

# The Cumberland

## Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

6900 Nubbin Ridge, Knoxville, TN 37919 ~ E-mail: [firstcpc@earthlink.net](mailto:firstcpc@earthlink.net) ~

(865) 588-8581

Rev. Mike Wilkinson ~ Pastor

Website: [www.first-cumberland.org](http://www.first-cumberland.org)

Our Weekly Newsletter

"Loving God, Loving People"

January 7, 2015



Our stewardship theme for 2014 was **"God Is Faithful"** and once again He has proven Himself to be so. Our financial records for last year are in the process of being closed out (I think that is the correct accounting term) and it appears that our total income (tithes, offerings, facility usage, etc.) for 2014 covered our actual expenses. Unlike many years in the recent past, we did not have to "tap into" our now very limited reserve funds to accomplish this feat. This is a huge praise item, but not only do I want to praise God for His continued faithfulness, I want to express my appreciation to you for both your faithfulness and generosity. Every year when our *Stewardship and Finance Committee* proposes a budget and our *Session* approves it, estimates about income are made. This includes congregational giving through tithes and offering. In 2014, you actually gave \$15,051.65 more than was estimated. Wow! Again, you are to be commended for both your faithfulness and generosity. Without a doubt, God has a plan and purpose for this congregation and I can hardly wait to see these things unfold in 2015. When I count my blessings and name them one by one, being the pastor of First Cumberland is at the top of the list, right behind my family.

This coming Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, I will begin a sermon series based on the Twenty-third Psalm; I am calling this series *Stressbusters*. Most, if not all of us face multiple stressors every day; I will be addressing some of these stressors and their antidotes during this series of messages. I will be preaching about God's antidote to worry, to busyness, to damaged emotions, to indecision, for dark valleys, to fearing the future, and to our hurt. This beloved ancient, yet timeless psalm offers so much more to us than we typically realize. My goal for this sermon series is to help us know what God is like, because the more we understand God, the easier it is for us to trust Him and trusting God is the ultimate stressbuster; so make an effort to be here each of the next seven Sundays and allow God to work through His Word to reduce the stress in your life.

Learning the unforced rhythms of grace,  
*Pastor Mike*

### Congregational Meeting

At the close of the Worship Service this coming Sunday morning (January 11<sup>th</sup>), we will have a **Congregational Meeting** to install the *Elder Class of 2017* —**Ann Bachman, Betty Hammill, and Tom Witmer**.

### Friendship Club

The next outing for the **Friendship Club** will be Wednesday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, 11:00 a.m. We will be gathering at **Bravo Cucina Italiana** (Bearden Hill location) for a Dutch-treat lunch. Everyone reading this announcement is invited to attend this and all monthly outings of the **Friendship Club**. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board outside the Church Office.

### Organ

Back in 2012, lightening apparently caused a power surge than damaged our electronic organ in the Sanctuary. Repairs were made immediately, but the organ was not completely restored to it previous state. The organ is obviously playable as we use it every Sunday, but some of its components do not function properly. Several more attempts to fully restore the organ were made over the previous eighteen months or so, but they were unsuccessful. Our insurance company then made the decision not to attempt any further repairs and, instead, to replace our organ. A new digital organ of equal capability has been ordered from Allen Organ Company and is in the process of being built to our specifications. Hopefully, sometime in the next six weeks or so it will be installed in our Sanctuary.

*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.*

Knoxville First Cumberland  
Presbyterian Church, Inc.  
6900 Nubbin Ridge Drive  
Knoxville, TN 37919

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Permit No. 90  
Knoxville,  
Tennessee

First Cumberland,  
where you belong!

Happy Birthday

January

14-Leigh Ann Summers  
16-Betty Hammill  
17-Alice Montgomery

Activities for January 11–17, 2014

Sunday,9:30 a.m.Sunday School  
10:45 a.m.Worship Service

Wednesday,6:30 p.m.Choir Practice

(See web site for complete calendar listings)

Stewardship Report January 4, 2015

Sunday School.....50  
Worship.....75  
Offering .....\$5,384.00  
Youth Fund (CPWM).....\$443.70  
Building Repairs.....\$600.00  
FISH.....\$1,500.00  
Additional Yearend Giving.....\$5,469.92

Among Our People

It was good to have Margaret Migas worshiping with us last Sunday . . . It was also good to have Rev. Carlton Harper and his wife, Margaret, worshiping with us last Sunday; Rev. Harper as agreed to preach for us if the birth of our pastor’s second grandchild causes him and Joanna to be in Alabama on a Sunday later this month . . . Charlie Pipkin (Paul Pipkin’s father) is in Parkwest Hospital . . . Becky Rader is still in NHC Fort Sanders for rehab; however, she is scheduled to be released on January 23<sup>rd</sup> . . . Dick Booher is receiving in-home rehab following his knee replacement . . .

DON'T WORRY

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters

WHAT'S EATIN' HIM?

I GUESS GOD DOESN'T TAKE CARE OF HIM LIKE HE DOES US

Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?  
— MATTHEW 6:26–27 NIV

Prayer Concerns

In the Hospital

Becky Rader ~ NHC Fort Sanders  
Charlie Pipkin ~ Parkwest Hospital (Paul’s Pipkin’s dad)

Health and Prayer Concerns (alphabetized)

the persecuted Christians around the world; Cumberland Presbyterian missionaries; Jack and Roy Acuff (brothers of a friend of Pastor Mike); Mildred Acuff; Janie Beeler (Greg Beeler’s wife); Preston Beeler (Greg Beeler’s cousin); Charlotte Bird; Gordon Blaylock; Dick Booher; Kim Boyatt (friend of Susan Edwards); Peggy Bradshaw (Dianne Fielder’s mother); Mary Cregger; B.F. and Mary Helen Daniel; Allison, Hailey, Connor, and Hannah Davis; Nora Derreberry (Maxine Curtis’s mother); Jim and Cookie Dyer; Edna Flenor; Grace Flory (Lois Witmer’s mother); Hannah Haddox; Jack and Jin Gaston; Curt Hammill (Betty Hammill’s son); Ruth Heifner (friend of Pastor Mike); Bud and Betty Hickman (friends of Mary Ann Haney); Bobbie Himes (Jin Gaston’s sister); Christina and Baby Hinkle (Pastor Mike and Joanna’s daughter is expecting a baby boy on January 18, 2015); Debbie Holloway; Kim Holloway (friend of Lisa Hayes); Becky Ingle (coworker of Amanda Roberts); Kim Jones (friend of Amanda and Scott Roberts); Sherri Kramer (friend of Joy Taylor); Ada Ladd; Bob Lawson (friend of Pastor Mike); Maxine McGuire; Mary McJunkins (Mary Wegman’s mother); Catherine McKinney; Ruth McNabb (Tammy Eblen’s mother); Bob Metts; Brian Migas; Jonathan Migas; Mary Anne Moncier (Dianne Fielder’s aunt); Dewaine Moncier, Jr. (Dianne Fielder’s cousin); Alice Montgomery; Carl Overstreet (friend of Cliff Parrott); Cliff Parrott; Tom Parrott (Cliff Parrott’s son); Charlie Pipkin (Paul Pipkin’s father); David Poore (coworker of Phil Bridges); Anna Faye Presley (niece of Catherine McKinney); Becky Rader; Rebecca Rech (Justin Rech’s mother); Marlene Ritchey; Bryan Rogers (Bonnie Bridges’ son); Carol Seeman; Gladys Stone; Sydney Snoderly (Betty Hammill’s great niece); Jack Walker; Carl Ware (Sam Ware’s father); Joni Warner (friend of Jewell Kerr’s sons); the Whaley family (friends of Kathy Byers); Tom Williams (friend of Cliff Parrott); Robyn (friend of Hannah Haddox)

Please keep the Church office informed of any needed changes to our Prayer Concerns list. Call 588-8581 or email [firstcpc@earthlink.net](mailto:firstcpc@earthlink.net)

A New Year’s Prayer

Dear Lord,  
Please give me a few friends who understand me and remain my friends; a work to do which has real value, without which the world would be the poorer; a mind unafraid to travel, even though the trail is not blazed; an understanding heart; a sense of humor; time for quiet, silent meditation; a feeling of the presence of God; the patience to wait for the coming of these things, with the wisdom to recognize them when the come. Amen.  
—anonymous