



Mission Servants Activity of the Month

December 2017

Have a birthday party for Jesus!

Everyone loves birthday parties! What better way to focus on the true meaning of Christmas by celebrating Jesus' birthday. Invite your congregation, and the neighborhood to participate.

DECORATE - Christmas tree decorated with mite boxes, birthday balloons, streamers, tablecloths, tableware, and party favors (Jesus' birthday party ware is available online).

ACTIVITIES – Have a Nativity play. Sing Christmas Hymns. Make Christian Christmas crafts. Write down things you have done for Jesus and deposit them into a decorated shoe box with a slit on top (sharing God's love, encouraging others, obeying, doing something for someone else). Matthew 25:40 "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' Take time to share some of these with the group. Make birthday cards for Jesus, put them under your tree, and read them to Him on Christmas morning. Provide a Christmas book for each child that attends (see list below).

FOOD – "Happy Birthday Jesus" cake. Sing Happy Birthday. Put candles on each piece of cake. Blow out candles. Have a discussion – "What would Jesus ask for if He blew out the candle?"

GIFTS - Bring can goods to donate to the local Food Bank (place them under the tree). Everyone takes a mite box home to fill by December 25 th . (Place a quarter in for every pair of shoes you own, for every tool you own, for every purse you own, for every Christmas present you buy for family and friends, for every blessing you received this year, etc..



Lutheran
Women
in Mission



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Have a baby shower for Jesus!

This is another fun way to look forward to the birth of our Lord and Savior. Invite your whole congregation to participate.

You can decorate for a shower. Decorate your Christmas tree with baby bottles (available at local pregnancy center), and encourage everyone to take one home to fill with coins for your local pregnancy center. Set a date for return of the bottles. A suggested date is on or before January 21, 2018, which is Life Sunday. Activities may include a nativity play, shower games that reflect the story of Jesus' birth. Everyone brings a shower gift for baby Jesus. You may also ask for gently used clothes to help with the needs of older siblings. Ask your local center for their "needs list."

Use the Celebrate Jesus ideas to spread the Gospel and inspire others to do the same. Use a

Thrivent Action Team for seed money for your project to purchase items for

"Birthday Party for Jesus!" or "A Baby Shower for Jesus."

EXTENSION - SHARING GOD'S LOVE

1. Invite a woman in a nursing home to come to the event with you.
2. Go Christmas Caroling to the homebound in your congregation, and to a nursing home.
3. Bake cookies, or make a meal for a single mom, a widow, or widower.
4. Make "Bundles of Joy." Sew baby quilts. Put diapers, baby wipes, onesie, other baby items, Bible, and Mustard Seeds for Young Mothers in the center of the quilt. Tie the quilt up into a bundle with a big ribbon and distribute these to a hospital, pregnancy center, or other community organization.
5. For the month of December: Set up a community babysitting service for parents on Saturdays. Volunteer one day a week at a nursing home, pregnancy center, hospital, mission, or food bank.
6. Send an extra mite gift to LWML at www.lwml.org
7. Send a mission gift to LCMS at lcms.org/givenow



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