

NEWSLINE

Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ

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I'm Not Home Yet

"We have been born anew...to an inheritance which is imperishable...kept in heaven for you." (1 Peter 1:3,4)

Home. What does the word mean to you? I have driven all night to reach my home. I have changed flights to arrive home early. I have cancelled scheduled events to stay home. Once when my plane was stranded in a fierce night storm while waiting for a replacement transponder I rented a car and drove many miles through pounding wind and rain to reach my home.

We are told that "home is where the heart is", and "home is the place you go where they have to let you in." For most of us, home is the place where we belong, where we are safe, and where our deepest needs are met. Home is an inviting word, a heart-warming word.

But I have news for you. We're not home yet! We haven't reached our final destination. The house you live in is temporary and will not last. Someone else will likely obtain possession of it in a few years and call it their home, or it will deteriorate and be destroyed. But the home you have waiting for you is imperishable and indestructible.

I'm not home yet. I am traveling toward that home, but I am not there yet. Peter tells us that this home is "kept in heaven" for us. It is being made ready and is being maintained in perfect condition for our arrival. We are receiving it through "inheritance." Our Father has promised it to all who are "born anew" and who prepare themselves to take possession. It's cost? It is free! Free to us, but paid for by the precious blood of Jesus.

I am going home. The road to that home leads through beautiful scenery with wonderful people surrounding me. And there will be some rough spots. But the final destination will be worth the trip. It will be worth every sacrifice I have to make. Because it is imperishable and indestructible. And it is mine! And it is yours too!

— Al Behel

Our Known Sick

- Dez Anderson**— was admitted the hospital again this week for low hematocrit. . Keep praying. God is listening and answering.
- Jim Anderson**—a hard cast affixed to his wrist recently. Healing is slow but progressing. Multiple challenges with himself and Dez.
- Sheryle Elkins**—will have her third 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 May 6. He is now at home and his recovery is progressing. Keep him and Beverly in your prayers.
- Ron Sommerville**—surgery to implant a nerve stimulator is now scheduled for June 1.
- Jimmy Vance** is scheduled to have surgery to remove a tumor from his jaw in a few days.
- John Devore**, Linda Goodnight's husband, was hospitalized again Wednesday night with another 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.
- Kathy May** still battling several health issues. She is still in Baxter.

Friends and Family News

- Ben Lachica**, Mariejane's father, had another stroke and pneumonia.
- Mary Wagner**, battling cancer. She lives in Arlington, TX.
- Richard Nichols**, Nick Nichol's brother—cancer surgery in Illinois.
- 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.

Other News & Sick:

-**Marti Cantrell**—diagnosed with ductal carcinoma in situ breast cancer. She is scheduled to have genetic testing for the BRCA gene on Wednesday and a lumpectomy on Thursday. Depending on the results of the gene test she will either have radiation and hormone therapy (if negative) or surgery (if positive).

-**Michael Jacob's mother** has been battling extensive cancer filling her entire abdomen area. She is now in hospice. Michael, Gail, and their family are supported by the GSM church in Cape Town, South Africa. His mom has been highly involved in the Lord's work in that congregation for many years. Keep Michael and his family in your prayers. Special prayers have been requested for his dad.

Patty Adair needs for VBS - EMPTY Kleenex boxes - both rectangular and square - please bring to building and place on labeled table in the fellowship room.

Gary and Priscilla will be in Washington state until the middle of August. We will miss them as they are with family there.

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. - "More Than A Temple"; P.M. - "Patmos and Beyond-No. 13- God's Wrath Unleashed on Enemies of the Church" Revelation 12-20:10

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

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

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