

"Advent in June?"

Malachi 3:1-4 & Luke 1:57-80

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by Rebecca Enney

Polly and Haman are visiting with Gramma Potato in her room at the Retirement Home while their parents are out choosing paint colors at the paint store.

"These fresh chocolate chip cookies sure are good!" said Haman as he took a second one.

"Well" Gramma said: "It will soon be Christmas in July."



Polly and Haman looked at each other. Sometimes, you know, Grammas say things that are nonsensical, because they are old. You all know that Christmas is not in July, right? When IS Christmas.

And tell me what season of the church year happens right before Christmas. There are 4 Sundays and we light one more candle each of the 4 Sundays. It is called ADVENT.

So, IF CHRISTMAS IN JULY is a real thing, then ADVENT IN JUNE would be a real thing.

"Why do you say CHRISTMAS IN JULY Gramma?" Polly asked politely. Haman just rolled his eyes.

"Well, July 25 is the exact half year mark until December 25, so sometimes folks notice that and do something special. Why, one year at Camp Nawakwa the week of camp that fell around July 25, everyone put up Christmas lights on their cabin and the kitchen crew made Christmas dinner food for that day! It was a fun time!"

"Oh" thought Polly to herself. "Gramma was NOT being nonsensical when she said CHRISTMAS IN JULY!"

And, as it turns out, the appointed lessons for this particular Sunday in June are about John the Baptist, who was the cousin of Jesus and God led John to call the people to PREPARE for the coming of Jesus. And the word ADVENT means PREPARE!

Therefore, Pastor Horner was NOT being nonsensical when he called today "ADVENT IN JUNE".

Every day we need to remember to prepare for Jesus to come into our world. We want to:

BELIEVE WITH OUR BRAINS

LOVE WITH OUR HEARTS

WORK WITH OUR HANDS

to prepare for Jesus in our life.

Polly was very interested in what Gramma Potato was saying. Haman reinserted his eyes and took another cookie!

THE END