

The Living Nativity is a walk through event complete with animals and costumed characters inside a gambrel roof barn at Shepherd's Cross, an authentic working farm, just north of Claremore on Scenic Route 66. People may visit the farm and enjoy the peace of a few hours spent in the country, contemplating that original Christmas when the Christ Child was born in a stable. Open the barn door and step back in time — spinning, weaving and wool working demonstrations throughout the day. Watch as handmade evergreen wreaths are created; enjoy a craft activity with your children; enjoy a cup of complimentary apple cider and cookies; and enjoy a Christmas children's audio-visual program. This year the Living Nativity will feature three Dramatic Stories — one of the following stories told by a dramatic storyteller each hour:

- Elisabeth — the story of Christ's birth from the perspective of Elisabeth (John the Baptist's mother) — written and told by Betty Howard.
- The Inn Keeper's Wife — the story of Christ's birth from the perspective of the Innkeeper's Wife's — written and told by Frankie Campbell.
- Menagerie at the Manger — the story of Christmas from the animals at the manger — written and told by Linda Allen.
- Shepherd's Shop will be open, featuring a host of Made in Oklahoma gift items, paintings, artwork, and handmade crafts from more than 30 local artisans.
- Farm fresh grass fed, natural lamb meat is available.
- 100 percent natural wool yarns and fibers are available; processed at our own mini-wool mill. Shepherd's Cross is an "eco-friendly" wool mill.
- A Fair Trade Shop that sells hand made products from missions, and returns 100 percent of the proceeds to those missions, is a part of Shepherd's Shop.
- This is black walnut and pecan harvest season on the farm. Farm fresh black walnuts and native pecans will be available at down home country prices.
- Enjoy watching the sheep resting in the pastures, as they did that first Christmas night.
- Journey with the Shepherds — Hayride in the pasture — as they journeyed to see the Christ on that first hallowed night. Available every two

hours (\$5 per person; cancelled in inclement weather). The event is available free of charge. Donations are accepted and are tax deductible. Suggested donation is \$3 per person. Large groups please schedule in advance. Shepherd's Cross is home to a non-profit Christian organization called Heart of the Shepherd that holds this event. Shepherd's Cross provides the farm, animals and the barn for the event. The Living Nativity will proceed even in the case of inclement weather. All activities take place inside the heated Amish built gambrel roof tour barn, which houses some of the animals as well as the wool processing, farm museum, games, hands on learning stations, story time and the gift shop. To find out more information about this event, visit www.ShepherdsCross.com.