

# NEWSLINE

## Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ

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February 13, 2022

### Manna In The Morning

Most of us in America go to sleep at night without any worry of tomorrow's food needs. We have our pantries stocked with staples and our refrigerators supplied with necessary perishable food items. Breakfast is easy as we pop open a cereal box and pour in a little milk.

Things weren't that way in the wilderness as Israel fled from Pharaoh's army and waited to possess the Promised Land. There was little way to provide for the hundreds of thousands of people who were encamping each night under the starry skies. So, God made sure that every need was met both morning and night. Each morning the heads of families went out and gathered small wafer loaves of manna, a substance provided from heaven. It came to be known later as the bread of angels. Each night the ground was covered with quail.

I have often wondered how long Israel would have survived without this daily bread from God. I also wonder how long a Christian can survive without daily communion with his or her Father. I doubt that one's spiritual life can long flourish without being fed regularly by the hand of God. Fortunately,

we do not have to go through the day malnourished. We can easily access the bread of angels.

King David began as a shepherd boy who tended his father's sheep. On the lonely hills of Palestine, David stood guard day and night, protecting the sheep from wild animals and making sure they had green grass to graze each day. Under the starlit sky he had plenty of time to reflect on the glory of earth's Creator. His psalms reflect his deep thoughts about God. David said, "On His law I meditate day and night."

David's great hymns and psalms form the basis of much of our meditation. Who can face the certainty of death without reflecting deeply upon his words, "*The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want...yea, though I walk through the Valley of the Shadow of Death, I will fear no evil, for Thou art with me, Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me*"?

Or, who can look at the vast universe that envelops us and not cry out with David, "*When I consider Thy heavens, the moon and the stars which Thou hast ordained, what is man that Thou art mindful of him, or the Son of Man, that Thou visiteth him?*"

The Christian who feasts daily upon the mind and heart of

God is enriched to face the day with strength and courage. Daily communion with God in Bible reading and prayerful meditation prepares the heart to face the wilderness of temptation and the battles we will have with sin. The heart is uplifted, the soul renewed, and the mind is prepared to confront the world's system of thought.

Without "manna in the morning" we are left vulnerable, weak, and spiritually hungry. Satan offers to fill us with "junk food" and drown our loneliness with the wine of deception. Without spiritual nourishment we become spiritually anemic, but with the bread of angels we can walk with God each day.

— Al Behel

**From Our Ladies:** Our next fellowship meal will be postponed for a few weeks along with our meetings.

#### Sunday Adult Class

##### *A Study in Acts*

Al Behel

##### Teen Class

Jacob Forman

#### Wednesday Night Class

Danny Cline—*Colossians*

#### Monday Night Ladies Study

Topic: "*O To Be Like Thee*"

*Mondays, 6:45 pm*

Teacher: *Polly Cline*

#### 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

#### Food Contact For Month:

Polly Cline

#### Elder Contact for Month:

Jim Anderson 865-924-1067

**Online worship:** available on church website or FB page

### 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 & FAMILY 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.

-**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.

-**Larry Sanderson**, Al's brother-in-law, is losing his eyesight. Doctors are trying to determine the underlying cause and possible treatment. Please keep Larry and Helen in your prayers.

-**Emma Oliver**, girl friend of Al and Linda's grandson, is continuing to have tests for abnormal developments in a portion of her brain. She has episodes of passing out and falling.

#### Building Loan Balance

**\$639,375.84**

Additional contributions to building fund are appreciated

*Archived sermons are available on the church website or at [albehel.com](http://albehel.com)*

#### Other News

**Sympathy:** To **Tracy Wade** in the death of her father, **Jimmy Britt**, who passed away last Sunday from complications of covid pneumonia. His funeral was Thursday in MS. Please keep Tracy and her family in your prayers.

-**Kerry Bain and his wife, Diana**, have been friends of the Dyers for a long time. His wife called Jeanette yesterday and told her that Kerry had just been killed in an accident when a chain hoist fell on him. He and Diana hosted the church in their home until recently when they bought a building for the church. Diana needs our prayers in this time of deep sorrow.

-**Danny's** eye surgery to correct a macular pucker in his right eye will be delayed a few days. Please keep him in your prayers for a successful surgery

**Sermon Topics:** A.M.— "*Jesus Christ, No Ordinary Man, No. 2*" (Al)  
P.M.— "*I Am The True Vine*" (Al)