

December 17: The birth narrative in the Gospel of Luke

Most of us have seen the Christmas parents where Joseph and Mary are looking for a place to stay in Bethlehem. But, if Joseph was going there to 'register' because he was a descendent of King David, would he not have any relatives living there who would have welcomed them to stay with them? After all, Mary spent 3 months with her relative Elizabeth in the countryside near to Bethlehem. Why not stay with her? Where was the "manger"? What about "the inn?" Where was Jesus born anyway? Does it really matter?

These are some of the questions to consider as we take a new look at the birth narrative in the Gospel of Luke. Perhaps we can begin to think about this familiar story in a new way. (Or not).

The class will be led by Rev. Ken Ribe (retired PCUSA Interim Pastor). Some of you will remember that Ken filled the pulpit for Anita two Sundays in July.