

NEWSLINE

Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ

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May 30, 2021

I'm Not Home Yet

"We have been born anew...to an inheritance which is imperishable...kept in heaven for you." (1 Peter 1:3,4)

Home. What does the word mean to you? I have driven all night to reach my home. I have changed flights to arrive home early. I have cancelled scheduled events to stay home. Once when our plane was stranded in a fierce night storm while waiting for a replacement transponder I rented a car and drove through pounding wind and rain to reach my home.

We are told that "home is where the heart is", and "home is the place you go where they have to let you in." For most of us, home is the place where we belong, where we are safe, and where our deepest needs are met. Home is an inviting word, a heart-warming word.

But I have news for you. We're not home yet! We haven't reached our final destination. The house you live in is temporary and will not last. Someone else will likely obtain possession of it in a few years and call it their home, or it will deteriorate and be destroyed. But the home you have waiting for you is imperishable and indestructible.

I'm not home yet. I am traveling toward that home, but I am not there yet. Peter tells us that this home is "kept in heaven" for us. It is being made ready and is being maintained in perfect condition for our arrival. We are receiving it through "inheritance." Our Father has promised it to all who are "born anew" and who prepare themselves to take possession. It's cost? It is free! Free to us, but paid for with the precious blood of Jesus.

—Al

Church Services

Collective Worship on May 30 at 10:30 am only. No evening services or Bible classes at this time except the teens will meet at 9:30 in the fellowship hall. For your own safety and that of other worshippers, please follow recommended guidelines.

-Online Worship each Sunday morning on Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ website, YouTube, and Facebook.

-Karen Ferguson, friend of Phil and Carolyn Collier and frequent visitors with us, is suffering from an evolving hemorrhage in the brain.

-Carolyn Collier is recovering from a broken her hip in Athen, AL. They spend part of their time with us at the GSM church. Please pray for rapid healing.

-Pris Dick-continuing treatment for cancer. Prayers continue for her and Gary.

-Mark Haynes-keep him in prayer as he awaits test results for problems with his esophagus.

-Alan Cox—scheduled for knee surgery on June 3 to repair a torn ACL, meniscus, and ligaments on the sides of his knee.

-INDIA REPORT: Thanks to the generosity of our church members, Raja, our missionary in India, reports that Covid medical kits have been provided to many of our Christian brothers and sisters and neighbors along with an Oxygen Concentrator. As the result of this service many are requesting Bible studies and several are being baptized into Christ.

-Congratulations to Cody and his soccer team at GP High School. They made it to the state tournament. We are proud of Cody.

-Join us in person for worship as we look at **Great Women of the Bible.**

Our Known Sick

-Don Mayhall— still needs our prayers. His condition is fairly stable.

-Hubert Compton—confined to home with health issues.

-June McGowen, is in Pigeon Forge Nursing Home. Her condition has deteriorated significantly over the past few months.

-Jeanette Dyer is struggling with several health issues.

-Linda Valentine— battling cancer.

-Anna Ruth Franklin— Prayers for several health issues.

Friends and Family News/Prayer Requests

-Carolyn Yates' daughter, Linda Wolf, - battling cancer

-Tracey's mom, Judy Pitt, is in Vanderbilt Hospital following surgery to reverse her ileostomy. She is having a rough day. Please keep Judy, Ron, Tracey, and their family in prayer. Her address is: Judy Pitt, 313 Monticello Rd., Franklin, TN 37064

-Edwin Anderson, Jim's son, will be having surgery on Wednesday in Fairfax, VA. He requests our prayers.

-Treavor Hayes, 7 year old grandson of Marc and Sue—preliminary report shows that his tumors are stable. His ophthalmologist is not recommending chemo for tumor on optic nerve at this time.

-Jan Luft, sister of some of George and Melanie's best friends in Michigan (Jim and Kim), is not doing well. Chemo has been stopped. Please keep her in your prayers.

-Chris Heathcox, brother-in-law of Bryan and Beth, is sufferin from pancreatic cancer and is having to increase his chemotherapy. This is a hard time for him and his wife, Bena. Please keep Chris and Bena in your prayers along with their children.

-George Tolliver's sister, Mossie Simpson, is battling COPD. She is staying with her son. Prayers still needed.

Sunday AM Online Worship & Bible Class

Al is teaching an online Bible class on Sunday mornings that can be accessed beginning at 9:30 am. Current study is The Sermon on the Mount. Log in at www.greatsmokymountainschurchofchrist.com

Wednesday Night Bible Class

Danny Cline is leading our study in the gospel of Mark each Wednesday night by Zoom. Just respond to the email invitation to join the study at 6:45 each Wednesday night.

Ladies Bible Class

The weekly ladies class meets on Mondays from 6:45-7:45 pm EST by Zoom. Polly will be leading the study. Subject: "God's Unshakable Faithfulness." Please join in.

Teen Bible Class

Tomorrow at 9:30 in the fellowship hall.

Jacob Forman will be leading the class

Current Building Loan Balance

\$703,517.67

Additional Contributions Appreciated

Ladies Drive-Thru Bridal Brunch



Ladies, please join us as we celebrate Miss Azlin Hitchcock with a drive-thru bridal shower on Saturday, July 10, from 10:00-11:30 am in the church parking lot. You drive up, greet our bride with your gift, and she will hand you a bridal brunch box. Please enter the parking lot on the South side (KOA side) and make a one-way line. Our bride and groom are registered at Amazon. RSVP by June 26 for accurate count. To Melanie: 865-444-5617 (or, mellstamper@gmail.com); Rita: 865-850-0288 (or, rmsgarrett@gmail.com); Sue: 731-6083401.

in turned to his younger brother and said,
Food Contact For Month: Tracey Kilberg

Elder Contact for Month: Mark Haynes (865-805-2293)

Online Sermon Topic: A.M.—"Great Women of the Bible-Bathsheba" (Al)

In Person Worship: A.M.—"Great Women of the Bible-Bathsheba" (Al)

Archived sermons and Al's Blogs available at albehel.com