

*the Weiser Signal American's*

# Christmas Greetings 2018

Second Grade  
Santa Letters

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MERRY CHRISTMAS  
AND  
HAPPY NEW YEAR



Back row from left: Berto Fuentes, Eliseo Sanchez, Dan Gluch, Tyler Young, Joe Truscott and Josh Frieboes. Front: Jeb Johnson, Angela Glemser and Nat Flint. Not pictures Yesenia Magana and Darren Coriell.



250 E. First • Weiser • 549-2534



## Letters to Santa Claus

Composed by the students of Mrs. Hill's 2nd Grade Class



Dear Santa,

How are you? I want a white kitty cat stuffed. I need two pairs of jeans size 10-12. Can you get them.

I love you.  
Sincerely,  
Victoria

Dear Santa,

How is your day going? Do you work hark? I would really like 6 PS4 games. I also need a pair of gloves.

Sincerely,  
Gavin

Dear Santa,

How are you? I want a tea set. I would also like a toy doll so we can play with the tea set.

Sincerely,  
Lyla

Dear Santa,

I want Voltron Defender of the Universe. I need a real tool box and real tools so I can work with my mom.

Sincerely,  
Johnny

Dear Santa,

How are you? How are the elves? I need new snow gloves. I want a lot of slime.

Sincerely,  
Eric

Dear Santa,

Santa I want a book. Santa I also want a Mindcraft game.

Sincerely,  
Ethan

Dear Santa,

How are you? I want an Excalibur. I want a Jon Senu action figure.

Sincerely,  
Kaleb

Dear Santa,

How are you? I need a pair of split reins. I want a 30 foot rope.

Thank you  
Sincerely,  
Willy

Dear Santa,

How are you? I want a cat. I want gloves. Do you want cookies and milk. You come to my home?

Sincerely,  
Callee

Dear Santa,

How old are you? How are you? I love family time. I want a cruise ship for Littest Pet Sop. I want a doll.

Sincerely,  
Brooklyn

Dear Santa,

I want a pair of snow boots for Christmas and ice cream. I love you Santa.

Sincerely,  
Blaine

Dear Santa,

Are the elves sick Santa? Santa I need shoes. That is it.

Sincerely,  
Jessalynn

Dear Santa,

How are you? Are your elves sick? I need a new stocking for my cat. I want a stack of Barbie dolls.

Sincerely,  
Isabel

Dear Santa,

How old are you? I want an elder wond toy. I need a voldemort bobbel head. I need Salazar toy.

Sincerely,  
Fynn

Dear Santa,

How are you? I want a PS4 exbox one. I like how you give people toys.

Sincerely,  
Eliseo

Dear Santa,

I want the Hotel Transylvania 3 movie. I need a snow coat.

Sincerely,  
Tanner

Dear Santa,

How are you? I want a car. I need a bri doll.

Sincerely,  
Anna

Dear Santa,

I need uniorn slippers. I want a Christmas dress.

How are you?  
Sincerely,  
Lillian

Dear Santa,

How are the reindeer and Rudolf? I want a lego set. I need snow boots.

Sincerely,  
Brayden

Dear Santa,

How are you? I want a bike for Christmas. I need a piar of shoes too.

How are the Elves? Are they having fun?

Sincerely,  
Isabella

Dear Santa,

How are you? I want Minecraft Legos. I need snow hiker black boots.

Sincerely,  
Rowdy

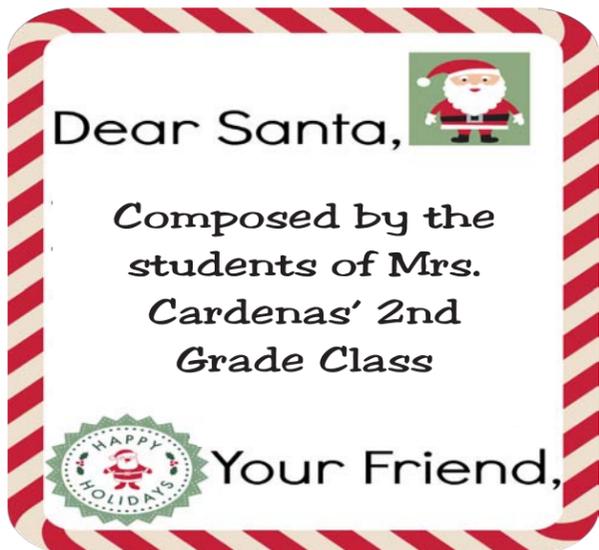
Dear Santa,

How are you? Are the elves sick? I need new clothes. I want a make-up kit.

Sincerely,  
Brandie



Mike Turner conducts the Weiser High School Chamber Singers during the annual Christmas Concert at Weiser High School. The concert also featured the middle school choir, concert choir and treble choir. Photo by Tara Redman



Dear Santa,  
I have a queshten how much presents do you dliver in one night Wet kind of cookies do you like? My family needs cash. I have a queshten for you how is Mis. Clas. Do your randner eat candy?  
Love,  
Mychal

Dear Santa!  
How are your reindeer? Make sure the elves are okay and make sure the sleigh is ok and make sure that. Can I please have a phone and a basketball?  
Love,  
Makayah

Dear Santa,  
Hey Santa! Is it cold at the North Pole any way there is some things I need and want. Needs - a new dress, a new jacket, new shoos. Wants - nuter dowswich, LOL biger sprise, squlshes and thats all. Thank you so so much. Have a good day.  
Love,  
Hannah

Dear Santa,  
Is Rudolph nose red? How many elfs do you have? How cold is it up at the North Pole? How many toys have you made? How is Mrs. Clas? I need God, Jesus, parents I want X-box, phon, bake.  
Love,  
Caleb

Dear Santa,  
I hope you have a grate Chirstmas and bringing the presints to all of the kids? But I want new toys and I need new boots.  
Love,  
Kenny

Dear Santa,  
I want a pac of cards and please can you help and can I have a my bro, and a drone with a camera.  
Love,  
Oliver

Dear Santa,  
I am verry exided for Crismis! I also verry exided for the Elf on the Shelf. I know just what I want. The thing I want most is a unicorn supprise that comes with babies. The thing I want least is a fingerling. I also want a puppy plush. Get three of each because my uther tow sisters want the same. But not the same coller. Can you put beeny boos in three of the stokings?

Love,  
Isadora

Dear Santa,  
Hi Santa I hav 3 qesh-tins. Is Roodofes nose releed red 3. What are the ranedeers names 2. How is the smarts ranedeer 1? Pleees respond bake. I need books, a new blakit and close. I want a LOL manchin, a LOL bigr spris and a huvrbord.  
Love,  
Gabby

Dear Santa,  
Hi Santa. How are the rainder? Could I have a X-box! Could I also have a Nintendo Switch. I need clothes. We need boots.  
Love,  
Joaquin

Dear Santa,  
Hi Santa. Happy holi-days. How are you? If good I say good. Hows your reindeer? I know what your going to say good. I want love, snow, toys. I hneed dad, mom, family, and long sleeve shirts.  
From,  
Rebecca

Dear Santa,  
Hello Santa! How's red raindeer. I need new sock, lunch box, glufs. You are so nice and funny. Santa I want all Dogman books, iPhoneX2 and Nerf gun please. How Mis. Clas?  
From,  
Diego

Dear Santa,  
Happy Santa.  
Hi Santa and the red raindeer. How are you Santa. Happy! How are you Santa. I need socks. I want toys. I need books. I need a toys LOL. I want shoes. I need cothes.  
From Heidy

Dear Santa,  
Hi Santa! How are you? How is Mis. Closs? How are the rhedere? Can you wacke me up? I want to see you plees? But I have some thengs for kids. I don't need no more. But if they have rips can you fix them. I need some boots. Thank you! I want a X-box, a TV and some videeow gams pleess. And a fone. Thank you form Allison too Santa.

Dear Santa,  
Merry Christmas. Is Rudolphs nose red. Hey Santa do your raindeer eat candy

canes. Santa this is what I need. Clothes, new snow clothes. Thats all I need. This is what I want Nin-tendo Swich, Call of Duty 4, Legos and that is all.  
Love,  
Jaxon

Dear Santa,  
Hi Santa. How are the raindeer doing. Does ro-doph realea have a glow-ing noses? I hope you have a wonderful Chrismas. Oh and I need new clothes, new friends and I want a iPhonx, squishes and that is it for my letter to Santa.  
Love,  
Royce

Dear Santa,  
My name is Aurora. How much presis hav you gave? Wat did the peanut saye to the wave? I wont a 10 LOLs! I have 1 more qweshtin for you. How much rane deer you hav? How is Mis. Clos? How do you get to homes so fast! Ok it was fun talking with you but by.  
From,  
Aurora

Dear Santa.  
Hi Santa. How are you? I her is a jake nok nok hoo is the keckup, keckup hoo, keckup, gidit, keekup. I need a dog, lunch box, I need gloves, Dogman books.  
Love,  
Madix

Dear Santa,  
I need LOL dolls and a bike for Christmas.  
From,  
Lexi

Dear Santa,  
How are you doing? I can't wait for Crismis! One questun. How is Miss Claus dooing? I have a few things that I need and want. Frst I need my own bedroom and a new hat. The things I want is things like a art kit and a lock pik-ing set and a remote car. Remimbr Crismis is one of my favorite time of year!  
Love,  
Salome  
Biy Biy!!

Dear Santa,  
For Crismis I rele need a metic for my dog and I rele want a Xbox1 and I want controlrs and the game Fornite and I need glufs and boots and ? does rudof hav a red nos.  
Colby

Dear Santa,  
Hi Santa! Two things I need are new glue sticks and easy to sharpen pencils that don't break. Two things I want are the sun coral ball python that is gold and black. I also want a poopsie slime surprise unicorn. Thanks Santa!  
From Gwen

Dear Santa,  
What are your reindeers doing? I would like a Nin-tendo. I would also like Pokemon cards. Thank you Santa!  
Frton,  
Hunter



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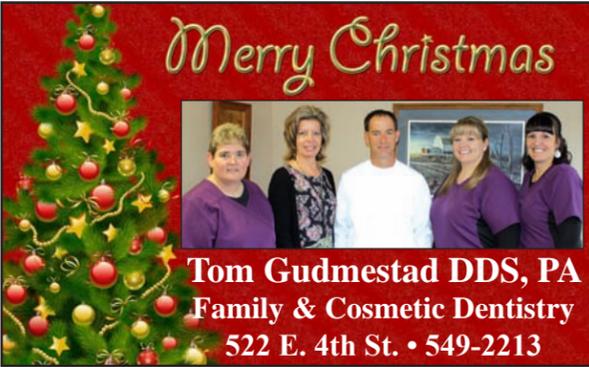
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As we approach this Holiday Season, our thoughts reflect on those who have contributed so significantly to the success of our schools. It is with great sincerity we say, "Thank You for your support and may your Holidays be happy ones."

From Your Friends At  
**Weiser School District**



Dear Saint Nick,

Thank you for the tablet last year! You make Christmas amazing! I have been good this year! I have been trying to stay on task. But I need a favor, Mom has been working really hard so for Christmas I think she would like something to help her with work. Thank you Santa for the presents!  
Love,  
Annalisa

Dear Santa,

Thank you for the bike and the Flip-A-Zoo that you brought last year! I enjoy playing with the toys you bring for Christmas. Can you bring me a Chewbacca Nerf Gun? That would be great! I try to be kind to the Earth and when I go outside I try to find trash. I hope you can deliver all your presents on Christmas!  
Love,  
Justin

Dear St. Nick,

Thank you for the gifts last year! I loved all of them! Merry Christmas Santa! I helped my cousin up when he fell. I'm trying to be good! May I please have a Flip-A-Zoo? Thank you so much!  
Love,  
Olivia

Dear Santa,

Thank you for all the gifts you have brought to me! I've really enjoyed them. Thank you for being so sweet to fly across the world to make kids happy. This year I've tried to be good! One thing I've done is when my brother fell on the sidewalk I helped him up and brought him Band-Aids. If you could, Santa, would you please bring me a scooter? Thank you! I love you so much!  
Sincerely,  
Tygen

Dear Santa,

Thank you for the toy kitchen that you brought me last year! I loved it as much as Ryder does now! Me and Wyatt and Ryder played with it a lot! I loved it so much! You are the best Santa ever. I hope you never leave or get hurt so be careful. And this year I was really trying to be kind. When I was at my grandmas I put my dishes in the sink when they didn't even tell me to because I remem-

bered when my mom told me last time. If possible can you bring me a sporting bag for my rodeo, and my basketball and soccer games? And if you can please put my name on the front. Thank you!! Merry Christmas to you!  
Love,  
Payton

Dear Santa,

Thank you Santa for the gifts you gave me last year. My favorite was the John Deere 8020 tractor. The other day I cleaned my desk and played with my brother. Santa, I am trying to be nice.  
Love,  
Lavin

P.S. And if possible could you bring me a forklift?

Dear Santa,

Thank you Santa for the gifts that you brought me last year. I enjoy them a lot! Thank you for being the best Santa ever! I helped my mom by washing dishes. I've been trying to be kind and good. I'm trying to show kindness by helping my parents and other people. Do elves come with you on Christmas night? Would you please bring me a paint set with the book? Thank you so much! Merry Christmas!  
Love,  
Lesly

Dear Santa,

Thank you for giving me toys last year! I still play with them. When you came to my house, you ate some of my cookies that I made! I woke up and I went straight to the plate and saw the milk was gone and the carrots and cookies had bites out of them. I knew you came. I was happy that you came to my house. I hope you loved them! I watch TV about you and it is fun and silly. I've tried to be good this year by picking up trash because I want to see the earth clean. This year, may I please have some LOL Dolls and some books? Thank you!  
Love,  
Samantha  
Merry Christmas!

Dear St. Nick,

Thanks for the bike that you gave me last year!!! Thanks for the walkie-talkies you got me and my brother last year. You're the best in the entire world. Can you say

"Hi!" to Mrs. Claus for me? How are the reindeer? This year I tried to be good. I watched my Grandma's dog and I helped my mom clean the house. May I have a headset? May I have a Lego set? May I have headphones? Love you and thanks for all the things you've done!  
Love,  
Alden

Dear Santa Claus,

Thank you for what you gave me last year! Thank you for being the BEST Santa Claus! I enjoy playing with the toys you give me. When I was at the football game, me and my friend cleaned lots and lots and LOTS of garbage. At school I help clean my classroom. Mr. Claus, I am wondering how you can eat so many cookies and drink so much milk in one night. How is Mrs. Claus doing? Do you like candy canes? What kind of cookies do you like most? I wonder, do your reindeer like the water and carrots we give them? How many reindeer do you feed? How many elves do you have? How do you get around the whole world in one night? How do you know when we are awake and when we are asleep? How does your sleigh fly? How are your elves, reindeer and you doing? If you can, for Christmas, please bring me a Lego Friend Art Trailer with Emma. I would sure love it!  
Love,  
Amanda

Dear St. Nick,

Thank you for the gifts last year. Thank you!!! I've been good this year. I don't get in trouble because I help. May I have a VR headset for Christmas? Thank you!  
Love,  
Jacob

Dear Santa,

Thank you Santa for the teddy bear that you brought me last year. My little sister plays with it too! The teddy bear is so fun! I love it still! I help my mom clean the dishes. I am trying to be nice. Please Santa, may I have some new clothes. Thanks!  
Love,  
Kevin

Dear Santa,

Thank you for the toys that you brought for me last year. I still play with them. Thank you Santa so much! They are the best toys! I forgot to say you are the best! I am trying to be good. I do the dishes with my brother. And when my friend fell I helped him up. I felt good. May I have a Beyblade set, a toy lightsaber, a Minecraft toy and a Lego Batman set? Thanks so much Santa!  
Love,  
Samuel

Dear Santa,

Thanks for everything you gave me! I love them. I have tried not to get in too much trouble. One thing I've done to be good is pick up garbage. Another thing I've done is help my mom at the store. If you can please bring me desk supplies like pencil and a notebook and erasers. Thanks for everything.

From,  
Dallen

Dear Mr. Claus,

Thank you for all the things that you sent last year and all the other years. You work hard and I'm very thankful for all you've done. With a jolly smile and a nose red as a cherry, it just makes me burst with happiness! Don't worry, be happy because people love you! Mr. Claus, if you can, this year will you bring me a fuzzy warm blanket with flowers on it? Are the toys you make alive? It was nice talking with you!  
Love,  
Miriam

Dear Santa,

Thank you for the toy I got last year. I played with it so much! This year I've tried to do what my mom says. But I get tired. But I still do it. For Christmas this year, I would like Beyblades. Thanks for everything.  
Love,  
Dante

Dear Santa,

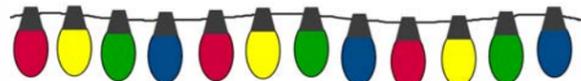
I loved the toys you left last year. Santa, how do you eat all of the cookies in one night? Santa, may I have a Batman set for Christmas? Santa, May I have a RC car for Christmas? Santa, may I have a Lego set too? I'm trying to be good this year. I helped clean with my mom. Merry Christmas Santa! I hope you have a good Christmas!  
Love,  
Caleb

Dear Mr. Claus,

Thank you Mr. Claus for bringing a turquoise desk last year! I enjoy playing with the toys you bring me every year! I am so so thankful for you!! I have tried to be good. I try to be good to the Earth by picking up garbage and helping my mom and dad by cleaning my room. Did you make my desk? May I please have a music stand this year for practicing my songs? I love you!  
Love,  
Claire

Dear Santa Claus,

Thank you for the gift you gave me last year! Thank you for being the best Santa! I've been trying to be nice this year. I clean the house too. How



# Letters to Santa Claus

Composed by the students of  
Mrs. Hunt's 2nd Grade Class

Dear Santa,  
I have been good this year! I have been good at school by trying to listen. I have been good at home by practicing my violin. I need pants because I don't have that many pants. I would like books because for Christmas because I love reading.  
Sincerely,  
Elise

Dear Santa  
I have been good this year! I have been good at my house. I have been helping my parents at my house. I have been good at school. I have been good doing math. I need new snow boots because my other ones didn't fit me. I would like a WWE toy because I only have two.  
Love,  
Alessandro

Dear Santa,  
I have been good this year. At home I do a lot of chores and I like the chores. I help my brother. We laugh, we like each other and we love each other. I would like Wwe toys for Christmas.  
Love,  
Anthony

Dear Santa,  
I have been good this year! I have been good at school. I have been good at my house. I need shoes because I don't have shoes winter. My shoes are getting small. I would like a video for Christmas.  
Love,  
Beatrice

Dear Santa,  
I have been good this year! I have been good at home by helping my mom. I have been good at the Best program by cleaning the floor. I need a blanket because I don't have any. I would like a

toy for Christmas also.  
Love,  
Nelly

Dear Santa,  
I have been good this year! I have been good at school, and hom, and my grandma's house. I wish I could get new boots and a RC car that is a tank.  
From,  
Beckham

Dear Santa,  
I have been good this year! I have been good at school during math. I have been nice to my brother. I need a fluffy jacket. I would like a Marvel toy for Christmas.  
From,  
Fenix

Dear Santa,  
I have ben good this year Santa! I have been good at home when we do homework. At home and school I do my math. I need a jacket and I would like a WWE action figure for Christmas.  
From  
Branden

Dear Santa,  
I have been good this year! I try to be good but my sisters make me mad. But I try not to listening to them. So for Christmas I would like all the Black Panther toys.  
Love,  
Jeshua

Dear Santa,  
I have been good this year. I do my math at home. I help my friend Brenden. I need a new jacket it is not fluffy. I would like an iPhone too.  
From,  
Mitchell

Dear Santa,  
I have been good this year! I have been good at the Best program. I help others by cleaning the kitchen. I have been good

at school. I help others at school. I would like a Jo Jo karaoke machine for Christmas.  
From,  
Khloe

Dear Santa,  
I have been good this year! At home I have been listening to my mom. At my grandparents I try my best to listen. For Christmas I need clothes for winter. For Christmas I would like a cooking set so I can learn tocook.  
Love,  
Arialo

Dear Santa,  
I have been good this year I have been good at home. I tried to share with my little sister and ue manners in a restaurant. For Christmas I need gloves because I don't have any and I would like a hamster to play with.  
Love,  
Kamila

Dear Santa,  
I have been good this year! I'm being good at the Best program. I'm helping at home whith my parents at home. I need shoes for Christmas. My shoes don't fit. I also need a blanket for Christmas.  
From,  
Hailey

Dear Santa,  
I have been good this year. Santa I've been good at my house from sharing stuff at my house. I need clothes because I don't want to be cold. I would like every game please.  
From  
Chris

Dear Santa,  
I have been good this year! I have been good at home by having good behavior. I have been good

at school by getting good grades. I need boots for Christmas because my other boots have holes in them I would like a video game for Christmas too.  
Love,  
Logan

Dear Santa  
I have been good this year! I have been good atbest by being nice. I have been good on the palyground at school. I need new boots because I lost them and they are too small. I would like shorts because it gets hot in the summer.  
Love,  
Spencer

Dear Santa,  
I have been good this year! At restaurants I sit stil. I am good at school during math. I need a warmer house because I am cold! I would lik a four wheeler.  
From,  
Rozin

Dear Santa,  
I have been good this year! At school I been good during math time At home, I follow the rules. For Christmas I need some new gloves to keep warm in the snow. Also, I would like a TV to watch Youtube.  
From  
Tyrikk

Dear Santa,  
I have been good this year. I have been good at my grandparents because I've been listening and my parents I've helped my dad and my mom. I do my homework when she says. And I need gloves, shoes, jackets, boots for Christmas. I wons like a Ps4, Pro Fit 15, basketball, controller and headphone set and a hoverboard.  
Love,  
Isaac

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Continued from Page 2  
**Local second-graders write heartfelt letters to Santa Claus**

many reindeer do you have? Santa, if you can please bring me two pet birds and a basket of stuff for the birds and a book on how to make videos. Thank you so much!!  
Love,  
Meagan

Dear Santa,  
Thank you for what you got me last year. I loved it! It was the best

and so are you! I played with it a lot. Is Rudolph actually a real reindeer? How big is your sleigh? Are elves actually true? Is there any chance this year that I could get a pocket knife? My mom is always busy so I have to do dishes, take out the trash, clean the house, do the laundry and watch my little brother. I've been so good and so has

my family. Thank you!  
Love,  
Braxton

Dear St. Nick,  
Thank you for all the stuff you gave me for Christmas last year! I loved it! Thank you so much for the presents you gave me, they were awesome! Please bring me more. I helped my mom babysit my nephew.

Can your reindeer talk? Merry Christmas!  
Love,  
Logan

Dear Santa,  
Thank you for the toys for Chris and Kenny. I would like the Lego Monkey toy from you. Santa, I think you are great!  
Love,  
Chris



All the decorations that were placed on the Christmas tree at Zions Bank in Weiser were made by local elementary students in the second grade. Above, Samuel Pomo and Braxton Whittaker find the perfect spots to hang a couple of ornaments on the tree. Samantha Goodall and Lesly Gonzalez, below, hang their ornaments they made on the tree. Weiser schools and Zions Bank have a long-standing holiday tradition that includes students putting on a performance of holiday songs at the bank for parents and bank employees as part of the ‘Lights On’ ceremony. Photos by Jamie Brown

## Weiser elementary students spread cheer at Zions Bank

### *Second-graders decorate Christmas tree at bank with ornaments*

by Steve Lyon

The Christmas tree in the lobby at Zions Bank in downtown Weiser was adorned with ornaments made by students from Weiser Pioneer Elementary as part of an annual holiday event that dates back many years.

Second-graders made the ornaments and decorated the Zions tree during the day on Dec. 5. Later in the evening, the students sang for teachers, parents and Zions Bank employees who gathered for the “Lights On” event.

Directed by second-grade teachers Nancy Blue and Holly Davies, the students sang “Jingle Bells” and Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer.” The singing was followed by a visit from Santa Claus and everyone enjoyed cookies and punch.

Pioneer Elementary School teachers have participated in the Lights On event for as long as principal Wade Wilson has been at the school. The teachers look forward to getting their children involved in the community through their participation in the event, he said.

“The kids love making the ornaments and traveling to Zions to decorate the tree, and we truly appreciate the donation to the school that Zions makes each year,” Wilson said.

Elementary school teacher Nancy Blue said the first Zions Christmas tree her class did was back in 2001. The second-graders who worked on that first tree have all graduated from not only high school but also college.

This year, the students made eight different ornaments for the tree. Between her class and Davies’ class, a total of 44 students were involved in creating ornaments. Parents were invited to come in at different times and work with the students in making them, she said.



Weiser Zions Bank manager Holly Lyons said the tradition of local students making ornaments and decorating the bank’s tree is something she looks forward to it every year.

“We are very proud to carry on the Zions tradition. Zions has done the “Lights On” event for 48 consecutive years throughout Utah and Idaho. We appreciate our schools, our teachers and our students who make this a huge success in our communities,” she said. “These teachers and students spend so much time making special ornaments and vis-

iting us to decorate. Our donation to the school each year shows our appreciation and dedication to these kids.”

In appreciation for the students’ creative efforts, Zions Bank presented a contribution of \$200 to the school.

Wilson said the first few years that the school received a donation from Zions Bank the money went into the general Pioneer account and was used to help pay for various things, such as assemblies, rewards and recognition items for students, special activities and even supplies.

“The last several years we have put the funds into the participating teacher’s class accounts. That gives them the opportunity to help pay expenses associated with making the ornaments, as well as anything else that they need to help fund activities or projects that they do in their individual classrooms. Both teachers have a ton going on, and they always put the money to great use,” Wilson said.

Dozens of Utah and Idaho elementary schools will participate in Zions Bank’s “Lights On” holiday celebrations this year.

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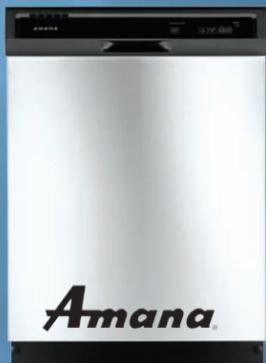
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Director Debbie Warren leads the Upper Country Singers during the annual Christmas concert on Dec. 2 in Cambridge. The concert is a tradition for many during the holidays and this year's audience was one of the largest at the fairgrounds exhibit building. The choir has been practicing since September for the one big performance of the year. They also baked all the cookies served during intermission. *Photo by Steve Lyon*

## Upper Country Singers ring in the holidays with annual concert

*Variety of talented performers entertain an appreciative crowd*

by Steve Lyon

The annual Christmas concert performed by the Upper Country Singers and friends is a not-to-be-missed event for many people every December in Cambridge.

That tradition continued this year as more than 300 people filled the exhibit building at the Washington County Fairgrounds on Dec. 2 for the two-hour concert.

The Upper Country Singers have been rehearsing weekly since September for their one holiday performance. This year's concert theme was "Ah, Sweet Christmas!"

Choir member and Cambridge resident Don Billings has been singing with the group for nearly a decade. The appreciative audience that attends every December is the main reason he looks forward to performing each year.

"I just love the fellowship and giving back to the community," he said. "They seem to enjoy it so much. It makes it worthwhile when the people respond like this. It makes us get better."

Debbie Warren has directed the Upper Country Singers for a decade and has been involved with the group for a total of 12 years. The choir has been performing a Christmas concert in Cambridge

for the past 17 years.

She told the audience that the choir is a diverse group with singers that range in age from teens to people in their 80s. Members come from all over the area, including Weiser, Midvale, Cambridge, Indian Valley and Council.

The choir spent all day Friday and part of Saturday putting up the holiday decorations at the exhibit building.

They, along with family members, also baked all the delicious cookies that were enjoyed with coffee and punch during intermission and served by the Tri-Valley Titans cheerleaders.

The choir began the two-hour concert with "It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas," and sang two other songs before other performers took the stage to entertain the crowd.

Well-known local singer Davy Nudo did a solo performance of "Christmas Cookies," a favorite holiday song by George Strait. He was followed by members of the the Brik Dance Academy, who were directed by Shane Kerner and danced to "Jingle Bell Rock."

The children's choir performed "A candy-covered gingerbread house" under the direction of Lau-

rel Sherman and assisted by Elsie Stoltzfus. They also sang the moving "Could I hold the baby?" The 12 young entertainers are the next generation of the Upper Country Singers, Warren said.

The concert featured soloists Lynn Parker, who did "Sweet little Jesus boy," and Megan Reynolds doing her version of "A Christmas hallelujah."

The McNallys, a duo on guitar and bass, performed "Santa Claus is coming to town." Phillip and Anita DuBose did a version of the holiday favorite, "Little drummer boy." "A winter night" was performed by Harmony Rebman, Elsie Stoltzfus and Janna Stoltzfus.

The audience also got to sing along with the choir on some Christmas favorites under the direction of Warren, who exhorted the audience to sing with gusto.

The choir's accompanist on piano was Donna Else, a resident of Mann Creek. The concert prelude was performed by Dennis Cooper on harmonica. Levi Morris handled the sound for the concert.

New choir members are always welcome. Anyone who is at least 12 years old and would like to join the choir should contact director Debbie Warren at 208-866-7583.



Among the many performers at the annual Christmas concert on Sunday, Dec. 2, were members of the Brik Academy Dancers. Three of the dancing reindeer included Lexi Ash, Kyra Lincoln and Ava Lagronde. The dancers were directed by Shane Kerner. The annual holiday event attracted hundreds of people to the county fairgrounds exhibit building in Cambridge on Dec. 2. *Photo by Steve Lyon*

# Letters to Santa Claus

Composed by the students of Miss Blue's 2nd Grade Class



Dear Santa,  
Merry Christmas, Santa. How are you? Have you been nice to Mrs. Claus? You're a good person. This year I want more markers. Can I have a tablet? Thank you.  
Love,  
Eberlee

Dear Santa,  
Merry Christmas. How are your reindeers? This year I wanted a yorkie and a corgi and a tablet and a phone and socks and shirts and pants and toys and rings and bracelets.  
Love,  
Jolette

Dear Santa,  
May I please have a phone, a car, a drone, a pony, a plane, a hoola-hoop, a horn, a ball, a train, a jack-in-the-box, a top? And I will leave you cookies.  
Love,  
Carmen

Dear Santa,  
Is it actually real that you have magic in your hat? Santa, thank you for Fred my elf. I'm grateful for him, so thank you so much. And thank you for the toys from last year.  
Love,  
Logan

Dear Santa,  
Hello! Are you a wizard? How many cookies do you eat? I want a drone with a camera.  
Sincerely,  
Joshua

Dear Santa,  
Hello! Have you ever had someone ask for fish or a wall of nerf guns? You are going to find out soon. Dear Santa, I would like a wall of nerf guns and more fish. I need a lot of fish food or my fish will die. I would also like a nemesis – it is a type of nerf gun.  
Sincerely,  
Titus

Dear Santa,  
I've been a good kid. And I've been helping kids feel happy. How

many reindeers do you have? How do you get to the North Pole? How do your reindeers fly? Merry Christmas, Santa!  
Love,  
Fernando

Dear Santa,  
Hello. How are you doing? Is it true that you can give presents to the whole world in 8 hours? Thank you for all the presents you give me. That is nice! Do you feed the reindeer enough? Do your elves and bite? This year can you make me a big teddy bear that is pink? Please? I hope you ride safe.  
Love,  
Miley

Dear Santa,  
Hello. How are you doing? Say hello to the elves, please. Merry Christmas! Say hi to the reindeer please. Can I have a puppy? And a Nintendo switch? And I would like 5 boxes of Pokémon cards.  
Your Friend,  
Mason

P.S. I will make sure that you get cookies.  
Dear Santa,  
How are you doing? Can you please get me a puppy? Because I have no pets. And a new car? And a Nintendo switch?  
From Your Friend,  
Isahi

Dear Santa,  
Merry Christmas, Santa. Is Mrs. Claus home today? Thank you for being so nice. This year can I please have a phone?  
Love,  
Cheyenne

Dear Santa,  
Hello. How are you? Is everything well? Can I please have a puppy? Last year I loved my presents! Are you and Mrs. Claus and the elves and the reindeer healthy? Is everyone really happy? You are super sweet.  
Love,  
Maddy

Dear Santa,  
Hello. How are you doing? I love how you bring

happiness to the world. How do you bake cookies if it's so cold there? I really love what your brought me last year. The castle was amazing. And no one can get the best present – only you can. So can I please, please, please get an alarm clock? Merry Christmas!  
Love,  
McKinlee

Dear Santa,  
Hello, Santa. How was your day? Santa, I want a tablet and food and snow boots. And I please want a pet.  
From Your Friend,  
Santy

Dear Santa,  
How are you doing? Are the elves nice? Are you magic? For Christmas may I please have a Nintendo Switch? If I do not get a Nintendo Switch, may I please have a mega nerf gun? If I do not get a mega nerf gun may I please have a phone? If I do not get any of those things I will not care because Christmas is not all about toys or presents. It is about Jesus' birth.  
Love,  
Colton

Dear Santa Claus,  
Hi. Merry Christmas. How was your year? How is Miss Claus doing? Last year you brought me the coolest gift. I loved it. Thank you for being so kind. This year all I want is that everybody has a wonderful Christmas. And you're the best Santa in the world and that means extra cookies for you and your reindeer some carrots.  
Love Your Friend,  
Brookelynn

Dear Santa,  
How was your year? Is Miss Claus real? Yes or no? I have been very good this year. Have you been nice to your elves? I want you to go to my house and look on the kitchen counter. You will see cookies and milk and my Christmas list. I wrote my sister's Christmas list,

too. She is only 5 and she doesn't know how to write. Have you fed your reindeers? Are they ready to fly?  
Your Friend,  
Aiden

Dear Santa,  
Have you been nice to your elves and reindeers? Is it true that Miss Claus is real? And you? I want a drone this year. It would be fun to fly it and it can follow my brother.  
Your Friend,  
Alex

Dear Santa,  
Hello! How was your year? Are you eating good? This year I want an X-box. I also want a PS4. I also want a tablet.  
Love,  
Sasha

Dear Santa,  
I want a snowboard and a tablet and a drone and a phone and beyblades. Thank you Santa Claus. I hope you stay safe.  
Your Friend,  
Evan

Dear Santa,  
Hello! How are you doing? Are you being nice to your reindeer? Do you think you can fix me something up for Christmas cause I really need some new socks. And I sorta want some cowboy boots. And I sorta want a horse. And for all that you did for me this year you get extra cookies and milk.  
Sincerely,  
Aaron

Dear Santa,  
I need a stuffed animal bed or I will be squeezed out of my bed! I share will my sister so I need more room. I need new clogging shoes so I don't step on my feet anymore. I keep stepping on my feet. I want a stuffed dolphin so it can be friends with my other dolphin. Her name is Lilly. Mr. Peeps has been strange this year. He moved at the wrong time. Thank you so much for everything.  
Sincerely,  
Allie

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# Weiser first-graders kick off holiday programs



Pioneer Elementary School first-graders presented their Christmas program on Dec. 8. A total of six classes participated in the concert, which was held at the Weiser High School auditorium and featured all the holiday favorites. They started practicing for the program in November. *Photos by Jamie Brown*

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