

# The Christmas Sweater

Middletown Friends Meeting Christmas pageant 2014

## Characters:

Eddie, Grandpa, Dad, Mom, Mary, Joseph, Angel(s), Shepherd (s) Narrator

Narrator: On Christmas Eve, Eddie shook his snow globe one last time. He watched the snowstorm swirl and thought about the one gift he wanted most for Christmas – a new bicycle.

Grandpa: (enters wearing a Santa hat and sits next to Eddie).

Eddie: What did you find Grandpa? Am I getting the bike I want?

Grandpa: (Stage whisper) Well I snooped around the house and I have good news and bad news. What do you want first?

Eddie: Give me the bad news first.

Grandpa: The bad news is I didn't find a bike.

Eddie: (Looks disappointed) So, what's the good news?

Grandpa: (Looking cheerful) The good news is that you're getting a Christmas sweater.

Eddie: (Shocked) A Christmas sweater? That's the good news? A boring, useless, itchy sweater? I don't want ANY sweater, but especially not a Christmas sweater!"

Grandpa: Shhhhhh. Eddie, sometimes a sweater isn't just a sweater. I still remember the year my mother knitted one for me. It brought magic for years and years. Still does. See, when a gift is made by hand, all of that person's love is captured in it. Once they give it to you, that love turns into Christmas magic..." (Eddie is falling asleep as Grandpa talks)

(Grandpa pats Eddie's head and leaves)

(Eddie wakes up and notices a package with a tag has been left for him)

Eddie: (Reads the tag out loud) To Eddie: What your heart needs most for Christmas.

(Eddie opens the package, takes out the sweater and puts it on. He spins around and finds himself on a sled with his father.)

Father: Are you having fun, Eddie?

Eddie: This is the best day ever. (Eddie gives his father a hug and then spins around.)

(As Eddie comes out of his spin he ends up sitting beside his mother putting finishing touches to a Gingerbread House).

Mother: How did we do?

Eddie: We're a great team, Mom.

(Eddie spins one more time and finds himself sitting next to his Grandpa)

Grandpa: Eddie, want to hear my favorite Christmas story?

Eddie: Sure. Do I need anything?

Grandpa: (Hugs Eddie) You've got your Christmas sweater. Looks like you have everything you'll ever need. So, just listen.

Narrator: (Reads Luke 2:1-20) (While story is being read Joseph, Mary, Angel and shepherds move into place as their part of the story is read)

(While Bible story is read, Grandpa quietly slips away taking the Christmas sweater with him. And as story finishes, Eddie stands up, rubs his eyes and yawns)

Narrator: Eddie sat up in his bed. He had dreamed the whole night away. It is Christmas morning.

Eddie: (Scampers to the Christmas tree where he sees the bike. Instead of running to it he searches around the tree carefully. Mother and Father have come to stand by the tree.)

Mother: Eddie, is something wrong?

Father: Go ahead and pinch yourself, son. This isn't a dream Go jump on your new bike.

Eddie: (shakes his head) The bike is great, but I was looking for something else.

(Mother and Father look puzzled)

Eddie: I was really hoping to get a Christmas sweater. I mean, a bike is just a bike, but a Christmas sweater can be so much more.

Mother: (Reaches under the tree and pulls out box like the one in Eddie's dream) Is this what you are searching for?

Eddie: (grins and opens the box, smiles, pulls out the sweater and puts it on over his pajamas)

Narrator: Eddie thought about his dream and about the message on the gift tag. What your heart needs most for Christmas. It gave him a magical idea.

Eddie: (Walks over to his parents and gives them a big hug) Thank you, Mom and Dad. I love you.