**Contacts for Christmas Service**

**Canadian Baptist Ministries** – Gift Catalogue - give <https://www.cbmin.org/cbm/giftcatalogue/>

**World Vision** - Gift Catalogue - give

<https://catalogue.worldvision.ca/gifts>

**Pioneers** - give

<http://www.pioneers.ca/>

**Food Bank of Waterloo Region** – volunteer, give

<http://www.thefoodbank.ca/en/>

**Samaritan`s Purse** – pack a shoe box (online)

<http://www.samaritanspurse.ca/operation-christmas-child/>

**Children & Family Services of Waterloo Region -** volunteer

Volunteer.Services@facswaterloo.org

**Ray of Hope** – teens or adults - volunteer

[www.rayofhope.net](http://www.rayofhope.net) or call 519-578-8018



“May your face shine in the light of His love;

may your spirit rejoice in the gift of His salvation;

may your heart be still in the presence of His peace!”

**A Meaningful Christmas**

**Devotional Meditations and Activities**

Adapted from “The Purpose of Christmas” by Rick Warren

1. **Celebrate the birth of Christ!**

**Luke 2:10**

***But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you***

***good news that will cause great joy for all the people.***

In the Christmas story we hear again how much God loves us. Nothing can separate us from this love.

**Activity Idea:** Host a simple neighbourhood Christmas party for friends, co-workers and family. Allow those invited to contribute. You may make the event a pot-luck, cookie exchange or a birthday party for Jesus. Celebrate the birth of Christ!

1. **Experience Salvation**

***Luke 2:11***

***Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you;***

***he is the Messiah, the Lord.***

Jesus came to save us from sin. We are saved so that we can live holy lives. We are saved by his grace, not our own efforts.

**Activity Idea:** Share the love of Christ and the joy of the season with someone who needs to know they are loved. You might make a meal for someone, serve at a soup kitchen or purchase Christmas gifts for children.

1. **Be Reconciled to God and others**

***Luke 2:14***

***Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”***

Jesus came to restore broken relationships – he came to bring us peace with God (spiritual), to give us the peace of God (emotional) and to restore peace with others (relational).

**Activity Idea:** Reflect on the gifts God has given you – friends, children, new relationships, church, provisions, etc. What can you give back to God as an act of worship this Christmas? Decide how and when to do this.

**Learn a Christmas Carol**

**On Christmas Night**

Traditional

On Christmas night all Christians sing,

to hear the news the angels bring;

News of great joy, news of great mirth,

News of our merciful King’s birth

When sin departs before His grace

then life and health come in its place

Angels and men with joy may sing,

All for to see the new born King.

From out of darkness we have light,

Which made the angels sing that night,

Glory to God and peace to men

Now and forever more Amen.

**Start a Christmas Prayer Journal**

Use these suggestions to begin journaling during Advent



|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Dec 1 | Dear God, this Christmas I hope… |
| Dec 2 | Lord, I’m so grateful… |
| Dec 3 | Father, help me see… |
| Dec 4 | Lord, help me celebrate… |
| Dec 5 | Forgive me, Lord, for… |
| Dec 6 | Father, I pray for… |
| Dec 7 | Lord, help my family to see… |
| Dec 8 | Teach me, Lord… |
| Dec 9 | Lord, my life has meaning because… |
| Dec 10 | God, please give me the heart to… |
| Dec 11 | Jesus, I will always remember… |
| Dec 12 | Father, the purpose of my life is to … |
| Dec 13 | Lord, help me overcome… |
| Dec 14 | Today, Lord, I just want to tell you… |
| Dec 15 | Jesus, thank you for saving me from.... |
| Dec 16 | Father, I choose to give you… |
| Dec 17 | Lord, where I really need your touch is… |
| Dec 18 | Lord, I will never forget… |
| Dec 19 | Please, Lord, help me reconcile with… |
| Dec 20 | God, I thank you today for… |
| Dec 21 | Lord, help me to remember that… |
| Dec 22 | Jesus, I`m asking you to help my friend… |
| Dec 23 | Lord, my heart yearns for… |
| Dec 24 | Jesus, above all else, I want you to know… |
| Dec 25 | Happy Birthday, Jesus… |