

NEWSLINE

Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ

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Repairing Old Shoes

Throwing away old shoes wasn't an option for our family. With eight children our parents had to stretch everything to make it last as long as possible. Since farming produced revenue only once a year, shoe purchases were limited to three pairs of shoes per child each year. These purchases included tennis shoes, work shoes, and dress shoes. Mom ingeniously made "patterns" of our feet and took the patterns to the shoe store and made purchases for us.

If a pair of shoes "wore out" too soon dad would skillfully carve a piece of leather and repair the worn-out shoes by using a shoe lass and nail the new leather over the old leather. This doubled the life of the shoes. This practice greatly influenced my early adult life as I tended to keep old worn-out shoes for "future use."

I know there is a limit to how many times a pair of shoes can be repaired. Sometimes they need to be replaced. But the American way has become one of discarding anything that seems old or difficult. We don't want the struggle to fix things or to make them better. It is easier to walk away or to start all over.

Life presents many challenges. Problem-solving skills are often lacking as we approach the difficult tasks. We want instant solutions and struggle-free success. It's easy to walk away from broken relationships, failed efforts, or conflictual circumstances. To give up or give in is the order of the day.

Sometimes God has to make a few repairs in us. Our lives get off track and God has to make some corrections. Those corrections are often painful, but necessary. His message to us is to keep our eyes on the goal and to never give up. His Spirit abides in us to empower us to make the repairs we need to make and to keep going when others around us stop.

Old truths are also in danger of being discarded. Values which were sacred to our forefathers are now ridiculed and rejected. The prophet encourages us to look for the "old paths" and the "good way" and to walk in it (Jeremiah 6:16). That "good way" is the way which God chooses for us. It is the way anchored firmly in His Word which must never be discarded.

—Al Behel

OTHER SICK AND NEWS

-Sympathy: We extend sympathy to the family of Clara Mayberry who passed away on Friday, September 8. Clara was a long-time member of our congregation but had been unable to attend worship for several years. The family will receive friends from 2-4 p.m. today (Sunday) at Atchley Funeral Home East Chapel in Sevierville with the funeral service to follow at 4 pm. Burial will be on Monday at 10 am at the Shiloh Cemetery, 407 Henderson Chapel Rd., Pigeon Forge.

-Bill Sears, son of Patsy Bevis, has colon cancer. He lives in Ohio and is now at home and declared cancer free. Patsy is back with us.

-Jesse Cox, Sue Hayes' nephew, was T-boned by a drunk driver in an auto accident in Nashville and suffered serious injuries. He is a police officer.

Monthly Meetings—today at 4:45 to allow time to attend funeral of Clara Mayberry. . Your involvement in the business of the church is very important.

Food Contact For Month: Patty Adair

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

Sermon Topics: A.M.—"How To Have A Healthy Church" (1 Peter 5:1-5)
P.M.—"Destructive Attitudes: Negativity"

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. Her scan showed the chemo is working! Praise God! Please keep praying for her and Dan.

-Dan Elkins— dealing with several health issues.

-Bill Green—suffering from many health issues.

-Wyatt Cox (3 years old) -is continuing to do well following his third open heart surgery.

-Les Jewell is continuing to improve following a recent brainstem stroke. It good to have him and Barbara back with us.

-Ron and Carolyn Sommerville—keep praying.

-Larry Barnett is now in Sevierville Rehabilitation Center following back surgery. Please keep him in prayer and Helen and the family as they provide emotional encouragement to him during his recovery.

-Charles & Frances Copeland- great granddaughter, **Madeline Grace Kirby**, is very ill with a genetic disorder. She has been moved to Alabama for a special treatment.

Friends and Family News/Prayer Requests

-Hal Elkins, Tom Elkins' brother, has lung cancer and is undergoing tests to determine the extent of the cancer.

-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.

-Jessica Anderson, 35 year old niece of the Tollivers, has stage 3 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.

-Rick Cliett's niece, **Penny**—liver failure. She is doing a little better.

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

-Tyler Behel, Al's nephew, deployed to Iraq. Third deployment. Please pray for his safety.

Ladies Bible Class Resumes: The next ladies Bible class will meet on September 19 with Polly Cline leading a study in "Hunger In My Soul-The Intentional God"

Baptistery Replacement: Tom Elkins is in the process of removing our old baptistery and replacing with a new one due to continued leaks and heater dysfunction. The process will take a few weeks.

Grief Group-Patty Adair begins Oct. 5 at 10 a.m. for six weeks of two hour sessions—see Patty for more info.

Legos-any outgrown sets please give to Patty Adair for K-1 classes.

Special Events

Men's Prayer Session
Monday mornings at 8:30

Sunday Adult Class
Titus 1 —Al Behel

Wednesday Night Class

Rick Cliett will lead a study in the Sermon on the Mount

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 08/13/17 is **\$941,232.09**. 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.