

NEWSLINE

Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ

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Honor The Face Of The Old Man

"You shall rise up before the hoary head, and honor the face of the old man, and you shall fear your God: I am the Lord" (Leviticus 19:32)

Growing old has mixed blessings. For many it means loneliness and isolation, failing health, and reduced income. The years have taken away the sense of purpose and usefulness. Now, few ask their advice or seek their company. Few stop to say "hello."

For others, growing old is a time of reflection and dignity. There is a sense of accomplishment and acceptance. Loved ones are near and dear. Time together is pleasant and meaningful. For them, the passing years bring pleasure and purpose.

Growing old in the church should be surrounded with honor and grace as the wisdom gleaned from past experiences lighten the path of those who follow. Old people in the church are not a burden, but a blessing. Their place is carved in years of faithful service and devotion with many battles fought and won for the Kingdom.

Our churches have grown and prospered because of the sacrifices and vision of those whose eyes are now dim. Those ears that now sport hearing aids have heard the deepest cries of lost mankind and responded with hearts that were full of the Spirit of God.

When Moses told us to rise up before the hoary (gray) head and honor the face of the old man, he was not telling us to pretend that we like gray hair and wrinkles. He is telling us to honor those lives for the example they have set and those heads because of the wisdom they have acquired over the years. He is telling us to give praise to those who deserve praise...to lift up those hands that are now physically weak but which once bore the weight of many souls. He is telling us to see the vision they have seen and capture the mission they have set before us.

— 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 flyer 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

Today's Sermon Topics: A.M.—"A Second Touch"; P.M.—"Great Stories of the Bible: An Old Soldier Who Never Gave Up His Dream"

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

Our Known Sick

Dez Anderson—multiple health issues, including MS

Andrea Weddington—has been 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

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.

Sympathy: To **Jana Thomasson** in the death of her brother, **Darrell Moore**, who passed away on Tuesday night while on a job in Indiana. The family will receive friends Sunday at Milner & Orr Funeral Home, Lone Oak, Paducah, KY, from 5-8 with funeral & graveside service on Monday at 10 am. Also, sympathy to the family of **Art Lovell**, a frequent visitor and supporter of the GSM church. Art would be 93 today. Funeral is today (Sunday) in Birmingham.

Afghanistan—**Major Bryan Darilek**, son-in-law of Rick and Ginny Cliett and husband of Laura, returned home safely this week.

Building Loan: Thanks to the generosity of so many members and visitors, our current loan balance is **\$1,190,654.23**. In the last few weeks we have been able to make about \$23,000 in extra payments to reduce the principal.

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

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.