



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 25, 2014

CHRISTMAS IN MERIDIAN

MERIDIAN – *Christmas in Meridian* kicks off next week on Monday, December 1. Meridian Mayor Tammy de Weerd says the festivities include traditional plans as well as some new community events.

“The City of Meridian and local businesses have put together a great variety of events for everyone in our community to enjoy. No matter what your favorite part of the holiday season is, you’ll be sure to find something to celebrate amidst the downtown holiday cheer,” said Mayor De Weerd.

December 1 – December 4:

Downtown Business Decorating Contest presented by Idaho Independent Bank. Community members are encouraged to visit participating downtown businesses to view their festive décor and vote for their favorite at www.meridiancity.org/christmas. Winners will be announced at the Christmas Tree Lighting the evening of December 5.

December 5:

Winter Lights Fun Run at 6:20pm begins at Storey Park just before the parade. It is presented by The Pulse Running and Fitness Shop. Walkers or joggers of all ages can wear brightly lit costumes or ugly Christmas sweaters and dash the $\frac{3}{4}$ mile to Generations Plaza just in time for the start of the parade.

Winter Lights Parade & Christmas Tree Lighting at 6:30pm presented by Borton-Lakey Law and Policy. Illuminated floats will travel from Franklin Road along 3rd Street, Bower Street, and Main Street, ending at State Avenue. Immediately following the parade, Meridian will light its Christmas tree in Generations Plaza on the corner of Main Street and Idaho Avenue and children will be welcome to share their Christmas wishes with Santa.

December 6:

The Children's Winterland Festival will be at Meridian City Hall from 10:00 am – 3:00 pm. It is presented by All American Insurance and will include pictures with Santa, cookie decorating, trolley rides, Christmas crafts, games and more. Entry to this event is free with a donation for the Meridian Food Bank. Over the last two years, community members have donated more than 2000 pounds of food through this event.

Additional Christmas activities in Meridian include:

- Santa's Mailbox at Meridian City Hall, December 1 - 18
- Christmas Books at the Little Free Library, Meridian City Hall, December 1-31
- Meridian City Hall Christmas Bazaar & Bake Sale, December 4, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm
- Holiday Classic Volleyball Tournament, December 6, 8:00 am – 9:00 pm, Heritage Middle School
- Meridian Symphony Christmas Concert, December 6, 7:30 pm, Centennial High School - www.meridiansymphony.org

For more information about any of these Christmas events, or to view a map of the parade route, please visit www.meridiancity.org/christmas.

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The City of Meridian is located in the center of the Treasure Valley in southwest Idaho. Founded in 1893 and incorporated as a city in 1903, Meridian is now one of Idaho's largest and fastest growing communities. Meridian is cited by Money Magazine as one of its Top 50 Best Places to Live, and by America's Promise Alliance and ING as one of the nation's 100 Best Communities for Young People. For more information, visit www.meridiancity.org.