

# NEWSLINE

## Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ

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### When The Road Is Too Rough

*“let us go forth to Him outside the camp, and bear the abuse He endured”*  
 (Hebrews 13:13)

The Christian life is not easy. Being a Christian doesn't solve all our problems. In fact, it may create more than we had ever dreamed possible. The reason is simple. Christianity wasn't founded on blankets of ease and luxury, but through affliction and suffering. Jesus, God's own Son, was expelled from the company of His own brethren. He suffered outside the gate. And that's where we will find Him...outside the gate.

The price paid for our redemption was great. Jesus did not die so His name would be remembered. It was not a publicity stunt. He was abused and killed for you and me...for our salvation...and it wasn't easy. He made clear to us that if we would follow Him we must *“take up your cross daily.”*

The road may be rough at times, but the reward is worth the price. And we are not alone. Olga J. Weiss has written,

*“The road is too rough,” I said,  
 “Dear Lord, there are stones that hurt me so.”  
 And He said, “Dear child, I understand,  
 I walked it long ago.”  
 But there's a cool green path,” I said,  
 “Let me walk there for a time.”  
 “No child,” He gently answered me,  
 “The green path does not climb.”*

*“My burden,” I said, “Is far too great,  
 How can I bear it so?”  
 “My child,” He said, “I remember the weight;  
 I carried My cross, you know.”  
 But, I said, “I wish there were friends with me  
 Who would make my way their own.”  
 “Oh, yes,” He said, “Gethsemane was  
 Hard to bear alone.”*

*And so I climb the stony path,  
 Content at last to know,  
 That where my Master had not gone,  
 I would not need to go.  
 And strangely then I found new friends,  
 The burden grew less sore;  
 And I remember — long ago —  
 He went that way before.*

Isaac Watts fittingly asked, *“Must I be carried to the skies on flow'ry beds of ease, while others fought to win the prize, and sailed thro' bloody seas?”* We know the answer.

—Al Behel

### Our Known Sick

- Dez Anderson**— suffering many health issues. Prayers and cards are encouraging and appreciated.
- Sheryle Elkins**-continuing treatment for cancer. Her scan showed the chemo is working! Praise God! Please keep praying for her and Dan.
- Dan Elkins**- dealing with several health issues.
- Joyce Keyser**-Joyce suffers from peritoneal cancer. Please continue to pray for her progress and control of her cancer.
- Bill Green**—suffering from many health issues.
- Jean Compton** —is recovering at home.
- Wyatt Cox** (3 years old) -is in Vanderbilt Children's Room 7301. He is progressing from his heart surgery. Tubes are still in his chest. Please keep him, Heather, Alan, and his sisters in your prayers.
- Patty Adair** had surgery in Nashville last Monday for a torn abductor tendon in her hip. She will have an extensive recovery period
- Les Jewell** is having in-home rehab following his recent brainstem stroke. He is in good spirits and is making progress.
- Carolyn Sommerville**—improving at home. Thanks for prayers.
- Anna Ruth Franklin**—recovering from pneumonia.
- Charles & Frances Copeland**-newborn great granddaughter, **Madeleine Grace Kirby**, is very ill with a genetic disorder.
- Lindsey Cuevar**, Mrs. Rosa's daughter, recovering from ear surgery.

### Friends and Family News/Prayer Requests

- 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, is now in remission from her cancer. 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.
- B.W. Ausborn**, frequent visitors from Fulton, MS.—bladder cancer. His wife, Irene, has requested that we pray for him.
- Faye Cline**, Pat England's mother, has lung cancer and has been given 6-8 months to live. Please keep her, Pat, and family in your prayers.
- Rosemary Spivy**, Cathy Haynes' mother—Wellpark Rehab Center, Middlebrook Pike, Knoxville—following shoulder surgery.
- Cindy Wills**, Tina's daughter, quadruple bypass on Monday.
- Tyler Behel**, Al's nephew, deployed to Iraq. Third deployment.

### Special Events

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

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

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

### Building Fund

Loan balance on 06/15/17 is **\$953,316.39** 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.

### 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

CDs and DVDs of Sermons are available free at sound booth. Also available on the website at: [www.greatsmokymountainschurchofchrist.com](http://www.greatsmokymountainschurchofchrist.com).

**Food Contact For Month:** Patty Adair and Priscilla Dick

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

**Sermon Topics:** A.M.- *“The Stone The Builders Rejected”* (1 Peter 2:4-10)  
 P.M.— *“Freedom at the Mountain—God's Fireworks”*

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