

NEWSLINE

Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ

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Vol. XIX. No. 19

May 10, 2015

A Mean Momma?

My Momma was really mean! She made us get up at 5:30 a.m., eat breakfast, and head for the fields or to do some other farm chore. And she expected every job to be completed without complaining. Milking cows, cutting wood, chopping cotton, and dozens of other tasks awaited us. Every day seemed to bring more work.

And Momma wanted all eight children to be well disciplined. We knew if we got in trouble at school or anywhere in the community we would be in bigger trouble at home! Obedience to authority was a way of life and failure to show respect to one's elders was almost a capital offense. Momma wouldn't tolerate fighting. She always believed if you had time to fight you had time to do another chore.

When it came to cleanliness, Momma wrote the book on it. With eight children there was always laundry to do, clothes to iron (no permanent press in those days), and house cleaning to be done. Momma even thought we should sweep the yard with a brush-broom because the grass was worn away by so many kids playing outside the house. Oh yes, playing was "outside" the house...even in the dead of winter.

Momma didn't enjoy using the hickory switch, but she sure did have a strong right arm. Many an argument would stop immediately at the sight of a peach tree limb. She also knew how to nurture all her children. She seemed to know all the home remedies for just about every illness a child could get. Doctor visits cost money and they usually didn't know much more than Momma...especially about her kids.

When Momma wanted to make a point she often used object lessons. Like making us responsible for cleaning animals we hunted, picking up our own messes, and taking back things that didn't belong to us. She expected every word we spoke to be the truth.

Some people might think a Momma like that was pretty mean, but I think she was pretty incredible. She's not here anymore, but I think she's happy with the results of her efforts. Happy Mother's Day, Momma! And to all the other Mommas who are like you.

— Al Behel

Happy Mother's Day To All Our Moms

We honor you and we hold you up to our Father in Heaven for His abundant grace and strength to guide your path.

Other News:

Honoring Our Graduate: We will honor our high school graduate on Sunday night, May 17, following worship. We will have a covered dish congregational dinner and honor **Nathan Cantrell** for his accomplishments as he graduates high school. This is a time of celebration for the Cantrell family and for his church family. He is a remarkable young man whose devotion to Christ is exemplary.

Food Contact For Month: Patty Adair. Contact her if you wish to help.

Elder Contact for Month: Rick Cliett. Phone: 865-789-9619

Sermon Topics: A.M. - "A Mother's Unusual Request"; P.M. - "Patmos and Beyond-No. 11- Sounding of the Seven Trumpets" Revelation 7

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. She has had a hard few days. Keep praying...God is listening and answering.

-Jim Anderson—a hard cast affixed to his wrist on Friday. Healing is slow but progressing. Multiple challenges with himself and Dez.

-Sheryle Elkins—had her second round of chemotherapy on Tuesday. Please pray fervently for her. Her address is: 1383 Lake Front Drive, Dandridge, TN 37725.

Al Finnell—triple bypass surgery on Wednesday. He is slowly progressing from surgery. Expects to go home on Monday. Keep him and Beverly in your prayers.

-Ron Sommerville—surgery to implant a nerve stimulator is postponed.

-John Devore, Linda Goodnight's husband, was hospitalized Wednesday night with a "small" stroke. He is now at home

-Estlina Wilson- good to have her back with us.

-Bill Green—still struggling with health issues

-Jean Compton— heart issues.

-Francis Laney — Her address is on the bulletin board in foyer.

-Pauline Swallow-has colon cancer. Please pray.

-Bill England-receiving radiation treatment for bone cancer.

Friends and Family News

-Donna Walker's sister, Sandy Eaker - in Long Term Acute Care.

-Mary Wagner, battling cancer. She lives in Arlington, TX.

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

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

-Tom Behel, Al's brother - slowly improving.

-Morris Fields -Leah Turner's uncle, a lung infection.

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

-Brenda Moore, friend of Leah, has thyroid cancer and is having a very difficult time.

-Bill England has requested prayer for his friend, **Chester Forsythe**.

Deployed to Afghanistan: Tyler Behel, Al's nephew.

"Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Thy sight, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer" (Psa. 19:14)

Special Events

Ladies Bible Class
1st and 3rd Tuesdays

Men's Prayer Session
Monday mornings at 8:30

Adult Class
Colossians—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 05/01/15 is **\$1,084,800.14**. 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