

# Templetones

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER  
TEMPLETON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
DECEMBER 2019

**Sunday, DECEMBER 1<sup>st</sup>**

Join us for the  
TPC Sanctuary's  
25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Celebration Lunch  
(immediately after worship)

## LIVING NATIVITY

**DECEMBER 13-15**

COMPLETE SCHEDULE  
ON PAGE 12



**CHRISTMAS HOPE OFFERING**

Info page 4

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES**

5:00 and 7:00pm

# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



In both TPC Kids and The Ark we have been reading 1 Samuel.

*Here's what happens...*

One night, Samuel wakes up to someone calling his name. He thinks it's Eli, the priest, but it's not. By the third time Samuel hears his name, Eli realizes it's God. Samuel listens to God's message and passes it along.

**Bible Point:** God speaks, so we listen for him.

*Talk About This...*

\*What's something you'd love to hear God talk to you about?

Later in 1 Samuel, the Philistines capture the Ark of God, a holy box that represents God's presence. They put the Ark in a temple with an idol named Dagon, and Dagon keeps falling before the Ark!

This demonstrates that God is real and the idol isn't.

**Bible Point:** God is real, so we believe he's the one true God.

*Talk About This...*

\*If you could make one fake thing become real, what would you choose and why?

## MEMORY VERSE

"So don't be afraid;  
you are more valuable  
to God than a whole  
flock of sparrows"  
-(Matthew 10:31)

TPC  
KIDS

the  
ARK



*The Ark kiddos busy at work!*



Plan to join us for the  
TPC Kids Christmas play,  
"LIVE from Bethlehem!"  
on December 15 (during  
worship).

## TPC KIDS Mission Statement:

Partnering with parents to make disciples  
by teaching and encouraging kids towards  
a lifelong, joyous relationship with Jesus.



# PASTOR'S PAGE

So when I saw the Christmas displays go up at Lowe's in late September, I was surprisingly undismayed. Not because I didn't think it just another calendar push to get ahead of the competition, but because I didn't want to waste my energy on the inevitable. It's a clash of values – and when Money is at stake, the Messiah will lose every time. Well, Jesus never really loses, but the world loses out. And Jesus knew this. He let us know from the outset that the "world," (as it expresses the rebellion/indifference/ of sin against a holy, loving God) is not our friend. In his priestly prayer on the night of his arrest, and the night before his death, he prayed for his disciples – then and now – knowing that the world already hated them because like Jesus, they were now "*not of this world.*"

In this prayer, Jesus didn't ask the Father to take them out of the world, but that he had sent them into the world, just as the Father had sent him into the world. BUT – knowing the world would be a dangerous place – he prayed two things for them:

That they would be kept ("protected") from the evil one. (John 17:15)

That they would be sanctified ("set apart") in the truth. (John 17:17)

Now there are many resources for living our lives as disciples of Jesus, but the ones Jesus prays most directly connected with in the face of the hatred of the world are these two: To be protected and kept safe from the attacks of the devil, and to be secure in the truth of the gospel. And what resources they are! As we feel increasingly alien to the agendas of secular society, and more vulnerable to the animosity of the world to religious faith (and Christianity in particular), we can know that this comes as no surprise to Jesus, and that he has already prepared us to live confidently in the midst of this. Jesus has prayed for our protection and our sanctification in the truth. We don't have to feel intimidated by those who are angry at the church – we are prepared to handle their opposition. We don't have to feel threatened by arguments that we are deluded by the false and fanciful claims of the Bible. We have been entrusted with the truth.

So...back to Lowe's. On one of my many recent trips there, I ran into someone I knew who didn't go to our church (goes to another). But with all the Christmas decorations around us, and Thanksgiving just ahead of us, she made it a point to say that their family would be at our **Living Nativity** *again* this year, and how *every year* it is an important part of their Christmas. The Living Nativity is where we take the truth with which we have been given – and have been entrusted – out of the sanctuary and into the street. It's our "Minority Report" on what is really being celebrated this time of year. See you on the grass!



Let's have a full turnout at our **Celebration Lunch** after worship this Sunday (Dec. 1) – a special time of fun and recognition and thanksgiving to God for 25 years worshiping in our sanctuary. It's a potluck – so bring a food dish (check with Nancy Jo Doughty if in doubt as to what to bring) – and if you can't bring a dish, still bring yourself!

Also, don't forget to pick up an **Advent Devotional Booklet** this Sunday as well. We love providing them for you as a way to live thoughtfully in this season, and grow in your understanding and experience of God's coming to us in Christ.

We call this event the *Incarnation* – that is, of God "becoming flesh" for us in the birth of Jesus. But not just 'for' us, but 'with us,' as in "*Emmanuel, which means 'God with us.'*" **The theme of "God with us," will be my sermon series this Advent:**

*Emmanuel – God with us...*

- ... in our HOPE (Dec. 1)
- ... in our PEACE (Dec. 8)
- ... in our JOY (Dec. 15)
- ... in our LOVE (Dec. 22)
- ... in our SALVATION (Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve)

See you in worship!



# CHRISTMAS HOPE OFFERING



Our Christmas Offering this year will support our ECO Partner, **World Renew**, specifically their North American Disaster Response Services (DRS). DRS provides the following services to community organizations in the days, months and years after a disaster:

- Early Assessment – using trained Volunteers
- Clean-up and Debris Removal -via teams of volunteers
- Unmet Needs Assessment – generally 5 to 12 months after a disaster
- Organization Capacity Building – advice and guidance to local recovery groups
- Construction Estimating – using trained volunteers
- Reconstruction – In 2018 alone, 2,261 people volunteered to help rebuild homes.



Last year, 290 homes were rebuilt because of people like you!

From the ECO Website:

*The mission of World Renew is to join communities around the world to renew hope, reconcile lives, and restore creation. Compelled by God's deep passion for justice and mercy, their ministry is three-fold: community development, disaster response and rehabilitation, and peace and justice. World Renew helps ECO to respond to domestic and international disasters with long-term recovery work, as well as working in communities of poverty in 28 countries around the world to foster community development and address injustice. World Renew offers your congregation a way to provide financial support and volunteers to respond to emergency and disaster situations or engage in sustainable Christian community development around the world. [Learn more at worldrenew.net](http://worldrenew.net).*



# FELLOWSHIP HOUR



## *Fellowship*

The Advent season is here! The anticipation of the birth of Jesus focuses our church on the many aspects of celebration of the good news of Christ. It does cause our hands to be busier as well. The Living Nativity performances are quite early this year – December 13, 14, and 15. Four performances require lots and lots of cookies!!! Your Fellowship committee is asking you to join in. Bake or buy cookies and begin delivering to the church the week of December 8th (Sunday after worship or Mon-Thur 9am-3pm). **Please have all cookies dropped off no later than 4pm on December 13th.** The Living Nativity is one of our biggest outreach programs and we certainly appreciate all the support you can give us.

Soon you will see next year's – 2020! - Fellowship calendar hung on the wall! Your chance to jump in and sign up to provide easy snacks for coffee fellowship! I can't thank you enough for the help you give us. Sharing your time and food for everyone to enjoy is part of the giving spirit embodied in our congregation. It is a joy to hear the fun going on during that hour after our worship. No need to be fancy. Everyone likes doughnuts, cookies, cake, veggies, chips, the list goes on. Team up with one or two friends to make it even easier.

If you are enjoying our new "green" cups and would like to become a partner with Fellowship to help us keep our prices low, please contact me. The larger our order, the better the price!! TPCs Youth Group is already in the loop. So nice to have our church helping to keep the earth a cleaner place. Even the little we are doing helps.

Nancy Jo Doughty  
Fellowship Elder  
805.286.4461  
[happycats.njd@gmail.com](mailto:happycats.njd@gmail.com)



**COOKIES NEEDED for Living Nativity!**

**Drop off your cookies:**

**Sunday, December 8 (after worship)  
or December 9-12 (9am-3pm)**

**Thank You!**

# 'TIS THE SEASON!



## ANGEL TREE

It's time once again our annual Angel Tree ministry. We have the opportunity to bless 75 children this Christmas. The Head Start program in Atascadero has given us the names of kids in the area who are in need. Camille Katz, Family Services Advocate shared the following with me regarding a few of the families we would be serving. "One of the families they will be helping is a family of 5 which was just able to move from a small apartment to a larger motor home and is super excited to finally give their children more space. Another family they will be helping is a single mother of 3 who works in the medical field and is always struggling to make ends meet. Yet another family the father is on his way to becoming a citizen and they have been struggling to get by. We also have a family in which the mother has overcome substance abuse and is now very active with her child and is one of our example parents. Another household was broken by domestic violence, so your congregation will be adding some cheer to this household. We also have a few foster children, who can always use blessings from the community."

After choosing an angel or two from the tree please write down your name and phone number next to the corresponding tag # and child's name. Purchase your gift (approx. \$25 value suggested ) and return it to the church wrapped with the angel tag attached to the gift. The gifts can be brought into the sanctuary on Sunday or dropped in the office during the week (Mon-Thur 9am-3pm).

**Gifts must be returned no later than December 15.**

Thank you so much for participating! Any questions please call Debby Price 805-215-6915

**Invite your  
friends and  
family!**

Living  
Nativity

Celebrating our 13th year!

December 13 7:00pm  
December 14 7:00pm  
December 15 5:45 & 7:00pm

Templeton Presbyterian Church  
610 S. Main St, Templeton  
[templetonpres.org](http://templetonpres.org)

Bundle up and join us on the front lawn for  
the AMAZING story of our Savior's birth!

CHRISTMAS EVE

5:00 and 7:00pm

**We hope to  
see you!**



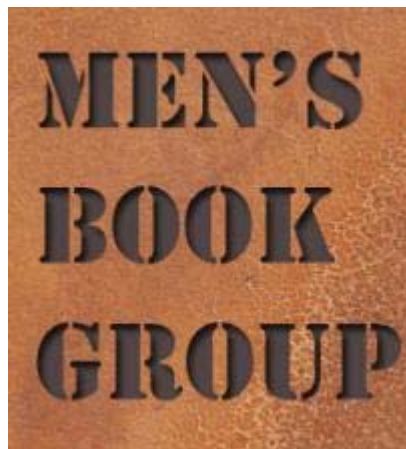
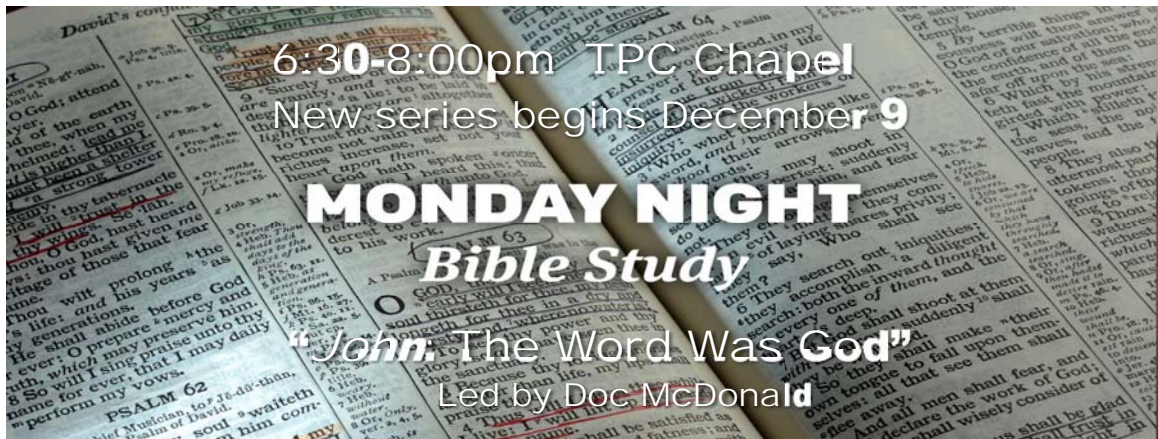
# ADULT MINISTRY



**New series: "Five Hours with the Master" 8:45am TPC Library, led by Ray Derby**

Knowing the time was fast approaching for Him to depart this world, Jesus spent His final hours with His closest friends. Bible Scholars tell us that the events described in John chapters 13-17 cover a five-hour period; one that is commonly known as "The Upper Room Discourse". As the disciples sat with their master, unaware of what would soon take place, Jesus served them, taught them, and prayed for them.

In this 11-week study, we will discover a vivid picture of the disciples' final moments with their Savior. Carefully walking through John 13-17, reminds us of the centrality of Christ in all of life.



## MONDAY NIGHTS

(1ST & 3RD MON. OF THE MONTH)

**7:00-8:00PM**

**TPC LIBRARY**

**COME SEE WHAT THE BOYS ARE UP TO!**

# SEASON OF GIVING!



## THANKSGIVING BASKETS

**68 local families** received groceries for their Thanksgiving feasts thanks to the funds raised by Deacons' annual Thanksgiving Baskets Offering. **Thank you** to Mick Lebens for heading up the team and to all the volunteers and supporters of this important ministry in our community.



Hats off to this team of friendly faces who cooked and served dinner at **ECHO** on November 18. TPC provides one dinner a month for the guests of the homeless shelter. Check with Kathy Westphal for opportunities to help with future events.



**83 boxes** were collected for Operation Christmas Child!  
**Thank you** for bringing smiles to lots of little faces!



# STEPHEN MINISTRY

## Stephen Ministry Care for the Holiday Season

For many individuals, the holiday season is filled with happiness, joy, and the anticipation of the birth of Jesus Christ. For some individuals, the holidays are a difficult and stressful time. The loss of a loved one, the loss of a job, the loss of health, or financial difficulties, may cloud the holiday joy. **Give the gift of Stephen Ministry** to yourself or someone you know in our church family or community who is facing a stressful holiday season. A Stephen Minister will confidentially walk alongside, listen to without judgment, and pray with you through the holiday season, and amid your losses, loneliness, or difficult situation will help you find joy and happiness as we all anticipate the birth of Jesus Christ.



**To initiate Stephen Ministry care for yourself or someone you know, contact Lois Ecklund at (408)718-8613 (cell) or (805)461-1470 (home).**

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### ***POINSETTIA ORDERS***



It's time to order your poinsettias in memory or in honor of someone special.

Order forms are available in the narthex and the church office. Please make check payable to **TPC** and write "flowers" in memo section.

**ORDERS ARE DUE BY DECEMBER 22.**



TPC is creating a MEAL TRAIN TEAM to help members of our church family who are in need of temporary assistance with meals due to illness, loss of family, etc. If you would like to "hop on board" the train and help, please contact Robin Scott (441-3601).

# YOUTH MINISTRY

Templeton Presbyterian Church

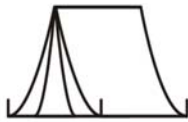
## YOUTH MINISTRY

November Snapshot



**109**

TOTAL REGISTERED  
STUDENTS YTD



**72**

STUDENTS SIGNED UP FOR  
WINTER CAMP! (SO FAR!)



**50**

AVERAGE WEEKLY  
ATTENDANCE BETWEEN  
BOTH GROUPS



**9**

NEW STUDENTS THIS  
MONTH!

December Series  
Starting Dec. 2

UNWRAPPED

Mondays 7-8:45PM  
Tuesdays 7- 8:30PM

**CHRISTMAS  
PARTY**

GIFT EXCHANGE  
\$10 MAX

BRING DESSERT AND DRINKS TO  
SHARE!  
PIZZA PROVIDED!

DECEMBER  
16 & 17



# DECEMBER CALENDAR

## DECEMBER 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship Service <b>10:25 AM</b> TPC Kids <b>10:45 AM</b> Communion <b>11:10 AM</b> Coffee Fellowship <b>11:30 AM</b> 25th Anniversary (Sanctuary) <b>1:00 PM</b> House of Restoration service	<b>2</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> Men's & Women's Bible Study in Chapel <b>7:00 PM</b> High School Youth Group <b>7:00 PM</b> Men's Book Club	<b>3</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Prayer Group <b>9:30 AM</b> Ladies Bible Study <b>6:00 PM</b> House of Restoration - practice <b>7:00 PM</b> Middle School Youth Group	<b>4</b> <b>2:00 PM</b> Youth for Christ <b>6:00 PM</b> A.A. <b>6:30 PM</b> House of Restoration service	<b>5</b> <b>6:00 PM</b> Choir Practice <b>7:30 PM</b> Handbell Choir	<b>6</b> Church Office Closed <b>8:30 AM</b> Moms in Prayer	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship Service <b>10:25 AM</b> TPC Kids <b>11:10 AM</b> Coffee Fellowship <b>1:00 PM</b> House of Restoration service <b>3:00 PM</b> Living Nativity practice Butler Hall	<b>9</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> Men's & Women's Bible Study in Chapel <b>7:00 PM</b> High School Youth Group	<b>10</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Prayer Group <b>9:30 AM</b> Ladies Bible Study <b>6:00 PM</b> House of Restoration - practice <b>6:30 PM</b> Stephen Ministry <b>7:00 PM</b> Middle School Youth Group	<b>11</b> <b>1:00 PM</b> Prayer Shawl Ministry <b>2:00 PM</b> Youth for Christ <b>6:00 PM</b> A.A. <b>6:30 PM</b> House of Restoration service	<b>12</b> <b>6:00 PM</b> Choir Practice <b>7:30 PM</b> Handbell Choir	<b>13</b> Church Office Closed <b>8:30 AM</b> Moms in Prayer <b>7:00 PM</b> LIVING NATIVITY	<b>14</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Kids Play practice <b>7:00 PM</b> LIVING NATIVITY
<b>15</b> TPC Kids Christmas play <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship Service <b>10:25 AM</b> TPC Kids <b>11:10 AM</b> Coffee Fellowship <b>1:00 PM</b> House of Restoration service <b>5:45 PM</b> LIVING NATIVITY <b>7:00 PM</b> LIVING NATIVITY	<b>16</b> <b>4:00 PM</b> E.C.H.O. Dinner <b>6:30 PM</b> Men's & Women's Bible Study in Chapel <b>7:00 PM</b> High School Youth Group <b>7:00 PM</b> Men's Book Club	<b>17</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Prayer Group <b>9:30 AM</b> Ladies Bible Study <b>1:00 PM</b> Parkinson's Support Group <b>6:00 PM</b> House of Restoration - practice <b>7:00 PM</b> Middle School Youth Group	<b>18</b> <b>2:00 PM</b> Youth for Christ <b>6:00 PM</b> A.A. <b>6:30 PM</b> House of Restoration service	<b>19</b> <b>4:45 PM</b> Worship & Music Committee meeting <b>6:00 PM</b> Choir Practice <b>7:30 PM</b> Handbell Choir	<b>20</b> Church Office Closed <b>8:30 AM</b> Moms in Prayer	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship Service <b>10:25 AM</b> TPC Kids <b>11:10 AM</b> Coffee Fellowship <b>1:00 PM</b> House of Restoration service	<b>23</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> Men's & Women's Bible Study in Chapel	<b>24</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Prayer Group <b>5:00 PM</b> Christmas Eve service <b>7:00 PM</b> Christmas Eve service	<b>25</b> MERRY CHRISTMAS <b>6:00 PM</b> A.A.	<b>26</b> <b>6:00 PM</b> Choir Practice <b>7:30 PM</b> Handbell Choir	<b>27</b> Church Office Closed	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship Service <b>10:25 AM</b> TPC Kids <b>11:10 AM</b> Coffee Fellowship <b>1:00 PM</b> House of Restoration service	<b>30</b> Pastor Charlie out of office <b>6:30 PM</b> Men's & Women's Bible Study in Chapel	<b>31</b> Pastor Charlie out of office <b>9:00 AM</b> Prayer Group <b>6:00 PM</b> House of Restoration - practice	<b>1</b> NEW YEAR'S DAY - Church Office closed <b>6:00 PM</b> A.A. <b>6:30 PM</b> House of Restoration service	<b>2</b> Pastor Charlie out of office <b>6:00 PM</b> Choir Practice <b>7:30 PM</b> Handbell Choir	<b>3</b> Church Office Closed <b>8:30 AM</b> Moms in Prayer	<b>4</b>



**Templeton Presbyterian Church**

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**Templeton, CA 93465**

**805.434.1921**

***templetonpres.org***

**Pastor Charlie Little, ext. 2**

***pastor@fpctempleton.org***

**Children's Ministries Director, Brendy Alsup**

***children@fpctempleton.org***

***brendyalsup@hotmail.com***

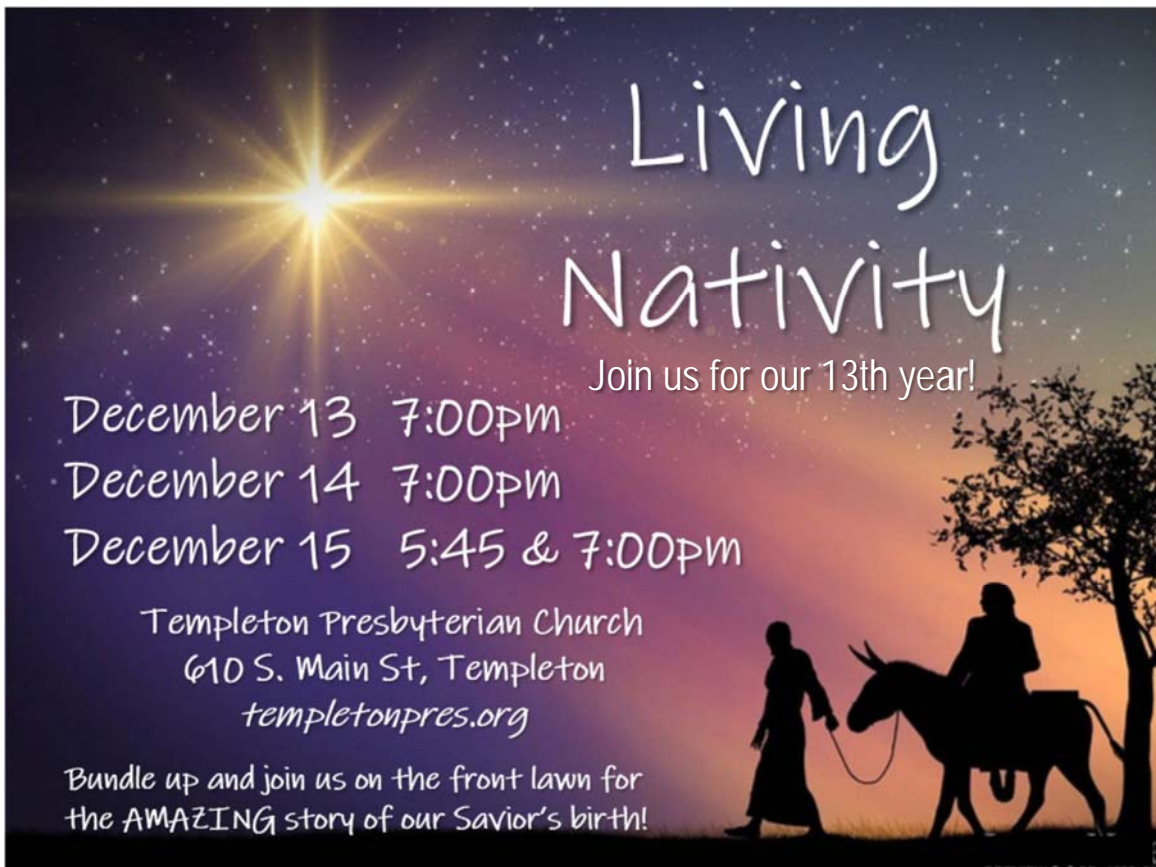
**Youth Ministries Director, Dave Johnson**

***students@fpctempleton.org***

**Administrative Assistant, Julie Bower, ext. 0**

***admin@fpctempleton.org***

**Worship Director, Kellie Wenzel, call/text 805.538.3271**



**Living  
Nativity**

Join us for our 13th year!

December 13 7:00pm  
December 14 7:00pm  
December 15 5:45 & 7:00pm

Templeton Presbyterian Church  
610 S. Main St, Templeton  
*templetonpres.org*

Bundle up and join us on the front lawn for  
the AMAZING story of our Savior's birth!