

# NEWSLINE

## Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ

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Vol. XIX. No. 45  
November 08, 2015

### “Never Mind, Lord”

Joe Smith was nailing shingles on his two story house on a damp, misty Saturday afternoon. While walking the gable his feet slipped out from under him. Headed for certain death or serious injury, he called out in desperation, “God, save me!” Immediately his pants caught on a loose nail and his slide was halted. With great relief Joe lifted his eyes upward and said, “Never mind, Lord. This nail caught me.”

God is often nothing more than Someone we call on when we are in trouble. When things are going well we don’t think we need Him. When problems seem insurmountable, though, we want Him right there by our side. Unexpected crises are met with handy expectations that God should rush in and take care of everything.

While God is certainly the One we can call on when everyone else lets us down, He expects us to trust Him all the time. Maybe our problem is that we trust ourselves more than we trust God...until major tragedy hits and we are totally helpless. As soon as we are in control again we dismiss Him and take over ourselves.

The reality is that our entire lives are in a crisis with potential consequences that are more severe than Joe’s fall. It is a crisis in “slow motion,” so we can easily forget the urgency of seeking God’s help. We have little limited and temporary control over our circumstances. The stable elements can easily become unstable. The nails that catch us may not hold.

Our comfort is not in living trouble-free lives, but in maintaining continual fellowship with our Father whose power is limitless, whose love never ends. His protective arm is never weakened, His watchful eye is never closed. Our God is constantly by our side.

We are told, “don’t stop praying” and to “give thanks in all circumstances” (1 Thessalonians 5:17, 18). God wants that kind of communication with us. He wants to hear from us in the good times and in the bad time. Our need for Him is just as great when things are going well as when we face the crises of life. Let’s keep in touch with Him.

— Al Behel

### Other News & Sick:

**-Priscilla Dick** underwent ear surgery on Tuesday in Cookeville. Initial results are very encouraging to possibly restore some of her lost hearing.

**-Keely Chambers**, Shirley Harmon’s granddaughter, is in Ft. Sanders Regional, with internal bleeding which is putting her pregnancy at risk. Further tests are scheduled for November 19. She will remain in the hospital indefinitely.

**-Donna Walker** has had some health issues and is not allowed to drive until the doctor clears her. She needs assistance at this time with transportation to church, her doctor, and to the grocery store. Please offer assistance as you can.

**-Welcome: George and Melanie Tolliver** have expressed their desire to be part of our church family. They have retired and moved to Pigeon Forge from Michigan. We welcome this delightful couple and look forward to having them as part of our fellowship.

**-Ladies Bible Class:** Every 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 10 a.m. Polly Cline is leading a study entitled, “Hunger In My Soul”. Next meeting is Nov. 17.

**-Mark Haynes** (our youth minister) will be our speaker today. Al’s brother’s memorial service was Saturday in Alabama.

**Food Contact For Month:** Sue Hayes, back up is Patty Adair

**Elder Contact for Month:** Marc Hayes. Phone: 731-608-4148

**Sermon Topics:** A.M. – Mark Haynes is speaking

P.M.— “Congregational Singing”

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

### Our Known Sick

**-Dez Anderson**— still suffering with multiple health issues. Keep praying. God is listening and answering. It was good to see Dez at services recently.

**-Sheryle Elkins**— is continuing chemotherapy on a periodic basis. Her last lung scan was encouraging. Keep her in your prayers.

**-Bill Valentine** is at home recovering from surgery for esophageal cancer. Doctors are encouraged by the absence of cancer markers and the prognosis is positive. Please keep Bill and Gail in prayer. God is good!

**-Bill Green**—still struggling with health issues

**-Jean Compton**—is recovering at home.

**-Kathy May** battling ongoing health issues. She is still in Baxter.

**-Pauline Swallow** is dealing with cancer. Keep praying for her.

**-Bill England**— is now home after being hospitalized again recently.

He is recovering from surgery for lung cancer. Keep praying.

**-Wyatt Cox’s** audiology and cardiology appointments went well.

**-Skip Stewart**—scheduled for bypass surgery on his leg November 11.

**-Jerry and Jeanette Dyer**—keep in prayer as they face several challenges.

### Friends and Family News

**-Sue Hayes sister, Joyce**, had a fall resulting in a small fracture to her leg and a serious foot drop issue. Home care and rehab planned to assist in healing.

**-Brenda Scott’s niece, Nita Watern**, has liver cancer and is receiving chemotherapy. Her liver is almost completely consumed. She lives in New Madison, Ohio.

**-Judy Watkins**, Rick’s sister in Texas, is slightly improving.

**-Richard Nichols**, Nick Nichol’s brother—cancer surgery in Illinois.

**-Barbara Copley**, friend of Bill England and Sheryle Elkins—cancer.

**-Ginny and Rick**—prayers for their daughter-in-law’s grandmother, Anna, in Argentina. She is very ill from a persistent infection.

**-Dee Lewis**, friend of the Clietts, stage four cancer (6th occurrence)

**-Deployed to Stuttgart, Germany:** Lt. Col. Jim Vance, Jr. (USAF), son of May and Jimmy Vance. Support services to Middle East.

**NOTE:** If any changes/deletions/additions to the sick list are needed, please tell Al or Ginny. We depend on you to update information on friends and family.

### Special Events

**Men’s Prayer Session**  
Monday mornings at 8:30

**Wednesday Night**

Rick Cliett is leading a study on the Book of Hebrews

**Sunday Adult Class**

*1 Thessalonians—Al Behel*

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 11/02/15 is **\$1,053,307.89**. Extra contributions to reduce the loan debt are needed and appreciated. Envelopes are available in the pews.

### 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)