

UPCOMING EVENTS & INFORMATION

buffalocov.org/events

CHRISTMAS EVE RESERVATIONS

Join us for our Christmas Eve services to enjoy beautiful music and the message of hope that is found in the birth of our Savior.

December 23 - 7:00 pm

December 24 - 1:30, 3:00 and 4:30 pm (childcare provided during all three services)

Reservations will be available online beginning December 12 at noon.

To reserve your spot visit buffalocov.org/christmas.

MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT - PASTOR SEARCH UPDATE

December 11, 10:10 am // Gym

As our Call Committees are in the process of pastoral searches for a Lead Pastor and Youth Pastor, please join us as we provide an update on each search.

CHRISTMAS BOOKSTORE

TODAY, December 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.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

December 11, Morning Services // Worship Center

Come join us for a fab 50's kids' Christmas musical called Carol and the Belles. Preschool and elementary kids will be presenting their portion of the program at the beginning of each service.

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

Browse the Bethlehem marketplace and see the live animals. Spend time at the stable with Mary, Joseph and the baby. Interact with the Wise Men, Angels, Roman Soldiers and more. Enjoy cookies and hot chocolate as you remember the reason we celebrate Christmas.

COMING THIS WEEK

TONIGHT– "All is Well," Christmas Festival, 6 pm. Prelude at 5:40 pm.

December 7 – Hang Time Christmas Party and Awana: Dress like Christmas, 6 pm



THE JOURNEY OF INQUIRY

Pastor Mark Stromberg

Luke 2:8-20

"And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. 9 An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 10 But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. 11 Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. 12 This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

13 Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

*14 "Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."*

15 When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

16 So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. 17 When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, 18 and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. 19 But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. 20 The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told."

AN EXTRAORDINARY DECLARATION (VS. 10-12)

"Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

AN ESSENTIAL DECISION (VS. 15)

"The shepherds said to one another, 'Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.'"

AN EXHILARATING DISCOVERY (VS. 16)

"So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger."

AN ENERGIZED DEVOTION (VS. 17-20)

"When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told."

"I am trying here to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about Him: 'I'm ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don't accept his claim to be God.' That is the one thing we must not say. A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic—on the level with the man who says he is a poached egg—or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God, or else a madman or something worse. You can shut him up for a fool, you can spit at him and kill him as a demon, or you can fall at his feet and call him Lord and God. But let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about his being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to."

C.S. Lewis – excerpt from "Mere Christianity"

welcome

TO BUFFALO COVENANT

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, december 4

WORSHIP WITH US

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

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 SPOTLIGHT
Held in the BCC gym at 10:10 am
TODAY - BCC Mission Trips
December 11 - Pastor Search Update

UPCOMING SUNDAY SERMONS
CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM
December 11 - Carol and the Belles

THE JOURNEY OF CHRISTMAS (ADVENT SERIES)
December 18 - The Journey of Understanding (John 1:1-14)



BUFFALO COVENANT
buffalocov.org