

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"

April 26, 2017



The space for my thoughts is very limited this week, so I will simply say that seldom does a Sunday go by that I am not grateful for the privilege of serving as Pastor of First Cumberland; Joanna and I are truly blessed to be a part of this congregation. Thank you for your love and support! We hope to see all of you in church next Sunday.

Last Sunday, we received \$1,620.00 for the **Lighting Fund**. When we take out a loan to complete this project, last week's donations will lower our monthly payment by \$28.39; coupled with previous donations, our monthly savings is now \$213.86. This fundraising effort will conclude this coming Sunday, April 30th. Again, every thousand dollars we raise during this campaign will reduce our monthly loan payment by more than \$17.00. If you would like to contribute any amount—above and beyond your regular giving—to this project, simply note your check or offering envelop with the words "**Lighting Fund**". Every gift, no matter its size, will simultaneously reduce our debt and increase our savings. Thank you for your generosity and faithfulness.

Learning the unforced rhythms of grace,

Pastor Mike

A Personal Note

Dear Church Friends:

I have been so blessed with ALL my church family—for your thoughts and prayers and all the beautiful cards during Jack's illness. It meant so much to both of us. Thank you. The funeral service, the beautiful music and the beautiful floral arrangement and ALL the beautiful cards I have received have also meant so much to me. Thank you. May God Bless each of you as you as you have blessed me.

Love in Christ,

Jin Gaston

FISH Food Pantry

Our monthly obligation to the **West Knox FISH Food Pantry** is almost complete. A huge "thank you" to all who helped with the delivery unloading and the bagging on two Saturdays. And a special "thank you" to **Jimmy Curtis**, who has picked up bread for us each week, and to **Bonnie Bridges**, who is learning the ropes about picking up bread. This is truly a team effort! We will have the final numbers for you at the end of the month.

Homeschool Sunday

This coming Sunday, April 30th, we will host our second **Homeschool Sunday** as some of the children who attend the two homeschools that meet here and their parents will be in attendance at our Worship Service. The purpose of our annual **Homeschool Sunday** is for the students and parents to express their appreciation for us making our facility available to them and it gives us an opportunity to meet some of those to whom we minister to as a congregation.

Cumberland Presbyterian Women's Ministry

The **West Circle** of our ladies' ministry will meet Tuesday, May 2nd, at 11:00 a.m., in the Keene Room. Please bring a sandwich lunch—drinks and dessert will be provided. All the ladies of the church are invited to attend.

Water Angel Ministry

This coming Sunday, April 30th, is once again our time to support the **Water Angel Ministry**. Please bring your case(s) of bottled water to the hallway by the overhang entrance—ask for help unloading if you need it. Thank you for supporting this important ministry.

A Message from Classical Conversations

Have you ever felt like you need to do something to change the world? Did you feel like no one else was doing anything about the problem you were presented with? Have you ever felt like God was calling you to make a difference? That's how we felt when Charlie Spaulding was diagnosed with leukemia. Charlie, who was only three-years-old at the time, was having to go through intense treatments for her cancer. The idea first came from Charlie's older sister, Caitlin. She sells artwork at a farmer's market to raise money for Charlie's cause. We came up with an idea; what if we hosted a talent show? What if any kid could perform, and anyone could watch? Could we raise money to help Charlie? (Cost is \$5.00 per person; maximum of \$30.00 per family; extra donations accepted.) We know we can do it! At first, we just invited the kids in our homeschool group, Classical Conversations, to perform. It was only going to be those kid's friends and families watching us perform. Then, the staff at Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, where our homeschooling community takes place, stepped in. We are so excited for this event on Friday, April 28, 2017, from 7:00-9:00 p.m., in the Gym at First Cumberland. The more people who come, the better! Various talents will take place including musical numbers, soloists, jokes, skits, instrument performances, martial arts demonstrations, and dance routines. Kids from first grade though high school will be performing their talents. "No matter how big, no matter how small, we accept all talents, for God gave them all."

*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

April 26th - May 2nd

- 29th — Jin Gaston
29th — Barbara McCammon
2nd — Ann Bachman
2nd — Amanda Roberts



Our Faithfulness Record for April 23rd

Sunday School	44
Worship Service	68
Offering	\$2,047.00
The Gideons	\$336.00
Memorial Fund	\$830.00
Music Fund	\$75.00
Lighting Fund	\$1,620.00

Activities for April 26th - May 2nd

- Wednesday: 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice
Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:45 a.m. Worship Service
6:00 p.m. Session Meeting
Tuesday: 11:00 a.m. West Circle Meeting
(See our website for complete calendar listings)

Among Our People

It was great having **Jin Gaston** back worshipping with us last Sunday. ~ **Pastor Mike** will be in Washington D.C. on denominational business Tuesday, April 25th, through Thursday, April 27th. ~ **Rose Wilkinson**, mother of Pastor Mike and Susan Edwards, continues to undergo chemotherapy treatments.

Special Guests

It was great having **Bobby and Lisa Criswell**, friends Pastor Mike and Joanna Wilkinson); and **John and June Givens**, parents of Crissy Collins; worshipping with us last Sunday. (These were all the guests that signed the Registration Pads.) **Bobby Criswell** was also our Gideon speaker last Sunday.

Friendship Club, P.M. Edition

The next Dutch-treat dinner for the **Friendship Club, P.M. Edition** will be Thursday, May 4th, at **Wright's Cafeteria** (5403 North Middlebrook Pike), at 6:30 p.m. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board near the Church Office. As always, feel free to invite family and friends to join us on these outings.

Friendship Club

The **Friendship Club** will gather for a Dutch-treat lunch on Wednesday, May 17th, at **Connors Streak and Seafood** (10915 Turkey Creek Drive), at 11:00 a.m. As always, feel free to invite family and friends to join us on these outings.



Prayer Concern List

In the Hospital

No one connected to First Cumberland is known to be in the hospital at this time.

Prayer Concerns

Mildred Acuff; Ann and Mike Bachman; **FAMILY OF WILL BANNISTER** (Farragut High School student); Preston Beeler (cousin of Greg Beeler); Gordon Blaylock; Peggy Bradshaw (mother of Dianne Fielder); Wanell Brown (friend of Rose Wilkinson); Charlotte Byrd; **FAMILY OF DEAN COX** (brother of Allen Cox); **Cumberland Presbyterian missionaries**; Hannah Davis; Mary Helen Daniel; Mae Denton (friend of Tammy Eblen); Grace Flory (mother of Lois Witmer); Judy Gammon; Mark Hester; Betty and Bud Hickman (friends of Mary Ann Haney); Pat Housley (coworker of Amanda Roberts); Edna Hughes (sister of Rue Dougherty); Betty Kennedy (friend of Rose Wilkinson); Bob Lawson (friend of Pastor Mike); Alexi Llewellyn (granddaughter of a friend of Rose Wilkinson); **KEITH LUNSFORD** (cousin of Pastor Mike); Catherine McKinney; Ruth McNabb (mother of Tammy Eblen); **PETER MCNAMARA** (friend of Hannah Haddox); Dewaine Moncier, Jr. (cousin of Dianne Fielder); Alice Montgomery; Georgia Moore (sister of Jewell Kerr); Amy Beth Davidson Morgan; Cliff Parrott; Sara Paul (friend of Rose Wilkinson); **persecuted Christians around the world**; Jan Pipkin (sister-in-law of Dianne Pipkin); Anna Faye Presley (niece of Catherine McKinney); David and Rebecca Rech (parents of Justin Rech); **HALEIGH** and **MARK RIEHL** (friends of Lindsay Rake); Rick Rufo (nephew of Alice Montgomery); John Snoderly (brother of Betty Hammill); John Snoderly, Jr. (nephew of Betty Hammill); Sydney Snoderly (great-niece of Betty Hammill); Charlie Spaulding (homeschool student); Jean Stapleton (mother of Elaine Stapleton); Shane Thompson (cousin of Hannah Haddox and Amanda Roberts); Angel Tindell (granddaughter of Catherine McKinney); Carl Ware (father of Sam Ware); Codee Weaver (son of Elaine Stapleton); Lee Wells (mother of a coworker of Susan Edwards); Devan Wilhite (friend of Greg Beeler); Rose Wilkinson (mother of Pastor Mike and Susan Edwards)

Please keep the Church Office informed of any needed changes to our Prayer Concerns list.

Christian Sympathy

Our sincere Christian sympathy is extended to the **Family of Dean Cox**, brother of Allen Cox, who passed away Sunday, April 23rd. Please remember this family in your prayers.

Church's Website

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

