

# NEWSLINE

## Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ

Al Behel, Minister  
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### “Though Your Sins Are Like Scarlet”

“...they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall be like wool” (Isaiah 1:18)

Isaiah was pleading for Israel to repent. He knew they were rebellious and calloused against everything God wanted for them. He wanted them to know the forgiveness of God and His presence among them. But they would not listen.

God wants to forgive us. That’s what the cross is about. That’s what the resurrection is about. That’s what the church is about. God’s eternal love...waiting to forgive. Waiting for the right time to take our sins all the way to Calvary. Oh, how He wants to forgive!

Sin is dark and shameful. It hurts and destroys. It separates us from our Father. It brings death and destruction to everyone it touches. It is never pretty. It robs us of peace and creates enemies among neighbors. It leaves its stain like scarlet. It is red like crimson. But, the blood of Jesus makes us “white as snow.”

How could God forgive the saints of old? Men like David whose hands were stained with the blood of an innocent man just to satisfy his own lust? Men like Abraham who couldn’t wait for God to fulfill His promise and took matters into his own hands? Men like the apostle Paul who murdered Christians before he met Jesus? Why does God want to forgive so desperately?

Perhaps the answer is found in the fact that He is our Father Who made us. He made us because He loves us and wants us to share eternal life with Him. Satan has damaged us beyond our ability to recover on our own. There are no rehabilitation programs for us. No self-help guides to get us back where we need to be. He alone can bring us back. Satan has brought sin into our hearts. His power must be broken and we must be forgiven. God wants to forgive...and He does forgive all who receive Him. He “*lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; He set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand.*” (Psalm 40:2)

— Al Behel

### Other News/Sick:

**Our Sympathy:** **Angie Daimwood** passed away Saturday morning around 1 a.m. Angie was our oldest member (at 95) and has been in assisted living for a few years. Our sympathy to her daughter, Lynn Caylor, and other family members. Lynn’s address is 204 Hollywood Circle, Sevierville, TN 37862.

**Our prayers** continue with the family of Andrea Weddington and others who have lost loved ones recently.

**Debbie Little**, mother of one of Marti’s students, is suffering from a brain aneurysm rupture. Marti called the family this week and discovered that she had improved enough to return home. She spoke with Debbie and her husband, Randy, who wanted everyone at the GSM church to know they are so grateful for your continued prayers. They just wanted to say “Thank you!!” Please keep praying for her recovery. Cards would be encouraging. Their address is: Debbie, Randy, Michael, & Katie Little, 4152 Briggs Loop, Kodak, TN 37764.

**Tyler Behel**, Al’s nephew, has been re-deployed to Afghanistan. Prayers are requested for him and his wife and child as he is away.

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

**Mark Your Calendars:** Our annual holiday party is scheduled for December 13 at 6 p.m. in the fellowship hall. List in foyer to indicate food you will bring.

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

*Sermon Topics: A.M. - “The Greatest Of These”; P.M. - “At Home In The Psalms- He’s Here and There and Everywhere” - Psalm 139*

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

### Our Known Sick

**-Dez Anderson**— continues to battle multiple health issues and her activity level is very limited. Keep praying...God is listening and answering.

**-Sheryle Elkins** has completed chemotherapy and radiation for Adenocarcinoma (lung cancer). They received good news with the results of the CT scan. Her tumors have reduced 80%. A PET scan in 3 months should show if the treatments were successful. Please keep praying for our sister. Her address is: 1383 Lake Front Drive, Dandridge, TN 37725.

**-Bill Green** was back with us. We are happy he is better.

**-Sue Mercer** is recovering from surgery to remove a malignant kidney. She is at home and is expected to make a full recovery.

**-Raelynn Bryant**, newborn baby daughter of Steven and Taylor Bryant, is still hospitalized but is improving significantly.

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

### Friends and Family

**-Ben Lachica**, Mariejane’s father, recovering from an apparent light stroke in the Philippines. Her mother, Marcie, just returned there.

**-Mrs. Florence Tolliver** is in Ft. Sanders Nursing Home, Rm 172. Her daughter, Rita Taylor from Kodak, has been visiting with us.

**-Jim Dickson** (he and Barbara have worked at Dollywood and worked with us several years) has a recurrence of lung cancer and is being treated with chemotherapy. Jim and Barbara live at 521 Green Hills Dr., Hattiesburg, MS 39402. Phone: 601-296-1547.

**-Scottie Elkins**, Tom and Deb’s grandson, is still awaiting tests to determine if he has MS. Prayers are requested for him.

**-Christopher Howell**-grandson of the Littletons-spinal cord injuries.

**-Robin McCollum and Peggy McCollum** (Al’s nieces-battling cancer).

**-Sue Mercer’s sister, Connie Browning**, breast cancer.

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

**-Al’s brother, Tom Behel**, - fell recently and broke the femur in his below his (good) hip. He had surgery to install a rod in his femur and is now at home. He still is unable to converse orally from his stroke.

**-Rosita Juan**, visitor and mother of Rose Harrington (frequent visitor), is on dialysis and awaiting a kidney transplant. Prayers appreciated. Address is: 260 River Valley Circle, Lot 6, Sevierville, TN 37862.

*Members: See Esther Stewart for your directory.*

### Sunday Bible Study

#### Colossians

Rise & Shine: Sundays, 9:15

### Ladies Bible Class

Has resumed meeting on 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in the Fellowship Hall. See YOU Dec. 2 at 10 a.m.

### 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 11/04/14 is **\$1,113,205.94**. 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).