

Reclaiming Christmas

Whose Birthday Is It, Anyway?

The day after Christmas many people vow that “next Christmas is going to be different.” But unless congregations make plans right now to help members focus on the true meaning of the season, they will probably travel down the same road to disappointment, exhaustion, and overspent budgets. Presbytery has **many** materials that can help your church and your families “Reclaim Christmas.” Contact Lisa Pressley for a sample packet (828/438-4217; lpressley@presbyterywnc.org).

What about gifts? A while back someone came up with three helpful gift-giving guidelines. Again there are materials available through Presbytery that can help you flesh out each of these.

- 1. GIVE YOURSELF:** Might this not be the most precious and difficult gift to give to someone you love? Your presence instead of presents? Time instead of trinkets?
- 2. BUY WITH CONSCIENCE:** There are some wonderful gifts that you can buy, knowing that those who produced them are being treated with dignity.
- 3. GIVE TO THOSE HE CAME TO SERVE:** Although Jesus came for us all, His life and teachings reflect a special concern for those on the margins of society.



Each year a few gifts are offered by Presbytery, gifts that offer hope and help to those in special need. The following three pages describe these gifts for 2009. Note the option with a coloring card for children to purchase.

Churches can order a sample set and multiple order cards to display. If a church is having an Advent fair or an emphasis on “giving gifts that give twice,” we can provide multiples of the cards requested. We do ask that, as much as possible, you order the number of cards you think your church will need; we will send more if you run out. Or you can take orders and we’ll fill the order. Order forms can be used by individuals as well as congregations.

The sample order form below is for reproduction.

Please complete my order for the following Christmas cards -

Please send my completed order to:

For Africa ~ Adult Options: (\$20 each)

- Nkhoma Hospital - Malawi
- Nkhoma School Project - Malawi

Name : _____

Address: _____

Address : _____

For Guatemala ~ Adult Options: (\$20 each)

- Children’s Scholarship Fund
- Health Program

In the event of a question regarding your order, please provide a **Contact Number:** _____

E-mail Address: _____

Special Instructions: _____

Children’s Gift Options: (\$2 each)

- Children’s Cards (# of cards should equal # of stickers)
- Guatemalan Children’s Nutrition sticker (\$2 each)
- Malawian Children’s Nutrition sticker (\$2 each)
- Mosquito Net sticker (\$2 each)
- Guatemala Education Scholarship sticker (\$2 each)

Remit order form to:

Lisa Pressley
PWNC
114 Silver Creek Rd
Morganton, NC 28655
lpressley@presbyterywnc.org

Other Options: (amounts vary)

- Provide Fifteen Blood Tests at Nkhoma Hospital (\$20)
- Support Jakarta Theological Seminary, Indonesia (\$40)
- One Week Apartment Rent for Ebenezer School Teachers, Nkhoma (\$50)
- Help a Church Participate in the Acts 16:5 Initiative (Revitalization) (\$100)
- Enable a Small Church to have a Full-time Pastor (Support for 2 Weeks) (\$200)
- Provide a Half-day Supply of Medicine for Nkhoma Hospital (\$250)

Enclosed is a check
for \$ _____

