

The Cumberland

Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

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A Weekly Newsletter

"Loving God, Loving People"

September 20, 2006

WOW! WHAT A SUNDAY!

Thank God for such a wonderful day of praise and fellowship last Sunday during "Homecoming/Friend Day" at First Church! LaSaundra Brown's message left no doubt Christ has given us an open door to reach our community if we abide in His love and freely share His friendship with everyone around us!

The music by the choir, Brent Witmer, and special guest Chris Hurley was outstanding! The potluck luncheon overflowed with hospitality and some of the best home-cooked food anywhere. We took time to honor our great friend and secretary Sandra Johnson.

We doubled our usual attendance (136) and many visitors were present. The Outreach Committee is hard at work this week contacting those who came.

How can we keep the momentum going? By continuing to trust God and invite friends to church. Not all of the people you and I invited were able to come last Sunday so let's just keep on inviting them to join us!

I am going to make you a promise. From now on, we are going to have at least one extra-special "outreach event" each month. The next one will be Sunday, October 22. On that day we will have special guests for worship and a potluck luncheon in the gym following. More details to come!

Let me express appreciation for those who worked so hard to prepare for "Homecoming/Friend Day." That includes just about every active member and regular attender. As far as I can tell God answered our prayers and honored our efforts to glorify Him! It was a memorable day at First Church.

Do you think we can take what happened and make it the catalyst for a new beginning? Will you join me in making First Church the friendliest, most welcoming church in Knoxville? It may mean we have to open up, change some of our old, comfortable ways, give up our favorite places to sit, loosen the tight reins of possessiveness, and spend some of God's money, but wouldn't it be worth it to see the church grow again?

WHO WILL HOST OUR NEXT PRAYER MEETING?

God answered many of our prayer requests last Sunday and we want to keep on trusting and following His leading. We need a home for the next church-wide prayer meeting sometime in early October. You can pick the date and time to suit your calendar. Please let me know as soon as you feel God calling you to make your home available. When God's people pray, great things always happen!

ELDERS IN CHARGE OF WORSHIP OCTOBER 1

The elders on Session will be leading worship Sunday, October 1, 10:45 a.m. Steve Summers will be the speaker and everyone will have a part in the service. Worldwide Communion Sunday will be observed with believers around the globe. Please pray for the elders as they prepare to lead us!

NEW FOR YOUNG ADULTS

Calling all young adults who love the Lord and want to make your commitment to worship and service at First Church. The following new ministries have been planned especially with you in mind:

Sunday, October 1:

9:30 a.m. New Young Adult Sunday School class led by
Nancy Wood.

10:45 a.m. Beginning of Children's Church for toddlers through
Grade five led in October by Eric and Katie Gruen.

Thursday, October 5:

7:00 p.m. Small group Bible study and fellowship at the church
with Eric Gruen (nursery open).

Infant nurseries will now be available for both Sunday School and Worship every Sunday morning. Thanks to all of you who have signed up to work in these ministries.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB MEETING AT BRAVOS

Tuesday, September 26, 11:00 a.m. the Friendship Club cordially invites all 55's and up to join us for an Italian lunch at Bravos, 106 Major Reynolds Place (Bearden Hill). You may sign up outside the church office this Sunday or just show up. Bring friends! Otherwise, we will have to change our name!

FOUR SECRETS TO ANSWERED PRAYER

The pastor's message this Sunday, September 24, 10:45 a.m. will be "Four Secrets to Answered Prayer" from Nehemiah 1. Come prepared to share concerns and requests and expect God to answer!

~ ~ Pastor Kevin

Volunteer Ministry Center

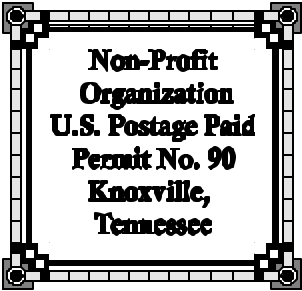
The volunteer Ministry Center, providing services to the homeless and others in crisis, has the following needs:

A group to provide and serve a monthly evening meal, 5 P.M. on the 3rd or 4th Tuesday. If you would like to help, please see Steve Summers, 922-3999.

Interviewers to talk with persons who come to The Refuge seeking help. You would serve one day each week 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. or for a half day, 9:30 to 12:00 or 12:00 to 2:30. Training is provided. Call Alyssa at The Refuge, 524-3926.

A doctor or nurse practitioner to serve Tuesday afternoons, 1:00 to 4:00 in the medical clinic. Even one Tuesday a month would be very helpful. Call Nancy at the clinic, 546-5579, on Tuesday or Thursday.

For further information see Bill Ivey, 966-5946.



Happy Birthday

September

- 18 Leah Witmer
- 24 Lea Acuff
- 24 Bryan Rogers
- 24 Sheila Boggs
- 25 Jon Travis
- 25 Hazel Johnson
- 29 Brian Walls
- 30 Iliana Grace Hayes

NOTE: If you want your birthday acknowledged, please contact the office. Our records are not complete.

Activities for Sept. 24-30

Sun.,	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:45 a.m.	Morning Worship Service
	4:00 p.m.	Handbell Rehearsal
Wed.,	6:30 p.m.	Choir

Stewardship Report for September 17

Sunday School.....	37
Worship.....	136
Offering.....	\$3,051.51

Year-to-Date (as of September 17)

Offerings received to date: \$93,882.31
Expenses paid to date: \$164,331.55

Upcoming CPWM Events

- Oct. 14-CPWM Presbytery at Oak Ridge CPC
- Oct. 22—Baby shower for Katie & Eric Gruen. Preferred gifts: money or gift certificates.
- Nov. 19 & 26-Bake/Pecan/Craft Sale

INVITATIONS FROM OUR SISTER CHURCHES

Union CP Church, 400 Everett Road in Farragut, invites you to join them for a presentation on “The Young Earth” this Sunday, September 24, 6:00 p.m. Frank Galbraith and Fred Mynatt, two local experts, will show the truth about a 6,000 year-old earth. Do you have questions about dinosaurs, millions of years, The Flood, Noah’s Ark? Come hear and see these subjects addressed. Bring the youth too and those exposed to the evolution theory to hear this factual seminar.

Do You Have

Do you have or know of anyone who has a stove or a refrigerator that is in working condition, but is not needed? Well if you do please call the Church office or Betty Hammill. We know where they can go and have a home and be needed. Thanks.

Prayer Concerns
In the Military

Shane McGhee in Iraq, wife Tamara in California
Ronnie Gann (Peggy O’Neal’s brother) in Iraq

On-going Health Concerns

Ileana Grace Hayes, Bill Hammill, Reba Smith, Bill & Flora Mae Keene, Marlene Ritchey, Mildred Stone, Tom Raines, Edna Fleenor, Pollye Pharaoh, Maxine McGuire, Vera Stewart, Mrs. Don Franks, Priscilla McCoy (Kim Halbert’s mother), Margaret Lindsay, Ewell J. Reagin, Mary Cregger, Jennie Lee Middlemas, Mary Jane Blaylock, Katherine & Lucy Tipton (Dorothy Porter’s friend), Irene Brooks (Nancy Wood’s mother), JoAnn Ford, Alice Montgomery, Howard Eblen, Don Franks, Lisa Deal, Y. J. Allan, Pat Booher, Alberta Rose (Mildred Acuff’s cousin)

Please keep the Church office informed of any needed changes, additions or deletions to our Prayer Concerns list.

Call for Office Volunteers!

We are in need of persons to help in the Church office. If you can help please call Tom Witmer 690-6916 (home) or 742-9377 (cell).

We will have a set schedule each week. If you can work a half day, several half days or whole days, call Tom and reserve a time.

Helpers will answer phones, help process *The Cumberlander*, handle party-line calls, order flowers, prepare Session and Committee packets and other miscellaneous office duties.

Come join the Chancel Choir
& the Handbell Choir!!!

The Chancel Choir is seeking additional members. No auditions required. If you love to sing and want to praise God through music and song, come join the choir. Practice is each Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. See Sam or Karen with any questions.

The Handbell Choir will begin practice this Sunday at 4:00 p.m. Interested? No experience needed. Come and be a ‘Ding-a-Ling! See Sam or Karen.

Newsletter Articles

All Newsletter articles, events, or announcements should be sent by 2:00 p.m. on Mondays to ThomasWitmer@comcast.net or call the church office 588-8581