

JOURNEY THROUGH BETHLEHEM

Ministry Statement

Journey through Bethlehem (JTB) is a ministry dedicated exclusively to presenting the good news of Jesus Christ by portraying the events of Jesus' birth as they are presented in the New Testament. Therefore, we covenant together to affirm these guidelines and have a willingness to deal with the ambiguities and challenges of faith while holding fast to the truth of the gospel that each of us believe. Therefore, we have adopted the following guidelines for our ministry.

Guidelines

- **The NATIVITY will always be the central focus of Journey through Bethlehem (JTB).** JTB is an entire group of Christians using their combined resources and sharing their common gifts for ministry with the community. We want to bring the gospel to the community in a memorable way by recreating as authentically as possible that special night in Bethlehem, a one-time event when God became flesh. For this reason, we choose not to include the secular traditions of Christmas in our celebration (i.e. Santa Claus, Rudolph, Frosty the Snowman, etc.) While we realize that these traditions are fun, we have decided that the story of Christ's birth will be the exclusive focus of our ministry.
- **Journey through Bethlehem is a ministry of churches, organizations and individuals.** Therefore, JTB is NOT a forum for active promotion of your particular church or organization; but is a ministry dedicated exclusively to presenting the good news of Jesus Christ by portraying the events of Jesus' birth as they are presented in the New Testament.
- **In order to preserve the authenticity of the time and period, all events will exemplify the actual events surrounding Christ's birth.**
 1. **Authentic dress e.g. sandals (no Nikes), no visible jeans, etc.**
 2. **No jewelry and minimal make-up**
 3. **No nail polish (fingers or toes)**
 4. **All participants strongly encouraged to participate in Thursday night's dress rehearsal**
 5. **Make sure your area is covered throughout the event both Friday and Saturday, 6 – 9 p.m. (including breaks)**
 6. **Have a representative(s) from your respective areas present for the complete construction on Thursday and take down on Sunday**
 7. **Bring any concerns during the event to a JTB Board member**
 8. **NO FOOD will be brought out of the break room**

- **Journey through Bethlehem is a non-profit ministry.** All proceeds from donations, fundraisers, admissions and any other sources of income are to be reinvested back into the ministry. *(An annual donation of \$150 from each participating Church or organization is greatly appreciated.)*

- **The JTB Board** – The Board will be comprised of nine (9) members: three (3) from each of the two foundation churches (Wesley MUMC and First UMC) along with representatives from three (3) additional participating entities. The Board will have final say in any major decisions.