

# NEWSLINE

## Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ

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### What I Learned Before Kindergarten

Robert Fulghum wrote an article some years ago entitled, "All I ever really needed to know I learned in Kindergarten." Well, I happen to think the most critical lessons are learned before Kindergarten. In fact, I can't remember ever going to kindergarten. My school memories begin with the first grade. Before kindergarten I learned many important lessons.

One of the most important lessons was *obedience*. My parents taught us to obey our parents, teachers, police officers, and every lawful authority in our lives. Disobedience was not tolerated and when we were told to do something we knew there would be major consequences for failing to comply. The authority of our parents was never questioned.

We learned *respect for one another and for our elders*. When addressing adults we were taught to say, "Yes, Sir" and "No, Sir", and were not allowed to be impolite toward anyone. We were respected by our parents and we showed respect in return. Our opinions were considered important but did not rule the day.

We learned to *accept responsibility for our own behaviors* even when it hurt to do so. Blaming others, lying, or being deceitful was not accepted. My mom seemed to have eyes in the back of her head and always knew when we were not on the "up and up."

We also learned to *practice the Golden Rule with everyone we met*. Mistreating others was met with strong consequences. Our community was filled with many good people and a few very, very bad folks. Even the bad folks respected my dad because he always treated them with dignity and kindness. On one occasion my father encountered a very wicked man at a country grocery store who decided to harass him. Another man who was feared even by local authorities intervened and put the other man in his place, saying, "This is a good man...leave him alone!"

I learned the value of prayer, loving your neighbors, sharing your possessions, practicing hospitality toward others, and giving more than you had to give. Hard work was expected of everyone and a task wasn't done until it was done. I also learned that going to church wasn't an option and that everything we did was to glorify our eternal Father. That's what I learned before kindergarten. I learned much more in the coming years.

### 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.

**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 other activities. Arrive early. Bible classes begin at 9:30.

**Door Knockers** needed to go out this afternoon to invite children to VBS.

**Guest Speaker, June 16:** Mike Jacobs, the evangelist whom we support in Cape Town, South Africa, will be here on Sunday morning, June 16, to report on that work and preach for us. His family will not be with him this visit but we do have a current picture of the whole family posted on the bulletin board. Let's look forward to that report and his visit and continue to pray for their work in Cape Town.

**Caroline and Rachel** are in D.C. as part of their school trip in recognition of their exceptional performance. Both graduated from the 8th grade this year.

Interested in going to **Cumberland Playhouse** in June? See Beverly Finnell or Martha Slate.

**Sermon Topics:** A.M.—"In My Father's House, No. 3—My House is A House of Prayer" P.M.—TBA

### Our Known Sick

**Dez Anderson**—multiple health issues, including MS  
**Andrea Weddington**—cervical cancer. Keep praying for her as she begins chemotherapy.

**Jan Messick**—still cancer free

**Lancaster Littleton**—recurrence of cancer. Resumed chemotherapy.

**Bill England**—cancer and other health issues. Started chemotherapy.

**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** has been released from the hospital and is at home in Baxter recovering from pneumonia. While in the hospital doctors determined that she had suffered a heart attack in the past.

**Heather Cox's dad** had major surgery last week in Virginia. Heather and the girls went there to help her dad and mom.

**Rachel Wilson**—scheduled for exploratory surgery on June 10. Andy's mother is also experiencing health problems.

**Cathy Haynes** fell in D.C. on the school trip and severely injured her ankle and knee. At this writing she is at the hospital.

### 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—recovering from brain surgery), **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 recently for this problem.

### 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

### 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).