

NEWSLINE

Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ

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“And God Said”

In the Biblical record each day of creation is introduced with the phrase, “And God said...” Then the creative act is detailed with a description of the results of God’s spoken word.

The Word of God is power. All creation came into being through the power of His spoken word. “And God said, ‘Let there be light,’ and there was light.” (Gen. 1:3). The psalmist, reflecting on the creative acts of God, said, “By the word of the Lord were the heavens made, the starry host by the breath of His mouth....Let all the earth fear the Lord; let all the people of the world revere Him. For He spoke, and it came to be; He commanded, and it stood firm.” (Psalm 32:6,8-9).

Each time God has spoken the results have been phenomenal. Universes were called into being, time and space appeared out of nowhere, and all creation sprang forth with the innocence of a newborn eternity. God’s word was sufficient.

A careful study of that phrase, “And God said...” reveals a God who is highly attentive to human need, and to the intricacies of His magnificent creation. He is a God who empowered His creation with His own presence.

What does God have to say to us today? Is His voice silent? Or, have we stopped listening? Could it be that the same voice which spoke worlds into existence out of nothing is no longer respected by those whom He created? Can it be that we have lost the excitement of hearing from Him? Does the fact that we ignore His words lessen their meaning or their power?

He still speaks. He speaks to those who will listen. His words are comforting, compelling, and challenging. He doesn’t give up as long as there is hope.

“And God said...” One day there will be a final exam. Not a daily quiz. It will be the real thing. There will be no make-ups. And no extensions. The score we make we will have to keep. For all eternity.

The word of the Lord is for all times, places, and peoples. It is timeless, without geographic restrictions, or language barriers. It has survived every attack and continues to stand. It remains indestructible.

King David knew he needed to listen to God’s word daily. He said a prudent man meditates on His law “day and night.” Later he said, “*Thy Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.*”

Man still needs to hear the voice of God. We have not out-grown Him, advanced beyond His wisdom, moved beyond His reach. He alone is able to bring life out of death, and create perfect harmony out of chaos. He alone answers our deepest needs.

—Al Behel

Our Known Sick

-**Dez Anderson**— suffering many health issues. Prayers and cards are encouraging and appreciated.

-**Geordie Haynes** will have ear surgery at a later date.

-**Sheryle Elkins**-continuing chemotherapy. PET scan was good.

-**Bill Valentine** received a good report from his PET scan as nothing showed up. He will be re-evaluated in January. Please keep Bill and Gail your prayers.

-**Joyce Keyser**-Joyce suffers from peritoneal cancer. M.D. Anderson doctors confirmed that her treatment here is best for her. It is always so good to have her back with us when she feels up to coming.

-**Bill Green**—suffering from many health issues.

-**Jean Compton** —is recovering at home.

-**Kathy May**—battling ongoing health issues.

-**Jerry Dyer**—is in PF Rehab for a few days of respite care.

-**Charles & Frances Copeland**-newborn great granddaughter, **Madeleine Grace Kirby**, is very ill with a genetic disorder. Prognosis is not good. She is home at this time.

Friends and Family News/Prayer Requests

-**Linda Blass**, Vicki’s mom, in rehab facility recovering from hip surgery.

-**Jackie Stearsman**, minister friend of Al’s, the Littletons, and Copelands, has leukemia.

-**Nita Watern**, Brenda Scott’s niece, chemo for liver cancer.

-**Lida Cliett**, Rick’s aunt, ill with heart failure and cancer.

-**Meagan White**, Joyce’s cousin, pain post brain surgeries.

-**Sue Hayes’** sister-in-law, **Jane Hufford**, suffering from leukemia, received a long awaited bone marrow transplant August 23.

-**Jim & Judy Watkins**—Rick’s sister and husband, health issues.

-**Dee Lewis**, friend of the Cliett’s, 6th occurrence of stage 4 cancer.

-**Breana Ward**, age 32, stage 4 cancer-has three children. Prayers and cards requested. Address in foyer. This family visits with us.

-**Tina’s** older sister, **Marylyne Hunneke**, is now in Hospice and is continually in bed and not eating. She awakens for a moment and then falls back to sleep. Please keep her in your prayers.

-**Grief Support Group**—See Patty Adair for updates.

-**Ladies Bible Class**: First and third Tuesdays with Polly Cline leading a study on “Hunger In My Soul”.

-**Mark Your Calendars**: Cookie Exchange, December 1 at 7 p.m.; Holiday Party, December 10 at 6 p.m.

Special Events

Men’s Prayer Session
Monday mornings at 8:30

Sunday Adult Class
I Timothy 4—Al Behel

Wednesday Night Class

“*In Full Assurance of Faith*”
Heb. 10:22—Danny Cline
Rick Cliett will begin on Nov. 23

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

The latest Loan balance is **\$1,000,823.59**. Extra contributions to reduce the loan debt are needed and appreciated. Envelopes are available in the pews.

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.

-**Sympathy**: Tony Cantrell’s mother, **Jean Cantrell**, passed away on Thursday. Her funeral service was Saturday evening. Please keep Tony and his family in your prayers during this time of loss and sorrow.

-**A Time of Rejoicing**—Ryan Bradley James was baptized Saturday morning by Danny Cline. Ryan is the fiancée of Danny and Polly’s granddaughter, Haley Shae Dallas. They are to be married next Saturday (Nov. 19) at the Lone Oak congregation in Paducah, KY with grandfather, Danny, officiating.

Food Contact For Month: Melanie Tolliver and Leah Turner

Elder Contact for Month: Marc Hayes (1-731-608-4148)

Sermon Topics:

A.M. - “*What It Means to Be A Disciple*” - (John 13:31-35; Lk. 14:25-35)

P.M.—“*Lessons From Judas Iscariot*”

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