

NEWSLINE

Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ

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When Peace Like A River

Almost every day I listen to individuals describe how they have lost hope or live with constant depression and anxiety. Broken relationships, children out of control, loss of a loved one, careers cut short by illness or termination of employment...the list is endless. There's nothing to look forward to, nothing to lift the heart...only dread and fear.

Then there are the haunting footsteps of unresolved guilt that causes us to question our worth and usefulness. Sometimes the noise is so deafening that we can't hear the call of God. "Surely there is no grace for sinners like me. He doesn't need what I have to offer." The night brings no peace...only dread and restlessness. What we would give to be at peace!

The good news is that there *is* hope. There *is* forgiveness. There *is* peace. There *is* a way to face tomorrow. And the hope lies not in ourselves but in the One who commands tomorrow. In Him we find peace and forgiveness and a future.

God doesn't promise that everything in our future will be good. Nor does He promise that we will not struggle. What He does promise is that we will never be alone. We do not face the future on our own power, nor with the meager resources over which we have control. We face tomorrow knowing that we are "His people" and "the sheep of His pasture" (Psalm 100). He knows His sheep by name and never leaves us to fend for ourselves (John 10).

We may not be able to change our circumstances. We may have to give up relationships and careers. Friends may desert us. Still we can sing, "It is well with my soul!" It may not be well with our bodies, or with our bank accounts, but we know that He is still in charge and it is well with our souls. With the confidence of the Psalmist we can say, "Yes! Even if I walk through the Valley of the Shadow of Death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me." (Psalm 23). Through the comfort of His Spirit, the Spirit of Peace, we can face tomorrow.

—Al Behel

Other News

Wyatt Cox is scheduled for open heart surgery on June 20. Please keep little Wyatt and his family in your prayers.

Les Jewell is home and will have in-home rehab therapy. Please keep Les and Barbara in your prayers.

DeEtte Alexander had shoulder surgery last week.

Patty Adair-torn abductor tendon in her hip. Day surgery scheduled for June 19 in Nashville. Compleat recovery is expected to take a few months. Prayers please

Carolyn Sommerville— underwent surgery on Tuesday to remove a section of her intestine. She is doing well and should be home soon. Keep in prayer.

Steve Durbin from Montgomery, AL is in LeConte Medical Center, Rm. 306, with severe COPD. He and Diane visit with us periodically. Please drop by and keep them in prayer as they are away from home.

Sympathy: To Donna Dick in the death of her mother, Donna J. Rush of Huntington, OR, on Thursday night. Donna, Steve and Warren are driving to Oregon to be with her family. Our prayers are with all of them.

Mary Hayes and **Andrew Schoeder** were married on Saturday.

Food Contact For Month: Patty Adair and Priscilla Dick

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

Sermon Topics: A.M.- "Born Anew To A Living Hope" (1 Peter 1:3-9)
P.M.— "Think on These Things"

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 treatment for cancer. 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.

-Herman Byrne—suffering from bladder cancer. His condition is serious. He is at home. Please pray for Herman and Ruth.

-Larry Barnett— diagnosed with sleep apnea. Will receive a C-Pap machine on July 1

Madison Barnett—taken to LeConte Medical Center with a ruptured cyst and a UTI. She is improving.

-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—really good to see him back with us and at the door.

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

-Lindsey Cuevar, Mrs. Rosa's daughter, —ear surgery rescheduled.

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, from Fulton, MS.—his wife, Irene, has requested that we pray for B.W. as he undergoes a radical cystectomy for bladder cancer on May 24th.

-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. -

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: Friday and Saturday, June 16-17.
Schedule: Friday: 6 :30-8:00 PM

Saturday: 8:30 AM —2:30 PM—

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

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 05/15/17 is **\$957,933.82** 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.