

# Missed 'Joseph' at Joliet church? Watch it on YouTube

The story is a modern retelling of the events leading up to Jesus' birth

By Denise M. Baran-Unland



Joseph (Reginald Pelt) converses at the elevator with an employee at the fictional Metropolitan Building in downtown Metropolitan USA, in the GSW Network performance "Joseph Galilee." (Photo provided by GSW Network)

January 12, 2024 at 8:00 am CST

Anyone who missed GSW Network's holiday production in Joliet can enjoy its faith message on the GSW YouTube channel.

GSW Network presented "Joseph" in early December at Mount Zion Baptist Church in Joliet. The performance was an "engaging mix of stage and screen," according to a promotional video on the GSW Network Facebook page.

The story is a modern retelling of the events leading up to Jesus' birth, from the viewpoint of Jesus' stepfather, Joseph.



Marie (Pam Coley) is excited to talk about a very important book. (Photo provided by GSW Network)



But even though the holidays are past, the faith message of “Joseph” still is relevant, said Weston, a writer with GSW Network.

So GSW Network uploaded the film parts of the “Joseph” to its YouTube page in several installments for the community to enjoy.



Atty. Monica Helmsley (Angela Page) and her assistant Jordin (Adelma Chavez) listen to a client. (Photo provided by GSW Network)

Weston said the performance was originally inspired by a presentation he gave at Grace Place Christian Church in North Carolina several years ago, under the leadership of Apostle Michael McGill. Weston said those involved with the December presentation met over the summer to discuss how to best approach the story.

“One of the questions that was posed was, ‘What can you tell me about Joseph, in the New Testament?’” Weston said.

Mostly everyone answered that Joseph was a carpenter and Mary’s husband, but they didn’t add much more than that, Weston said.

So “Joseph Galilee” was an opportunity to tell the story from Joseph’s perspective, he said.

“Mary, yes, we give her recognition that she was chosen to carry the Messiah,” Weston said. “But this guy was chosen, too.”



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– Weston, writer with GSW Network

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Joseph (Reginald Pelt), Rabbi Samuels (Adkin Jones) admire Joseph's feature in Plans Magazine. (Photo provided by GSW Network)

According to the synopsis, Joseph Galilee is the CEO of an architectural firm in downtown Metropolitan USA. Joseph and his team are confident they can win in a contract war with business rival Goldstar, according to the synopsis.

But then Joseph “falls madly in love” with a young woman who starts working in a temp position in his company’s mail room, according to the synopsis.

This woman gives Joseph “a startling revelation” that will change his life and the destiny of the entire human race, according to the synopsis.

**STAMP** presented at **BICENTENNIAL PARK** Saturday, February 10th @ 2pm and 7:30pm





Priestess (Kim Steele) prepares to discuss her working relationship with Rabbi Samuels on a podcast. (Photo provided by GSW Network)

Weston said some people find Biblical stories “old” or “antiquated” since the historical aspects down to the clothing are emphasized, and the faith message is missed.

“Giving it that fresh perspective really makes it feel tailored for the era in which we live,” Weston said. “And it makes people more able, in my opinion, to receive the message. It speaks to our culture and to our times and what we do in our everyday life.”

GSW Network also presented “The Mall Messiah” in December 2022 at St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church of Joliet.

And then GSW Network also put its “stamp” on “STAMP: A Story of Black America and US Postage” by Larry Crawford of Joliet by presenting it as a 45-minute play in February 2023 at the Billie Limacher Bicentennial Park Theatre.

For information on “Joseph” and upcoming performances and productions from GSW Network, visit [gsw.network](http://gsw.network).

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Talk show host Needa (Staneeda Ware) introduces her special guest on the Needa Show. (Photo provided by GSW Network)



GSW Network before filming a scene with Staneeda Ware and Kendria Yarbough. (Photo provided by GSW Network)

Joliet Will County Faith



**Denise M. Baran-Unland**

Denise M. Baran-Unland is the features editor for The Herald-News in Joliet. She covers a variety of human interest stories. She also writes the long-time weekly tribute feature "An Extraordinary Life about local people who have died. She studied journalism at the College of St. Francis in Joliet, now the University of St. Francis.

