This year marks the 30th anniversary of “National Lampoon’s Christmas Vacation” (1989), a film touted as a modern holiday classic. Chevy Chase (“Saturday Night Live”) stars as Clark, the hapless patriarch of the Griswold family who is determined to have a quiet, picture-perfect family Christmas. Unfortunately, fate has other plans for poor Clark. Juliette Lewis (“Natural Born Killers,” 1994), Beverly D’Angelo (“Coal Miner’s Daughter,” 1980) and Johnny Galecki (“The Big Bang Theory”) also star.
For so many of us, the holidays are all about family, and one close-knit clan has been bringing Christmas cheer — and a lot of laughs — for 30 years.

The Griswolds have been worming their way into the hearts of holiday revelers for three decades, and their popularity shows no signs of waning — they’ll likely be entertaining movie lovers for years to come.

This year marks the 30th anniversary of “National Lampoon’s Christmas Vacation,” a film touted as a modern holiday classic. In 1989, Chevy Chase (“Saturday Night Live”) reprised his role as Clark “Sparky” Griswold Jr., the hapless patriarch featured in the popular “National Lampoon’s Vacation” films from legendary screenwriter John Hughes, who was enjoying the prime of his career at the time. “National Lampoon’s Christmas Vacation” is the third film of the franchise — after “National Lampoon’s Vacation” (1983) and “National Lampoon’s European Vacation” (1985) — and most fans claim it’s the best installment of the series.

“Christmas Vacation” struck a chord with audiences right away, as Hughes’s films often did. He was also the brainchild behind such beloved movies as “Ferris Bueller’s Day Off” (1986), “Pretty in Pink” (1986), “Home Alone” (1990) and many, many more. In a December, 2014, Rolling Stone article commemorating the 25th anniversary of “National Lampoon’s Christmas Vacation,” Chase had kind (and characteristically cheeky) words to say about the legendary screenwriter:

“Maybe he was a genius, and God bless him if he was. There are so few of us,” he quipped.

The first two “Vacation” films followed the Griswolds on ill-fated, epic family vacations. In “Christmas Vacation,” Clark is determined to have a picture-perfect family Christmas at home. But, as usual, just about everything goes wrong. After spending hours stringing lights all over his house, he can’t get them to work. His in-laws crowd his home, the turkey is drier than the Sahara and a cat is electrocuted in a Christmas tree light mishap — these are just a few of the things that threaten Clark’s twinkling, sugar-plum vision of a consummate Griswold holiday. What’s worse, Clark discovers that his boss has decided to nix their traditional Christmas bonuses. Through it all, his loving family stands by him, for better or for worse. (It’s usually worse.)

The “Christmas Vacation” cast includes familiar faces from the previous films, and adds new, extended Griswold family members. Beverly D’Angelo (“Coal Miner’s Daughter,” 1980) returns as Clark’s long-suffering wife, Ellen. Despite all of her “Sparky’s” faults, she’s unwavering in her love and support for him. And, like in the other “Vacation” movies, the Griswold kids were re-cast for the holiday film. In her first major role, a young Juliette Lewis (“Natural Born Killers,” 1994) portrays eye-rolling teenage daughter Audrey, while future “The Big Bang Theory” star Johnny Galecki plays Clark an Ellen’s son, Rusty.

John Randolph (“You’ve Got Mail,” 1998) and Diane Ladd (“Alice”) star as Clark’s parents, Clark Sr. and Nora Griswold. Ellen’s parents Art and Frances are portrayed by E.G. Marshall (“The Defenders”) and Doris Roberts (“Everybody Loves Raymond”). Perhaps the most memorable of all of Clark’s extended family members is Cousin Eddie, played to idiotic perfection by Randy Quaid (“The Last Detail,” 1973).
Quaid’s performance as the down-on-his-luck, uncouth Eddie was so popular that he was cast in the TV spin-off film “National Lampoon’s Christmas Vacation 2: Cousin Eddie’s Island Adventure.” In the original, though, he arrives with his wife, Catherine (Miriam Flynn, “Grounded for Life”), kids Ruby Sue (Ellen Latzen, “The Equalizer”) and Rocky (Cody Burger, “Heavyweights,” 1995), and their Rottweiler, Snots. “Seinfeld” and “VEEP” fans will recognize Julia Louis-Dreyfus as Clark’s neighbor Margo, who despises the Griswolds, and her husband, Todd, is played by Nicholas Guest (“USA High”). Brian Doyle-Murray (“The Middle”) also makes an appearance as Clark’s much maligned boss, Frank Shirley.

Arguably the most family friendly of the “Vacation” films, “National Lampoon’s Christmas Vacation” has stood the test of time since its debut in 1989. It was based on Hughes’s short story “Christmas ’59,” which was published in the December 1980 issue of National Lampoon Magazine. On December 1, 1989, the film opened in the No. 2 spot at the box office behind “Back to the Future: Part II,” and went on to bring in more than $70 million during its run in U.S. theaters.

Though some critics initially found the movie crass, fans always get the last word. The film has gained a huge following over the years, and frequently appears on Holiday Best lists, including IndieWire.com’s list of The Best 20 Holiday Films, Town and Country’s Top 25 Christmas Classics and IMDB’s list of Top 20 Christmas Comedy films.

What is it that makes this film, which many critics panned upon its release, so enduring? There have been hundreds (if not thousands) of Christmas movies released since then, and very few have achieved the kind of following that this film continues to build. It may be that the Griswolds’ antics offer viewers an alternative to the starry-eyed, completely unattainable “perfect” Christmases seen in other holiday films: “National Lampoon’s Christmas Vacation” continues to resonate with modern audiences because most of us don’t have perfect Christmases.

The turkey may be dry (hopefully quite as dry as Clark’s), family members may annoy us (hello Cousin Eddie) and we may not always find what we want under the tree (no squirrels, please). But, just like Clark and his loved ones, we muddle through the holidays, holding tight to one another when things get tough, and appreciating those precious moments of togetherness along the way.

So, as the Yuletide season revs up, take some time to enjoy a modern holiday classic that will hopefully make you feel better about your own holiday foibles. Celebrate 30 years of dysfunctional Christmas antics with Clark and the gang in “National Lampoon’s Christmas Vacation.” It airs Sunday, Dec. 1, on AMC, and repeats very regularly throughout the rest of December. Check your local listings for additional screenings of the classic comedy.

Johnny Galecki, Beverly D’Angelo, Chevy Chase and Juliette Lewis in “National Lampoon’s Christmas Vacation”
Our favorite dysfunctional families by Shona Dustan

One of the most common themes of Christmas movies is family — Christmas is a time of love and togetherness, after all. The families we find in Christmas films tend to fall into two categories: Either they’re wholesome and loving and kind, or they’re dysfunctional and full of foibles that upend every family get together. We’ve compiled a list of our favorite dysfunctional families from our favorite Christmas films.

The Kranke

“Christmas With the Kranks” (2004)

The dysfunction in this film extends to the whole neighborhood. When Luther (Tim Allen, “Home Improvement”) and Nora Krank’s (Jamie Lee Curtis, “Scream Queens”) daughter, Blair (Julie Gonzalo, “Veronica Mars”), announces that she’s going away for Christmas, her parents are devastated. Without their daughter, why go to all the effort to plan for Christmas? Why not skip Christmas all together and go lay on a beach somewhere? When the neighbors, who rely on the Kranke for much of their holiday cheer, find out that their Christmas traditions are canceled, things start to unravel, and the poor Kranke go off the deep end. It’s a funny, over-the-top, but somehow relatable look at just how stressful Christmas can be.

The Stones


This is one of those underrated movies that some people love, but many have never seen. Diane Keaton (“The Young Pope”) and Craig T. Nelson (“Parenthood”) star as Sybil and Kelly Stone, whose five grown children return home for Christmas. The eldest, Everett (Dermot Mulroney, “Four Weddings and a Funeral”), brings his girlfriend, Meredith (Sarah Jessica Parker, “Divorce”), who the family has never met — an awkward situation at any time, but the added pressure of Christmas and the revelation of a heartbreaking secret push poor Meredith to the brink. This film is full of touching, funny and relatable moments, and each character is flawed and messy in ways that will make you want to watch it again and again.

The McCallisters

“Home Alone” (1990)

The McCallisters are the epitome of the dysfunctional holiday movie family. Do they love each other? Yes. Are they doing their best? Yes. Are they a complete mess? Also yes. When the family accidentally leaves 8-year-old Kevin (Macaulay Culkin, “Robot Chicken”) at home and fly to Paris without him, he’s left to fend for himself, and must stave off boredom, starvation, a scary man with a shovel, his basement and a couple of inept burglars. While Kevin’s antics are delightfully delinquent, his family’s reaction to leaving him behind really hits you in the feels. It’s clear that they all find Kevin obnoxious, annoying, grating and frustrating, but when they realize he’s in trouble, the family comes together to make things right. Catherine O’Hara (“Schitt’s Creek”) is a real treasure as Kevin’s perpetually exasperated mother, who roadtrips across the country with a polka band just to get back to him.
HOLIDAY TV GUIDE

Our favorite wholesome holiday families by Shona Dustan

These wholesome families may face their share of challenges, but they stick together and love each other through their times of need.

The Smiths

“Meet Me in St. Louis” (1944)

It should come as no surprise that many of these pure, happy families can be found in old classics like this one. While the film spans an entire year in the lives of the Smith family, the story’s climax happens at Christmas time, and it’s the film that gave us the song “Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas,” so how could we consider it anything but a holiday classic? When the Smith family patriarch announces that the family will be moving from St. Louis to New York City in the new year, all four Smith sisters (and their mom) are utterly devastated. While they make their displeasure known, the entire film is centered around togetherness, and the idea that a family can be happy wherever they are, as long as they have each other. It’s a touching, happy film that will fill you with Christmas spirit, and it stars the great Judy Garland (“A Star Is Born,” 1954), as well as Margaret O’Brien (“The Secret Garden,” 1949), Mary Astor (“The Maltese Falcon,” 1941) and more.

The Cratchits

“The Muppet Christmas Carol” (1992)

Ok, so I could have chosen any adaptation of Charles Dickens’s “A Christmas Carol,” but what can I say? I love the Muppets. Bob Cratchit (played in this adaptation by the fantastic Kermit the Frog) and his family are the epitome of good. A hard worker and loving father, Bob does his best to make ends meet, despite his nasty boss’s miserly and abusive ways. So unpleasant is this boss, Ebeneezer Scrooge (Michael Caine, “The Dark Knight,” 2008), that his name has become synonymous with words like cheapskate and misanthropist (meanie, tightwad, I could go on). While Scrooge is being whisked away by ghosts and learning just how wrong he’s been, Bob Cratchit returns to his meager home to tell his hungry family that there will be no Christmas bonus, or even a day off — and how do they respond? The family bands together, comforts one another and enjoys their sad Christmas meal despite the poor conditions in which they find themselves.

The Baileys

“It’s a Wonderful Life” (1946)

What is a Christmas list without a mention of this abiding favorite? George Bailey (Jimmy Stewart, “Vertigo,” 1958) has been sacrificing his own wellbeing for others his whole life. He loses hearing in one ear saving his brother from a frozen pond. He gives up world travel and a college education to save his father’s business and send his brother to college. He gives up his honeymoon and his savings to keep the business solvent and save the people of Bedford Falls. When George finally (maybe inevitably) cracks, his loving family is his lifeline, and is there to help him pick up the pieces. Donna Reed (“From Here to Eternity,” 1953) is wonderful as Mary, George’s wife, who has been in love with him since they were teenagers, and Todd Karns (“The Courtship of Andy Hardy,” 1942) plays George’s brother, Harry.
Merry mayhem

Three-night event invites you to spend time with ‘The Moodys’

By Michelle Rose
TV Media

‘Tis the season for family and holiday traditions, but Fox’s newest entry to this season’s festive programming reminds us that while you can’t choose your family, you can choose to embrace the chaos and find humor in it all.

Billed as a “holiday event” comedy series, “The Moodys” is a laugh-filled look at a less-than-perfect (but entirely relatable) family and their attempts to celebrate the holidays. The story unfolds over three nights on Fox, premiering Wednesday, Dec. 4.

Character quirks, personality conflicts and unexpected situations are great fodder for comedy any time of year. In an exclusive interview with TV Media, series star Jay Baruchel (“Man Seeking Woman”) discussed this Christmas series:

“It’s maybe a bit more truthful than what we’re accustomed to seeing,” explains Baruchel, who plays eldest son, Sean Jr. “We don’t shy away from all the dysfunction. In fact, we lean into it and shine a big, glaring light on it.”

“It’s a funny show, first and foremost,” he says. “But we also know that none of the jokes mean half as much if the audience isn’t feeling something around them. I think ‘the funny’ makes ‘the real’ stronger, and ‘the real’ makes ‘the funny’ stronger, too.”

Actor/comedian Denis Leary of “Rescue Me” fame costars as comically cantankerous patriarch Sean Sr., while Elizabeth Perkins (“Weeds”) stars as mom Ann. “Denis and Elizabeth are legends,” says Baruchel, who plays their adult child still living at home. Chelsea Frei (“Sideswiped”) is overachieving middle child Bridget, while Francois Arnaud (“The Borgias”) is youngest sibling Dan, aka the creative one.

Baruchel concedes it’s not always easy to mine dysfunction and refine it into holiday cheer, but “The Moodys” does it in a way that’s both funny and heartfelt. “It starts with a family that loves each other. Once those connections are established, it’s ok to put difficulty on top of them. Given that it’s about a family at Christmas, ultimately, it’s going to be a happy thing.”

“Our show lives on the shoulders of classic Christmas movies and specials past. We have classic set pieces and a bunch of funny, quotable lines, but there’s also a weight to it ... It’s going to be familiar in all the right ways, but also new and fresh.”

“The Moodys” is an American adaptation of “A Moody Christmas,” an Australian comedy series that premiered in 2012. When asked how the two versions differ, Baruchel had a good reason for not rhyming off examples: he was asked not to watch the original series before filming.

“They really wanted us to find our own way and keep it organic. It’s a tricky thing to pay homage to something without letting it dictate every creative decision you make. So we’ve taken them as a jumping-off point to build our own thing.”

From “Almost Famous” (2000) to the “How to Train Your Dragon” franchise (he voiced lead character Hiccup), many of Baruchel’s most prominent roles have been endearingly awkward underdogs. In real life, the actor is down-to-earth, eloquent and every bit as funny as you’d expect from someone associated with comedies like “Knocked Up” (2007). He’s also coming off a busy year, having written, produced, directed and starred in the horror film “Random Acts of Violence” (2019).

So what drew him to “The Moodys”? “It made me laugh,” says Baruchel. “I thought it would be something I’d find funny as a viewer, something I’d watch. I liked the combination of laziness, world-weariness and loyalty. I just dug his whole vibe and I thought he would be a fun guy to play. And then you finish with the fact that it’s shooting in the city I grew up in, it was kind of a no-brainer.”

While Baruchel was born in Ottawa, Canada, and currently lives in Toronto, he has never hidden his love for his hometown of Montreal, which stands in for Chicago in the fictional world of “The Moodys.”

“It’s been super nice to be home. I had to start my first day on any set anywhere in the world was here [in Montreal]. Now, at 37, and just after I get married? to be back here and doing it again, it’s a special thing that’s not lost on me. I’m really proud of the work I’ve done.”

Tune in to Fox on Wednesday, Dec. 4, for the premiere of “The Moodys.”
Holiday Pictogram Sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every column, every row, and every 3x3 box contains the following seasonal symbols:

Solution

PRESCRIPTIONS - HOME MEDICAL EQUIPMENT - HOME DELIVERY

100 Ft. Jefferson Ave., Greenville, OH 45331

www.ThePrescriptionStore.com

937-547-1642
**HOLIDAY TV GUIDE**

**Thursday, November 28**

1:45 p.m. **OWN** Movie "A Country Christmas" (2013) Kevin Pollak. After losing his magic and getting stranded, two children help Santa save Christmas.

2 p.m. **TBN** Movie "The Flight Before Christmas" (2015) Mayim Bialik. A heartbroken woman’s flight home the night before Christmas is diverted.

3 p.m. **CMT** Movie "The Christmas Shepherd" (2014) Teri Polo. Buddy, a German shepherd born on Christmas Day, means the world to a widowed author.

4 p.m. **CMT** Movie "Miracle on 34th Street" (1944) Lord Richard Attenborough. A young girl’s mother hires a department store Santa who proves he’s genuine.

5 p.m. **OWN** Movie "Carole’s Christmas" (2013) Sarah Lancaster. A marketing executive discovers a new fondness for the holidays selling Christmas trees.

6 p.m. **FREE** Movie "Home Alone" (1990) Macaulay Culkin. A young boy must fend off burglars after his family accidentally leaves him home alone.

7 p.m. **TBN** Movie "A Very Vintage Christmas" (2019) Tia Mowry-Hardrict. An antique store owner must reunite a mysterious box with its owner for the holidays.

6:45 p.m. **CMT** Movie "A Country Christmas" (2013) Kevin Pollak. After losing his magic and getting stranded, two children help Santa save Christmas.

8 p.m. **LIFE** The Wonderful World of Disney: Magical Holiday Celebration. Kick off the holiday season in a way only Disney can with musical performances.

**Friday, Nov. 29, on OWN**

**Friday, November 29**

12:30 p.m. **HMM** Movie "A Miracle on Christmas Lake" (2016) Will Sasso. A teen discovers a magical hockey rink and must protect it from greedy land developers.

11:45 p.m. **OWN** Movie "A Country Christmas" (2013) Kevin Pollak. After losing his magic and getting stranded, two children help Santa save Christmas.

**Saturday, November 30**

1 p.m. **LIFE** Movie "Tis the Season for Love" (2015) Garry Chalk. An actress returns home, where a Christmas romance could be better than Broadway.

2 p.m. **OWN** Movie "A Sweet Christmas Romance" (2019) Adelaïde Kane. A food stylist enters a competition to own ownership of her favorite childhood bakery.

2:30 p.m. **FREE** The Little Drummer Boy: Book II. The drummer boy struggles to protect great silver bells from seizure by Roman soldiers.

---

**American Cremation Service**

A division of **Baker Hazel & Snider**

Funeral Home

5555 Philadelphia Dr, Dayton, OH 45415

(937) 274-1072

Staff Therapy Dog **Charlie**

Direct Cremation with urn included $1,295.00
Holiday TV | What’s on TV

Sunday, December 1

11 a.m. | AMC Movie "A Christmas in Vermont" (2016) Abigail Hawk. A woman is sent by her profit-obsessed boss to shut down one of the company's holdings.

11:30 a.m. | HBO Max When Santa Paws takes the year off, Felicity is chosen to replace him to deliver gifts.

Noon | E! Movie "Hip Hop Holiday" (2019) Wendy Raquel Robinson. A hip hop diva is forced to re-examine the real reason for her dislike for the holiday.

12:15 p.m. | AMC Movie "The Year Without a Santa Claus" (1974) Voices of Shirley Booth, Mrs. Claus tells the story of the year that Santa Claus decided to take a holiday.

1 p.m. | AMC Movie "A Veteran's Christmas" (2018) Eloise Mumford. When a veteran returns home, she meets and falls in love with a judge.

1:30 p.m. | AMC The Little Drummer Boy: Book II The drummer boy struggles to protect great silver bells from seizure by Roman soldiers.

Christmas in Vienna The Vienna Symphonic Orchestra performs Christmas music from around the world.

This new Christmas movie from Lifetime may be one of many, but it has a lot going for it. Kim Fields, who played Tootie Ramsay for all nine seasons of "The Facts of Life," stars in and produces "You Light Up My Christmas." She plays Emma, who returns to her home town before Christmas to find her once-vibrant home has lost its sparkle, and takes it upon herself to bring some joy and hope back to the place she loves, running into an old flame (Adrian Holmes) along the way. "Facts of Life" fans will want to tune in to this one, because Fields’ former co-stars are in it, too.

Holiday TV Guide

Friday, November 22, 2019 9
**Holiday TV** | What’s on TV

**Monday, December 2**

1 p.m. ***Hall*** Movie “Operation Christmas” (2016) Tricia Helfer. A single mother does not let her boyfriend being deployed ruin her Christmas.

2 p.m. ***Hall*** Movie “The Great Christmas Light Fight” The Field family’s epic Magic Kingdom-inspired light show is featured.

2:30 p.m. ***Hall*** Movie “The Great Christmas Light Fight” The Field family’s epic Magic Kingdom-inspired light show is featured.

3 p.m. ***Hall*** Movie “Return to Christmas Creek” (2018) Tori Anderson. A woman must help her quarreling dad and uncle experience the true meaning of Christmas.

3:30 p.m. ***Hall*** Movie “The Great Christmas Light Fight” The Simpson family’s home pays tribute to veterans with a light show.

4 p.m. ***Hall*** Movie “The Great Christmas Light Fight” The Pahl family creates replicas of the Space Needle and Mt. Rainier.


5 p.m. ***CMT*** Movie “Jack Frost” (2016) Jim Carrey. A Grinch plans on stealing Christmas from the residents of Whoville, who love Christmas.


7:30 p.m. ***FREE*** Movie “Almost Christmas” (2016) Kimberly Elise. After the death of his wife, a man asks his family for one gift: for them to get along.

8 p.m. ***NBC*** Movie “Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer” A young reindeer and an elf search for a home where they will be accepted as they are.

9 p.m. ***FREE*** Movie “Journey Back to Christmas” (2016) Candace Cameron Bure. A WWII-era nurse is transported in time to 2016, and learns the true meaning of Christmas.

**Tuesday, Dec. 3, on ABC**

Countrymusic darling Trisha Yearwood steps into Reba McEntire’s shoes to host the musical special “CMA Country Christmas.” Get cozy and dive into this Christmas treat, because Yearwood herself plans to take the stage, and she’ll be joined by a host of fabulous performers. The roster includes country acts Chris Young, Brett Young, Rascal Flatts, Lady Antebellum, Chris Janson and more. Plus, pop team King & Country make an appearance, as do actor/singer Kristin Chenoweth, R&B artist Tori Kelly and gospel singer CeCe Winans. It’s a night of pure melodic magic, and it’ll get you into the Christmas spirit in no time.

6 p.m. ***Hall*** Movie “Jingle Around the Clock” (2018) Andrea Brooks. A woman’s Christmas plans are changed after an opportunity comes up at work.


7:30 p.m. ***FREE*** Movie “Almost Christmas” (2016) Kimberly Elise. After the death of his wife, a man asks his family for one gift: for them to get along.

8 p.m. ***FREE*** Movie “Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer” A young reindeer and an elf search for a home where they will be accepted as they are.

9 p.m. ***FREE*** Movie “Journey Back to Christmas” (2016) Candace Cameron Bure. A WWII-era nurse is transported in time to 2016, and learns the true meaning of Christmas.

9:45 p.m. ***FREE*** Movie “Almost Christmas” (2016) Kimberly Elise. After the death of his wife, a man asks his family for one gift: for them to get along.

10:05 p.m. ***Hall*** Movie “Christmas Next Door” (2017) Jesse Metcalfe. The author, is left in charge of his young niece and nephew for the holidays.

**Tuesday, December 3**

1 p.m. ***Hall*** Movie “A Gingerbread Romance” (2018) Tia Mowry-Hardrict. An architect and her team enter a contest to build a life-size gingerbread house.

3 p.m. ***Hall*** Movie “Help for the Holidays” (2012) Summer Glau. An elf sets out to teach her new employers what it means to be a family at Christmas time.

3:55 p.m. ***FREE*** Movie “Love Actually” (2003) Emma Thompson. Several different British couples sort out their love lives during the Christmas holidays.

4 p.m. ***FREE*** Movie “Christmas Made to Order” (2018) Alexa PenaVega. A Christmas amateur finds himself in charge of his family’s holiday celebration.

4:45 p.m. ***FREE*** Santa Claus Is Comin’ to Town Kris Kringle overcomes an evil ruler and delivers toys to children all over the world.

5 p.m. ***FREE*** Movie “Carole’s Christmas” (2013) Sarah Lancaster. A marketing executive discovers a new fondness for the holidays selling Christmas trees.

5:50 p.m. ***FREE*** Movie “Home Alone” (1990) Macaulay Culkin. A young boy must fend off burglars after his family accidentally leaves him home alone.

6 p.m. ***Hall*** Movie “Christmas Joy” (2018) Danielle Panabaker. A woman must return to her hometown to care for her aunt at Christmas.

8 p.m. ***Hall*** Movie “National Lampoon’s Christmas Vacation” (1989) Chevy Chase. A man plays host to numerous dysfunctional relatives during the Christmas holidays.

**Wednesday, December 4**

2 p.m. ***Hall*** Movie “Hearts of Christmas” (2016) Emilie Ullerup. Jenny turns a staff Christmas party into a surprise celebration for a colleague.

3 p.m. ***FREE*** Santa Claus Is Comin’ to Town Kris Kringle overcomes an evil ruler and delivers toys to children all over the world.

3 p.m. ***Hall*** Movie “Matchmaker Santa” (2012) Lacey Chabert. A mysterious Santa strands a baker and her boyfriend’s best friend in a small town.

4 p.m. ***FREE*** Movie “Home Alone” (1990) Macaulay Culkin. A young boy must fend off burglars after his family accidentally leaves him home alone.

5 p.m. ***Hall*** Movie “Christmas in Homestead” (2016) Taylor Cole. An actress heads to a Christmas-obsessed town to film a movie, and is thrown for a loop.
When a little boy starts to doubt that Santa really exists, he is whisked away to the North Pole on a magical train in the modern classic film “The Polar Express.” On the train, the boy meets a strange cast of characters and faces various challenges and adventures that reveal his true character, and he must find it in himself to believe in the magic of Christmas. Based on Chris Van Allsburg’s 1985 children’s book of the same name, the computer-animated film features Tom Hanks in six different roles.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Channel</th>
<th>Movie Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9 p.m.</td>
<td>HALL</td>
<td>“A Christmas Carol” (1999) Patrick Stewart. A miserly old man is visited by three ghosts in order to learn the meaning of Christmas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 p.m.</td>
<td>FREE</td>
<td>“Same Time, Next Christmas” (1999)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 p.m.</td>
<td>HALL</td>
<td>“Miracle on 34th Street” (1947)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 p.m.</td>
<td>FREE</td>
<td>“Christmas Getaway” (2017)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 p.m.</td>
<td>FREE</td>
<td>“Elf” (2003) Will Ferrell. A man raised as an elf at the North Pole travels to New York to find his true father.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 p.m.</td>
<td>FREE</td>
<td>“The Santa Clause” (1994)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 p.m.</td>
<td>FREE</td>
<td>“Same Time, Next Christmas” (1999)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 p.m.</td>
<td>FREE</td>
<td>“The Great Christmas Light Fight” (2017)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 p.m.</td>
<td>FREE</td>
<td>“Elf” (2003) Will Ferrell. A man raised as an elf at the North Pole travels to New York to find his true father.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Holiday TV | What’s on TV

**Tuesday, Dec. 10, on NBC**

Ellen DeGeneres hosts this magical three-night special that takes the spirit of giving to a whole new level. In "Ellen’s Greatest Night of Giveaways," celebrity friends like Robert Downey Jr., Michael B. Jordan, Justin Timberlake, Jennifer Aniston, Jason Momoa, Melissa McCarthy and even Michelle Obama help the talk show host deliver incredible presents to unsuspecting, but very deserving people. Tune for this premiere episode, and experience all the joy and emotion that these surprises bring.

**Tuesday, December 10**

4 p.m. **HALL** Movie “A Christmas Detour” (2015) Candace Cameron Bure. Two NYC-bound travelers find themselves linked when a storm waylays their flight.

5 p.m. **HALL** Movie “Catch a Christmas Star” (2013) Shannon Elizabeth. A pop star reunites with her first love, but the pressures of fame could tear them apart.

6 p.m. **AMC** Movie “The Polar Express” (2004) Voices of Tom Hanks. A doubting little boy boards a magical train to visit the North Pole on Christmas Eve.

7 p.m. **HALL** Movie “A Merry Christmas Match” (2019) Ashley Newbrough. A woman has a chance encounter with a ‘Christmas Catch Ryder’ and sparks fly.

8 p.m. **AMC** Movie “Elf” (2003) Will Ferrell. A man raised as an elf at the North Pole travels to New York to find his true father.

9 p.m. **HALL** Movie “Miracle on 34th Street” (1994) Lord Richard Attenborough. A young girl’s mother hires a department store Santa who proves that he’s genuine.

**Wednesday December 11**


2 p.m. **BBC** The Great Christmas Light Fight Twenty families from across America decorate their homes to the extreme for Christmas.

3 p.m. **WE** Movie “Christmas on Honeysuckle Lane” (2018) Alicia Witt. A sister is in charge of selling their recently deceased parents’ home.

4 p.m. **HALL** Movie “A Royal Christmas” (2014) Stephen Hagan. A woman is whisked away to Europe when her boyfriend reveals he’s actually a prince.

4:15 p.m. **FREE** Feasts With the Friar Father John teaches about Twenty families from across America decorate their homes to the extreme for Christmas.


6 p.m. **AMC** Movie “Elf” (2003) Will Ferrell. A man raised as an elf at the North Pole travels to New York to find his true father.

7 p.m. **HALL** Movie “Mingle All the Way” (2018) Jesse Arthur Carroll. A young entrepreneur invents a new dating app designed to help single find dates.

8 p.m. **AMC** Movie “National Lampoon’s Christmas Vacation” (1989) Chevy Chase. A man plays host to numerous dysfunctional relatives during the Christmas holidays.

**Thursday, December 12**

9 p.m. **HALL** Movie “Same Time, Next Christmas” (2019) Lea Michele. Woman who met her childhood sweetheart while on vacation is reunited with him years later.

**Monday, December 9**

2 p.m. **AMC** Movie “Miracle on Christmas Lake” (2016) Will Sasso. A teen discovers a magical hockey rink and must protect it from greedy land developers.

3 p.m. **FREE** Movie “Miss Christmas” (2017) Brooke D’Orsay. A woman in search of the perfect Christmas tree finds something else instead.


5 p.m. **FREE** Holiday Baking Championship The bakers celebrate a couple of favorites by reinventing two Hanukkah classics.

6 p.m. **HALL** Movie “A December Bride” (2016) Daniel Lissing. An aspiring interior designer designs the wedding of her cousin, who is marrying her ex.

7 p.m. **AMC** Movie “Miracle on 34th Street” (1994) Lord Richard Attenborough. A young girl’s mother hires a department store Santa who proves that he’s genuine.

9 p.m. **HALL** Movie “Once Upon a Christmas Miracle” (2018) Aimee Teegarden. A woman falls in love with her liver donor; her story’s followed over three Christmases.

9:30 p.m. **AMC** Movie “Miracle on 34th Street” (1994) Lord Richard Attenborough. A young girl’s mother hires a department store Santa who proves that he’s genuine.

10:05 p.m. **HALL** Movie “12 Gifts of Christmas” (2015) Katrina Law. A woman is hired to become a personal shopper for an uptight, corporate executive.

**Wednesday, December 11**


2 p.m. **BBC** The Great Christmas Light Fight Twenty families from across America decorate their homes to the extreme for Christmas.

3 p.m. **WE** Movie “Christmas on Honeysuckle Lane” (2018) Alicia Witt. A sister is in charge of selling their recently deceased parents’ home.

4 p.m. **HALL** Movie “A Royal Christmas” (2014) Stephen Hagan. A woman is whisked away to Europe when her boyfriend reveals he’s actually a prince.

4:15 p.m. **FREE** Feasts With the Friar Father John teaches about Twenty families from across America decorate their homes to the extreme for Christmas.


6 p.m. **AMC** Movie “Elf” (2003) Will Ferrell. A man raised as an elf at the North Pole travels to New York to find his true father.

7 p.m. **HALL** Movie “Mingle All the Way” (2018) Jesse Arthur Carroll. A young entrepreneur invents a new dating app designed to help single find dates.

8 p.m. **AMC** Movie “National Lampoon’s Christmas Vacation” (1989) Chevy Chase. A man plays host to numerous dysfunctional relatives during the Christmas holidays.

**Thursday, December 12**

9 p.m. **HALL** Movie “Same Time, Next Christmas” (2019) Lea Michele. Woman who met her childhood sweetheart while on vacation is reunited with him years later.

**Monday, December 9**

2 p.m. **AMC** Movie “Miracle on Christmas Lake” (2016) Will Sasso. A teen discovers a magical hockey rink and must protect it from greedy land developers.

3 p.m. **FREE** Movie “Miss Christmas” (2017) Brooke D’Orsay. A woman in search of the perfect Christmas tree finds something else instead.


5 p.m. **FREE** Holiday Baking Championship The bakers celebrate a couple of favorites by reinventing two Hanukkah classics.

6 p.m. **HALL** Movie “A December Bride” (2016) Daniel Lissing. An aspiring interior designer designs the wedding of her cousin, who is marrying her ex.

7 p.m. **AMC** Movie “Miracle on 34th Street” (1994) Lord Richard Attenborough. A young girl’s mother hires a department store Santa who proves that he’s genuine.

9 p.m. **HALL** Movie “Once Upon a Christmas Miracle” (2018) Aimee Teegarden. A woman falls in love with her liver donor; her story’s followed over three Christmases.

9:30 p.m. **AMC** Movie “Miracle on 34th Street” (1994) Lord Richard Attenborough. A young girl’s mother hires a department store Santa who proves that he’s genuine.

10:05 p.m. **HALL** Movie “12 Gifts of Christmas” (2015) Katrina Law. A woman is hired to become a personal shopper for an uptight, corporate executive.
Thursday, December 12

1:35 p.m. **FREE** Movie "The Perfect Holiday" (2007) Morris Chestnut. A department store Santa helps a young girl find her mother a new husband.

3 p.m. **HAL** Movie "Tis the Season for Love" (2015) Garry Chalk. An actress returns home, where a Christmas romance could be better than Broadway.

5 p.m. **HAL** Movie "Nostalgic Christmas" (2019) Brooke D’Orsay. A woman helps close her family’s toy store, and brings a dose of Christmas cheer to town.

6 p.m. **HAL** Movie "National Lampoon’s Christmas Vacation" (1989) Chevy Chase. A man plays host to numerous dysfunctional relatives during the Christmas holidays.

6:50 p.m. **FREE** Movie "The Santa Clause" (1994) Tim Allen. When a father mistakenly kills Santa Claus, he is magically recruited to take his place.

8 p.m. **ABC** Movie "Northern Lights of Christmas" (2018) Ashley Williams. A woman’s goals are thrown off course when she inherits a reindeer farm.

9:05 p.m. **FREE** Movie "Christmas Bells are Ringing" (2018) Emilie Ullerup. A woman returns to Cape Cod for the first time after her mother’s death and falls in love.

10 p.m. **FREE** Movie "Olaf’s Frozen Adventure" (2017) Rachel Bosworth. This half-hour special is great to watch with the whole family.

11 p.m. **FREE** Movie "A Prince for Christmas" (2015) Viva Bianca. A charming European prince steals away incognito to the U.S. in search of a true love.

Friday, December 13

1 p.m. **HAL** Movie "Christmas Bells are Ringing" (2018) Emilie Ullerup. A woman returns to Cape Cod for the first time after her mother’s death and falls in love.

2 p.m. **HAL** Movie "Christmas Under Wraps" (2014) Candace Cameron Bure. A woman loses her job and beau on the same day, and reluctantly accepts a job in Alaska.

5 p.m. **FREE** Movie "Matchmaker Christmas" (2019) Emily Rose. A woman feigns a romance in order to fend off the advances of a billionaire playboy.

5:15 p.m. **DISN** Movie "Love Actually" (2003) Emma Thompson. Several different British couples sort out their love lives during the Christmas holidays.

6 p.m. **FREE** Movie "Pride, Prejudice and Mistletoe" (2018) Lacey Chabert. A career-driven woman’s life is turned upside down when she meets the perfect guy.

6:45 p.m. **FREE** Movie "Home Alone" (1990) Macaulay Culkin. A young boy must fend off burglars after his family accidentally leaves him home alone.

7 p.m. **HAL** Movie "Matchmaker Santa" (2012) Lacey Chabert. A mysterious Santa strands a baker and her boyfriend’s best friend in a small town.

7 p.m. **FREE** Movie "The Polar Express" (2004) Voices of Tom Hanks. A doubting little boy boards a magical train to visit the North Pole on Christmas Eve.

7:30 p.m. **FREE** Movie "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" The story of the Grinch, who decides to steal Christmas from the citizens of Whoville.

8 p.m. **FREE** Movie "The 88th Annual Hollywood Christmas Parade" The "Largest Christmas Parade in America" with live music, and celebrity-filled cars.

8:30 p.m. **TNT** Movie "The Great Christmas Light Fight" Three neighborhoods from across America decorate their community to the extreme.

8:45 p.m. **FREE** Movie "The Perfect Holiday" (2007) Morris Chestnut. A department store Santa helps a young girl find her mother a new husband.

9 p.m. **FREE** Movie "Small Town Christmas" (2018) Ashley Newbrough. An author reconnects with the man who inspired her novel and stood her up on a date.

9:05 p.m. **FREE** Movie "How Murray Saved Christmas" A cranky deli owner is forced to fill in for Santa, and does a wonderful job.

10:05 p.m. **HAL** Movie "The Year Without a Santa Claus" (1974) Voices of Shirley Booth, Mrs. Claus tells the story of the year that Santa Claus decided to take a holiday.

Saturday, December 14

1 p.m. **FREE** Movie "A Merry Christmas Match" (2019) Ashley Newbrough. A woman has a chance encounter with a ‘Christmas Catch Ryder’ and sparks fly.

6 p.m. **FREE** Movie "The Great Christmas Light Fight" Three neighborhoods from across America decorating their community to the extreme.

7:30 p.m. **FREE** Movie "A Christmas Kiss III" (2014) Elisabeth Harnois. A woman reignites a romance in order to fend off the advances of a billionaire playboy.

8:30 p.m. **FREE** Movie "Frosty’s Winter Wonderland" The children build Frosty a companion out of snow after noticing how sad he has become.

2 p.m. **FREE** Movie "The Santa Clause" (1994) Tim Allen. When a father mistakenly kills Santa Claus, he is magically recruited to take his place.

3 p.m. **FREE** Movie "A Christmas Kiss III" (2014) Elisabeth Harnois. A woman reignites a romance in order to fend off the advances of a billionaire playboy.

3:45 p.m. **FREE** Movie "The Year Without a Santa Claus" (1974) Voices of Shirley Booth. Mrs. Claus tells the story of the year that Santa Claus decided to take a holiday.

4 p.m. **FREE** Movie "A Prince for Christmas" (2015) Viva Bianca. A charming European prince steals away incognito to the U.S. in search of true love.

5 p.m. **FREE** Movie "The Polar Express" (2004) Voices of Tom Hanks. A doubting little boy boards a magical train to visit the North Pole on Christmas Eve.

6 p.m. **FREE** Movie "For the Love of Christmas" (2016) Tiffany L. Addison. A homeless family shows up on a couple’s doorstep, giving them a change of heart.

7 p.m. **FREE** Movie "Elf" (2003) Will Ferrell. A man raised as an elf at the North Pole travels to New York to find his true father.

8 p.m. **FREE** Movie "Elves: The Gift" (2000) Bill Ferrell. A man raised as an elf at the North Pole travels to New York to find his true father.
**Holiday TV Guide**

**Monday, December 16**

1 p.m. **HALL** Movie “Christmas Encore” (2017) Maggie Lawson. An actress is cast in an off Broadway show before giving up her dream and moving home.
2:05 p.m. **FREE** Movie “The Nightmare Before Christmas” (1993) Voices of Chris Sarandon. The scariest man in Halloween Town kidnaps Santa Claus and tries to take over Christmas.
2 p.m. **FOOD** Cookie Challenge Five bold and creative bakers compete to prove their holiday cookie-making mettle.
3 p.m. **FREE** Movie “Finding Santa” (2017) Jodie Sweetin. When a parable Santa falls off his sleigh, a woman goes on a quest to find his replacement.
3 p.m. **FREE** Movie “The Best Man Holiday” (2013) Monica Calhoun. Old rivalries and old flames are reignited when a group of friends reunite.
4 p.m. **HALL** Movie “Christmas Cookies” (2016) Jill Wagner. When a small-town factory is sold, an executive must seal the deal, but things get tricky.
5:40 p.m. **FREE** Movie “The Santa Clause” (1994) Tim Allen. When a father mistakenly kills Santa Claus, he is magically recruited to take his place.
5 p.m. **FREE** Movie “Family for Christmas” (2015) Lacey Chabert. A highly ambitious anchorwoman makes an offhand wish to an office party Santa.
5:30 p.m. **FREE** Movie “Almost Christmas” (2016) Kimberly Elise. After the death of his wife, a man asks his family for one gift: for them to get along.
6 p.m. **DISN** Disney Channel Holiday Party at Walt Disney World Celebrities help celebrate the holidays and offer sneak peaks from Disney.
8 p.m. **FREE** Movie “Elf” (2003) Will Ferrell. A man raised as an elf at the North Pole travels to New York to find his true father.
10 p.m. **HALL** “Holidays with the Houghs” Derek and Julianne Hough co-star in a festive hour-long special with special appearances.
10:05 p.m. **FREE** Movie “Love the Coopers” (2015) Diane Keaton. Four generations of Coopers gather for their annual Christmas Eve celebration.
10:15 p.m. **FREE** Movie “Little Women” (1949) June Allyson. Follow the trials and tribulations of four sisters growing up during the Civil War.

**Tuesday, December 17**

1 p.m. **FREE** Movie “The Best Man Holiday” (2013) Monica Calhoun. Old rivalries and old flames are reignited when a group of friends reunite.
2 p.m. **HALL** Movie “A Bride for Christmas” (2012) Andrew W. Walker. A woman falls in love, unaware she’s been handpicked to help the man win a bet.
3:30 p.m. **FREE** Movie “Love the Coopers” (2015) Diane Keaton. Four generations of Coopers gather for their annual Christmas Eve celebration.
5 p.m. **FREE** Movie “Christmas on Honeysuckle Lane” (2018) Alicia Witt. A sister is in charge of selling their recently deceased parents’ home.
6 p.m. **FREE** The EWTN Family Christmas Special A special Christmas Concert at the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament.
5:50 p.m. **FREE** Movie “Home Alone” (1990) Macaulay Culkin. A young boy must fend off burglars after his family accidentally leaves him home alone.

---

**Sunday, December 15**

1 p.m. **HALL** Movie “Carole’s Christmas” (2013) Sarah Lancaster. A marketing executive discovers a new fondness for the holidays selling Christmas trees.
1:00 p.m. **FREE** Movie “Christmas Belle” (2013) C. Thomas Howell. A man and woman fall for each other when he hires her to help him sell his home.
1:45 p.m. **FREE** Movie “It Happened on Fifth Avenue” (1947) Don DeFore, While a family is away for Christmas, a hobo and his friends live in their mansion.
3 p.m. **FREE** Movie “Romance at Reindeer Lodge” (2017) Nicky Whelan. A group of adults from around the world swear off partaking in holiday events.
5 p.m. **FREE** Movie “A Cinderella Christmas” (2016) Emma Rigby. A fledgling event planner falls for a wealthy playboy at a masquerade ball.
5 p.m. **FREE** Movie “Last Vermont Christmas” (2018) Justin Bruen. A struggling small town diner chef crosses paths with a woman who falls in love, unaware she’s been handpicked to help the man win a bet.
5:05 p.m. **FREE** Movie “Krampus” (2015) Toni Collette. A boy who had an unhappy Christmas summons a demon to his family’s home.
5:30 p.m. **FREE** The Christmas Caroler Challenge Twelve Christmas carol groups compete before three celebrity judges.
6:15 p.m. **FREE** Movie “National Lampoon’s Christmas Vacation” (1989) Chevy Chase. A man plays host to numerous dysfunctional relatives during the Christmas holidays.
7:45 p.m. **FREE** Movie “The Santa Clause” (1994) Tim Allen. When a father mistakenly kills Santa Claus, he is magically recruited to take his place.
8 p.m. **FREE** The Christmas Caroler Challenge Twelve Christmas carol groups compete before three celebrity judges.

---

**Saturday, Dec. 14, on Lifetime**

**S**inger-songwriter Ashanti stars as Clio in the Lifetime original film “A Christmas Winter Song.” Clio is the owner of a Christmas shop who gets to know a down-on-his-luck jazz musician named Fred (Stan Shaw). As the two form an unexpected bond, Clio helps Fred reconnect with his estranged daughter and her family, and prepare for the big town Christmas concert along the way. As Clio struggles to deal with the death of her father and make some major life choices, helping Fred provides her with exactly what she needs: wisdom, charity and the Christmas spirit.
6 p.m. **FREE** Movie *Elf* (2003) Will Ferrell. A man raised as an elf at the North Pole travels to New York to find his true father.

7 p.m. **FREE** Movie *The Nightmare Before Christmas* (1993) Voices of Chris Sarandon. The scariest man in Halloween Town kidnaps Santa Claus and tries to take over Christmas.

8 p.m. **FREE** Disney's *Prep and Landing* The Prep & Landing elves prepare homes around the world for Santa's arrival.

8:30 p.m. **FREE** Prep and Landing 2: *Naughty vs. Nice* Elves Wayne and Lanny must race to recover classified North Pole technology.

10 p.m. **FREE** Movie *Love the Coopers* (2015) Diane Keaton. Four generations of Coopers gather for their annual Christmas Eve celebration.

10:30 p.m. **FREE** The EWTN Family Christmas Special A special Christmas Concert at the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

**Friday, December 20**

1 p.m. **FREE** Movie *Hearts of Christmas* (2016) Emilie Ullerup. Jenny turns a staff Christmas party into a surprise celebration for a colleague.

2 p.m. **FREE** Movie *Elf* (2003) Will Ferrell. A man raised as an elf at the North Pole travels to New York to find his true father.

3:00 p.m. **FREE** Movie *Home Alone* (1990) Macaulay Culkin. A young boy must fend off burglars after his family accidentally leaves him home alone.

3:15 p.m. **FREE** Movie *Miracle on 34th Street* (1947) Lord Richard Attenborough. A young girl's mother hires a department store Santa who proves that he's genuine.

5 p.m. **FREE** Keep Christ in Christmas Go behind the scenes of the making of 'Santa's Priority,' a Christmas extravaganza.

5:45 p.m. **FREE** Movie *National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation* (1989) Chevy Chase. A man plays host to numerous dysfunctional relatives during the Christmas holidays.

6:30 p.m. **FREE** An EWTN Holy Land Experience Journey to sites throughout Bethlehem for an unforgettable Christmas experience.

6:45 p.m. **FREE** Movie *The Polar Express* (2004) Voices of Tom Hanks. A doubling little boy boards a magical train to visit the North Pole.

7 p.m. **FREE** Movie *Santa Claus Is Comin' to Town.* With Mother Nature's help, Kris Kringle struggles to overcome the villain and deliver toys to children all over the world. This Rankin and Bass special is almost 50 years old, and features the voices of some very famous actors, including Mickey Rooney and Fred Astaire. Freeform has cut a couple of scenes from the original version, so if you saw this one as a kid and it frightened you, rest assured that this televised version is a little more tame than the one you remember.

9 p.m. **FREE** Movie *A Veteran's Christmas* (2018) Eloise Mumford. When a veteran returns home, she meets and falls in love with a judge.

9:30 p.m. **FREE** Movie *Christmas Concert at the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament.*

10 p.m. **FREE** Ellen's Greatest Night of Giveaways Ellen, along with her celebrity friends, deliver incredible holiday gifts to people.

10:30 p.m. **FREE** The Great Christmas Light Fight This episode features the Vaughan family and their whimsical wire frame forest.

11 p.m. **FREE** Movie *The Nightmare Before Christmas* (1993) Voices of Chris Sarandon. The scariest man in Halloween Town kidnaps Santa Claus and tries to take over Christmas.

**Thursday, December 19**

1 p.m. **FREE** Movie *Northern Lights of Christmas* (2018) Ashley Williams. A woman's goals are thrown off course when she inherits a reindeer farm.


6 p.m. **FREE** Movie *Elf* (2003) Will Ferrell. A man raised as an elf at the North Pole travels to New York to find his true father.


8:30 p.m. **FREE** Movie *The EWTN Family Christmas Special* "Christmas is Coming to Town." With Mother Nature’s help, Kris Kringle struggles to overcome the villain and deliver toys to children all over the world. This Rankin and Bass special is almost 50 years old, and features the voices of some very famous actors, including Mickey Rooney and Fred Astaire. Freeform has cut a couple of scenes from the original version, so if you saw this one as a kid and it frightened you, rest assured that this televised version is a little more tame than the one you remember.

9:30 p.m. **FREE** Movie *Christmas Bells are Ringing* (2018) Jodie Sweetin. A young boy's mother hires a department store Santa who proves that he's genuine.

10 p.m. **FREE** Movie *Hearts of Christmas* (2016) Emilie Ullerup. Jenny turns a staff Christmas party into a surprise celebration for a colleague.

11 p.m. **FREE** Movie *A Veteran's Christmas* (2018) Eloise Mumford. When a veteran returns home, she meets and falls in love with a judge.

**Wednesday, December 18**

2 p.m. **FREE** Movie *Entertaining Christmas* (2018) Jodie Sweetin. A cookbook author's daughter is set to take over the family business.

3:10 p.m. **FREE** Movie *Home Alone* (1990) Macaulay Culkin. A young boy must fend off burglars after his family accidentally leaves him home alone.

3:15 p.m. **FREE** Movie *Miracle on 34th Street* (1947) Lord Rich- ard Attenborough. A young girl's mother hires a department store Santa who proves that he's genuine.

5 p.m. **FREE** Keep Christ in Christmas Go behind the scenes of the making of 'Santa's Priority,' a Christmas extravaganza.

5:45 p.m. **FREE** Movie *National Lampoon’s Christmas Vacation* (1989) Chevy Chase. A man plays host to numerous dysfunctional relatives during the Christmas holidays.

6:30 p.m. **FREE** An EWTN Holy Land Experience Journey to sites throughout Bethlehem for an unforgettable Christmas experience.

7 p.m. **FREE** Movie *The Star* (2017) Steven Yeun. A donkey and his animal friends follow a star and become heroes in the first Christmas.

8 p.m. **FREE** Movie *Elf* (2003) Will Ferrell. A man raised as an elf at the North Pole travels to New York to find his true father.

8:30 p.m. **FREE** Movie *Santa Claus Is Comin' to Town.* With Mother Nature's help, Kris Kringle struggles to overcome the villain and deliver toys to children all over the world. This Rankin and Bass special is almost 50 years old, and features the voices of some very famous actors, including Mickey Rooney and Fred Astaire. Freeform has cut a couple of scenes from the original version, so if you saw this one as a kid and it frightened you, rest assured that this televised version is a little more tame than the one you remember.

9:30 p.m. **FREE** Movie *Christmas Bells are Ringing* (2018) Jodie Sweetin. A young boy's mother hires a department store Santa who proves that he's genuine.
Saturday, December 21

1 p.m. **FREE** Movie “Nostalgic Christmas” (2019) Brooke D’Orsay. A woman helps close her family’s toy store, and brings a dose of Christmas cheer to town.

2 p.m. **FREE** The Great Christmas Light Fight Features displays that have grown too large for any home.

3 p.m. **FREE** The Great Christmas Light Fight This episode features the Vaughan family and their whimsical wire frame forest.

3:30 p.m. **ION** Movie “Almost Christmas” (2016) Kimberly Elise. After the death of his wife, a man asks his family for one gift: for them to get along.


4 p.m. **FREE** The Great Christmas Light Fight The Peace family showcases their pirate-themed light show, complete with special effects.

4:35 p.m. **FREE** Toy Story That Time Forgot Trinnie the triceratops helps the gang to return to Bonnie’s room.

5 p.m. **FREE** Movie “A Christmas in Vermont” (2016) Abigail Hawk. A woman returns to her hometown to solve a Christmas mystery.

5:05 p.m. **FREE** Movie “The Santa Clause” (1994) Tim Allen. When a father mistakenly kills Santa Claus, he is magically recruited to take his place.

6 p.m. **FREE** Movie “Elf” (2003) Will Ferrell. A man raised as an elf at the North Pole travels to New York to find his true father.

6:30 p.m. **FREE** Movie “The Night Before” (2015) Joseph Gordon-Levitt. Three friends hit the town on Christmas Eve as they bring an annual tradition to an end.

7 p.m. **FREE** Christmas in Vienna The Vienna Symphony Orchestra performs Christmas music from around the world.

7:30 p.m. **FREE** Movie “The Christmas Love Letter” (2019) Ashley Newbrough. A woman returns to her hometown to solve a Christmas mystery.

7:45 p.m. **FREE** Homicide for the Holidays

8 p.m. **FREE** Movie “National Lampoon’s Christmas Vacation” (1989) Chevy Chase. A man plays host to numerous dysfunctional relatives during the Christmas holidays.

8:30 p.m. **FREE** A Christmas Caroler Challenge Twelve Christmas Carol groups compete before three celebrity judges.

9 p.m. **FREE** Movie “Christmas Hotel” (2019) Kristoffer Polaha. A woman returns to her hometown to open a hotel for Christmas.


10 p.m. **FREE** Movie “Almost Christmas” (2016) Kimberly Elise. Old rivalries and old flames are rekindled when a group of friends reunite.


5 p.m. **FREE** Movie “A Veteran’s Christmas” (2018) Eloise Mumford. When a veteran returns home, she meets and falls in love with a judge.

7 p.m. **FREE** Movie “A Firehouse Christmas” (2016) Anita Brown. With Christmas approaching, life appears to be good for Tom and his girl friend, Jenny.

7:20 p.m. **FREE** Movie “Home Alone” (1990) Macaulay Culkin. A young boy must fend off burglars after his family accidentally leaves him home alone.

8 p.m. **FREE** The Christmas Caroler Challenge Twelve Christmas Carol groups compete before three celebrity judges.

9 p.m. **FREE** Movie “Christmas Hotel” (2019) Kristoffer Polaha. A woman must save her company’s holiday party, with her nemesis.

9:30 p.m. **FREE** Movie “Almost Christmas” (2016) Vanessa Lengies. A young woman must save Christmas Eve.

10:30 p.m. **FREE** Movie “The Bells of St. Mary’s” (1945) Bing Crosby. A priest bickers with a strict nun while they both try to save a run-down boy’s school.

Sunday, December 22


11:00 p.m. **FREE** Movie “A Royal Christmas Ball” (2017) Tara Reid. An unmarried European king tracks down his American college sweetheart.


1:00 a.m. **FREE** An EWTN Holy Land Experience Journey to sites throughout Bethlehem for an unforgettable Christmas experience.

2:00 a.m. **FREE** Movie “Three Holiday Tails” (2011) Julie Gonzalo. Retirees play matchmaker with their neighbor and her ex-husband.

2:15 p.m. **FREE** Movie “The Polar Express” (2004) Voices of Tom Hanks. A doubting little boy boards a magical train to visit the North Pole on Christmas Eve.

3 p.m. **FREE** Movie “A Christmas Cruise” (2017) Vivica A. Fox. An aspiring novelist finds the love of her life onboard a holiday-themed cruise.

9:30 p.m. **FREE** Movie “Almost Christmas” (2016) Vanessa Lengies. An aspiring novelist finds the love of her life on a holiday-themed cruise.

11:30 p.m. **FREE** Movie “Almost Christmas” (2016) Vanessa Lengies. An aspiring novelist finds the love of her life on a holiday-themed cruise.

12:00 a.m. **FREE** Movie “The Bells of St. Mary’s” (1945) Bing Crosby. A priest bickers with a strict nun while they both try to save a run-down boy’s school.

Monday, December 23

1 p.m. **FREE** Movie “Christmas Everlasting” (2018) Tatyana Ali. A woman learns her sister has passed away and she must return home immediately.

2 p.m. **FREE** Movie “Christmas at Cartwright’s” (2014) Alicia Witt. A single mom is desperate to find a job to make her daughter’s holiday a happy one.

3 p.m. **FREE** Movie “Dashing Through the Snow” (2015) Meghan Ory. Stranded at an airport at Christmastime, Ashley accepts a ride from Dash.

4:10 p.m. **FREE** Movie “Home Alone” (1990) Macaulay Culkin. A young boy must fend off burglars after his family accidentally leaves him home alone.

5 p.m. **FREE** Movie “A Christmas Princess” (2019) Shein Mompremier. A woman helps close her family’s toy store, and brings a dose of Christmas cheer to town.

6 p.m. **FREE** Movie “Double Holiday” (2019) Kristoffer Polaha. A woman helps close her family’s toy store, and brings a dose of Christmas cheer to town.

7:30 p.m. **FREE** Movie “Almost Christmas” (2016) Vanessa Lengies. An aspiring novelist finds the love of her life on a holiday-themed cruise.

By TAYLOR SLAGLE/THE DAILY ADVOCATE
A woman is fired from her job at a hotel and accepts a new job as a charming European prince steals away incognito to the U.S. in "Elise." After the death of his wife, a man asks his family for one gift: a pair of co-workers do not realize that they are each other's lone-cherle. Woman who met her childhood sweetheart while on vacation mistakenly kills Santa Claus, he is magically recruited to take his place. Frosty a companion out of snow after noticing how sad he has become.

This holiday classic is a must-see at Christmas time. "The Bishop's Wife" stars David Niven as Henry Brougaham, a struggling bishop who prays for guidance as he tries to get a cathedral built. Cary Grant plays Dudley, a suave angel sent to help Henry out, but not in the way the clergyman thinks. Dudley reveals his identity to Henry, who is annoyed that the angel goes about inspiring and helping people, but not helping with the building plans. When Dudley begins to fall for Henry's neglected wife, Julia (Loretta Young), the bishop gets jealous and tries to get the angel to leave. It's a touching, poignant reminder of what's most important, and a heartwarming film to watch on Christmas Eve.

Tuesday, December 24

1 p.m. **AMC** Movie "Time to Come Home for Christmas" (2018) Megan Park. A canceled flight leads two unlikely strangers together.

**ABC** The Great Christmas Light Fight Featuring the Nelson family's converted RGB 'star flares' and hand-built plasma icycles.

**TLC** Extreme Christmas Trees Captures the anticipation, excitement and joy embodied by the ultimate Christmas icon.

3:35 p.m. **AMC** Movie "The Year Without a Santa Claus" (1974) Voices of Shirley Booth. Mrs. Claus tells the story of the year that Santa Claus decided to take a holiday.

4 p.m. **MTV** Movie "Krampus" (2015) Toni Collette. A boy who had an unhappy Christmas summons a demon to his family's home.

4:55 p.m. **STARZ** Movie "Krankus" (2015) Toni Collette. A boy who had an unhappy Christmas summons a demon to his family's home.

5 p.m. **FX** Movie "The Polar Express" (2004) Voices of Tom Hanks. A doubting little boy boards a magical train to visit the North Pole on Christmas Eve.

7:30 p.m. **AMC** Movie "The Great Christmas Light Fight" The Field family's epic Magic Kingdom-inspired light show is featured.

5:30 p.m. **ABC** Movie "Almost Christmas" (2016) Kimberly Elise. After the death of his wife, a man asks his family for one gift: for them to get along.

8 p.m. **ABC** Movie "Same Time, Next Christmas" (2019) Lea Michele. Woman who met her childhood sweetheart while on vacation is reunited with him years later.

**AMC** Movie "National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation" (1989) Chevy Chase. A man plays host to numerous dysfunctional relatives during the Christmas holidays.

**AMC** The Christmas Caroler Challenge Twelve Christmas Carol groups compete before three celebrity judges.

**FOX** Holiday Baking Championship: Merry Xtras Jesse Palmer tasks the remaining Bakers to give a classic Hanukkah treat a make-over.

**HBO** Movie "Christmas Under Wraps" (2014) Candace Cameron Bure. A woman loses her job and beau on the same day, and reluctantly accepts a job in Alaska.

**HBO** Holiday with the Houghs Derek and Julianne Hough co-star in a festive hour-long special with special appearances.

**FOX** Movie "The Shop Around the Corner" (1940) James Stewart. A pair of co-workers do not realize that they are each other's lone-lovers.

**ABC** The Christmas Caroler Challenge Twelve Christmas Carol groups compete before three celebrity judges.

**FOX** Saturday Night Live Christmas A compilation of fan-favorite holiday sketches.


10:05 p.m. **AMC** Movie "Almost Christmas" (2016) Kimberly Elise. After the death of his wife, a man asks his family for one gift: for them to get along.

10:15 p.m. **TNT** Movie "National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation" (1989) Chevy Chase. A man plays host to numerous dysfunctional relatives during the Christmas holidays.

**FOX** The Great Christmas Light Fight The Field family's epic Magic Kingdom-inspired light show is featured.

5:40 p.m. **ABC** Movie "Saving Santa" (2013) Ashley Tisdale. A lovely, lonely elf finds he is the only one who can stop an invasion of the North Pole.


6 p.m. **FOX** Movie "Doctor Who" Santa-shaped assassins herald the approach of a terrible danger from the stars.

**TNT** The Great Christmas Light Fight The Shaw family's display features more lights than the tree at Rockefeller Center.


**ABC** Movie "Christmas Belle" (2011) Alastair Sim. "Almost Christmas" features more lights than the tree at Rockefeller Center.

**ABC** Movie "Christmas Caroling!" (1951) Alastair Sim. "Almost Christmas" features more lights than the tree at Rockefeller Center.

**FOX** Movie "The Great Christmas Light Fight" The Field family's epic Magic Kingdom-inspired light show is featured.

5:30 p.m. **FOX** Movie "Almost Christmas" (2016) Kimberly Elise. After the death of his wife, a man asks his family for one gift: for them to get along.

8 p.m. **TNT** Movie "Almost Christmas" (2016) Kimberly Elise. After the death of his wife, a man asks his family for one gift: for them to get along.

8:50 p.m. **TNT** Movie "A Prince for Christmas" (2015) Viva Bianca. A boy who had an unhappy Christmas summons a demon to his family's home.

**FOX** Movie "Almost Christmas" (2016) Kimberly Elise. After the death of his wife, a man asks his family for one gift: for them to get along.

**TBS** Movie "The Bishop's Wife" (1947) Don DeFore. "Almost Christmas" features more lights than the tree at Rockefeller Center.

**FOX** Movie "A Prince for Christmas" (2015) Viva Bianca. A boy who had an unhappy Christmas summons a demon to his family's home.


**TCM** Movie "It Happened on Fifth Avenue" (1947) Don DeFore. "Almost Christmas" features more lights than the tree at Rockefeller Center.

**TCM** Movie "The Bishop's Wife" (1947) Cary Grant. An angel comes to Earth to help a bishop and his wife raise funds to build a new church.

7 p.m. **FOX** Movie "Elf" (2003) Will Ferrell. A man raised as an elf at the North Pole travels to New York to find his true father.


**FOX** Movie "The Great Christmas Light Fight" The Field family's epic Magic Kingdom-inspired light show is featured.

**TNT** Movie "A Christmas Carol" (2009) Jim Carrey. "Almost Christmas" features more lights than the tree at Rockefeller Center.

**FOX** Movie "Almost Christmas" (2016) Kimberly Elise. After the death of his wife, a man asks his family for one gift: for them to get along.


Wednesday, Dec. 25, on Freeform

The classic Christmas film “Home Alone” is the perfect addition to anyone's Christmas Day, and Freeform follows it up with “Home Alone 2: Lost in New York,” which is almost as fun as the first installment of the franchise. Macauley Culkin stars as Kevin McCallister, a kid whose enormous extended family has gathered at his home to prepare for their trip to Paris the next morning. When Kevin is accidentally left behind, he's ecstatic to have the house to himself, and goes about “eating junk and watching rubbish” while family is away.

The Great Christmas Light Fight
Features the Waters family’s high-tech, entirely wireless light show in DeSoto, Texas.

Movie “A Christmas Carol” (1951) Alastair Sim. The ghosts of Christmas past, present and future show a miser the meaning of Christmas.


Movie “A Christmas Carol” (1938) Mickey Rooney. A young teenager is caught between three romances and he does not know which one to pick.


Movie “A Christmas Carol” (1983) Peter Billingsley. In the ’40s, a young boy wants only one thing from Santa: an official Red Ryder BB gun.


Movie “A Christmas Carol” (1951) Alastair Sim. The ghosts of Christmas past, present and future show a miser the meaning of Christmas.

Movie “The Great Christmas Light Fight” The Baur family is featured with their Disney World Christmas Wonderland.

Movie “A Christmas Carol” (1983) Peter Billingsley. In the ’40s, a young boy wants only one thing from Santa: an official Red Ryder BB gun.

Movie “Love Finds Andy Hardy” (1938) Mickey Rooney. A young teenager is caught between three romances and he does not know which one to pick.

Movie “The TARDIS collides with a crashing space liner.


Movie “Love Actually” (2003) Emma Thompson. Several different British couples sort out their love lives during the Christmas holidays.


Movie “A Christmas Carol” (1951) Alastair Sim. The ghosts of Christmas past, present and future show a miser the meaning of Christmas.

**HOLIDAY TV GUIDE**

**Monday, December 30**

1 p.m. **Hall** Movie “Christmas With Holly” (2012) Sean Faris. A young girl asks for a mother for Christmas following the death of her mother.

4 p.m. **Hall** Movie “A Royal Christmas” (2014) Stephen Hagan. A woman is whisked away to Europe when her boyfriend reveals he's actually a prince.

5 p.m. **Hall** Movie “Small Town Christmas” (2018) Ashley Newbrough. An author reconnects with the man who inspired her novel and stood her up on a date.

7 p.m. **Hall** Movie “Christmas on Honeysuckle Lane” (2018) Alicia Witt. A sister is in charge of selling their recently deceased parents' home.

10 p.m. **Hall** Movie “Christmas at Holly Lodge” (2017) Alison Sweeney. A woman's life is changed after a visit to her family's ski lodge.

1 a.m. **Hall** Movie “Return to Christmas Creek” (2018) Tori Anderson. A woman must help her quarreling dad and uncle experience the true meaning of Christmas.

**Tuesday, December 31**

1 p.m. **Hall** Movie “The Christmas Ornament” (2013) Kellie Martin. A Christmas tree lot owner helps a widow face her first Christmas without her husband.

4 p.m. **Hall** Movie “Mingle All the Way” (2018) Jesse Arthur Carroll. A young entrepreneur invents a new dating app designed to help singles find dates.

8 p.m. **Hall** Movie “Dick Clark’s Primetime New Year’s Rockin’ Eve With Ryan Seacrest” (2019) Stephen Hagan. A woman must help her quarreling dad and uncle experience the true meaning of Christmas.

**Sunday, December 29**

1:30 p.m. **Hall** The Catholic University of America’s Christmas Concert. An annual Christmas concert presented by the Catholic University of America.

2 p.m. **Hall** Movie “A Christmas Detour” (2015) Candace Cameron Bure. Two NYC-bound travelers find themselves linked when a storm waylays their flight.

3 p.m. **Hall** Movie “A Merry Christmas Match” (2019) Ashley Newbrough. A woman has a chance encounter with a ‘Christmas Catch Ryder’ and sparks fly.

7 p.m. **Hall** Homicide for the Holidays

8 p.m. **Hall** The Great Christmas Light Fight. Twenty families from across America decorate their homes to the extreme for Christmas.

9 p.m. **Hall** Movie “Nostalgic Christmas” (2019) Brooke D’Orsay. A woman helps close her family’s toy store, and brings a dose of Christmas cheer to town.

**Friday, December 27**

1:30 p.m. **Hall** The Catholic University of America’s Christmas Concert. An annual Christmas concert presented by the Catholic University of America.


3 p.m. **Hall** Movie “Christmas on Honeysuckle Lane” (2018) Alicia Witt. A sister is in charge of selling their recently deceased parents' home.

4 p.m. **Hall** Movie “A Shoe Addict’s Christmas” (2018) Candace Cameron Bure. A self-professed Christmas hater is locked in a department store on Christmas Eve.

6 p.m. **Hall** Movie “A Gift to Remember” (2017) Ali Liebert. An accident between a bookshop worker and a stranger leaves him without his memory.

8 p.m. **Hall** Movie “Mingle All the Way” (2018) Jesse Arthur Carroll. A young entrepreneur invents a new dating app designed to help singles find dates.

**Saturday, December 28**

1 p.m. **Hall** Movie “Christmas Bells are Ringing” (2018) Emillie Ullierup. A woman returns to Cape Cod for the first time after her mother’s death and falls in love.

2 p.m. **Hall** Movie “Christmas Detour” (2015) Candace Cameron Bure. Two NYC-bound travelers find themselves linked when a storm waylays their flight.

3 p.m. **Hall** Movie “A Merry Christmas Match” (2019) Ashley Newbrough. A woman has a chance encounter with a ‘Christmas Catch Ryder’ and sparks fly.

**Wednesday, January 1**

11 a.m. **NBC** Tournament of Roses Parade

11:30 a.m. **NBC** Tournament of Roses Parade

3 p.m. **ABC** Movie “Home Alone” (1990) Macaulay Culkin. A young boy must fend off burglars after his family accidentally leaves him home alone.

8 p.m. **ABC** Movie “Home Alone” (1990) Macaulay Culkin. A young boy must fend off burglars after his family accidentally leaves him home alone.
Bradys are back
Here’s the story of a far-out holiday

By Breanna Henry
TV Media

All six of the original Brady siblings — Barry Williams (Greg), Maureen McCormick (Marcia, Marcia, Marcia!), Christopher Knight (Peter), Eve Plumb (Jan), Mike Lookinland (Bobby) and Susan Olsen (Cindy) — are headed back home for a very festive special. The newly-renovated original Brady house is a fitting place for the “Brady Bunch” cast to get some lessons from network experts in creating funky 1970’s-inspired flourish and fare. “A Very Brady Renovation” airs Monday, Dec. 16, on HGTV.

Food Network star Ree Drummond (“The Pioneer Woman”) walks the on-screen siblings (and us fans) through cooking radical fondue-style potatoes, a nifty gelatin fruit salad and copasetic Christmas canapés (Santa-pés!) in TV’s most iconic kitchen. Later, Jasmine Roth, host of HGTV’s “Hidden Potential,” gives them the skinny on creating DIY holiday decor that’s totally outta sight — she turns old shutters into life-sized toy soldier lawn ornaments. Once the tree is trimmed and the halls are decked, Ree, Jasmine and the Brady brood sit down to celebrate with a holiday meal that would leave any polyester-clad party goer lining up for seconds.

The home fans saw when the exterior of the Bradys’ home was shown in “The Brady Bunch” that was not where scenes set inside the house were shot (those were sets on Hollywood lots). In 2018, HGTV forked over a whopping $3.5 million for the original home, and, with the help of some familiar experts, renovated the home so that the interior matched the exterior — 2,000 square feet of space was added (without compromising the home’s instantly recognizable street view) in order to include the famous floating staircase, Greg’s attic bedroom, the kids’ shared bathroom and, of course, that orange-and-green kitchen.

Don’t be a square, tune in to HGTV on Monday, Dec. 16, for the heart-felt and festive special “A Very Brady Renovation: Holiday Edition.”

Jessica’s Famous Tiramisu

By Jessica Gosse
TV Media

Tiramisu is always a crowd-pleaser, and this particular recipe has been tried and tested many times over. If you follow these instructions, you’ll end up with two 7x12 pans of the delicious seasonal dessert, so it’s the perfect treat to bring to any holiday gathering.

INGREDIENTS:
- 10 oz espresso
- 3 oz Grand Marnier
- 40 (ish) ladyfingers (about two packs)
- 2 cups mascarpone (about 16 ounces)
- 1/4 cup of rum
- 4 eggs - separated
- 1/2 cup of sugar
- 2 cups whipping cream
- 1/2 tsp vanilla extract
- 1/8 tsp salt
- Cocoa powder

DIRECTIONS:
1. In a large bowl, beat together the rum and mascarpone until smooth.
2. Use a double boiler (a bowl over a pot of simmering water on medium heat will do) to whisk together egg yolks and half of the sugar (1/4 cup) until light and foamy.
3. Remove from heat and beat into mascarpone mixture.
4. Whip the cream and vanilla together until medium peaks form.
5. Fold cream into mascarpone mixture.
6. Beat egg whites with salt and remaining sugar until stiff peaks form.
7. Fold egg whites into cream/mascarpone mixture.
8. In a shallow bowl, mix espresso and Grand Marnier together.
9. Dip ladyfingers quickly into the coffee/liqueur mixture one at a time, and place a layer in the bottom of a baking pan.
10. Spread a portion of the cream mixture on top.
11. Repeat to make a second layer, and dust the top with cocoa powder.
12. Chill overnight, then serve.

© Dzinnik Darius/Dreamstime.com
For years, Hallmark and Lifetime have cornered the market on the Christmas romantic comedy genre, a genre which, in the last few years, has massively grown in popularity. It’s a guilty pleasure yes, but let’s be honest — when the holiday season rolls around, most of us indulge in these cheesy-but-wonderful festive films, whether it’s holiday classics like “Love Actually” (2003), Hallmark originals like “Mrs. Miracle” (2009) or the growing number of streamable offerings like Netflix’s “A Christmas Prince” (2017).

Now, ABC is joining the fray with “Same Time, Next Christmas,” which premieres Thursday, Dec. 5, and airs again on Monday, Dec. 23 on ABC and Freeform as part of their “25 Days of Christmas” programming run.

Returning to the network is ABC alum Lea Michele, who was the star of the hit musical comedy series “Glee.” She plays Olivia Henderson, who travels with her parents Faye (Nia Vardalos, “My Big Fat Greek Wedding.”) and Woody (George Newbern, “Scandal”) every Christmas to vacation in Hawaii. On one such trip back in 2004, Olivia met Jeff (Charles Michael Davis, “The Originals”), and the two developed a relationship. But as time went by, the distance pulled them apart.

Now, 15 years later, Olivia is back in Hawaii for her family’s annual holiday, but this time she’s brought her boyfriend, Gregg (Bryan Greenberg, “One Tree Hill”), along for the festive fun. When Olivia unexpectedly runs into Jeff, all of her old feelings come rushing back — an unwelcome complication. As their undeniable chemistry flares up, Olivia is torn between her successful life with Gregg (he wants them to become the next major real estate power couple in Cincinnati), and her feelings for Jeff, who is just as charming as ever.

While Michele has done seasonal themed productions in the past — the Halloween series “Scream Queens” and the 2011 film “New Year’s Eve,” for example — “Same Time, Next Christmas” marks her first-ever Christmas movie. She’s in good hands working with a well-established team that has lots of experience with the genre, including executive producer Tom Mazza (“Karen Kingsbury’s Maggie’s Christmas Miracle,” 2017), director Stephen Herek (“Dolly Parton’s Christmas of Many Colors: Circle of Love,” 2016) and writer Karen Bloch Morse (“Ice Castles,” 2010). In a statement about her big releases, Michele said, “This holiday season holds special importance to me as I get to celebrate both my role in this film and my first-ever holiday album. I’m honored to return to ABC with this movie event, and I am excited to share the holidays with everyone.”

While palm trees and sandy beaches may not make for the most traditional Christmas scenery, “Same Time, Next Christmas” does have the makings of a classic holiday romcom. If, like many people, you find your holiday season so jam-packed with family and friends (and parties, and shopping) that you don’t have time to watch “Same Time, Next Christmas” when it airs Monday, Dec. 23, on ABC and Freeform, don’t panic — the film will also be available to stream following the Dec. 5 premiere on the ABC website and app, as well as on Hulu. Don’t miss this soon-to-be favorite.
Holiday Crossword by Andrew Warren

Across
1 Young manger guest
3 Feast celebrated in early January
9 Frigid seasonal figure
10 Possible Christmas tree topper
11 Desert beast
12 Horse’s house
14 Big occasion, like a holiday party
16 Mike holder at 14 Across
17 Hanging ice
20 Christmas color
23 Car engine
24 Rack one’s brains, like when trying to pick out the perfect gift
25 Circumvent
26 Possible Christmas tree topper

4 Like some Christmas trees
5 Square where a Christmas tree might be displayed
6 Innocent and beautiful
7 Time for eggnog
8 Brunch dish
13 Dasher, Dancer, Prancer and Vixen
15 How kids feel on Christmas Eve
16 Seasonal drink
18 Christmas items frequently found in the mail
19 Clean the board
21 Live and breathe
22 Dec. holiday

Solution
Holiday Word Search: Season’s Greetings

From the list below, find each word and circle its letters in the puzzle above to reveal the message relating to the holidays.

ADVENT
ANGEL
BELLS
CANDLES
CARDS
CHRISTMAS TREE
COLD
COOKIES
DANCER
DASHER
DECEMBER
DONNER
EGGNOG
ELVES
FAMILY
FIR
FROSTY
FRUITCAKE
GIFTS
GOODWILL
HAM
HOLLY
JOLLY
MERRY
MIRACLE
MISTLETOE
NOEL
NORTH POLE
PINE
REINDEER
SANTA
SCROOGE
ST. NICK
TINSEL
TOYS
VIXEN
WREATH
YULETIDE

Solution
Coloring Comet

Use your favorite colors to give this reindeer some festive cheer!