

NEWSLINE

Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ

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Caring For One Another

The church is a community of redeemed sinners who have been freed to experience the fullness of God's grace. Being recipients of grace we are aware that no gift is of greater value than forgiveness. Forgiveness allows us to start over with clean slates, and to accept one another as fellow members of Christ's body. The "one-another" principle encompasses every aspect of the Christian life.

Repeatedly we are encouraged to "love one another", "forgive one another", "pray for one another," "admonish one another," and "bear one another's burdens." Caring for one another has many dimensions.

Caring for one another involves an *emotional response* to his or her struggle, weakness, or sin. When Jesus saw the multitudes who followed Him, the Scriptures tell us He "was moved with compassion." Compassion literally means "to share the passion (emotion) with" another person. Caring involves emotion, not a mere verbal recognition of the other person's difficulty.

Caring for one another also requires an *active behavioral response* to that person's need. The writer James expresses the futility of words without actions: "If a brother or sister is ill-clad and in lack of daily food, and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace, be warmed and filled,' without giving them the things needed for the body, what does it profit?" (James 2:15,16).

Faith requires an active expression. Love requires that we get our hands dirty, that we reach out to one another in times of need, distress, or weakness to help in meaningful ways. Many of the early Christians sold their possessions and gave the proceeds to help other Christians who were in need.

Caring for one another involves *forgiving one another, restoring one another, and helping one another in recovering from sin's blows*. The church is like a spiritual hospital where healing of broken hearts and lives occurs. It is expected that hospitals will be made up of sick people who are struggling to regain health. In the same way the church is actively involved in restoring those who have fallen without pressing them further down.

Caring is costly. It demands that we get outside ourselves and become involved in another's life. We sometimes have to go out of our way, spend precious time giving comfort, open our hearts to take their pain home with us, or accept gaping weaknesses in their lives.

Caring does not mean that we overlook things which need to be changed. It means that we patiently admonish each other to faithful service and stand side by side in our efforts to please Him. Caring is loving when loving is hard, or being there when others have left.

—Al Behel

Our Known Sick

-**Dez Anderson**— suffering many health issues. Prayers and cards are encouraging and appreciated.

-**Geordie Haynes** will have ear surgery at a later date.

-**Sheryle Elkins**-continuing chemotherapy. PET scan was good.

-**Bill Valentine** received a good report from his PET scan earlier this week as nothing showed up. He will be re-evaluated in January. Please keep Bill and Gail your prayers.

-**Joyce Keyser**-Joyce suffers from peritoneal cancer. M.D. Anderson doctors confirmed that her treatment here is best for her. It was so good to back with us recently.

-**Bill Green**—suffering from many health issues.

-**Jean Compton** —is recovering at home.

-**Kathy May**—battling ongoing health issues.

-**Jeanette and Jerry Dyer**—as they face many struggles.

-**Charles & Frances Copeland**-newborn great granddaughter, **Madelaine Grace Kirby**, is very ill with a genetic disorder. Prognosis is not good. She is home at this time.

-**Patty Adair** had wrist surgery Oct. 7 to remove three bones. She will not be able to sign for at least three months.

Friends and Family News/Prayer Requests

-**Linda Blass**, Vicki's mom, in rehab facility recovering from hip surgery.

-**Jackie Stearsman**, minister friend of Al's, the Littletons, and Copelands, has leukemia.

-**Nita Watern**, Brenda Scott's niece, chemo for liver cancer.

-**Lida Cliett**, Rick's aunt, ill with heart failure and cancer.

-**Meagan White**, Joyce's cousin, pain post brain surgeries.

-**Sue Hayes**' sister-in-law, **Jane Hufford**, suffering from leukemia, received a long awaited bone marrow transplant August 23.

-**Jim & Judy Watkins**—Rick's sister and husband, health issues.

-**Dee Lewis**, friend of the Cliett's, 6th occurrence of stage 4 cancer.

-**Diana Hawkes**, Otis' sister, is in Riverside Hospital in Columbus, OH following an auto accident.

-**Breana Ward**, age 32, stage 4 cancer-has three children. Prayers and cards requested. Address in foyer. This family visits with us.

--**Grief Support Group**—See Patty Adair for updates.

Ladies Bible Class: First and third Tuesdays with Polly Cline leading a study on "Hunger In My Soul".

-**Fall Festival and Chili Supper**— Saturday, October 29 at 4:30 p.m. Please sign bulletin board in foyer to indicate games you will bring.

-**Otis Hawkes** was hospitalized this week from a bite to his finger from an unknown source. His hand was extremely swollen and his was placed on IV antibiotics. He has now been released.

-**Tony Cantrell's mother**—very ill. Please keep her in prayer

Sympathy To: Tina Yates in the death of her brother, **Randy Moore**. He passed away last Sunday morning. Tina and Howard went to St. Louis for the funeral.

Sympathy To: Darlene Malloy in the death of uncle who passed away on Thursday in Morrison, TN.

-Tina's older sister, **Marylyne Hunneke**, is home from rehab but is not doing very well, staying in bed and not eating. Please keep her in your prayers.

Food Contact For Month: Leah Turner

Elder Contact for Month: Marc Hayes (1-731-608-4148)

Sermon Topics: A.M. - "To God Be The Glory" - (John 12:20-36)
P.M. - "What Peter Saw In The Eyes of Jesus"

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

Special Events

Men's Prayer Session
Monday mornings at 8:30

Sunday Adult Class
I Timothy 3 & 4 —Al Behel

Wednesday Night Class

Danny Cline -"God Opens Faith's Door" - Acts 14:27

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

The latest Loan balance is **\$1,000,823.59**. 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.