

# MOMS TOGETHER THE ENCOURAGER

December 2008

## Jesus' Miracle Birth

By Stacey McCord

I remember the moment that I found out that I was pregnant. As I was taking the test, the double lines were showing up on the pregnancy test almost instantly. I only needed one test to believe the impossible. At that moment, I knew the unbelievable miracle I was given. When I look at Mary, I see the mother of Jesus. When Mary first heard the plan about giving birth to God's son, she said YES Lord! She did not question, it was God's will, and nothing is impossible with God. She knew in her heart, Jesus was sent to fulfill the prophecies of the law, and to save the world. God spoke to her heart, and she listened. Now, when I see Mary I see a woman in step with God. She fully believed and fully trusted God with her life. Amazingly, she held Jesus in her arms as he arrived into the world, and was also there to watch him die on the cross as her Savior. We as moms can identify with Mary as a mother, holding our precious ones, and then knowing we cannot control their lives. Life is hard. Remember, the same God Mary trusted, is the same God who wants you to trust Him. If you hear God speaking to you, today is the day to begin a new life with Him. He desires for you to be a YES woman for Him. Jesus came as the miracle, the gift, and the promise for new life.



Moms Together  
Mission Statement



- Celebrating the journey of motherhood.
- Building relationships with other moms.
- Experiencing Christ's love through fellowship and study.

1 Thessalonians 5:11  
"Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing."

Moms Together  
Leadership



### Coordinator

Stacey McCord

### Co-Coordinator

Tance Salafia

### Hospitality Leader

April Anderson

### Mom Mentor Leaders

Camille Adams

Gwen Johnson

### Publicity Leader

Rosy Nelson

### Childcare Leader

Tance Salafia

### Web Site

<http://www.cornerstonecov.org/groups/moms-together/>



Moms Together  
Christmas Ornament Exchange Potluck

December 11

9:00 - 11:00

Bring Side  
Dish to Share

Camille's House  
2341 Nordic Way, Turlock

Bring \$5-10 Wrapped Ornament to Exchange.

8:30 - Drop off kids at church for childcare.

## Mom Encouragements

By Gwen Johnson

I've been thinking about our discussion at our last Moms Together meeting, with busy holidays approaching I realize how easy it is to go from a land of relative peace to the border of worry and anxiety. With Thanksgiving here, the truth of God's Word urges us to be thankful in everything. As we focus our minds on exhibiting gratitude, worry seems to subside. I came across this passage in Soul Retreats for Moms by Lila Empson, and was reminded that we can be truly thankful as we rest safely in God's arms.

*"As you pause from the activities of your day, sink into the pillows of a soft chair or couch and feel the tension leave you. As you let relaxation wrap you in comfort, think about wonderful things you have wrapped your arms around throughout the years like a long-missed friend or your newborn child those first precious weeks of life.*

*As you enjoy these memories, realize that your arms are not only the receivers of comfort and security, but they are givers of these blessings as well. No one else can provide your children the assurance they find and the peace they experience when they are wrapped in your arms and comforted by your voice. Although your children may sometimes flex their tiny muscles to impress you or pretend to be fierce in make-believe games, they would instantly run to the protective shelter of your arms if a real threat arose. They find comfort and strength in your arms.*

*God longs to be the protective arms and reassuring voice in your life. He waits for you to run to Him when you need shelter, comfort, or strength. He will gently hold you in His care and speak the words your heart so desperately needs to hear: You are safe, my child. Rest here in my arms.*

*These moments of rest offer a quiet opportunity for you to talk to God. He cares deeply about the tasks and concerns that have overwhelmed your heart today. He will restore your soul as you linger in the safety of His presence and listen to the reassuring words He whispers to your heart."*

Isaiah 40:11 reminds us, "The Lord tends his flock like a shepherd. He gathers the lambs in His arms and carries them close to His heart; He gently leads those that have young."



## Activity Corner

From Parents Magazine

### Glowing Votives

Add shiny snowflakes to candleholders for instant sparkle.

**What you need:** Snowflake punch, double-sided adhesive sheets, votive candleholders, glitter.

**To make:** Punch snowflake shape out of double-sided adhesive sheets. Peel off one side of adhesive, and stick to front of votive holder. Peel off top layer of adhesive, and sprinkle snowflake with glitter. Brush off excess.



## A Relaxing and Quick Latte at Home

By Stacey McCord

Heat a cup of coffee on stove top. Heat some milk (about 3/4 cup) till hot and then turn off the heat and use a whisk to beat the milk till it is frothy. Then pour over coffee and froth the top. For a bit of sweetness, add a 1/2 spoonful of sugar. The sky's the limit - be creative. Just keep the milk from burning.

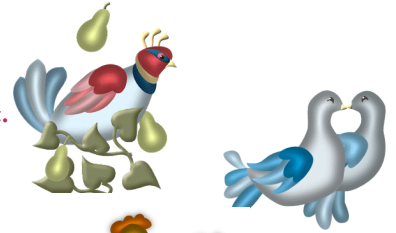


*"Grace be to you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ." Ephesians 1:2*

## Symbolism of the 12 Days of Christmas

On the first day of Christmas, my true love sent to me, a partridge in a pear tree.

The “my true love” and “a partridge in a pear tree” symbolizes the Messiah, Jesus Christ.



On the second day of Christmas, my true love sent to me, two turtle doves.

The “two turtle doves” symbolizes the Old and New Testaments of the Holy Bible.

On the third day of Christmas, my true love sent to me, three French hens.

The “three French hens” symbolizes Faith, Hope, and Charity, the greatest Theological Virtues.



On the fourth day of Christmas, my true love sent to me, four calling birds.

The “four calling birds” symbolizes the four Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

On the fifth day of Christmas, my true love sent to me, five golden rings.

The “five golden rings” symbolizes the first five Books of the Old Testament.



On the sixth day of Christmas, my true love sent to me, six geese a-laying.

The “six geese a-laying” symbolizes the six days of creation.

On the seventh day of Christmas, my true love sent to me, seven swans a-swimming.

The “seven swans a-swimming” symbolizes the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit, the seven Sacraments.



On the eighth day of Christmas, my true love sent to me, eight maids a-milking.

The “eight maids a-milking” symbolizes the eight Beatitudes.

On the ninth day of Christmas, my true love sent to me, nine ladies dancing.

The “nine ladies dancing” symbolizes the nine Fruits of the Holy Spirit.

On the tenth day of Christmas, my true love sent to me, ten lords a-leaping.

The “ten lords a-leaping” symbolizes the Ten Commandments.



On the eleventh day of Christmas, my true love sent to me, eleven pipers piping.

The “eleven pipers piping” symbolizes the eleven faithful Apostles.

On the twelfth day of Christmas, my true love sent to me, twelve drummers drumming.

The “twelve drummers drumming” symbolizes the twelve points of doctrine in the Apostle’s Creed.

## Moms Celebrations



Stephanie Roy

## December Anniversaries



Susan & Justin  
Allen

Gwen & Chuck  
Johnson

# December Calendar

Sunday	1 Monday	2 Tuesday	3 Wednesday	4 Thursday	5 Friday	6 Saturday
7 All Church Christmas Potluck Cornerstone 5 pm 	8	9	10	11 Moms Together Camille's House 9-11 am 	12	13 Santa Lucia Brunch Cornerstone 9:30 am 
14 The Messiah Turlock Community Theater 7 pm 	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 Christmas Eve Service Cornerstone 6 pm & 11 pm 	25 Christmas 	26	27
28	29	30	31			
<i>“Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.” Matthew 1:23</i>						

## Recipe Box



### Baked Brie & Mushroom Bread

By April Anderson

- 2 Tbsp butter
- 1 tsp minced garlic
- 1/4 cup white wine (optional)
- 12 oz sliced fresh mushrooms
- 2- 8oz wedges brie cheese, rind removed & cubed
- 1 loaf crusty french bread
- 2 1/2 Tbsp parmesan cheese



Preheat Broiler  
In a saucepan over low heat melt butter. Saute the garlic and mushrooms until tender. Add the white wine and then mix in the brie cheese. Cook and stir until cheese is melted and well blended. Remove the top of the bread and hollow out the center. Spoon the brie mixture into the bread. Sprinkle with parmesan cheese. Place on a baking sheet and broil 10 min or until top is lightly browned. Cool slightly and slice into wedges.  
Serves: 6-8

\* You may also use sourdough bread for this recipe or any other thick bread.



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These are some of the nice stores where we shop and they contributed gift certificates to our raffle. We hope that you enjoy them as much as we do.

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Camille Adams


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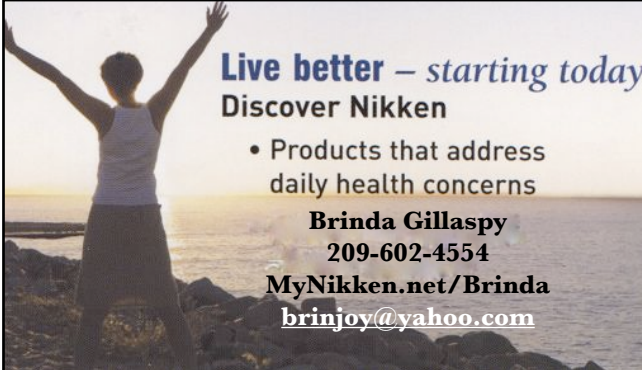
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