

# The Cumberland

## Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

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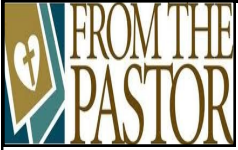
Rev. Mike Wilkinson ~ Pastor

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

### Our Weekly Newsletter

*"Loving God, Loving People"*

August 17, 2016



Since last week's newsletter, I have learned more about First Cumberland's potential involvement with *Kids Hope USA* and an in-school **Mentoring Program for Students** at Rocky Hill Elementary School. Through my initial conversation with the School Counselor, we had hoped to begin this program with as few as three mentors and three prayer partners; however, I now know that *Kids Hope USA* prefers us to have at least ten mentor/prayer partner teams, but will allow us to start with just six teams. As I write this article, I have four possible mentors lined up and three prayer partners. I also learned that the program is adaptable to the schedule of each volunteer mentor, which means that all mentors do not have to be at the school at the same time. If you are working, you can even come to the school during your lunch hour one day per week. The School Counselor will help customize a regular weekly time for each mentor and student to meet. Hopefully, this tidbit of information opens up the possibility for volunteering to more of us. I also learned that we need a director or two co-directors for this program and that the directors must also be mentors. The director(s) will receive online training from *Kids Hope USA* and then will help train our mentor volunteers. Another requirement is that the pastor of the mentoring congregation must be either a mentor or a prayer partner; again, I am committed to be a mentor and am willing to be one of the co-directors. I further learned that I need to slightly amend the basic outline of the program that I listed in last week's newsletter; the model is: **One Child—One Church** (mentor and prayer partner)—**One School—One Hour** (each week during the school year). I also call your attention to the fact that this is a mentoring program and not a tutoring program. This means that our goal is to build relationships with at-risk children; part of that relationship building process may include some tutoring (i.e., help with homework—basic reading, spelling, and math), but mostly it is about spending time with the student providing a positive role model for the child while letting him or her know that someone truly cares for them. This is an opportunity for us to be the "hands and feet of Christ" in our community, not an opportunity to overtly evangelize the students. Mentoring is action-evangelism (showing the love of Christ one-on-one) instead of direct spoken-evangelism (directly sharing the plan of salvation while you are at the school). We can, however, invite the student and his or her family to our church services and activities where they can and will hear the Gospel. I must point out here that our involvement in this program is not motivated by my heart's passion to grow this congregation—at least not to grow it numerically—but rather, it is motivated by my sincere desire to help at-risk kids in our community. To quote from a *Kids Hope USA* brochure: **"One simple thing will make a big difference in the life of an at-risk child: a one-on-one, positive relationship with a responsible, caring adult. This can happen in just 60 minutes a week."** If you have any desire to participate in this **Outside-Action Project** let me know as soon as possible. All mentors must pass a Knox Schools' background check to be allowed on school property during school hours. If enough people (six mentors and six prayer partners) are interested in this ministry, I will present it to our Session at our next meeting, which is Sunday evening, August 28<sup>th</sup>. Check out the website [www.kidshopeusa.org](http://www.kidshopeusa.org) for more details.

Thanks to everyone (ice cream and dessert bringers, talent sharers, those who help set up and those who helped clean up, and all attenders) who made last Sunday's **Talent Show and Ice Cream Social** so much fun, and congratulations to **Julie Rech** on the panel of judges designating her as having created the best homemade ice cream. We had around seventy people in attendance, many of which were guests and a great time appeared to be had by all.

The sermon series "Guardrails" continues; this coming Sunday, August 21<sup>st</sup>, my message will be based on **Proverbs 13:20**. Please read and meditate on this verse of Scripture in advance; doing so will help us understand the importance of choosing our friends and companions wisely. The title of the message will be "Why Can't We Be Friends?". As always, I look forward to seeing you in the House of the Lord; in fact, I can hardly wait!

Learning the unforced rhythms of grace,

*Pastor Mike*

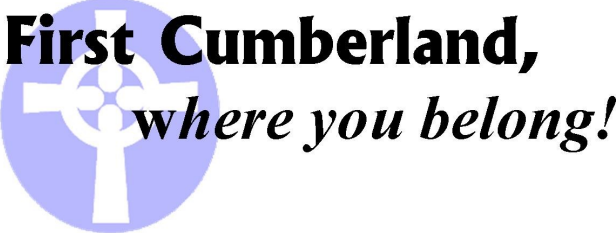
### Youth News


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

### Cumberland Presbyterian Women's Ministry

Our ladies ministry is pleased to host the September meeting of the city-wide **Christian Women United** group; our own **Dianne Fielder** is the treasurer of this group. They will be meeting on Friday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>, in our Gym, at 10:00 a.m., for light refreshments, and then go into our Sanctuary for the program at 10:30 a.m. Typical attendance is 50-60 ladies, but they are expecting 70-80 ladies to be in attendance in September. Volunteers are needed at 9:00 a.m. that morning to set up the tables and chairs in the Gym. Volunteers are also need to provide the refreshments and to be in attendance to direct traffic as they come and as they go from place to place. There will be a sign-up sheet on the CPWM bulletin board across from the Library if you can help with either of these tasks, or you can let **Betty Hammill** know of your availability to help. Thank you for your assistance in welcoming the ladies of **Church Women United**.


*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 17th-23rd  
23rd - Judy Gwilliams  
23rd - Tom Witmer



Faithfulness Record August 14, 2016	
Sunday School.....	43
Worship Service.....	73
Offering.....	\$4,894.25
Building Repair Fund.....	\$200.00

Activities for August 17-23, 2016	
Wednesday:	11:00 a.m. Friendship Club
Sunday:	9:30 a.m. Sunday School
	10:45 a.m. Worship Service
	12:15 p.m. Stewardship & Finance Meeting
	12:30 p.m. Youth Cookout & Hot Tub Party
(See our web site for complete calendar listings)	

*Among Our People*

**Mildred Acuff** had outpatient surgery on her broken arm last Thursday, August 11<sup>th</sup>; two screws were placed in the break . . . **Alejandra Vargas Araiza**, mother of Alfonzo Marquez, has been diagnosed with cancer and is under hospice care in El Paso, Texas . . . **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 . . . **Betty Hammill** fell Monday, August 15<sup>th</sup>, and probably broke her wrist; she went to the emergency room, but at the time of publication, no confirmation had been received . . . **Kim McCurry** will have surgery on her knee Wednesday, August 24<sup>th</sup> . . . **Rose Wilkinson**, mother of Pastor Mike and Susan Edwards, has been diagnosed with non-Hodgkin’s Lymphoma (NHL) and is awaiting the results of both the bone marrow biopsy and heart study she underwent last Thursday, August 11<sup>th</sup>; she will have a port-a-cath put in this coming Friday, August 19<sup>th</sup>, and will soon begin chemotherapy treatments . . . **Lois Witmer** is still receiving outpatient physical therapy as she continues to recover from her recent stroke . . .

**Kroger Community Rewards Program**

The **Kroger Community Rewards Program** annual re-enrollment period is the month of August. Kroger should send all currently enrolled participants an email reminder; simply click the link within the email to directly re-enroll and support our congregation. Participants that do not have an email address need to call 1-800-KROGERS (1-800-576-4377). If you are not yet a participant, please consider enrolling in this program and select First Cumberland Presbyterian Church as your organization. Simply go to <https://www.kroger.com/communityrewards> to enroll. If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact **Kim Halbert** (865-660-5821).

**“Become wise by walking with the wise; hang out with fools and watch your life fall to pieces.”**  
—Proverbs 13:20, *The Message*



### 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 Kin McCurry); **BETTY HAMMILL**; 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; **FAMILY OF HUGH 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.*

**Church’s Website**

The church’s website, [www.first-cumberland.org](http://www.first-cumberland.org), includes audio recordings of the sermons from the previous four Worship Services.

**Stewardship and Finance Committee**

Our **Stewardship and Finance Committee** will meet this coming Sunday, August 21<sup>st</sup>, immediately following our Worship Service.

**Quote of the Week**

“It is one thing to believe in the Bible but something else altogether to allow the Bible, through the ministry of the Holy Spirit, to impact and change your life.”  
—A.W. Tozer