



# PRICELESS

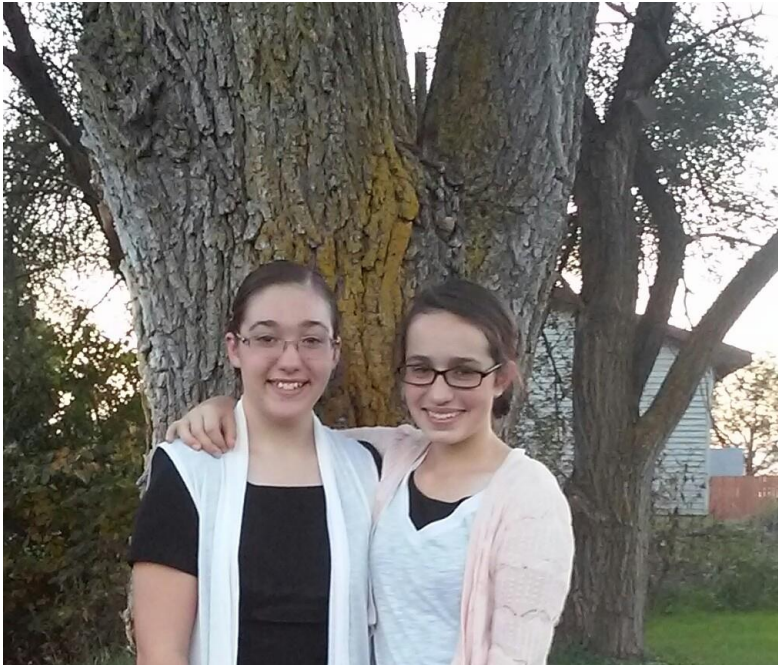
December 2018

## Letter from the Editors

Welcome to our second issue of Priceless Magazine! First off, we want to thank all of you for your support and feedback! We would appreciate prayer as we continue to expand and that God would work through us to encourage young girls in their walk with Christ. We now have a website thanks to help of Zachary Webb! The address is [pricelessmag.weebly.com](http://pricelessmag.weebly.com). If you want to invite your friends to subscribe, give them this address. Always remember that you are **PRICELESS!**

Julie Hochstetler

Janessa Hochstetler



# RECIPE CORNER

## **Aunt Ruth's Cut-out Cookies** (yields app. 2 doz.)

- 1 cup soft butter
- 1- 8oz. package of cream cheese, softened
- 1 ½ cup sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- ½ tsp. almond extract
- 3 ½ cups flour
- 1 tsp. baking powder

### **Instructions:**

1. Cream first 3 ingredients together.
2. Add egg, vanilla, and almond extract. Mix together.
3. Then mix in the flour and baking powder.
4. Divide and chill in fridge.
5. Once chilled, roll out 1/8 inch thick. Cut out desired shapes and place on a lightly sprayed cookie sheet.
6. Bake at 375 degrees for 8-10 min.
7. Once cooled, frost and decorate. Enjoy!

## Grandma's Molasses Cookies (yields app. 2 doz.)

- $\frac{3}{4}$  cup shortening
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 egg
- $\frac{1}{4}$  cup molasses
- 2 tsp. baking soda
- 2 cups flour
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp. ginger
- $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp. salt

### Instructions:

1. Cream first 4 ingredients together.
2. Blend the remaining ingredients together.
3. Form in balls and roll in a bowl of sugar.
4. Place on non-greased cookie sheet and bake at 350 degrees for 10-12 minutes.



# *Creative Corner*

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Alanna Coblentz, OH, age: 16

Alanna sent in a few other amazing pictures that will be featured in the next couple of magazines. Keep your eyes open!



Myah Coffey, NC, age: 13

**Want to have your creations featured?**

Send in your pictures, recipes, poems, and artwork to [pricelessmagazine18@gmail.com](mailto:pricelessmagazine18@gmail.com) with the subject line **SUBMIT**.

# A Living Sacrifice

It's that time of year. Our hearts turn towards family, friends, and the security of home; and as we draw nearer to the Christmas season, we begin to ponder the birth of Jesus. The last number of weeks I have been thinking of the sacrifice Jesus made coming to this earth.

Sacrifice isn't usually what we think of when we think of Christmas. However, Jesus made the Ultimate Sacrifice by coming to save us. He left Heaven for Earth. He arrived as a tiny defenseless baby into a chaotic world. He was at the mercy of the humans around him. Herod's jealousy led to a genocide for all the baby boys in Bethlehem, which prompted Jesus' family to flee as refugees to Egypt. He grew up in Nazareth, a town that everyone looked

down on. Jesus suffered and was tempted just like us.

The longer I live here in Grenada, the more I realize how hard it is to enter another culture. It is like going to another world. While there are some similarities, you always feel like you don't truly belong. Maybe Jesus felt that way. During the 33 years he spent on Earth, he stayed connected to His Father. He did the everyday tasks. He obeyed his parents. He worshiped at church. He went to school. But He didn't stop there. Jesus came to save the world!

Jesus didn't go for politics. He didn't try to get rid of Rome. He didn't try to become king. He didn't do big things. He started small. He gathered 12 young men, who were desperate for the attention of a rabbi. He healed the

sick, blind, and lame. He noticed the people everyone else ignored. He taught with the authority of Heaven in every word. And everyone was amazed because they had underestimated his abilities.

And then He was crucified. All seemed lost! Maybe Jesus wasn't the Messiah after all. But then, Jesus rose from the dead. Hope and salvation were available for the first time since Adam and Eve had sinned. The ultimate sacrifice was finally accomplished!

The disciples raced to take the good news to all of their known world! They followed the example of their rabbi. They were just fishermen and social outcasts, the people everyone ignored. But they sought the Holy Spirit, and soon they were unrecognizable. People marveled at the wisdom they possessed. They healed the sick, blind, and

lame. They noticed the outcasts. They taught with the authority of Heaven in every word. And everyone was amazed, for they had underestimated them. They called them Christians....little Christs.

And it wasn't long till Satan tried to get rid of them. Just the way he had tried to get rid of Jesus. They wouldn't worship idols, kings, or the customs of the world. And they died painful and horrible deaths. And all seemed lost....but was it really? The Gospel is still being spread. The church is still alive, and Jesus is returning soon!

When I arrived here in Grenada, I realized I was doing the same things I had done in the States. I was teaching school, leading out at children's ministries, Sunday school, and Bible studies. We were singing at nursing homes, hospitals, and for the elderly in their homes. We were making food to share

with the hungry. We were reaching out with the same love as we had at home. Sure, it's a different place, but we are still the same people. God hasn't given us important duties or special social rank. We are just ordinary people doing little things for Him.

Lately, I have been struggling with living a sacrificial life. It isn't easy to give up everything. Laying down dreams or talents is painful. But as Christians we are called to live like Jesus.

Maybe you feel like no one sees you. Perhaps everyone underestimates your abilities. You may not be a part of the popular social group. You may not have a lot of friends or talents. Maybe you are struggling with your faith. Maybe you are wondering what being a Christian is all about.

Jesus came for you! He sees you! You are a valuable member of His

team. Jesus wants to use everyone! He came to show us how to live sacrificially. So this month, this year, the rest of your life, LIVE LIKE A SACRIFICE!

Seek the Holy Spirit. Pray. Read the Word of God. And during your daily activities, look for the social outcasts in your life--the poor, the lonely, and the hard to love people. Love them! Listen to them. And help the sick, the blind, and the lame. Feed the hungry. Speak with the authority of Heaven in every word. And whether or not people notice doesn't matter, because you will be a true Christian.... a little Christ!

It won't be easy. It will take time. And people will say hurtful things. You won't be popular. You won't have everything the world has to offer. You will feel like you have given everything away. However, you will have

Jesus! And nothing else will last anyway.

This world is full of hurting people. There are so many all around us. I am certain that even in your church or youth group, there is someone who could use a friend. So do little things with Great Love! And remember, God loves to show His glory

and power through ways people don't expect. He sent the Prince of Heaven to a captive nation, to a young girl, to a stable and a feed trough. God wants to use your life to spread the good news of Jesus' sacrifice to an aching world. Will you be a living sacrifice?

"They shall lift up their voice, they shall sing for the majesty of the Lord, they shall cry aloud from the sea. Wherefore glorify ye the Lord in the east, even the name of the Lord God of Israel in the isles of the sea."

Isaiah 24:14-15

## Andrea Webb

Andrea currently lives in Grenada where she teaches school. Andrea enjoys reading, drinking coffee, and spending time with children.



*Here are some of the sights Andrea has seen in Grenada.*



# CHRISTMAS

## Reaching Out to Others

Christmas is a great time to reach out to those around you and share about Christ. Here's some ideas to get you going!

1. Bake some cookies! Giving cookies and other Christmas goodies is an awesome way to reach out to your neighbors. Check out the recipes on pages 2 and 3!
2. Get together a group of friends and go sing or play an instrument at a nursing home to brighten their day.
3. Contact a hospital and see if you can read stories to the children there.
4. Volunteer at a soup kitchen with your family.
5. Put on a Christmas play at your church or home.
6. Surprise somebody by doing something nice for them. Examples: Do the dishes without being asked, bless someone by giving them an unsigned card (or gift), or make supper for your family.

My precious son,

You are asleep in your manger. Yes, your manger. You were born in a stable, little one. There was no room in the inn. It is peaceful here though, and warm, so I will not complain.

You are not a usual baby. What I mean is, you do not have an earthly father. Joseph will help take care of you and raise you as his own, but he is not your father. Your father is Yahweh, the God of Israel. I know it will be hard for people to understand, but it is the truth. Whether they believe or not is their choice.

Also, as I have already said, you were born in a stable--the Son of God, born in a stable! And some shepherds came to see you and said that an angel had appeared to them and told them about you; then a whole multitude of angels had appeared and sang, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

No, my child, you are not a usual baby. Nor will you be a usual man. An angel told me that you will reign over Israel and your kingdom will never end. And an angel (perhaps the same one) told Joseph that you will save your people from their sins. I don't

know what that means, dear one, but it sounds wonderful--and scary. I am afraid that "save his people" might mean that you will get hurt... I do not want you to get hurt, or killed like most of the Israelite "saviors" we have had already.

But I will not dwell on that now. Instead, I will celebrate your birth, and dream of what your childhood could be like, and pray that I--and Joseph--will raise you well. I want to raise you well, not just because you are God's Son, but because you are my son... and you always will be, no matter what.

I love you, Jesus.

Your mother,

Mary

## **Julie Hochstetler**

Julie is 13 and lives in Indiana. She enjoys to read, sing, and spend time with friends.

