

Emmaus House Holiday Guide—Xmas Eve Festival

Children's Christmas Festival

Tuesday,
December 24

How You Can Help



Contact

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- To volunteer
- For pick-ups
- Set-up delivery time
- For gift suggestions
- For on-line shopping

Santa and Mrs. Claus give presents to children between 8:00 a.m. and noon on Christmas Eve. Last year more than 875 children came to Emmaus House! *The Xmas Eve Festival* includes children and their parents are entertained by a storyteller, magician and a Christmas movie and are given snacks.

- Gifts (wrapped or unwrapped), should be delivered between December 1 and December 22
- Sign up to shop, collect, wrap and label toys (*using the guidelines on the page 5-6*). This is a wonderful and fun family, group or parish activity.
- Set up an angel tree at your church or business. (See last page for instructions.) Collect and deliver toys.
- Come to Emmaus House and help sort, stack and wrap Christmas gifts during the month of December.
- Volunteer to help the Clauses on December 24th.
- No time to shop?
 - Send a donation to Emmaus House or make a donation online (www.emmaushouse.org) and we will shop for you!
 - Shop online and have items shipped to us.
 - Donate gift cards.



Magician D'vante Parks entertains group before seeing Santa and Mrs. Claus.

Photo by Bill Monk

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Gift Suggestions



Gift Wrap Instructions

Please do not wrap: stuffed animals, book bags, sleeping bags, basketballs, footballs and other balls.



Please Note:

No military toys, especially guns!

If it requires batteries, please provide them!

All Ages and Genders: Stuffed animals, balls, warm hats, scarves, gloves and socks.

Infants: Blankets, sleepers, diapers, wipes, baby lotion, powder, shampoo, drinking cups, educational toys and books. Clothing for 8 months and older.

Toddlers, 1 - 2 years: Girls, culturally sensitive dolls, tea sets, educational games, books. Boys, age-appropriate cars and trucks, soft footballs, and action figures. Boys or girls, musical & educational toys, stuffed animals, puzzles, games, back packs, art sets, building blocks, balls, crayons and coloring books, videos, and books.

3 - 5 years: Girls, culturally sensitive dolls, jewelry, purses, barrettes & hair accessories, dish/tea sets, jump ropes. Boys, trucks, cars, and action figures. Boys or girls, sports equipment, backpacks, sleeping bags, stuffed animals, art & craft, sets magic sets, chalk, books and educational toys.

6 - 8 years: Girls, culturally sensitive dolls, jewelry, purses, hair accessories, dish/tea sets, jump rope. Boys, trucks, car collections, and action figures. Boys or girls, Sports equipment, backpacks, duffel bags, sleeping bags, stuffed animals, art & craft and magic sets, chalk, science books, educational toys, games and videos.

9 - 12 years: Girls, inexpensive MP3 player, head set, science sets, jewelry, arts & crafts supplies, slippers, sports equipment, stuffed animals, back packs, board games, educational items, sleeping bags, books and DVDs. Boys, inexpensive MP3 player, head set, sports equipment, science sets, watches, arts & crafts supplies, back packs, board games, educational items, books and DVDs.

13 - 16 years: Girls, gift cards, inexpensive MP3 player, head set, watches, jewelry, makeup kits, hair brush and comb sets, slippers, pajamas, perfume, purses, sports equipment, backpacks, books and DVDs. Boys, gift cards, inexpensive MP3 player, head set, sporting equipment, backpacks, board games, playing cards, cologne, shaving items, nail clippers, and sunglasses.

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Gift Wrap Instructions



Please **do not wrap**: stuffed animals, book bags, sleeping bags, basketballs, footballs and other balls.

All wrapped, should be labeled to indicate the age and gender suitability and a brief description (1-3 words) of the gift. Use a white adhesive label to write the information.

SUPPLIES NEEDED: Wrapping paper, scissors, tape, black sharpies, white address labels (1" – 2 5/8").

1. Sort gifts by age *and* gender. Note: The age categories are: Infant, 1-2 , 3-5, 6-8 , 9-12, 13-16 and 17-18. The **three** gender categories are: **B**oy, **G**irl or **E**ither.
2. Setup stations with wrapping supplies and instructions. Put sorted unwrapped gifts at each station with appropriate labeling supplies. Be sure those working at the station know what the age and gender is for each gift they are wrapping.
3. Please place white address label (with age range, gender and brief description) on top of the gift where it is easily visible.
4. While all ages can help, non-adult wrappers will need careful supervision. We don't want any child to be disappointed by Santa's gift.

Sample
Label

B 6-8
board game

(Boy,
Age 6-8,
item)

Angel Tree Instructions



Cut out Christmas ornaments (last year's Christmas cards are a place to start). Number each ornament and write a description of the item age and gender of the child.

(For example #26, **3-5 year girl, doll.**) Keep a master list of the numbered ornaments/gifts.

3-4 weeks before Christmas, place an ornament tree in a high traffic area in your church or business. Invite people to pick an ornament, sign the numbered list, and take the ornament as a shopping reminder. When gifts and ornaments are returned, check them off the master list.

Host a wrapping party. It can be BYO paper, tape and scissors and is a great way to share Christmas joy. When all gifts are wrapped (**using the above specific instructions**) arrange delivery or pick-up to Emmaus House.

Thank You & Have A Merry Christmas