

# The Cumberland

## Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

6900 Nubbin Ridge, Knoxville, TN 37919

~ E-mail: [firstcpc@earthlink.net](mailto:firstcpc@earthlink.net) ~

(865) 588-8581

Kevin Wood ~ Pastor

Website: [www.first-cumberland.org](http://www.first-cumberland.org)

Our Weekly Newsletter

*"Loving God, Loving People"*

November 26, 2008

### THANKSGIVINGS!...

#### ...from the Bible

...*"And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him."*

(Colossians 3:17)

...*"That my heart may sing to You and not be silent, O Lord my God, I will give You thanks forever!"*

(Psalm 30:12)

...*"Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!"*

(2 Corinthians 9:15)

...*"Rooted and built up in Christ, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness."*

(Colossians 2:7)

#### ...from the pen of great writers

...*"O Lord that lends me life, lend me a heart replete with thankfulness."*

William Shakespeare

...*"We can only be said to be alive in those moments when our hearts are conscious of our treasures."*

Thorton Wilder

...*"If you are really thankful, what do you do? You share!"*

W. Clement Stone

### WHAT A GREAT THANKSGIVING SUNDAY SERVICE!!!

It was such a joy to be with you last Sunday during worship! The gym proved to be a wonderful setting for singing and praising and giving thanks. We were blessed by the talents of the handbell choir and the enthusiasm of the Pioneer Club kids. The thanksgiving potluck meal was fabulous!

We were honored to welcome Ray Anthony as the newest member of First Church.

He came at the close of the service to reaffirm his faith in Jesus Christ and transfer his membership from the Cumberland Presbyterian Church of Belvidere, Tennessee.

### LOAVES AND FISHES

This Sunday, November 30 we will dedicate our "Loaves and Fishes" offering. Please bring your box filled with loose change and bills because it will mean more than you can imagine to those devastated by the cyclone that hit Myanmar less than a year ago. 50% will go to help thousands rebuild their lives and their homes. 25% will go to the Cumberland Presbyterian World Hunger Fund and 25% will help us minister to needy people in Knoxville.

Don't forget to bring your "Loaves and Fishes" and watch how God can use our small gifts to do great things!

### UPWARD BASKETBALL SEASON

Your prayers and participation are needed to make our second Upward Basketball season a resounding success! If you know of any child who wants to be part of Upward Basketball or you want to volunteer to help, please call Steve Summers (548-9698) or Kevin Wood (228-0710).

### NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS DECEMBER 7!

If you aren't part of a Sunday School class come check out a brand new Bible study in the Chapel beginning Sunday, December 7, 9:30 a.m. If you want to grow, show!!!

### ADVENT BEGINS THIS SUNDAY!

We will return to our newly carpeted and cleaned sanctuary this Sunday, November 30 to mark the beginning of Advent.

During the next four Sundays we will once again prepare for the birth of our Savior and journey together toward Bethlehem. All of the symbols of Advent will mark the way: the Advent wreath, the Chrismon trees, the poinsettias, the lights and garlands, and the carols.

Advent means "coming!" Why not take this opportunity to invite unchurched friends and family to experience the hope and joy of the Savior's birth. The culture around us may be confused but we know the real reason for the season!

### CPWM SALE STILL GOING IN!

The Cumberland Presbyterian Women's Ministry of First Church still has crafts, baked goods, and pecans for sale this Sunday, November 30 in the library. All proceeds go to mission projects at home and around the world. Check it out!

### THANK YOU!...

...to all the Pioneer Club kids, parents, leaders, and meal preparers for a terrific first session of Pioneer Clubs. You're the best!!! Our next ten week session begins Sunday, January 18, 2009! Bring new friends with you!!!

...to all the dedicated volunteers who cleaned the sanctuary this week before the Thanksgiving holiday. You made the Lord's house beautiful by your hard work! Thank God for every one of you!!!

Pastor Kevin

Knoxville First Cumberland  
Presbyterian Church, Inc.  
6900 Nubbin Ridge Drive  
Knoxville, TN 37919  
Return Service Requested

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



# Happy Birthday



December

3-Chris Goodrich  
4-JoAnn Ford  
4-Andrea Golliher



## Activities for November 30–December 6, 2008

Sun.,	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:45 a.m.	Worship Service
	4:00 p.m.	Handbell Practice
Tues.,	10:30 a.m.	West Circle
Wed.,	7:00 p.m.	Building & Grounds Committee
	6:30 p.m.	Choir

(See web site for complete calendar listings)

### Stewardship Report for November 23, 2008

Sunday School.....	41
Worship.....	98
Offering.....	\$2,242.25
Capital Improvements Fund .....	\$185.00
Memorial/Building Fund.....	\$1,000.00
Expenses paid last week .....	\$13,322.33

### Year-to-Date (as of November 23, 2008)

Offerings received to date:.....	\$135,635.55
Facility usage fees received to date.....	\$21,837.00
Expenses paid to date:.....	\$226,968.68
Building / Cap. Improve. Fund.....	\$99,610.55

### Mitten Tree

Well with the temperatures dipping into the twenties it is time to start our yearly collection of mittens, gloves, scarves, etc. for CAM. All items collected will be delivered to CAM after Christmas. Thanks for your continued support for this worthy cause.



### WEST CIRCLE

will meet at 1030 a.m. on Tuesday December 2 in the Keene Room. We will have a pot luck lunch after our business meeting. We hope all can come. Merry Christmas!

The Bereans Sunday School class is sponsoring the Water Angels Ministry regarding gathering toiletries for the homeless. We'd like to fill 75-100 bags. You can bring shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, razors, shaving cream, deodorant, washcloths to the church office over the next two weeks. We will be filling 1 gallon ziploc bags to be dropped off before the December 14th Christmas service.

CPWM is once again collecting items for Lakeshore Mental Health Institute. Most folks don't realize they still have patients onsite (170 last month). Suggested items are: toiletries, small games, some clothing items (no glass or colognes with an alcohol base). Items must be delivered December 12, so please put the items in the box in the library during the next two weeks.

## Prayer Concerns

### In the Hospital

Taylor Adkins (friend of MariKate Walker), St. Jude's Children's Hospital

### On-going Health and Prayer Concerns

Taylor Ford; CP Missionaries; Brack Emory; Mary Jane Blaylock; Ileana Grace Hayes; Bill Hammill; Reba Smith; Bill & Flora Mae Keene; Mildred Stone; Edna Fleenor; Priscilla McCoy; Margaret Lindsay; Mary Cregger; William Barron; Joyce Creasman; Jonathan Migas; Bonnie Holbert; Otis Clinton Shelby; Lois Witmer; Elena Zimmerman; Gladys Stone; Lea Acuff; Mildred Acuff; A. R. Wood (Kevin Wood's brother); Lisa Deal; JoAnn Ford; Maxine McGuire; Pat Booher; Fred Johnson; Millie Jones (the Acuff's great-granddaughter); Steve Goodrich; Marlene Ritchey; Irene Brooks (Nancy Wood's mother); Doug Bailey (friend of the Witmer's); Marjorie Thompson (Shelia Emory's sister-in-law); Ada Ladd; Nancy Anthony; Gordon Blaylock; Bridget, daughter of John Lindley (friend of the Bachman's); Rex Holt (Beaver Creek CP church, friend of Kevin); Lisa Teknus (Pioneer Club's Mom); The Cooper Children (Justin, Jeremy, Kasey and Jeffery); the family of Steve Serbin; Jean Starnes (Mary Ann Haney's cousin).

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

### Needed & Give Away Items

**Needed Items:** a good battery operated baby swing, a highchair and a clothes washing machine.

**Give Away Items:** a gas dryer in good working condition, and a pair of lamps..

Please call the office for information on the above items.

The socially prescribed affluent, middle-class lifestyle has become so normative in our churches that we discern little conflict between it and the Christian lifestyle prescribed in the New Testament.

In our modern society, we need money to live. But as Christians, we must never make the acquisition of money the central focus of our lives. Money is a tool, but it should never overwhelm our sensibilities. The focus of life must be squarely on things spiritual, not things material. Whenever we place our love for material possessions above our love for God---or when we yield to the countless other temptations of everyday living---we find ourselves engaged in a struggle between good & evil. Let us respond to this struggle by freeing ourselves from that subtle yet powerful temptation: the temptation to love the world more than we love God.

To be a pessimistic Christian is a contradiction in terms, yet sometimes even the most devout Christians fall prey to fear, doubt, and discouragement. But, God has a different plan for our lives. The comforting works of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm remind us of God's Blessings. In response to his grace, we should strive to focus our thoughts on things that are pleasing to Him, not upon things that are evil, discouraging, or frustrating. So, the next time you find yourself mired in the pit of pessimism, remember God's Word and redirect your thoughts. This world is God's creation; look for the best in it, and trust Him to take care of the rest.

Mark 8:36-37