

Dear Friends and Faithful Supporters,

"The way of life is above to the wise, that he may depart from hell beneath."

Proventy 15:24

The church memorized this verse as part of our "Wisemen Still Seek Jesus" theme for this Christmas season.

Christmas comes and goes in a flurry of activities:

Starting in November, we decorated and had a large group of children who came to help us decorate the church Christmas tree.



Then it was time to shop for coloring and activity books, crayons, and snacks for the children, fancy popcorn for the adults, and ingredients for pumpkin bread for the shut-ins.

Pre-school dismissed for break on December 8^{th} with a wonderful Christmas program and party. The students were excited to receive a new, large lunch bag filled with goodies.

Time flew by once break started as we packaged up the Christmas gifts and baked bread for the deliveries.

The choir worked hard learning songs for the cantata: "Wisemen Still Seek Jesus", the Junior Quiz Masters studied each letter of the word C-H-R-I-S-T-M-A-S in depth, and we were blessed to have a special candlelight service and communion right before Christmas.

Then it was time to deliver bread to the shut-ins along with the food baskets and a lot of visiting in the community.

Although we would have loved to see even more adults and children in our Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services, we were thankful for all those who were "wise" enough to seek the Lord during this holiday season.

My family also had some health struggles during this time:

- Dad had a lot of tests run due to a mass, but was blessed to discover that it was not as serious as first diagnosed.
- 2. Mom had a severe allergic reaction while we were cleaning out the attic that gave us quite a scare! The Lord had just the right doctors available to meet her needs.
- 3. I have struggled a lot this season with my chronic Gerd. Please pray for our health as we enter the New Year.

As 2024 rapidly approaches, we have chosen "Be Ready" for Jesus' return as our theme for the New Year. We are looking forward to our special Old Year Service. Please pray with us that people will be "wise" in the New Year and choose "life above."

Your prayers and giving make this ministry possible. Thank-you for another great year to serve the Lord and for being "wise" as you continue to seek Christ. Happy New Year!

Serving together with you to reach the children of Grenada,

Carrie Mathena

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