

Dear Ephraim City,

There has been a county wide nativity event for the past 10+ years in the upstairs of the Ephraim Coop building at no cost to the community the first weekend of December every year. I, Jamie, have spear headed it for the past three years. This will be my fourth year volunteering to serve our community in this way.

Last year (same thing happening this year) it was very difficult to reserve the upstairs of the historical coop building with the back and forth communication between Snow College and the City of Ephraim. This is not an Ephraim City event or a Snow College event. This event serves the entire community as well as Snow College. Everyone who participates is a volunteer including artists, musicians, bakers, businesses, decor, clean up, tear down, advertising, live nativity actors, carpenters for the stable (outdoor use), and farms bringing animals. Last year between 80-90 community members and Snow College students participated to set this event up along with teachers and businesses from the area. I hope the number of volunteers grows even more this year!

The first year that I led the event we set up free refreshments and tables and chairs where people could gather and visit while live music was performed and almost 100 nativities were on display. This last year we added an outdoor live nativity and a silent auction benefiting the Sanpete county food pantry, which people in the community enjoyed.

Anyone can be involved in this event to give back to our neighbors and those around us! As these days get harder and harder for families to even survive, we should want to help as many people as possible find joy and hope. Last year 85 nativities were purchased to auction off and we were able to raise \$2,200 to give to the food pantry, which in turn helps Snow College students and hurting families in our community. This year, we are at the beginning of creating a "festival of trees" to raise funds for health care for children in Sanpete as well. we plan to include these nativity trees along with the donated nativities. We will also add free hot chocolate for outdoors and set up indoor puzzles that the community can put together and just enjoy time together. I think that the people of Sanpete County really need uplifting things in their lives, especially during the holidays. I believe it's important for us to work together to give back to the people of our county. I would especially love more businesses to get involved and give back to their patrons.

I am asking Ephraim City if they would be more involved and be willing to advertise the event and to encourage everyone to light up Main Street as a way of adding Holiday cheer to our town. Light brings joy to everyone!

Sincerely, Jamie

Thompson

(on behalf of the  
community)