

NEWSLINE

Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ

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Over The Hill

"I will lift up my eyes to the hills—where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth." (Psalm 121:1)

Over the hill? Not a compliment to someone advancing in years. It suggests that one's usefulness has diminished and he shouldn't be taken too seriously. His ideas are no longer sought and he is not honored as he once was.

In a real sense the best is over the hill. To ancient Israel the hill represented the dwelling place of the Most High. King David often lifted his eyes to the hills where he believed he would find help in trouble. Not from the physical mountains, but from the God Who made the mountains. He believed that the Maker of heaven and earth was able to provide all the strength he would ever need and all the wisdom required to lead his people.

Over the hill we find answers that we cannot find on this side of the mountain. Those who walk with Him find acceptance and forgiveness. We find peace and joy. We find shelter from the storms that beat upon us. There, in His presence, every need is met.

David describes the benefits of this relationship in the following verses:

"He will not let your foot slip—He Who watches over you will not slumber; indeed, He Who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep." "The Lord watches over you—the Lord is your shade at your right hand...the Lord will keep you from all harm—He will watch over your life."

David was the most powerful King of his day, yet he felt the need for One more powerful than himself to give him strength and protection. David's heart was always searching for guidance from the other side of the hill. Presidents and Kings need Him. Surely, we all need Him.

Our God is ready to help those who call on Him. Those who trust in Him will find what King David found...a God Who "watches over" us, Who is our "Shade" from the elements of life which harm others. Our faith in God sustains us through every adversity and lifts us again each time we fall.

—Al Behel

Other News and Sick:

-It's a boy! Congratulations to **Travis and Tricia Hayes**. They are the proud parents of Memphis Alexander Hayes, born Wednesday, November 29th at 9 lbs., 10 oz. Kenny and Beth Hayes are the proud grandparents and Kendrick is the curious big brother.

-Ladies Tuesday Morning Bible Class: Final class of year will be Dec. 5th.

-Cookie Exchange-Ladies: December 7 at 7 p.m. at Tracey Kihlberg's home.

Gifts for Honduras: We have been involved in mission work in LaEsperanza, Honduras for more than 10 years. If you would like to contribute toward the purchase of gifts for children and families for the holidays, please give your donation to one of the elders or to Al. Family income there is about \$5 per day. Your help in the past has done much good in touching hearts and encouraging these wonderful Christians.

Have You Had Your Picture Made?



If you haven't had your picture made, please Beth Hayes or Linda Behel. We are trying to complete all pictures today.

Food Contact For Month: Priscilla Dick

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

Sermon Topics: A.M.—"Don't Bargain With The Devil" Ex. 5:22-6:13
P.M.—"Is It Well With Your Soul?"

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 released from rehab and is now at home. Dan is not doing well. Both really need our prayers. The family wants you to know how much they love and appreciate you for all the support you have give during this really difficult time.

-Bill Green—suffering from many health issues.

-James Crowson (who moved here from Florida several months ago) was hit head-on in a collision last month. 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—was so good to see him back in worship with us. Keep him and Carol in your prayers.

-Kenny Jones—so glad to see him doing so much better and to have him back in worship. Please keep him 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—doing better.

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

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

-Eric Behel, Al's nephew, is still having serious liver problems and is taking continuous antibiotics in hope of being placed on a donor list.

-Bob Martin, Al's brother-in-law, underwent surgery this week for a broken foot. He also fell and has a broken hand.

-Denny Gross, Tina's son, is scheduled for a Transurethral Resection of the Prostate on Wednesday. He has a growth that is potentially cancerous. He lives in Little Rock. Your prayers will be appreciated greatly.

-Tyler Coggin, Howard Yates' grandson, was hit by a car near U.T. He was checked at the hospital and released with a probable concussion. He should be able to return to U.T. next week.

-Connie Randolph, friend of Skip and Ester in Indiana- Uterine Cancer surgery scheduled for January 2.

Sunday Adult Class

Titus 2 —Al Behel

Wednesday Night Class

"Sermon on the Mount"—Rick Cliett

Ladies-Bible class-Dec.5, 10am

"Hunger In My Soul: I Will Be Your God, You Will Be My People"—

Polly Cline

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