

**16th Annual
Etowah Community
Christmas Concert**
 **VIRTUAL
ON FACEBOOK**
www.facebook.com/firstbaptistetowah
Tuesday, Dec. 22nd 7 pm
FEATURING
 Etowah Town Band
 Instrumental Ensembles

Morning Fax[®]

Today's News... This Morning

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Wednesday, December 16, 2020

Athens, Tennessee

Changes in COVID-19 Testing

Tennessee Department of Health COVID-19 testing sites across the state will begin offering self-testing kits to adults three days a week beginning December 21st to allow staff members to transition to vaccination of frontline health care providers and first responders. Local county health departments will continue to offer COVID-19 testing five days a week at no charge for anyone who wishes to be tested. However, the new COVID-19 self-test kits will be offered to adults on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Individuals will remain in their vehicles while completing paperwork and collecting their own nasal samples. Health departments will submit the samples to the lab for testing. Adults tested with the new self-tests will register and receive their results online. The self-tests are not approved for use by children under age 18. Both children and adults can still receive the standard drive-thru nasal swab COVID-19 tests on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Test results should be available within 72 hours of arrival at the lab. County Health Departments will be closed and will not offer COVID testing Dec. 24th-25th and Dec. 31st-Jan 1st.

Community News You Can Use

- ✓ The McMinn County Clerk's office has reopened for business. The office closed for several days earlier this month after a couple of positive COVID tests so the other employees could get tested.
 - ✓ The Athens City Board of Education will hold a special work session on Thursday, December 17th, beginning at noon at the Administration Building. The purpose of the work session will be to discuss the bids for the Athens City School Building Project. Public access to the meeting will be via live streaming on Micro-soft Live.
 - ✓ Tennessee Valley Federal Credit Union will host a Virtual Homebuyer Seminar today, Wednesday, December 16th, at 10 a.m. on Facebook LIVE. See their ad at the bottom of page 2 for full details and a link to join the seminar.
- CORRECTION:** In Tuesday's Fax we reported that the Athens City Schools would be going virtual through December 23rd. That is incorrect. The schools are going virtual from Dec. 16th through Dec. 18th. Kids Connection will be closed those days. Christmas Break is December 21st-Jan. 4th.

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PAGE TWO

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(Phone: 746-1390 Fax: 744-1390 e-mail: wysi@bellsouth.net)

FREE
DRIVE THROUGH NATIVITY

MCMINN COUNTY AIRPORT
Friday, December 18th 6-8pm
Sponsored by Trinity UMC, Athens

Wednesday, December 16, 2020 **Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2** Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

♦ **Sharon A. Davis**, age 66, of Etowah, died Monday. She was a dairy and vegetable farmer for many years and sold her produce at Dixey Lee Farmers Market. A graveside service will be 2 p.m. Friday in Old McDonald Cemetery in Ooltewah. No formal visitation will be held. Bordwine Funeral Home is in charge.

TUESDAY'S MARKET REPORT: U.S. equities finished higher. Major indexes headed back toward all-time highs, and the S&P 500 rose more than 1%. Oil jumped to the highest level since February. The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 337.76 to 30,199.31. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index was up 47.13 to 3,694.62, and the NASDAQ Composite Index was up 155.02 points to 12,595.06.

◆ **COVID-19 VIRUS UPDATE TUESDAY P.M.**

Tennessee: 472,875 cases, up 8,251. 5,615 deaths, up 74.

COUNTY	CASES	RECOVERED	ACTIVE	DEATHS
McMinn	3,567 up 63	2,948	559	60
Meigs	741 up 15	559	169	13
Monroe	2,955 up 51	2,449	458	48
Polk	917 up 25	741	161	15
Bradley	7,178 up 72	6,009	1,119	50
Rhea	2,394 up 39	1,968	386	40

History of Downtown Nativity

For the past 32 Christmas holidays, motorists driving along Green Street past Veterans Park have been seeing a Nativity Scene. The late Libby Johnson started putting up the display in December of 1990. She said she got tired of seeing a display featuring Santa at what was then called Sunset Park. So, she asked Mrs. Long, who owned the big white house next to the park, if she could set up a Nativity Scene in her front yard. It's been there ever since. Miss Libby told us that one year someone stole the Baby Jesus doll. Another year, somebody complained about a Nativity Scene on city property. The complainer was quickly informed that the display is on private property. Miss Libby said several years ago, Mrs. Long's family members agreed to take over the responsibility for the Nativity Scene.



**FREE VIRTUAL
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Orders accepted through
Sunday, December 20

Athens
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Etowah
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