

NEWSLINE

Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ

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“Near To The Heart of God”

Who stirs your heart? Perhaps it is a child who captures your deepest emotions of love. Or, maybe it is that special someone who shares the intimacy of your soul. We all have special people who are close to our hearts.

God holds certain people close to His heart. They can move him to weep, or laugh, or celebrate. He delights in them daily. He finds pleasure in them. God was so passionate about us that He sent heavens greatest gift to us...the gift of His Son. And He did that “while we were still sinners, Christ died for us” (Romans 5:8). King David said it well, “Great is the LORD, who *delights* in the welfare of his servant!” (Psalm 35:27).

What thrills God’s heart? Scripture tells us, “For the LORD takes *pleasure* in his people; he adorns the humble with victory.” (Psalms 149:4). The heart of God rejoices in His children...when we walk with Him and keep faith in Him. He delights in every victory we claim, in every holy moment we share with Him.

He surrounds us with good things. His glorious heavens whisper His praises. The mountains applaud His presence. He extends His strength to those who seek Him. He is not moved by our power or wealth. He is not impressed with our abilities...after all, He made us and gives us our unique talents. He is moved by our faith and love. He rejoices when we believe Him. His heart is near to those who trust Him.

God called David a “*man after my heart*” (Acts 13:22). The distinctive reason given is that David would do God’s will. When we do God’s will His heart is pleased. It is never enough to simply proclaim our allegiance...we must follow through. We must not waver, or lose heart. We must always walk under the shadow of His grace in full compliance with His will. Then we are near to the heart of God.

—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

Our Sympathy: To Doug Hill in the death of his brother, Benjamin Patrick Hill, who passed away on Wednesday. He lived in Beaufort, SC. Prayers are with Doug and his family in their time of sorrow.

Prayers for Tara (Burnett) Roberts and her family. They lost their home and everything in it (except what they had on) a few days ago. They have five children. They live in Celina. Tara is the daughter of Gerald & Donna Burnett (former members and frequent visitors as they have a cabin here).

Church Email: If you are not receiving the church email (including emailed bulletin) please sign the list in the foyer. An invitation will be sent to you.

Food Contact For Month: Priscilla Dick

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

Sermon Topics: A.M.— “Why We Worship God” (Psalm 100:1-5; Rev. 22:6-9)
P.M.— “Love’s Demands”

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

Our Known Sick

-Dez Anderson— is home and will be receiving in-home health care. Please keep praying.

-Sheryle Elkins— is now at home in Franklin 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 in a collision.. He suffered a broken bone in his neck. He is improving and looks forward to being back in worship soon.

-Ron Sommerville—keep in prayer.

-Bill Shirley (DeEtte’s husband) - As he awaits further surgery to remove a tumor from his lungs. Keep Bill and DeEtte 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—liver failure. She is doing a little better.

-Prayer request for **Tim Tolley**, Charlotte Jones’ brother.

-Lauren Meier’s son, Hunter, suffered an injury. His address is 3378 Boogertown Rd, Sevierville, TN 37876.

-Connie Randolph, friend of Skip and Esther in Indiana- Uterine Cancer surgery scheduled for January 2.

Church Directory App: Please see Mark Haynes or Marti Cantrell for assistance. Changes or corrections can be submitted to the sound booth before or after worship or they may be emailed to Linda Behel or Haynes at lbehel@ix.netcom.com or m47haynes@gmail.com

If you haven’t had picture made please see Beth, Mariejane, or Linda. We hope to have 100% participation and are near that goal.

Dan and Sheryle’s new address is: 870 Oak Meadow Dr., Apt. #3405, Franklin, TN 37064. Please keep them in your prayers.



-Special Prayers for Jefri Sierra (Cody Kihlberg’s friend) and his family. His father died suddenly from a heart attack on New Years Eve. This family is one we helped during the fire tragedy.

-Men & Ladies Meetings—next Sunday at 4:30 p.m.

Sunday Adult Class

Titus 3 —Al Behel

Wednesday Night Class

Danny Cline is leading our study

Ladies-Bible class-January 16th.

“Hunger In My Soul: I Will Be Your God, You Will Be My People”- Polly Cline will lead the study.

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 12/17/17 is **\$923,285.67**. 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