

URGENT PRAYER

- Violet Larry, health
- Johnny Williams, heart attack recovery

Join us for a New Year's Eve CELEBRATION

Monday, December 31, 2018, 5 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Lloyd Center Double Tree Hotel
1000 NE Multnomah Street - Portland, OR

Hosted by the Sharon SDA Church

Music, Food & Fun for ALL ages!

FORMAL BLACK TIE ATTIRE

RSVP by Thursday, December 27th
to Melainie Dottin 971.325.5602
or Jumah Smith 404.860.7497

TIPS FOR HEALTHY WINTER SKIN

- Invest in a humidifier to maximize moisture and help your skin stay hydrated.
- Lower thermostat to a comfortable setting of 68°F to 72°F, to avoid making air in house drier.
- Limit shower time and temperature to a 5 to 10-minute lukewarm shower or bath.
- Opt for gentle, fragrance-free cleansers to keep skin from becoming dry and itchy.
- Modify your facial skin-care by choosing cream-based cleansers and applying toners and astringents sparingly. Don't forget the petroleum jelly for your lips.
- Moisturize frequently with creams or ointments vs lotions (which are more effective in warm weather).
- Apply sunscreen, even on gray winter days when the sun's harmful UV rays can still cause damage.
- Wear light layers made from soft, breathable materials directly against your skin, and then pull on your heavier, warmer sweaters.
- Eat right and stay hydrated. Supplements that contain omega-3 or omega-6 fatty acids can help skin stay hydrated from the inside.
- Change out of wet clothes quickly to avoid irritating your skin and causing itchiness.

Christmas Around the World

At Christmas, Christians all over the world celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. Traditional Christmas decoration often can be admired and festive celebrations can be joined in most countries, even in many of the countries where Christianity is not the religion of the majority of people. Generally celebrated on the 25th of December, some countries have season celebrations that take place over a longer period of time.

In many regions in France, Christmas celebrations start with St Nicholas day on December 6th. Then children get sweets and little gifts. Many cities are decorated, especially in the Alsace region, where they say the first decorated Christmas trees appeared as far back as the 14th century.

On Christmas eve, Children put their polished shoes out in front of the chimney and hope that 'Père Noël' (Father Christmas) fills the shoes with sweets. Christmas Day is a public holiday and families get together for a big feast and exchange presents.

In Italy, a nativity scene (which originated in Italy) is usually put up in churches, town squares and often in homes. This is for many the most important part of the Christmas decorations. 'Babbo Natale' (Father Christmas), hands out presents to children on Christmas Day. Gifts are exchanged on the 6th of January, which is the Day of Epiphany.

In the weeks leading up to Christmas, festive Christmas markets are set up on main squares in German cities. Houses are often decorated with fairy lights and festive ornaments in December, however, the Christmas tree is only put up and decorated at the homes in the morning of December 24th

Even though Christmas is celebrated on December 25th in England, most people start decorating early. Houses are decorated with fairy lights and sparkling displays, and home-owners collect donations from visitors to aid in local charities.

In Norway, children wait for 'Julenisse' (the Norwegian Santa Claus) on Christmas Eve, to bring them presents.

It is summer during Christmas season in Australia. In the weeks leading up to Christmas, its traditional to join in Christmas picnics organized by various churches and sing Christmas carols on the beach.

LET'S CHAT!

with Pastor D

Luke 2:7 "And she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them."

We continue this week by sharing more parallels between Jesus' birth and death. Last week I presented that He was rejected by family and later by the disciples. However, Christ endured more that rejection.

OSTRACIZED BURDEN

CARRIER Christ was also ostracized at His birth and death. Luke presents that there was no room for Jesus in the inn. The word Luke uses for inn (kataluma), is also used to describe the room where Jesus shared the Last Supper with His disciples.

Archeological evidence shows that houses in Bethlehem and its vicinity had caves at the back where families kept their prized ox or beast of burden - animals that could pull or carry heavy loads for the family. This was most likely the type of place where Jesus was born.

The irony is that He was rejected and ostracized at birth to a cave, and similarly would be betrayed in a room or cave. However, the greatest parallel from His birth to His death is that Christ became a "beast of burden" that commonly lived in mangers and carried the sins of the world.



SHARON SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

December 22, 2018

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

DECEMBER

JANUARY

- 24 Sharon Church Office Closed 12/24 & 12/25**
- 24 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY**
- 25** Mid-week Study 7pm
- 26** Sabbath School/Divine Worship 9:45am
- 29** New Church Leaders Consecration 11am
- 29** Community Service Food Pantry 2pm
- 29 Sharon Church Office Closed 12/31 & 1/1**
- 31 New Year's Eve Party, Lloyd Center Double Tree Hotel 5pm**
- 1 NEW YEARS HOLIDAY**
- 2** Mid-week Study 7pm
- 2 PAA Return to School—Late Start 10am**
- 2 PAES Return to School**
- 4 Adventist Med Cntr First Friday 7:15pm**
- 5** Sabbath School/Divine Worship 9:45am
- 5** Bible Study 2pm
- 7** Bible Study 12pm
- 9** Mid-week Study 7pm
- 12** Sabbath School/Divine Worship 9:45am
- 13** Elder's Meeting 10:30am
- 14** Bible Study 12pm
- 16** Mid-week Study 7pm
- 19** Sabbath School/Divine Worship 9:45am
- 19** Community Service Food Pantry 2pm
- 19** Bible Study 2pm
- 20** Bible Study 12pm
- 23** Mid-week Study 7pm
- 26** Sabbath School/Divine Worship 9:45am
- 26** Community Service Food Pantry 2pm

*Items that appear in red are at partner locations,
additional information on Sharon church bulletin board.*