Each year, the Christmas season in Great Bend shines brightly with its renowned Trail of Lights holiday display. For over twenty years, the holidays have come alive with beautiful animated and static light displays that wind throughout the community. Enjoy the Wild Lights at Brit Spaugh Park, the Twelve Days of Christmas at Veteran’s Memorial Park, the brilliance of the lights at Jack Kilby Square in downtown Great Bend, the wonder of the Christmas Nativity at 10th and K-86, and the charm of the lights at the Barton County Historical Village. Many of the displays have been hand-crafted by City employees and local artists! The lights begin at dusk on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving, and will continue throughout the holiday season. We wish you a very Merry Christmas during this special time of year!
November 12th – Annual Mission Bazaar. Sponsored by the Dominican Sisters of Great Bend. Hundreds of handcrafted and homemade items for sale. Heartland Center for Spirituality, 3800 Broadway, 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.

November 16th – 30th – Award Winning Quilts from the National Quilt Museum. Shafer Art Gallery at BCC.

November 19th – 30th – Christmas Craft Mall. Great place to get those one-of-a-kind gifts. 1700 Main Street, Monday through Saturday 9 a.m. – 7 p.m. and Sunday 1-6 p.m.

November 21st – Winter Instrumental Concert. BCC Fire Arts Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.


November 25th - 26th – Santa House. Bring the kids to meet Santa. Jack Kirby Square, 6-8 p.m.

November 26th – Living Nativity Family Portraits. A gift from Foundry Methodist Church to you and your family. Jack Kirby Square, 2-8 p.m.

November 27th – Festival of Trees. Trees decorated by area school children. Shafer Art Gallery at BCC. Monday through Friday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.; Sunday 1-5 p.m.

December 1st – 4th – It’s a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Show? - This beloved American holiday classic comes to captivating life as a live 1940s radio broadcast. This play, with its original twist, its clever use of props, entertaining voices and a love story that you want to witness over and over again, is a perfect way for the whole family to kick off the Christmas season. Presented by the Great Bend Community Theatre. Thursday through Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m.

December 1st-3rd, 8th-10th, 15th-17th and December 22nd-23rd – Santa House. Bring the kids to meet Santa. Jack Kirby Square, 5-8 p.m.

December 7th – Christmas Entertaining Menus. Get into the Christmas spirit with a wonderful meal and the sound from the Great Bend Middle School Women In Harmony group. Great Bend Recreation Center, 1214 Stone, 12 p.m. Registration is due to the GBRC by December 2nd.

December 8th – 9th – Drive-Through Christmas Story. Trinity United Methodist Church, 5700 Broadway. 6-8 p.m.

December 8th – Christmas Dinner and Open House. Join your friends for a Christmas dinner and party after the dinner. Senior Center, 2005 Kansas, 12 p.m. Make your reservations early by calling 782-3164.

December 11th – 12th – Ghosts of Christmas Past, Annual Open House. Barton County Historical Museum, South Highway 281, 1-4 p.m.

December 14th – Relay4. Don’t let the “holidays” get you down this year. This free program is designed to amplify the hectic details of the season. Sponsored by the GBRC. 12 p.m. at the GBRC Activity Center.

December 18th – Great Bend High School Vespers Concert. High School Auditorium, 2027 Market, 7 p.m. Youth Chors Concert at 3:30 p.m.

December 19th – Great Bend High School Vocal Concert. High School Auditorium, 2027 Market, 7:30 p.m.

December 19th – Annual Story Time Christmas Program. Enjoy songs, a story, refreshments and meet Santa! Great Bend Public Library, 1409 Williams, 2 p.m.