

It's Time for a Snowman Tea Party!

Created by Laura Lee Leathers

In the winter of 1997, I began a love affair with snowmen. Well, it's not really a love affair, but I love what they can represent for believers at Christmas. I had never thought about how the Christmas story could be told through the image of a snowman until I found a pocket-sized card at my local Christian bookstore. The front of the card said, "Jesus Warms My Heart." on the back of the little card was the following poem.

The Snowman

*The snowman is white and clean,
depicting the pure, sinless nature of our Savior.
Each snowflake is unique, representing each
person of the world that Jesus loves,
for whom he came to earth to live and die.*

*The snowman lasts for only a season
and, when melted, turns to water,
suggesting that we can turn to the Living Water.
Our source of Eternal Life.*

*The snowman's existence is a symbol of hope.
Its cheerful nature gladdens our spirits.
Likewise, when we feel burdened, and our hearts are cold,
Jesus tells us that He is our source of hope,
and that the warmth of life can be found in him.*

T. Tilley (© 1997 Dicksons)

That year, I think I purchased every card they had. I found cookie jars with snowmen and gave them as gifts with the little card tucked inside. In addition, I found fabric by Daisy Kingdom™ that had a snowman looking towards heaven and pointing to the star of Bethlehem. I used it to make a wall hanging for our kitchen. I made my daughter and myself matching jumpers with snowmen at the bottom. When people commented how delightful it was to see a mother and daughter dressed alike, we would use it to share what the snowman represented from a biblical perspective.

This love affair with snowmen inspired me to decorate the rooms in our home for the holidays with Christian themes. Our kitchen features the snowman because this is usually the first room people see, and it's the primary gathering place for our family. There were snowmen everywhere. I purchased inexpensive dishes with snowmen on them. Snowman mugs and a snowman teapot are available for homemade hot cocoa, coffee, or tea. It became a passion!

It's time to plan a snowman tea party. For your gathering, consider having a potluck dinner. Invite your Bible study fellowship group and guests. Ask individuals to bring either sandwiches or salads. The hostess will provide the soup.

Are you ready to plan your tea party? Let's start with the invitation. I encourage you to be creative and simply design your own. Create something through Canva, stickers, scrapbook papers, stamps, or hand lettering.

For decorations, look at items at your local dollar store, flea markets, or second-hand stores, or make your own. Purchase or make small gift bags and fill them with packages of Christmas Tea, dark chocolate, and a Christmas devotional book. The possibilities are endless. The questions are: how simple or elegant do you want to make it, and how much time do you have to assemble it?

Remember, the bottom line of any gathering is to focus on the people and the purpose. Then, pray for the gathering to be an opportunity to share Christ. It's not about the things but about the people! The following will give you an example of an invitation and a craft idea. Please let me know if you use this idea. Send me pictures and tell me about your event

INVITATION

Outside on the invitation card

The weather outside may be frightful,
but inside my home is delightful!

It is time to warm up,
Be sure to bring your favorite cup.

For it's time for a Snowman Tea,
but it is not just for you and me.

Bring a friend with you,
and with no further ado.

Let's share the Good News as such,
Remember, Jesus loves everyone *snow* much!

Inside the card

Date:

Time:

Place:

(Bring a snowman ornament to exchange)

Regrets Only (your phone number)

Snowman Soup

(Craft Item for guests to take home)

Supplies

White Cardstock Paper
Patterned Paper with blue and white dots or snowflakes
Cellophane Bag, 6" x 6"
Snowman accent: available at craft stores
Hole Punch
Twine or Ribbon
Adhesives

Soup Ingredients to be placed in the Cellophane Bag:

Single-serving package of hot cocoa mix
Mini marshmallows in a resealable snack bag
Chocolate kisses
Candy Cane

Instructions: Finished Size is 6" x 4 ¼"

Cut a 6"x 4 ¼" rectangle of patterned paper to make the bag topper.

Tear three white cardstock strips to form snowdrifts. Adhere one to the bottom of the bag topper. Adhere snowman accent and remaining snowdrifts

Print the "Snowman Soup" poem on white cardstock with blue ink. Trim and adhere to the bag topper.

Fill the cellophane bag with snowman soup ingredients. Fold the top of the bag closed.

Score and fold the bag topper ¾" from the top edge. Place over cellophane bag. Punch two holes through all layers. Thread twine or ribbon through holes, and tie closed.

Snowman Soup Poem

I was told you've been
Real good this year
Always glad to
Hear it
With freezing
Weather
Drawing near,
You'll need to
Warm the spirit.
So here's a little
Snowman soup
Complete with stirring stick
Add hot water,
Sip it slow,
It's sure to do the trick!

(This idea came from Spirit of Christmas Tea hosted by the ladies at East McComb Baptist Church, Mississippi).

Recipe Suggestions

Suggested Menu for the Snowman Tea Party

Tea-Time Treasures House Punch - Olive Cheese Ball and an assortment of crackers
Potato Soup, Salad, and tea sandwiches
Dessert

Tea-Time Treasures House Punch

32-ounces white grape juice
32-ounces Cranberry juice
One two-liter bottle of Spite

Snowman Pizza



Olive Cheese Ball

2 (8-ounce) packages cream cheese
¼ teaspoon hot sauce
1 (20-ounce) can black olives, drained and chopped
1 (3 ½-ounce) jar stuffed olives, drained and chopped
½ teaspoon onion salt
Chopped parsley
Paprika

Soften cream cheese and add hot sauce. Mix olives and onion salt into the cheese. Refrigerate until firm. Form into a ball and roll in parsley and paprika. Serve with crackers. Cheeseball keeps for two weeks.