

NEWSLINE

Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ

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Wings of Eagles

"They who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint"
(Isaiah 40:31)

Wings like eagles. Those who "wait for the Lord...shall run and not be weary." Isn't that a great promise? Experience is a great teacher. Waiting for God to act in our lives and on our behalf has infinite rewards. There is strength in old age, especially when it is anchored in a life of faith. The outward nature is "wasting away", but "our inner nature is being renewed every day" (2 Corinthians 4:16).

For those who resent the passing years consider this frightening possibility. Just suppose we could reverse this process and become younger each year. You would start out in old age and every day grow a little younger. Each day you would know less than the day before. Each day you would move toward a smaller and smaller family. Soon your grandchildren would be gone. Then your children and your spouse. You would move from high school to first grade and kindergarten. Ultimately, you would end up being a helpless baby with a bottle, and then disappear from the world altogether.

Who would really be willing to reverse the aging process? There are many advantages to growing older rather than younger. Spiritually, who would want to see his relationship to God grow weaker, his faith and love for Jesus diminish with the passing years? Who would want to go from his or her kingdom citizenship back into the world where there is no hope?

God has some instructions for us about how we treat older people. "You shall rise up before the hoary (gray) head, and honor the face of an old man, and you shall fear your God: I am the LORD" (Leviticus 19:32). Again, "A gray head is a crown of glory; it is gained in a righteous life" (Proverbs 16:31). Waiting on God throughout one's life prepares us for the inevitable challenges of old age...we will mount up with wings like eagles...run and not be weary...walk and not faint. What a victory!

—Al Behel

Disaster Relief Update: A complete report is available in the foyer of the activities of our disaster relief program to date. 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!

-Ladies Bible Class: The ladies Bible class will meet 1st and 3rd Tuesday at 10 a.m. Polly Cline will lead the study on "Hunger In My Soul."



A Little Church Humor

A church was discussing buying a chandelier when one of the men objected. When asked why he objected he replied, "For 3 reasons: First, we ain't got no place to put it; second, we can't afford one; and third, we don't have anybody who can play it."

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

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

Sermon Topics: A.M.— "The Ascension of Jesus" (Luke 24:50-53; Acts 1:6-11)
P.M.— The Yoke of Christ

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—CT scan showed that her current treatment is not working. Her doctor is sending her profile off for evaluation of treatment options. Please pray for her and Dan.

-Dan Elkins has been battling several health issues, including bronchitis, sinus problems, and back and neck problems.

-Joyce Keyser—Joyce suffers from peritoneal cancer. Please continue to pray for her progress and control of her cancer. She and Bob have been in Texas for a special event involving their granddaughter.

-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.

-Larry Barnett—is being referred to an oncologist to rule out Leukemia because of an extremely low platelet count. They lost a daughter to Leukemia in 2009 and are very concerned about his other symptoms. A diagnosis is expected soon. He also needs another sleep study.

-Cason Barnett is home with Type A Flu. Keep this family in prayer.

-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, **Madeline Grace Kirby**, is very ill with a genetic disorder.

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.

Special Events

Men's Prayer Session
Monday mornings at 8:30

Sunday Adult Class
2 Timothy 1-2 —Al Behel

Wednesday Night Class
Danny Cline will lead our study

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 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.