The Cumberlander

Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

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Rev. Mike Wilkinson ~ Pastor

"Loving God, Loving People"

January 28, 2015

Website: www.first-cumberland.org

Our Weekly Newsletter

On one of his three missionary journeys, the Apostle Paul preached in Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch. In response to his presentation of the Gospel, many people surrendered their lives to Christ. As Paul was leaving these cities, he told these

new believers that they "... must go through many hardships to enter the kingdom of God.' . . ." [Acts 14:22, NIV] We do generally like to read a verse like that, do we? We would rather the verse read: "Through days of perpetual happiness we enter the kingdom of God." But that is not Scripture, and that is not life. Jesus told a story about two men who each built a home (Matthew 7:24-29). They may have built their respective homes at the same time, close to one another, and even shared the same floor plan, but they were not the same. You see, one of the builders erected his home on shifting sand, while the other one built on a stable rock foundation. Then the storms came, hitting both of those houses—hard! The house that had been erected on sand collapsed and fell in upon itself, while the house built on the rock stood firm. The obvious moral of this story is that we should build our lives on a foundation that will last—build it on the Rock, which is Christ the Lord. But here is an application we sometimes miss: The storm came to both lives. The wind beat on both houses. The rain poured on both building sites. The builder who was wise and carefully chose a stable foundation got hit with the same hurricane-force winds as the builder who foolishly took shortcuts and did not bother to plan ahead. We all will experience storms in life. Good things will happen to us, as well as tragic and inexplicable things. Every life will have its share of pain. Even so, we have a God who, despite the worst tragedy, can bring good out of bad (Romans 8:28). I find hope in this knowledge of God; I pray that you do as well.

Learning the unforced rhythms of grace,

Pastor Mike

Middle/High Sunday School Class

Beginning this coming Sunday, February 1st, Pastor Mike will be teaching our **Middle/High School Sunday School Class** about the Cumberland Presbyterian *Confession of Faith*. This study will take place every-other-Sunday, with Phil Bridges teaching the class on the alternating Sundays. This study will be four or five lessons long, and will help our young people know more about our denomination and what we believe as Cumberland Presbyterians.

Youth News

Our Youth will meet this coming Sunday, February 1st, following the Worship Service. Lunch will be provided and the meeting will conclude at 2:30 p.m.

Getting the Most from Your Healthcare

Choices in Senior Care will host a free educational event, Getting the Most from Your Healthcare, Tuesday, February 3rd; 5-5:30 p.m. Registration and Snacks; 5:30-6:30 p.m. Presentation. The event will be held in the office of Choices in Senior Care (151F Market Place Boulevard, near the Kroger at the intersection of Cedar Bluff Road and Kingston Pike). This session will address: Understanding your Insurance Policy; Preserving Resources; Questions to ask your healthcare provider; and Utilizing Community Resources. Please RSVP to 865-978-6168 to reserve your seat.

Sing-a-Long

Sunday afternoon, February 8th, at 3:00 p.m., the Union Cumberland Presbyterian Church (Farragut) will be hosting a multi-choir **Sing-a-Long**, as the choirs from several churches will be singing. Then at 6:00 p.m., the ladies of the Union Church will be serving dinner.

Scout Sunday

We will be observing Scout Sunday on February 15th. On this Sunday, scouts and their families from Girl Scout Troop 20, Cub Scout Pack 20, and Boy Scout Troop 20 (all of which are sponsored by First Cumberland and regularly meet here) will join us to worship the risen Christ. During this special Worship Service, several scouts will be participating. Make you plans to join us on this special Sunday.

> 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.



First Cumberland,

where you belong!



Happy Birthday



February 1-7



Activities for February 1-7, 2014

Sunday, 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Worship Service Tuesday, 11:00 a.m. West Circle Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice

(See web site for complete calendar listings)

Stewardship Report January 25, 2015

Sunday School	43
	81
	\$3,689.50

Among Our People

It was great having Becky Rader back to worship with us last Sunday following a several-month absence due to illness; Becky just relocated to the Echo Ridge Independent Retirement Community (Apt. 321; 8458 Gleason Drive, Knoxville, Tennessee, 37919) . . . It was great having Tom and Emily DeLozier visiting with us again Sunday . . . It was also great having Rev. Carlton Harper and his wife Margaret, worshiping with us again Sunday . . . Dick Booher is still receiving outpatient rehab following his knee replacement . . . Congratulations to Lauren Spadling (Dianne Fielder's niece) on the birth of Hudson Robert Spradling; Hudson was born January 22nd; he weighed seven pounds and six ounces, and was twenty inches long. Marlene Ritchey is currently in rehab for physical therapy, when she is released in a couple of weeks, she will be moving to a different assisted living facility, Sedona Winds (Apt. 222; 475 Jacks Canyon Road, Sedona, Arizona, 86351); Marlene will also have a new telephone number (928-284-4682) . . .

Cumberland Presbyterian Women's Ministry

The **West Circle** of our ladies' ministry will meet this coming Tuesday, February 3rd, at 11:00 a.m., in Keene Room. Please bring a sandwich lunch; drinks and dessert will be provided. All the ladies of the church are cordially invited to attend.

Just a Thought

"As set forth by God, we the church will be truly committed to Jesus Christ, enjoying our freedom in Christ, living by the Golden Rule, and having passionate servant hearts."

—from the *Upper Room*, submitted by **Phil Bridges**

Prayer Concerns

In the Hospital

Praise the Lord, we know of no one associated with First Cumberland who is in the hospital at this time.

Health and Prayer Concerns (alphabetized)

the persecuted Christians around the world; Cumberland Presbyterian missionaries; Roy Acuff (brother 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 Fleenor; Grace Flory (Lois Witmer's mother); 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); 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); Nicolae Racile (father of a friend of Joy Taylor); 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; MariKate 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

Prayer List Updates

We are now CAPITALIZING and **bolding** the names of people the very first time they appear on our Prayer List in both the newsletters and the bulletins. Please regularly read these lists and let the Church Office now of any updates, changes, or corrections that need to be made to them.

Quote of the Week

"Don't worry. God is never blind to your tears, never deaf to your prayers, and never silent to your pains. He sees, He hears, and He will deliver."—anonymous