

the

FLASH

VOLUME 52, ISSUE 4

Includes a fun Christmas word search!

Merry Christmas!

inside:

- Poll: What's your favorite Christmas song?

-12 what-ifs of Christmas

-Recipes for holiday fudge and hot cocoa

MOVIE REVIEW:
NEW MOON

"On Accident vs. By Accident"
...where did grammar fail us?

by Prof. Lau

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL, COLLEGE AND SEMINARY

COER ART BY LIZ RICHARDSON

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN
HIGH SCHOOL, COLLEGE & SEMINARY

THE FLASH

Volume 52, Issue 3

My First Final

By Prof. Lau

My first final, English 9,
I'm well prepared, feelin' fine
Triune in nature, it comes in 3 parts
Teacher's way of testin' my smarts
Spelling-vocab, grammar, and lit
To my way o' thinking, "That's quite a bit!"

Vocab, no problem, it is my forte
What that word means, though, I cannot say
Phrases and clauses and parts of speech
For the top rung of the grammar ladder we reach
Poetry, now that's my passion, you see
Alliteration, parallelism, and simile
Meter, rhyme, scheme, and metaphor
Onomatopoeia, who could ask for more?

Next semester awaits, so much in store
Plays, epics, novels, a whole lot more
But now vacation is drawing near
So Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

CHRISTMAS WORD SEARCH	4
12 WHAT-IFS OF CHRISTMAS	5
CARTOON	5
FRESHMEN: JOSH HEINZE, ABBY SYDOW	6
FAVORITE CHRISTMAS SONGS!	7
NEW MOON	8
FUDGE AND HOT CHOCOLATE	9-10
CHRISTMAS MUSIC	10
"ON ACCIDENT"	11
TIDINGS OF GOOD CHEER	11
CHRISTMAS QUOTES	12
A NORMAL CHRISTMAS	12
SAM'S PERSPECTIVE	13
BLESSINGS	14
EDITORIAL	15

Christmas Word Search by Lydia Albrecht



V	S	H	Z	E	E	I	R	H	V	U	S	S	H	S	S	C	D	G	Z	Q	D
E	V	Z	V	H	Z	O	F	E	E	L	G	Y	W	A	T	A	E	I	S	X	T
Y	M	I	O	P	T	J	T	B	L	N	L	A	J	N	U	R	L	N	D	H	L
C	A	N	D	Y	C	A	N	E	I	M	D	N	V	T	N	O	S	G	E	Y	V
G	S	W	H	M	P	A	B	D	L	D	P	N	H	A	T	L	Z	E	S	W	M
I	L	T	C	P	E	B	I	T	L	T	L	J	E	S	S	I	B	R	N	M	A
R	W	X	O	L	L	T	J	I	Y	T	S	O	R	F	E	N	R	B	E	L	B
W	Z	Z	E	C	L	O	N	E	M	P	Z	I	Z	V	H	G	N	R	C	R	X
M	O	X	I	I	K	G	D	C	S	G	K	M	M	E	C	S	C	E	N	B	U
F	X	S	G	W	C	I	F	U	Q	U	E	G	O	O	R	C	S	A	I	V	Y
V	F	H	O	L	L	Y	N	C	R	H	S	N	O	W	M	A	N	D	V	Z	F
Y	T	H	O	Z	Y	Q	A	G	E	W	K	S	S	W	C	N	T	H	R	G	U
S	R	T	Z	W	Y	M	Z	L	S	R	S	C	L	I	U	S	W	O	G	T	X
Q	H	A	B	I	E	M	H	H	G	Q	E	I	T	C	O	K	G	U	W	D	K
S	C	Y	T	L	O	T	R	A	U	A	P	G	F	S	I	C	Z	S	H	U	H
P	O	G	R	S	E	Q	X	S	Q	R	D	H	N	P	S	O	J	E	X	K	P
J	E	O	Q	B	Q	C	U	F	E	K	R	V	W	A	W	L	Y	Q	I	G	Q
P	C	R	K	V	V	N	D	S	I	U	R	T	E	J	M	F	B	V	W	R	R
E	C	A	E	P	F	O	E	C	N	I	R	P	U	N	F	G	Y	Q	R	I	A
K	I	X	R	U	L	N	Y	O	H	N	A	R	J	K	T	L	N	T	T	N	A
H	B	X	K	N	T	G	B	C	N	Q	K	D	L	W	V	R	P	N	U	C	G
S	H	A	M	S	L	E	G	N	A	Q	F	U	U	P	A	K	Y	I	P	H	V

ADVENT

ANGEL

JOY

LIGHTS

MANGER

MISTLETOE

PRESENTS

PRINCE OF PEACE

RUDOLPH

SANTA

SCROOGE

SLED

SNOWMAN

STAR

JESUS

BELLS

BETHLEHEM

CAMEL

CANDY CANE

CAROLING

CHESTNUTS

FLOCKS

FROSTY

GINGER BREAD HOUSE

GRINCH

HAM

HOLLY

INCENSE

STOCKINGS

SWADDLING CLOTHS



Twelve What-Ifs of Christmas

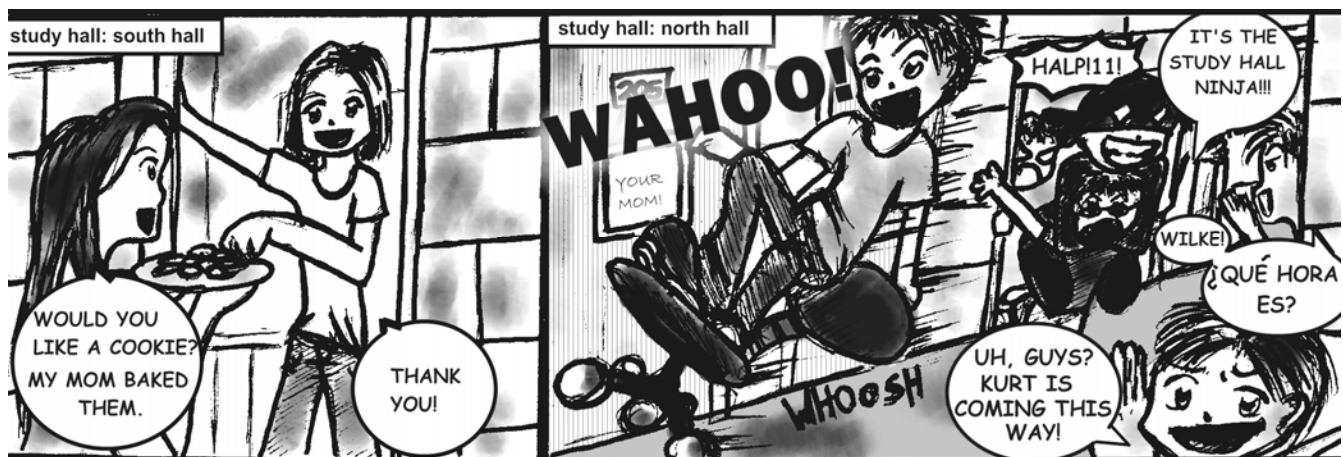
By Kurt Koenig

What if...

- ...Prof. Reim invited the Trans Siberian Orchestra to the Christmas concert?
- ...Nathan Albrecht and Luke Schaser exchanged suspenders as gifts?
- ...Elisabeth Richardson animated an entire "Christmas Carol" of her own?
- ...Thomas Mayfield received golden blonde hair dye as a gift?
- ...Melissa Otte bought red and green 7 Eleven slurpees for the senior class?
- ...Luther Sieg got a monster truck for Christmas to plow snow?
- ...Miss Sydow and Miss Hein wished everyone a Merry Christmas and an Abbie/Abby New year?
- ...Jordan Horrillo and Kenny Winters could give Prof. Sullivan snowboarding lessons?
- ...instead of a dunking contest, Randy Oster, Carl Reim, and Michael Bomber competed to see who could put a star or angel on top of Messiah's Christmas tree?
- ...Ethel had elves working for her in the kitchen? (Wait, she does! They are the FLASH editors!)
- ...Zach Meyer broke out his elf hats and all the freshman girls took turns wearing them?
- ...there were no commercial distractions to take away from the celebration of our Savior's birth?



December Cartoon by Liz Richardson



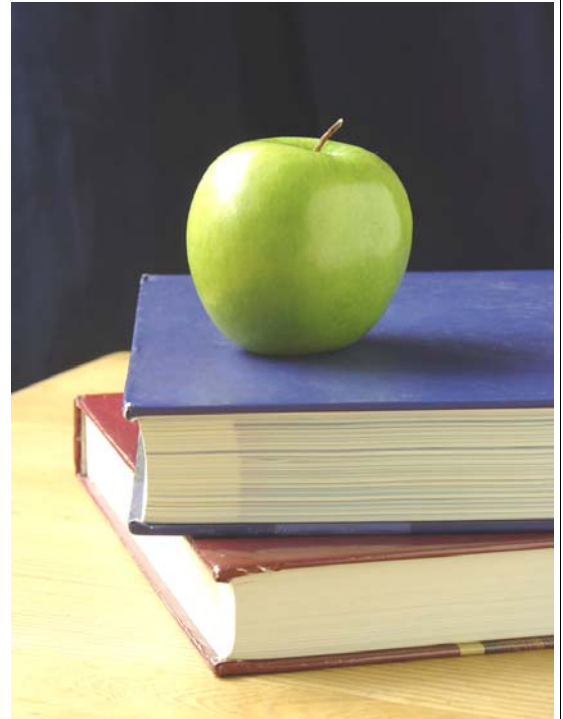
Do YOU Know the Freshman?

Josh Heinze

Josh was born in Mankato, MN on 9/19/94. He spent his first 5 years growing up on a farm along with his oldest brother Ryan, 2 older sisters Ashley and Brianne, and a younger brother Caleb. Once when he was about 3, he got lost for a short period of time in a small cornfield near his house with his buddy Bryce. He was riding a bike when he was 4—a cute purple one that his sister had used also:) He moved to Eau Claire in 1999. He attended Messiah grade school. He also gained 2 younger sisters (Sarah and Abigail) –he’s so good with them! He enjoys fishing trips with his dad and brothers. This summer he caught a 15 lb Catfish. He has been Salmon fishing a couple times. He has caught a 20 lb Salmon! He has been on a few youth hunts with his friend Aaron. He also enjoys camping trips with the family. He has worked at the Chippewa Valley Growers Greenhouse, Pioneer seed, mows lawn for a neighbor and has helped his brother Ryan with snow shoveling jobs in the winter months.

Abby Sydow

Abby was born on August 2, 1995. Her older sister is Rachel and her older brothers are Andy and Jacob. It's tough being the youngest. It's tough when you're 4 months old and you get left on the center island in the kitchen in your car seat on Christmas Eve (don't worry, the rest of the family got in the van but didn't leave the garage before they realized she was missing). It's tough when you are 3 years old and you get lost in the tall grass when you and your family are walking on the property of your new home. It's tough when you are 4 years old and you get lost while picking potatoes in a field (a 4-H outing again, with your family). It's tough when you are a little older and your siblings are waiting for you to come out of the shower then kidnap you (while wearing only your towel) and carry you into the middle of the cornfield next to your house and leave you there - meanwhile, certain clothing items are hung up on the flag pole out near the road. I could go on but luckily there is a sentence limit for this article. Suffice it to say, it is tough being the youngest!



What's Your Favorite Christmas Song?

By Yan Yi He

Do you have a favorite Christmas song that you could hear it every Christmas but still not get tired of it? I think my favorite Christmas song is "How Quietly." Since I have learned this song during choir, I sing it a lot. Some people get tired of this song because of me. Sorry, guys! I think it's pretty, and I will always think so. How about you? Let's check out what other people say.

Prof Ude: "What Child is This?"

Lana S: "I Want a Hippopotamus For Christmas". It's such a cute song! I love it!

Jo O: "We Wish You a Merry Christmas!" It's a good song!

Melissa O: "Christmas Don't Be Late." It reminds me of when I was a little kid.

Alyssa K: "O Holy Night." It puts a picture in my head of when Christ was born, and when the angels came to the shepherds, and how peaceful, yet joyous, it was.

Valerie B: "Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire." I always heard it during Christmas every year, and it reminds me of decorating our Christmas tree.

Emily T: "God Rest Ye Merry Gentleman." I've liked the melody since I was little.

Leah F: "Silent Night." Such an innocent and pretty song about baby Jesus!

Alana A: "Away in the Manger." Everyone knows this song. It's comforting, and it has a pretty melody.

Prof Kranz: "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks By Night." The lyrics are meaningful, the tune is sweet, and it's a lot better than "Grandma Got Run Over By a

Reindeer."

Megan R: "What Child is This?" I love minor songs, and I just love the words.

Kaity S: "I Celebrate the Day."

Matt F: "Christmas Eve Sarajevo." It's a cool song!

Patrick: "O Come All Ye Faithful," because I can play it on the piano; it's a cool song.



New Moon Re- view

By Christina and Abbie Hein, Zach
“Bukket” Meyer

Hey Flash Readers, a new movie just came out and I'm sure you have heard of it. It's New Moon and we here writing for The Flash decided that there was no way to write a review without it being completely biased. So Christina Hein and I (the one and only Bucket) have decided to battle our grounds, me opposing and Christina supporting. Let the games begin!

Abbie: Team Edward or Team Jacob?

Christina: Team Edward all the way!

Bukket: Neither, but if I had to pick, then Megan Fox.

A: Did you like Twilight or New Moon better?

C: I have to say that New Moon was definitely better since they got a new director.

B: Hmm... good question. I'd have to say that both were a waste of my life.

A: How would you rate New Moon?

C: 11 out of 10.

B: -3 out of 0.

A: What did you think of Jacob's mad muscles?

C: Ew. He looked like a 5-year-old in a 20-year-old body.

B: Muscle? You mean c-g?

A: What was your favorite part of the movie?

C: When Jacob and Bella are building the motorcycle.

B: When Alice and Jacob argue and he (Jacob) sounds like an angry 2 year old.

A: Overall, what did you think of the movie?

C: It was really good- it did a pretty good job of portraying the book, and it made me tear up a bit.

B: Blah! *cough* it was a waste of money, time, and a perfectly good Friday night.



RACHEL'S RIDICULOUS RECIPES

By Rachel Mackensen

Christmas is just around the corner!! So here are some great sweet treats to make this holiday even better! Merry Christmas everyone!

Holiday Fudge

Ingredients:

- 2 cups semi-sweet chocolate chips
- 1 cup of peanut butter
- 1 14 oz can SWEETENED condensed milk (NOT evaporated)
- dash salt
- 1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract

Preparation:

Over low heat, melt choc., sweetened milk, and salt. Remove from heat, stir in vanilla and peanut butter.

Pour into and 8 or 9 inch foil-lined square pan, cool for about 2 hrs. Turn onto a cutting board, peel off the foil, and cut into little squares.

Chocolate Peanut Butter Chip Fudge

Omit one cup of the choc. chips and the walnuts; Stir in 1 cup peanut butter chips just before spreading in pan.

Snowflake Hot Cocoa

Ingredients:

- 2 cups whipping cream
- 6 cups milk
- 1 tsp of vanilla
- 1 (12 oz) package white chocolate chips

Garnish:

- Whipped cream
- Candy canes



Continued on the next page...

A Christmas Music Compilation

By Leah Fleischer

Okay, so a lot of people last month asked me about my article in the Flash. It was a list of a bunch of punk songs. Well, every month I am going to make a playlist for the Flash with different kinds of music. And this month it just happens to be mostly Christmas music. If you have any suggestions for things I should do in the future, please tell me!

- "Sleigh Ride" - Reliant K
- "Alleluia" - Hawk Nelson
- "White Christmas" - Bing Crosby
- "Baby It's Cold Outside" - Ella Fitzgerald
- "Silent Night" - Weezer
- "Let It Snow" - Frank Sinatra
- "Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas" - Judy Garland
- "Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful" - Weezer
- "Auld Lang Syne" - Reliant K
- "Just For Now" - Imogen Heap
- "All I Want For Christmas is You" - Mariah Carey
- "Walking in a Winter Wonderland" - Jason Mraz
- "Amazing Because It Is" - The Almost



RACHEL'S RIDICULOUS RECIPES cont. . .

Directions:

Stir together the whipping cream, milk, vanilla, and white chocolate chips in a slow cooker.

Cover and cook on low for 2 to 2 1/2 hours, stirring occasionally, until mixture is hot and chocolate chips are melted. Stir again before serving. Garnish with whipped cream and candy canes, as desired.

“On Accident”

By Prof. Lau

A few years ago young people began saying “on accident” instead of the time-tested “by accident” I was taught. Experts aren’t sure why this change has occurred. Some have theorized that it comes from its counterpart “on purpose.” If it’s “on purpose” it has to be “on accident,” right? No. That’s as logical as saying “by purpose,” an expression that no one uses.

For an interesting and rather humorous discussion on the topic go to johnaugust.com and search “on accident, by accident.” According to the comments at this site it is more common for those under 30 years to say “on accident.” Almost no one over 30 years old says “on accident.” Many regions of our country and several English-speaking people outside the U.S. appear to never use “on accident.” One person remarked, “I assume that the people who say ‘on accident’ instead of ‘by accident’ are the same ones who say ‘for all intensive purposes’ when they mean ‘for all intents and purposes.’ Stop the madness!” Another stated:

“I’ve heard this but it’s usually a (not so bright) 7-year-old saying it. I always attributed it to bad grammar at home. This reminds me of people that say ‘melk’ and ‘pellow’ instead of ‘milk’ and ‘pillow.’ I’m not fond of those people.”

Yet another was more succinct. “‘On accident’ just sounds stupid.”

Perhaps we can all agree to avoid the disagreement by saying “accidentally” which, by the way, can also be written “accidently.” Take warning, however, that in English 9 you will learn “by accident.”



Tidings of Good Cheer

By Jesse Ude

The bells rang as the people gathered in the church to hear the children sing. The air was filled with the joy of Christmas. The well-dressed church members sat packed into the pews sitting as close to the front as they could. The children sang with joy, spreading the good news to all who came to hear. After all, it was Christmas. The pastor gave a sermon filled with the good news that angels had brought to the shepherds. The members sang with joy. After the service, they filed back home to unwrap gifts and do other fun-filled activities. But throughout, one man sat all alone, having no one for Christmas. He had no money for nice clothes and he sat in rags and was ignored by all. Being shoved aside and ignored as just another hobo. The church was empty and he sat all alone. He slowly got up and started to leave when he felt a hand on his shoulder. A voice said, “Come join me for Christmas.” The man nodded and followed the pastor home for his first Christmas.

So often it is easy for us to put down people, or think less of them because they aren’t dressed as nicely as we. But we need to be like this pastor. We need to reach out to everyone. God didn’t say, “Go therefore and make disciples of the rich and the clean.” No, He tells us to make disciples of all nations. We should always remember that we are all sinners. We are just as bad as murderers and robbers. But God sent a Savior to take away this guilt and we have all been saved. So, go into all the world and preach the good news. Shout it from the roof tops! Proclaim the name of God! For he has delivered us and on the Last Day he will take us to be with Him forever. So shout forth the beautiful message of the angels!

The Eleven Quotes for Christmas

Compiled by Paige Louderman

- Dec.14st: "He who has not Christmas in his heart, will never find it under a tree." - Roy Smith
- Dec.15th: "Christmas, children, is not a date. It's a state of mind." - Mary Ellen Chase
- Dec.16th: "There has only been one Christmas- The rest are anniversaries." - W.J. Cameron
- Dec.17th: "I will honor Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year" - Charles Dickens
- Dec.18th: "It is Christmas in the heart that puts Christmas in the air." - W.T. Ellis
- Dec.19th: "Christmas is not so much about opening presents as it is opening our hearts" - Janice Maeditere
- Dec.20th: "Christmas is the season when you buy this year's gifts with next year's money." - Unknown
- Dec.21th: "If "ifs" and "buts" were candy and nuts, wouldn't it be a Merry Christmas." - Don Meredith
- Dec.22th: "Nothing's as mean as giving a little child something useful for Christmas." - Kin Hubbard
- Dec.23th: "There's nothing sadder in this world than to awake Christmas morning and not be a child."
- Erma Bombeck
- Dec.24th(Christmas Eve): "Christmas is doing a little something extra for someone." - Charles Schulz
- Dec 25th(Christmas Day!): "The only blind person at Christmas time, is he who has not Christmas in his

A Normal Christmas — By Michelle Radtke

Car pulls in from service,	While sis' is gone
We all pile out.	Dinner is spilling
As dinner starts cooking	And people are waiting
No room for error or doubt.	While stomachs are s'posed to be filling.
Anxiously waiting for grandparents,	Chaos is starting
Can't wait to eat our fill	Not soon will be stopping.
Even more so to open presents,	People are angry,
But first wait for cousin Bill.	Babies are crying,
	And dishes are dropping.
Everyone's here,	Sis' is back
Can't wait to start,	And peace is returning,
But wait!	Christmas is saved!
Something's missing	Hurray for the house not burning!
Have to go to mart.	

The Christmas Conspiracy

By Sam Rodebaugh

So it's nearing Christmas time, and I got to thinking, "What is Christmas really about? Sometimes we get so caught up in all the..."

Just joking. I'm not going to write about that. While it's completely true, we all read too many of those articles, year after year. In fact, I wouldn't be too surprised if you read an article that sounds just like that in this issue of the Flash. (I mean no offense to the writer; I'm sure it's a simply wonderful article.)

What I'm going to write about today is advertising. Americans are slaves to advertising. If you don't understand, let me put this into terms you may understand. AMERICANS are to ADVERTISING as IMMANUEL STUDENTS are to SCHEDULE.

I'll give you some examples. Some company decides to sew sleeves on a blanket, broadcasts a couple of commercials on TV, and suddenly it's the idea of the century. A director decides to cast a slightly masculine teenager as a lead role in his movie, releases a couple of promotional posters, and suddenly 95% of teenage girls think that New Moon is one of the greatest movies of all time. Give me a break. The totality of advertising's invasion into the minds of Americans is obvious.

Now, if you ask my girlfriend, she will tell you that I am, in fact, powerless against advertising's evil clutches. I am constantly spending money on things I don't need, and might not even like. And now you're thinking, "Why are you writing about this subject then? That's hypocritical!" It's true. It is quite hypocritical. But I think that it is time for a change. It is time for us, as free Americans, to think for ourselves.

As Christmas nears us, we will all be shopping for those whom we love. This time of year is prime time for advertising. I urge you to be careful in your shopping ventures. Don't buy unnecessary items just because they are on sale. Don't be swayed by the various claims and testimonials about various products. Just use your head this year. Use the freedom given to you in this great nation. But most of all, have a Merry Christmas.



Our Blessings

By Two Inspired by Life, Loved by God

These two people decided they wanted to write article about their blessings. They felt God's supportive love surrounding them, giving inspiration to touch lives. These two people have asked to remain anonymous, but they're people I value incredibly . . . Whose words are filled with strong meaning. Listen to what they've thankful for; I'm sure you'll find you have much more than you realized. — Melanie



God makes me happy, being together makes me happy, acceptance, peace, having a constant, pictures, beautiful skies, a clean space, people laughing, little kids hugging you, feeling warm and fluffy and loved. Soft things, people who aren't mean, shiny eyes, loud music, everlasting things, being warm during a thunderstorm, cuddling in the warmth of a million blankets in the winter, Lilies, roses, baby animals, when a baby smiles at you, feeling accomplished, Christmas candle smells and Christmas cookies, white dresses, weddings, attention from your significant other, the first few minutes at home after being at school for a few months, being genuinely cared about,

first kiss, Christmas lights, snow on the trees (while you're inside of course), Eskimo/butterfly kisses, snow angels, Australian accents, feeling innocent, feeling like a little kid, slow dancing, sleeping with a stuffed animal or pillow, completed movies, finishing a big book, finishing a lit. analysis! Just feeling close to anything and everyone around you when you don't feel so alone.

— anonymous girl

God makes me happy, accomplishing something that no one thought you could, hitting the last second shot to win the game, having a whole weekend with nothing to do but relax, the days when I was a kid and nothing mattered, summertime, having a campout, having a campfire with the family, going to the beach, swimming, running around on grass with your shoes off, a cookout with the family, the smell of something cooking on a grill, the smell of fresh-cut grass, a Thanksgiving meal, getting the bags filled with candy after the Christmas program, sharing food and chillin' with my friends, listening to the song that you love but haven't heard in years, when your favorite band comes out with a new album, the feeling of a warm toasty bed or couch after spending time outside in the cold, a snowball fight, coffee/hot chocolate, the feeling of being appreciated by friends and family, being able to talk to someone you haven't talked to for a while, when you're in church and they sing your favorite hymn and everyone is singing it loudly and beautifully, a simple wink from a friend.

— anonymous guy



Christmas Editorial

By Melanie Hallstein

I don't know about you, but I'm so sick of spending money on myself. The other night, I thought about my Black Friday expenses, and I spent a good amount of money—and it was all for me.

What if we were to all give money to something that NEEDED it? What if, instead of buying a new, updated version of stereo, or a new car, you bought a couple helpful items for other people?

Well, even that wouldn't cut the deck. To most people, Christmas is about finding the best gift, the newest thing, the smartest bargain, the most sought-after object that all your friends want . . . and you buy it for one person to enjoy.

What if I told you that the best GIFT isn't a material object? I believe the best gift isn't something we can just buy at the store, or make at home. The best gift is something we can quite easily present to people.

The best thing about sharing this ULTIMATE GIFT is that all we have to do is open our mouths and God will work through us! If He wants faith to spark, He'll follow through. We are simply portals through which He communicates with earth.

Presenting this gift could start by a kind gesture—picking up someone's pencil they dropped, or opening a door for someone . . . anything to glorify God and strike up a conversation.

God has given you social skills for a reason! Don't let them go to waste. Make use of this beautiful soul God has blessed you with, and present the gift of awakening.



Credits:

COVER PAGE: Liz Richardson

CONTRIBUTORS: Yan Yi He Liz Richardson Zach Meyer Kurt Koenig
Leah Fleischer Christina Hein Melanie Hallstein Abbie Hein Paige Louderman
Sam Rodebaugh Jesse Ude Rachel Mackensen Prof. Lau Michelle Radtke

EDITORS: Melanie Hallstein Christina Hein

STAFF ADVISOR: Prof Lau

LAYOUT: Melanie Hallstein Leah Fleischer

TYPISTS: Lydia Albrecht Jess Schaller Sarah Tester Michelle Radtke Lauren Lisak

November's "WHO AM I?" article was KURT KOENIG!