

December January 2021

HIGH STREET TIMES

Connecting Younger Generations IN GOD'S LOVE

Embracing All People WITH CHRIST'S COMPASSION

Strengthening Community THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT



HIGH STREET UNITING CHURCH,
16-18 HIGH STREET, FRANKSTON
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We acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we gather: the Bunarong people and we pay respect to their past present and emerging elders and their ancestors.



FROM THE MINISTER



Dear friends in Christ,

This is exactly what the season of Advent is all about: feeling like we are on the cusp; like things are about to change; like something new is about to begin; like something (or someone?) is coming...

As I write this column, so many things are on the cusp – and by the time you read this, some of them will have started to flow. The Church Council is meeting to talk about when we can start using the facilities for all of the various activities that have been limited to date. The applications for a Children and Youth worker, and for a Somers Camp Chaplain, are both soon going to close. Advertising for a new Office Administrator will soon commence. The Joint Nominating Committee will soon be surveying the congregation about the vision and mission that God gives to us for this community. And in the midst of this, we have a strong hope of all coming together to celebrate the birth of the one whose life, death, and resurrection reshaped all the world, and in whose leadership and love our own lives are transformed.

In the midst of this season of being on the cusp, then, please take moments and time to pray. For this Advent, can I suggest:

- Use a calendar to write the name of one person or situation for each day between the start of Advent and Christmas as a focus for prayer
- In each week of Advent, take some time to read the following passages, perhaps a portion of each passage each day. They are focused on themes like waiting, praying, and praise. What words and phrases strike you as you read? What might God be saying to you in that?

WEEK ONE: (Starting 28 November) Psalm 25

WEEK TWO: (Starting 5 December) Luke 1

WEEK THREE: (Starting 12 December) Isaiah 12

WEEK FOUR: (Starting 19 December) Psalm 80

CHRISTMAS EVE: Psalm 96

On Christmas Eve I hope that many of us can come together for a BBQ and Carol Singing, at the Church (outside if possible!). The BBQ will be served from 6pm, and the Carol Singing starts at 7:00. I hope to see many of you then!

Peace and grace,
David

-----oOo-----

**Don't Forget to use our website for Service reflection in text.
Rosters & Worship Resources etc.
<https://www.frankstonuniting.org.au/>**



Each month, High Street Times publishes the names of some of the people who are associated with our congregation, but who find it difficult or are not able to attend on Sunday mornings.

We particularly include in our prayers:

Shiela Knoop, Barbara O'Malley, Gwen Paxino, Audrey Smith, Audrey LaBrooy, Ruth Conn, Fay Dungey, Marie de Silva, Lola Coupe, Eileen McCarty, Molly Maughan, Pat Johnson, Margaret Snyder, Beth McNamara, Effie Tilley, Ruth Poole and Barbara Trewartha.

- Pray for those who are unable to access vaccinations in many parts of the world, and for the efforts that need to be made to get vaccines there.
- Pray for all who are struggling as society opens up with incomplete vaccine protection; for those who have not been vaccinated by choice or by fear; and for those with limited access to information.
- Pray for frontline health workers, and for patients and residents of care facilities.
- Pray for those around Frankston who experience homelessness.
- Pray for the people of Afghanistan and for refugees
- Pray for the members of the Joint Nominating Committee for the church.
- Pray for the right people to apply for the positions available at the church.
- Pray for our ministry and care with each other, young and old, and for the whole community that we serve in the love of God.

The prayer chain regularly and continuously keeps particular needs in prayer. You can ask for prayers through the prayer chain by contacting Marlene, phone 5971 6531, or emailing directly to HSUCPrayer@googlegroups.com

ACT 2

The Uniting Church Assembly has been consulting and working to consider afresh the ordering of the life of the church. Much has changed in both the church and wider Australian society since the Uniting Church was formed 44 years ago. The ACT 2 consultations have been an opportunity to explore what changes might be helpful to live out our common commitment to the Church's mission and to demonstrate our unity as People of God.

A report titled "ACT2: Considering afresh our life together" has been produced and is available to see at <https://uniting.church/act2/>. It reports three main themes that have arisen from the consultations, with three key issues to address:

- Towards a more equitably resourced and sustainable church
- Towards a simpler, more streamlined model of ordering our life
- Towards a cohesive national character and vision

Further feedback is being sought about the approaches suggested to these issues. Please consider looking up this report, and completing a survey in response. Some copies of the report will be made available in the church foyer.



CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Christmas Eve: BBQ and Carol Singing,
6:00pm BBQ, with 7:00pm Carol singing
at the Church, outdoors if possible!

Carols with Candles: 11:30pm Christmas Eve

Christmas Worship: 9:00am Christmas Morning

SERVICES THROUGH JANUARY:

From 26 December through until the end of January,
Sunday services will be at **10:00am**, combining the
Traditional and Contemporary services.

WORSHIP ON ZOOM AND PHONES

All services (except for the Carols on Christmas Eve)
will be available for participation through zoom and
phones using the following links:

Phone: (03) 7018 2005 Meeting ID: 954 6849 3260
Password: 3199;

On zoom at <https://zoom.us/j/95468493260>, password 3199

VACCINATIONS

We are presently focused on ensuring safety for the most vulnerable. At the present time, only those who are fully vaccinated and those with a medical exemption will be able to attend face-to-face worship. We will continue to encourage participation in worship over zoom and phones for those who are unable or are concerned about attending worship face-to-face.

Phone/Zoom Details

<https://zoom.us/j/95468493260> with the password 3199.

(Or go to zoom.us/join and use the Meeting number 954 6849 3260)

To join on a phone without video, call (03) 7018 2005

The meeting ID is 954 6849 3260 Participant ID – just press #

JNC NEWS

No doubt you will be pleased to learn that the JNC (Joint Nominating Committee) has very recently held its first full meeting at which the steps and processes which need to be followed were clearly explained by its Chairperson, Rev Joy Blamires (Mornington UC Minister). As a key part of this process, as a congregation, we need to discern our mission priorities, based around the relevant Synod Placement Profile form. As a result, it is planned to Email you a copy of a survey we will be conducting between the services at a short special Congregational Meeting on Sunday 5 December beforehand. It is hoped that Elders will be able to assist in accessing completed surveys from those unable to attend church in person on that Sunday. All of this needs to be done at this time to ensure that we can finalise the full Placement Profile in readiness for Church Council approval and subsequent forwarding to both Presbytery (PRC) and Synod (Placements Committee) at their first meetings in 2022.

- Ross Huggard (on behalf of the JNC)

CALLING ALL KNITTERS

In June this year Mission Guild had a speaker from the outreach program operating out of Broadmeadows. We were able to send them home with a car full of knitted blankets, baby cot blankets, scarves and beanies. The social worker, who was our speaker, told us of the needs of the folk they work with.

This winter the calls for help have exhausted all their supplies and our load of warm things was an answer to their prayers. Next winter will probably be the same.

I thought we here at High Street could make an effort to build their resources before next winter comes.

I am wondering if you could knit squares or long strips equivalent to five squares. I will sew your knitting together whatever you choose to do.

Best yarn to use is 100% acrylic 8 ply (it is easy to launder) 50 stitches on 4mm needles.

Talking of knitters, Larder has a former member of St. Andrews who knits jumpers for us to distribute through Community Support Frankston.

At the last count Jean McPherson has knitted 1,238 Jumpers for Larder since 2012 .

If any of the non-knitters would like to help by supplying balls of yarn 100% acrylic, 8 ply they would be greatly appreciated.

Looking forward to your response.

Dawn Peacock



*Nancy Ferguson is celebrating her
100th birthday on
4th December. Congratulations and
Happy Birthday Nancy!!!!*



KAY AND MURRAY'S WELCOME TO QUEENSLAND.

We have been asked to provide an insight into hotel quarantine in Queensland. So here goes. After waiting for two months for a border pass into Queensland our flight landed at Brisbane Airport at 5:20 pm on October 27th. All of the passengers were escorted across the tarmac, under the watchful eye of police, into a long room lined on one side with tables at which police officers were sitting, with more police standing around watching.

After standing in a queue for at least 30 minutes, we had our turn to present our paperwork to a police officer at one of the tables, only to be told that we had the wrong border pass, and we thought for a while that we would be sent right back to Melbourne.

After a very tense 15-20 minutes waiting for our application to be checked, we were finally told it was OK. They must have worked out that it was actually their fault, not ours, as it was Queensland Police who processed our application and provided the border pass. We were then escorted to a roped off area of well-spaced chairs and told to sit and wait. Once all the passengers had been processed, we were escorted through to the baggage collection area, still surrounded by police.

Then when we all had our bags we were led outside to be divided among several buses, still surrounded by police. We all had to load our own bags into the luggage compartment of the bus, as no-one else was allowed to touch them. At this stage we still had no idea which hotel we were going to.

After about a 20min drive we arrived at the Pacific Hotel, fairly close to the centre of Brisbane. We were kept on the bus while each person or couple was processed individually. When it was our turn, and after collecting our bags, changing our masks, and using hand sanitizer twice, we were allowed into the hotel foyer.

There we were registered, given a room key, and a "welcome" snack bag as well as our breakfast boxes for the next morning, and then escorted to a lift. We entered the lift with our bags but were not allowed to touch the buttons, which were then pressed by a police officer. At this point I must say that the police officer was kind enough to offer to help us with our bags when we reached our floor (which I don't think he was supposed to do, but we did have a lot of luggage). He did not however, get into the lift with us but took a separate one. We finally arrived in our room at approximately 8:30pm. On enquiring about dinner, we were told that we could order in if we wished, as the hotel would not be providing a meal.

I will say that we do understand the reasons behind their caution, however, that doesn't prevent us from feeling a bit like a cross between convicts and lepers.

Once in our room we investigated our snack bags to find we each had a 50g bag of potato crisps, and one of the bags had a chocolate muffin, but not the other, so that was our dinner. We were too exhausted to think about ordering in.

Hotel quarantine is at our expense entirely, including a flat rate of \$65 per person per day for food..... whether we eat it or not. Again, we can order in if we want, but that would also be at our expense and would not alter the \$65 flat rate.

Our room is quite nice; modern and clean; but it is a typical hotel room, designed for short stays, not for living in 24 hours a day. We have a small balcony, which is a blessing, and the view is lovely; overlooking a pretty park. We have a small 'fridge, a kettle, two mugs, two water glasses, two wine glasses, two teaspoons and a supply of tea, coffee and sugar sachets. There is no toaster. We also have only one chair for sitting at the desk to eat our meals, one lounge chair, which is too low to sit at the desk, and one plastic chair on the balcony, which I bring inside to use for meals.

Our meals are delivered to our door (no choices) in brown paper bags which are placed on the floor outside our door, and we get a knock. On hearing the knock we must wait at least 1 minute, close the balcony door (to avoid cross draughts), open the bathroom door and turn on the exhaust fan, wash our hands and don a mask. Only then are we allowed to open the door to pick up our meals. This procedure also applies to anything else that is delivered. We are not permitted to open our door at any other time, except when the health nurses come to give us a COVID test, or to put out rubbish or used linen.

Nor are we permitted to set foot in the corridor for any reason (except perhaps in an emergency). The food is all in disposable containers, with disposable cutlery. Our rubbish, and there is a lot of it, must be placed in a plastic bag (provided), tied securely and placed outside our door, to be collected.

We are tested for COVID on days 1, 5 and 10. When the nurses knock we must go through the same procedure as previously described. We still cannot step outside the door, and the nurses cannot enter the room, so the test is done across the threshold.

If we want to go onto the balcony, we must wear a mask.

Having said all this, the food is OK; nutritious, if not always what we might choose. Breakfast is delivered along with lunch on the previous day, and is therefore continental only.

We are managing to keep busy. Murray has some work to do on the computer and I have books, puzzle books and knitting. We are also exercising as much as we can. We are currently in day 6 of our quarantine and looking forward to our release on Nov. 10th. Welcome to Queensland!!

The Lord be with you... Best Wishes from Kay & Murray



*First Breakfast & morning tea Box in Queensland.
Contents of box*

OLD BAGS NIGHT

YOU ARE INVITED TO

**23 VEDA AVENUE, MOUNT
MARTHA AT 7:30PM, THURSDAY
2ND DECEMBER**

**FOR ANOTHER WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY
TO PURCHASE BEAUTIFUL PRE-LOVED
HANDBAGS, WALLET, SCARVES AND OTHER
GOODIES.**



**\$10 ADMISSION WITH BUBBLES, CHEESE &
BISCUITS TOGETHER WITH THE USUAL
RAFFLE**

**PROCEEDS TO COMMUNITY SUPPORT FRANKSTON CHRISTMAS APPEAL AND
TO SHINE, GIRLS SCHOOL SUPPORT PROGRAM, CAMBODIA.**

**TO BOOK PLEASE RING 0418 541 993 OR 0409 419 927
WE KNOW HOW MUCH CHAMPAGNE TO GET!!**

Thank you to all those who were on the discontinued Direct Offering Program, paid into our U Ethical account, and have arranged during August a direct credit into our Commonwealth Bank account outlined below. For those who have been unable to make this rearrangement, could you please contact Keith Holmes on 97892575

If you are not connected to regular direct debit, one-off or regular offerings can be made to the church by transfer to FRANKSTON UNITING CHURCH

BSB: 063 133 Account: 800128 Description: OFFERING

Alternatively, keep a bowl for your offerings at home,
or mail a cheque to the church office



to the following people in particular who are helping with office administration in the interim:

Kerry Pederick	- Printing and supplies
Mandy Lake	- Hall hire
Keith Holmes	- Petty cash
Robert Downing	- Song Beamer
John Annable	- Editing High Street Times

Traditional Worship Dec & Jan 2021 (Next HST Feb 2022)

	Colour	Bible Reader	Preaching	Holy Communion	Bible reading*	STB	Notes
05-Dec-21	P	Mac Cleland	David	David	Malachi 3:1-4; Luke 1:68-79	41	
12-Dec-21	P	Bronwen Mathews	Juli Lincoln		Zephaniah 3:14-20; Luke 3:7-18	41	
19-Dec-21	P	Edith Seller	David		Micah 5:2-5a; Luke 1:39-45, (46-55)	41	
Christmas Day	W	Heather Rawson	David		Isaiah 9:2-7; Luke 2:1-14,(15-20)	41	
26-Dec-21	W	Jill Cayzer	David		Luke 2:41-52	41	COMBINED AT 10:00AM
02-Jan-22	W	Rod Caruthers	Alan Mathews	Alan	John 1:(1-9),10-18	41	COMBINED AT 10:00AM
09-Jan-22	W	Bev Fowler	Keith Holmes		Luke 3:15-17,21-22	41	COMBINED AT 10:00AM
16-Jan-22	G	Alan Mathews	David		John 2:1-11	41	COMBINED AT 10:00AM
23-Jan-22	G	Juli Lincoln	David		Luke 4:14-21	41	COMBINED AT 10:00AM
30-Jan-22	G	Ross Huggard	David		Luke 4:21-30	41	COMBINED AT 10:00AM

	Stewards	Morning Tea Helpers	Flowers	Organ
05-Dec-21	Jenni Johnson, Mick Johnson	Edna Runciman, Enid Churcher, Vilma Labrooy	Beryl & Marg	
12-Dec-21	Jenni Johnson, Mick Johnson	Rona Russell, Ali Vagenas, Karin Jooste	Beryl & Marg	
19-Dec-21	Daryl Groves, Shirley Groves	Denise Andrews, Brenda Cooper, Greit Hofer	Beryl & Marg	
Christmas Day	Daryl Groves, Shirley Groves		Beryl & Marg	
26-Dec-21	Roy Gieseman, Maureen Beens	Dorothy Bucher, Eileen Carolus, Sue Baker	Beryl & Marg	
02-Jan-22	Roy Gieseman, Maureen Beens	Graeme & Jenny Horsburgh, Virgil Snyder	Beryl & Marg	
09-Jan-22	COMBINED AT 10AM	Elaine Kenyon, Marlene Thresher, Robert Latimer		
16-Jan-22	COMBINED AT 10:00AM	Dorothy Bucher, Stanley & Viola Zhungu		
23-Jan-22	COMBINED AT 10:00AM	Michael & Jen Johnson, Marilyn Sheerin		
30-Jan-22	COMBINED AT 10:00AM	Bev Fowler, Maureen Beens, Carol Calderbank		

	Duty Elder	Communion Setup	Communion Helpers
05-Dec-21	John Coulson & Rona Russell	Rona Russell & Jen Johnson	Mac Cleland & Jill Cayzer
12-Dec-21			
19-Dec-21			
26-Dec-21			
02-Jan-22	Daryl Groves & Marlene Thresher	Dawn Peacock & Shirley Groves	Erica Hutchinson & Stanley Zhungu
09-Jan-22			
16-Jan-22			
23-Jan-22			
30-Jan-22			

Contemporary Worship

	Preparing and leading worship*	Acknowl Country & Call to Worship	Bible readings	Preaching	Children's focus	Holy Communion	Bible reading*
05-Dec-21	David	Joy & Tayla	Kerrin	David	Meg & Barb		Malachi 3:1-4; Luke 1:68-79
12-Dec-21	Mandy & Kerry		TBA	Juli Lincoln	Irene & Emma	David	Zephaniah 3:14-20; Luke 3:7-18
19-Dec-21	John & Jackie		TBA	David	Meg & Yvonne		Micah 5:2-5a; Luke 1:39-45, (46-55)
Christmas Day				David			Isaiah 9:2-7; Luke 2:1-14,(15-20)
26-Dec-21	David	Michael & Sherryn	Kate	David			Luke 2:41-52
02-Jan-22	Alan Mathews	Barb/Glenise/Valmai	..	Alan Mathews		Alan Mathews	John 1:(1-9),10-18
09-Jan-22	Keith Holmes	Juli	Robert	Keith Holmes			Luke 3:15-17,21-22
16-Jan-22	David	Joy & Tayla	Yvonne	David			John 2:1-11
23-Jan-22	Arthur, Fiona & Yvonne		..	David			Luke 4:14-21
30-Jan-22	David		..	David			Luke 4:21-30

NORTH INDIA UPDATE

As you all know many of the supporters of the Woman & Child Community Health project in North India have knitted, sewn and created items to sell here in Australia. Funds raised have then been transferred to the Diocese of Amritsar for use in the JBKS program by Dr Alma and her team.

Simultaneously, with our support and encouragement, Dr Alma has formed self-help groups in her districts in the Punjab for women to create their own social enterprises and become more self-sustaining. They have knitted and sewn goods - some using the traditional folk embroidery of the region called Phulkari - and have boosted their low income through sales.

Recently Dr Alma and her team arranged for the women to sell some of their goods at a mini fete outside Christ Church Cathedral, Amritsar in partnership with women from a similar organisation called Building Bridges India. So uplifting to see the women's empowerment in action.

Alma has also helped some illiterate women apply for widows pensions, bottom picture, (which she also agitated local government to be increased from \$5 per month to \$15 in her region.)



Helen Beeby



The Joy of Christmas Carols

-Contributed by John Annable-

One of the most joyful things about Christmas is the music associated with it. Everybody knows the words and melodies of dozens of Christmas Carols but they do not realise the origins and stories behind many of the best loved Christmas tunes.

O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL *dates originally from the year 1757 when it was known by its Latin name "Adeste Fidelis" – a name still used today. In many parts of the world it is known as the Portuguese hymn, although it has no connexion with that country*

OH LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM *is one of the few original American carols and was written as a poem by Philip Brooks, a Sunday school teacher in 1865. The children of the Sunday School urged organist Louis Redner to set the words to music and the story goes that a melody evaded him until one Christmas Eve when he awoke to hear the now well-known tune playing in his head. He wrote it down and presented it to Sunday School the next morning, Christmas Day.*

GOD REST YOU MERRY, GENTLEMEN *was written by an anonymous poet about 1800 and immortalised in Charles Dickens "A Christmas Carol." Interesting to note is the position of the comma in the title. This is often omitted leaving us with the unintended reference to "merry gentlemen".*

WHAT CHILD IS THIS *is the title of the Carol written by William Chatterton Dix that transposed the melody Greensleeves into a charming Christmas Carol. The original tune has been attributed to Henry VIII.*

SILENT NIGHT *or in the original German, "Stille Nacht" has a fascinating story. On Christmas Eve 1818 in the small town of Oberndorf, Bavaria the organ was found to be broken and the vicar found himself with the prospect of having a Christmas service with no music. He showed the local schoolmaster some verses he had written and asked him if he could set them to music. In a matter of a few hours the immortal Silent Night was born It was sung that*

evening to the accompaniment of the schoolmaster's guitar. The Carol was taken to the world by the Von Trapp family singers as they travelled abroad over the next ten years.

OH HOLY NIGHT *also known as the "Cantique de Noel" was one of the few works of French composer Adolphe Adam who is best remembered for his ballet Giselle.*

HARK THE HERALD ANGELS SING *has an intriguing story. Felix Mendelssohn composed the melody in 1840 to celebrate Gutenberg's invention of the printing press. Eight years after Mendelssohn's death William H Cummings combined the melody with some verses written by Charles Wesley over 100 years before.*

THE FIRST NOEL *is one of the oldest carols known. This simple folk melody was called "The Shepherds Carol" originally in England although it is thought to have originated in France.*

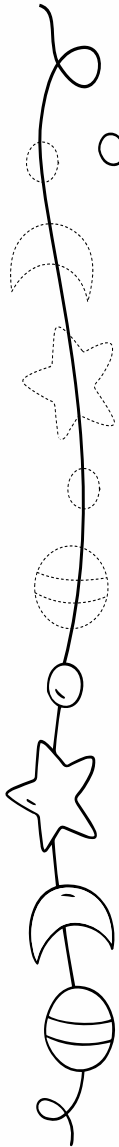
DECK THE HALLS *is a traditional Welsh winter Carol celebrating the pagan Yuletide. Through the ages it has become associated with the Christian festival.*

THE LITTLE DRUMMER BOY *is often called "The Carol of the Drum" it has a definite medieval ring about it yet it was actually written as recently as 1958 and was introduced into the Christmas repertoire by the Harry Simeon chorale.*

THE COVENTRY CAROL *has the blackest of origins. Originally sung in the 16th century by Guild members at the Coventry Nativity festival the carol is a delightful lullaby describing the massacre of the innocents by Herod directly after Christ's birth.*

and finally the tale of **GOOD KING WENCESLAS** *tells of a 10th century bohemian ruler Wenceslav who was one of the earliest Christian kings. His good works and acts of kindness, one of which is recounted in the Carol, so angered his family that they slew him. The tune is a rousing March which originated as a Swedish spring song.*

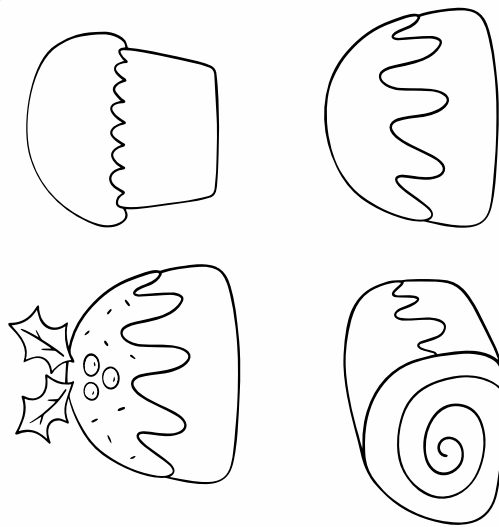
Christmas Fun Page



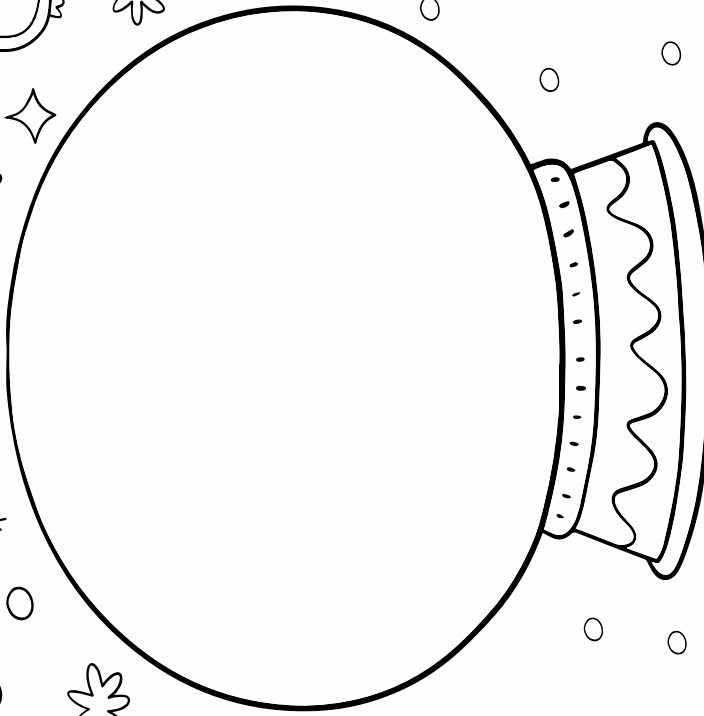
FINISH THE PICTURE. TRACE ON THE LINE



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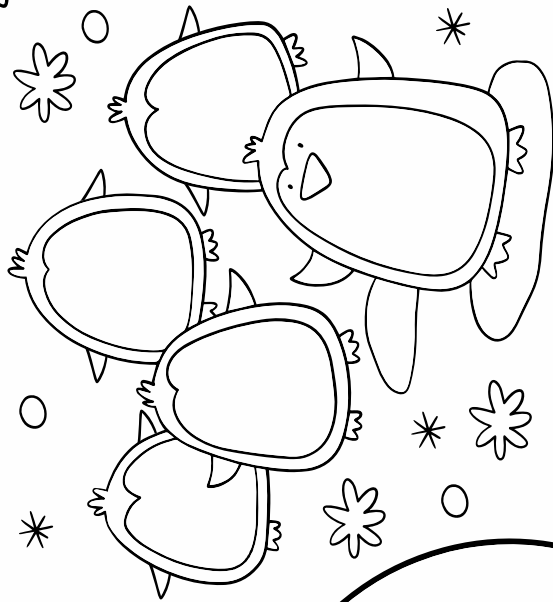


DECORATE AND COLOR THE TREATS.



FINISH DRAWING THE SNOW GLOBE AND COLOR IT.

* MERRY *
CHRISTMAS



FINISH DRAWING THE PENGUIN FACES
AND COLOR THEM



FIND TWO OF THE SAME SOCKS AND COLOR THEM.