

## news release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Creation Museum Readies for Christmas Town:**

Annual holiday event features live nativity, drama, Bethlehem village and dazzling light display

**PETERSBURG, KY., November 8, 2011 –** Now going into its fourth Christmas season, the <u>Creation Museum</u> is preparing once again for its popular annual free holiday celebration <u>"Christmas Town,"</u> which includes a live nativity, dramatic presentations, a re-creation of first-century Bethlehem and a breathtaking "Garden of Lights" (featuring more than 60,000 Christmas lights). Gaining in popularity throughout the Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky region, last year's event saw crowds of 22,000 over eight days, up from 17,000 in 2009. Most of the events are free.

Some attendees ask what the Creation Museum has to do with Christmas, but those who have visited realize that the museum – while presenting scientific exhibits regarding the Bible's Book of Genesis – culminates with Jesus' life, death and resurrection.

"The Bible's account of creation through Christ's life and death on the Cross must be told to share the true history – His Story – of God's plan of salvation," said museum and Answers in Genesis president and founder Ken Ham. "This is what the museum is all about – we are not just a museum about creation, but we want to help people understand the real truth of the nativity and be challenged with the need of Christ as Savior. That's the best Christmas gift anyone can receive, and it's the main reason we host Christmas Town, our gift to the community."



Pictured here is a scene from the Creation Museum gardens spectacularly illuminated for the annual Christmas Town celebration.

As part of that challenge, the quality dramatic presentations go beyond just a reenactment of the nativity to include other characters from that time and how they responded to the news that the Creator Himself became human and entered the world as an infant. These include:

> The story of Elizabeth, the mother of John the Baptist, and the joy she felt when she was told she would bear a child of promise;

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- The temple guard, Hyam, whose life was transformed from shame to hope with his search for the "child born King of the Jews"; and
- The Magi, wise men who will share how and why they followed the star.

The replica Bethlehem village will include a first-century marketplace, making it easier to gather last-minute Christmas gifts and souvenirs, from oil lamps and pottery to handmade scarves, hats, toys, and baskets. Nearby, "Noah's Café" will serve holiday-themed beverages and snacks.

In addition to the spectacular light display, dramas, and village, the museum's acclaimed planetarium will present a special ticketed program, "The Christmas Star," about the mysterious star in the east that heralded the birth of Jesus and guided the wise men to Him.

"Christmas Town" is open 6-8 p.m. ET, Dec. 9, 10, 16, 17, 26, 27, 30 and 31, and all outdoor events (except for the camel rides) are free and open to the public. More information about these special Christmas events, plus details on purchasing tickets for the planetarium and the Creation Museum, can be found at <a href="https://www.creationmuseum.org">www.creationmuseum.org</a> or by calling (888) 582-4253. Also, admission to the museum's exhibits will be only \$5 after 5pm on Christmas Town nights; the last museum entry will be at 8pm.

Answers in Genesis is a biblical apologetics ministry which conducts more than 300 teaching meetings each year, hosts an award-winning website, and produces the "Answers" radio program heard on more than 600 stations throughout the world. It is the parent ministry of the high-tech Creation Museum which opened to international acclaim on Memorial Day 2007, and has attracted almost 1.5 million visitors since then. For more information, see <a href="https://www.creationmuseumnews.com">www.creationmuseumnews.com</a>.

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Note to Editors: For more information about "Christmas Town," or to request a Creation Museum spokesperson, please contact Melany Ethridge of A. Larry Ross Communications at 972.267.1111 or <a href="melany@alarryross.com">melany@alarryross.com</a>.