

# NEWSLINE

## Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ

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Vol. XXV. No. 08

February 20, 2022

### The Fields Are White

"Do you not say, 'There are four months, then comes the harvest?' I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see how the fields are already white unto harvest" (John 4:35).

Growing up in cotton country we became accustomed to watching the cotton fields and knowing exactly when to harvest the crop. In fact, times were very different back then. We actually had summer school! We began school in July and attended classes for about four to six weeks, then took a month off to gather crops. School children were allowed to work in the fields and make money. After another month of harvesting the cotton we went back to school to finish the remaining eight months of classes.

In the above text Jesus was talking to people who understood the importance of being prepared to act when the time was right. The harvest can't wait. When the fields are ready so the laborers must also be ready. He was teaching his disciples that the same principles apply to the spiritual harvest of souls.

Jesus was in Samaria where he had been talking to a woman about the "living water"

which he could give that would quench her thirst forever. His disciples had returned from a food shopping trip only be surprised that Jesus would be talking to a sinful woman of Samaria. When Jesus looked around him he saw a spiritual crop ready to be harvested. The disciples were more concerned about social propriety than the readiness of lost people who needed to be saved.

What did Jesus see which led him to chide the disciples? First, he saw lost souls. He saw people who needed a Savior. He had just conversed with a woman who was burdened with sin, having had five husbands and who was currently living in an adulterous relationship. He saw her neighbors and friends who were also lost.

Secondly, Jesus saw people who were interested, who were serious seekers of truth. Just as the crops were ready for harvest, the people were also ready for the gospel. They needed good news. The wanted good news! The only thing lacking were willing teachers.

When we look at our world we see the same thing...people who are lost and many who are starved for "good news." We are bombarded with bad news, with doom and gloom

### Other News

**-Thank You From Tracy Wade & Family:** The Wades wish to thank everyone for the flowers, cards, prayers, and words of comfort during the passing of Tracy's father. Your kindness is deeply appreciated.

**-Danny's** eye surgery to correct a macular pucker in his right eye will be on February 28 in Atlanta. They have to be in Atlanta on Wednesday, the 23rd. Please keep Danny and Polly in your prayers.

**-Jan Messick** had carpal tunnel surgery on Monday. Please keep Jan in prayer as she recovers.

**-R.L. Behel,** Al's cousin was severely injured on Friday morning in Greenhill, AL (Florence) when he was hit from behind on his tractor by a large truck. He was airlifted to Huntsville and remains in a coma. He and his wife, Virginia, have visited with us often over the past years.

**Sermon Topics:** A.M.— "Jesus Christ, No Ordinary Man, No. 3" (Al)  
P.M.— "Use My Name And Ask The Father" (Al)

about the economy, the future of our nation and the world, and the disintegration of society.

We need good news. We want good news! What we need are willing "laborers" to go into the fields and share the good news of God's redemptive grace. The harvest time is now...not when our kids are grown, or we are out of debt, or when we have more time.

Jesus gave us the answer. He said, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; pray therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into the harvest" (Matthew 9:37-38). Our prayers must be coupled with a willingness to go into the harvest.

— Al Behel

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**Faulkner University Chior**

**Friday, March 4, 7 pm**

**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. .

**-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, Mosie 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 is battling 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, has lost a significant amount of his eyesight. Doctors are still trying to determine the cause. Please keep Larry and Helen in your prayers.

**From Our Ladies:** fellowship meals postponed for now.

**Men:** Men of the congregation are invited to a fellowship and sharing session each Tuesday night at 7 pm.

### Building Loan Balance

**\$632,871.05**

Additional contributions to building fund are appreciated

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