**Aim 2015 Christmas Party** (overall, went smoothly - no "dead" moments - everyone including parents seemed to have a fun time)

Email with details sent out on: November 27. I (Katie ;)) personally liked the format and the fact that it was short and to the point without unnecessarily repeating information. People also replied very quickly with the food item they were bringing.  
Email:

Hello everyone!!

Ready for some Christmas fun?!? We certainly are excited to spend time with y’all! Here are the details for the Aim Christmas party…

**First of all…** family members are definitely welcomed and encouraged to attend! This is a great event to wrap the session up and celebrate the hard work the team members put forth. All we ask is that you *reply with the number of people in your family attending*, so we can plan accordingly.

**DATE / TIME / LOCATION:** Monday, December 14th / same time as a usual practice (4:30pm - 8pm) / Grace Brethren Church

**THEME:** This year, it will be a western style/cowboy theme. *Yes, please dress up… there will be a contest!* Throw on those cowboy hats and practice your southern accent! ;-)

**FOOD:** Along the lines of our theme, we will be having a dinner of chili/soup and cornbread (etc.). That being said we ask *each family to bring a dessert* along with each family signing up for one of the following items (*make sure you reply to all when inserting your name next to the item you choose!)*:

1 crockpot chili/soup + fixings: **Amos**

1 crockpot chili/soup + fixings: **Hughes**

1 crockpot chili/soup + fixings: **Kane**

1 large vegetable salad (garden, greek, etc.): **Werner**

1 large fruit salad: **Wahl**

1 large “meal” salad (taco, Caesar, etc.): **Frymire**

bread/cornbread + drinks: **Aim**

**WHAT TO BRING:**

* The food item you signed up for and a dessert
* Your Secret Santa gift (An email was sent out earlier with details about this. Make sure to bring your gift wrapped *without* the person’s name on it. This is to keep it secret. ;) We’ll tell you where to put it when you arrive.)
* One white elephant gift for each person participating (We will be doing a white elephant gift exchange, a fun game the whole family can participate in! For each family member who will be playing, you need one wrapped gift (we'll tell you where to put it when you get there). The gift should *not* be super extravagant. It should be relatively cheap or even something you find around the house, but make sure it's something that whoever receives it would appreciate. Here is your opportunity to be creative and even slightly competitive!)

If you have any questions about anything, please let us know! Can't wait to see you all there!!

~ The Aim Leadership :)

Date/Time/Location: Dec 14/ 4:30-8:00 (we went over by about 30mins)/ Grace Brethren

Team members: 11 members

Team Families: 6

Total people at the party: 27

Theme: Cowboy/Western

Games:

* Coming in Game\*-Each team member had a poster on the wall with a question about themselves that others had to guess the answer to. People enjoyed it; it was a good, easy coming in game. Answers were given with the Awards. Only team members, siblings, and one (?) parent played.
* Balloons in Pantaloons-Everyone got into pairs and tried to get more balloons than the other team-enjoyable and easy game. A few parents played.
* Draw!- Everyone got into teams of four. Each team went separately through the game with the goal of going through quicker than the other teams. People had fun doing it but doing each team took a long time. Only team members and siblings played.
* Secret Santa- Everyone liked it. Girls and guys were mixed together. I (Katie) noticed many of the gifts most likely went over $5 (even my own, as I know it is *extremely* hard to find something they will like/is special for that amount).
* White Elephant- Tried picking out and switching gifts with pieces of paper. Took longer than anticipated but was still fun. Everyone actually seemed entertained the whole time. Pretty much everyone played!
* Dress-up Competition - People did dress up and had great outfits! However, we did not announce the winners like we said we would. We also did not have rewards.

Awards:

* Paper plate awards with a character trait (plus an explanation of an example of that trait) and Disney Character. Girl leaders did the girls, Samuel did the boys (Howard) and the leaders. We forgot to make one for Samuel. Award time seemed to take a bit longer .

Food:

* Chili/soup-three families each brought a large crockpot of chili plus toppings. This was enough.
* Salad-three families brought one large fruit salad, one large meal salad, and one large garden salad. Meal and fruit salad went well. This was enough.
* Dessert-out of six families four brought dessert. This was plenty.
* Cornbread-24 muffins and two 8x8 pans-was enough-making of the cornbread was voluntarily.
* Plates were supplied by a family. Aim provided bowls, spoons, and cups.

Schedule of Night:

4:00-4:10 - Leaders arrive & set up

4:30 - team members & families arrive - people actually arrived on time and not earlier! :) (+15 mins - People Posters)

4:45 - Balloons + Pantaloons  
5:00 - Draw!

5:30 - Dinner

6:00 - Desert/Video

6:15 - Awards/game winners

6:30 - Secret Santa (15 mins)/White Elephant (45 mins)

7:30 - Clean-up

8ish - end (we went over by about 30min)

**\*PEOPLE POSTERS - QUESTIONS (2015 Christmas Party)**

**Katie:** What do I want to be when I grow up... a professional ballerina, a veterinarian, or a nurse?

**Imelda:** Which would I rather have... a lifetime supply of ice-cream or being able to go shopping every day?

**Howard:** If I could have one of these superpowers, would I want to... be able to breathe out fire or walk on the ceiling?

**Erika:** If I could either be eight years old again or immediately skip to 20... which one would I choose?

**Liberty:** Which do I enjoy most... Christmas, summer, or my birthday?

**Samuel:** If all of them looked good on me, would I want... a beard, goatee, mustache, or unibrow?

**Brooke:** What is my favorite form of dance... hip-hop, ballet, or tap?

**Lauren:** If I could be one of these animals, which one would I rather be... a giraffe, an octopus, or a bunny?

**Sierra:** Would I rather... have every single Aim team know about "the game" or pass out during a presentation?

**Trinity:** If I could only name my (future) kids one of these names, which one would I choose... Vanilla Bean, Pickle, or Balloon?

**Victoria:** Would I rather own a Mustang horse or a Mustang car

**How to Play:**

1. Choose the answer you think the person on the poster would choose, and write that along with your name underneath.
2. You may NOT write down an answer on YOUR poster board, and NO asking for or giving hints to each other!
3. Stay tuned for the results when we ask you to later reveal the answer... this is why it is so important not to tell anyone now! :)