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Show Prep - Nov 15-17

HOLIDAY PREP IN RED

[PDF Version: christianartistnews.info/ftp/11_15-17_19.pdf](http://christianartistnews.info/ftp/11_15-17_19.pdf)

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Verses

Nov 15
Psalm 119:143
Trouble and distress have come upon me, but your commands give me delight.

Nov 16
Psalm 119:18
Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law.

Nov 17
Psalm 119:105
Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

Today is...

Nov 15
Today is...
America Recycles Day
I Love to Write Day
International STAND UP to Bullying Day
National Clean Out Your Refrigerator Day
National Philanthropy Day
National Raisin Bran Cereal Day

Nov 16
Today is...
Have a Party With Your Bear Day
International Games Day

National Button Day
National Fast Food Day

Nov 17
Today is...
Electronic Greeting Card Day
Homemade Bread Day
International Students' Day
National Baklava Day
National Take a Hike Day
National Unfriend Day
World Peace Day

Today In History

Nov 15
1969 About 250,000 protesters against the Vietnam War, the largest war protest ever, converged peacefully on Washington, DC.
1763 Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon began surveying the Mason-Dixon line.
1777 The Continental Congress approved the Articles of Confederation, the precursor to the U.S. Constitution.
1806 Explorer Zebulon Pike spotted the mountaintop now known as Pikes Peak.
1939 The cornerstone of the Jefferson Memorial was laid by President Roosevelt.

Nov 16
1933 The United States and the Soviet Union established diplomatic relations.
1864 General Sherman and his troops began their "March to the sea" during the Civil War.
1907 Oklahoma became the 46th state.
1973 President Nixon signed the bill authorizing the construction of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline.
2004 President George W. Bush nominated Condoleezza Rice to replace Colin Powell as secretary of state.

Nov 17
1973 President Nixon said "I am not a crook."
1558 Queen Elizabeth I of England ascended to the throne upon the death of her half-sister Queen Mary.
1800 Congress met in Washington, DC, for the first time.
1869 The Suez Canal opened in Egypt.
1968 Night of the "Heidi bowl:" NBC switched from football to movie of Heidi. In the missing 42 seconds, the lagging Raiders scored two touchdowns, defeating the Jets.
1989 The beginning of the "Velvet Revolution," which led to the downfall of communism in Czechoslovakia.
2003 Arnold Schwarzenegger was sworn in as governor of California.

Question of the Day

Question of the day from **CCM magazine**: What burdens are you carrying today?

Question of the day from **Greg Laurie**: What is your purpose? Everyone has one. Is your purpose becoming more like Christ?

Question of the day from **Focus on the Family**: When was the last time you and your spouse reminisced about your love story?

Artist News

Chris Tomlin wants to hear your favorite Christmas stories. He posted: As we head into the Christmas season, I want to hear ALL about your favorite Christmas traditions. Record a video of yourself telling me all about your favorite tradition, then upload it to Instagram or facebook. Make sure to tag me and to use the hashtag #TomlinChristmasTradition... who knows, maybe your video will end up on my page!
<https://www.instagram.com/p/B4yNgelA5dm/?igshid=1229eahne57py>

Longtime worship leader **Darlene Zschech** isn't waiting any longer. She posted this week: Ok .. let the Christmas

baking and prepping begin. I love Christmas...no apologies.
<https://www.instagram.com/p/B4zbXXeA84w/?igshid=nc7w1bzs7n4>

Christmas came early for **Matt Maher**. He shared a picture this week of a new guitar and added: When Christmas comes early...thanks for the 12 string love, Martin Guitars.
<http://christianartistnews.info/ftp/maher1114.jpg>

Jeremy Camp's wife Adie is coming out with a children's book. Jeremy posted: I'm so proud of my wife! She has some exciting news to share about her children's book Even Me coming out in Feb 2020! Available for pre-order on Amazon.
<https://www.instagram.com/p/B40sRKFH3yD/?igshid=1omha6gtgry9i>

Stars go Dim frontman Chris Cleveland was making memories with his daughter this week. He posted: It was a leave raking/jumping/throwing/laying kind of afternoon...
https://www.instagram.com/p/B40_QjTpk1S/?igshid=1cl77yoio077d

Ryan Stevenson: We've all heard the phrase "God wants to get you out of your comfort zone"... but his name is "COMFORTER"...I think "the comforter" wants to break us free from the illusion that we are comfortable where we are currently...Walking with "the comforter" is the only place of true comfort.
<https://www.instagram.com/p/B42ao9MhbZe/?igshid=z1y5a0hnglct>

A struggle for **Mandisa**. Her friends were helping her choose a new place to live and all were very opinionated regarding where she should move to.
<http://christianartistnews.info/ftp/217594222464189613738863081.mp4>
<http://christianartistnews.info/ftp/217594228058554934138863081.mp4>

Hillsong United concerts may be loud but they are nothing like South American soccer. Taya posted a picture from a game the band attended in Rio Deganeiro, Brazil and added...loudest, most insane game I've EVER been to.
<http://christianartistnews.info/ftp/21767226790964843163506258.mp4>

Show Hope is just two weeks into the Chapman Birthday Challenge. Their founders, **Steven Curtis and Mary Beth Chapman** are celebrating their birthdays in November by raising money for Show Hope with a friendly competition and the adoption and childcare ministry posted: we are blown away by the support our Founders have received! Currently, Team Mary Beth is in the lead. Who are you rooting for?
Give to #TeamMaryBeth: <http://bit.ly/2WEq9Hy>
Give to #TeamSteven: <http://bit.ly/2ratPFp>

Newsboys frontman Michael Tait spent time this week visiting some amazing kiddos at St Jude. Michael posted: A truly great organization that helps awesome kids. It was a blessing to hear what God is doing in these kids' lives.
<https://twitter.com/newsboys/status/1194730448355840000/photo/1>

New Music/Free Items

Selah recently sat down to talk with the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association about their new album Firm Foundation and the impact Billy Graham has had on their lives. Their new album and the title track, "Firm Foundation," focuses on respecting and living by God's Word in chaotic times. The song is a reminder, especially for the church, to not yield to people or outside influences, explained Todd Smith, an original founder of Selah.
<https://billygraham.org/story/selah-keeping-it-about-jesus/>

Videos

Plumb this week shared the story behind her new Christmas song "Behold"
<https://twitter.com/plumbmusic/status/1194636265863278595/video/1>

If you've seen **Ryan Stevenson** in concert during the past year, you've probably seen/heard a few songs that his kids wrote! These fun little jams have brought so much joy and smiles to so many people! Now they've released their first music video based on their song Apples and Hallalaluh.

<https://www.instagram.com/p/B40His0BLM8/?igshid=sutxrp7h34u>

New from **Bethel music and Josie Buchanan**...a live recording of Endless Alleluia and Spontaneous.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NDhXe6YgtLU>

Hannah Kerr is out with a live acoustic version of her song, "Listen More" with Jason!
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WopPKXEiMG8>

It took a lot of work but **For King and Country** finally made it to the CMA Awards Wednesday night. They covered 3 states in 24 hours, eventually making it to the Awards show to sing their song God Only Knows with Dolly Parton. The band posted: Even though we ran into airplane delays, dead car batteries and football games, we still made it through the day and got to see Dolly.
https://youtu.be/z8jg_Mh6oVc

Funny

Tours

Lauren Daigle may be in Europe but she's still living on Louisiana time. She posted: I think 6 am is the best time to go to bed when in Europe. So I did that...a lot.
<http://christianartistnews.info/ftp/lauren1114.jpg>

During the Country Music Awards this week, **Dolly Parton joined for KING & COUNTRY** on a remix of the band's song "God Only Knows" and **Zack Williams** on his single, "There Was Jesus." She closed the performance with a solo performance of "Faith," a 2019 collaboration with Swedish duo Galantis.
<http://christianartistnews.info/ftp/21767007025971203584946901.mp4>
<http://rssfeeds.tennessean.com/~/609278682/0/nashville/home~CMA-Awards-Dolly-Parton-performs-with-for-KING-COUNTRY-and-Zach-Williams/>

Program Info

Josh Wilson partnered with Focus on the Family for a special event in California this week. Also in attendance was Joni Eareckson Tada of Joni and Friends.
https://www.instagram.com/p/B4z2d_sHnHi/?igshid=vmq7bchj2r36

A reminder from **Greg Laurie**: God gives each of us 1,440 minutes to use every day. We have twenty-four hours to invest. You have to sleep for part of that, of course, but you are responsible for what you do with the remaining hours. Use your time well today!

Quotes

Fierce Marriage: Marriage is equal parts the decisions you make and how you handle the outcomes. Wise choices + wise responses = healthy marriage.

Chuck Swindoll: Half-hearted obedience easily leads to whole-hearted disobedience.

Gospel In Life: "Eastern meditation ordinarily says the purpose of meditation is to empty the mind. Biblical meditation is exactly the opposite. It's to fill the mind with Scripture."

Lecrae: Humility, generosity, integrity, and kindness are more impressive than money, titles, and followers.

Love Like Jesus: Instead of focusing on all the bad, be thankful for all the good. Each day you have is a blessing from God.

Lists

Three Things We Can Give to God

First, we have our treasure, the finances God has put under our care.

Then we have our talents. God has blessed every believer, every person, with talent.

Lastly, we have our time.

<https://harvest.org/resources/devotion/three-things-we-can-give-to-god/>

Facts

UberFacts...Research suggests that people eat better when their football team wins but if their team loses, unhealthy eating increases.

UberFacts...Encephalitis lethargica, also known as "sleeping sickness," is a disease that causes people to lay motionless and speechless, but conscious and aware.

UberFacts...The name Jessica was created by Shakespeare.

Religious News

Prayer Requests

Nepal- Pray for two destitute widows who are denied the use of water in a house where they live.

KYRGYZSTAN: Pray for new Christians as they experience property destruction, intimidation and physical harm.

MOROCCO: Pray that believers will boldly share the gospel with their families.

Top 10 cities where most generous Christians live

Just in time for Thanksgiving, the Barna Group has identified the top 10 cities in America where the most generous practicing Christians live. When it comes to both church and nonprofit giving, three cities in southeast Idaho — Pocatello, Idaho Falls, and Jackson — topped the list. In these cities, practicing Christians give an average of \$17,977 to nonprofits and \$15,601 to churches every year. For nonprofit giving, Las Vegas, Nevada, ranked second, with Christians in that city giving a yearly average of \$10,410 to charity. Victoria, Texas, ranked third, with Christians giving \$10,375 annually, followed by Ottumwa and Kirksville, Iowa, (\$10,000) and Jonesboro, Arkansas, (\$7,999). Cities that rounded out the top 10 "most generous" when it comes to nonprofit giving included: Twin Falls, Idaho, (\$7,636); North Platte, Nebraska, (\$6,764); Lake Charles, Louisiana, (\$6,200); Salisbury, Maryland, \$6,125; and Wheeling and Steubenville, West Virginia, (\$5,735).

<https://t.co/oio6239Fz2>

Wisconsin Governor Changes 'Christmas Tree' to 'Holiday Tree,'

The Republican-controlled Wisconsin Assembly passed a resolution Tuesday labeling the evergreen in the Capitol rotunda a "Christmas Tree," four days after the Democratic governor said he was renaming it a "Holiday Tree" and decorating it with science-themed ornaments. "It is a Christmas tree. Everyone knows it's a Christmas tree.

Changing the name of the Christmas tree to anything else would be a political game," said Assembly Majority Leader Jim Steineke, a Republican. "And that's what the governor did when he renamed it."

<https://t.co/pQFj8TNWhl> <https://t.co/IJnqhMwFYt>

Wisconsin passes resolution to observe 'National Bible Week'

Wisconsin's legislature has overwhelmingly passed a resolution declaring the week of Thanksgiving to be "National Bible Week." The Wisconsin Assembly voted on Tuesday to approve Assembly Resolution 16, which called for the observing of "National Bible Week." "Bible reading has been a great encouragement and comfort for many people throughout our state's history and has contributed to the molding of the spiritual, moral, and social fiber of our citizenry," read the resolution in part.

<https://t.co/dfKO49c55Z>

Over 100,000 Have Committed to Jesus as Students Host Prayer, Bible Reading on Football Fields

In October, the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) again encouraged students across the nation to gather on school football fields to pray, read the Bible and "open up their life to Christ." These spiritual events are called Fields of Faith, and as a result, over 120,000 people have either professed faith in Christ or recommitted their lives to Him as a result of these events, according to FCA Executive Director of Ministry Advancement Jeff Martin. Martin clarifies that this number is cumulative since Fields of Faith began in 2004.

<https://t.co/2jxIRjgyI0>

Praise God: Boko Haram Finally Releases Kidnapped Nigerian Pastor Who Refused to Convert to Islam

Nigerian Pastor Moses Oyeleke has been released after spending months in the clutches of the Islamic militant group, Boko Haram. Oyeleke was kidnapped back in April as he traveled along a road in Borno State. He was eventually freed alongside a young girl, Ndagilaya Ibrahim Umar, who attended the local Government Science Secondary School. According to International Christian Concern, the minister was taken to Sambisa Forest, a Boko Haram stronghold, following his capture. There, he faced daily pressure to convert to Islam. Despite the group's repeated intimidation, Oyeleke refused to renounce his faith in Christ. Instead, he responded to his adversaries with unrelenting kindness.

<https://t.co/vorsT9XjOh>

American Bible Society Gives Thousands of Free Bibles to Kanye West Fans

The American Bible Society has now given away 8,800 Bibles around the world to Kanye West fans in less than two weeks—for free. After the megastar released his new album "Jesus Is King," the society saw a large spike in Google searches like "What does Kanye believe?" The American Bible Society promised to send a free Bible to any curious Kanye fan that wanted to learn more about his decision to follow Christ. At first, the offer was for 1,000 free Bibles until October 30, but the demand was so strong the society has extended the offer until November 22.

<https://t.co/HX8puWWd9w>

Coca-Cola runs commercial showing mothers helping transgender kids bind breasts, dress in drag

A commercial created by The Coca-Cola Company to advertise Sprite depicts a variety of situations in which mothers are helping their transgender teens present as their preferred gender. Among the scenes shown are a mother helping her daughter bind her breasts to appear as a male, a mother helping her son dress as a drag queen, and a mother applying makeup to her son so he can present as a woman. The advertisement was posted to Twitter earlier this month by Sprite's Argentinian division. The ad campaign uses slogans such as "Pride: what you feel when someone you love chooses to be happy" and "You are not alone."

<https://t.co/mYTgp8Duvu>

UMC Leaders Call for 'New Form of Unity' over LGBT Debate

In the midst of a long-standing debate on LGBT issues, eight current and former bishops of the United Methodist Church have signed a statement calling for a "new form of unity" after years of discord, according to the Christian Post. "The events transpiring since the adjournment of the Special Session of General Conference illustrate how deep our division is," the statement said. "Sadly, even greater discord, chaos and fighting loom on the horizon at the 2020 General Conference in Minneapolis. "This is why we recognize our beloved United Methodist Church no longer can continue in our current form of unity. It is time to quit undermining our mission. It is time for the entire church to come together to figure out how to be the people called Methodists in a new way—to seek a new form of unity."

<https://t.co/R8T4MAxY6q> <https://t.co/4ZVLFUrA0V>

John MacArthur clarifies views on Beth Moore, women preachers

Several weeks after publicly criticizing well-known Christian author and speaker Beth Moore, John MacArthur once again weighed in on the issue of women in church leadership, warning that "empowering women makes weak men" and "weak men make everybody vulnerable to danger." The pastor of Grace Community Church in California told his congregation in an hour-long message delivered Sunday. "I want to take the opportunity to address the issue of women preachers this morning and to give you a more thorough answer from the Word of God on this very, very important subject." "Don't misunderstand this: This is what we are living in today," he warned. "Empowering women makes weak men. Weak men make everybody vulnerable to danger."

<https://t.co/oK0rAAOWdL>

John Piper says sexual attraction not essential for marriage

Theologian John Piper has encouraged asexual individuals to "accept your present indifference to sexual desires" and remain open to relationships, as marriage is fundamentally based on commitment — not romantic attraction. Piper first pointed out that "the vast majority of marriages in the history of the world have not been based on romantic sexual attraction." But while being in love, in the romantic sense of mutual desire, is "indeed the ideal of God's plan," it is "neither essential nor is it the primary means of staying married or staying happily married."

<https://t.co/IYw7tf4Dnm>

Louie Giglio reflects on changes in ministry in the US, Francis Chan's move to Asia

Best-selling author and Bible teacher Francis Chan recently revealed that God is calling him to move to Hong Kong to "bring relief, share the Gospel, and plant churches among" the "ultra poor," and Passion City Church

pastor Louie Giglio says he thinks it's a "beautiful decision for him." "But really what the church needs to be about, and I think is now shifting to be a lot more about, is to be more driven around relationships and around community, around people doing life with other people. That's been a really big shift. I think that's happened." "I love that Francis is moving to Asia to reach young people. I think that's a beautiful decision for him, it seems like a great move for Francis," the Atlanta-based minister said of his peer.
<https://t.co/35yGG2WFte>

UC Berkeley students answer 'how many genders are there?'

A popular conservative YouTube channel has posted a widely watched video featuring students at the University of California, Berkeley answering how many genders they believe exist. Will Witt of PragerU recently visited the UC Berkeley campus and asked multiple students on-camera questions about how many genders there are and if it was OK for men to use the same bathrooms and locker rooms as women. "Infinite," answered the first student in the video, adding that she believed "you can't put things in boundaries. You can define yourself as whatever you want."
<https://t.co/118hLHWZ2w>

Fire Destroys Popular Christian Camp in Ohio

Popular Ohio-based Christian camp Skyview Ranch burned to the ground over the weekend. Pastor Gary Adams told CBN News that around five o'clock in the morning, a fire ripped through the dining hall, kitchen and offices on November 10. No one was injured or killed in the fires and the cause is still unknown. Located in Millersburg, Skyview Ranch celebrated its 50th anniversary this summer and employs 15 staff members who welcome around 9,000 campers a year.
<https://t.co/Nwhlo0Qx3W> <https://t.co/zNMTaRr0VY>

Record 10.2 Percent of TV Characters Are LGBT, New Report Shows

A record 10.2 percent of regular characters on primetime broadcast television shows in their current seasons are LGBTQ, according to a new report that also calls on the networks to aim for 20 percent by the year 2025. Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation's annual "Where We Are On TV" report examines the presence of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender characters on broadcast and cable television. It is the 24th year GLAAD has released the report. Last year, 8.8 percent of regular characters on primetime broadcast TV were LGBTQ, and GLAAD subsequently issued a challenge for the networks to reach 10 percent.
<https://t.co/y5s2j19OHu> <https://t.co/mnVOaiu1Wl>

Renowned Columbia University Theater Prof Resigns

A Columbia University professor says he quit his tenured position in the theater department because the Ivy League school is "on its way toward full-blown communism," an ideology he escaped when he left his native country. The College Fix reports Prof. Andrei Serban, an award-winning director who grew up in communist Romania, talked about the "social justice" demands he faced while in the university's theater department in an interview that recently aired on Romania's TVR1.
<https://t.co/42wQuzTn0g>

Over 260 Prominent Evangelicals Pitch Restitution-Based Immigration Reform Plan

More than 260 prominent evangelicals representing national ministries, denominations, universities and churches are seeking an immigration reform plan that would provide undocumented immigrants living in the United States a path to legal permanent residency—after making restitution. The "Evangelical Call for Restitution-Based Immigration Reform", announced Nov. 6, was drafted by the Evangelical Immigration Table and, according to its leaders, is urging that legal status be provided without resorting to mass deportation or amnesty, the two most polarizing issues of the ongoing debate.
<https://t.co/uj1YyFHTPu> <https://t.co/RVF5HQPDP0>

New Pro-Life Documentary Exposes Links between Satanism and Abortion

The intersection of pro-abortion zealotry and self-avowed satanists is a natural result of both groups' shared belief in "autonomy" at any cost, according to a harrowing new documentary by the pro-life group Created Equal. On Thursday, Created Equal released "Abortion: A Doctrine of Demons", a roughly 22-minute video that juxtaposes an up-close look at the abortion industry and abortion activists with the stated values of satanic groups.
<https://t.co/hbT1J3Q3ve>

Karen Pence's Powerful Analogy for Religious Liberty

Karen Pence is in the news as she increases her role in the 2020 presidential campaign. In an interview with USA Today, she was asked about her decision to resume teaching art at Immanuel Christian School, which doesn't

allow gay teachers or students. The reporter suggested that “a gay person might say that your faith is attacking them for who they are.” Mrs. Pence replied: “I don't make that connection. This country was founded on religious liberty. And I think we have to be careful about infringing on anyone else's beliefs. I think that if you have someone who has a certain belief, that doesn't mean they're necessarily judging you.”

<https://t.co/5V2MBEkiW> <https://t.co/R6EVRmXXsJ>

Pastors Join Together to Launch '52 Tuesdays' Prayer Initiative

The American Pastors Network (APN) is kicking off an inspirational, exciting and very necessary prayer initiative leading up to the 2020 presidential election. Called "52 Tuesdays," the yearlong prayer focus will call on Christians to pray for America as never before. The initiative will officially begin tomorrow, Nov. 12, which is 52 Tuesdays from the important election set for Nov. 3, 2020. During this crucial season of prayer, APN President Sam Rohrer says prayer is the only solution to the nation's problems.

<https://t.co/sdOsBzDV0r>

Christian Authors' Newly Adopted Daughter Fights Cancer

Christian authors Michael and Lauren McAfee recently adopted their daughter, Zion, from China. But, a month after her adoption, the toddler ended up in the hospital after doctors discovered a tumor in her liver, according to Faithwire. The couple adopted Zion from China. In addition to being authors, Michael is the director of community initiative at the Museum of the Bible and Lauren works in the corporate offices of Hobby Lobby. After only a few days after Zion's adoption, Lauren admitted how “natural it feels” being her mother.

<https://t.co/h2TnJAvwcG> <https://t.co/UlptnaaFif>

Kanye West to Appear on Stage at Joel Osteen's Houston Megachurch

Kanye West, the rapper-turned Christian who last month announced he would no longer release secular music, is scheduled to appear on stage this Sunday at televangelist Joel Osteen's Houston megachurch. According to TMZ, West will appear during the 11 a.m. service for a 20- to 30-minute conversation with Osteen, pastor of Lakewood Church, but will not perform. “Our sources say Joel wants his congregation and his TV audience to hear how Kanye has overcome significant adversity in his life,” the entertainment website reported.

<https://t.co/izk2I7BCN> <https://t.co/ZpsV73qWjH>

Top Legislator Won't Apologize for Comparing 'Scourge' of Abortion to Slavery

A leading Republican in the Michigan state legislature is refusing to apologize after comparing legal abortion to legal slavery – remarks that have drawn criticism from pro-choice members of the chamber. Michigan Sen. Majority Leader Mike Shirkey made the comments during an interview with Radio Free Hillsdale. Such comparisons aren't new. Former U.S. Sen. Rick Santorum, in the mid-2000s, also compared abortion to slavery.

<https://t.co/oc48ARD586> <https://t.co/63vUMeKv4q>

Franklin Graham Asks Americans to Pray for Trump as Impeachment Hearings Begin

Franklin Graham is asking believers to pray for President Donald Trump as impeachment inquiry hearings begin. “This is a sad day for America,” Mr. Graham said in a statement shared on social media. “Our politics in this country has hit a new low. Graham's post comes just as the impeachment hearings begin in Washington, where the inquiry will also be televised live. Graham said in his post that he is praying for the president.

<https://t.co/8JxKuozK8j> <https://t.co/x3vZMvwcG>

General News & Trending Stories

Pringles has you covered for your Thanksgiving feast

Pringles has you covered for your Thanksgiving feast with its new Friendsgiving Feast Turducken Kit. It comes with turkey, duck and chicken-flavored chips that you can stack and eat.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/CCMShowPrep/permalink/2451267245145435/>

Gangs of Wild Turkeys Pecking Cars, Breaking Windows and Generally Causing Chaos in New Jersey

There's something a-fowl in the state of New Jersey. According to News 12, several areas in the Garden State are having issues with bold, menacing and mannerless gangs of wild turkeys. At an over-55 community in the Holiday City area of Ocean County, the birds are reportedly breaking windows, blocking roads, “pecking at cars and behaving aggressively,” with one resident telling News 12 that, “Sometimes I can't get out of my car. They go to attack you.” The birds can grow to be 25 lbs. and can reach running speeds of 20 mph

<https://t.co/xmx1fqLuFI>

Southern town is ranked among the most Christmasy

How does the tiny town of McAdenville, N.C., population 650, draw as many as 600,000 tourists each year? By embodying the spirit of an old-fashioned, small-town, picture-postcard Christmas. For more than 60 years, McAdenville residents have strung the town with lights, eventually earning the nickname Christmas Town USA. Lights decorate 375 trees and nearly all the homes in town through most of the month of December, after being kicked off with a downtown tree-lighting ceremony. (In 2019, the event runs from Dec. 2-29). There is no charge to view the lights.

<https://www.southernthing.com/this-southern-town-is-ranked-among-the-most-christmasy-in-the-nation-and-its-free-to-visit-2641248858.html>

The families going present-free at Christmas to cut down on waste

For many, Christmas is the most wonderful time of year – but it is also the most wasteful. Two million turkeys, 100 sq km of wrapping paper and more than 100,000 tonnes of plastic packaging will be binned on Christmas Day, while more than a few unwanted gifts will be packed away in cupboards, never to be seen again. But some families are trying to combat the clutter and make festivities less stressful by cutting out presents – instead opting for homemade baking, virtual gifts or even just forgetting about it all and going on a long walk with the dog instead.

<https://www.independent.co.uk/environment/christmas-presents-plastic-packaging-waste-family-stress-a9179926.html?fbclid=IwAR0E88uVSWLyuyFIIm-XQ8cjI53K5mJ6xWUW7nYHng16yOHNAUnIxcMJ0d7o>

Ohio-grown Christmas trees headed to troops overseas

The Ohio Department of Agriculture and the Ohio Christmas Tree Association are partnering on an effort that will ship more than 100 Christmas trees to military members stationed overseas. Growers will donate the trees and state inspectors will make sure they are free of pests and disease. Both groups will work with volunteers Tuesday to wrap, load and ship the trees at the Ohio Department of Agriculture in Columbus. Each shipment will also include decorations provided by school children, churches and veterans' groups.

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/good-news/ohio-grown-christmas-trees-headed-to-troops-overseas/ar-BBWEacd>

Baby Jesus Cupcakes

Looking for something fun to do with the kids during the holidays? Want to keep the focus on Christ and his birth? How about Baby Jesus Cupcakes. Check out the recipe here.

[https://www.thekeeperofthecheerios.com/2019/11/baby-jesus-cupcakes.html?](https://www.thekeeperofthecheerios.com/2019/11/baby-jesus-cupcakes.html?fbclid=IwAR0fLsXJhX7QIgNudw6Wn7Ajl1w9uJ-daEtEk3Cg1NXGuWAcUzTaen0JEK)

[fbclid=IwAR0fLsXJhX7QIgNudw6Wn7Ajl1w9uJ-daEtEk3Cg1NXGuWAcUzTaen0JEK](https://www.thekeeperofthecheerios.com/2019/11/baby-jesus-cupcakes.html?fbclid=IwAR0fLsXJhX7QIgNudw6Wn7Ajl1w9uJ-daEtEk3Cg1NXGuWAcUzTaen0JEK)

A National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation-Inspired Ceramic Village

A new National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation-inspired ceramic village is on the market this holiday season. Fans of the Christmas comedy starring Chevy Chase can now bring the Griswold family off of their screens and into their homes with this hilarious set of figurines and buildings based on the cult-favorite flick. Whether you set them up under your tree or on top of your mantel, the goofy scenes the pieces portray are sure to get a chuckle from friends and family, no matter where you place them. The collection is currently being sold in mix-and-match pieces on Amazon through a store called Department 56, which specializes in quirky Christmas village decor.

<https://t.co/bh9s4oNzvk>

Giving your kids fewer toys at Christmas makes them happier

One measure of happy kids on Christmas morning is a fully loaded Christmas tree. But there's a lot of evidence that suggests that giving your child lots of toys has the opposite desired effect—kids actually are less happy. Research says that through play, children learn to interpret the world around them, enhancing the development of their cognitive, emotional, social, and physical skills, and their subsequent health and well-being along the way. In a recent study at the University of Toledo, Ohio, researchers hypothesized that “an abundance of toys reduced the quality of toddlers' play, and that fewer toys will actually benefit children in the long-term.”

<https://www.mother.ly/child/its-true-giving-your-kids-fewer-toys-at-christmas-makes-them-happier>

Ankle Scarves Are the New Cold Weather Accessory We Didn't See Coming

Why should you have to sacrifice fashion just because winter brings arctic-esque temperatures? Instead of opting out of skin-showing bottoms, just wrap your ankles with scarves. The trend was first reported by Milan-based publication Lercio. It doesn't appear that there are specific scarves designed for your ankles, but maybe kids' ones will work just as good?

https://www.housebeautiful.com/lifestyle/a29729345/ankle-scarves-winter-fashion-trend/?utm_campaign=socialflowFBHBU&utm_medium=social-media&utm_source=facebook

Hottest New Piece of Winter Functional Fashion? Nose Warmers

Winter is here. Is your wardrobe ready? Sure you've got hats, gloves, scarves, jackets, and boots, but is that everything? The nose, as they say, is the exhaust vent to the soul. So protect it from the cold! You can find Aunt Marty's Original Nose Warmers on Amazon and Etsy. Variety's range from The Santa's Hat to the Snowman Nose. There is even a knitted nose warmer with some bling.

https://rare.us/rare-humor/nose-warmers/?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=agora&utm_term=faves&utm_campaign=faves&fbclid=IwAR1zr4AJ4enfl667d8naKZgE514fXyFNAZ-WxXQ5mq0gvzZT-PVXZ2olhog

Copper Hospital Beds Could Save Millions of Lives

A new study has found that copper hospital beds in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) harbored an average of 95% fewer bacteria than conventional hospital beds—and maintained these low-risk levels throughout patients' stay in hospital. Since hospital beds are among the most contaminated surfaces in inpatient care settings, they are the eighth leading cause of death in the US. In the modern medical era, numerous studies have noted copper's antimicrobial properties. However, until recently, no-one had designed acute-care hospital beds that enabled all high-risk surfaces to be encapsulated in copper. This in-situational study compared the relative contamination of ICU beds outfitted with copper rails, footboards, and bed controls to traditional hospital beds with plastic surfaces.

<https://www.goodnewsnetwork.org/copper-hospital-beds-harbor-95-less-bacteria-than-conventional-beds/>

Judge Insists On Holding Lawyer's Baby Boy

Earlier this week, Tennessee Court of Appeals Judge Richard Dinkins was filmed bouncing a 1-year-old baby on his hip as he swore in a new lawyer to the state bar. The infant's mother, Juliana Lamar, had just graduated from Belmont University College of Law in Tennessee—and as she was preparing to recite the oath, Judge Dinkins insisted that he wanted Lamar's son Beckham to be a part of the career-affirming ceremony. Lamar told BuzzFeed. "And I am so glad he did—because to have my son take part in one of the greatest moments of my life was truly a blessing."

<https://www.goodnewsnetwork.org/judge-holds-lawyers-baby-for-swearing-in-ceremony/>

After Miracle Baby Wakes From Coma Smiling At His Dad, Thousands Rally to Help Save His Life

A photo of little Michael Labuschagne smiling at his father was taken just moments after he miraculously woke up from a 5-day coma—and now, the wholesome picture has helped to finance the medical procedure that will save his life. Michael's parents were then told that the boy's best chance of survival would be to get the tumor removed at Boston Children's Hospital. The Labuschagnes launched a GoFundMe page last month to finance their son's transportation to Boston and his \$147,000 (£116,000) operation. After Michael's heart-melting smile was featured on international news outlets, the campaign surged past its original goal and raised more than \$253,000 (£197,000) for his care.

<https://www.goodnewsnetwork.org/baby-wakes-from-coma-and-smiles-at-dad/>

Firefighters save man's house, apologize for drinking his milk

Firefighters in Australia have gained attention for leaving a note apologizing for drinking a man's milk after they saved his house from a wildfire. Paul Sekfy of New South Wales posted the handwritten note on Facebook which was signed by the Urunga Rural Fire Service. "It was our pleasure to save your house. Sorry that we could not save your sheds," the note said. "P.S. - we owe you some milk." The firefighters took some milk due to not having eaten anything for hours.

https://www.upi.com/Odd_News/2019/11/13/Firefighters-save-mans-house-apologize-for-drinking-his-milk/4501573665266/?sl=2

Raised an only child, Southgate woman, 92, learns she has 19 half siblings

Adopted as a baby, 92-year-old Mariann Evelyn Jeffery of Southgate grew up as an only child. Turns out, her family is a lot bigger than she knew. Jeffery recently learned she has 19 half-siblings, thanks to the help of a self-proclaimed family historian and ancestry.com. After Jeffery was adopted out as an infant, her biological father and mother went their separate ways, eventually married other people and had children — lots of children. Jeffery's biological mother eventually had 11 other children. Her natural father had eight other children. On Oct. 20 many of them came together to help Mariann Jeffery celebrate her newfound extended families.

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/good-news/raised-an-only-child-southgate-woman-92-learns-she-has-19-half-siblings/ar-BBWA30>

Montreal man sacrifices his truck to protect pedestrians from speeding drunk driver.

Erick Marciano was stopped in his SUV, heading to a meeting Tuesday afternoon, when he saw a runaway car go blazing through a red light, followed by police in hot pursuit. Not thinking much of it, he turned left onto René-Lévesque Boulevard from Berri Street when his light turned green. Then he saw the speeding car make a U-turn

in front of him, barreling back in the opposite direction — and toward a crowd of pedestrians and construction workers at the intersection. Honking his horn, Marciano swerved his SUV over the median, blocking the lane in front of the speeding car. The vehicle slammed into the passenger side of his car. Only the suspect was injured. Now, police are hailing Marciano as a hero for protecting the dozen or so pedestrians who were in harm's way. https://www.reddit.com/r/UpliftingNews/comments/dvx1vn/montreal_man_sacrifices_his_truck_and_his_safety/

Newborns at Pittsburgh Hospital Dressed up as Mr. Rogers for World Kindness Day

In celebration of World Kindness Day, a Pittsburgh hospital dressed up newborns in red cardigans in honor of Mister Rogers. Along with the signature red cardigans, the babies at UPMC Magee-Women's Hospital are also wearing Rogers-inspired knit booties. "It's a beautiful day in the neighborhood today at UPMC Magee-Womens Hospital!" the hospital said in an Instagram post. Fred Rogers' wife Joanne came to visit the babies and her face lit up when she saw them.

https://www.reddit.com/r/UpliftingNews/comments/dw1gt5/newborns_at_pittsburgh_hospital_dressed_up_as_mr/

3 Cows Swept Out to Sea by Hurricane Dorian Are Found Alive

The cows believed to have been carried out to sea when the storm hit North Carolina, have been spotted hanging out on the Outer Banks. Hurricane Dorian slammed into North Carolina as a Category 1 storm on Sept. 6, lashing the state with heavy rain, wind and flooding after it made landfall on the Outer Banks, a chain of narrow barrier islands off the main coast. Rising floodwaters swept over the land, and a storm surge carried a group of horses and cows out to sea. To the surprise of residents and national park officials, three of those cows were recently discovered at the Cape Lookout National Seashore Park on the Outer Banks. The cattle are believed to have arrived at the federal park by swimming at least two miles across the Core Sound.

https://www.reddit.com/r/UpliftingNews/comments/dw0r3u/3_cows_swept_out_to_sea_by_hurricane_dorian_are/

Your Kid Might Be 'Genetically Wired' To Hate Broccoli

Sometimes it's more than just a fight to get a 10-year-old to eat their broccoli. In fact, according to a recent research study from the University of Kentucky School of Medicine, there is a genetic component to whether or not people like vegetables. Researchers found that people with a certain genetic trait are more sensitive to the taste of broccoli and Brussel sprouts and other vegetables. They find them to be extremely bitter. Those same people might also have an aversion to dark chocolate and coffee.

<https://www.moms.com/your-kid-might-be-genetically-wired-to-hate-broccoli-other-veggies/>

Want to boost your grades? Get off Facebook

Cutting back on Facebook could boost students' grades, according to some recent research from the University of Technology Sydney. Researchers, led by Dr. James Wakefield, analyzed the grades of over 500 freshman students from an introductory accounting class at an Australian university and found that the more time they spent using Facebook, the worse their grades were. For example, students who reported using Facebook for three hours a day or more had test scores about 10% lower than those who used Facebook less often.

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/tech/2019/11/11/less-time-facebook-can-lead-better-grades-researchers-say/2564778001/>

Therapy Dogs Visit Capitol Hill to Help Congress Destress as Impeachment Hearings Begin

Every situation can be made a bit better by a dog. Pet Partners, the nation's leading organization in registering therapy animals for animal-assisted interventions, and the Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council (PIJAC) understand this. That's why they brought a group of trained therapy canines to Capitol Hill on Wednesday — the same day public impeachment hearings began as the Democratic House of Representatives continued investigating President Donald Trump for lobbying Ukraine to investigate his opponents.

<https://t.co/q5a9fG1zLB>

Cat Put in Solitary Confinement at Shelter for Freeing Other Cats Might've Found a Forever Home

A mischievous meower recently found himself in the kitty version of solitary confinement at the Friends For Life Animal Rescue and Adoption Organization in Houston, Texas. Quilty ended up in forced solitude because he couldn't be trusted around other caged cats. "Quilty loves to let cats out of the senior room. Repeatedly. Several times a day," the shelter posted on Facebook late last month about the cat's confinement. Quilty's feline roommates aren't the only ones who enjoy the cat's bad jailbreak habit, thousands of people liked and shared the original post about Quilty's antics. And based on one of Quilty's most recent updates, it seems that the cat may have found freedom. Quilty was recently taken out on a sleepover by a potential adopter.

<https://t.co/j6hHHHbzTT>

Researchers Think They Have Discovered Why Humans Hiccup

From chugging a glass of water to inducing a scare, there are countless home remedies that aim to stop hiccups, but one new study suggests the function is vital to the body's development. Conducted by researchers at the University College London, the study finds that the action of hiccuping sends a large wave of brain signals that help newborns learn how to regulate their breathing functions. The study, which is published in the journal *Clinical Neurophysiology*, looked at brain scans of infants, with researchers determining newborns spend about 15 minutes a day hiccuping, and that hiccups begin in fetuses at nine weeks — meaning it's one of the earliest functions humans develop in the womb.

<https://t.co/1ewprOaN3t>

There's a Nutella Pop-Up Hotel Coming for One Weekend Only

Chocolate lovers, it seems that a winter vacation may be in order—if you're very lucky. Nutella is opening its very own full-blown hazelnut spread-themed hotel in Napa Valley, CA for one weekend only this January 2020. The pop-up is called Hotella Nutella and is designed to be the ultimate weekend breakfast destination. The weekend includes interactive culinary sessions dreamed up by the Nutella Weekend Breakfast Chef Team composed of Iron Chef and Food Network celebrity judge Geoffrey Zakarian, Bravo Top Chef contestant Tanya Holland, and viral pancake artist DanCakes.

<https://t.co/NcFjGS8TTR>

Couple Holds Hospital Wedding After Father of Groom Has Emergency Surgery

Michael and Aaliyah Thompson of Texas have delayed their wedding three times since they became engaged, and the couple was intent on finally exchanging vows on Sept. 21. But when Michael's father, William Thompson, developed sepsis due to a complication with diabetes and needed to have an emergency operation that same day, they knew they couldn't go on unless he was there to see their special moment. The couple worked with staff from Baylor Scott & White Medical Center in Sunnyvale to throw a spur-of-the-moment wedding ceremony in William's hospital room, complete with guests and a pastor.

<https://t.co/VezURiUEFE>

University of Colorado's Live Buffalo Mascot Being Retired Because She's 'Too Fast'

The University of Colorado is saying goodbye to their beloved live buffalo mascot Ralphie V — not because she can't handle the work anymore, but because they can't seem to handle her. After 12 seasons on the field — and at 13 years old — Ralphie V has more energy than ever. While the school celebrates her “great health,” officials have come to realize that she may be “too fast” for her human handlers (who are often CU students), creating issues of safety for herself and others on the field. The university has had a live mascot for the last 53 years, with the buffalo leading the school's football team out onto the field ahead of each home game.

<https://t.co/cVeRLqEG5k>

Wis. Bus Driver Rescues Children, Ages 2 and 6, Found Wandering in 18-Degree Weather Without Coats

A Wisconsin bus driver is being hailed as a hero after her quick thinking saved a young pair of siblings from freezing temperatures. Nicole Chamberlain was driving her bus in Waukesha on Monday morning when she spotted a 6-year-old boy and a 2-year-old girl walking outside in the wind and snow, ABC affiliate WISN reported. Neither child had a coat, and the girl was wearing only a T-shirt, boots and a diaper in the 18-degree weather. Chamberlain quickly stopped her bus and went outside in order to lead the kids into the warmth of the vehicle. As they waited for the police to arrive, Chamberlain removed her own coat and placed it over the girl's legs to keep her warm. The children's grandmother arrived on the scene shortly after and told police the boy had gone outside — with his sister right behind him — while she was in the basement.

<https://t.co/0VyIzFuy0s>

Twinkies Cereal Will Soon Be in Grocery Stores Nationwide

After all these years, it's finally acceptable to eat Twinkies for breakfast! America's classic golden sponge cake snack is making its debut in Walmart's cereal aisle in late December, thanks to a collaboration between Post and Hostess brands. The mini golden crunchy version of the beloved Twinkies will cost around \$4 per box and not only mimic the long shape of the doughy original, but also tastes surprisingly almost similar to it, too.

<https://t.co/opzglSDXRx>

Bode Miller Reveals He Was Forced to Deliver His Twins After Wife's Unexpectedly Quick Home Birth

Bode Miller: Olympic skier — and stand-in midwife! When Bode, 42, and wife Morgan Miller welcomed twin boys on Friday, the couple's birth plan didn't go quite as expected, and the proud new dad revealed on the Today show on Tuesday that he ended up delivering the babies with his mom's help. “The birth story was actually one of the more crazy things that I've ever experienced... none of the midwives actually made it on time,” Bode told the morning show hosts. “They started coming over and by the time they got there, me and my mom were both

holding the babies.” “Yeah, luckily my mom was a midwife, but she hadn't delivered babies in 20-plus years, and she never delivered twins,” Bode explained.

<https://t.co/JAkSwj1fZD>

Texas High Schoolers Design and Build Prosthetic Arm for Student So She Can Play the Cello

A Texas middle schooler is thriving as a cellist after a group of dedicated high school students banded together to make her a prosthetic arm. Kayla Arqueta was born without her left hand and part of her forearm, though that didn't stop her from auditioning for the orchestra at Austin Middle School in Irving. Addison took to Google and found the story of a young man who'd learned to play the cello after he was given a prosthetic arm. After realizing that the blueprints for the arm design were available for free online, Addison reached out to Nimitz High School engineering teacher Dwight Davison, whose classroom had recently acquired three 3D printers. With a group of volunteer students on board, the class began creating a design made especially for Kayla so that she'd be as comfortable as possible.

<https://t.co/SxN4btZTea>

High School Sweethearts Wed After 63 Years Apart

Two high school sweethearts tied the knot last month more than 63 years after they went their separate ways as teens. Callahan and Harvey, both 80, “went steady” as juniors at Gar-Field High School in Woodbridge, Virginia, attending school dances together and double dating with friends, Callahan tells PEOPLE. Even so, their romance fizzled that summer. The former sweethearts each went on to have their own children with other spouses and lost touch. However, that all changed in 2018 when Harvey's wife died and he was diagnosed with blood cancer.

That's when Harvey decided to track Callahan down. He did through facebook and they eventually reconnected.

In August Harvey asked Callahan to marry him on a trip to the beach. Their wedding took place Oct. 19 at Central College Presbyterian Chapel in Westerville, Ohio.

<https://t.co/f3MAEsEBAZ>

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