

The Cumberland

Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

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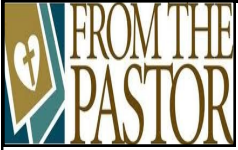
Rev. Mike Wilkinson ~ Pastor

Website: www.first-cumberland.org

Our Weekly Newsletter

"Loving God, Loving People"

August 10, 2016



Last Friday, I had the privilege of going outside where Jesus is, where the action is as I delivered forty-eight backpacks full of school supplies for students at the Rocky Hill Elementary School whose parents/guardians needed assistance in this area. Again, through the money raised by our annual Garage Sale, we were able to supply eight backpacks full of supplies for each of the six grade levels—kindergarten through fifth grade—at the school. While I was there, I had the opportunity to talk to the School Counselor about another outside where Jesus is, where the action is project. We discussed the possibility of First Cumberland starting an in-school **Mentoring Program for Students**. She graciously received this idea. The basic outline of the program is this: One prayer partner, one student, and one mentor for one hour each week during the school year. Check out the website www.kidshopeusa.org for more details. Since our initial conversation, the School Counselor has talked to the Principal, and he would love for mentors to come in and build relationships with the students. Obviously, our Session will need to approve this outside action project before anything official begins, but what I need to know before I present this idea to our Session at our next meeting (August 24th) is: How many of us are willing to participate in an in-school **Mentoring Program for Students** at the Rocky Hill Elementary School? If you are interested in volunteering, let me know immediately; you can even let me know which grade level (kindergarten through fifth grade) you would prefer to work. To volunteer as a mentor, you need to be able to make a firm commitment to be at the school one hour per week during school hours (exact time to be determined). For those of you who simply cannot be at the school during school hours, you can volunteer to be a prayer partner with a mentor and simply commit to pray for the student/mentor relationship every week. While the need is great—not only educationally, but also relationally (some of these students need to know that someone cares for them)—if we have at least three mentors and three prayer partners (I will gladly serve the Lord as one of the mentors), we can begin this program and then see the difference it makes in both the lives of the students and in our lives as well. The Marietta Cumberland Presbyterian Church has been involved in an in-school **Mentoring Program for Students** through Kids Hope USA at the Hardin Valley Elementary School for several years, and their Pastor assures me that while it is not always convenient, each of their fourteen volunteers are blessed beyond measure and would not give up mentoring students for anything. There are not many win-win situations in life, but surely this is one of them.

This coming Sunday, I will be beginning a new sermon series called “Guardrails”. This short series (three to six messages) will focus on helping us avoid the pitfalls that typically damage or wreck our lives. This coming Sunday, August 14th, my message will be based on **Ephesians 5:15-18**. Please read and meditate on this passage of Scripture in advance; doing so will help us understand “The Principle of the Guardrail”. I look forward to seeing you in the House of the Lord; in fact, I can hardly wait!

One last thought: Did you know that signing and passing the registration pads each week during our Worship Service is a vital part of our outreach efforts? You see, one of the primary intents of signing the registration pads is to encourage our guests, especially our first-time visitors, to sign in; thus, giving us an opportunity to contact them the next week. Study after study has shown that the best way to get first-time guests to register their attendance is by signing a registration pad, but it is most effective when our guests see everyone else signing in as well. Last week, only sixty-percent of those who were here actually signed the registration pads; that was a typical week for us. I know this matter will seem trivial to some, and that is okay, but please indulge me and make it a point to sign a registration pad every week anyway. Attention to small details can make a meaningful difference, and in this case, it allows me the opportunity to follow up with our visitors. Why do I bring this up now? I do so because the start of the school-year typically results in first-time visitors to our church. Many people move into their new home, often in a new neighborhood, before school starts and then, over the next few weeks, seek out a new church-home.

Learning the unforced rhythms of grace,

Pastor Mike

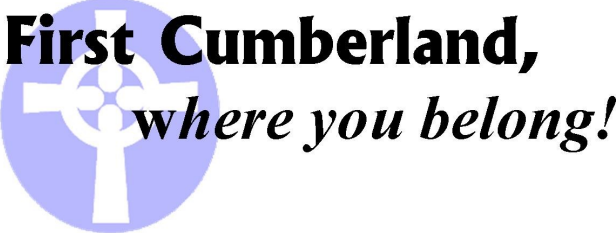
Talent Show and Ice Cream Social


Our **Outreach and Missions Committee** has reset the date of our the church-wide **Talent Show and Ice Cream Social**; it will now be held this coming Sunday afternoon, August 14th, at 4:00 p.m. We will be gathering in our Gym for a great time of food, fellowship, and fun. It is hoped that everyone who signed-up to participate in the **Talent Show** on the original date will still be able to join in the fun. Please bring ice cream (homemade or store-bought) and/or a dessert that compliments ice cream (cookies, brownies, cake, etc.) and join in this great time of fellowship. There will be a panel that will judge the homemade ice cream that is brought.

Youth News

Our Youth Group will have a **Cookout and Hot Tub Party** at Pastor Mike and Joanna’s home Sunday afternoon, August 21st, following our Worship Service. All who will be getting into the hot tub need to bring a change of clothes and a towel.


*For the glory of God, Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church exists to **worship** Christ, **evangelize** the lost, **love** one another and our neighbor, and **learn** more about our God.*





Happy Birthday

August 10th~16th
11th - Bill Halbert



Faithfulness Record August 7, 2016	
Sunday School.....	35
Worship Service.....	63
Offering.....	\$5,737.74
Building Reimbursement.....	\$800.00

Activities for August 10-16, 2016	
Sunday:	9:30 a.m. Sunday School
	10:45 a.m. Worship Service
	4:00 p.m. Ice Cream Social & Talent Show
(See our web site for complete calendar listings)	

Among Our People


Mildred Acuff will have surgery on her broken arm this Thursday, August 11th . . . **Alejandra Vargas Araiza**, mother of Alfonzo Marquez, has been diagnosed with cancer and is under hospice care in El Paso, Texas . . . **Wakely Burton** (five-week-old child of **Morgan Burton**, friend of Hannah Haddox) is undergoing serious health issues . . . It was great having **Richard** and **Julianne Cole** worshipping with us last Sunday; Julianne is a co-worker of Emily DeLozier . . . **Michael Garrett**, cousin of Kim McCurry, is in the hospital in grave condition . . . **Bill Halbert** is still awaiting the results of the MRI on his eyes . . . Last Sunday, August 7th, was the thirty-fourth wedding anniversary of **Bill** and **Kim Halbert** . . . **Kim McCurry** will have surgery on her knee Wednesday, August 24th . . . The **James Paschke Family** spent last week on vacation touring the historic sites of Virginia . . . Last Sunday, August 7th, was also the thirty-fourth wedding anniversary of **Pastor Mike** and **Joanna Wilkinson**; the Chancel Flowers last Sunday were in honor of the occasion . . . **Rose Wilkinson**, mother of Pastor Mike and Susan Edwards, has been diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma (NHL); she will undergo a bone marrow biopsy and a heart study this Thursday, August 11th; she will soon begin chemotherapy treatments . . . **Leah Witmer** had surgery last Thursday, August 4th; she is now home recuperating . . . **Lois Witmer** is still receiving outpatient physical therapy as she continues to recover from her recent stroke . . .

Friendship Club

The next Dutch-treat lunch of the **Friendship Club** is Wednesday, August 17th, at **Famous Dave's Bar-B-Que** (located at 208 Advantage Drive, near the intersection of Cedar Bluff Road and Parkside Drive), at 11:00 a.m. As always, feel free to invite family and friends to join you on these outings. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board outside the Church Office.

Quote of the Week


"You might as well try to hear without ears, or breathe without lungs, as try to live a Christian life without the Spirit of God in your heart."—**Dwight L. Moody**



Prayer Concerns

In the Hospital

Michael Garrett, cousin of Kim McCurry, at N.E. Medical Center, in Gainesville, Georgia



Health and Prayer Concerns (alphabetized)

Mildred Acuff; Alejandra Vargas Araiza (mother of Alfonzo Marquez); Preston Beeler (cousin of Greg Beeler); Charlotte Byrd; Gordon Blaylock; Dick Booher; Kim Boyatt (friend of Susan Edwards); Peggy Bradshaw (mother of Dianne Fielder); Wanell Brown (friend of Rose Wilkinson); Morgan and Wakely Burton (friend of Hannah Haddox and her friend's baby); **Cumberland Presbyterian missionaries around the world**, Mary Helen Daniel; Mae Denton (friend of Tammy Eblen); Nora Derreberry (mother of Maxine Curtis); Grace Flory (mother of Lois Witmer); Judy Gammon; Michael Garrett (cousin of Kim McCurry); Mark Hester; Bud and Betty Hickman (friends of Mary Ann Haney); Bobbie Himes (sister of Jin Gaston); Becky Ingle (friend of Amanda Roberts); Kim Jones and her mother (friend of Amanda Roberts); Jewell Kerr; Sherri Kramer (friend of Joy Taylor); Steve Kusenda (brother-in-law of Margaret Migas); Bob Lawson (friend of Pastor Mike); Gene McCammon; **KIM MCCURRY**; Maxine McGuire; Catherine McKinney; Ruth McNabb (mother of Tammy Eblen); Georgia Moore (sister of Jewell Kerr); Mary Anne Moncier (aunt of Dianne Fielder); Dewaine Moncier, Jr. (cousin of Dianne Fielder); Alice Montgomery; Amy Beth Davidson Morgan; Barbara Mullenax; Cliff Parrott; Tom Parrott (son of Cliff Parrott); **persecuted Christians around the world**, Jan Pipkin (sister-in-law of Dianne Pipkin); David Poore (coworker of Phil Bridges); Anna Faye Presley (niece of Catherine McKinney); Becky Rader; David and Rebecca Rech (parents of Justin Rech); John Snoderly (brother of Betty Hammill); John Snoderly, Jr. (nephew of Betty Hammill); Sydney Snoderly (great-niece of Betty Hammill); Charlie Spalding (friend of Joy Taylor); Jean Stapleton (mother of Elaine Stapleton); Gladys Stone; Angel Tindell (granddaughter of Catherine McKinney); Carl Ware (father of Sam Ware); Codde Weaver (son of Elaine Stapleton); Devan Wilhite (friend of Greg Beeler); Rose Wilkinson (mother of Pastor Mike and Susan Edwards); **LEAH WITMER**; Lois Witmer

Please keep the Church Office informed of any needed changes to our Prayer Concerns list.

Special Prayer Request

With school starting back in Knox County this week, please make it a matter of priority to consistently carry our students and teachers to the Lord in prayer; not just this week, but every week of the upcoming school year.



Church's Website

The church's website, www.first-cumberland.org, includes audio recordings of the sermons from the previous four Worship Services.