

# The Metro Memo



VOLUME 27-26

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FOR THE COLUMBIA METRO ROTARY CLUB

DECEMBER 25, 2019

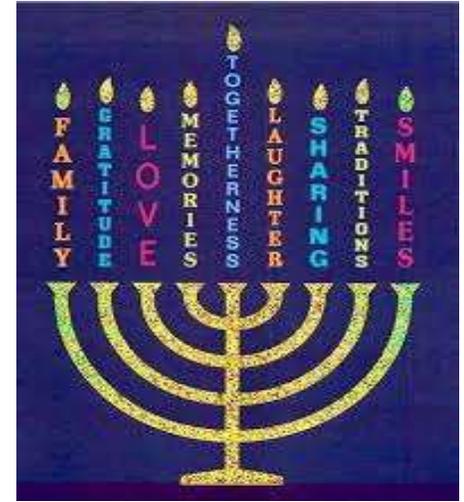
**NO MEETING DECEMBER 25 or JANUARY 1!  
See you January 8, 2020!**



## New Member Proposed

**Garrett Pearson** has been proposed for membership in Metro Rotary. Garrett is the Executive Director of City of Refuge. His proposed classification is Non-Profit. Garrett's proposal was submitted by **Jim Sharrock**.

Please contact **President Cathy** if you have any questions or concerns about this proposal.



Doing Good In The World



<p>Umoja</p> <p>Unity</p>	<p>Kujichagulia</p> <p>Self Determination</p>	<p>Ujima</p> <p>Collective Work &amp; Responsibility</p>	<p>Ujamaa</p> <p>Cooperative Economics</p>
<p>Nia</p> <p>Purpose</p>	<p>Kuumba</p> <p>Creativity</p>	<p>Imani</p> <p>Faith</p>	<p>Kwanzaa Yenu Iwe Na Heri</p> <p>Happy Kwanzaa!</p>



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## Happy Holidays from Metro Rotary!

Many are familiar with the celebrations of **Christmas**, **Hanukkah** and **Kwanzaa**, but there are numerous holidays celebrated around the world. As Rotary is an international organization that has successfully assisted people around the globe, please note a few other celebrations that will be occurring with some of our fellow Rotarians.

### Las Posadas – December 16-25

Las Posadas (Spanish for "The Inns") is a nine-day Mexican tradition commemorating the part of the Christmas story in which Mary and Joseph must ask for a place to stay at every inn in Bethlehem before finding shelter in a barn when Jesus was born.

Starting on December 16, Las Posadas celebrants go to a friend's house to sing a traditional song, asking for shelter like Mary and Joseph did. The homeowners (acting as the innkeepers) then sing a traditional song back, saying they have no room and to move on. The celebrants go to another house and repeat the song, until they arrive at the third house, where a different song is sung by the "innkeepers," saying to come in!



After taking a moment to pray, a piñata is brought out for the children and everybody gets to eat, drink, and have fun. Sometimes a doll is used to symbolize the baby Jesus and the "innkeepers" keep the doll until the next night, when the whole celebration is repeated again and again until Christmas Eve!

### Boxing Day – December 26

Boxing Day is a holiday associated with acts of [charity](#) and giving gifts to workers.



It's believed that the holiday was first started as a way for people to donate to and help the less fortunate by "boxing up" leftover food or old clothes, a tradition that continues strongly in South Africa, where the day is officially known as the "Day of Goodwill." The other main countries that observe Boxing Day today include Canada, Australia, and parts of Europe.

### Junkanoo – December 26 & January 1

Junkanoo is a Bahamian celebration that was started as a way for people to remember and celebrate traditions of their ancestors through costumes,



music, and dance!

The holiday originally began as a way for slaves in the Bahamas to celebrate their origins during some of the only days of the year when they didn't have to work. But after slavery ended, Junkanoo continued as an excuse to party! Today it includes parades that begin in the middle of the night and last until late the next morning, as well as singing and dancing in the street, good food, fireworks, and prizes for the most elaborate costumes!

### Hogmanay – December 31

Before celebrating [New Year's Eve](#), Scottish people observe Hogmanay, pre-New Year traditions that include cleaning and paying off debts to truly start the new year with a "clean slate"! Hogmanay also includes the tradition of the "first-footers," which says the first person to cross a family's doorstep after midnight will determine that home's luck for the rest of the year! Legend says a tall, dark-haired man will bring the most luck, but whoever is chosen is expected to bring cakes and gifts for all who are celebrating!



### Three Kings Day – January 6

Three Kings Day, also called "The Epiphany" in some cultures, is a very important holiday in the Christian church that commemorates the moment when Jesus was recognized as God in human form. In the Western sects, it remembers the day the three wise men came to pay their respects to the baby Jesus, while in the East it's supposed to commemorate his baptism.

