# **UPCOMING EVENTS & INFORMATION**

buffalocov.org/events

# MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT - MEXICO MISSION TRIP OPPORTUNITY

December 4, 10:10 am // Gym

Come learn more about this coming mission trip to support pastors and missionaries in Mexico who can often be overwhelmed by both spiritual and physical needs. As part of this team you'll get an opportunity to be an active missionary in this least-reached region of Mexico.

# **FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS**

December 4 // Prelude at 5:40 pm, Program at 6 pm // Worship Center
The evening will feature the Buffalo Covenant Church Choir, instrumentalists, including brass, strings, harp, flute, organ, piano, and maybe something unexpected. Come early to enjoy a prelude of traditional Christmas carols.

Refreshments will be provided afterward.

# **CHRISTMAS BOOKSTORE**

December 4, 11 & 18 // Commons

No supply chain problems here! We've got all you need to give kids wonderful faith-based literature. The Bookstore is open Sunday mornings through Advent.

# **SALT CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**

December 13, 1:30 pm // Worship Center/Youth Room

Come enjoy an afternoon of Christmas at BCC! We'll hear the classic voice of Jim Gerber as he returns to BCC to share Christmas music in the Worship Center. Then we'll move to the Youth Room for our traditional cheesecake and refreshments in a festive atmosphere, including tables decorated with arrangements by our SALT members.

# LIVING NATIVITY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

December 17 & 18, 5-7 pm // BCC

Living Nativity is our church family's gift to the local community and YOU ALL are part of the church family! This is our chance to serve and give this gift together. Sign up as a group of friends, with your family, or as an individual to "play the part" of Mary, Joseph, shepherds, wisemen, the innkeeper, singing angels, Roman soldiers, etc. Or serve "behind the scenes" making hot cocoa, serving cookies, wiping down tables, etc. Sign up in the Commons or by emailing the church office or Pastor Janine.

# **COMING THIS WEEK**

Women's Banquet - Friday, December 2, 6:30 pm, Gym



# THE JOURNEY OF EXPECTATION

**Pastor Mark Stromberg** 

Luke 1:26-56

In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"

The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most
High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.

Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was
said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. For no word from God will ever fail."

"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her.

At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. In a loud voice she exclaimed: "Blessed are you among women and blessed is the child you will bear! But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!"

# And Mary said:

"My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, for the Mighty One has done great things for me—holy is his name.

His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation.

He has performed mighty deeds with his arm; he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts. He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble. He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, remembering to be merciful to Abraham and his descendants forever, just as he promised our ancestors."

Mary stayed with Elizabeth for about three months and then returned home.

### THREE CHARACTERISTICS OF MARY'S JOURNEY...

Mary's Remarkable Faith

"Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!"

# Mary's Radiant Humility

"My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant."

# Mary's Resounding Joy

"My spirit rejoices," she says. "The mighty one has done great things. He has given help even as he said he would."



### **NEW TO BCC?**

Here at Buffalo Covenant, you can learn, grow and connect in an authentic and biblically-based community. If you want to know more about us, or have questions on how to get connected, please stop in at the Welcome Center.

### **PRAYER**

For prayer requests, contact the Church Office or fill out the prayer section on the Get Connected card and return to the Welcome Center.

### **CHILD CARE**

Child care is provided for infants through age five (pre-k) during both 9 am and 11 am services.

### **COFFEE & PASTRIES**

Grab a free coffee. Purchase a \$1 pastry from the BCC youth fundraiser in the Commons.

### GIVE

Offering boxes are in the back of the Worship Center or you can give at buffalocov.org/give.

# sunday, november 27 worship with us

**TODAY** The Journey of Expectation (Luke 1:26-56)

**CHILDCARE** Available at 9 am and 11 am service (ages 0-5)

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** Classes available for all ages from 10:10-10:50 am

MINISTRY Held in the BCC gym at 10:10 am SPOTLIGHT TODAY - Christmas Love Project

December 4 - Mexico Mission Trip Opportunity

UPCOMING SUNDAY

SERMONS

THE JOURNEY OF CHRISTMAS (ADVENT SERIES)

December 4 - The Journey of Inquiry (Luke 2:8-20)

**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**December 11 - Carol and the Belles

