



The Homesteader

A Publication of Homestead Presbytery

December 18, 2012 Issue

Dear Kris

Merry Christmas from The Homesteader!

[Homesteader Print](#)

Version

Please share this with other members of your congregation - You are welcome to use it as a Sunday bulletin insert, forward as an email, print copies OR include all or part of it in your own church newsletter.

Christmas is an ideal time to for people to visit your church

- by hosting Advent activities,
- evangelistic Christmas parties
- serving the community, and
- making your church more inviting.

Are you ready for an increase in 1st time visitors?

A study in the late 1990s showed that three out of four Americans attend church some time during Christmas, and almost 30 percent attend church more frequently during the holidays. Read more for your Christmas planning

- How to Welcome Visitors During the Christmas Season
- Does your church website answer basic questions of church visitors?
- Use Facebook events to increase the promotion of your Christmas Eve services
- 5 Areas to Spruce up for your Christmas Welcome

Christmas Resource Corner: Christmas Party Games for Youth Groups:

Since Christmas is coming soon, our church is in the swing of planning our Christmas outreaches. Your church might be in the planning stages as well

- Small Groups or Life Groups having Christmas parties for their fellowship
- Members having Christmas parties for their neighbors as their outreach
- Youth Groups having Christmas social outings or Christmas Game nights.

I remember during my 15 years of youth ministry always looking for that resource book that would help me with the Youth Group Christmas Party: Junior High Christmas Parties, the High School Christmas Parties, and even some of the college age Christmas parties. This meets that need.

<http://www.evangelismcoach.org/2011/creative-youth-group-ideas-for-christmas/>

Chris Walker

Evangelismcoach.org

Greetings from Prague,

Homestead Presbytery
[The Wise Men still Seek Him](#)
[Advent Devotional](#)

Why I Love My Church.....

There just doesn't seem to be enough love for our churches. Come on! Share with us - don't be shy! **[Send a note about why you love your church!](#)**
krisp@homestead.org

[PYT 2013](#)

Registration
for High
School age



youth begins **January 31- May 31, 2013** (Fall 2013 freshman thru graduating spring of 2013)

Cost: \$469.00 per person

Homestead Presbytery covers transportation costs

Registrar: Rev. Cathy Allen
tworevs52@yahoo.com

or 402-892-3362

Related Links

[Mission Yearbook of Prayer](#)
[View daily online for free](#)

[FriendlyPresbyterianChurches.org](#)

[Presbyterian Church \(USA\)](#)

[Synod of Lakes & Prairies](#)

Although the sun is setting I am happy to report that we had sunshine on this cold Advent day in the Golden City. Things are well underway for Advent and I am finally catching up on things from my recent two months of itineration in the US. It was great seeing old friends and making new ones during my time in the States.

During my travels many of you were lucky enough to get a little booklet called "Magni-Sacred Czech" which is a lovely travel guide about travel to sacred places in the Czech Republic. Unfortunately I was not able to give everyone a copy and I did not have enough surveys to pass out. But as a favor to the wonderful people at Magni who produce these books and provided them free of charge I have a favor to ask. If you picked up one of these books and have a few minutes would you follow the link below and complete a very brief survey? This will give the Magni people important feedback. I suspect even those who did not get a book would be welcome to complete the survey as well.

<http://magni.wufoo.com/forms/survey-on-potential-interest-on-travel-to-europe/>

Thank you so much and blessings to everyone in this joyous season.

Děkuju mockrat, (Thank you very much,) Karen

Tell us what's going on in the life of your congregation or ministry -
Church news, event promotion, mission articles and photos are all welcome!

Please submit articles to krisp@homesteadpres.org
or mail to 1135 Eastridge Road, Lincoln, NE 68510

Contact Information

Congregational Resource Coordinator, Kris Peterson

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The scoop on [Per Capita](#)



[Calvin Crest Camp & Conference Center](#)

Gina Meester's blog about her life in Africa as a YAV - check it out at <http://qmyav2012.blogspot.com/>

