

NEWSLINE

Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ

Al Behel, Minister
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Letter Written By A Fourth Century Believer

"This seems a cheerful world, Donatus, when I view it from this fair garden under the shadow of these vines. But, if I climb some great mountain and look out over the wide lands, you know very well what I would see — brigands on the road, pirates on the high seas, in the amphitheatres men murdering each other to please applauding crowds, under all roofs misery and selfishness. It is really a bad world, Donatus, an incredibly bad world. Yet, in the midst of it, I found a quiet and holy people. They have discovered a joy which is a thousand times better than any pleasure of this sinful life. They are despised and persecuted — but they care not. These people go about doing good. They are called Christians, and I am one of them."

Need we say more? Jesus said, *"My peace I give to you; not as the world gives."* His peace transcends understanding or explanation. *"And we are one of them"*

—Al Behel



Baptism of Eric Williams: Eric was baptized into Christ after service on Wednesday night, Eric is the grandson of Jeannette Dyer. He left on Saturday for a program in Nashville and will be there approximately nine months. His late grandfather, Jerry Dyer, passed away a few weeks ago but had prayed for this day of rejoicing.

OTHER SICK AND NEWS

-Rick Cliett's niece, **Penny**—given a short time to live due to liver failure. Has surrendered to Christ and has asked for prayers.

-**Irma Martinez** (Honduras): Doctors have decided surgery is not necessary at this time. Thank you for your prayers. Please continue to lift up Irma and her father and family as they continue the excellent work for the Lord in La Esperanza.

- **Kenny Jones**—is in Newport Rehab Center. He will appreciate prayers, visits, and cards. His address is 135 Generation Dr., Newport, TN 37821. (By the way, he loves snacks).

-**Brooklyn and Braelyn Sheffield** will have tonsillectomies and adenoids removed on August 23 at Children's Hospital in Knoxville.

-**Al and Linda** will be on vacation for the next two weeks. **Richard Riehn of -World Christian Broadcasting** will speak for us next Sunday morning regarding the challenge for churches of Christ to raise \$1 Million Dollars for Bibles for schools in Ukraine and Russia. We will participate in the fund drive on September 24th. Danny Cline will speak next Sunday night in Al's absence.

-**Polishing The Pulpit:** The 2017 PTP is scheduled for August 18-24 at the Sevierville Convention Center. Check their website for information and schedule.

-**Meetings Today:** Men and ladies meetings will be today at 4:30 p.m.

-**Church Picnic:** Our church picnic will be next Saturday (August 12) at 4 pm at the Pigeon Forge Park, Pavilion #2. Please sign the list in the foyer to indicate your plan to attend and item category you will bring.

Food Contact For Month: Patty Adair and Priscilla Dick

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

Sermon Topics: A.M.- "Baptism Now Saves Us" (1 Peter 3:18-22)
 P.M.- "What Everyone Should Bring To Church"

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.

-**Joyce Keyser**-Joyce suffers from peritoneal cancer. Please continue to pray for her progress and control of her cancer.

-**Bill Green**—suffering from many health issues.

-**Jean Compton** —is recovering at home.

-**Wyatt Cox** (3 years old) -is continuing to do well following his third open heart surgery. He has been a real trooper and is a joy to our hearts. Keep praying for the success of his surgery. His recovery is expected to take a while.

-**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**—both are dealing with major health issues. Carolyn is trying to gain strength following her recent surgery to remove part of her intestine. Keep praying.

-**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

-**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**, frequent visitors from Fulton, MS.—bladder cancer. His wife, Irene, has requested that we pray for him.

-**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.

-**Rosemary Spivy**, Cathy Haynes' mother—Wellpark Rehab Center, Middlebrook Pike, Knoxville—following shoulder surgery. Had surgery on her arm last week—she is in a lot of pain.

-**Tyler Behel**, Al's nephew, deployed to Iraq. Third deployment.

-It is so good to have **Rick and Ginny** back from Texas and Canada. They have been visiting children and grandchildren.

Special Events

Men's Prayer Session
 Monday mornings at 8:30

Sunday Adult Class
 2 Timothy 4 —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 07/14/17 is **\$948,182.02** 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.