

# NEWSLINE

## Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ

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### Why?

Two year olds always want to know “why”? Why is the sky blue? Why do birds sing? Why does grandpa snore? On and on. When one of my grandsons was two he was told that we were going to Celebration Station, he asked, “Why?” He was told that we were going there so he could play. Again he asked, “Why?”

“Why?” is one of the most important questions we can ask. It is certainly one of our most troubling and unanswered questions. Why did God make this world anyway? Why does He allow sin to reek such havoc on people He says He loves? Why do innocent people suffer? And why do evil people prosper?

These questions are difficult. Job got into a questioning mode after his friends had chided him into believing that maybe things were really out of balance. He asked a lot of hard questions. Still God was patient with him. He kept reassuring Job that He could trust the wisdom of the Almighty. “Where were you, Job, when I laid the earth’s foundation? Can you explain to me the mysteries of the snow? Will the one who contends with the Almighty correct Him? Let him who accuses God answer Him!” (John 38-40).

Some questions are reminders of God’s eternal love. We sing, “Why did my Savior come to earth, and to the humble go? Why did He choose a lowly birth?” The answer: “Because He loved me so!”

Asking why is basic to learning. Searching for answers proves rewarding as we open our minds to discover truth. Scientific research is driven by the desire to know. Spiritual growth requires an equal commitment to discovering God’s eternal plan for us. We are challenged to look deeper and to examine more thoroughly our relationship with Him. Why do I need Him? Why does He love me? Why has He come down? Because He loves me so!

—Al Behel

**Disaster Relief Update:** A complete report is available in the foyer of the activities of our disaster relief program to date. The report was emailed to our members. Visitors: Please feel free to take a copy back to your congregation.

**-Graduation Celebration** will be May 7. More details will be coming but save that date now. Graduates are: Caroline Holliman (SCHS), Rachel Bailey (SCHS), Lydia Cantrell (Tennessee Tech, Cookeville), Josh Hawkes (Homeschooled), and Warren Dick (Greeneville HS), and Samantha Sheffield (EMT School at Walters State). Exciting times!

**-DeEtte Alexander** would like for you to know that her wedding which was scheduled for April 23 has been cancelled for personal reasons. Your support and understanding is appreciated.

-Al is speaking today at the Jefferson Avenue congregation in Cookeville, TN today. Danny Cline will lead his Bible Study and speak this morning in Al’s absence. Steven Hodgkin will speak tonight

### You are cordially invited to a Mr. and Mrs. Bridal Tea

Honoring Abby Lee and Hunter Haynes

Sunday, April 9 at the Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ

Come and Go from 2 p.m.—4 p.m.—See Priscilla or Patty for more details

**Food Contact For Month:** Patty Adair, back up Leah Turner

**Elder Contact for Month:** Jim Anderson (865-924-1067)

**Sermon Topics:** A.M.—Danny Cline will be our speaker

P.M.—Steven Hodgkin will be our speaker

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

### Our Known Sick

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

**-Sheryle Elkins**-continuing chemotherapy. She had another scan on Thursday. Results should be available soon. Prayers appreciated.

**-Dan Elkins** has been battling several health issues.

**-Joyce Keyser**-Joyce suffers from peritoneal cancer. Please continue to pray for her progress and control of her cancer.

**-Herman Byrne** was diagnosed with bladder cancer. There are several tumors inside the bladder and they have penetrated into the muscle. Further tests will be done and treatment options will be considered. Please pray for Herman and Ruth.

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

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

**-Jerry and Jeanette Dyer**—Jerry is having many challenges and is in steady decline, according to Hospice.

**-Kenny Jones** is in PF Rehab Center Rm 104 A. He is feeling much better after spending time in ICU at both LeConte and Ft. Sanders.

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

**-Clara Mayberry**, one of our members who has been confined to home for a long time, is in PF Nursing Home.

**-Little Wyatt Cox**—doctors say there is nothing to worry about at this time.

### Friends and Family News/Prayer Requests

**-Rita Garrett**—Niece’s newly adopted special needs daughter, Jules, is improving! She still faces heart surgery in the future.

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

-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.

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

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

**-James Jester**, father of the Keyser’s son-in-law, had brain surgery due to Parkinson’s Disease.

**-Ladies Bible Class:** The ladies Bible class will meet Tuesday, April 4 at 10 a.m. Polly Cline will lead the study on “Hunger In My Soul.”

**-Rick and Ginny** are visiting grandchildren (and parents) in Texas.

### Special Events

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

**Sunday Adult Class**  
2 Timothy 1 —Al Behel

**Wednesday Night Class**  
Danny Cline will lead our study

### Building Fund

Loan balance on 03/22/17 is **\$967,303.84** 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).

### 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