

NEWSLINE

Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ

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The Empty Tomb

The resurrection is the central fact of Christian faith. Without the resurrection Christianity is a false religion and Christians are terribly deluded. If the resurrection is true, then Jesus Christ is God and we are fully responsible to follow Him. If the resurrection is true, all other religions are false and cannot stand in Judgment.

The empty tomb is not simply an Easter story. It is the one event of human history that ensures immortality and victory over death. Without the resurrection death is the end and Satan wins. Without the empty tomb Jesus is still dead and we are all without hope. But, the tomb is empty and he is alive!

How do we know the resurrection really occurred? Although the historical evidence is overwhelming, one of the strongest supports for the resurrection is the undeniable change in the disciples. Their hopes were fixed on the young reformer whom they expected would restore the Kingdom to Israel. When He was led away and crucified, their hopes died. The movement which they had championed also seemed to be dead.

But an amazing thing happened. On the third day He arose from the grave! He appeared to the disciples and they were back in business. The same believers who fled in the presence of the cross were now willing to lay their own lives down for their conviction that He had arisen from the tomb. In the face of death, not one single disciple denied that conviction...because they all *knew* He was alive.

What difference does the resurrection make in your life? Is it just an interesting story or a historical fact? If He is alive, what does that fact mean to us? What does it demand from us? The resurrection is our hope, but it is also our mandate to follow Him. Since He is alive He commands our deepest devotion and the loyalty of our hearts. The risen Lord is more than a Savior...He is our King!

—Al

Church Services

Collective Worship on April 4 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.

-Thank You! From George and Melanie for the love, prayers, food, flowers, and out-pouring of support from the GSM church family during this very sad time. Keep praying for the comfort of God and His Spirit to be with them.

-Lynette Helton has been battling Covid. She is doing better. She is back from visiting family in Indiana.

-Susan Forman had knee surgery this week to repair a torn meniscus. She reports that she is doing well so far.

-Priscilla Dick has been diagnosed with Lymphoma. She is receiving radiation treatment, Chemotherapy is planned after radiation. Keep praying for Gary and Pris.

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

-Dale Pendley suffered 2nd degree burns on his head and face and 3rd degree burns on his hands and arms and received skin graft surgery in Memphis. Dale and Martha spend much of their time worshipping with us at GSM.

Our Known Sick

-Doug Hill is doing well. And is able to be back in worship.

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

-Hubert Compton—recovering from hip replacement.

-Carolyn Yates is improving steadily from her recent shoulder surgery. She appreciates the thoughts, prayers, cards, and food. Keep praying.

-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—receiving treatment for 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 recovering from colon cancer. She is weak but improving with some weight gain. Once she gains another 15 lbs corrective surgery can be performed. Please keep Judy, Ron, Tracey, and their family in prayer. Her address is: Judy Pitt, 313 Monticello Rd., Franklin, TN 37064

-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 suffering 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 and recently recovered from Covid. She is staying with her son. Prayers still needed.

-Reggie Webber and his wife Judy. Is responding well to chemotherapy. They are friends of George and Melanie Tolliver and have visited our services in the past. Their address is 1503 Landmark, Sevierville, TN 37862.

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 in 2 Peter. Worship

Online Worship and Bible class available 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

\$707,990.91

Additional Contributions Appreciated

CHURCH MAILING LIST

We have had problems with our email server and some have not been receiving mail. To ensure that everyone is receiving mail we have created a new group. You may receive 2 copies for a while.

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

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

Online Sermon Topic: A.M.—"The Power of the Resurrection" (Al)

In -Person Worship: A.M.—"The Power of the Resurrection" (Al)

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