

# NEWSLINE

## Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ

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### "Driving With Your Lights On"

Several years ago as we were traveling in China I was appalled when the bus driver took off through the darkness with his headlights off. His running lights provided the only light for approaching vehicles and to enlighten the roadway for us. As vehicles would approach each other the drivers would flash their lights. I asked our guide why all the vehicles were driving with no headlights. He replied, "Oh, the lights blind the approaching driver. They wouldn't be able to see if they had their lights on."

That may have made sense to Chinese drivers, but not to me. We want to be able to clearly see where we are going. I'm reminded of the darkness Jesus spoke about and how He has come as Light in the world (John 12:35, 36). The darkness is filled with pitfalls and boulders which threaten our safety. In His presence the darkness disappears and our way is clear.

Jesus further tells us that we are the light of the world and are responsible for making sure that others are drawn to the Father's presence by seeing that light in a dark world. The pure light penetrates the darkness and cannot be hidden. Others depend upon us to make the path visible and clear.

We reflect the glory of God in our own lives. It is not about us, it is about Him. Our mission is to show others the Father so He can be glorified. We are warned about hiding our influence under baskets while the world is in darkness. God expects us to be examples for others, not just recipients of the light He brings to us.

The roadways in China were filled with thousands of pedestrians and bicycle riders. Their lives were at risk continuously as the buses sped along through the darkness with their lights off. In the same way, countless people in our world walk in darkness and will never know the true light unless we allow God to show His glory through us.

\_\_\_Al

### Other News

**-Bre Barnett-**is scheduled for a heart ablation the end of this month at Vanderbilt Children's Hospital. Bre had heart surgery when she was 5 months old and has continued to see a cardiologist since that time. Her latest visit revealed some palpitations and the doctor thinks an ablation is indicated. Please pray for Bre as she has this procedure. She is dear to all of us.

**-Rick Cliett** is battling bladder cancer. He is awaiting surgery on September 10 as his surgeon is on vacation. He gets very tired. He is able to manage his discomfort as long as he doesn't overdo it. Surgery is planned for 2-3 weeks. Please keep them both in your prayers.

**-Pris Dick-**reports that she is feeling well and is awaiting her last chemo treatment for this round. She will then have a PET scan to determine if chemo is being effective in containing her cancer. Keep praying for her and Gary.

**-Mark Haynes-**esophageal test results are inconclusive. Further tests are to follow in April.

**-Skip Stewart-** is having dizzy episodes. He is following up with his doctor. Prayers are appreciated.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Please send us an email by Friday night of each week for news items, sick, or changes that need to be made for the bulletin. Send to email: acbehel@gmail.com or give them to Linda in the sound room.

**Online Worship:** Online worship will continue for those who are not able to attend in-person worship. Also, the online Bible class is still offered. You may access these through [www.greatsmokymountainschurchofchrist.com](http://www.greatsmokymountainschurchofchrist.com).

### 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 continuing to improve slowly following her colon cancer surgery. 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 is receiving treatment through a port which has been installed to make his treatment easier. He has a tumor on optic nerve. Please keep him in prayer.

**-Prayers requested for the daughter and brother of Linda Boyers.** Linda has joined our online worship and Wednesday night Bible class for many months. Her daughter, Stephanie, is battling Melanoma and her brother is dealing with heart issues. He is doing better.

**-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. 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 Bible Class-9:30 am

"The Church in the Beginning-Acts" (Al Behel)

### Wednesday Night Bible Class-7 pm

"Colossians" (Danny Cline)

### Ladies Bible Class

Not meeting during summer months through July

### Teen Bible Class

Sunday and Wednesday - (Jacob Forman)

### Current Building Loan Balance

\$689,858.37

Additional Contributions Appreciated

### OPEN FOR ALL SERVICES

Sunday Bible Classes 9:30 am

Sunday Worship 10:30 am

Sunday Evening Worship 6:pm

Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 pm

Please join us as we re-open all services

### Actual Church Signs

"The fact that there is a highway to hell and only a stairway to heaven says a lot about anticipated traffic numbers"

"Acting perfect in church is like dressing up for an X-Ray"

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

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

**Sermon Topic:** A.M-"Church Renewal, No. 1" (Al)

**Evening Worship:** "Where Is Your Father?" Gospel of John Series

Archived sermons and Al's Blogs available at [albehel.com](http://albehel.com)