

# NEWSLINE

## Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ

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### His Love Lifted Me

*"For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son..." (John 3:16)*

Can you imagine how different our world would be if it were controlled by love? There would be no hate, no crime, no wars, no lonelines, no interpersonal conflicts, no military forces, no child abuse, and no greed. Wow! What a world that would be!

Isn't that what God offers us in His kingdom? When we live with a kingdom ethic in our hearts we choose to live by higher standards. We make choices based on love and unselfishness. We see each other's best. We live above hatred and pride, above envy and greed, and above the standards set by others.

Our world doesn't live that way. We talk about peace and the brotherhood of man but do we really experience it? When faith is replaced by fear, love by hate, and good with evil...can there be real peace? Into a condemned world God sent His Son.

The cross of Jesus is a declaration of love. It is a declaration of war against the diabolical forces of evil which breed hatred and fear. It calls us from the darkness of our man-made pits into the light of redemptive grace. God's love doesn't leave us at the bottom. He always lifts us to higher ground.

His love lifts us to new hopes, new possibilities. It opens our eyes to see what God sees...in ourselves and in others. It changes the way we think, the way we face life, and the way we deal with the worst in us. We are no longer held captives to our sinfulness, or shame, or our fears. The chains that bound us have been cut loose and we are free.

God's love is universal and unquenchable. It cannot be destroyed by our failures. It continues to uphold us through the most difficult struggles...because He is still there. And we are not alone.

— Al Behel

### Other Church Family News Events

**Mark Your Calendars: October 4-6—Brad Harrub** will be with us for a weekend series on Creation/Evolution and related topics. Dr. Harrub is a scientist who specializes in Christian apologetics. This is a tremendous opportunity to reach out to our neighbors. Guests are asked to take a post card from the foyer back to your congregation. We hope you will plan to attend. This series would be of special benefit to your students who are being challenged by theories that are designed to discourage faith in God.



Following is the seminar schedule:

- Friday—7 p.m.—Atheism's Attack on America
- Saturday—6 p.m.—Can We Prove God Exists? Was Darwin Wrong?
- Sunday—9:30 a.m.—Jesus on Trial in 2013
- 10:30 a.m.—Faith for Life
- 1:30 p.m.—Value of Human Life

**Today's Sermon Topics:** A.M.- "What Makes Us Different?"; P.M.- "Great Stories of the Bible: Joshua, A Man of Unique Courage"

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

### Our Known Sick

- Dez Anderson**—multiple health issues, including MS
- Andrea Weddington**—treated for cervical cancer and received a report from her medical team that she is tumor free.
- Bill England**—is battling cancer. He is currently receiving oral chemotherapy. We pray for positive results for our brother.
- Debby Bryan**—Cancer; **Johnny Bryan**—health issues.
- Clara Mayberry**—broken arm suffered in a recent fall.
- Kathy May** recovering at home in Baxter.
- Larry Valentine**—recovering from a fall and broken ankle.
- Heather Cox**—continue to pray for her unborn child who has a heart condition and will require immediate surgery following birth.

### Friends and Family

**Joyce Harrison**, sister of Sue Hayes, had successful gall bladder surgery Thursday, **Christopher Howell** (grandson of the Littleton-spinal cord injuries suffered in automobile accident), **Aranía Blount** (Brenda Scott's sister)-cancer markers have increased, **Betty Langdon** (Ginny Cliett's sister—mental confusion issues), **Robin McCollum and Peggy McCollum** (Al's nieces—both battling cancer), **Shelby Daniels** (medical technologist in clinic with Al—recovering from brain surgery), **Libby and Larry Gilley** (friends of Dwight Grizzell—she has breast cancer); Sue Mercer's sister, **Connie Browning**, is being treated for breast cancer; Beverly Finnell's grandson, **Liam Finnell**, is having health issues.

**Sadness and Sympathy:** We are deeply saddened to learn that one of our frequent visitors was murdered a week ago. **Pete and Melissa Short**, from Milford, DE, were with us in worship two weeks ago. Upon returning home Pete was murdered by a tenant who lived in a small apartment attached to their home. Pete was retired from Chrysler and has served as minister of various churches in his home area. We extend our deepest sympathy to Melissa and their family. You may send her a card at: Melissa Short, 5995 Williamsville Rd., Milford, DE 19963-6314.

**Building Loan:** Thanks to the generosity of so many members and visitors, our current loan balance is **\$1,190,654.23**. Special donations during the past few weeks have enabled us to reduce the principal. We are truly grateful for the extra contributions.

**Elder Contact for Month:** Jim Anderson at 865-924-1067

**Rise & Shine**—Every Sunday morning at 9:15. Kids—join us for singing, puppets, and stories.

**Sunday Adult Bible Class**  
*The Holy Spirit*

**School Clothing Drive**  
Mark checks "School Clothing" & leave at sound booth.

### 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 as of 08/01/13 is **\$1,190,654.23**. Extra contributions to reduce the loan debt are needed and appreciated. Envelopes are available in the pew.

### 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](http://www.greatsmokymountainschurchofchrist.com).