

NEWSLINE

Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ

Al Behel, Minister
abehel@ix.netcom.com

Vol. XXI. No. 10
December 10, 2017

The Waters Wear Away The Stones

*"The waters wear away the stones...the torrents wash away the soil of the earth"
(Job 14:19)*

Isadore of Spain decided that school was just too much. So he ran away. Sitting beside a waterfall he noticed that the tiny drops of water had worn deep holes in the rocks below. Drip, drip, drip. The soft, pliable water drops fell on the hard, solid surface. Over time the water had worn away the stones. Isadore decided that persistence and not power was the answer. He returned to school and eventually became one of Spain's greatest historians.

Sometimes we feel like giving up. It seems that the mountains ahead of us are too high to climb. The challenges are too great. Our efforts don't seem to be getting us anywhere. We keep giving and caring and there's no significant response. Maybe we should quit, or at least, lower our expectations.

God uses people who don't give up. People who keep their eye on the goal and keep going. God doesn't give up until we give up. As long as we present ourselves to Him as servants who are available, He never leaves us. But, we get impatient. We want instant rewards for our faith...instant answers to our prayers. It took three years for Jesus to prepare his apostles for service. And some of them were taken out quickly by the enemy.

The waters wear away the stones...and persistent faithfulness is rewarded with a "crown of righteousness" on the final day (II Timothy 8-8).

—Al Behel

Winter Quarter 2018!

(January 7th through March 25th)

The Good, the Bad, and the VERY Bad!

Prophets & Kings of the Northern Kingdom of Israel

Don't miss a single Sunday!

For Grades K –Teens Sundays from 9:30 a.m.-10:20 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall TEAM TEACHING WITH THE TEENS Bible Skits, Puppet Shows, Songs, Games, & Activities!
Adult Teachers: Mark Haynes & Marc & Sue Hayes

Other News and Sick:

Gifts for Honduras: We have been involved in mission work in LaEsperanza, Honduras for more than 10 years. If you would like to contribute toward the purchase of gifts for children and families for the holidays, please give your donation to one of the elders or to Al. Family income there is about \$5 per day. Your help in the past has done much good in touching hearts and encouraging these wonderful Christians.



Have You Had Your Picture Made?

If you haven't had your picture made, please Marijane or Linda Behel. We are trying to complete all pictures today.

Food Contact For Month: Priscilla Dick

Elder Contact for Month: Rick Cliett (865-789-9619)

Sermon Topics: A.M.—"A Table In The Wilderness" Psalm 78:1-19
P.M.—"What Kind of Life Are You Building?"

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

Our Known Sick

-**Dez Anderson**— is in UT Hospital, Rm. 1110 East. She had a rough night last Friday with spikes in blood pressure. Please keep praying.
-**Sheryle Elkins**— is now at home and is slowly improving. **Dan** is not doing well. Both really need our prayers.
-**Bill Green**—suffering from many health issues.
-**James Crowson** (who moved here from Florida several months ago) was hit head-on over a month ago. He suffered a broken bone in his neck and will be in a brace for 12 weeks. He is improving and looks forward to being back in worship soon.
-**Ron Sommerville**—is continuing to improve. Keep him and Carol in your prayers.
-**Bill Shirley** (DeEtt's husband) is scheduled to have lung surgery Tuesday morning at the old St. Mary's Hospital in Knoxville. Please keep him and **DeEtt** in your prayers. She has been suffering from severe sciatica in her left leg.
-**Kenny Jones**—doing much better. Please keep him in prayer.
-**Charles & Frances Copeland**- great granddaughter, **Madeline Grace Kirby**, is very ill with a genetic disorder.

Friends and Family News/Prayer Requests

--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.
-Rick Cliett's niece, **Penny**—is doing a little better.
-Prayer request for **Tim Tolley**, Charlotte Jones' brother-in-law
-**Lauren Meier's son, Hunter**, suffered an injury. His address is 3378 Boogertown Rd, Sevierville, TN 37876.
-**Eric Behel**, Al's nephew, is still having serious liver problems and is taking continuous antibiotics in hope of being placed on a donor list.
-**Bob Martin**, Al's brother-in-law, underwent surgery for a broken foot. While awaiting that surgery he also fell and broke his hand. Al's sister, **Nadean**, was helping Bob upstairs and fell and fractured her hip. She was in the hospital but has now been transferred to rehab.
-**Denny Gross**, Tina's son, had non-cancerous growth removed from his prostate on Wednesday. Thank you for your prayers.
-**Connie Randolph**, friend of Skip and Esther in Indiana- Uterine Cancer surgery scheduled for January 2.

Sunday Adult Class

Titus 2 —Al Behel

Wednesday Night Class

"Sermon on the Mount"—Rick Cliett

Ladies-Bible class-Postponed til January. "Hunger In My Soul: I Will Be Your God, You Will Be My People"—Polly Cline

Men's Prayer Session

Mondays—8:30 AM

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 11/17/17 is **\$927,396.67**. 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