

Christmas Cards will Bring a Smile

The holidays can be especially depressing for the men and women in jail. With the exception of a small scoop of Ice Cream for dessert, Christmas will go unrecognized. It will be the same as every other day in jail.

By preparing Christmas Cards your congregation can help make Christmas special! A simple card with a hand written note will bring a smile and a bit of joy to someone's day. In fact, these cards are so meaningful that many of the men and women keep them all year long, reflecting upon them regularly.

Here are a few important guidelines for this ministry:

1. Cards only. No gifts of any sort can be included with the cards. This means no candy, pencils, book marks, etc. Though you may be eager to offer more than a card, this program will not be permissible unless we ensure that we are only giving cards.
2. Do not include any personal information, other than your first name. Do not include your: Last Name, Mailing Address, Church/Congregational Name, Your Age, or anything else about yourself. Also, do not include a photo of yourself. Design your note so that it focuses on the recipient rather than you.
3. Feel free to personalize the card or envelop with stickers. However, please do not use strings of beads, paper clips, or long ribbons to decorate your card or envelop.
4. Here are some examples of appropriate notes:

Though we do not know each other, I am sending you warm wishes this Christmas Season. I am holding you and your family and friends in my heart and wishing you all the very best. May you each experience the joy of Christmas and the peace of Christ today and in the days to come.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! May this holiday season and the coming year bring you good fortune. May you be surrounded by a supportive, loving community. May you experience good health, safe and stable housing, meaningful employment, and freedom from all that has imprisoned you. May you feel God's abiding presence, each and every day.