



# WESTCOAST NEWS

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## Short-term experience, long-term impact

### DTS STUDENTS 10 YEARS LATER

Over the years, thousands of people have encountered God in new ways and taken further steps into His call through a Discipleship Training School. The DTS is foundational to who we are and what we do as Youth With A Mission. Its central focus is growing in relationship with God and active participation in the Great Commission. Here is a glimpse of how God used DTS to impact one group of young people, launching them into a range of spheres and opportunities.

YWAM Perth's Young People's DTS of 2010 was made up of 50 students from a range of nations, including Canada, Australia, Japan, Denmark, Indonesia, Switzerland and New Zealand.

Here are a few of their stories. They went to Mexico City for their outreach as part of our year of Megacities focus there.

#### Hans (Indonesia)

Right now I am living in Cape Town, South Africa. I am an associate pastor at a church called The People's Church. I actually met my wife during DTS. She was doing Compassion DTS, I was doing Young Peoples DTS. I'm so glad I did DTS. One of the biggest things that I learnt during DTS was to wrestle with the reality of God, the reality of who I am. DTS has taught me the way God sees me, the way God sees the world, the way



01 Rebekka (Denmark) leading and speaking at a youth conference.

## "It's been a foundation for the rest of my life."

God sees His local churches and His mission. And until now that is still growing in me. It's not just a once-off thing now six months is over, but DTS has given me a foundation of my faith.

#### Rebekka (Denmark)

After DTS, I moved back to Denmark and... I got planted in a local church and I've had the privilege of leading youth conferences, preaching a lot around the country, but also in Europe; and also to lead missions trips with young people and to build different local mission projects. I have a vision to really bring influence to Denmark and to share who God is, and to show it's not just an old tradition, an inheritance that we have in Denmark, but that it's real and it's true. My DTS has definitely been a

kickstarter in so many ways. Some of the prophecies I got about preaching, being a part of an awakening, and so on, I just feel like I'm living in it now.

#### Dan (England)

Straight after DTS I actually studied law at university and I am qualifying as a solicitor. I am currently a trainee solicitor at the National Grid, helping to keep the lights on and the gas flowing in the UK. I think the 12 weeks of teaching [on DTS] has been a real great foundation of my faith, just in understanding the nature and character of God. And seeing God's faithfulness displayed, both on the teaching phase and also on outreach has been a wonderful testimony to have in my life. It's also really equipped me to serve, to serve God at university and in the church as well.

(continued on page 3) (continued on page 2)



## Director's Word

A very warm 'Merry Christmas' from Down Under! It's nearly that time, where many of you in the Northern Hemisphere will be preparing hot cocoa and hoping for a white Christmas. Meanwhile, our part of the world is looking forward to Christmas and Boxing Day on the beach!

Growing up on Australian beaches, I learnt at a young age how to spot a rip tide – those strong currents underneath the surface that will pull you out to sea. As I look around our state, and even the world, today, I see a spiritual current happening. God is on the move! On the surface we are limited in what we can do. However, underneath, God is stirring up something new. Online connections are becoming the norm, and new possibilities for collaboration, training and meeting internationally are emerging.

Here in Western Australia, we are seeing new openness in our own 'backyard'. A few weeks ago, we all gathered to hear a report from a ministry group that had just returned from the northern half of Western Australia. Phoebe and her team told us about the excitement and hunger they'd encountered in each of the small towns they visited - excitement

(continued from page 1)

to hear about what God is doing, and hunger to join in. The team was delighted to be able to invite them to an Australian DTS that we will be running in January!

The restlessness that's building up from not being able to travel is fuelling the motivation to go as far as we can go, and do as much as we can do. This desire to go is opening up new avenues that might not have been explored otherwise.

In this issue of the Westcoast, you'll read about how Humility & Hunger, one of our worship ministries, is doing just that. You'll also read about a recently-born base that is being pioneered in the Kimberley Region of Western Australia. We're so excited to see the fulfillment of God's word to Heather, all those years ago!

Another story I'm excited to share with you is how DTS has impacted the lives of people around the world. We'll hear from people who did DTS 10 years ago and how their encounter with God has shaped their lives since then.

As we spend this season remembering the Gift of God to us in Christ, I hope these stories will encourage you as much as they did me. I pray that you catch a glimpse of this current of the Holy Spirit, moving in spite of international border closures and quarantines, creating a way where there doesn't seem to be one, and anointing His children to advance His kingdom.

Many season's blessings from the team at YWAM Perth,  
PETER & SHIRLEY

# Virtual Conversations, Real Transformation

## REACHING PEOPLE THROUGH ONLINE EVANGELISM.

Sharing God with people is central to what we do at YWAM Perth. So when Western Australia went into lockdown, we were determined not to let that stop us. One example is our ministry 100 Evangelists, which has been able to share about Jesus over 1,500 times and have seen 261 people come to faith through online evangelism.

It started with communicating through ads about God on social media. By clicking the ad, a person is eventually directed to conversation opportunities with the team. Topics discussed have ranged from science to mental health, lost jobs, and same-sex attraction. The team really felt that many people are hurting and looking for human contact. Through this platform, they are working to share the heart of God with people and help them discover His truth.

Ieshia Heard, one of the team, shared that one person they were contacted by focused the conversations around science and questioned how God and Christianity fit into that. As the team

talked with this person, he became curious about hearing from God, so they shared about how to do that. "He was able to hear God say he was

made a commitment himself to follow Christ and we led him through the salvation prayer. It was just so amazing. At the end of it, he said this he

"many people are hurting and looking for human contact"

on the right path in knowing more about love." In time, they were able to share about who Jesus is. "I got to lead him through the salvation prayer, and we are in the process of connecting him with either a group online or a church in his area."

Lynn Tan told about another opportunity, "We were talking to this guy who believed in evolution and positivity and how that brings meaning to life. And I actually asked him, 'So how does positivity bring meaning to your life?' He was like, 'Well, it actually hasn't...' We got to talk to him about trust, about how to pray and how to hear from God. At the end of it, he actually

said, 'Thank you for everything you've done, you really opened my eyes to the rest of the world.'

WRITTEN BY JESSICA BORDEAUX



01 Reaching people through online

# JANUARY DTS

## 2021

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[info@ywampertth.org.au](mailto:info@ywampertth.org.au)



(continued from page 1)

### Alex (Northern Ireland)

Since DTS, I have continued to work with YWAM. I did a [YWAM] School of Biblical Studies in the Netherlands and then I staffed there. Then I felt God lead me to come back home to Northern Ireland, so I joined a base here in Rostrevor. I worked there for six years, staffing and leading DTS, doing Border Walk and other ministries to do with reconciliation and peacemaking. And then I have just recently started a new YWAM team in Eniskillen. I've also been able to go back to Mexico City several times since our DTS outreach. Last year I got to meet some Mexican guys who did the YPDS the following year and have now started a YWAM base. I was able to teach on the DTS they were running. That was really a full circle for me, as I really got a heart for Mexico City during our outreach. I'm still involved in helping to network there and continue to relate with the people that our team ministered to.

### Mathieu (The Netherlands)

During DTS, God really touched my heart...His light and fire in my heart I know will last forever. Currently I have a beautiful wife, a job and a house; I'm just "settled" - that's the word we use in Holland. I've learnt to trust God and that He's my guidance. Every step my wife and I take, we take with God in prayer. It may just seem easy to go through life, meet with your friends - but it's so easy to just go with the flow and live like everyone else. In our luxuriant Western lives there's no room for God. Therefore it requires discipline and a will to follow God, to light up that passion and seek Him every day, even if everyone around you doesn't believe in Him. I'm so grateful I got to do DTS because I got to know my Saviour. It's been a foundation for the rest of my life. And I will keep on building that foundation forever.

### Lindsey (Japan)

My highlight from DTS is definitely outreach in Mexico City. I was privileged to teach and preach, and the Bible became so real in my outreach. I'd never seen a physical healing or anything like that growing up, so I was just in awe of God's wonders, signs and miracles. Ever since then,

I came back to my home, Tokyo, Japan and I have been staffing [with YWAM] since graduating. I've been a part of DTS, worship and other things. And now I will be heading out with my husband and our lovely children to pioneer a new base in a northern island of Japan, Hokkaido.

### Jason (Canada)

Since returning from YWAM I went to university, I studied behavioural science for four years. One of the highlights of that was getting to do a practicum opportunity working with...refugees and newcomers to Canada. It's always been a passion of mine to work with people, and really to work cross-culturally. And I had the opportunity to do that, not only at school, but one of my first jobs was working...as a resettlement counsellor. So I got to work with a lot of Syrian refugees moving here to Calgary and helping to equip them for their new life. I think [during DTS] my faith was moving from being something that was private, to something that was public. And it was so encouraging to see people who were running hard after Jesus, and didn't just want to accept Him as the saviour of their life, but to live for Him as having Him as the Lord of their lives as well. These days I've transitioned to working as a Pastor at my church. It's called Experience Church (a multi-campus church in Calgary).

### Zury (Mexico)

Zury is one of the local young people who worked alongside the YPDS 2010 outreach teams in Mexico City. I was 18 the first time I translated for a YWAM team. They came from YWAM Perth and I remember is how much I wanted to be near to them. They portrayed Jesus' character to me in a key moment of my life. One team led me to keep on working with another one, and then a third one, and last one. That one guided me to fill in my application to do a DTS. My life is clearly divided in 'before and after DTS.' I came back to Mexico and studied my major, which later I would apply on missions, even working with Megacities again. I'm currently part of the pioneering team of a base in Mexico City (YWAM Hola).

WRITTEN BY JESS ERIKSEN



01 A DTS trip to the beach



02 Lindsay, her family and team pioneering a new base in Japan



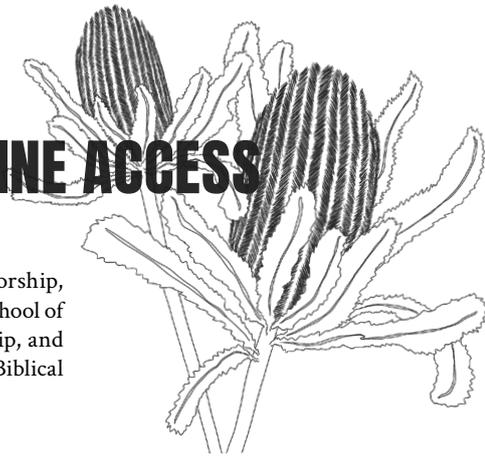
03 Rebekka (Denmark) speaking at a conference



04 One of the YPDS teams in Mexico City

"my faith was moving from being something that was private, to something that was public."

# NEW OPPORTUNITIES OPENED THROUGH ONLINE ACCESS



This unique season has given us opportunities to do training in different ways. Not wanting the pandemic to stop us from equipping and serving, over the last

months we have run a number of seminars and further accredited training courses online. Among others, these schools have included: the Bible Core Course, Transfor-

mation School, School of Worship, School of Communication, School of Frontier Missions, Leadership, and Pioneering Seminar, and the Biblical Mandate for Healthcare

## 1 BIBLE CORE COURSE ONLINE

Over 40 people joined our Bible Core Course Online. Ali Agleham, a YWAM Perth staff member who did the course, shared her experiences. "God is so incredibly faithful, unfailing and enduring in his love! Studying the Bible in-depth during the BCC opened my eyes to see God's nature and character in a way I had not known Him before. The more I read, the more I grew in my love for the Lord and the more I hungered to understand the Word of God. I had been wanting to do a Bible school for a while but as a mum of three young kids, I hadn't yet found the time. With COVID happening and restrictions in place, I saw my chance to use the time to study the Bible by doing the Bible Core Course. It was amazing! The inductive study approach taught me to allow the Bible to speak for itself and gave me greater confidence in being able to teach it to others. I have especially loved teaching my kids what I have learned. I just love the Word of God so much because there is always more to discover and because it is the story of a loving and faithful God!"

## 2 SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION ONLINE

The School of Communication is designed to equip people with the communication skills needed to bring transformation to communities and individuals. Mark Twyerould, a student on the school, like many others, appreciated the flexibility and accessibility afforded by online

training. It opened opportunities that hadn't been available before. "My wife and I have wanted to do the school for a while, but the timing has never worked. With it being a slower season with COVID and the school being online, we thought now was the time. The fact it was online has really allowed us to do the school with having a 4 month-old. He still requires a lot of work, but we can do lectures from home and still look after him even while lectures are happening which is really helpful."

## 3 BIBLICAL MANDATE FOR HEALTHCARE AND MISSIONS SEMINAR

This five week seminar is designed to inspire people with God's intentions for healthcare and missions. Amada Stapp, who helped to facilitate it, shares: "On this seminar, students have been very impacted by God's heart for the poor and needy. Some have felt called into missions, decided to do a DTS, more have felt called to join us for a second level health care school once borders open up. One girl, who is on staff at a YWAM base in the United States, felt to start a mercy ministry in her nearby city, reaching out to the poor and needy. Another girl was a previous student on the BAS [Birth Attendant School] and is planning to start a pregnancy crisis centre in Mexico. We also had six nurses on the seminar, who were very impacted by the opportunity God is giving them to bring prayer and whole person care into their workplace."

## 4 COMPASSION DTS

After completing their lecture phase in March, approximately half of the Compassion DTS students stayed in Perth for a reconfigured outreach phase. They joined ministries on base and did meetings and ministry over video calls while on lockdown. Sarah Lenz, the leader of Compassion DTS, shared that, "One of the girls joined Health Care, she's a nurse and she was able to help them develop new teachings for the Simple Healthcare Seminars. There have been a lot of topics they've been wanting to develop for a long time. So she was able to create those teachings."

## 5 PERFORMING ARTS DTS

After finishing her January quarter lecture phase, one student, Dara Peart, joined our Everytongue Ministry where she did research on unreached people groups in Indonesia. As part of the ministry, she was able to reach out to the community in

the months to follow. She helped make and send out illustrated encouragement cards to those in the neighbourhood, do online evangelism and share the gospel with her contacts. During Dara's time in DTS, God showed her his heart of compassion for His lost children. "I knew that God wanted to reach my generation, but now I feel this like fire and excitement for it, the way that He feels. I think that that's an amazing way that God has transformed me."

WRITTEN BY JESSICA BORDEAUX



01 The Transformation School leader and on-location student during online lectures.

02 Student attending online lecture.



# Pioneering YWAM Broome

*A Permanent Presence in the Kimberley*

01 The YWAM Broome team.



On September 15 of this year, a team of ten - with seven others to come - launched out from Perth to Broome, Western Australia. They were so excited that God called them to the Kimberley, the northwestern region of Australia.

For many years now, YWAM Perth has served in the Kimberley region. It is a beautiful, rugged area of WA, marked with remote communities, many of which unfortunately lack

access to needed support. We have reached out by sending teams, building many relationships and working closely with the local Aboriginal elders. Our engagement has included sports ministry, youth ministry, filmmaking, community development and health care. It is exciting to now establish a permanent presence to be able to continue to invest in this region.

Our "hope is to see the people of the Kimberley, no matter what race, come

into the identity that Christ has given them," shared Heather Kuhl, the leader of YWAM Broome team.

YWAM Broome team has a goal to engage with and understand what the community believes their needs are. The team intends to integrate with the community and to reach out intentionally so others may encounter God, and experience His character and nature. YWAM Broome will spend time working with churches, schools, youth drop-in centres and the nearby detention centre. The team has observed that doors are opened through relationship in the Kimberley, so connecting with local elders and building relationship and trust is key. They are grateful that opportunities to create partnerships with people in the local community and organisations have already arisen, including an organisation which provides food for at-risk children.

In the future, YWAM Broome aims to develop and offer YWAM training courses and become a place to host other outreach teams. Heather most adamantly invites others to "Come! Come!"

Since the team has moved to Broome, several teams from YWAM Perth have already come alongside to help their pioneering efforts. Heather shared about how God opened hearts as they were joined by Worship For the Nations (WFN), a Ministry of YWAM Perth.

"We were out with WFN spiritual mapping and on a street corner an intoxicated young man approached our group. We started chatting and instantly we started talking about Jesus. He shared his fear of hell and how he believed Jesus couldn't forgive him. We shared the gospel and the truth of forgiveness and relationship with God. He gave his life to the Lord on that very street corner"

The team also connected with a local woman as they worshipped. "She walked by as we were worshipping with WFN in one of the key locations [in Broome]. She walked past and turned around and came back and started to talk to Grace (YWAM Broome staff). Through conversation and Grace sharing, she repented from her sin and rededicated her life to the Lord". The team is following up with her and has invited her to church."

WRITTEN BY CHRISTIE SMITH

## ONLINE TRAINING

### Make the most of this time...

- Bible Core Course
- Transformation School
- School of Journalism
- School of Missions
- Teaching English to Speakers Of Other Languages
- Healthcare and Missions Seminar

For more details see : [ywamperth.org.au](http://ywamperth.org.au)  
or email: [info@ywamperth.org.au](mailto:info@ywamperth.org.au)

## Creatively Reaching This Generation



### HUMILITY & HUNGER CONTINUES TO MOBILISE AND INSPIRE

As YWAM Perth, we long to see young people mobilised in the call of God, fuelled by a deep connection to Him. One of the ways this is expressed is through our Humility & Hunger (H&H) Ministry. It is one of many YWAM Perth ministries whose focuses have remained the same, but whose outreach efforts have pivoted during 2020.

Humility & Hunger endeavours to encourage and propel young people into missions and their role in the Great Commission. Along with this is the call of the nations to engage in personal worship and complete obedience to God's purposes. Through songwriting and recording original music, H&H aims to connect with and inspire this generation.

"Our plans are to write worship songs that will carry the mission heart of God, and the other side is to use the music [as an influential tool in ministry]...", says Chenanih Magele, leader of the H&H band. These songs are full of themes central to us as YWAM. Conference-style gatherings overseas are one way in which the ministry shares these songs. YWAM Perth also usually of-

fers a DTS with a specific Humility & Hunger focus.

At the beginning of 2020, before COVID travel restrictions, the H&H DTS went on outreach to Indonesia, the Philippines, Canada and the United States.

In particular, God was seen vividly through a meeting in Manila. Before the DTS had gone on outreach, one student felt God was going to let her share about God's freedom in her life which would then impact several other lives. During four events at a local

were not alone... that Jesus loves them, He is for them, and He is working to change their circumstances."

As nations began grappling with the spread of COVID-19, international conferences and travel were no longer possible. For H&H, however, their vision has remained the same, but the methods and delivery changed.

For the staff of this ministry, their usual life is filled with writing and recording music. During the lockdown in Western Australia, they were still able to carry that out, but

## "Each gathering was filled with awe, adamant fellowship with God and a pleading for His presence in parts of the world"

high school, H&H would begin with a testimony, then share the gospel, followed by a skit and concluding with prayer.

The DTS student felt this was the time to share about the freedom God had given her and how He wants to give it to others. Each session, the girl stood up to explain her past struggles with anxiety and fear and how God brought

now virtually. So they used the time as an opportunity to create and be productive. In May and June, as restrictions began lifting in WA, they were able to meet and practice songs together again.

In July, the "Online Gatherings 2020" were held. For four weeks, H&H hosted these virtual conferences as times of worship, message

and prayer. Each week focused on one of the following countries: Indonesia, South Korea, North America and Australia. Each gathering was filled with awe, adamant fellowship with God and a pleading for His presence in parts of the world.

Abigail Michele, who is part of the ministry, shared, "When we did the online gathering for Indonesia, a friend of mine sent a picture of her friend's social media saying that she was very blessed by the gathering and it reminded her to live a life for a heavenly purpose and it inspired her to pray and talk things out with her partner of how she could apply it to her workplace."

So even though the team is not currently able to host gatherings in person, they can bring their gatherings and their music to people wherever they are. Their music can be found online at <https://humilityandhunger.com>.

WRITTEN BY CHRISTIE SMITH



01 Putting it all together.



02 Exhorting and encouraging.



INTERVIEW

# My Time in Missions



WITH TALALELEI RIVERS

01 Talalelei performing for the Island Breeze ministry.



than just participating and just kind of being carried by the flow of other people around me.

**What ministries have you served with at YWAM Perth?**

I have always served with Island Breeze. So that's here in YWAM

**What were you doing before you joined Youth With a Mission?**

I just finished homeschooling. I finished school early when I was 16. I was under what is the normal age for people to do DTS. But I felt like when I prayed, God still said to go for it. So I got accepted for my DTS when I was 16 but I turned 17 on my outreach.

**What led you to do a Discipleship Training School?**

I wanted to go into missions, but I definitely wanted to make sure that it was something God wanted me to do. I grew up [in YWAM] and my parents always included me and my sisters in ministry. So from an early age I was part of ministry. Then my personal journey really started when I was 16. Talalelei did DTS at YWAM Battambang in Cambodia in 2013.

**How did you grow in your DTS?**

I always grew up with Christian values, but I think as well because I was so young when I did my DTS, it really pushed me to decide whether that was something that I wanted to believe for myself. It really pushed me to choose, "Okay, why am I really here?" "Do I actually believe that God has a calling or that God wants to speak these things?" I think it really pushed me to actually grow in personal faith and actually put it into action, rather

Perth but also there were two years that I spent working with Island Breeze in Thailand, before we came back. I love using performing arts as a way of sharing with people. I think it's a very non-threatening way of sharing the gospel. Island breeze uses performing arts and cultural creative expressions to share the Good News.

**What visions has God placed on your heart?**

I feel like my vision is really just serving, in this ministry, serving in this mission. It's really about doing whatever the next thing is that God speaks... I think through it God has really given me a heart for evangelism and using whatever God puts in my hand as a way of sharing with people.

**What is your favourite thing about being in missions?**

There's so much that I love about being in missions. I feel like being in missions is a really great way for me to keep my hand on the pulse of what God is doing in the nations... I know God is going to give the capacity and the grace to love whoever is here and even love the work. I think sometimes that's hard, learning to love the work, but knowing if that's what God said, then it's possible, it can be done. I love that about missions.

INTERVIEWED BY JESSICA BORDEAUX

**"I love using performing arts as a way of sharing with people"**

## From Our Social Media...

We regularly share testimonies and stories on social media platforms, including Facebook and Instagram. Here are recent posts from two of our schools. The Foundations for Counselling Ministry (FCM) equips

people to use counselling skills to bring healing to communities and individuals. The School of Missions trains modern-day missionaries, in character and skill, looking at missions history and current issues.



fcmperth

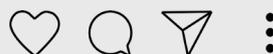


fcmperth

**MULTIPLYING GROWTH** // "One of the cool things about learning and growing in counseling skills is when you have the opportunity to multiply it to other people. Recently our team spent a day with a local church sharing the things God has equipped us with during the FCM. While talking about holistic wellbeing with church leaders, I was particularly encouraged by the evidence of the church's changing attitude toward caring for mental health. I can see that God is working in His body around the world to show us that He cares about our whole lives and to change stigmas and unhelpful thoughts around caring for those who struggle with their mental health." - Testimony from our amazing Perth Outreach team



ywamperthsom



ywamperthsom

My son made some cards to give away on Evangelism and as we rode on the city bus, he said he wanted to give one of them to the man sitting in front of us. This precious man teared up when he saw the message and said "This is for me. I am going to keep this for the rest of my life. This is for me. I was crying out to God this morning and now I know He hears me. You are my angel." #missions #evangelism #ywamperthsom #heardgod



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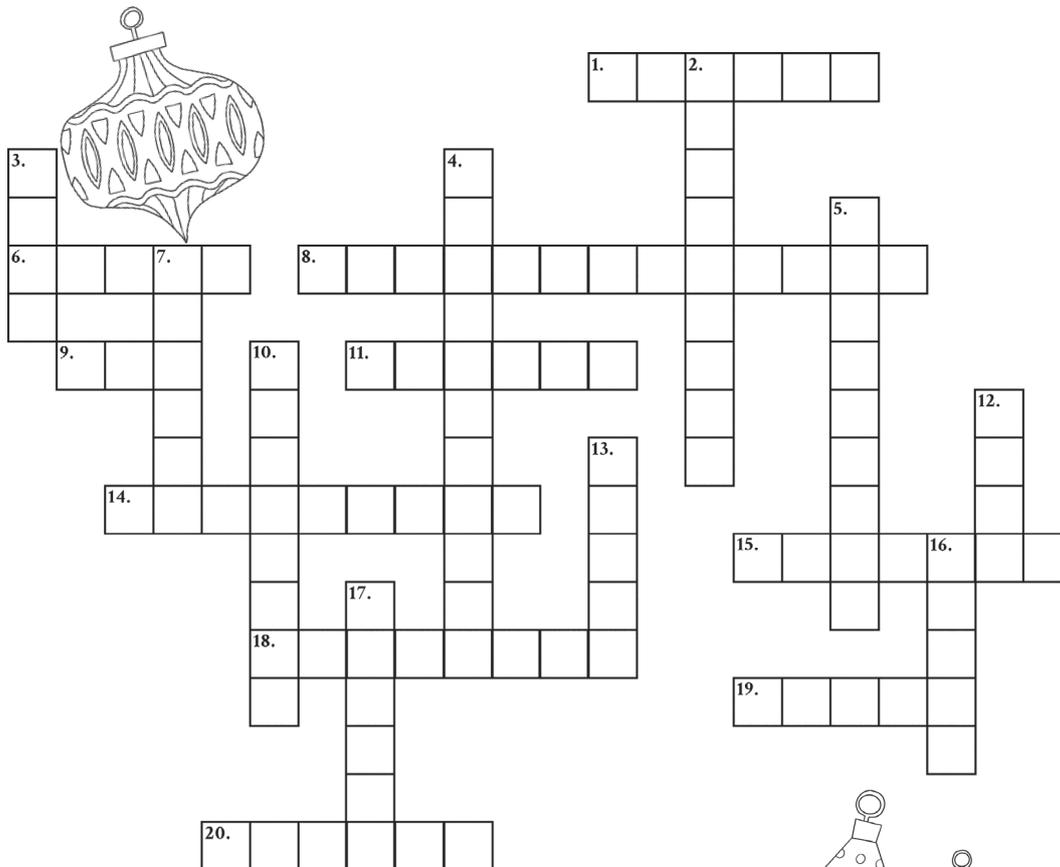
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## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

### ACROSS

- 1 Riding in a one horse open
- 6 Jesus' family fled to this country after he was born.
- 8 Christmas-themed ballet that premiered in Russia in 1892.
- 9 American fast food chain that is popular in Japan during Christmas.
- 11 Tinsel was originally made from shredded \_\_\_\_\_.
- 14 What town was Jesus born in?
- 15 The Julian calendar celebrates Christmas on the 7th of \_\_\_\_\_.
- 18 Roman emperor at the time of Jesus' birth.
- 19 "I'm dreaming of a \_\_\_\_\_ Christmas."
- 20 What did baby Jesus sleep in?

### DOWN

- 2 Who was Mary's pregnant cousin?
- 3 The French word for Christmas
- 4 The first song ever transmitted from space.
- 5 The Australian tradition of Carols by Candlelight began in this city.
- 7 One of Germany's traditions is to hang a \_\_\_\_\_ ornament on the Christmas tree. The first child to find it receives an extra gift.
- 10 The legend of Santa Claus can be traced back to a monk named St \_\_\_\_\_.
- 12 The wise men followed this to find Jesus.
- 13 Children in the Netherlands leave their \_\_\_\_\_ by the fire in hopes that they will be filled with gifts and treats by Sinterklaas.
- 16 Popular Christmas Tree topper.
- 17 A creamy holiday drink