

SERMON NOTES

The First Evangelicals

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Census News

Caesar Augustus has issued a decree, census of entire Roman world. Population to return to hometowns.

The Bethlehem Post

The Weather

Unusually bright star seen over Bethlehem, more on page 6.

LUKE 2:1-18

DECEMBER 15, 2024

\$0.0

GOOD NEWS! GREAT JOY!

FOR ALL PEOPLE

ANGELS APPEAR TO LOCAL SHEPHERDS

BY LUKE THE PHYSICIAN

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "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."

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

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

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."

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the



Local artist's depiction

baby, who was lying in the manger. 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. *cont. on page 2*

Welcome!

FIRST TIME HERE?

We would love to meet you! Scan the QR code to introduce yourself or stop by the Welcome Desk to say hello! We have a gift bag for you, complete with homemade cookies and fruit snacks! We also have free coffee and tea in the café. Just turn left when you enter the main doors. It's around the corner to the left across from the baptistry pond.

CONNECT WITH US!

If you are looking for help taking next steps in your faith or involvement at LEFC, or if you have a prayer request to share, please don't hesitate to reach out! Scan the QR code or go to lefc.net/connectwithus.



What's Happening at LEFC



WINTER BLAST 2025 Hey students in grades 7-12! You are invited to attend Winter Blast from **February 28 to March 2** at NorthBay Adventure Camp! The cost is \$190. **Today** is the deadline to register! Stop by our website for more information!

lefc.net/winterblast



BAPTISM AT LEFC We invite you to join us at the baptistry after second service **today** for a baptism service! If you are interested in being baptized, please contact the church office. Our next opportunity for baptism will be on **January 12!**

office@lefc.net, 717-626-5332



NEWCOMERS' BREAKFAST On Saturday, **January 25**, Pastor Tony and his wife Kristen will host a breakfast for adults and teens new to LEFC. You'll have the opportunity to meet the pastoral staff and learn about LEFC. Sign up online or call the office to reserve your spot!

lefc.net/newcomers



CHILD DEDICATION Our next child dedication will be held on **January 19**. If you'd like to sign up, please register your child online by December 29!

lefc.net/childdedication

Christmas Eve at LEFC

Join us on Tuesday, **December 24**, at 3:00, 4:30, or 6:00PM for our annual Christmas Eve service!

All ages welcome! Kids' ministry and nurseries will not be open, but all ages are invited into the service, which includes a children's moment, Christmas hymns, a message, and candle lighting.

Invitation postcards are available in the lobby. Help yourself!

Free ticketing allows us to disperse attendance more evenly to each service and provide a welcoming atmosphere for all. Pick up your tickets at the connection counter or reserve your spot online at lefc.net/christmas.



SAVE THE DATE for our 2025 Marriage Retreat to Remember! We'll be meeting at the Hershey Lodge on **March 14-15** with guest speakers Curt and Rhonda Hamner from Between Two Trees marriage ministries. More information and registration coming in January!



STARTING POINT If you are new to LEFC, we invite you to attend our Starting Point classes! During these Sunday morning classes, you'll learn about our values and find opportunities to connect and serve. Classes will be held during second service on **January 12, 19, and 26**. Sign up online or at the connection counter!

lefc.net/startingpoint



WELCOME TEAM Do you have the gift of hospitality and enjoy making people feel at home? Consider joining LEFC's Welcome Team! We have several positions available. To learn more, contact Emma Smith!

e.smith@lefc.net



SECURITY TEAM We are looking for a few people to join our security team! The men and women on this team help to ensure that LEFC is a safe and welcoming environment where people can worship God. Interested in learning more? Contact Walter Piasecki!

walterpiasecki@yahoo.com

WEEKLY GIVING

Last Week's Giving.....\$64,843

Weekly Budget.....\$75,000

YEAR-TO-DATE GIVING

Fiscal YTD Giving.....\$1,724,881

Fiscal YTD Budget.....\$1,692,500