

**All I Want for Christmas - Week 1.** So what tangible gift do you want for Christmas? I mean really want? What is something you could feel, see, touch, have, USE that could be a difference-maker? Maybe it is order in your home, more regular physical touch, relief from symptoms, a real health insurance solution, some money! These tangible needs and longings can be hard to even admit to yourself - as if you could or should actually ask for that! Let's explore how it is not only ok, but actually part of weaving life deeply to do just that.

## WELCOME!

Life, for adults and kids alike, is most fulfilling when it is woven deeply with others and that mysterious element we often call the third strand, or "God." Learn more about Fabric at [www.FabricMpls.com](http://www.FabricMpls.com)

**Is today your first visit? Welcome! Come say hi and choose a gift at the ? table after the gathering.**

**Got Babies?** Hang out with them in The Nest (Media Center) and watch the livestream to stay connected. The Nest is also available for drop off (6mos-3yrs).

## WHAT TO EXPECT

**We're glad you're here!**

**Take a seat and get comfortable.**

- Music by Chris Tripolino & the Fabric Band
- Welcome & Say Hi!
- Message-Melissa Lock
- Connecting with & supporting Fabric
- More music & closing thoughts

**Fabric Kids** - want to share a Christmas song before our Christmas Eve gathering? Email [chris@fabricmpls.com](mailto:chris@fabricmpls.com).

## TRIP FUNDRAISERS



Buy Soup! 35% of proceeds will go to Fabric Kids camp & the High School summer trip! Visit [simpls.com](http://simpls.com) & use fundraiser code FABRIC.

Purchase a wreath (\$35) after today's gathering! \$15 of each wreath will go to the 2023 HS Trip to Appalachia.



## NEXT SUNDAY



**All I Want for Christmas** is... well, there are some big things that would never fit under a tree but feel like the kind of things Christmas is meant to give. All that "Peace on earth and good will among people." Wouldn't it be ideal to just flip a magical switch...?



**Fabric Chili Cook-Off: Saturday, December 31, 11:30-12:30pm.**

Individuals and/or teams have the opportunity to compete against each other to be voted as best chili in town (or at least at Field School)! All proceeds will be donated to local non-profits. Have a favorite chili recipe and/or local non-profit and want to compete in this fun and delicious event? Use the QR code to fill out the form (or just be sure to mark your calendar so you don't miss out on the delicious-ness)!



**Fabric Kids** will be taking on roles, learning songs and dances all to help tell this delightful story based on the Children's book *You must Bring a Hat* (to be shared Sunday 12/18!). Sunday mornings, through Dec 11, kids head directly to the gym for an Advent Moment, snack and musical practices. More at [fabricmpls.com/winter](http://fabricmpls.com/winter).

## What do you really want for Christmas?



You are a FLESH & BLOOD HUMAN BEING.

You have tangible needs, wants and longings. They can be hard to be honest about. Why?

They bring up SHAME, fear of JUDGEMENT, they REVEAL OUR LIMITS, we have to MAKE CHOICES.

Your longings are REAL and THEY MATTER.

They deserve our LOVING 3-STRANDED AWARENESS, not our SQUINTY-EYED JUDGEMENTS.

A USEFUL QUESTION...  
**HOW IS FEAR SHOWING UP?**  
 F  
 E  
 A  
 R

SOMETHING TO REMEMBER...  
 "ALWAYS AND NEVER STATEMENTS ARE  
 ALWAYS FALSE AND NEVER TRUE."



Even though the idea that you are on your own in a competitive, scarce world is MADE UP, the consequences of living by it are REAL.

*Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or drink, nor about your body, what you will wear...birds...lillies...  
 God knows that you need these things. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be yours as well.*

*So do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Let the day's own trouble be sufficient for the day.*

-Jesus (find the whole thing in Matthew 6:25-34)

## What I really want for Christmas is...



## Some Better Question Suggestions

What feelings show up when you name this? What info does that offer you? Is there false evidence appearing real?

How could this actually become possible?

What could create some motion in the direction?

What can't I control or change?

What do I need to accept or let go of? Am I ready to do that?

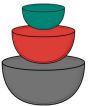
What inner and outer resources am I forgetting about?

What is one step I can take today?

How will I handle the unexpected?

What if it's not all it was cracked up to be?

What responsibilities come with this?



You have real needs and longings. They matter.

Homework: Share one of yours with someone this week. Invite them to share too. Bring it some loving 3-stranded awareness.

"GOD GAVE US WORDS THEY WERE I LOVE YOU, PLEASE AND THANK YOU"

- CLOUD CULT, TO THE GREAT UNKNOWN

## Heads Up for December

Sunday, 12/11 @ 10am - Babies 1st Fabric Christmas Party

Sunday, 12/18 @ 10:30am - Kids present *You Must Bring a Hat*

Saturday, 12/24 @ 2pm - Christmas Eve

[No Sunday gathering Sunday, 12/25]

Saturday, 12/31 @ 11:30am - Chili Cook-Off

[No Sunday gathering Sunday, 1/1]

