

CHRISTMAS EVE DINNER
Thursday, December 24, 2009
New York City, New York

Brent J. and Lorinda G. Belnap and their children
David, Caroline, Christopher, Spencer, Rebecca, and Nathan;
Donetta Allen; Elder Kerby, Elder Morris and Elder Bell

Hymn #203, "Angels We Have Heard On High"

Blessing on the Food and Family Prayer



MENU

Appetizers and Hors d'oeuvres

Assortment of Fresh and Dried Fruits and Nuts

Holiday Cookies, Chocolates, Candies, and Quick Breads

Specialty Cheeses, Crackers, and Dips

Bread Bowl with Spinach and Water Chestnut Dip

Salads and Bread

Fresh Spinach Salad with Slivered Almonds, Dried Cranberries, Mandarin Orange Wedges and Poppyseed Vinaigrette

Holiday Cranberry Jello Salad with Whole Cranberries, Chopped Pecans, Celery, and Golden Delicious Apples

Crescent Rolls

Main Dishes

Spiral-cut Smoked Ham with Honey-Maple-Mustard Glaze, Whole Cloves, and Other Spices

Swedish Meatballs with Cardamom Cream Sauce and Carmelized Onions

Vegetable Dishes

Au Gratin Potatoes

Steamed Broccoli Spears and Buttery Cooked Carrots

Beverages

Chilled Cranberry Juice with Sparkling Water

Steaming Mulled Wassail

Desserts

Homemade Pumpkin Pie topped with Whipped Cream

Risgryngröt (Rice Pudding) with Hidden Almond

"Green Stuff"



CHRISTMAS EVE PROGRAM
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1. Light Christmas candles;
Turn off all lights except Christmas Tree lights
2. Sing several favorite Christmas carols
3. Brent and Lorinda: Share favorite Christmas memory
4. Children: Share favorite Christmas memory
5. Exchange "Gifts From the Manger"
(The 19th year of this Belnap Family tradition, begun Christmas 1991)
6. Children: Open one present
(Belnap Family tradition since early 1960s; gift: new pajamas)
7. Talent Show:
David – "White Christmas" on guitar
Caroline – "Ave Maria" on piano
Christopher – "Hark The Herald Angels Sing"
on piano
Spencer – "The Nativity Story"
Rebecca – "Jingle Bells" on piano
8. Re-enactment of the Nativity Story:
David – Wiseman
Caroline – Angel
Christopher – Shepherd/Innkeeper
Spencer – Joseph
Rebecca – Mary
Nathan – Baby Jesus
9. Place Baby Jesus in Jerusalem olive wood manger
(The 14th year of this Belnap Family tradition, begun Christmas 1996;
assigned to the youngest capable child; Nativity Set purchased in 1984)
Sing "Away In A Manger" (Hymn #206)
10. Light "Shepherds' Field" candle;
Pass light to family members
(The 26th year of this Belnap Family tradition, begun Christmas 1984;
begun at "Mormon Shepherds' Field" near Bethlehem on April 5, 1984;
candle should be lit on Christmas Eve at 11:00 p.m. Utah time where feasible;)
11. Sing "Silent Night" (Hymn #204) and "I Wonder When He Comes Again" (Children's Songbook p. 82)
12. Listen to Christmas carols around Christmas Tree;
Watch "Polar Express";
Tuck children into bed and say prayers



**MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL,
AND TO ALL A GOODNIGHT!**