

NEWSLINE

Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ

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We Help One Another

We have been deeply moved by scenes from Moore, Oklahoma this week. As tornadoes tore schools and homes apart and we heard the anguished cries of victims who were terrified our hearts were also moved to tears. Teachers shielded children with their own bodies and little children sang in the halls with their heads down while grown-ups were crying out to God for mercy and help.

The aftermath of the horrendous E-5 tornado that struck the town left all of us with a sense of helplessness and powerlessness. We know we have no control over the elements of nature. We may boast of our technological accomplishments and our military might, but we are quickly reminded that we are no match for the forces around us.

In times like this we know we need God and we need each other. We are reminded that the things we possess are temporary and fragile. We cling to each other. We cling to God. We know He is bigger than we are and He alone has the power to calm the big storms that come our way.

Today we will help. Tomorrow we may need help for ourselves. We know we are dependent upon each other. God's people are there for each other. We are servant people. We are a "one-another" people. That's what the family of God is about. We belong to Him and we belong to one another.

There are many groups responding to the crisis. Churches of Christ Disaster Relief is one of those groups. Served by thousands of volunteers who donate time, money, and energy to prepare, pack, and load supplies from a warehouse in Nashville, Tennessee, Disaster Relief mobilizes trucks and manpower almost as soon as the news hits the airways. We have chosen to help by taking a special collection to assist in providing much needed supplies.

Today we will pass the baskets a SECOND TIME, following our regular contribution. If you chose to donate by check you may make your check to "GSM Church of Christ" and earmark it for Tornado Victims. Our regular contribution is essential for our local commitments. The second contribution is essential for our local commitments. The second contribution will help ease the hurt others have suffered in Oklahoma. — Al

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. This is a tremendous opportunity to reach out to our neighbors. The decision to bring Dr. Harrub was made after our budget was set and the elders are suggesting that we make individual pledges to cover the expense (approx. \$4-5,000).

Rise and Shine—Every Sunday morning at 9:15. A special opportunity for all our children to join together for a fun time of singing, Bible stories, puppets, and encouraging activities. Parents are asked to arrive a few minutes early. Bible classes will follow at 9:30.

Door Knockers Needed: To canvas the neighborhoods near our building to invite children to VBS. Volunteers will go out next Saturday and again Sunday afternoon. Sign up in the foyer or let Mark know if you are willing to help.

Congratulations: The PFHS Baseball Team won the AA State Championship on Friday night. Scott and Seth LaFollette are both on the team. Great guys!!

Sermon Topics: A.M.—"In My Father's House, No. 2—Doing the Father's Will" P.M.—"Great Stories of the Bible—Elisha"

Our Known Sick

Dez Anderson—multiple health issues, including MS
Andrea Weddington—cervical cancer; to begin chemotherapy soon
Jan Messick—still cancer free
Lancaster Littleton—recurrence of cancer. Resumed chemotherapy.
Bill England—cancer and other health issues
Esther Stewart recovering from shoulder surgery.
Betty Graves—diagnosed with cancer
Joe Bostick had a LVAD (Left Ventricular Assist Device) installed to assist a failed heart.
Debby Bryan—Cancer; **Johnny Bryan**—health issues; **Clara Mayberry**—confined to home.
Kathy May is in ICU at Cookeville Hospital with possible pneumonia and/or other problems. Please pray for Kathy and Nick.
Heather Cox's dad had major surgery this week in Virginia. Heather and the girls are there to help her dad and mom.
Rachel Wilson—scheduled for exploratory surgery on June 10. Andy's mother is also experiencing health problems.
Jose Martinez—recovering from gallbladder surgery at home.

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), **Rose Parker** (daughter-in-law of Ray & Faye Parker—suffering from Leukemia), **Jennifer Fulk** (daughter of Billy & Barbara Helms—recurrence of cancer), **Sheila Watson** (Ryan's mother—kidney failure), problems), **Donna Trout** (Judy Lassetter's sister-in-law in Nashville—infection attacking her liver), **Robin McCollum and Peggy McCollum** (Al's nieces—both battling cancer), **Shelby Daniels** (medical technologist in clinic with Al—aggressive brain tumor), **Libby and Larry Gilley** (friends of Dwight Grizzell—she has breast cancer), **Allegra Tedesco**, daughter of the Cliett's neighbors in Connecticut who is an incoming freshman at UT, was born with a faulty kidney and had surgery last week for this problem.

Sympathy: To **Dan Elkins** and his family in the death of Dan's step-mother, Audria Elkins, who passed away Thursday night near Pikeville, KY. Dan and Sheryle there for the funeral this weekend.

VBS

Mark your calendars for **June 7-8** for our Vacation Bible School.

Sunday Adult Bible Class
The Holy Spirit

Next Book of The Month Meeting—June 4, 7-9 pm
Book: Jeremiah

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 05/19/13 is **\$1,206,186.91**. 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.