

Great Smoky Mountains Messenger



A Publication of the Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ

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Are You Listening?

In the early 1900s, a young man applied for a job as a Morse code operator. When he arrived for the interview, he walked into a large, busy office filled with noise and clatter, including the sound of the telegraph in the background. Many applicants were seated, filling out forms, and waiting to be summoned into the inner office. After a few minutes, the young man stood up and walked straight into the inner office. The other applicants stared with complete disbelief. They were all convinced that young man just killed any chance he had of landing the job.

However, just a few minutes later, the boss and the young man walked out. The boss said to the other applicants, "Everyone, thank you very much for coming, but the job has just been filled." The other applicants started grumbling and one spoke up, "Wait just a minute. He was the last to come in, but he got the job. Why?" The boss explained, "The whole time you've been sitting here, the Telegraph has been ticking out the following message in Morse code: 'If you understand this message, come right in. The job is yours.' No one except this young man heard and understood the message. So, the job is his" (Tim Shin Illustrations).

We live in a world filled with noisy chatter and information. There are so many opinions and beliefs out there. It can be extremely difficult to know who to listen to. Thankfully, God made it extremely clear during Jesus' transfiguration. While Jesus was on the mountain, God called down from heaven and said, *"This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased; listen to Him!" (Matthew 17:5)*.

Jesus truly is God's Son and the Savior of this world. With so much background noise, it's easy for the words of truth to be drowned out. Jesus is only one who has the words of eternal life (John 6:68). It is by His words that we will be judged by in the end (John 12:48). Are you listening?

— Brett Petrillo



Elder Contacts

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Please Remember/Pray For:

Patsy Bevis
Ruth Byrne
Trevor Hayes
Kenny Gross
Les Jewell
Shawn Molloy
Jason Elliot (Friend of the Greens—he is on a list awaiting a liver transplant)



On the Lighter Side

Q: What did Noah say while he was loading all the animals on the Ark?

A: "Now I herd everything."

Q: When did Moses sleep with five people in one bed?

A: When he slept with his forefathers.

Q: Who was the best financier in the Bible?

A: Noah. He floated his stock while the whole world was in liquidation.



Upcoming Baby Shower

Ladies, please don't forget that on Sunday, 11 February at 3:00 p.m. there will be a baby shower for Ethan and Caroline Memolo. They are expecting a boy in March.

Ethan & Caroline are registered on Amazon. www.amazon.com/baby-reg/caroline-memolo-etha-memolo-march-2024-greenville/L89P3E8EGGYX?ref_=sw_r_apin_dp_A19TPQ1JG9JR46ZMYE&language=en_US.

- ◆ Tues., January 9, 2024, Men's Bible class at 6:30 pm.
- ◆ Sun., Jan. 28—Area Wide Singing at the West End Church of Christ from 3—4:30 pm.
- ◆ The women's class will be on a break until February 2024..
- ◆ Sun., Feb. 4—Potluck and Business meetings following AM service.
- ◆ Sun., Feb. 11—Baby shower for Ethan and Caroline Memolo at 3 pm.

Have something for the bulletin? Please give updates to Dale or Leah by Thursday.



<u>Pantry Needs</u>	<u>Food Assistance Program Lead for January</u>	<u>Current Building Loan Balance</u>
Alfredo Sauce, Chili, Canned Beans, Jello 	Tracy Wade 	\$421,988.08

God's Plan of Salvation

- Hear the Gospel, Romans 10:17
- Believe the Gospel, John 8:24
- Repent of Sins, Luke 13:3
- Confess Jesus as God's Son, Matt. 10:32
- Baptized to wash away sins, Acts 2:38
- Faithful 'til death, Revelation 2:10

Today's Sermons

- ◆ AM —The Church is Distinctive
- ◆ PM — Nick at Night

Check out the sermon archives on our website at
www.gsmchurchofchrist.com

Please come back and worship with us in Spirit and in Truth—John 4:24