

# NEWSLINE

## Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ

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March 23, 2014

### Wings of Eagles

*"They who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint" (Isaiah 40:31)*

*Wings like eagles.* Those who "wait for the Lord...shall run and not be weary." Isn't that a great promise? Experience is a great teacher. Waiting for God to act in our lives and on our behalf has infinite rewards. There is strength in old age, especially when it is anchored in a life of faith. The outward nature is "wasting away", but "our inner nature is being renewed every day" (2 Corinthians 4:16).

For those who resent the passing years consider this frightening possibility. Just suppose we could reverse this process and become younger each year. You would start out in old age and every day grow a little younger. Each day you would know less than the day before. Each day you would move toward a smaller and smaller family. Soon your grandchildren would be gone. Then your children and your spouse. You would move from high school to first grade and kindergarten. Ultimately, you would end up being a helpless baby with a bottle, and then disappear from the world altogether.

Who would really be willing to reverse the aging process? There are many advantages to growing older rather than younger. Spiritually, who would want to see his relationship to God grow weaker, his faith and love for Jesus diminish with the passing years? Who would want to go from his or her kingdom citizenship back into the world where there is no hope?

God has some instructions for us about how we treat older people. *"You shall rise up before the hoary (gray) head, and honor the face of an old man, and you shall fear your God: I am the LORD" (Leviticus 19:32).* Again, *"A gray head is a crown of glory; it is gained in a righteous life" (Proverbs 16:31).* Waiting on God throughout one's life prepares us for the inevitable challenges of old age...we will mount up with wings like eagles...run and not be weary ...walk and not faint. What a victory!

\_\_\_Al Behel

#### Other News:

**Joey Bailey's mother**—recovering from heart surgery.

**Chanda Elkins** (Kristi's sister-in-law) needs prayer as she faces surgery. Report shows no cancer.

**Special Mission Emphasis Sunday: April 13.** We will have special presentations about our various mission efforts on that day. We currently support missionary efforts in Cape Town, South Africa, LaEsperanza, Honduras, the Philippines, and India. In addition to these works we help raise funds each year to place Bibles in Ukraine and Russia through Eastern European Mission.

**Invitation:** Eastern European Mission Brunch, at Maryville Church of Christ, 3/29/14, 9:30-11:00 a.m. This will be an opportunity to learn more about the mission to place Bibles in schools in Ukraine and Russia.

**Sympathy:** Cathy Haynes in death of close cousin. They are away for funeral.

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

*Sermon Topics: A.M.—"Jesus Christ, No Ordinary Man, No. 11— You Must Be Born Again"; P.M.— "Where Do We Go From Here?" (Continued)*

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

### Our Known Sick

**Dez Anderson**—is home but is having a lot of pain. Dez suffers from many health conditions. She has also been battling blood clots and internal bleeding and has required several units of blood.

**Ron Sommerville** is recuperating at home following back surgery. He is slowly progressing.

**Bill England**—his cancer markers are low. We rejoice with him.

**Debby Bryan**—Cancer

**Johnny Bryan**—Is in ICU at LeConte with fluid retention.

**Clara Mayberry**—broken arm suffered in a recent fall.

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

**Larry Valentine** -chemo begins March 24 **Deb Elkins**—recovering from some post-surgical complications.

**Wyatt Cox**, infant son of Heather and Alan Cox— second heart surgery March 27 at Vanderbilt. Their home address is: 3334 Oma Lee Dr., Sevierville, TN 37876.

### Friends and Family

**Christopher Howell** (grandson of the Littletons-spinal cord injuries suffered in automobile accident). Dwight Grizzell's friend, **Libby Gilley**, has discontinued all cancer treatment and is receiving hospice at home. Pray for her and husband Barry.

**Arania Blount** (Brenda Scott's sister)—battling cancer. **Robin McCollum and Peggy McCollum** (Al's nieces—both battling cancer). Sue Mercer's sister, **Connie Browning**, is being treated for breast cancer; Rick Cliett's brother,

**Ken Cliett**, is battling Ascites and kidney failure; **Mark Baker**, brother-in-law of Coleen Thomason, dealing with complications from abnormal blood vessels in the brain. Leah's neighbor's (Miss Rose) son—in-law, Jimmy Lee, is being treated for brain cancer.

**Jerry Ellison**, Brenda Scott's brother-in-law, failing lungs with no further treatment available.

**Al's brother, Tom Behel**, is receiving rehab at home in Alabama following hip surgery and a possible stroke which left him paralyzed in his throat.

**Skip Stewart's brother, Pete**, recovering from open heart surgery.

**Sue Hayes' sister, Joyce** - she fell and broke her hip

**Dan Elkin's sister, Lorna**—producing too much blood.

**Paul Huston**, son-in-law of Gary and Priscilla Dick, deployed to Egypt for one year. Prayers appreciated.

#### Sunday Adult Bible Study

*"Rejoicing In the Lord"*

A Study in Philippians

Rise & Shine: Sundays, 9:15

#### LADIES CLASS

1st and 3rd Tuesdays. Theme:

*"Apples of Gold"*

#### 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 03/01/14 is **\$1,154,725.22**. 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).