

# NEWSLINE

## Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ

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### God Bends Down To Listen

Prayer. Talking with God. Listening to God. Seeking answers. Searching the deeper dimensions of God's will. Waiting. Longing to reach out and touch Him. Lifting others up before His throne. Like a child, trusting Him.

What does prayer mean to you? Is it a regular practice in your daily life? Why do you pray? Is God really listening, and will He answer? Always?

Some people go to God in prayer out of habit. Others because they are afraid not to pray. Still, many seek Him and His will for their lives through this divine channel. They know He is there. They know He will not be silent.

Prayer empowered with simple faith moves mountains of worry, fear, and doubt. It opens the windows of heaven through which a loving Father pours out huge gifts. Gracious gifts.

Prayer is access...access to God and to all that He is. Access to His power, love, and help. And we need help. We need divine help. When we don't know the way. When we are weak and spiritually distressed. When we are under the weight of sin. When we are struggling. We need help.

God is listening. He bends over to listen to us when we pray (Psalm 116:1,2). Like a loving father who bows down to hear the whispered wish of his children, God bends down to us. He is within our reach.

—Al Behel

### Other News

-**Larry Barnett** is wearing a heart monitor til July 28 in hopes of obtaining a better insight into the overall condition of his heart. All test results should be in by that time. Keep praying for Larry.

-**Breanna Barnett**—Her nuclear stress tests show her heart pumping at 60/40 which is acceptable for her age (11) and heart condition. Keep her in prayer.

-**Madison Barnett** been diagnosed with Barrett's Syndrome. Please pray for her treatment to be successful.

-**Joyce Keyser** has been diagnosed with peritoneal cancer. She begins radiation and chemotherapy on Monday. Her cancer appears to be localized. We are so thankful to God. Keep praying.

-**Samuel Haynes** is scheduled to have ear surgery at Vanderbilt on August 3. Please keep Samuel in prayer.

-**Anakin**, Lisa Hannam's son, had his tonsils out and was back with us Wed.

-**Al** expects to be away for the next two Sundays as he is scheduled for knee replacement surgery on Friday of this week. Prayers for a successful surgery will be appreciated.

-**Guest Speakers**- Our guest speaker next Sunday morning in Al's absence is **Richard Reihn**, regional representative for Eastern European Mission. He will talk with us about the conditions in Ukraine, Russia, and other former Soviet Union countries as we prepare for the \$2 Million Sunday to raise money for Bibles for schools. Mark and Danny will speak the following week.

-**Harold Petty**, Elaine and Marti's 84 year old uncle, fell on Friday getting off a boat and broke his femur. He lives in Memphis. He has a heart condition and a stress test determined he was well enough for surgery, which was done today.

-**Directory Updates**: Please review your directory information and make any additions or corrections and send these to Linda at lbehel@ix.netcom.com.

**Grief Support Group**—see Patty Adair for more information.

**Food Contact For Month**: Patty Adair

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

**Sermon Topics**: A.M. - "I Will Confess Before My Father" (Matthew 10:24-33)  
P.M. - "Where Are The Nine?"

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. Her PET scan last week was good, according to the doctor—another will be repeated in three months. Please keep praying.

-**Bill Valentine** is recovering from esophageal cancer surgery. Please keep praying for Bill and Gail.

-**Larry Valentine**—skin cancer removed requiring numerous stitches.

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

-**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.

### Friends and Family News

-**Lida Cliett**, Rick's aunt, very ill with heart failure complicated by cancer. Her sister is Rick's stepmother, **Billie Cliett**, who is doing much better at this time.

-Joyce Keyser's cousin, **Maegan White**, brain surgery, and she is not doing well but rather continues to experience pain and suffering.

-**Chris Robertson**, Brenda Scott's 86 year old sister, had a very risky hip replacement surgery recently. She also has heart problems.

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

-**Sue Hayes' sister-in-law, Jane Hufford**, is suffering with a recurrence of Leukemia. She especially requests prayers that a bone marrow transplant donor be found for her. She lives in Nashville.

-**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**, has liver cancer and is receiving chemotherapy. She lives in New Madison, Ohio.

-**Judy Watkins and husband Jim**—continuing health issues. (Rick Cliett's sister and husband).

-**Miss Rose**, Leah's 96 year old neighbor, has been released from the hospital after bleeding from diverticulitis—she remains in much pain from Shingles.

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

-**Mark Baker**, Coleen Thomason's brother-in-law. Pneumonia.

**Christianity & Mental Health Series**—Al is leading a study on Wednesday nights. Next: 7/27 - "Guilt and Conscience"

### Special Events

**Men's Prayer Session**  
Monday mornings at 8:30

### Wednesday Night

*Al Behel will lead a special study on Guilt and Conscience*

### Sunday Adult Class

*I Timothy—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 07/02/16 is **\$1,002,855.22**. 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).