

Virtual Adult Storytime

Theme: Christmas

The purpose of the Virtual Adult Storytime is to provide older adults in the Wadsworth Community with content to facilitate sharing and reminiscing during a time we cannot meet in person.

Story/ Book/ Folktale (People of all ages benefit from hearing stories read aloud. For older adults it can be a chance to stir memories and use their imagination)

Fun Facts about Christmas:

- Evergreen Trees, wreaths, and garlands were first used by ancient Egyptians and Romans to celebrate the winter solstice. The use of modern trees to celebrate Christmas started in Germany in the 16th century.
- The tradition of carolling is based on the English custom of **wassailing**, which was a way to toast to someone's good health and fortune. St. Francis of Assisi took this tradition and converted it to the modern form of carolling.
- Alabama was the first state in the US to have recognized Christmas as an official holiday in 1836.
- According to legend, the fourth-century Christian bishop, **Saint Nicholas**, gave away his abundant inheritance to help the needy and rescued women from servitude. His name was Sinter Klaas in Dutch, which later morphed into Santa Claus.
- Tinsel was invented in 1610 in Germany and was originally spun from real silver, making it far from the chintzy decoration it is now.
- Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer first appeared in 1939 when the Montgomery Ward department store asked one of its copywriters to create a Christmas story the store could give away as a promotional gimmick.

Link to Book Video: <https://youtu.be/r8wTtKnBFTc>

Jingle Bells: How the Holiday Classic Came to Be by John Harris
When Santa Was a Baby by Linda Bailey

“Tell Me a Story” Pictures (A picture can truly say a thousand words; the pictures included below can spur older adults to remember and even be creative in describing a story from the image. After prompting them, let them become the storytellers)

Use leading statements and questions such as:

“What is happening in this photo?”

“Who has seen this before?”

“Tell me if you had one of these?”

“This one is funny.”

Etc.

Video Links (These are provided for enrichment of the theme. Music, dance, etc. enrich auditory, visual, and memory in older adults. Entertainment and engagement are enhanced with these tools)

Bing Crosby Christmas Songs:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ACgjdEXaVUA&ab_channel=VintageJukeBox-Don%27tStopTheMusic

Classic Christmas Songs:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PErR-DFjYn8&ab_channel=Soul%26Jazz%26BluesExperience2020

Classic Christmas Music with Fireplace Scene:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nJrKqc3rHMs&ab_channel=ChristmasSongs

Theme-related Activities (Continued enrichment of the theme provided)

Christmas Word Search (attached below)

Christmas Craft -- Cinnamon Stick Star (instructions below)

Library Resources (If older adults are interested in this topic, here are some resources that are available at the library. Please contact us for this or other titles that may be of interest.)

Books

Fiction:

- 1225 Christmas Tree Lane (by Debbie Macomber)
- 25 Days 'til Christmas (by Poppy Alexander)
- A Chesapeake Shores Christmas (by Sherryl Woods)
- A Plain and Fancy Christmas (by Cynthia Keller)

Nonfiction:

- 100 Little Christmas Gifts to Make
- An Almost Perfect Christmas
- American Homestead Christmas

DVD's

Bing Crosby Christmas

The Christmas Blessing

Christmas Story

Christmas Vacation

A Christmas Carol

Christmas Comes to Willow Creek

Hallmark Christmas movies

The Case for Christmas

Christmas Angel

The Christmas Gift

Christmas in the Air

Charlie Brown Christmas

Christmas with the Kranks

Finding Father Christmas

CD's

22 Merry Christmas Favorites

50 Christmas Classics

Adore: Christmas Songs for Worship

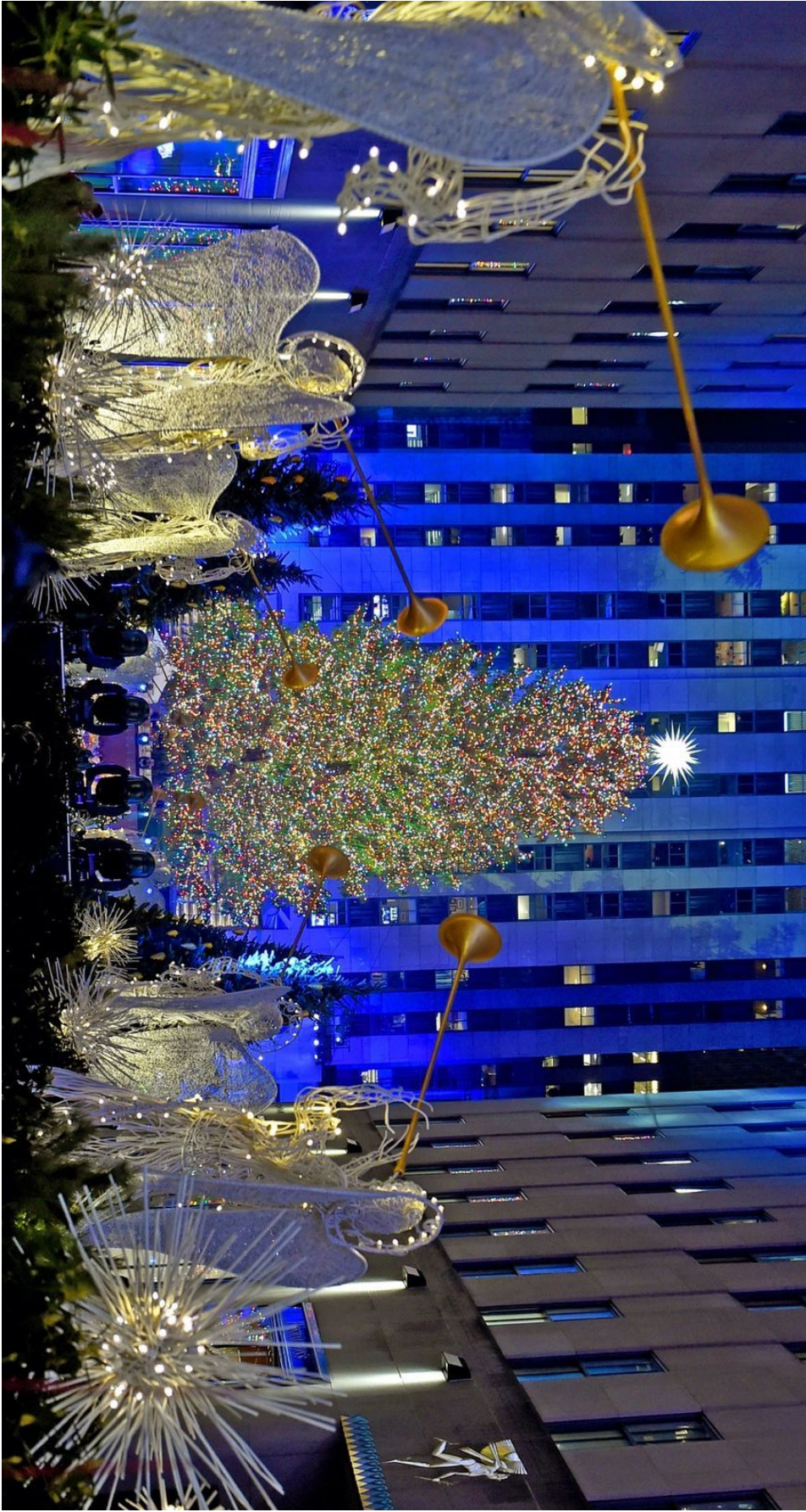
All American Christmas

Bach: Cantatas for Christmas

Pentatonix Christmas

Bluegrass Christmas

Celtic Christmas









Christmas Word Search



CANDY CANE
CAROLS
CHRISTMAS
DECEMBER
ELVES
GINGERBREAD
JINGLE

HOLLY
LIGHTS
MERRY
NORTH POLE
ORNAMENTS
PRESENTS
REINDEER

SANTA
SLEIGH
STOCKING
TREE
WINTER
WREATH



Cinnamon Stick Stars



You will need:

5 Cinnamon Sticks

8 to 10 pieces of Yarn (each approx. 18 inches long)

Small pinecones (optional)

Floral wire (optional)

1 and 2. Buy a package of cinnamon sticks. Find some old yarn or twine. Cut a piece approximately 18 inches long.

3. Tie the yarn around two sticks about 1/2 inch from the end of the sticks. Leave a 2 inch tail on one end of the yarn. This should leave you with one long tail and one short tail. Wind the long tail of yarn around the sticks. Keep going around until the tails of yarn are about the same length. Choose which side of your star is the 'back'. Tie the ends into a knot on the back of the star. Knot a second time. Keep future knots on the same side as your first knot.

4. Lay the two knotted sticks on the table. Add another cinnamon stick so that it lays on top of both sticks. See? It looks like a walking triangle. Use another piece of yarn to tie the new stick to the left end of the horizontal stick.

5. Grab the last two sticks. Lay them underneath the existing walking triangle. Tie one end of each new stick to each leg of the walking triangle.

6. Tie the top of the last two sticks together. It's a star!

7 and 8. Tie the sticks together at two or three of the inner vertices. Snip off all excess yarn tails.

9. You should have at least one piece of yarn left. Use this if you'd like to hang the star from something. Example: the Christmas tree. Or the corner of a picture frame. Or a door handle. Loop the yarn through the top vertex of the star. Tie a knot at the top.

10 (Optional). Add a Pine Cone Clump. Use glue or a glue stick to attach to the star.

