

NEWSLINE

Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ

Al Behel, Minister
abehel@ix.netcom.com

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Manna In The Morning

God is amazing! His patience is beyond comprehension, and His goodness transcends human imagination. Israel had been brought across the Red Sea from Egypt where they had been oppressed for centuries. God had chosen to deliver them from slavery and take them home to Canaan.

Not long after entering the wilderness they began to complain about their "room service." They didn't like the meals and they thought they would perish in the Sinai Dessert. They complained against Moses and weren't very happy with God either. Even though they were beaten in Egypt, at least they had food to eat.

So God decided to take care of the problem. He told Israel that He would send them "manna in the morning" and quail at night. As they went outside the camp each morning they found the ground covered with manna, a small wafer, which would provide them adequate nourishment for the day. Each evening they would find the ground covered with quail.

An interesting condition was placed on the Israelites as they gathered the manna and the quail...they were only allowed to gather enough for themselves and their families for that day. Each day they would see God's goodness and His power displayed as He provided for their daily needs.

In the Sermon on the Mount Jesus told us not to worry about tomorrow and that God knows our needs even before we ask. In the model prayer He taught the disciples to pray, "Give us *this* day our daily bread." Each morning brings a new awareness of our Father's goodness.

As Israel gathered manna each morning, we also need to receive "heavenly manna" through daily communion with God. Each day brings its own troubles; each day we need God's strength. We need to spend quiet moments with Him, moments of contemplation and devotion, moments of praise and thanksgiving. Those moments provide opportunities for God to renew our strength "like the eagle's" so we can soar above the temptations we will surely face.

Daily manna from God never leaves us lacking. Our hunger is satisfied, our thirst is quenched. Every need is supplied. Outside the camp, alone with God, in those quiet moments, every need is met. But today's manna will not meet tomorrow's need. Manna must be received every morning.

___ Al Behel

Other News:

-**Sympathy To: Dan and Sheryle**, in the death of Dan's sister, Larna Griffon, in Kentucky. Her funeral was on Friday in Jamestown, KY. Prayers for family.

-Also, sympathy to **Billie Cliett** (Rick's step-mom) in the death of her brother.

-**Congratulations to Travis and Tricia Hayes** on the birth of their new baby boy, **Kendrick James Hayes**. Proud grandparents are Kenny and Beth Hayes. Bryan Kendrick is the proud great uncle. Travis and Tricia live at 4101 Boyd's Creek Hwy, Sevierville, TN 37876.

-**Connie Clepper**, cousin of Linda Behel, is undergoing tests regarding treatment for mouth cancer. Prayers appreciated. Her address is: 2350 Fair Oaks Ct., Cumming, GA 30040.

"Like" us on Facebook—The Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ now has an official Facebook page—look for the listing with a profile photo of the church building.

Food Contact For Month: Linda Goodnight

Elder Contact for Month: Marc Hayes, phone: 1-731-608-4148

Sermon Topics: A.M. — "Walking By Faith: Just A Closer Walk With Thee"

P.M.— Young men will conduct worship

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.

-**Sheryle Elkins**— is continuing chemotherapy on a periodic basis. She has been on antibiotics for laryngitis.

-**Bill Valentine** is recovering from esophageal cancer surgery. We rejoice with him that all indicators are good.

-**Bill Green**—suffering from several health issues. Cards would mean a lot to him.

-**Dan Elkins**—prayers requested as he deals with high blood pressure.

-**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.

-**Jerry and Jeanette Dyer**— they face several challenges.

-**Tanya Smith** (former member) has been diagnosed with thyroid cancer. She is now living in Collinwood, TN

-**Donna Walker** was hospitalized earlier this week with a cardiac event. She is now at home.

-**Bob Keyser** recovering from a broken shoulder. Glad he is back.

Friends and Family News

-Joyce Keyser's cousin, **Maegan White**, recovering from brain surgery.

-**Sue Hayes sister, Joyce**, recovering from a fall.

-**Pat Thomas**, friend of Linda Valentine and other members here, had bladder cancer surgery recently. Pat lives in Brentwood, TN.

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

-Leah Turner's friend, **Nesbit Allen**, is now non-responsive.

-**Judy Watkins**, Rick's sister in Texas, is improved.

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

-**John Devore's** (Linda Goodnight's husband) **daughter** was severely injured in an auto accident recently. Prayers appreciated.

-Kristi Elkins has requested prayers for **Chanda Elkins' mother**. She is in a diabetic coma and prognosis is not good.

-**Randy Moore**, brother of Tina Yates, suffering from kidney disease and on dialysis—Tina is very close to her brother and appreciates prayers for him.

Ladies Bible Study

First and Third Tuesdays in Fellowship Hall at 10 a.m. Polly Cline is leading a study on "Hunger in my Soul"- next meeting on Feb. 2.

Special Events

Men's Prayer Session

Monday mornings at 8:30

Wednesday Night

Danny Cline will begin a study-
"They Met the Messiah in Mark"

Sunday Adult Class

2 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 01/02/16 is **\$1,042,098.86**. 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.