

NEWSLINE

Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ

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Heart To Heart

“...love one another sincerely from the heart” (1 Peter 1:22)

We like being with people we love and who love us. The loneliness of separation creates an emptiness which is hard to fill. Distance, either real or imagined, can be painful. Waiting, hoping, and searching for something to fill the void can consume us. We grieve the loss of loved ones...maybe for a lifetime.

Almost daily I sit with people who are experiencing the brokenness that comes from losing a relationship...either through breakups, distance, or death. Children and adults alike suffer from broken hearts. Eulogies don't fill empty chairs.

Being with someone with whom there is no heart connection is still a lonely experience. Churches and families suffer from a lack of heart-felt love. Loneliness may even intensify and our shared experiences lose their meaning when love is not real. Singing “What A Fellowship!”, or “Blest Be The Tie That Binds” doesn't fill the void between unloving hearts.

When our hearts are connected we share a mutual commitment to each other's well-being, needs, and interests. We rejoice in good times and weep with each other in bad times. The bond between us is deep and decisively strong. We want to share our deepest thoughts and feelings. We commit to common goals.

Loving from the heart guarantees the sincerity of our promises. Those who lightly speak of love or whose love is self-centered can shift their devotion easily to others with some new experience or opportunity. Those who love from the heart never stop loving...in good times or bad.

God's love is sincere. He never stops loving, even when we are distant from Him. He is always there...waiting for us to return, celebrating when we come home.

— Al Behel

Other News & Sick:

-Sympathy: To Linda Goodnight's family in the death of her son-in-law this past week in Colorado. He leaves behind his wife (Linda's daughter) and two daughters, ages 12 and 13. Please keep this family in prayer.

-Patty Adair will have outpatient (one day) surgery on her shoulder Tuesday, Sept. 1 at LeConte Medical Center.

-Bob Foust, who attends often with Shirley Harmon, had shoulder surgery and is now recovering at home.

MEETINGS TODAY: Monthly men and ladies meetings today at 4 p.m.

Scripture Sermon: “I am the Lord your God...open your mouth wide, and I will fill it” (Psalm 81:10)

Ladies Bible Study Resumes—Tuesday, Sept. 1 in Fellowship Hall at 10 a.m. New series of lessons presented by Polly Cline entitled “Hunger in My Soul” designed to enhance our personal Bible study. Please come! Ladies will meet every 1st and 3rd Tuesday during the fall months.

Food Contact For Month: Linda Goodnight. Call her to assist.

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

Sermon Topics: AM—“Limitations of Prayer, Or, When Does God Answer Prayer?”; PM—“Tears of Jesus”

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

Our Known Sick

-Dez Anderson— still confined to home with multiple health issues. Keep praying. God is listening and answering.

-Sheryle Elkins— is continuing to receive chemotherapy for lung cancer. Please pray fervently for her. Her address is: 1383 Lake Front Drive, Dandridge, TN 37725.

-Bill Valentine is has completed radiation and chemotherapy for esophageal cancer. Please keep Bill and Gail in prayer.

-Martí Cantrell—radiation treatment for breast cancer.

-Estlina Wilson—is recovering at home.

-Bill Green—still struggling with health issues

-Jean Compton— surgery delayed because of a growth in her mouth.

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

-Keely Chambers, is now recovering at home with her grandmother.

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

-Bill England is now at home after having surgery to remove part of his lung. Bill is suffering from lung cancer and bone cancer. Please keep him an Pat in your prayers.

Friends and Family News

-Coleen Thomason's sister, **Sharon Roth** suffered a stroke and has been moved to rehab. Her address is 6921 Pine Needle Lane, Boone Mills, VA 24065.

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

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

-Tom Behel, Al's brother is now at home.

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

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

-Megan White, Joyce Keyser's 24 yr. old cousin from Huntsville, is in NYC awaiting delicate surgery at the base of her brain to relieve pain when she eats. Surgery now postponed until September.

-David Timmerman, a friend of Al and Linda's family, is suffering from stage 4 cancer. Treatment options are being evaluated.

-Ginny and Rick are requesting prayers for their daughter-in-law's grandmother, **Anna**, who lives in Argentina. She is very ill from a persistent infection.

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

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 08/01/15 is **\$1,067,940.55**. 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