

NEWSLINE

Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ

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Vol. XVII. No. 51
December 22, 2013

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:

Dez Anderson is in Fort Sanders Regional in Knoxville with a blood clot in her heart. She should not have visitors or calls at this time due to her fragile condition. Surgery is not an option. They will attempt to dissolve the clot with medication. Your fervent prayers are coveted and needed.

Larry Valentine has a spot on his lung which doctors believe is malignant. He will have a biopsy and additional tests in a few days. Please keep Larry and Linda in prayer as this is a difficult time for them.

Wednesday Night Service will be conducted this Wednesday in fellowship hall.

A Huge Thank You!! We want to express our gratitude for your generous gifts during this holiday season. You are deeply loved by all of us and we appreciate the privilege of serving you.

___ Al & Linda, Mark & Cathy, Tom & Deb

Happy Holidays To All of You!

Elder Contact for Month: Marc Hayes; Phone No. 1-731-608-4148

Sermon Topics: A.M.—"Living To Please God", No. 2; P.M.—"Talking To Others About Jesus", No. 7.

Interpreter for deaf and hearing impaired available for AM and PM worship

Our Known Sick

Dez Anderson—multiple health issues, including MS

Bill England—still battling cancer and artery problems in his leg.

Debby Bryan—Cancer; **Johnny Bryan**—health issues.

Clara Mayberry—broken arm suffered in a recent fall.

Kathy May has been hospitalized again this week in Cookeville with unstable blood pressures. You can send her a card at P.O. Box 465, Baxter, TN 38544-0463.

Wyatt Cox, newborn infant of Heather and Alan Cox, is continuing to improve following heart surgery. Their home address is: 3334 Oma Lee Dr., Sevierville, TN 37876.

Kenny Jones is in Pigeon Forge Care & Rehab Center, Rm. 105B for rehab following a fall in which he suffered a head injury.

John Jenkins had surgery earlier this week to repair torn ligaments in his knee.

Marc Hayes had gall bladder surgery on Thursday. He is recovering at home.

Al Finnell also had gall bladder surgery Thursday and is recovering at home.

Rachel Bailey was diagnosed with Graves disease. Doctors plan to destroy her thyroid and begin medication. Keep Rachel in prayer.

Friends and Family

Christopher Howell (grandson of the Littletons-spinal cord injuries suffered in automobile accident), **Arania Blount** (Brenda Scott's sister)-battling cancer, **Betty Langdon** (Ginny Cliett's sister—mental confusion issues—hospice), **Robin McCollum and Peggy McCollum** (Al's nieces—both battling cancer), Sue Mercer's sister, **Connie Browning**, is being treated for breast cancer; Beverly Finnell's grandson, **Liam Finnell**, is having health issues; Rick Cliett's 90 year old aunt **Doris Chambers** is recovering from multiple broken bones in her leg suffered from a fall in Texas; Michael Cliett's girlfriend's mother, **Paula Ramos**, report following cancer surgery is encouraging; Tom Elkins' sister-in-law, **Joyce Elkins**, cancer surgery & auto accident; Rick Cliett's brother, **Ken Cliett**, is battling Ascites and kidney failure. **Mark Baker**, brother-in-law of Coleen Thomason, dealing with complications from abnormal blood vessels in the brain. Al's sister, **Liz Warpula**, has been diagnosed with breast cancer. The prognosis looks good. Al's sister-in-law, **Jean Behel**, has started receiving hospice care.

Adult Bible Class

"Rejoicing In The Lord"

A Study in Philippians

Rise & Shine: Sundays, 9:15

Phone List

Members may pick up a phone list at the Sound Booth window.

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

Building Fund

Loan balance as of 12/01/13 is **\$1,172,708.72**. Extra contributions to reduce the loan debt are needed and appreciated. Envelopes are available in the pew.

Nursery

Located across main foyer. Closed circuit TV allows viewing and participation in worship.

CDs and DVDs of Sermons are available free at sound booth. Also available on the website at: www.greatsmokymountainschurchofchrist.com.