

NEWSLINE

Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ

Al Behel, Minister
 abehel@ix.netcom.com

Vol. XXI. No. 07

February 12, 2017

Mine Eyes Have Seen The Glory

In 1861, during the dark days of the Civil War, author and lecturer Julia Ward Howe was visiting Washington, D.C. and toured a nearby Union Army Camp on the Potomac River. There she observed soldiers singing a tribute to John Brown, a civil rights advocate who was hanged in 1859 for trying to lead an insurrection of slaves at Harper's Ferry. The words to that song, "John Brown's body lies a-mold'ring in the grave" formed the impetus for Howe to write:

"Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord; He is trampling out the

vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored; He hath loosed the fateful lightening

of His terrible swift sword; His truth is marching on."

This verse, along with three others to the song that we now know as the "Battle Hymn of the Republic," calls for us to recognize that no matter how dark the hour, no matter how evil man becomes, no matter what forces we face, our God marches on to a day when He will right the wrongs of all the ages.

This was the message of the prophet Habakkuk to Judah. He warned of the impending captivity and slavery imposed by the Babylonians...but that there would come a day when God would march and "the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord" (Hab. 2:14). He rules the earth from His "holy temple" (v. 20), and will trample out "the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored." He will sift the hearts of men before His judgment seat...and extend grace to those who have been freed from the slavery of sin. Therefore, "as He died to make men holy, let us live to make men free, while God is marching on!"

—Al Behel



Some workers from the Seymour church along with some of our men helped unload the truck that arrived on Thursday. About 20 showed up. Many area churches have joined numerous men and women from our congregation to help.

Disaster Relief Update: To date we have received 6 tractor trailer loads of supplies. In addition, thousands of dollars have been provided for food, utilities, rent, and many other needs. Two automobiles were donated and placed. Around 435 families, including about 1400 individuals have been served. Additionally, we have responded to more than 200 school children and families. Our thanks to so many who have worked so hard and given so much. Plans are to keep the relief office open through March 10. That date may be adjusted and help will continue to be available beyond that date.

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

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

Sermon Topics: A.M. - "The Trial of Jesus" (John 18:12-14, 19-24, 28-40)
 P.M. - "Destruction That Wastes At Noon-Time"

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. CT scan showed a minimal increase in size of the nodules in her lungs. Prayers appreciated.
- Tina Yates**—good report after heart cath.
- Dan Elkins**—been battling several health challenges.
- Anna Ruth Franklin**—good report—heart cath recently.
- Joyce Keyser**-Joyce suffers from peritoneal cancer. Please continue to pray for her progress and control of her cancer.
- Larry Barnett**—waiting to complete some tests and for the results.
- Bill Green**—suffering from many health issues.
- Jean Compton** —is recovering at home.
- Kathy May**—battling ongoing health issues.
- Jerry and Jeanette Dyer**—Jerry is having many challenges and Jeanette has a broken hand. Her mother is very ill also.
- Bob and Patty Adair** are both recovering from surgery.
- Charles & Frances Copeland**-newborn great granddaughter, **Madelaine Grace Kirby**, is very ill with a genetic disorder. Prognosis is not good. She is home at this time.

Friends and Family News/Prayer Requests

- Mikey Sheffield**, Barnett's granddaughter's husband, recovering from gall bladder removal surgery.
- Megan 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.
- Jim & Judy Watkins**—Rick's sister and husband, health issues.
- 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.

Other News

- Ladies Bible Class:** Meets every first and third Tuesday at 10 a.m. with Polly Cline leading a study on "Hunger In My Soul."
- The Special Combined Youth Class** meets Sunday in the small foyer as the fellowship hall is being used for disaster relief supplies.
- NEEDED:** We need 2 male volunteers each day between 9-1 to assist the ladies who are working with our disaster relief and to help provide security for them. If you can assist please see Helen Barnett or Leah Turner. They are working very hard every day. We thank them!!

Special Events

Men's Prayer Session
 Monday mornings at 8:30

Sunday Adult Class
1 Timothy 6 —Al Behel

Wednesday Night Class
 Danny Cline will lead our study

Building Fund

Loan balance on 01/14/17 is **\$987,565.76**. 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.

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