an opportunity to interact with the story by collecting items (food, clothing, baby items) which would have been needed for their journey.

In addition to collecting these items, there are daily suggestions for practically blessing family members, friends, and neighbors. Feel free to adapt the calendar to better suit your family. Share your ideas and stories on the Connect card as we strive to spread Christ's love in our communities.

Each day there will be a Christmas Bible verse or passage to read and on which to meditate.

~ Local Outreach team @ BRBC

# Reverse Advent Calendar

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## 3rd Sunday in Advent

What did you learn during the Advent class today? Do you remember the key idea from Week 1? Week 2? How has it changed your Christmas preparations?

**This week's focus is Baby items (new or gently used):**

- onesies
- sleepers (size 0-9mos)
- boys (6-9mos & 24mos)
- girls (3-6mos, 9mos, & 12mos)
- new crib sheets
- baby wash/shampoo
- baby diaper cream
- wipes
- baby bottles
- diapers size 5
- Maternity clothes- all sizes
- Amazon gift cards

**Pray for those who will receive your gifts.**

Luke 2:22-24

Do you know a mom who might need some extra help? Maybe wrapping presents, babysitting, etc.

# 18

# 19

Luke 2:25-32

Is there an elderly person, or shut in who could use a visit? Perhaps an elderly church member? Contact the Carver Center to see if you might volunteer there.

**Do you have other "Reverse Advent" ideas? Note them here and add to or adjust this calendar!**

# 20

Luke 2:33-35

Be intentional to have a family/friend time today and discuss this verse in light of the Resurrection.

How does Christmas prepare you for Easter? Pray about who you might have an opportunity to talk with about Christ and who might you invite to the Christmas Eve service?

# 21

Luke 2:36-38

Make cards and treats for the workers at a senior center. Pray for those who care for the elderly.

## 4th Sunday in Advent

*Our Christmas Eve service will be the conclusion to the Advent RIDGE class series, at 10:15am!*

What have you discovered in this time of Advent that has made an impact on you?

# 24

Luke 2:39-40

As you prepare to meet with family and friends over the coming days, how can you be intentional about setting aside time to grow in your wisdom? How will you share what you are learning? Be specific and write down what you are learning.

# 22

# 23

Matthew 2:1-12

Do you have a tradition that puts Christ first on Christmas morning? If you don't have a tradition, what could you start this year?

**\*\*\*Bring your baby items with you.**

## Notes & reminders

