

## Tasty Tuesday Treats

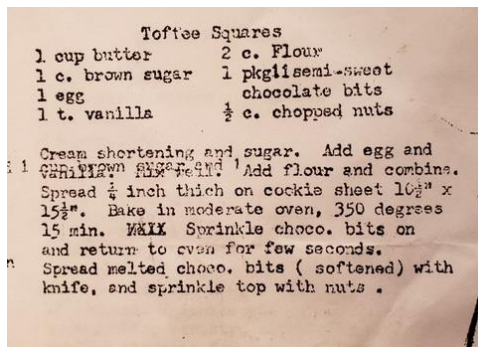
Pastor's Favorites:

Pastor Abe: Granny's M&M Cookies she made at Christmas time.

Pastor James: Pecan pie

Pastor Patty: For years we have enjoyed roast duck with orange sauce and wild rice on Christmas day. I learned how to make both, and many other yummys, at the elbow of my mother-in-law, Betty, in her warm and deliciously fragrant northern Illinois kitchen.

Pastor Stacey: Toffee squares



Baby in a Manger:



PLEASE NOTE- if you have a peanut allergy this is not a snack for you.

**Nutter Butter Cookies, Powdered Sugar, Little tubes of colored icing, Coconut, Yellow food coloring, Graham crackers (optional), Peanut butter (optional) Paper plates (optional)**

Start by mixing some powdered sugar with water until it's thicker than whipping cream, but much thinner than conventional icing. (it's more like a glaze than an icing.) You'll want to mix it with a mixer to get all the sugar lumps out. I mixed mine in a tall glass (to make dipping easier) and used my hand mixer with only one of the mixer thingies attached.

Dip the Nutter Butter cookies into the frosting, but not all the way. The white part is supposed to look like Baby Jesus' swaddling clothes, so leave some blank cookie at the top for his head. I set mine on foil to let the icing set, but it would have been better if I had one of those wire rack thingies to let the extra drip off. As I pulled the cookies out of the icing, I scraped the extra off the back on the rim of the cup. Next, draw on a halo with yellow icing, and a face with blue.

That's it! Let the icing dry, then serve. I also put some sweetened coconut shreds in a ziplock bag, shook with some yellow food color, and served these on beds of "straw". Give everyone a paper plate with a blob of peanut butter on it. Give each child 2 sections of graham cracker to stand up like a manger in the peanut butter. Put your yellow coconut on a plate, and set it beside your cup of powdered sugar glaze. Let each child dip their nutter butter in the icing, then stick the back of the cookie in the coconut. Because the icing is wet, the coconut will stick, acting as your straw in Baby Jesus' manger. Place the cookie in the manger, and let the kids draw on Baby Jesus' face themselves.

**JOY Blessing mix-** make some for you and make some to give out- to first responders or caregivers in our community: Bugles, Pretzels, M & M red and green, candy canes, peanuts, Hershey kisses



**CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS MIX**

**BUGLES:** SHAPED AS A TRUMPET PROCLAIMING PEACE ON EARTH, GOOD WILL TO MEN.

**PRETZELS:** SYMBOL OF A MOTHER'S LOVING ARMS. MARY WRAPPED HER SON IN SWADDLING CLOTHES AND LAID HIM IN A MANGER.

**RED AND GREEN (M&Ms):** Red is to SYMBOLIZE THE LOVE OF GOD WHO SENT HIS SON SO WE CAN HAVE ETERNAL LIFE WHICH IS REPRESENTED BY THE GREEN OF THE EVERGREENS.

**CANDY CANES:** THE SHEPHERD'S CROOK BRINGS BACK SHEEP STRAYED FROM THE FOLD, IT REMINDS US TO REACH OUT AND HELP OTHERS.

**PEANUTS:** THE PROMISE OF JOY IS PLANTED IN OUR HEARTS.

**HERSHEY KISSES:** THE LOVE OF FAMILY AND FRIENDS THAT SWEETENS OUR LIVES.

**Candy Cane Fruit- Bananas and strawberries- A healthy treat for Christmas week**

