

The Cumberland

Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

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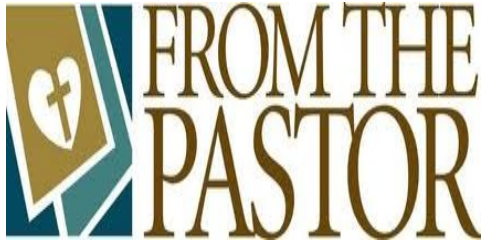
Rev. Mike Wilkinson ~ Pastor

Website: www.first-cumberland.org

Our Weekly Newsletter

"Loving God, Loving People"

November 6, 2013



God Is Faithful!

In last week's stewardship letter, I mentioned that shortly after we were married, my wife, Joanna, used tithing to teach me that **God is faithful** in all things. Five years ago, I wrote about this in the *Cumberland Presbyterian* magazine. Here is an edited, shorter version of that article:

Everything I needed to learn about stewardship I learned from my wife, who learned it from her parents, who learned it at church and from the Bible. Before I was married . . . , I was a regular contributor to the church. When the offering plate was passed each Sunday morning, I would open my wallet and locate the smallest denomination of a bill that I had and contribute it. If the bill was a one or a five, I was a cheerful giver, but if it was a ten or a twenty, I gave anyway, but I gave begrudgingly. The first Sunday morning back from our honeymoon, my wife introduced a new concept to me—planned giving. She actually wrote a check before we left home. The check was for \$5.68, which was exactly 10% of my income that week. . . . The next Sunday morning, and every Sunday thereafter, she did the same thing; . . . Several weeks later, when the amount of the weekly check began to increase significantly, I asked her why she did this. Her answer was because her Mom and Dad had taught her to do so as a child. Her parents actually required her to give 10% of her income, typically a birthday gift or babysitting earnings, to the church. . . . My wife's parents taught their children to tithe by both example and Scripture, like **Numbers 18:29**, which says, *"From all the gifts that you receive, and from the best parts, you are to consecrate to the Lord your own full contribution."* Her parents would also tell their children how God had provided for their needs. Sometimes this provision boarded on miraculous. We have attempted to pass on these lessons to our three daughters . . . Over the years, I have discovered my wife's words to be true, "When we are faithful in returning to God a portion of what He has given us, He will take care of all our needs." . . . I can honestly say that since I started tithing that I have never had a financial need for which God did not provide. . . .

In **First Corinthians 1:9**, the Apostle Paul tells us that *"God, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, is faithful."* [New Century Version] The question I still have for you is: **"Do you believe, I mean truly believe, that God is faithful?"**

I have some great news to share with you: my wife, Joanna, has received a job offer from Emory Valley Early Learning Center, in Oak Ridge. She will be in Knoxville next Monday, November 11th, to finalize the details, and then she will turn in a two-week notice in Alabama, and join us by the first of December. "Praise God from who all blessings flow!" Thank you for your prayers in this matter; now, please pray that our house in Millbrook will sell soon.

God's Grace,

Pastor Mike

Our Building Note

As you know, we are attempting to raise at least \$25,728 by Thanksgiving so that we can restructure our debt (building note for major repairs taken out in 2008) and lower our monthly payments by securing a lower interest rate, which would save us slightly more than \$101,000 in interest over the next 15 years. If you would like to contribute to this cause, over and above your tithe, please write the word "Note" on the memo line of your check. \$10,700 has been given to date; thank you for your generosity! We are almost halfway there; we can do this!

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
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Organization
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Happy Birthday



November
12-Tom Chesney
14-Cliff Parrott



Activities for November 10-16, 2013

Sun., 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:45 a.m. Worship Service
12:15 p.m. Building & Grounds
4:00 p.m. Handbell Practice
Wed., 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice

(See web site for complete calendar listings)

Stewardship Report November 3, 2013

Sunday School.....	47
Worship.....	71
Offering	\$5,244.75
Payment on Church Note.....	\$2,150.00
Building Fund.....	\$5.00

BAKE AND CRAFT SALE

Will be held on Sunday, Nov. 24, in the Library beginning at 9am. Ladies, bring your baked and craft items to the Library, and plan to stay and shop. This has always been CPWM's biggest fund raiser of the year. Thank you in advance for your support in this annual sale.



OFFICE VOLUNTEERS

Tom is re-organizing our office volunteers. Back in August Tom voluntarily changed his status from a full-time position to a part-time position (Mondays and Fridays) to make it financially possible to call a full-time pastor. The volunteers will help answer the phones, do office work for Tom and Pastor Mike. They will help organize the office and clean it up. Some volunteers will need to learn the church's computer software and aid in its use for the missions of the church. We have identified things that need to be done and we are now looking for volunteers who would like to help in the office for 3-4 hours a day once or twice a week. Thanks to those who already help and to those who will help, but do not know it yet. Please contact Jewell Kerr or Maxine Curtis if you are interested in VOLUNTEERING.



Prayer Concerns

In the Hospital

On-going Health and Prayer Concerns



CP Missionaries; Mary Jane & Gordon Blaylock; Mildred Stone; Edna Fleenor; Mary Cregger; Gladys Stone; Mildred Acuff; Maxine McGuire; Ada Ladd; Nancy Anthony; Bud & Betty Hickman; Carl Overstreet (friend of Cliff Parrott); Jonathan Migas; Peggy Bradshaw (Dianne Fielder's mother); Nora Derreberry (Maxine Curtis's mother); Marlene Ritchey; Brian Migas; Mary McJunkins, (Mary Wegman's mother); Eric Nelson, (friend of the Witmer clan); Donna Wingard, (Mildred Acuff's daughter); Debbie & David Triese, (Margaret Migas's sister and husband); Carl Ware; Allison, Hailey, Connor and Hannah Davis; Janie Beeler, (Greg Beeler's wife); Judy Gammon; Ruth McNabb (mother of Tammy Eblen); Richard Himes (Jin Gaston's brother-in-law); Debbie Holloway; Mildred Gragg (friend of Mary Cregger); Kim and her family, (friends of Amanda and Scott Roberts); Rebecca Rech, mother of Justin Rech; Jack Gaston; J. David Hester; Marie Jobson, (friend of the Witmer's); Grace Flory (Lois Witmer's mother); Suzan Smith, (Jewell Kerr's daughter); Jewell Kerr and family; Earl Hilten; Cliff Parrott; Scott Robert's Uncle.

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

Thank you so much for your recent gift to Knox Area Rescue Ministries. We truly value your support in our restoration efforts.

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

There are extra copies of Pastor Mike's letter in the Narthex as well as Estimated Giving Cards. If you need a card sent to you please call or email the office.

LAY MINISTRY CORNER

~~Donna Walker

God blesses us financially so we can raise our standard of giving, not our standard of living.

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Is prayer your steering wheel or your spare tire?  
~Corrie Ten Boom

Girl Scouts

Troop 20959

We have been asked to organize the Girl Scout Christmas Parade the first Friday in December. In order for us to get as many Girl Scouts to participate as possible, (all girls under the age of 9 must ride the float. Older girls can walk.) we require some help, and as such we are seeking two – longer – trailers. Can you help us out?  
Contact Dianne Fielder or the church office.