



Sunshine Church Of Christ

Volume 56, Issue 51

www.sunshine-church.org

Sunday, Dec. 16, 2018

Elders

Rich Book	820-3213
Don Coriell	464-9994
Jon Coriell	820-6145
Wayne Gampp	820-3444
Tom Kelley	259-2258
Shaun McCray	935-9701

Deacons

Dewey Cordle	820-4624
Gabe Coriell	820-8652
Josh Coriell	981-6717
Rick Coriell	935-0717
Ryan Coriell	357-5933
Shawn Gragg	820-5346
Dale Kuhn	820-4690
Aaron Kallner	285-0738
Eric Miller	820-4944
Eugene Risner	820-2256
Mark Risner	820-2948

Pulpit Minister

Dr. Jon Partlow	716-8741
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Family Life Minister

Jamie Riley	935-7812
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Youth Minister

Tim Gampp	(606) 356-3345
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Sunshine Church of Christ
20 Barklow Road
Portsmouth, OH 45662
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Britt's Office Hours:
See calendar outside of Office

The Christmas story is filled with controversy at so many levels. We can begin with December 25th as an odd time for Jesus' birth since shepherds were unlikely to be tending sheep in the fields during the winter months (Lk. 2:8); it was possible, but unlikely. We can clarify how the Bible speaks of the three gifts of the Magi, but says nothing of the number of Magi present (Mt. 2:11b). We can preach that the traditional manger scene never occurred, as the shepherds saw the baby Jesus in the manger (Lk. 2:16), but the Magi went to a house to see Jesus (Mt. 2:11a).

Not only is the traditional manger scene foreign to the Biblical narrative, but the Christmas story, according to Matthew, is filled with scandal, jealousy and murder, making any prime-time movie look white-washed in comparison. Matthew specifically calls out four women with tainted lives in Jesus' genealogy: Tamar, Rahab, Ruth (she spent the night with Boaz), and Bathsheba, which leads to a young Mary pregnant out of wedlock (Mt. 1:3, 5-6, 18-19). Matthew's story ends in a blood bath, as well as a fore-shadow of the crucifixion; Herod's jealous rage executes and orders to kill all baby boys in the Judean region (Mt. 2:16). Like the cross, we've glossed over and photo-shopped the birth narrative of Jesus to make the story more palatable.

If we begin talking about the amount of commercialism tied to Christmas, we might all be shamed.

I've come to terms with the Christmas story's relationship to the pop-culture telling of the birth story of Jesus. Personally, I'm just kinda glad that Jesus' story is being told (i.e. Phil. 1:15-18). That said, one area I've struggled with is the classic Christmas song, "Do You Hear What I Hear?" (It's also one of my favorites). I can accept the liberties with the Biblical story and the use of fantasy as imagery in the song.

* The night wind speaks to the lamb about the star in the sky.

* The lamb goes to the shepherd boy about the song he hears, presumably the song of the angelic host.

* The shepherd boy, in combining him with the Wise Men, goes to the Mighty King to tell him about the child shivering in the cold, pleading with the King to bring silver and gold.

At this moment the song departs entirely from the Biblical narrative. It's this divergence that I've struggled with the most.

When Herod heard the news that the Christ was born, he used worship as a pretense for murder (Mt. 2:8). The baby was a threat to his throne, and he was going to eliminate any threat (historically, Herod was known for such actions). However, the song says the Mighty King declares to all the people hope and peace, as the baby child will bring goodness and light.

Somewhere Between continued on back...



Prayers For Sunshine Family

Cindy Coriell home and improving. Seeing doctors.

Roger Cooper home with pneumonia.

Peggy Hollback undergoing therapy.

Garnet Lindeman ongoing health concerns.

Sharon Rogers recovering from successful gallbladder surgery.

Shaun Young having a MRI on Dec. 18 due to returning pain.

Special Members

Judi Allison Elbrooke room #535.

Gene and Esther Crisp Riverbend #123.

Sarah Gililand Hill View, room #3223.

Merritt and Helen Hayward are home bound.

Ruth Morris at Best Care room #10.

Prayer Requests

Mike Anderson recovering from surgery.

The Family of Lori Bennington who passed away earlier this week.

Pat Carr (Jamie Forbes' Mom) diagnosed with early onset dementia.

Jack Compton Leukemia.

Terry Deaver (Margaret Reed Son-in-law) Had a double lung transplant Friday. In Riverside ICU recovering.

Weldonna Evans transitioning into hospice care.

Beth Fisher (Cile's sister-in-law) rheumatoid arthritis and Raynaud's disease.

Cheryl Francis Ross Heart Hospital in Columbus.

Joe Gurbert (Debbie Raiser's father) at Debbie's house for the next couple of weeks until doctors determine next course of action.

Karren Smith (Lindsey Smith (Stith)'s Mother) recovering from first brain surgery.

Holly Thompson (friend of Jeff Lindeman) is under hospice care. Her husband's name is George.

Expecting Mothers

Irish Young—2/19

Christian Coriell— 3/12



12/25	Christmas
12/31	New Year's Eve Party
2/15-17	Winterfest
3/24-27	Marriage Matters

Sunday Morning Live Streaming:

<http://media.sunshine-church.com> or
<http://sunshinecofc.sermon.net>

Welcome To All of Our Guests

We give a special welcome to all of our guests today. If this is your first time to visit with us this year, please stop by the Welcome Center in the foyer at the conclusion of services, sign our guest register and pick up your gift for being one of our guests today.

Gluten Free Communion Available

We have gluten free communion available for anyone who needs it. It can be found at the Welcome Center. You can simply pick it up before the services or on your way into the auditorium.



Elders Meeting Together

December 2018

Meetings:

Sundays, Dec. 9 and 23 at 5:00PM

Prayer Session:

Thursday, Dec. 27 at 7:30PM

Those Who Serve Questionnaire

Recently, the Those Who Serve questionnaire was passed out. If you didn't receive one, please make sure to grab one and fill it out. Please return it to any of the deacons or in the box in the foyer. For questions, please see **Dale Kuhn**.

Deacon Baby Shower

Please join us on today at 2:00 in the annex for a baby shower for Kiera Deacon. She is registered at babylist.com. We look forward to celebrating this time with her. If you have any questions, see **Tonya Coriell** or **June Book**.

Fellowship Directory Update

We are in the process of creating an up-to-date fellowship directory. We have a temporary issue hanging in the foyer for families to edit contact information. Please feel free to add and edit the information before we print in the next couple of weeks. Any questions or concerns see **Brittyn**.

Celebration

Welcome **Charlotte Ruth Devins**, who was born Sunday, Dec. 9 at 10:52am. She weighted 8lbs 14oz and was 20 3/4 inches long. Congratulations to her parents **James & Lori Devins**. Mom and baby are doing great!

Thank You

Shout out to **Heather Gragg**, **Katie Coriell**, **Barb Gampp**, and **Ellen Lemon** for serving at the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Highway 823 on Thursday. Also, thank you to everyone who made cookies.

Jerry & Lynn Jones Presents



A Seminar Coming to Sunshine Church of Christ • March 24-27, 2019

New Year's Eve Party

We will be having a New Year's Eve Party on Monday, December 31. More information to come.

Coats For Kids

It's that time of year again! Due to the cold weather so far, we are collecting money for buying coats for kids in the local school district sooner. Please see **Eric or Stephanie Miller**, **Laryssa Grashel**, or **Eugene Risner** for more information.



Sunshine Youth Playing Basketball

We have several of our youth playing basketball for the local schools. If you need something to do check out the schools' websites:

Minford:

<http://www.minford.k12.oh.us/Athletics.aspx>

Wheelersburg:

<http://www.burg.k12.oh.us/Athletics1.aspx>

Family Bible Time

Week 51 Text:

Dec. 16—Lesson 205 1 Jude

Dec. 19—Lesson 206 Revelation 1

Week 52 Text:

Revelation 2

Revelation 3; 22:16-21

Those Who Serve

<u>Sun. Morning</u>	<u>12/16/2018</u>	<u>12/23/2018</u>	<u>12/30/2018</u>
Welcome	Jon Coriell	Wayne Gamp	Tom Kelley
Midservice Prayer	Gregg Shepherd	Jeff Vannatta	Sam Williams
Communion	Rick Coriell	Ryan Coriell	Shawn Gragg
Reading	Shaun Young	Jacob Book	Jorden Book
Closing Prayer	Johnny Beekmna	Aaron McCray	Eric Meredith
<u>Sun. Evening</u>	<u>12/16/2018</u>	<u>12/23/2018</u>	<u>12/30/2018</u>
Song Leader	Mark Gamp	Shawn Gragg	Caleb Miller
Reading	Gregg Ferrell	Brayden Foster	James Jacob Sr.
Communion	Ryan Coriell	Troy Gahm	Price Gammon
Assist	Jay Coriell	Eli Cordle	Adam Cordle
Prayer	Price Gammon	Mike Gamp	Tim Gamp
<u>Wed. Evening</u>	<u>12/19/2018</u>	<u>12/26/2018</u>	<u>1/2/2019</u>
Song Leader	Rich Book	Jon Coriell	Zach Coriell
Prayer	Dusty Henry	Matthew Hoskins	Jared McCray

Regular Service Times

Sunday

Early Worship - 8:15 am

Late Worship - 10:00 am

Bible Study - 6:30 p.m

Wednesday

Bible Study - 7:30 p.m.

This bulletin is a publication of the Sunshine Church of Christ. To learn more about the Church of Christ you may contact us at the telephone number or address on the front cover. Deadline for each issue is 8 am Friday. Content should be emailed to info@sunshine-church.org

Visit us on the web:

sunshine-church.org

Somewhere Between from front page...

It's here that my upbringing starts to scream, "We cannot sing this song, because it's not true!" The Mighty King tried to stop the baby's reign before it even started; he never promoted his reign. My soul was in turmoil. I loved the song, but it told a story that never happened. The song is nothing but short of a lie.

A couple of years ago, I experienced an epiphany when a different understanding of the song emerged. Maybe the song was not about "What Did" happen. We know what happened. Instead, maybe the song tells us about "What If" something else happened.

"What If" the Mighty King humbled himself?

"What if" the Mighty King used his power and position to lead a restoration?

"What If" the Mighty King rallied the people of Judea around Christ?

"What If" the Mighty King led the throng in worship to the Christ?

We all live somewhere between "what did happen," and "what could have happened." A husband and father could have been the spiritual leader of his family, but chose apathy while mocking or criticizing people of faith. A business owner could have ministered to the people but was too preoccupied with making his next dollar. A church could have made a difference in the community, but were too consumed by internal strife or just afraid to act in faith.

Living between "what did happen" and "what could have happened," means we have the choice. The choice is not only what kind of story we want to live out, but what kind of story God wants us to live out.

Soli Deo Gloria!

(i.e. only God is glorified!)

Have a wonderful day! :)