

The Cumberland

Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

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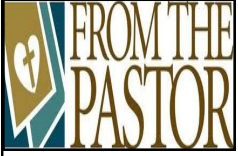
Rev. Mike Wilkinson ~ Pastor

Website: www.first-cumberland.org

Our Weekly Newsletter

"Loving God, Loving People"

November 2, 2016



Though it is just the first week of November, my article this week focuses on thanksgiving, not the national holiday, but simply thanking God for a few of the blessings that He constantly pours into our lives through other people. I want to start this thank-fest by thanking everyone you made last Sunday's **Fall Festival** and **Trunk or Treat** event so enjoyable. While our attendance was smaller than usual, the fun, fellowship, and food remained outstanding, and God provided perfect weather for us to enjoy. A special thank you to **Amanda** and **Scott Roberts** and our **Youth Group** for organizing and setting up for these events and to everyone who provided a baked good for the Cake Walk; donated a basket for the Silent Auction; helped cook for the meal; helped clean up afterwards; and/or brought candy to share with the kids. Notice that I did not thank any of the fifteen or so people who threw a "pie" in my face; on second thought, thank you, too!

Next I want to thank the entire congregation for the love that you continually pour out on Joanna and I. I especially want to thank you for your gifts during both **Pastor Appreciation Month** and for my recent birthday. Thank you for each card and especially for the handwritten notes they contained; thank you for the gift cards and the gift of cash; thank you for buying my lunch; thank you for the birthday cake that **Mary Ann Haney** and I shared; thank you for the home-cooked meal we enjoyed; and thank you for the love and acceptance that you have shown us since we first arrived on the scene a little more than three years ago. Joanna and I are truly blessed and privileged to be serving First Cumberland.

Lastly, I want to thank **Jewell Kerr** for giving our **Stewardship Moment** last Sunday. Not only did she do an outstanding job, she summed up in one phrase the message that this year's **Stewardship Campaign—The Key to Financial Peace: Give, Save, and Live**—is intended to convey. **Jewell** said that in the midst of hardship, "tithing organized her life." What a profound statement! As **Jewell** shared her faith-story, she also pointed out that we serve a God of the "it just so happened". When she needed a job, "it just so happened" that she found one; when she was out of food and not sure how she was going to feed her children, "it just so happened" that a relative prepared a meal for her family. There is a strong coalition between organizing our lives around **giving** first, **saving** second, and **living** on the remainder that allows "it just so happened" moments to occur in our lives; coming to trust in the God of the "it just so happened" will produce financial peace in our lives. Again, my hope is that over the next two weeks each of us will make **giving** first, **saving** second, and **living** on the remainder a matter of prayer and then join with Joanna and I as we dedicate our 2017 **giving** to the Lord through First Cumberland on Sunday, November 13th.

Learning the unforced rhythms of grace,

Pastor Mike

Friendship Club, P.M. Edition

The next Dutch-treat dinner outing of the **Friendship Club, P.M. Edition** will be this coming Thursday, November 3rd, at **Famous Dave's Bar-B-Que** (208 Advantage Drive; near the intersection of North Peters and Cedar Bluff Roads), at 6:30 p.m. As always, feel free to invite family and friends to join us on these outings.

Cumberland Presbyterian Women's Ministry

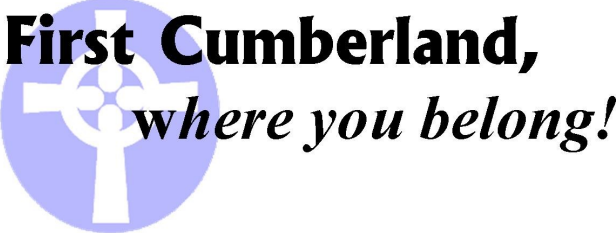
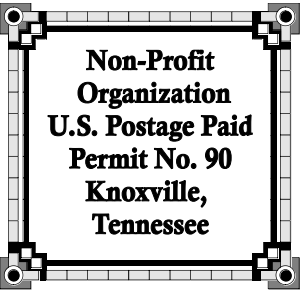
This year, our ladies' ministry will be helping the **Volunteer Ministry Center** stock their **Holiday Store** by contributing items for this store. Recipients of **VMC** services must earn points by doing service projects in order to "buy" these items. Please keep new bought items in their original packaging and do not wrap any item. A list of suggested items is on bulletin boards in both hallways. We will be collecting these items through the month of November. **VMC** has delivered a box to put these items in, which will be in the front hallway. We thank you, one and all, for your generous assistance in this important ministry. As a side note, did you know that the **Volunteer Ministry Center** is located on the same piece of property where First Cumberland was located for the first ninety years of our existence?

In conjunction with our **Mission and Outreach Committee**, we want to make you aware of the upcoming holiday opportunities in which you can participate. We will have the mitten trees—collecting hats and scarves, as well as mittens for the children in Appalachia through **Coalition of Appalachian Ministries (CAM)**. We will also provide Christmas presents for residents in **Serene Manor Nursing Home**. As usual, we will sponsor a **Bake/Craft Sale** in our Library the Sunday before Thanksgiving (November 20th). More details about these opportunities to follow. Thank you for participating in these ministries which will help to make a brighter Christmas for many in our community.

Friendship Club

The next Dutch-treat lunch outing of the **Friendship Club** will be Wednesday, November 16th, at **RJ's Courtyard** (3749 Airport Highway, Alcoa, TN 37701), at 11:00 a.m. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board near the Church Office. As always, feel free to invite family and friends to join you on these outings.

*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

November 2nd-8th

4th - Shelia Emory
5th - Larry Fielder
5th - Brent Witmer
6th - Darian Booker
7th - Jennifer Rech
7th - Josephine Rech
7th - Steve Summers

Faithfulness Record for October 30, 2016	
Sunday School.....	50
Worship Service.....	78
Offering.....	\$4,706.25
Music Fund.....	\$50.00
Memorial Fund.....	\$75.00
Building Repair Fund.....	\$300.00
Youth Fund.....	\$58.00
Fall Festival.....	\$608.00

Activities for November 2-8, 2016	
Wednesday:	6:30 p.m. Choir Practice
Thursday:	6:30 p.m. Friendship Club, P.M. Edition
Sunday:	10:00 a.m. Sunday School
	10:45 a.m. Worship Service
	6:00 p.m. Session Meeting
(See our web site for complete calendar listings)	

Among Our People

Mildred Acuff injured her thumb; she is improving. ~ **Judy Gammon** remains in Holston Health and Rehabilitation Center recovering from her recent surgery; she is improving. ~ **Jack Gaston** continues to recover from his recent fall. ~ **Kim Halbert** had an outpatient procedure on Wednesday, November 2nd, to remove the stent from her recent surgery. ~ It was great having **John, Aldris,** and **Jordan Kerr** (family of Jewell Kerr) and **Dominic Digiovani** (boyfriend of Jordan Kerr) worshipping with us last Sunday. ~ **Pastor Mike** had an outpatient test on Wednesday, November 2nd. ~ **Lois Witmer** had a procedure to help with her hip pain on Monday October 31st.

Women of Faith

Joanna Wilkinson is inviting all the ladies of the church to a **Women of Joy Conference** that will be held in Pigeon Forge the weekend of April 28th-30th, 2017. The cost of the tickets is \$109.00 per person. Once **Joanna** knows how many of our ladies are interested in attending, she will work on booking hotel reservations and inform you of the cost for lodging; everyone will be responsible for their own meals; please contact **Joanna** ASAP to express your interest (3girlsmom@KFCPC.comcastbiz.net) or 205-533-2001.

Session Meeting

Our **Session** will meet this coming Sunday evening, November 6th, at 6:00 p.m., in the Keene Room.

Prayer Concerns

In the Hospital

No one connected to First Cumberland is known to be in the hospital at this time. PTL!

Health and Prayer Concerns (alphabetized)

Mildred Acuff; Preston Beeler (cousin of Greg Beeler); Charlotte Byrd; Gordon Blaylock; Peggy Bradshaw (mother of Dianne Fielder); Wanell Brown (friend of Rose Wilkinson); Amy Cliett (daughter of Mike and Ann Bachman); *Cumberland Presbyterian missionaries around the world*; Mae Denton (friend of Tammy Eblen); Nora Derreberry (mother of Maxine Curtis); Grace Flory (mother of Lois Witmer); Judy Gammon; Jack Gaston; Bill Gregory (friend of Greg Beeler); Kim Halbert; **FAMILY OF RUTH HALBERT** (mother of Bill Halbert); Mark Hester; Bud and Betty Hickman (friends of Mary Ann Haney); Bobbie Himes (sister of Jin Gaston); Becky Ingle (friend of Amanda Roberts); Steve Kusenda (brother-in-law of Margaret Migas); Bob Lawson (friend of Pastor Mike); 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); 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); 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); Lois Witmer; **THEOLA YORK** (mother of a coworker of Susan Edwards)

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

Christian Sympathy

Our sincere Christian sympathy is extended to the **Family of Ruth Halbert**, mother of Bill Halbert, who passed away on Tuesday, October 25th. Please included this family in your prayers.

Time Change

Daylight Saving Time will end at 2:00 a.m. this coming Sunday morning, November 6th, and **Standard Time** will resume. If your clock does not automatically adjust to the time change, remember to set your clock back one hour before you go to bed Saturday night else you might inadvertently be the first one to arrive at the church Sunday morning. 😊

Church's Website

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