

The Monthly Vine

Staying connected on the latest happenings...

Loving God, Investing in Community, Following Jesus, Engaging Our World

Experience the First Christmas in Bethlehem.....

What if you could travel back in time and experience the first Christmas for yourself? Christmas would never feel the same again!

At a Night in Bethlehem on **Friday, December 5th**, families will be met by a census taker, welcoming them as they arrive in Bethlehem for the census. Just inside, families will have the opportunity to have their portrait taken as a gift to them. Guests will find Bethlehem full of bustling sounds of a bazaar with

beautiful Christmas music, full of the aroma of hot cider, baked bread, and spices. The town of Bethlehem will be spread out through the entrance and auditorium where families will find market place stalls, an inn, a stable, gifted artisans, activities and crafts to engage in, dancers, actors in costume, a tax collector, an inn keeper, Mary, Joseph, Roman soldiers, shop keepers, and more! Throughout their time with us, families will hear and experience the beautiful

story of Christmas.

We want to give people the opportunity to experience Christmas in a different way. We encourage you to invite friends, neighbors, family members and co-workers to join us for this special evening.

Please register early, and encourage those you invite to as well, so we are able to plan and be ready for all who attend! Register online at www.littletonvineyard.org.



Savor the sights, sounds, and excitement of the first Christmas in Bethlehem.
... a special evening for the whole family!

Invite friend, neighbors, family or co-workers to this special family event!

**Friday, December 5th
6:00 - 9:00 p.m.**

Littleton Vineyard
6657 W. Ottawa Ave. in Littleton
Preregister online at www.littletonvineyard.org

FREE for the community!

Pastor's Corner.....

By Ian Prichard

Most of us do funny things as kids. I remember a time when I was on my way home across the common (park) near our house a day or two before Christmas. I was fearful that I wouldn't make it to Christmas day and wanted to make sure I had God's approval. For sure I did not want to miss out on all the presents that were coming my way! But, because of my view of the Almighty, I was worried that He might smite me with some sickness! Or that I might get hit crossing the street - so I was extra careful.

I checked my pockets and found three pennies (in today's money about 50 cents). I knew the church folks took up an 'offering'

each Sunday and took it to a room. I thought that God then spirited the money away because they always told us in church we were 'giving to the Lord'. All I knew is that the guys taking the offering came out of that same room with empty plates where once the money was. So I decided I'd toss the money up in the air and leave it under the long grass. (Before doing so I looked around because I didn't want anyone stealing God's money before He had a chance to get it!).

I continued on my way home knowing that God would let me make it to Christmas Day! And I did!

Each time we approach Christmas I look again at the story of Jesus and marvel at how God chose to share His love with us. As a kid, longing for Christmas, my perception of God was so far from reality. I saw Him as a disciplinarian ready to get me - whether I deserved it or not! But the truth is God does not see us that way. It is the Christmas story that shouts God's message to humanity - "I CARE ABOUT YOU". This Christmas let the truth of that resonate in your hearts in a fresh way as you consider the baby born in a stable for you. *'He will be called Immanuel,,, God is with us'* Matthew 1:23

Mark your Calendar....

- December 5** - A Night in Bethlehem
- December 7** - Board Meeting
- December 11** - Serving Dinner at Denver Rescue Mission
- December 14** - All Church Christmas Potluck, 12 noon
- December 16** - Student LIFE Missions Trips Meeting
- December 17** - All Ministry Leader's Meeting, 6:30pm
- December 21** - Special Christmas Celebration
- December 24** - Christmas Eve Service
- January 18** - Welcome Lunch

For additional information on these dates, please visit our Website littletonvineyard.org or contact the church office at 303.797.0201.

Loving God, Investing in Community, Following Jesus, Engaging Our World

Join Us For Moms & Tots!.....

Are you a mom looking to connect with other moms and share life experiences? We invite all moms, in all ages and stages of life, with children young or old, to join us for Moms & Tots.

Our group meets the first and third Tuesday's of each month and consists of a light brunch, engaging and encouraging speakers, creative activities, and fellowship.

Our spring semester begins Tuesday, January 6th and we would love to have you join us for this exciting semester. We have lots of great speakers lined up ranging from a preschool panel, recipe exchange, doctor panel, making self-pampering gifts and so much more!

For additional information, contact 303-797-0201 or moms@littletonvineyard.org.

MOMS & Tots

*A group designed to connect
with mothers from all ages
and stages of life!*

- Meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesday's
- Spring Semester starts January 6th
- \$30 Semester Fee
- Food, Fun, & Fellowship!

Helping Hands.....

Looking to put your God-given talents to good use? Sign up to serve in one of our ministries. It's a great way to meet others and to bless others with your serving. Below are a few areas where you could serve:

- Vineyard Kids - PreSchool Teacher
- Church Office Volunteer
- Moms & Tots Childcare Helper

Interested? Call the church at **303.797.0201** or e-mail us at info@littletonvineyard.org



*Christmas Potluck
Sunday, December 14th
At 12 Noon in the church lobby*



Littleton Vineyard
Experience Real LIFE.

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