

# The Jubilee Journal

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## What a great CHRISTMAS!

What a fun and busy time! It was great to celebrate the birth of Christ at Jubilee #35 and together with the Cody community. Here are a few things that happened ...

### TIME IN THE TRAILER AND DECORATING THE TREE



### CHRISTMAS CAROLING IN THE PARK WITH THE GALAXY KIDS FROM CODY GMA



# THE CODY COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS STORE ...

The highlight of the Christmas season ... would have to be the Cody Community Christmas Store. Jubilee Inner-Town Ministries had the privilege of coordinating a new way to get Christmas gifts to needy families here in Cody. For years, the volunteer fire department has been purchasing gifts for kids from poor families. This year, they had \$4000 plus an additional \$1000 from Walmart and they wanted to be very intentional on how they blessed families with this money.

So, they partnered with us so we could help locate the families most in need of the help. As we talked, an idea for a “Christmas Store” emerged. This would give parents the chance to select the gifts they want for their kids, and the kids to pick something for their parents. Parents could choose to pay a little bit of the cost of the gifts so they would truly be from the parents, not the fire department or Walmart. That money could then be passed on to other charities in Cody and overseas.

In November, we let the Cody Ministerial know about the idea and we had a tremendous turn-out of help - ten churches, ministries, and agencies pitched in. We met weekly to plan the store, developed an application process, approved 36 families, and scheduled the store for December 18th, 19th, and 20th. It was held at New Life Church, here in Cody.

Firemen purchased gifts for each family according to requests on the application forms, and bagged them with each family’s name. Appointments were scheduled for each family so that when they came in, their gifts would be set out on a table for them to look over. Across the room was an “Exchange Table” with various other gifts for kids of any age. If there was something on the exchange table that looked better for a particular gift than what the firemen picked out, parents could trade. Then, when parents had the gifts they wanted, they took them into the wrapping room where a team of volunteers helped them wrap.

Gifts for the parents were rushed by volunteers through a secret passage way in the church up the stairs where the kids could wrap them for their parents. The only catch was that the kids had to “earn” these gifts by taking a little Christmas quiz. This gave us a chance to explain the true Christmas story to the kids.

Donated clothing, toys, and other items were on tables in the sanctuary where people could take them for free. Craft tables were also set up in there to give kids something to do while their parents looked over free stuff. Refreshments were served downstairs and a donation plate was available for those who wanted to pay 10 cents on the dollar of the cost of their gifts so those who had less than they did could be blessed as well. That money went to the Cody Cupboard and Vision Beyond Borders to help Burmese Karen refugees in Thailand.

Two things about this ministry were really great for us. First, we had some great conversations with people who came. It was a ton of fun to spend time helping wrap and talking about Christmas with kids. Second, it was great to work with people from churches and ministries we had never worked with before. Thanks to all who were involved ...

The Cody Volunteer Fire Department, Walmart, New Life Church, the Bargain Box, the First Presbyterian Church, Living Fortress Foursquare Church, YoungLife, Christ Episcopal Church, the United Methodist Church, Cody CMA Church, and Harvest Church. 🍷



The Fire Engine

Fire Fighter Lance Robinson

The Christmas Quiz

Gift Wrapping

Free Section & Crafts

# "THE GATHERING" NEW YEAR'S PARTY AT OUR HOUSE

Our Friday night fellowship and Bible Study time, "The Gathering," has been going great! It's been good to spend time with awesome people, have some deep worship time, and talk about some important stuff.

We've been meeting regularly at New Life Church, but the church was not available on New Year's Eve because the youth group was using it for a lock-in. What to do!

Carolyn had the bright idea of turning the heat on in our garage to give our house just a little more space, and holding "The Gathering" New Year's party at home. That turned out great! We started with a short worship and study time, had dinner together, and just had fun. Kids played on the Wii and at a craft table downstairs, adults played board games upstairs, and we got to enjoy each other's company as we rang in 2011.

Happy New Year to you as well!



## Supply Needs

One way to help out with Jubilee is to save us a little money and a few trips to WalMart by donating some items to cover some needs. Here are a few ideas ...

- Bibles in contemporary versions (new or in new condition)
- Games for an older DreamCast or Playstation 1 system or other video consol to set up at specific times
- Legos would be GREATLY appreciated - or other blocks, etc.
- Hot cocoa, tea, coffee, pop, Capri Suns, bottled juices or water
- Single serving snacks (like chips, crackers, cheese, etc.)
- Craft supplies and kits for older kids, Painting easel
- Paper plates, napkins, cups, plastic ware, etc.
- Wholesome comic books, books, and magazines
- Wholesome Videos and DVDs
- Board games

*Thank you!*

God bless and take care,  
Brian, Carolyn, Grace, Hannah,  
& Isabella Andrews  
& the Jubilee  
Inner-Town Ministries Team



If you would like to financially support Jubilee's ministry, please make checks payable to Jubilee and mail them to the address below  
1002 Park Ave, Cody, WY 82414 \* (307) 272-3095 \* JubileeInnerTown.org \* JubileeInnerTown@gmail.com