

NEWSLINE

Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ

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Heart To Heart

“...love one another sincerely from the heart” (1 Peter 1:22)

We like being with people we love and who love us. The loneliness of separation creates an emptiness which is hard to fill. Distance, either real or imagined, can be painful. Waiting, hoping, and searching for something to fill the void can consume us. We grieve the loss of loved ones...maybe for a lifetime.

Almost daily we meet people who are experiencing the brokenness that comes from losing a relationship...either through breakups, distance, or death. Children and adults alike suffer from broken hearts. Eulogies don't fill empty chairs.

Being with someone with whom there is no heart connection is still a lonely experience. Churches and families suffer from a lack of heart-felt love. Loneliness may even intensify and our shared experiences lose their meaning when love is not real. Singing “What A Fellowship!”, or “Blest Be The Tie That Binds” doesn't fill the void between unloving hearts.

When our hearts are connected we share a mutual commitment to each other's well-being, needs, and interests. We rejoice in good times and weep with each other in bad times. The bond between us is deep and decisively strong. We want to share our deepest thoughts and feelings. We commit to common goals.

Loving from the heart guarantees the sincerity of our promises. Those who lightly speak of love or whose love is self-centered can shift their devotion easily to others with some new experience or opportunity. Those who love from the heart never stop loving...in good times or bad.

Sincere love never gives up. It hopes against hope. It stays when evidence says to give up. It waits when waiting seems pointless. Sincere love is forgiving. It is patient. And kind.

A church with sincere love restores brokenness. It welcomes sinners. It provides nourishment for the hungry. The thirsty find drink. The weak are made strong. The outsider finds the door open.

God's love is sincere. He never stops loving, even when we are distant from Him. He is always there...waiting for us to return, celebrating when we come home.

God's love is giving love. It gives life. And it is demanding love. It calls us to drink from His fountain. He breaks through the darkness and brings light. He reveals the Way. He tells the truth. He is Truth. In Him there is no falsehood. His love can be trusted.

Loving God requires sincerity. It requires obedience. It requires complete trust. There can be no impurity. No hesitancy. Only surrender. Then, we love as He has loved us.

—Al Behel

Ladies Bible Study—1st and 3rd Tuesdays—Fellowship Hall—next meeting on Tuesday, November 5th. Please see Sue Hayes for a copy of the lessons.

Elder Contact for Month: Marc Hayes; Phone No. 1-731-608-4148

Sunday Sermon Topics: A.M.—“Woe To Korazin” P.M.—“Talking To Others About Jesus”, Continued.

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

Our Known Sick

Dez Anderson—multiple health issues, including MS

Jan Messick—new scan shows no return of cancer!

Andrea Weddington—reports show her cancer free!

Bill England—still battling cancer and artery problems in his leg.

Debby Bryan—Cancer; **Johnny Bryan**—health issues.

Clara Mayberry—broken arm suffered in a recent fall.

Kathy May recovering at home in Baxter. You can send her a card at P.O. Box 465, Baxter, TN 38544-0463.

Larry Valentine—good to see him back with us. Recovering from a broken ankle.

Linda Valentine is have health issues and must see a hematologist.

Heather Cox—baby to be delivered by C-section on Wednesday. Her baby will require heart surgery within hours of birth and is expected to be transported to Vanderbilt.

Jan Compton recovering at home from a recent heart attack.

Howard Yates—recovering from broken knee cap.

Brenda Scott—now in NHC rehab in Farragut after knee surgery.

Ryan Wilson—recovering from auto accident.

Friends and Family

Christopher Howell (grandson of the Littletons—spinal cord injuries suffered in automobile accident), **Arania 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; **Sara Teal**, daughter of Robin Roberts, is dealing with several health issues; Rick Cliett's 90 year old aunt **Doris Chambers** is recovering from multiple broken bones in her leg suffered from a fall while getting ready for church in Texas; Michael Cliett's girlfriend's mother, **Paula Ramos**, suffering from breast cancer; Tom Elkins' sister-in-law, **Joyce Elkins**, cancer surgery & auto accident; **Mark Baker**, brother-in-law of Coleen Thomason, is hospitalized in Fort Myers, FL with abnormal blood vessels in his brain; **Chad Roberts** needs our prayers.

Adult Bible Class

“Rejoicing In The Lord”

A Study in Philippians

Rise & Shine: Sundays, 9:15

Check Phone List

Please check the list in kitchen and make corrections.

Building Fund

Loan balance as of 10/01/13 is **\$1,184,923.82**. 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.

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