

NEWSLINE

Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ

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If Jesus Was Born of A Virgin

Larry King, CNN talk show host, was asked who he would most like to interview from history. He replied, "Jesus Christ" He was then asked what he would like to ask Jesus. King said, "I would like to ask Him if He was indeed virgin-born. The answer to that question would define history for me."

Well...history has already been defined by Jesus. He is the center of history...all time dates from His birth. He defines the meaning of our past, present, and future. Remove Jesus from history and much of our art, literature, and music would disappear. Our language would lose much of its beauty, our world would become a colder and more dangerous place, and all of our churches would cease to exist.

The evidence of Jesus' birth is all around us. The majority of Americans believe that Jesus was born of a virgin, even those who do not attend church or claim to be religious. The fact of His birth doesn't hinge on how many people believe or disbelieve. If Jesus was born of a virgin then all His claims about Himself are true... and He is King of Kings, Lord of Lords, and holds claim to the hearts of men. If He was born of a virgin, then He is the Messiah and the Savior of the world.

What difference does it really make? All the difference in the world. If He was not born of a virgin He is not who He claims to be, the Bible is false, and we are to be pitied. But, He was virgin born...He is the Son of God...and we have a Savior!

— Al Behel

Disaster Relief Moves To Second Phase

We are so grateful for the loving response and generous hearts of our members and others who have given so much of yourselves in helping meet the needs of those affected by the recent fires. You are truly wonderful! Our Disaster Response is now moving into the second phase of Disaster-aftercare as we prepare to assist with furniture, appliances, rent, and financial help to those who have lost homes and jobs. While the distribution is shifting away from the emergency response through our building we will still call on you to assist in a continuing ministry of service and friendship as we show the love of Christ to our neighbors. Trucks loaded with furniture and appliances will arrive at our building in the next few days. Nearly 700 persons were served through our distribution in the building, plus around 200 school children. Another 500 children received Christmas presents here on Friday and Saturday. Toys were donated by Toys for Tots. We are following up with those served to assess further needs and to network with them and extend the hand of love to them. So much good is being done to God's glory. **Thank you!**



Happy Holidays!

Thank you for your kindness, your gifts, and for the privilege of serving our wonderful Father with you. We pray that your holidays will be enriched by His grace and the coming year will bring you and your family many blessings.

Al & Linda, Mark & Cathy, Tom & Deb

Food Contact For Month: Leah Turner

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

Sermon Topics: A.M. - "From The Manger To The Cross" (Luke 2:1-20)
P.M. - Led by Mark Haynes

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

Our Known Sick

- Dez Anderson— suffering many health issues. Prayers and cards are encouraging and appreciated.
- Sheryle Elkins—continuing chemotherapy. PET scan was good.
- Bill Valentine is in Pigeon Forge Rehab Center, Rm 121. The family requests no visitors at this time as Bill is weak and visits tire him greatly. He appreciates your thoughts and prayers. Please continue to pray for him and Gail, along with Larry and Linda.
- Joyce Keyser—Joyce suffers from peritoneal cancer. It is always so good to see her back with us when she feels up to coming.
- Shirley Harmon—Heart Cath revealed that her heart failure had worsened. Aggressive measures are planned. Please keep her in prayer.
- Bill Green—suffering from many health issues.
- Jean Compton—is recovering at home.
- Kathy May—battling ongoing health issues.
- Jerry Dyer—Keep Jerry and Jeanette in prayer.
- Bob and Patty Adair are both recovering from surgery.
- Charles & Frances Copeland—newborn great granddaughter, Madeline 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, passed away Saturday morning in Livingston. He had been suffering from Leukemia.
- Meagan White, Joyce's cousin, pain post brain surgeries.
- Sue & Marc Hayes' sister-in-law, Jane Hufford, received a second transplant (peripheral blood transplant rather than bone marrow transplant) from her donor on Thursday. Prayers are request for her.
- 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.

-Ladies Bible Class: Suspended for this month.

How To Donate For Response To Crisis :—Make checks payable to Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ and earmark "Fire Relief Fund". Mailing Address: P.O. Box 173, Pigeon Forge, TN 37868

Special Events

Men's Prayer Session
Monday mornings at 8:30

Sunday Adult Class
1 Timothy 4-5 —Al Behel

Wednesday Night Class
Danny Cline will lead our study

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 on 12/18/16 is **\$991,664.14**. 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.