

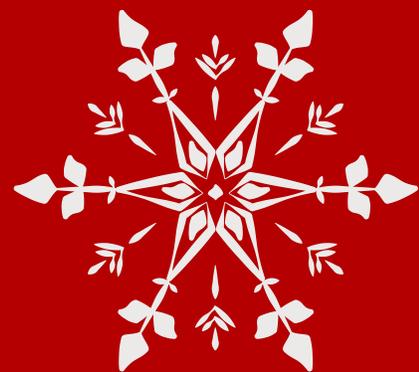


# December Scoop

Written and edited by  
SaraJane Devereaux

## Christmas Edition!

Featuring a youth  
spotlights of  
December, Christmas  
music favorites, how  
to bring more Jesus  
to the Christmas  
table, and more!



# Youth Spotlight: Jay Harper!



What is your name?

Jay Harper

What grade are you in?

8th grade

How old are you?

13-years-old

Do you know what you want to be when you grow up?

If yes, then what?

I want to be either a police officer or start my own business

How long have you been coming to Youth Ministries?

I have been coming for a year and a half

If you had 1 million dollars, what would you do with it?

I would probably give half of it to myself and half of it away

What's a non-profit or foundation that you love? Why do you love it?  
SOS Radio, that's my dad's radio station, that's why I love it. (You can listen to SOS Radio if you turn your radio station to 90.5)

If you could change one thing about the world, what would it be and why?

I would probably change the fact that people are being treated different because everyone is human.

Do you drink enough water in the day? Be truthful.

I probably don't drink enough water tbh, lol.

What's your best subject in school?

ELA is my best subject.

What's your favorite movie and book?

My favorite movie is Avengers Endgame and my favorite book is Harry Potter and The Prisoner of Azkaban.

What does your house look like on Christmas?

It looks like a happy place to me

Thank you for participating! Do you have anything to say to youth who might be struggling or might need some extra inspiration?

I hope people can get through this tough time and other youth can help them.

Got something you want to share? Want to be interviewed? Let us know and you can be the next Youth Spotlight for the January Scoop!





# We asked, you answered!

## What is your favorite Christmas song?



-It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas- Michael Buble

-The Christmas Shoes-NewSong

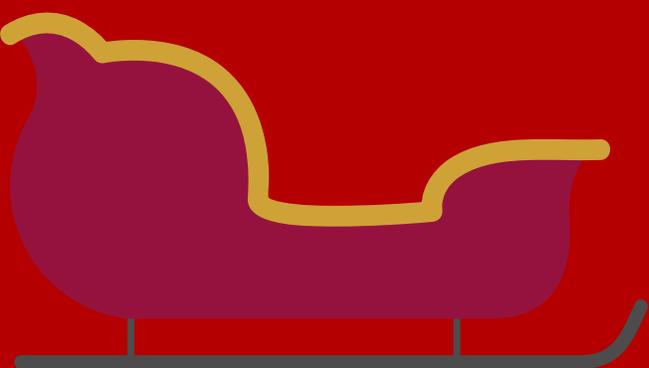
- Jesus Savior- Chris August

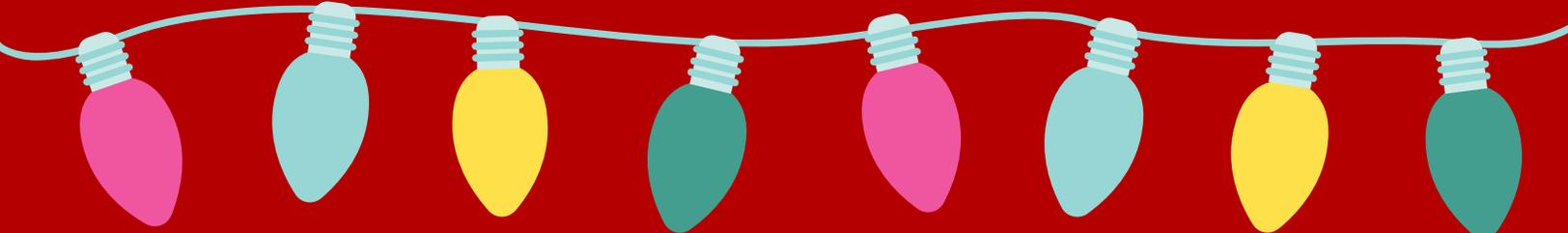
- I'll be home for Christmas-  
Bing Crosby

-I'll be home for Christmas-  
Kacey Musgraves

- Heaven & Earth- Leslie Odom Jr.

Join in on the conversation next month by watching out for questions on the Youth Group Facebook page!





# Are you missing Jesus during this Christmas season?!?

Lucky for you, we got your life saver (haha, get it, because Jesus saves our lives? Okay, some of us don't get out much). Here are the top 10 ways to include Jesus in your Christmas season!

1. Share your favorite bible verses!
2. Ask what your friends/families favorite Christmas hymn is!
3. Invite someone to Zoom Sunday School!
4. Ask someone how they celebrate Jesus' birth!
5. Send a Christmas card to your youth leaders!
6. Make Christmas cookies for you and your family!
7. Attend a (virtual) Christmas Eve Service!
8. Call someone you know that is struggling!
9. Donate money in someones honor instead of buying a gift!
10. Light your Advent wreath!



# Christmas Devotional

When we learn about Jesus' story as a child, we're proud of it, right? I can't tell you how many little kids I've gone up to that get so excited to tell me how God sent down Jesus to save us. I find that the perfect little moment for children.

Jesus came to the earth to save us. Sometimes I have to say that to myself a few times before anything absolutely clicks. Like wow, the same God that created talented humans like Lin-Manuel Miranda and Michelle Obama also decided to send down a baby in which will grow up knowing that he will save all of us from our sins. That's insane.

This season, I've been spending a lot of time in thought. I've been noticing where God is in my life. I've also been trying to find places where I can involve God more. I think that we all might need a moment to remember who this season is really about.

Now, you're probably like "oh my gosh, SaraJane, we know what the Christmas season is about, Captain Obvious." But here's what I'm trying to say. How many of your friends believe in God? I'm not saying how many of them go to church. I'm asking how many of them believe in God. How can you engage friends who don't into conversation of who God is in your life?

I've been listening to the song "Wake Up" by All Sons & Daughters a lot this time of year. This song really gets me every time I listen to it. If you've never listened to it, I recommend it. Sometimes all we need is a little song like this to help give us that little boost to spread Gods word. This song is that for me.

The lyric "Here we stand our hearts are yours. Lord, not our will but yours be done." is probably one of the most influential and moving lyric I have heard in any Christian song. I'm a musician and I play a lot of music. I tend to lean out of the Christian songs, but something I have noticed is that when I play Christian songs on my instruments, I tend to like it better then songs I hear on the radio.

The true Christmas spirit is something that was lost over time. Now it's all about the great deals and presents that cost more then they should. I wish more people believe in what happened that Christmas day. I wish more people spent their Christmas eve at their churches, where they learn more and more about Jesus and themselves through scripture and worship. I want to go back to the song I mentioned before. It says "wake up all believers." I think that's something we need to do this season. We need to gather (maybe not physcially) together and celebrate how much God has done for us in our time on this earth. We need to celebrate the moments we have had this year where something amazing happened. And we also need to celebrate the not so great things, because everything happens for a reason. God planned it out this way.

We have all lost something this year, and we need to make sure that we're kind this season because it's not jolly for some. Make sure you reach out to some friends who are struggling during this season.

This Christmas season, instead of buying a friend a present that they might not care about in a few years, consider buying them a present that they can hold onto.

Consider donating to a chairty or foundation in their name. It can help others and make them feel good. And it shares Gods love around like pumpkin butter and peppermint candy canes.



# Youth Christmas Prayer:

This year, Christmas is a little bit different for all of us. We have a lot to pray about. We would love it if you could say this prayer everyday of Advent.

Dear Lord, as we enter this time where we spread spirit and hope, we ask that you can give peace and forgiveness to those who need it. This year is very different then we've seen before and we need your goodness here on earth. We pray that those who are homeless and alone during this season can find your greatness and know that they aren't alone if they believe in you. We pray for the injustices that we have faced this year and the loss we have gone through. We thank you for your kindness and blessings. This season is yours, and we will make sure of it.

Amen.



# Upcoming Events:

December 6th: Secret Santa Event- Send message to your secret Santa

December 6th: Sunday School @ 9:15 AM

December 10th: 6th Grade Event @ 5:00 PM

December 13th: Sunday School @ 9:15 AM

December 13th: Game Night @ 5:00 PM

December 13th: Secret Santa Event- Mail a card to your secret Santa

December 17th: December Drop-off

December 20th: Sunday School @ 9:15 AM

December 20th: Secret Santa Event- Deliver gift to your secret Santa

December 21st: Monday Fun Day @ 4:00 PM

December 24th: Christmas Eve on the Lawn (Register only)

December 27th: Sunday School @ 9:15 AM

December 27th: Secret Santa Event- Reveal Party (Time TBD)

Email Julie @ [julie@desertspringchurch.com](mailto:julie@desertspringchurch.com) for Zoom links



➦ MERRY ➦  
CHRISTMAS