2026 FORT BEND COUNTY

CHRISTMAS Family Guide

sugar creek

www.sugarcreek.net/christmas

FORT BEND COUNTY FAMILIES,

THE HOLIDAY SEASON IS A SPECIAL TIME FOR MAKING MEMORIES AND STRENGTHENING FAMILY BONDS. WE'VE CREATED THIS GUIDE TO HELP YOU EASILY NAVIGATE THE FESTIVE MONTH OF DECEMBER, PROVIDING VARIOUS ACTIVITIES, CRAFTS, RECIPES, AND SPIRITUAL REFLECTIONS TO ENJOY TOGETHER.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ALL CHRISTMAS EVENTS AT SUGAR CREEK, VISIT SUGARCREEK.NET/CHRISTMAS

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SUGAR CREEK EVENTS

SUNDAY SERVICES AT SUGAR CREEK

Join us as we walk through a Christmas series, "Christmas: From Beginning to End", at all of our campuses. Whether you live in or around Sugar Land, Missouri City, Richmond, or Rosenberg, you have a home at Sugar Creek, and we would love to see you there!

Sunday Service Times (December 6, 13, 20):

Sugar Land Campus
English - 8:00 am (December 6 & 13 only), 9:30 am & 11:00 am
Español - 12:35 pm

Missouri City Campus
English - 8:00 am, 9:30 am & 11:00 am

Richmond | Rosenberg Campus
Español - 9:30 am (December 6 & 13 only)
English - 11:00 am

CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

At Sugar Creek, we have very special candlelight services at all of our campuses. Join us as we celebrate the birth of Jesus and remember the hope His birth brings into the world.

Sugar Land Campus
Español - December 20 at 12:35 pm
English - December 24 at 3:00 pm & 5:00 pm

Missouri City Campus
English - December 24 at 11:00 am, 1:00 pm, 3:00 pm & 5:00 pm

Richmond | Rosenberg Campus
Español - December 20 at 12:35 pm (Sugar Land Campus)
English - December 24 at 5:00 pm

The community events listed are not affiliated with Sugar Creek Baptist Church and are provided for informational purposes only. We encourage you to verify event details with the respective organizers, as we do not take responsibility for the quality, any inaccuracies, or changes to the events.

SWEET TIDINGS HOLIDAY MARKET

Kick off the holiday season in Sugar Land at the Sweet Tidings Holiday Market. Enjoy an afternoon of festive finds from local vendors and seasonal fun at the Sugar Land Town Square on December 5 from 3:00-7:00pm.
For more information, click here.

SNOWFEST

There's snow much fun to be had at one of Missouri City's longest-standing traditions: SnowFest! At the 43rd annual Snowfest, you'll find a 2K for the family to participate in, a tree lighting, a festival, and a holiday market on December 5 from 8:00 am - 8:00 pm.
For more information, click here.

HOMETOWN HOLIDAY FESTIVAL

Kick off the holiday season in style with the City of Rosenberg at the Hometown Holiday Festival, presented by Discover Downtown Rosenberg! The holiday magic kicks off on Saturday, December 5, from 2:00–8:00 pm in Historic Downtown Rosenberg (2100 Ave G).
For more information, click here.

HOLLYDAYS MARKET OF ROSENBERG

Shop for unique gifts at this market on December 4-6, 2026, at the Fort Bend County Fairgrounds. Over 130 vendors offer special presents while supporting local businesses. Enjoy the fun, purchase gifts for the family, and support local vendors.

For more information, click here.

S'MORES WITH SANTA

Ride your sleigh over to The George Ranch for a very cowboy Christmas on December 12 from 10:00 am - 12:00 pm. Make a s'more by the campfire, sip some hot cocoa, enjoy crafts, and write a letter to Santa.

For more information, click here.

MOVIES ON THE SQUARE: THE GRINCH

Bring your blankets, grab your spot, and enjoy The Grinch (PG, 2018) with family, friends, and neighbors. It's an easy, relaxed way to spend the evening together on December 19 from 6:00-8:00 pm.

For more information, click here.

SUGAR LAND HOLIDAY LIGHTS

Experience millions of beautiful lights, a carnival, a synthetic ice rink, mini golf, s'mores, vendors, photos with Santa Claus, and SO much more at Constellation Field. Runs from November 20, 2026, to January 3, 2027.

For more information, click here.

WEEKLY FAMILY DEVOTIONALS

In the middle of busy schedules and Christmas traditions, it can be easy to celebrate the season without taking time to know the One at the center of it. This Christmas, we invite you to slow down for a few moments and meet the real Jesus beyond the baby in the manger.

Maybe you know Jesus well, and this season is an opportunity to turn your eyes and heart toward Him again. Maybe you've only known Him from a distance or have been away from Him for a while. Or perhaps you're exploring who Jesus is for the very first time. Wherever you find yourself, these devotionals are an invitation to discover what the Bible tells us about Him and what His promises mean for your life.

As you read, you will look at what the Bible says about Jesus in the past, the present, and the future. Each devotional will provide a short reading from Scripture and a reflection on who Jesus is. Our hope is that you see He is our eternal Creator, present companion, and returning King. And at every point in the story, Jesus had you in mind. He thought of you at creation. He thinks about you and your needs today. And He longs for you to join Him in eternity when He returns.

You can use these readings on your own or gather your family to read, pray, and talk together. There is one devotional for each week that leads up to Christmas Day, or you can read them all in one week. Use them however you want. You don't need to have all the answers. Simply make a little room in your Christmas season to explore, ask questions, and reflect. Our hope is that these moments help you move beyond a familiar Christmas story to know Jesus more personally and discover how His story connects with yours.

Week 1

Scripture Reading: John 1:1-5, 14

Family Devotional Reading: Christmas Past: Jesus is our Eternal Creator

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it…The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth." John 1:1-5, 14

When we think about the beginning of the Christmas story, we often picture a stable, or a manger, and a newborn baby. But the peaceful nativity scene is not where the story of Jesus truly begins. The Gospel of John shows us that it begins much earlier. He takes us back to the beginning of everything. Before there were stars in the sky, oceans on the earth, or people to celebrate Christmas, Jesus was already there. John calls Him "the Word" and tells us that He was with God and that He was God. It's a challenging concept to consider, but an important one nonetheless. The Trinity (The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) exists outside of time. Time is a created thing, and Jesus' story didn't begin at a moment in time in Bethlehem. He has always been.

John also tells us that everything was made through Him. Jesus was the creative force behind it all. The baby who lay beneath the peaceful stars was the One who created those stars. The baby Mary held had made the world He was entering. Jesus wasn't simply another person born into God's story. He is our eternal Creator, and our story begins with Him. That means we are more than faces in a crowd. Our lives matter to the One who made us.

Then John shares the wonder at the heart of Christmas: "The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us." Our Creator came close. He entered the world He had made, becoming one of us so we could know Him. As you celebrate this Christmas, take a moment to look beyond the manger and consider who is lying there. The eternal One came into our world not because His story was just beginning, but because He wanted us to be part of it.

Prayer:

Jesus, thank You for making us and coming close so we could know You. Help us see beyond the familiar Christmas story and discover who You really are. Remind us that our lives matter to You and that our story begins with You. Amen.

Discussion Questions for Younger Children:

1. What is something Jesus made that you love?
2. Was Jesus' birth in Bethlehem the beginning of His story?
3. How does it make you feel to know that the One who made the whole world also made you?

Discussion Questions for Older Children:

1. How does knowing that Jesus existed before His birth change the way you think about Christmas?
2. What does it tell you about Jesus that He chose to enter the world He created?
3. How might knowing your story begins with Jesus change the way you see yourself and other people?

Worship Together:

The classic Christmas song "Mary, Did You Know" beautifully captures the idea that Jesus has always existed. You can hear the song from our worship team at sugarcreek.net/christmas.

Week 2

Scripture Reading: John 14:16-17, 25-27

Family Devotional Reading: Christmas Present: Jesus is our Daily Companion

"And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you...All this I have spoken while still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." John 14:16-17, 25-27

At Christmas, we celebrate that Jesus came to be with us. But what happened after the manger, after His ministry, and after He rose from the dead? Did "God with us" become a memory of the years Jesus walked on earth? Before returning to the Father, Jesus gave His followers a promise: "And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever." Jesus was helping His followers understand that following Him would not be easy, but promising that they would never have to do it alone. That promise is for everyone who follows Him today, too.

Jesus explained that the Father would send the Holy Spirit to live in His followers. Through the Spirit, Jesus' presence would not be limited to one place or one moment in history. The Holy Spirit helps us understand and remember Jesus' teaching, guiding us as we learn to follow Him. That guidance matters in everyday life. He is there when we need patience with our family, courage to do what is right, or help knowing how to respond to someone who has hurt us. We can pause, pray, and turn to His Word. Jesus didn't leave us on our own to figure everything out. His daily guidance and comfort were always a part of His plan.

It can be easy to look for God only in big moments and miss His presence in ordinary ones. But Jesus is our daily companion in the classroom, at the dinner table, on the way to work, and in the quiet moments when we feel alone. We may not always feel His presence, but His promise does not depend on our feelings. This Christmas, as you choose and wrap presents, remember that Jesus' presence is the gift that cannot fit beneath a tree. We can talk with Him, depend on Him, and learn to follow His guidance each day.

Prayer:

Jesus, thank You for promising to be with us always. Thank You for giving us the Holy Spirit to help and guide us. Teach us to turn to You in ordinary moments, trust You when we feel alone, and follow what You show us in Your Word. Amen.

Discussion Questions for Younger Children:

1. What did Jesus promise His followers before He returned to the Father?
2. Where is one place you can remember that Jesus is with you?
3. What is something you would like to ask Jesus to help you with today?

Discussion Questions for Older Children:

1. How is having Jesus as your daily companion different from simply knowing about Him?
2. How can prayer, Scripture, and the Holy Spirit's help guide the choices you make?
3. When might it be difficult to remember that Jesus is with you? How could His promise help you in that situation?

Worship Together:

The Christmas hymn "O Holy Night" celebrates the arrival of Jesus, who also brings peace and love into our lives. You can hear the song from our worship team at sugarcreek.net/christmas. As you listen, consider how He came to be a part of your daily life.

Week 3

Scripture Reading: John 14:1-3 NIV, Revelation 21:1-5 NIV

Family Devotional Reading: Christmas Future: Jesus is Our Returning King

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am." John 14:1-3 NIV

Christmas is a season of looking forward. Children count the days, families make plans, and gifts wait beneath the tree. But some waiting is harder. When the future feels uncertain, we want to know that someone we trust is already making a way. Before His death, Jesus spoke to His disciples about leaving them. He knew they were troubled, so He invited them to trust Him. He was going to prepare a place for them, and He promised to come back so they could be with Him. The One who came to be with us at Christmas has promised to come again so we can be with Him forever.

In Revelation, we get a glimpse of that future. John describes a great crowd from every nation, tribe, people, and language worshiping together before God's throne. He also sees a new heaven and a new earth, where God lives with His people. There will be no more death, mourning, crying, or pain. The One seated on the throne declares, "I am making everything new!" The baby born in Bethlehem is our returning King. His promise is more than a place to go someday; it is life with Him in a world where everything broken by sin will be made right.

That future hope matters for how we live today. We still experience sadness, sickness, unfairness, and loss. Jesus doesn't ask us to pretend those things don't hurt. He invites us to trust that they will not have the final word. We don't know when He will return, but we can spend our days loving our neighbors, caring for people who are hurting, and sharing His hope. We began these devotionals by looking back to Jesus as our eternal Creator. We have remembered that He is our daily companion. Now we look ahead to His return. Our story begins with Him, His presence goes with us, and our future is secure in His hands.

Prayer:

Jesus, thank You for promising to come again so we can be with You forever. Help us trust You when the future feels uncertain. Teach us to bring Your love and hope to people who are hurting as we look forward to the day when You make all things new. Amen.

Discussion Questions for Younger Children:

1. What did Jesus promise His friends when He told them He was going away?
2. What are you looking forward to about a world with no more sadness, sickness, or pain?
3. Who could you show Jesus' love to this week?

Discussion Questions for Older Children:

1. How does Jesus' promise in John 14 help you think differently about an uncertain future?
2. What does the picture of people from every nation worshiping together tell you about who belongs in God's family?
3. How can looking forward to Jesus making all things new encourage us to care for hurting people today?

Worship Together:

The Christmas hymn "O Holy Night" celebrates the arrival of Jesus, who also brings peace and love into our lives. You can hear the song from our worship team at sugarcreek.net/christmas. As you listen, consider how He came to be a part of your daily life.

WEEKLY FAMILY CRAFTS

Doing weekly Christmas crafts as a family creates intentional space to slow down, work together, and make meaningful memories during a busy season. These hands-on activities naturally spark conversation, creativity, and laughter, giving parents and kids a chance to connect in ways that strengthen relationships and build trust. Crafts also help reinforce the themes of the season, offering opportunities to talk about faith, gratitude, and the true meaning of Christmas in a simple and engaging way. Even small moments spent gluing, painting, or creating something side by side can become treasured traditions that shape your family's sense of togetherness and joy.

CRAFT WEEK 1:
PAPER CHAIN



Materials needed:

- Colored construction paper or scrapbook paper (any colors you like)
- Scissors
- Glue stick, tape, or a stapler
- Ruler (optional)
- Markers, color pencils, or pens (optional)

Instructions:

1. Mark strips about 1 inch wide along the long side of the paper. You can use a ruler or fold the paper in half lengthwise until you get the desired width.
2. Cut along the lines to create long paper strips and repeat until the number of strips needed is prepared.
3. Take one strip, form it into a loop, and secure the ends together with glue, tape, or a staple.
4. Slide the next strip through the loop you just made, form this strip into a loop, and secure the ends.
5. Keep going, linking each strip through the previous loop, and repeat until the chain reaches the length you want!
6. Hang it on a wall, wrap it around a tree, or use it as party décor. Let it serve as a reminder of who Jesus is and why we celebrate the arrival of our Savior through Christmas.

Note: Each person can do their own paper chain, or you can work together to create one.

Tie it to the devotional:

Before assembling the paper chain, spend some time writing out the devotional scripture on each of the strips and assembling them in order. Each day, as you take off a paper chain, practice the Scripture and treat it as a memory verse throughout the Christmas season.

CRAFT WEEK 2:
YARN WRAPPED ORNAMENTS



Materials needed:

- cardboard
- pencil/ruler to draw
- scissors
- thread, yarn, or ribbon for hanging
- yarn
- hot glue gun
- optional: decorations (buttons, pom-poms, beads, etc.)

Instructions:

1. Draw your letter or shape on a piece of cardboard and cut it out. You can make any letter, spell a word as a family, or make Christmas shapes.
2. Hot glue hanging material in a loop at the top of your shape or letter.
3. When starting to wrap, hot glue the beginning of the yarn to the back.
4. Begin wrapping your letter or shape with yarn. You can cover the whole cutout with yarn or partially cover it; there aren't any rules.
5. To finish, glue the tail of the yarn to the backside of the ornament with hot glue.
6. Optional: Hot glue on decorations if desired.

Note: If you don't want to freehand shapes or letters, you can download a template online or use a cookie cutter to trace.

Tie it to the devotional:

Cut out the letters to "JESUS" and decorate them together. String them together and hang them where everyone will see it every day. Let this be a reminder that Jesus is always with you.

CRAFT WEEK 3:
CHRISTMAS CARDS



Materials needed:

- Blank cardstock or construction paper
- Scissors
- Glue stick or double-sided tape
- Markers, crayons, or colored pencils
- Stickers, washi tape, or decorative paper (optional)
- Ribbon or twine (optional)
- Sequins, buttons, or small craft embellishments (optional)
- Envelopes (optional)

Instructions:

1. Fold a piece of cardstock in half to form your card.
2. Sketch a design with a pencil if desired. Choose if you want the outside of the card to be picture only, or if you would like to write words as well.
3. Decorate the outside of the card with markers, crayons, stickers, cut-out shapes, or other craft supplies.
4. Decorate the inside of the card with craft supplies and include a heartfelt message.
5. Optional: Decorate the envelope, or leave it plain for mailing.

Note: You can make these cards for anyone! Deliver to neighbors, friends, family, a local nursing home, grocery store workers, delivery drivers, teachers, or anyone else on your heart.

Tie it to the devotional:

Creating a Christmas card for someone unexpected can become a quiet but powerful way to share the love of Jesus. A simple handmade card can remind them that they are seen, valued, and not alone. In a season that can feel overwhelming or isolating, this small gesture becomes a gentle reflection of Christ's kindness: a reminder that God often shows up through ordinary acts of love. Sometimes the smallest gift, offered with intention, is exactly what a heart needs to feel hope again.

WEEKLY FAMILY RECIPES

Cooking and preparing these recipes together as a family creates more than just delicious food; it creates intentional moments of connection, teamwork, and conversation. Family recipes give children a chance to participate, learn, and feel valued while parents model patience, creativity, and care. Sharing these meals or treats together provides a natural rhythm for meaningful interaction, laughter, and celebration, while also reinforcing the joy and togetherness of the season. These simple, hands-on experiences can become cherished family traditions that strengthen bonds and create lasting memories.

RECIPE WEEK 1:
RICE KRISPIES TREATS



Ingredients:

- 3 tablespoons butter
- 1 package (10 oz) mini marshmallows or 4 cups regular marshmallows
- 6 cups Rice Krispies cereal
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract (optional, but delicious)
- Pinch of salt (optional, but helps balance sweetness)
- Icing, sprinkles, melted chocolate, etc, for decorating (optional, but fun)
- Star cookie cutter (optional, but can be used to tie into the devotional)

Instructions:

1. In a large pot over low heat, melt the butter completely.
2. Stir in the marshmallows and continue stirring until smooth and fully melted.
3. Add vanilla and a pinch of salt if using.
4. Remove the pot from the stove and quickly stir in the Rice Krispies cereal until everything is evenly coated.
5. Transfer the mixture into a greased 9×13-inch pan.
6. Use a buttered spatula or wax paper to press it down gently (don't pack too hard or they'll get tough).
7. Let the treats cool for about 30 minutes, then cut into shapes and enjoy!

Note: You can cut these out with cookie cutters and then use icing, sprinkles, melted chocolate, etc, to decorate your treats for an added element of fun!

Tie it to the devotional:

As you make star-shaped Rice Krispies treats with your kids this week, use the simple activity as a reminder that Jesus came as a light shining in the darkness, as we talked about in our devotional. Just as the star over Bethlehem led people to Him, these sweet little stars can help your family remember that Jesus still brings hope, clarity, and joy into the places that feel confusing or heavy. As you bake, talk with your children about where they've seen Jesus' light in their lives, and consider sharing a few treats with someone who could use encouragement. It's a simple way to help your family see that the One who came to be our Wonderful Counselor and Prince of Peace also invites us to shine His light to others.

RECIPE WEEK 2:
HOT COCOA BAR



Ingredients:

- Hot cocoa mix or mixes (options include chocolate, white chocolate, peppermint, etc.)
- Milk or water for hot cocoa
- Options for mix-ins:
  - Mini marshmallows
  - Whipped cream
  - Chocolate chips (milk, dark, white)
  - Caramels
  - Crushed candy canes
  - Mini M&Ms
  - Sprinkles
  - Cinnamon, nutmeg, or cocoa powder (shaker)
- Serving supplies:
  - Mugs, paper cups, or reusable holiday cups
  - Stirrers (candy canes, cinnamon sticks, spoons)
  - Napkins
  - Labels/tent cards for each topping
  - Trays or baskets to keep items organized

Instructions:

1. Set up the hot cocoa bar in a line for people to make their personalized drinks!

Note: You can pair this recipe with the week 2 craft and host a family night, or your family can host a party for friends. Pair it with a Christmas movie you love for extra family time!

Tie it to the devotional:

As your family sets up a hot cocoa bar this week with warm mugs, toppings, and all the cozy extras, use the moment to talk about what it means that Jesus is Immanuel, "God with us." Just as a warm drink brings comfort on a cold day, Jesus came near to bring comfort, presence, and peace to our hearts. Encourage your children to think about where they've felt God's nearness and warmth lately.

RECIPE WEEK 3:
COOKIE DECORATING



Ingredients:

- Cookies:
  - 2 ¾ cups all-purpose flour
  - 1 teaspoon baking soda
  - ½ teaspoon baking powder
  - 1 cup unsalted butter, softened
  - 1 ½ cups granulated sugar
  - 1 large egg
  - 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
  - ½ teaspoon almond extract (optional, but amazing)
  - 3 tablespoons milk (optional, but helps keep cookies soft)
  - Crown cookie cutter (optional, but can be used to tie into the devotional)
- Icing
  - 1 cup powdered sugar
  - 2–3 teaspoons milk
  - A drop of vanilla or almond extract
  - Food coloring, if desired
  - Piping or Ziploc bags for decorating

Instructions:

1. Preheat oven to 350°F.
2. Line baking sheets with parchment paper.
3. In a bowl, whisk together flour, baking soda, and baking powder.
4. In a separate large bowl, beat butter and sugar until light and fluffy (about 2–3 minutes).
5. Add egg, vanilla, and almond extract. Mix well.
6. Gradually add the dry mixture to the wet mixture. Add milk if the dough seems too dry.
7. Shape cookies
   a. For round cookies:
      i. Scoop tablespoon-sized balls, roll in sugar, and place on the cookie sheet.
      ii. Slightly flatten with your hand or the bottom of a glass.
   b. For cut-out cookies:
      i. Chill the dough for 1 hour.
      ii. Roll out on a floured surface to about ¼ inch.
      iii. Cut shapes using cookie cutters.
8. Bake 8–10 minutes until edges just start to lightly brown.
9. Cool completely on a rack before decorating.

Tie it to the devotional:

As your family decorates crown-shaped cookies this week, remind your kids that these treats point to the promise in Micah 5:2, that Jesus would come as our long-awaited King. A plain cookie becomes a crown only when it's shaped, decorated, and given purpose, and in a similar way, Jesus is the One who gives shape and purpose to our lives. Let each crown be a visual reminder that we belong to Him and can celebrate His good and perfect kingship in our lives.

CHRISTMAS FUN DOESN'T STOP HERE!

Click the button below for more information about Christmas at Sugar Creek, a prompt on how to invite your friends and family to attend Christmas with you, special Christmas songs and devotionals from our worship team, and more about each of our campuses!

MORE CHRISTMAS FUN!

ATTENDING CHRISTMAS AT SUGAR CREEK?

You can pre-register yourself and your family before coming to Sugar Creek to help make your first time with us even easier! We can't wait to spend Christmas with you!

PRE-REGISTER HERE!

thank YOU

FROM OUR FAMILY TO YOURS, WE PRAY
YOU HAVE A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS.

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