



RING IN THE NEW YEAR!!

FOOD

Keep it simple! A potluck appetizer or dessert buffet will be a hit with the young and not-so-young crowd.

DRESS UP THE SPACE

- make your space glow! Insert glow sticks into balloons for an inexpensive but impressive decoration.
- <http://sayyes.com/2014/05/diy-glow-stick-balloons.html>
- <http://www.woohome.com/diy-2/top-32-sparkling-diy-decoration-ideas-for-new-years-eve-party>
- encourage festive attire and hand out glow bracelets to the guests as party favours

ACTIVITIES

- 1) Play a game
 - Prepare eight New Year's Scripture printables (see below) and roll them up to be placed in balloons.
 - Starting at 7 p.m., begin popping one balloon an hour. Each balloon contains a Scripture reference and a faith-focused question.
 - When you get to 10 p.m., begin popping one every 30 minutes.
 - Feel free to change the time of the balloon popping to suit your party plans.
- 2) Create a photo booth
 - Hang craft paper as a photo backdrop and encourage guests to write their thankful prayers on the paper with colourful markers.
 - Hang a large empty frame or have a variety frames available for guests to use for fun selfies.
 - Provide hats, glasses, boas, bowties, signs for guests to use as photo props.
- 3) Rent a karaoke machine and select a song list of family-friendly tunes
 - Award prizes for families, teams or individuals
 - Dancing could be optional or welcome!
- 4) Hire a children's entertainer: musicians, magician, clowns, face-painter, balloon-creations, etc.



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- 5) Set up an easy craft station: create party hats or noisemakers
 - <http://ohhappyday.com/2011/02/party-hats-diy-template/>
 - <http://www.classic-play.com/crafty-kids-new-years-not-so-noisy-noise-makers/>

- 6) Make a spectacle of the “midnight” countdown. (It can be at any time you choose!)
 - Create a “big-screen” by hanging a large white sheet on a flat wall and show a video of exploding fireworks.
 - Sparklers outside on the church lawn will be a wonderful surprise

Scroll down for the New Year's printables.



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The Steadfast love of God never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.
Lamentations 3:22-23

How have you experienced God's faithfulness in this past year?

But as for me, I will look to the Lord, I will wait for the God of my salvation; my God will hear me.
Micah 7:7

Describe something you are waiting on God for this next year.

Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free, but Christ is all and in all!
Colossians 3: 9-11

How will you work to overcome differences in the new year?

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!
2 Corinthians 5:17

What would you like to shed so that you can enter more fully into your faith?

The virgin...will call him Immanuel.
Isaiah 7:14

How will you make room in your life to experience Christ?

A friend loves at all times.
Proverbs 17:17

Is there someone you need to forgive in your life? How will you mend/strengthen your relationships in the new year?

Grace and peace be yours in abundance.
1 Peter 1:2

Where would you like to experience God's peace in the year ahead?



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Choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve.
Joshua 24:15

How will you commit your life to God in the following year?