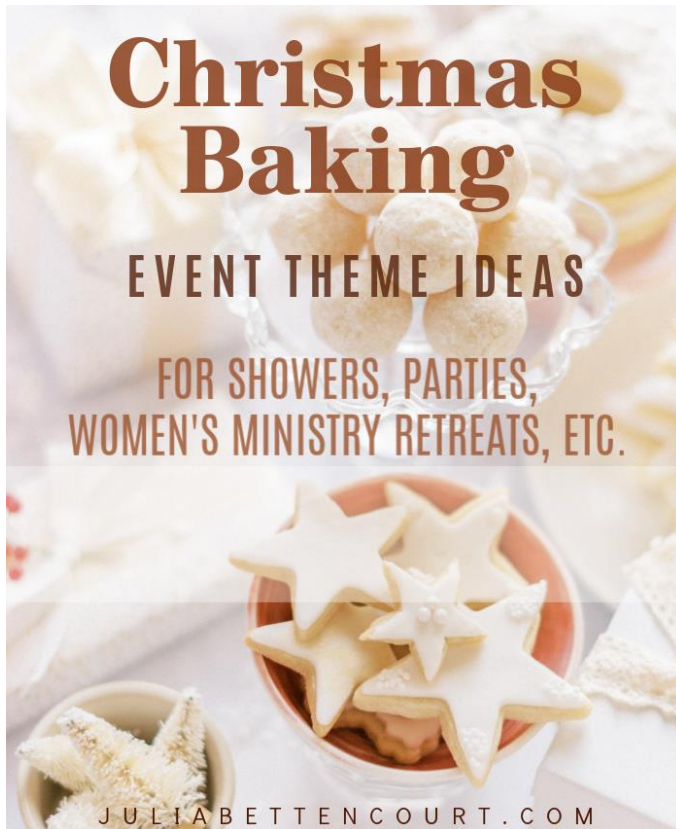


Baking

Julia Bettencourt



I have always loved to bake rather than just cook, and Christmas baking makes me so happy. I guess because all those baked goodies make my family and friends so happy.

A baking party is fun at any time of the year, but I think during the holidays it brings us all closer together as we bake, laugh, and enjoy the season!

Christmas Baking Theme Concept

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—Originally titled "Baking Up Christmas"

—Updated October 23, 2021

Note: A baking them could be used apart from Christmas at any time of year!

The event themes on the website can be used for showers, parties, women's ministry retreats and activities, or church functions. Each theme will have one or several possible spiritual applications. *I give you lots of info and ideas—You pick just a few to enhance your event. More ideas can be used for showers and parties, but less is always more for ministry events.*

Theme Titles Ideas

- Bake & Take
- Baked with Love
- Baking Spirits Bright
- Baking up Christmas
- Christmas Bake Off
- Christmas Baking Party
- Christmas Cookie Exchange
- Cookie Decorating Party
- Fresh from the Oven
- Gingerbread House Decorating Party
- Holiday Baking Party
- How Sweet it is!
- Love from the Oven
- Mix, Bake, and Take
- Mixing up Fun
- Recipe For Christmas
- Seasons Eatings
- Stop & Smell the Cookies
- Sweet Aromas
- Sweet Somethings
- The Christmas Bakery
- The Christmas Kitchen
- Time to Bake the Cookies
- Wake & Bake (early morning donut baking)
- Whipping up Christmas

Spiritual & General Applications

- Focus on baking up Christmas every day by how we choose to worship Christ all year round
- Focus on celebrating the Christmas season by baking with family and friends.

Theme Verse Suggestions

...for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him. Matthew 2:2 (KJV)

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. Luke 2:14 (KJV)

Devotional Starters & Workshop Ideas

- Do a study on baking up a new way of living. (2 Corinthians 5:17 “new creature”)
- Download the Baking Devotional Starters
<https://www.juliabettencourt.com/womens-ministry/devotional-helps/devotional-starters-baking.pdf>

Simple Decorating

As I've said before—Christmas is one of those times we can go beyond simple, because we are celebrating the birth of Christ!

- Christmas décor
- Add kitchen baking items to wreaths and trees (whisks, measuring cups, measuring spoons, spatulas, cookie cutters, etc.)
- Christmas dishtowels and aprons
- Baking items such as mixing bowls, rolling pins, etc.
- Gingerbread houses
- Simple Décor: Tray filled with mixing bowl of poinsettias, Christmas candle, rolling pin, measuring cup, whisk, and a few Christmas ornaments and bulbs scattered.

Icebreakers

Cake Walk

Do a cake walk using Christmas music. Ask ahead for a few of your guests to bring in Christmas cakes to give as prizes.

Napkin Folding Contest

Have two teams and give each team a dozen napkins to fold. Tell them they will be judged on creativity, neatness, and whether they finish folding all the napkins in the time allotted. Set a timer.

Baking Up Memories

Have a tray with several baking items on it. Don't do over ten or twelve as it gets confusing.

1. Bag of flour
2. Whisk
3. Measuring cup
4. Egg timer or candy thermometer
5. Measuring spoons
6. Wooden spoon
7. Cookbook or recipe box
8. Egg
9. Cinnamon (or any spice bottle)
10. Mixing bowl

(The list is to help you, but any baking item will do) Bring out the tray for a few minutes. Then remove it and see how many items your guests can recall. Give cookie cutters (or any small kitchen item) to those who remember the most items on the tray.

Use this memory game as a jumping off point to ask about favorite memories in the kitchen, favorite family recipes, etc.

Christmas Charades Ideas

<https://www.juliabettencourt.com/womens-ministry/icebreakers/GAME-Christmas-Charades.pdf>

Christmas Discussion

Start some Christmas table talk.

<https://www.juliabettencourt.com/womens-ministry/icebreakers/ICEBREAKER-Christmas-Chatter-Questions.pdf>

Music

- Christmas songs
- Play Christmas music in the background if you are doing any actual baking projects at your event.

Favor Ideas

- Baking mat
- Christmas baking candy sprinkles
- Christmas spatula
- Cookie cutters
- Egg timers
- Measuring cups
- Measuring spoons
- Mini rolling pins
- Packaged specialty cookie
- Packaged specialty cupcake
- Recipe box
- Recipe cards
- Whisks
- Wooden spoon

Door Prize Ideas

- Baking mat
- Christmas apron
- Christmas dish towels
- Christmas ornament
- Christmas oven mitts/potholders
- Christmas spatula set
- Home Baked Goodie Gift Basket
- Cookbook
- Cookie sheet
- Kitchen utensil holder
- Measuring cup/spoons set
- Mixing bowl (or set)
- Muffin tin
- Rolling pin

- Baking Basket – fill with baking utensils (spatula, whisk, wooden spoon), measuring cups/spoons, cupcake liners, bottle of vanilla, baking sprinkles, packaged baking mixes, etc.)

Just for Fun

Gingerbread House Decorating

Use prefabbed gingerbread houses or have your guests build graham cracker ones. Be sure to have lots of candies and icing to allow your guests to be creative.

Cupcake Decorating

If gingerbread houses are too much of a hassle for your event, do cupcake decorating instead. Have baked un-iced cupcakes for your guests. Provide icing, candies, and toppings.

Baking Item Exchange

Have your guests bring in baking/cooking items to exchange. You could do *just* measuring cups or another item such as cookie cutters. Or, you could have them bring in *any* baking or cooking gadget or utensil to exchange.

Recipe Exchange

Hand out blank recipe cards ahead of time (or add them into your invitation envelope) with directions for your guests to fill them out with a favorite family baking recipe and bring them to the event. Make sure to leave a space on the card for the name of the person who submits the recipe. Put the filled-out cards in a mixing bowl and allow your guests to each draw one.

Cookie Exchange

Have your guests bring in cookies to exchange. If you want them homemade, then add on the invite that your guests may buy them at a bakery if they can't or don't have time to bake. If you don't want one or some of your guests going home with store bought cookies, then make sure you have someone responsible for baking extra batches to bring. Suggesting a bakery helps to avoid store-bought cookies, but frankly I've done these enough times to know that someone will inevitably bring in store bought cookies or will forget them at home.

Group Craft

Make wreaths using cupcake liners. Do a search in your favorite search engine for "cupcake liner wreaths" and you will find lots of ideas.

Bake & Take

Bake cookies or Christmas goodies together as a group. Then divide up the goodies for your guests to take home. Provide a few goodies to snack on while baking such as Christmas candy and salty snacks. Play Christmas music. It's a great way to relax, bake, and fellowship together without all the stress of an overwhelming Christmas party or event.

Bake & Deliver

Bake together as a group and package of the goodies to deliver at a shelter or mission. Check ahead to make arrangements with your selected outreach for possibilities.

Invitation Wording

- Tie on your Christmas apron and join us for...
- ROLL on in as we WHIP up some baking fun...
- WAKE UP and BAKE UP as we make a morning of making donuts/cookies together.

- Mix up some fun with us as we...

Food & Serving

- Christmas treats and goodies
- Provide salty foods just to allow your guests a break from the sweets

Photo Source

- Want the photo used for the page title of this theme? Find the original and relating ones at Unsplash here.

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