

# NEWSLINE

## Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ

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### “If Your Enemy Is Hungry, Feed Him”

What was Jesus thinking about? Feed my enemies? Pray for those who spitefully use me? Do good to those who do evil to me? Surely He never lived where I live. How could He expect me to be so kind to people who do bad things to me? Could He really expect me to pray for terrorists and people who kill our soldiers?

Yes, I think that is what He is telling me. He is telling me that the weapons God has given to me to use are not made with tempered steel or powered with nuclear fuel. Those are the weapons of duly authorized governments. The weapons I am given to use are spiritual and can only be fired from a kneeling position.

The apostle Paul says that the weapons of our warfare are “mighty” or “powerful” before God (II Corinthians 10:4-6). We are not battling “flesh and blood”, but principalities (governments) and powers (weapons) in “heavenly places” (Ephesians 6). How do you deal with an enemy you cannot see?

First of all we must meet this enemy where he really is. Sure, he occupies human bodies and hearts, but his sphere of influence is in “heavenly places”, or in a spiritual realm far beyond any human form. We must enter that battle field through the only Door open to us. This Door provides us direct access to God’s power and guidance.

What do you do when you’re in the presence of your enemies? Do you fight back with harsh words of criticism? Do you lash out with threats or resort to physical violence? Or, do you fall on your knees and ask God to change his heart? Do you seek power and guidance from the One Who holds the rivers in the palm of His hand and Who leaves His footprints on the mountains?

Jesus made it clear. We are to do good to those who “persecute you and spitefully use you, and say all kinds of evil against you” (Matthew 5: 11). If our enemy is hungry we must feed him. We must not repay evil for evil or seek revenge against him (Romans 12), but we must become instruments through whom God will demonstrate His love.

— Al Behel

### Other News & Sick:

-**Marti Cantrell**—had a lumpectomy on Thursday for ductal breast cancer. Depending on the results of her BRCA gene test on Wednesday she will either have radiation and hormone therapy (if negative) or surgery (if positive).

-**Wyatt Cox’s** cardiology check up went well—the only concern is his slow growth; however, he will be observed and if necessary his next surgery may be moved up. Wyatt has had a fever and ear infection this past week.

-**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. Prayers requested.

**Sympathy To:** Family of Gwen Johnson who passed away Friday morning in Pikeville, KY. Gwen was a former member of the GSM church.

**Sympathy To:** Bill Green on the death of his sister last week in WV.

-**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. Their address til August will be 1705 Clear Lake Blvd. SE, Yelm, WA 98597.

**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 - “Nobody Like Him”; P.M. - “Patmos and Beyond-No. 14- God’s Wrath Unleashed on Enemies of the Church” Revelation 13—20:10*

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

### Our Known Sick

-**Dez Anderson**— home from the hospital. She has multiple health issues. . Keep praying. God is listening and answering.

-**Jim Anderson**—recovering from broken wrist. Healing is slow but progressing. Multiple challenges with himself and Dez.

-**Sheryle Elkins**— had her third round of chemotherapy last Tuesday. She developed an allergic reaction and will need adjustment with her chemotherapy going forward. 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 Monday, 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 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** battling ongoing health issues. She is still in Baxter.

### Friends and Family News

-**Ben Lachica**, Marijane’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.

### 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](http://www.greatsmokymountainschurchofchrist.com).