

NEWSLINE

Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ

Al Behel, Minister
abehel@ix.netcom.com

Vol. XXII. No. 03
January 21, 2018

When We Worship

Man has always worshipped. Every culture and every nation has worshipped. Some have worshipped gods of stone, or animals, or the elements of nature. Others have lifted their hearts and thoughts far above the earth to the eternal God of Creation. The need to worship is as universal as man.

Why do we need to worship? There is a sense within us that someone exists beyond us, Someone that is greater than we are, Who transcends time and space, and who will always be. There is a need to touch that someone, or perhaps be touched by Him. There is a need to know our roots, to understand our purpose and our destiny. There is a need to know our God.

Worship is the out-pouring of praise to the One we adore, the One who gives life to us and who sustains our own existence. Worship is our rational response to His actions on our behalf, and the natural response of our hearts to His love. We worship Him because our God is enormously great, infinitely wise, and incredibly gracious to us.

Many do not worship because their god is too small...too much like man. Like those who worshipped idols in the ancient past, their gods are powerless. King David described them in Psalm 115:4-7:

*"Their idols are silver and gold, made by the hands of men.
They have mouths, but cannot speak, eyes, but they cannot see;
they have ears, but cannot hear, noses, but they cannot smell; they have
hands, but cannot feel, feet, but they cannot walk;
nor can they utter a sound in their throats."*

Their idols are powerless, whether made of stone or wood, or whether they are the intangible gods of modern technology, pleasure, or wealth. Their gods are powerless to redeem, to sustain life, or to ensure a worthy destiny.

David's God *deserved* to be praised. Before closing his beautiful Psalms in the Old Testament, he was so overwhelmed with His majesty and glory that he burst into chorus, "Praise the Lord!" more than thirty times. We worship Him because He loves us, He reaches down to us, and He forgives us of all our sins. He is truly worthy to be praised.

—Al Behel

Welcome Back: We welcome Bud, Jana, and Mandy back with us. They have been away while Bud started a Third Step Recovery ministry for Laurel.

Winter Quarter 2018!

(January 7th through March 25th)

The Good, the Bad, and the VERY Bad!

Prophets & Kings of the Northern Kingdom of Israel

Don't miss a single Sunday!

For Grades K –Teens Sundays from 9:30 a.m.-10:20 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall TEAM TEACHING WITH THE TEENS Bible Skits, Puppet Shows, Songs, Games, & Activities! Adult Teachers: Mark Haynes & Marc & Sue Hayes

Food Contact For Month: Leah Turner

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

Sermon Topics: A.M.— "Worship, What's It All About Anyway?" Isaiah 6:1-8
P.M.— "He's The Vine, I'm A Branch" John 15:1-11

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

Our Known Sick

-Dez Anderson— is home and will be receiving in-home health care. She is having a hard time. Please keep praying for her and Jim.

-Sheryle Elkins— is now at home in Franklin and is slowly improving. Their address is: 870 Oak Meadow Dr., Apt. #3405, Franklin, TN 37064. Both really need our prayers.

-Bill Green—suffering from many health issues.

-James Crowson (who moved here from Florida several months ago) was hit head-on in a collision.. He suffered a broken bone in his neck. He is improving and looks forward to being back in worship soon.

-Ron Sommerville—keep in prayer.

-Bill Shirley (DeEtt's husband) - diagnosed with cancer in his right lung. No treatment is planned. Keep Bill and DeEtt in prayer.

-Charles & Frances Copeland- great granddaughter, **Madeline Grace Kirby,** is very ill with a genetic disorder.

Friends and Family News/Prayer Requests

--Sue & Marc Hayes' sister-in-law, **Jane Hufford,** second transplant (peripheral blood transplant rather than bone marrow transplant) appears to be successful. Prayers are requested for her.

-Jessica Anderson, 35 year old niece of the Tollivers, has stage 3 breast cancer. Double mastectomy was done recently.

-Rick Cliett's niece, Penny—liver failure. She is doing a little better.

Church Directory App: Please see Mark Haynes or Marti Cantrell for assistance. Changes or corrections can be submitted to the sound booth before or after worship or they may be emailed to Linda Behel or Mark Haynes at abehel@ix.netcom.com or m47haynes@gmail.com

Other News

Up-Coming Events: Mark your calendars for our after-worship Pot-Luck dinner and Super Bowl party for Sunday night, Feb. 4. Also, the ladies will have a Ladies Day on March 24.

Church Email: If you are not receiving the church email (including emailed bulletin) please sign the list in the foyer.

Weather Notice—During bad weather our practice is to meet as long as anyone can safely reach the building. In the event that the weather is completely unsafe and we have to cancel services we will notify you through the church email or through the church Facebook page.

Sunday Adult Class

Philemon —Al Behel

Wednesday Night Class

Danny Cline is leading our study

Ladies-Bible class-1st/3rd Tues.

"Hunger In My Soul: I Will Be Your God, You Will Be My People"- Polly Cline will lead the study.

Men's Prayer Session

Mondays—8:30 AM

Building Fund

Loan balance on 12/17/17 is **\$912,844.39.** 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.

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

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