

# NEWSLINE

## Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ

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December 19, 2021

### A Child Is Born

*"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called 'Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.'" (Isaiah 9:6)*

So, what is so different about this child? Countless children are born around the world each day. Why is this child unique? Why do millions of people bow before Him? Why does the world pause to remember His birth?

Because, this child *is* different. He is no ordinary infant and His birth was no ordinary birth. He is different because God determined that His birth would be so profoundly different from all other births that he announced it more than 700 years in advance. It was different because His mother was still a virgin, and His father was God Himself. God entrusted His infant Son to a young woman's womb with the confidence that she would faithfully honor this sacred trust.

Born in a stable, among ordinary farm animals, this child's birth was announced by angels singing, *"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, Peace, goodwill among men."* That is why He came. That is what He was about. And that is still His mission for us...to glorify God in the highest, and bring peace and goodwill to men.

His path was not to a stable, but to a cross. The ultimate goal was to die for a lost world. His ultimate victory was to be raised from death and return to the Father who sent Him. By doing so, He brought life to all who would follow Him to the cross. After more than two thousand years, that cross still stands as the center piece of human history...the pivotal point of eternity. No wonder they called Him, *"Everlasting Father"*, for He truly is the *Father of Eternity*. Let us bow before Him and honor His birth by accepting His cross and serving Him.

Al Behel

### Other News

**Disaster Relief:** Last weekend we witnessed unprecedented devastation across several states due to the tornadoes. Many people lost their lives and many others lost their homes and jobs. Last Sunday a special collection was taken and \$3,247 was contributed. We realize that many of you were not prepared to donate as you were not made aware in advance. If you were not prepared last Sunday you will have another opportunity to give to the disaster relief this Sunday. Checks may be made out to the GSM church (or designated online) and it will be forwarded to help with the disaster.

**-Special Speaker Tonight: Sam Haynes,** son of Mark and Cathy, will be our speaker tonight. Sam is a student at Freed-Hardeman University and recently changed his major to Bible because he wants to preach/teach the gospel of Jesus. We have seen Sam (and his brothers) grow up at the GSM church and are excited about his decision. We look forward to hearing him. Sam is working hard to help cover the cost of his education. Some of us may wish to assist him as he studies for the ministry. If so, you can make a commitment to Sam (or, Mark and Cathy) or earmark your checks for Sam Haynes Fund. Sam needs and deserves our help.

-Online worship for those who cannot be with us in person is available at our website: [greatsmokymountainschurchofchrist.com](http://greatsmokymountainschurchofchrist.com) or on our Facebook page.

**Food Contact For Month:** Poliy Cline

**Elder Contact for Month:** Jim Anderson 865-924-1067

**Sermon Topics:** A.M.— *"Why Was Jesus Born of A Virgin? (Al)*  
P.M.— *"The Mission of God" (Sam Haynes)*

Archived sermons and Al's Blogs available at [albehel.com](http://albehel.com)

### Our Known Sick

**-June McGowen,** is in Pigeon Forge Nursing Home. Her condition has deteriorated significantly over the past few months.

**-Linda Valentine—** battling cancer.

**-Anna Ruth Franklin—** Prayers for several health issues.

### Friends and Family News/Prayer Requests

**-Keep Tracey's dad and mom, Ron and Judy Pitts,** in your prayers. Their address is: 313 Monticello Rd., Franklin, TN 37064

**-Treavor Hayes,** 7 year old grandson of Marc and Sue is receiving treatment through a port which has been installed to make his treatment easier. erHe has a tumor on optic nerve. Please keep hm in prayer.

**-George Tolliver's sister, Mossie Simpson,** is battling COPD. She is staying with her son. Prayers still needed.

-Shannon Wade requests prayers for **Harley Tucker,** who is a 24 year old friend of their family. She just started chemo for breast cancer. She lives in MS.

**-Priscilla Dick** has completed her chemotherapy and is doing well.

**-Bill Pierce,** father of **Carol Kizer** (wife of Nelson), has been placed in Smoky Mtn. Rehab Center in PFs. Please keep this wonderful family in prayer.

**-Tricia Hayes'** mother, Debbie Odham, has been diagnosed with leukemia with only months to live. Her father is also struggling with COPD and is in critical condition. Please keep Tricia and her family in prayer.

-We are happy to report that **David Byrd** (Herb and Sybil's son) has improved and has been able to return to Louisiana and is tentatively back at work. Also, **Joel Davenport,** their son-in-law has been downgraded from stage 4 to stage 1 kidney failure 10 months post-covid.

### Are You God?

Shortly after the end of World War II, Europe was in ruins. Perhaps the saddest sight was the little orphaned children, starving in the war-torn streets. Early one chilly morning in London, an American soldier was making his way back to the barracks. Turning the corner in a Jeep, he spotted a little boy of six or seven, standing with his nose pressed to the window of a pastry shop. The hungry boy stared in silence as the baker kneaded dough for a fresh batch of doughnuts. The soldier pulled his Jeep over, got out and walked quietly to where the little fellow was standing. Through the steamy window he gazed at the mouth-watering treats. The soldier's heart went out to the child, so he asked, "Son, would you like some of those?" Startled, the little boy peered up at the tall American and cried, "Oh, yes, Sir, I would!" Quietly the soldier stepped inside, bought a dozen doughnuts and exited into the London fog. Turning to the child he smiled, held out the bag and said simply, "Here you are." As he turned to walk away he felt a tug on his coat. He stopped and smiled back at the boy only to hear him quietly ask, "Mister, are you God?"

### Sunday Adult Class

*A Study in Acts*

Al Behel

### Teen Class

Jacob Forman

### Wednesday Night Class

Danny Cline—*Colossians*

### Monday Night Ladies Study

*Will not meet again until*

*January*

*Follow Email Instructions*

### Building Loan Balance

**\$653,326.74**

Additional contributions to building fund are appreciated

### Times of Services

Sunday A.M.

Bible Study 9:30 AM

Worship 10:30 AM

Sunday P.M. 6:00 PM

Wednesday 7:00 PM