

# Women of Emmanuel

December 2014



## Hurry.... Christmas is coming!

I read a devotional recently that discussed the hurriedness of Christmas. Our culture is in such a hurry for the Christmas season that stores start putting out Christmas items before the Halloween candy is even off the shelves! We hurry through Thanksgiving to get to the Black Friday sales. We hurry to get our homes decorated, hurry to get all the presents bought and hurry through all the extra events and parties leading up to the big day. I participate in this hurriedness just as much as the next person. I really do not know another way to do Christmas.

The devotional I read pointed out that hurriedness at Christmas is nothing new. If you remember, there was a good bit of hurrying that first Christmas, too. Mary

and Joseph were hurrying (as in a hurry with a full term pregnant woman on a donkey) to get to Bethlehem before the baby arrived. Once there, they hurried to find a safe place for the night so Mary could deliver the baby. Then the Bible tells us that the shepherds, upon hearing the good news from the angels, left their flocks and hurried to see the newborn king.

I think this Christmas season I will try and hurry like the shepherds. I will make it my goal to leave my daily responsibilities for a time and hurry to worship my savior each day.

## Jesus is the reason!! Ways the whole family can share Jesus in the Christmas season.

Invite your friends and loved ones to church. People are more open to spiritual matters this time of year.

Purchase booklets and tracts with the message of the gospel and distribute them with your Christmas cards.

Show God's love through volunteer service in the community, or help those in need have a better Christmas through a financial contribution.

Share the good news through song, go caroling.

Have your family act out the nativity story.

Write a Christmas letter to a missionary and thank them for their life of service.



## Emmanuel Ladies' Christmas Party Christmas Comfort

This Friday, December 5<sup>th</sup>  
6:30 pm in the EBC Fellowship Hall

Wear your most comfortable Christmas apparel (pj's and sweats acceptable)

Bring your favorite Christmas finger food

We will be making a Christmas craft!  
(\$5 suggested donation)

**Have a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year!**

## Emmanuel Holiday Recipes

*At one of our past Christmas parties, Emmanuel ladies shared some of their favorite holiday recipes. Here are a few:*

### Bacon Swiss Dip - *Melanie Jennings*

2 8-ounce packages of cream cheese, softened  
2 cups shredded Swiss  
1 cup mayonnaise  
1 pound bacon crumbled and divided  
1 bunch green onions, chopped

Mix all ingredients, reserving 1/2 of the bacon. Cook in a small baking dish for 20 minutes at 350 degrees until bubbly. Serve with Wheat Thins.

### Cream Cheese Pound Cake - *Bridget Willeford*

3 cups flour  
1 (8 oz.) cream cheese, softened  
3 sticks butter  
1 tsp. vanilla  
3 cups sugar  
6 eggs

Cream butter and sugar until fluffy; add eggs one or two at a time And cream cheese into butter and sugar mixture. Add vanilla. Blend in flour and bake at 325 degrees F for 1 hour and 10 minutes. This makes one large bunt cake.

### Las Vegas Fruit Salad - *Joyce McKibben*

1 (6 oz) can frozen orange juice  
1 large pkg. vanilla instant pudding  
1 large cool whip  
1 (8oz) sour cream  
1 large can sliced peaches, drained  
1 large can pineapple tidbits, drained  
1 apple, chopped  
2 bananas, sliced  
1/2 cup chopped nuts  
1/2 cup coconut

Mix orange juice, pudding and cool whip with electric mixer. Add sour cream and blend. Stir in the remaining ingredients until well blended. Good made day ahead.

### Sweet Potato Casserole - *Susan Simmons*

3 c. sweet potato  
1/2 c. sugar  
1/2 c. milk  
2 eggs  
1 stick butter  
1 t. vanilla  
1/2 t. salt

Run through strainer (I just use a beater to get out the strings) and top with the following ingredients:

1 c. brown sugar  
1 c. chopped pecans  
1 stick butter  
1/3 c. flour

Mix and sprinkle on top.

Cook at 350 degrees for about 30 minutes or until top looks done.

## Coming up.....

Nov. 9 Church potluck

Dec. 5 Annual EBC Ladies' Christmas party

Dec. 13 Anne McKibben's Wedding

Dec. 14 Children sing in morning service

Dec. 20 Sara Beth Wallace's Wedding



## Christmas Bible Study – online

*Emanuel ladies are participating on an online, 4-week, Christmas Bible Study. If you missed the Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> start date, contact Bridget Willeford for more information.*



***For God so loved the world he gave his only begotten son, that who so ever believes in him, will not perish, but have everlasting life. John 3:16***

*And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth. - John 1:14*