

The Cumberland

Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

6900 Nubbin Ridge, Knoxville, TN 37919

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(865) 588-8581

Kevin Wood ~ Pastor

Website: www.first-cumberland.org

A Weekly Newsletter

"Loving God, Loving People"

March 21, 2007

OUTRAGEOUS CLAIMS!

During the rest of Lent and Easter you will hear some of the outrageous claims of Jesus of Nazareth. Last Sunday in John's gospel, He claimed "I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE!" Below are the other claims He will make in the weeks ahead during our 10:45 a.m. Sunday morning worship services:

*March 25: "I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE!"

*April 1 (Palm Sunday) Choral Cantata entitled "Written in Red."

*April 8 (Easter Sunday): "I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE!"

LENTEN/EASTER SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

"The Living Lord's Supper" Communion Service

See it through the eyes of the original disciples, Thursday, April 5, 7:00 p.m.

Easter Sunrise Service and Breakfast

Sunday, April 8, 7:45 a.m. in the courtyard with Dr. J. David Hester preaching.

Easter Sunday "Celebration of Eternal Life!"

*Sunday, April 8, 10:45 a.m. with the pastor preaching
and Rev. Bill Ivey, Celebrant for Holy Communion*

"SPRINGFEST" IS NOW "FUNFEST!"

We want to reach all the children and youth we can Saturday, April 14 from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. So we've changed our name to "FUNFEST!" We still need every member and friend of the church to be present to welcome kids, parents, and grandparents from everywhere in Knoxville with inflatables and carnival games and plenty of good food. A special mystery guest will also make a presentation of the Good News that day, but it's a secret for now!

Fifty "I Love My Church" t-shirts have been ordered and all the proceeds will go to help build our new denominational center in Memphis. Thank you for your generous response! Thursday Connection, Jazzercise, Scouts, and other groups will be helping us with "FUNFEST." It will be a great day of friendship and outreach. Plan to spend part or all of your day here representing First Church!

INVITING PEOPLE TO MEET JESUS

It's often called "Friendship" or "Relational" evangelism. Everyone has family and friends who do not know Christ and who do not have a church family. While the Bible shows many "styles" of evangelism, the most effective way is to begin with people you already know.

The Christian faith is about telling people you know best what your relationship with Christ and His Church means to you. The Lenten-Easter season is the number one time of year to invite people close to you to hear the Gospel message and experience what it can be like to be part of God's family. In the coming weeks leading to Palm Sunday and Easter (April 1 and 8) I encourage you to do the following: (1) Write out a list of family and friends you want to invite. Call it your "personal invitation list;" (2) Begin praying for each one on the list, asking God to give them an open heart to respond to your invitation and a desire to hear the Good News of Jesus Christ. Pray for each one daily; (3) When you're ready, make the contact and give them your best, most personal invitation to come with you for Palm Sunday and Easter worship.

This Sunday, March 25 we will ask you to write the names and addresses of 3-5 families you want us to send a special Palm Sunday-Easter invitation.

Remember, do your best and God will do the rest!

SPIRITUAL GIFTS CLASS WITH DR. HESTER

First Church is pleased to announce Dr. J. David Hester will lead a class on "Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts" six Sunday evenings in April and May beginning Sunday, April 15. You can sign up any Sunday by using the insert provided in the bulletin.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB OUTING

The Friendship Club for everyone 55 and up will be meeting for lunch at Aubrey's on Papermill Road, Wednesday, March 28, 11:00 a.m. It's springtime and we would like to make some plans for special trips. Join us!

LET'S STAY FOCUSED!

- (1) Are you praying daily that God will grow the church?
- (2) Are you giving a positive witness of the church to everyone you meet?
- (3) Are you making a list of our "potential congregation," and praying for each one of them so you can invite them to be one of the 150 people we are expecting on Palm Sunday and Easter (April 1 and 8)?
- (4) Have you made a personal commitment to stewardship and support of the ministries of the church?
- (5) Are you planning to support "FUNFEST" Saturday, April 14 by wearing your new t-shirt and welcoming new children, youth and families to the church?
- (6) Are you willing to continue the changes if it means we can grow closer in worship and fellowship on Sunday mornings?
- (7) Are you praying the P.U.S.H. prayer ("Pray Until Something Happens!") and will you join us for some special prayer meetings and small group ministries this spring and summer?

The challenge is clearly before us!!!

LIVING LORD'S SUPPER

We still need five more men for the "Living Lord's Supper" Communion service scheduled for Thursday, April 5, 7:00 p.m. in the chapel. If you can, help please call the church office right away (588-8581). The scheduled rehearsals are either Wednesday or Thursday, March 28 or 29, 6:30 p.m.

Pastor Kevin

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

March 2007

26~Lisa Hayes
27~Howard Eblen
30~Mildred Acuff
30~Eric Boden

Activities for March 25-31, 2007

Sun.,	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:45 a.m.	Worship Service
	4:00 p.m.	Handbell Choir Practice
Mon.,	6:00 p.m.	Planning for Fun Fest
Wed.,	6:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
	6:30 p.m.	Rehearsal Living Lord's Supper
Thurs.,	6:30 p.m.	Rehearsal Living Lord's Supper

Stewardship Report for March 18, 2007

Sunday School.....	32
Worship.....	74
Offering.....	\$1,856.75
Special Offerings: FISH	\$615.00

Year-to-Date (as of March 18, 2007)

Offerings received to date: \$33,527.81
Expenses paid to date: \$51,135.62

APOLOGIES OFFERED

Dianne Fielder wishes to apologize to the following people, whose birthdays were omitted last week. She hopes you enjoyed your special day: Bonnie Holbert and Dr. J. David Hester, March 18, and Marikate Walker March 19.

FISH UPDATE

Thank you for your generous contribution of \$615.00 this week. This brings our total to \$4,173.00, which puts us over our goal of \$4000.00. **GOOD WORK!** This week Larry Fielder helped get 18 cases of food from Second Harvest Food Bank. Thank you Larry. On Wednesday, March 28th, around 3:00p.m., we will transport all the food stored at the church to the Pantry. On Thursday, March 29th, at 3:00 p.m., we will transport foods ordered from Food City from the store in Bearden to the FISH Pantry. If you can help on either or both days, please call Betty. Our first bagging day will be on Saturday morning, March 31, at 9:30 at the Pantry. Please sign up if you can help. Thank you for your unflagging support to help feed the hungry in our community. Betty Hammill



Newsletter
Deadline

All Newsletter articles, events, or announcements should be sent by 2:00 p.m. on Tuesdays to Dianne Fielder at firstcpc@earthlink.net or call the church office at 588-8581.



Prayer Concerns In the Military



Shane McGhee in Iraq, wife Tamara in California
Ronnie Gann (Peggy O'Neal's brother) in Iraq

On-going Health and Prayer Concerns

Dick Congdon, Brack Emory, Mary Jane Blaylock, Denominational Center Task Force, Donna Wann (mother of David Wann), Pollye Pharaoh, Ileana Grace Hayes, Bill Hammill, Reba Smith, Bill & Flora Mae Keene, Marlene Ritchey, Mildred Stone, Tom Raines, Edna Fleenor, Maxine McGuire, Vera Stewart, Mrs. Don Franks, Priscilla McCoy (Kim Halbert's mother), Margie House (mother of Barb Lancaster), Margaret Lindsay, Mary Cregger, Jennie Lee Middlemas, Lucy Hesler, Irene Brooks (Nancy Wood's mother), JoAnn Ford, Howard Eblen, William Barron (Lee's Father), Rose Gauthler, Mary Matthew, Kay Tipton, Lee Oberlieesen (friends of Dorothy Porter), Doug Bailey, friend of the Witmers, Dewaine Moncier, Jr. and Mary Lynn Tolar and infant Thomas Moffat (3 requests by Dianne Fielder).

Please keep the Church office informed of any needed changes, additions or deletions to our Prayer Concerns list.

Special Prayer Request

Three Cumberland Presbyterian Churches in Buenaventura, Columbia have been affected by a drug war going on in that city. Pastor Euripides Morera was wounded by shrapnel from a bomb that killed his nephew. Pastors Rodrigo Torres and Gilberto Arteaga need our urgent prayers as they minister to dangerous and suffering communities

You're Invited to a Reception
Honoring Vernon and Tina Sansom
Saturday April 7, 2:00-4:00p.m.
First Cumberland Presbyterian Church
Oak Ridge, Tennessee

This Saturday, March 24 at 9 a.m., we will have a day to work on the church grounds to get them ready for the Easter season. We will clean up the courtyard, pulling and spraying weeds, cleaning the concrete area of debris. We will do some general trimming of shrubs. We will clean the areas where we had tree stumps ground off. We will do general outside clean up and pick up. We also have an inside project, and that is replacing lights in the Sanctuary. This will require at 4 to 5 men and 1 or 2 foolhardy, I mean brave, to climb ladders to the top of the chandeliers. If it rains Saturday, we will do the outside work on Saturday March 31 at 9 a.m. Lights will be done rain or shine the 24th. Thanks for you help. Tom Witmer and the Building and Grounds Committee.



Work Day