

ANNOUNCEMENTS

12.14.2025

TCCO KIDS TEAM VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Our TCCO Kids Dept. is exploding with LOTS of amazing kids! So, we are looking for more enthusiastic and passionate volunteers who are eager to share your time and talents to help nurture our kids' love for Jesus and their understanding of His love for them! If you are interested in serving in TCCO Kids, please see Elaine Hathaway (elaine@theconnecting.co) or scan the QR code located on the wall in the kids check-in area to fill out an interest form. We need you!

TCCO CHRISTMAS SUNDAY CANDLELIGHT SERVICES: Join us **NEXT Sun. 12/21 at 9am or 11am**, as we conclude our series "The Way Back to Wonder," and this Advent season. We will have some special Christmas treats, our TCCO Kids Christmas music performances and get to share our Christmas candle-lighting time together. Be sure to invite all your family and friends and grab a picture in our Christmas photo op. We can't wait to celebrate this season and special time together with you all!

NO SUNDAY SERVICES on 12/28: This is an opportunity for us to say THANK YOU to our Dream Team for serving week after week all year long, and to give you all a break. We also highly value the importance of time with family and friends. So, please plan to use this time to be with your people and go be JESUS and THE CHURCH outside the 4 walls of our church building! And invite everyone back for our first Sunday of the New Year together on Sun. 1/4!

TCCO KIDS CHRISTMAS CONNECT EVENT: Join us for a fun, cozy, candy cane kind of morning on Tues. 12/30 from 10-11:30am at TCCO. Come dressed in your Christmas cozies and ready for some fun games, a story and a yummy treat! This event is designed for the whole family...parents and kids, 5th grade and under, will engage in all of the Christmas-themed activities together. Use the QR code to register by Sun. 12/21. Contact elaine@theconnecting.co with any questions, or for more information.

TCCO CHRISTMAS TEAR DOWN & CLEAN UP: Everyone is welcome to come serve and help us at TCCO on Fri. 1/2, @ 9:30am. Please email brittany@theconnecting.co to sign up, so we can plan enough breakfast treats for everyone. Children are welcome to come & serve with their parents.

SAVE THE DATES

Wed. 12/17-12/31, No TCCO Students-Winter Break

Wed. 1/7, TCCO Students New Semester Kick-Off, 6:30pm

Sun. 1/4, 1st Sunday of 2026!!!

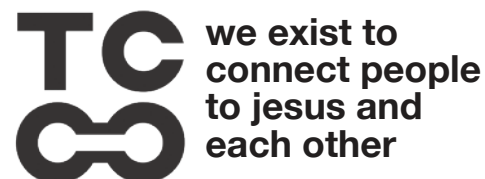
Sun. 1/25, Winter Lunch With The Staff, 12:30-2:00pm



THE WAY BACK TO WONDER

"The Manger... Where Love Came Low"

Travis Cherry



THE WAY BACK TO WONDER – WEEK 6
“The Manger...Where Love Came Low”

12.14.25

KEY SCRIPTURES: LUKE 2:1-20; JOHN 1:14; PHILLIPIANS 2:6-8

The story of the manger has never been about the _____, it is all about _____.

Luke 2:1-20 — ¹ In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ And all went to be registered, each to his own town. ⁴ And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, ⁵ to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. ⁶ And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸ And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. ¹⁰ And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹ For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹² And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, ¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!” ¹⁵ When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶ And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. ¹⁷ And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. ¹⁸ And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. ²⁰ And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

John 1:14 — And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Philippians 2:6-8 — ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in human form, he humbled himself by God. becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

God moved _____ us by moving _____, not high...He came close by becoming _____.

Four Truths The Manger Reveals to Us:

1. THE MANGER REVEALS TO US A GOD WHO ALWAYS _____

- “God became a _____ so we could approach Him without _____.” — Max Lucado
- Glory without _____ would overwhelm us and holiness without _____ would have crushed us.
- God is not threatened by your _____. He is not disappointed by the places where you feel _____. He is not surprised by the moments that reveal your _____.

2. THE MANGER REVEALS TO US THE _____ OF _____

- Jesus chose the _____, most humble place so we could know His _____ in the _____ way.
- Humility is not _____ less of yourself...instead humility is _____ to lower yourself for the sake of _____.
- The throne of heaven and the manger of Bethlehem are not _____ ...they reveal the same _____ of the same _____.

3. THE MANGER REVEALS TO US GOD’S _____

- God has a way of _____ everything, since the Kingdom of God is an _____ kingdom.

Luke 1:52 — He has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate;

- God often uses the _____ of places and people, the places we _____, to _____ Himself most!

4. THE MANGER REVEALS THAT _____ IS THE WAY TO _____

- The closer you get to _____, the _____ you see God. Pride _____ while humility _____.

Humility looks like...

- Choosing _____ when pride wants to speak first.
- _____ when no one sees.
- _____ instead of defending.
- _____ when you could win the argument.
- Choosing _____ even when it costs you something.
- Making God the _____ of it all instead of yourself.

“As long as you are _____ you cannot know God.” — C.S. Lewis

The _____ became _____ when love came low.