

NEWSLINE

Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ

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Vol. XXI. No. 47
November 19, 2017

"Give Thanks To The Lord"

I used to accompany my parents to the hospital when I was a young boy. Although I couldn't go to the patient rooms because I was under 12 years of age, I could hang around in the lobby until they came out. Often the hospital staff would push an over-sized crib into the lobby and leave it there where the young girl in the crib could get some daylight and interact with visitors.

This young girl was very special to everyone of us. She must have been around 10 or 11 years of age and all she could do was lie in the crib because she suffered from a condition which the staff called "chalk bones". This was probably a condition recognized today as a congenital disease called osteogenesis imperfecta, a form of osteoporosis in newborns which can cause several broken bones before one year of age.

Through the years this little girl's image has always stuck with me. She was always happy and friendly, always glad to have visitors stop by and talk with her. She seemed so thankful for the little things, even though she probably wouldn't live long and would never be able to run and jump and play like other children.

Next Thursday is **Thanksgiving Day**. A day that was celebrated by our settling fathers because they were free to worship God as they saw fit in this new world. They were thankful they had survived a long trip at sea. Thankful for the cleared land left behind by the natives who had succumbed to a dreadful disease. They came in peace and they were a thankful people.

Erma Bombeck was one of my favorite columnists. Back in 1992 one of her columns appeared in Redbook Magazine. She wrote, "An estimated 1.5 million people are living today after bouts with breast cancer. Every time I forget to feel grateful to be among them, I hear the voice of an eight-year-old named Christina, who had cancer of the nervous system. When asked what she wanted for her birthday, she thought long and hard and finally said, 'I don't know. I have two sticker books and a Cabbage Patch doll. I have everything!' The kid is right."

What do you really need that you don't already have? Maybe its time to just be thankful and tell God so.

—Al Behel

Other News and Sick:

-Welcome New Members: We welcome **Arden and Jeanetta Bowman** and their daughter, **Melody Johnson** and her son **Caleb** to the GSM family. They moved to Jefferson County a few years ago from Nashville and have worshipped with us for some time. Arden owns a diesel repair center in Dandridge and Melody works with him. Please welcome this wonderful family.

-Wedding Shower: for Lydia Cantrell and Devon Suttles immediately after our morning worship today. Everyone (men and women) is invited to stay for the shower.

-Ladies Tuesday Morning Bible Class: There will be no class on November 21. The final class for 2017 will be December 5th.

Have You Had Your Picture Made?

If you haven't had your picture made, please go to the fellowship hall after worship. Bryan and Beth will meet you and take your picture and get your information for the picture board and directory.

Food Contact For Month: Sue Hayes

Elder Contact for Month: Rick Cliett (865-789-9619)

Sermon Topics: A.M.—"Thanks Be To God!" - Romans 7:14-8:2
P.M.— "Are You Sitting In The Wrong Pew?"

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

Our Known Sick

-Dez Anderson— is now at home. She is battling many health issues and is confined to home. Please keep her and Jim in your prayers.

-Sheryle Elkins— has been transferred to Sevierville Rehab Center, room 101. The family is requesting no visitors at this time. Thank you for keeping her in your prayers. Also prayers for Dan as he struggles with his own health issues as well as Sheryle's.

-Bill Green—suffering from many health issues.

-James Crowson (who moved here from Florida several months ago) was hit head-on in a collision Tuesday. He suffered a broken bone in his neck and will be in a brace for 12 weeks. He is improving and looks forward to being back in worship soon.

-Ron Sommerville—now at home after being treated at Parkwest hospital. Keep him and Carol in your prayers.

-Charles Copeland—doing better after hospitalization for breathing difficulties. He is now at home in Pigeon Forge.

-Kenny Jones—has been transferred to Newport Rehab Center. Please keep him in prayer.

-Arden Bowman-doing well after having stent installed.

-Shannon Wade reports doing well after heart attack and stent.

-Madison Barnett has pneumonia. Keep her in prayer.

-Charles & Frances Copeland- great granddaughter, **Madeline Grace Kirby**, is very ill with a genetic disorder.

Friends and Family News/Prayer Requests

--Sue & Marc Hayes' sister-in-law, **Jane Hufford**, second transplant (peripheral blood transplant rather than bone marrow transplant) appears to be successful. Prayers are requested for her.

-Jessica Anderson, 35 year old niece of the Tollivers, has stage 3 breast cancer. Double mastectomy was done recently.

-Rick Cliett's niece, Penny—liver failure. She is doing a little better.

-Prayer request for **Tim Tolley**, Charlotte Jones' brother.

-Lauren Meier's son, Hunter, suffered an injury. His address is 3378 Boogertown Rd, Sevierville, TN 37876.

-Cason Barnett asked us to remember his 3rd grade friend at school, Vinny (8 years old), who is suffering from a lung disease.

Please mark your calendars for our **Holiday Party** on December 2 at 6 p.m. This will be a covered dish celebration of the season. Please come and enjoy the fellowship and entertainment.

Sunday Adult Class
Titus 2 —Al Behel

Wednesday Night Class
"Sermon on the Mount"—Rick Cliett

Ladies-1st, 3rd Tuesdays, 10AM
"Hunger In My Soul: I Will Be Your God, You Will Be My People"—Polly Cline (Classes postponed)

Men's Prayer Session
Mondays—8:30 AM

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 on 11/17/17 is **\$927,396.67**. 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