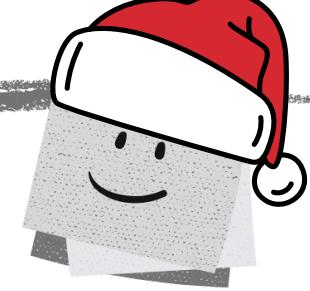


Faith and Funnies

A newsletter from Faithful Friends KY



Dec. Vol. 2-25

JOLLY JOKES FOR ALL THE FOLKS

Answers are on page 4

1. What does a gingerbread man use to make his bed?
2. What do you call a broke Santa Claus?
3. How do Christmas trees get ready for a party?
4. What did one snowman say to the other?
5. How did Scrooge win the football game?
6. What do you call an elf wearing ear muffs?



Santa Stumpers

→ NOEL
NOEL
NOEL

YYY
men

TIM
TIM
→ Tim

SEFRANKNSE

CHRISTMAS

GOOD DAY, SPRING
HELLO THERE, SUMMER
HI THERE, AUTUMN
HEY, WINTER

Jingle
Jingle
Jingle
Jingle
THE END

Christmas Card Prices Through the Years

- 1945: 3¢ postage, 2-5¢/card
- 1965: 5¢ postage, 5-15¢/card
- 1985: 22¢ postage, 25-75¢/card
- 2005: 37¢ postage, \$1-3/card
- 2025: 68¢ postage, \$4-8/card



A Year of Ordinary Days

written by Marla Carter

I love the tradition of sending Christmas cards. When I was younger, I very enthusiastically picked out just the right cards, made a list of recipients, and faithfully began working on them just after Thanksgiving. Most years I included pictures of my kids and the infamous Christmas letter—the one where you update everyone on your family’s activities over the past year.

This year I almost talked myself out of sending cards. Postage is getting to be ridiculously expensive and much of my life is splashed across social media or shared via Facetime or texts. Then I received a Christmas card and letter from a friend that I don’t really keep up with regularly and remembered how much I enjoy getting cards and reading letters from friends far and near. And while the number of cards I get each year dwindles, I know that the joy of receiving cards never dwindles.

I grabbed my laptop and started typing. What can I say about our year? I don’t have any “big” updates to share. Christmas letters usually contain the highlights of the year—graduations, weddings, new job, new house, new baby, etc. We don’t really have anything like that this year. It was an ordinary year made up of ordinary days. As I get older, however, I’m realizing that it’s those kinds of ordinary moments that make life joyfully extraordinary. The things that actually mean the most are probably not the sort of things people want to read about in a letter—the moment my son gave me advice that was surprisingly sound and wise beyond his years, or the moment my daughter invited me to come with her to use a gift card to a painting class instead of asking one of her friends.

continued on page 3...

For the past two years, I have kept a “Blessings Jar.” I start in January and all year I fill it with little slips of folded up paper where I write down things that I’m thankful for, things that have been a blessing to me. Not surprisingly, the jar is filled with these “ordinary” moments—the delight of enjoying a piece of pecan pie while snuggled up by the fire, or the wonder of waking up to an unexpected blanket of snow on the ground.

As I look at my already overflowing 2025 blessings jar, I’m reminded that it isn’t proof of an extraordinary year so much as evidence of ordinary days, simply lived. These quiet, simple experiences make up most of our lives and, taken together, add up to a year that feels anything but simple or ordinary.

Maybe you’re in a similar place this Christmas. You are struggling under the weight of grief and loss; you feel like this year hasn’t been exactly “letter worthy,” and you wonder if any of it meant anything. Let me suggest that this might be one of the best ways to enter the Christmas season—aware of our smallness and longing for the One who will come and make everything right. The birth of Christ—the One who came to rescue us from our sin—meets us not only in our great joys and deep sorrows, but in the quiet, ordinary moments in between. He helps our souls feel their worth and allows us to find joy even in weary, ordinary days, giving us “a thrill of hope...the weary world rejoices...in all our trials, born to be our friend. He knows our need, and to our weakness is no stranger.” -excerpt of lyrics from *O, Holy Night*

Merry
Christmas



Santa's Scrambler

Unscramble the holiday words below.

Created on TheTeachersCorner.net Scramble Maker

1. TNEREPPS

2. ERRINEDE

3. IHGLES

4. SAHMTCRSI

5. ITSGHL

6. CKAASEPG

7. NATSA

8. RYEMR

9. UEFDG

10. ESICKOO

11. EISLERIEDV

12. EFIPACRLE

13. KSSGIOTNC

14. NICRGALO

sleigh cookies fudge reindeer stockings fireplace deliveries packages merry
caroling christmas santa lights presents

Silly Jokes For All the Folks Answers:

1. A Cookie Sheet 2. Saint Nickel-less 3. They spruce up! 4. Do you smell carrots? 5. The ghost of Christmas passed. 6. Call him whatever you want; he can't hear you!

Santa Stumpers Answers:

1st row, L to R: The first Noel, Three wise men, Tiny Tim

2nd row: FrankenseNSE (frank IN sense), White Christmas

3rd row: Seasons Greetings, Jingle all the way