

# NEWSLINE

## Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ

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April 13, 2014

### I'll Exchange My Cross For A Starry Crown

Have you ever seen a real crown? Housed in a museum in London are many beautiful crowns which have adorned the heads of British royalty over the years. Those gold bands studded with gorgeous gems are worth millions of dollars. They were not given to their recipients because of their accomplishments, but because of their royal birth.

The crown given to the ancient athlete who won the Olympic race was usually a wreath made of ivy or pine (I Cor. 9:24, 25). It symbolized many years of training and discipline. It represented a victory over many skilled and fierce competitors. There was only one crown to be won.

God has many crowns for us. Crowns which symbolize the reward He has for us at the end of the race. He promises a "crown of rejoicing" for those who bring others to Christ (I Thessalonians 1:19,20); a "crown of righteousness" for all who fight a good fight, finish the race, and keep the faith (2 Timothy 4:7,8); a "crown of life" for those who are faithful unto death (James 1:12, Revelation 2:10); and a "crown of glory" for those elders who shepherd and set good examples for those to follow (I Peter 5:3,4).

Charles H. Gabriel captured the essence of the successful Christian life:

*"I'll exchange my cross for a starry crown,  
Where the gates swing outward never;  
At His feet I'll lay ev'ry burden down,  
And with Jesus live forever."*

—Al Behel

### Other News/Sick:

**Bob Klingerman**, Al and Linda's daughter's father-in-law, is suffering from advanced Parkinson's. He is now receiving hospice at home. Please keep him in prayer. He and his wife Jean are very close to Al and Linda.

**Carol Fromke**, wife of Vince Fromke, M.D. (one of Al's associates), has been diagnosed with advanced lung cancer. Your prayers for Carol will be appreciated. Cards may be sent to Carol at Livingston Clinic, 500 West Main Street, Livingston, TN 38570.

**Gayle Raines**, a frequent visitor and minister, is suffering from Stage 4 cancer of the jaw. Please keep him in prayer.

**Kenneth Williams**, brother of Priscilla Dick, is very ill in Abilene, TX. Pris plans to go there in a few days.

**Sympathy:** To Jerry Dyer in the death of his brother, George, who passed away a few days ago. The funeral was Friday in Arlington, TX. The Dyers appreciate the prayers of support and send their love to our church family.

**Mission Emphasis:** We believe the mission of the church is to share the good news of the gospel with the world. We are pleased to have Michael and Gail Jacobs visiting with us today from Cape Town, South Africa. Michael will update us on the work being done in Cape Town and Al will share information about work in the Philippines and Ukraine. On April 27, Jim Anderson will update us on the work in Honduras and Steve Dick will give a report on the work in India.

**Baby Shower**—for Sara Teal is scheduled for May 4. More details later.

**Elder Contact for Month:** Dan Elkins, Phone No. 865-548-9852

*Sermon Topics: A.M.—Mission Emphasis, Michael Jacobs and Al Behel; P.M.—"At Home in the Psalms"*

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

### Our Known Sick

**Dez Anderson**—suffers from many health conditions. She has recently battled blood clots and internal bleeding but is at home slowly improving.

**Ron Sommerville** is experiencing significant pain as he recovers from back surgery.

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

**Debby Bryan**—battling cancer at home. She is not doing well at this time. Keep praying.

**Johnny Bryan**—was released from the hospital and is now at home.

**Clara Mayberry**—still confined to home.

**DeEte Alexander**—battling an infection.

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

**Larry Valentine**—began chemo on March 24

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

**Angie Daimwood**—suffering agitation due to advancing dementia. She is back in Wellington Place.

### Friends and Family

**Christopher Howell** (grandson of the Littletons—spinal cord injuries suffered in automobile accident). **Arania Blount** (Brenda Scott's sister)—battling cancer and is now receiving hospice. **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.

**Madison Stanley**, seven year old granddaughter of friends of the Clietts—stage 4 cancer—undergoing aggressive chemo and radiation.

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

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

**Sue Hayes' sister, Joyce** - recovering from broken hip

**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 **\$1,150,519.86**. 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).