

The Cumberland

Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

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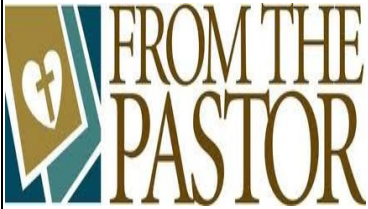
Rev. Mike Wilkinson ~ Pastor

Website: www.first-cumberland.org

Our Weekly Newsletter

"Loving God, Loving People"

October 22, 2014



A few weeks ago, as I entered the second year of my pastorate here at First Cumberland, I challenged you invite people to church with you and to increase our attendance in both Sunday School and the Worship Service. Frankly, that has not been the case; in fact, our attendance has dropped a little. Supposedly, Christopher Columbus said: "You can never cross the ocean unless you have the courage to lose sight of the shore." I do not know if Columbus actually said this or not; nonetheless, the point is still valid: We will never accomplish anything of significance unless we are willing to take substantial risks. So let me ask, what are you willing to risk to see First Cumberland become the church God desires us to be. Are you willing to risk the pain of rejection by asking someone to come to church with you? Are you willing to risk being vulnerable in order to allow the Holy Spirit to work through you? Are you willing to risk your guilt and grudges by trusting in God's forgiveness? Are you willing to risk your preferences by surrendering completely to the lordship of Christ? Again, what are you willing to risk to see First Cumberland become the church God desires us to be? In the words of John Ortburg, "If you want to walk on water, you've got to get out of the boat."

Learning the unforced rhythms of grace,

Pastor Mike

The Grace of Sharing

To continue last week's theme, a second way that God has blessed our church is to send us benefactors. We have people who support our church through large periodic donations. We also receive donations for specific needs (i.e., the HVAC project, AED, etc.). Some of the benefactors are our neighbors; some have attended our church in the past; some are people associated with the groups that use our building. They express their love and appreciation to our church through their generous gifts.

Another example of the generosity of our friends is the loan that was provided us at a reduced rate for the refinancing of the repair of the roof, which will save us thousands of dollars of interest over the term of the loan. Then there is all the yard work and special projects done by the scouts and the groups that use our building. Some examples of these projects are: picnic area, playground, flowerbeds, the circle in the back parking lot, and other building repairs and upgrades.

"Now this I say, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. . . ." [2 Corinthians 9:6]

I believe that because we, as a congregation, trust God and generously give back to Him a part of what He has bestowed on us God will meet all of our needs. God has blessed us and has always provided for our needs even when things looked dim. He has done so in many, many ways.

I ask you to search your heart and to consider joining me in the *grace of sharing*.

—Maxine Curtis

All Worship Service

This coming Sunday morning, October 26th, we have an **All Music Worship Service** here at First Cumberland. Our **Choir** will sing a few anthems and several of our musically gifted members will be singing as well. Who knows, there could be solos, duets, maybe a quartet or an ensemble—possibly even a liturgical dance. Make you plans now to attend, and invite someone who does not currently attend First Cumberland to join you. Asking someone to join us is not as difficult as we sometimes make it out to be; just say, "Would you like to hear some great music? If so, come with me to First Cumberland."

Bethel University's Renaissance Choir

Saturday evening, November 1st, at 7:00 p.m., Bethel University's **Renaissance Choir** (125 members) will be in concert at the Union Cumberland Presbyterian Church, in Farragut.

*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

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 90
Knoxville,
Tennessee

First Cumberland,
where you belong!

Happy Birthday

October

26-Stephanie Bridges
27-Peggy O’Neal
28-MaryAnn Haney
30-Dawn Curtis

Activities for October 26–November 1, 2014

Sun., 9:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:45 a.m. Worship Service

3:30 p.m. Fall Festival

Dusk Trunk-or-Treat

Wed., 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice

(See web site for complete calendar listings)

Stewardship Report October 19, 2014

Sunday School.....40

Worship.....74

Offering\$5198.00

Among Our People

Lindsay Bridges vacationed in Phoenix, Arizona, last week during fall break and enjoyed her first sky-diving experience . . . It was good to have Bill and Steven Ritchey (Marlene’s son and grandson from Arizona), and former member, Margie Cobb Beasley (from Clarksville, TN), and Rev. Carlton Harper and his wife, Mary, all worshipping with us last Sunday . . . Becky Rader has been moved to NHC Fort Sanders for additional therapy; she walked, with assistance, last week for the first time since her strokes (PTL) . . . B. F. Daniel continues to receive outpatient therapy . . . Donna Wingard (Mildred Acuff’s daughter) remains under hospice care; Mildred remains in the Atlanta-area with her and her family . . . Dick Booher will have knee replacement surgery on November 5th . . .

First Cumberland Presbyterian Youth Fellowship
Fall Festival

Our Youth are sponsoring a **Fall Festival** (for all ages) this coming Sunday, October 26th, from 3:30 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. The **Festival** will include BBQ chicken dinner plates (\$6.00 each), games, live music, hayrides, face painting, an inflatable slide and bouncy house, cake walks (\$2.00 per walk), a silent auction, and Trunk or Treat at dusk. This event is a fundraiser to help our Youth attend Winter Convocation in Gatlinburg this coming January.

How to Contact Mildred Acuff

You can write Mildred Acuff by sending the letter C/O Joe Wingards; 6153 Graceland Circle; Morrow, GA 30260, or you can call her in the evenings at 865-805-8297.

In worship, God imparts himself to us.” —C. S. Lewis

Prayer Concerns

In the Hospital

Becky Rader - NHC Fort Sanders

Health and Prayer Concerns

the persecuted Christians around the world; Cumberland Presbyterian missionaries; Gordon Blaylock; Ada Ladd; Edna Fleenor; Mary Cregger; Gladys Stone; Maxine McGuire; Charlotte Bird; Carol Seeman; Jack Walker; Mildred Acuff; Bud and Betty Hickman (friends of Mary Ann Haney); 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); Carl Ware (Sam’s father); Allison, Hailey, Connor and Hannah Davis; Janie Beeler (Greg’s wife); Ruth McNabb (Tammy Eblen’s mother); Debbie Holloway; Kim Jones (friend of Amanda and Scott Roberts); Rebecca Rech (Justin’s mother); Jack and Jin Gaston; Cliff Parrott; Tom Williams (friend of Cliff Parrott); Dick Booher; Tom Parrott (Cliff’s son); Richard Hines (Jin Gaston’s brother-in-law); the Whaley family (friends of Kathy Byers); Christina and Baby Hinkle (Pastor Mike and Joanna’s daughter is expecting a baby boy on January 18, 2015); Bob Metts; Joni Warner (friend of Jewell Kerr’s sons); B.F. and Mary Helen Daniel; Alice Montgomery; Sherri Kramer (friend of Joy Taylor); Kim Boyatt (friend of Susan Edwards); Donna Wingard (Mildred Acuff’s daughter); Becky Ingle (coworker of Amanda Roberts); Jim and Cookie Dyer; Lois Witmer; Rose Wilkinson (Pastor Mike’s mother); Ruth West (Greg Beeler’s aunt); Becky Rader; Bob Lawson (friend of Pastor Mike); Family of Lisa Seiv (daughter of a friend of Pastor Mike); Bryan Rogers (Bonnie Bridges’ son); Jack and Roy Acuff (brothers of a friend of Pastor Mike); Ruth Heifner (friend of Pastor Mike)

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

First Cumberland Presbyterian Youth Fellowship

Sunday, October 26th, 2:00 p.m. — our Youth arrive to help set up for the Fall Festival. — Bring a friend!

disABILITY Resource Center

The **disABILITY Resource Center** is a long-standing program in Knoxville, dedicated to helping folks with disabilities lead independent lives. Core services include information and referral, independent living skill training, advocacy services, peer support activities and employment placement. Services are available to all age groups, children through seniors. If you or someone you know might benefit from a referral to the **disABILITY Resource Center**, please call **Susan Watson**, dRC Community Coordinator, a member of First Cumberland, at 865-637-3666.

Lay Ministry Corner

Our imperfections are important! It is in our known imperfections that we find out need and appreciation for the love and grace of God. —Donna Walker