

The Cumberland

Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

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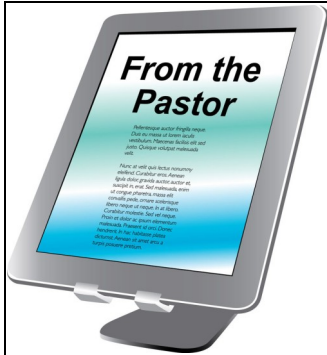
Rev. Mike Wilkinson ~ Pastor

Website: www.first-cumberland.org

Our Weekly Newsletter

"Loving God, Loving People"

September 25, 2013



My first week as the pastor of First Church was a busy but wonderful one! I want to thank you for your warm reception. I am still struggling to put faces and names together, but that will come in time; until then, I greatly appreciate your patience. Though as I write this article, it has only been nine days since we began this journey together, I already feel that I am at home. With the help of Dr. Hester, I was able to visit about half of our shut-ins last week; our plan is to visit the rest of them this week.

At our Session meeting Sunday night, Dr. Hester's role as Minister of Visitation was reaffirmed. This means that he will continue to make visits on behalf of the church. I will also be visiting our shut-ins on a regular basis, and I would encourage all of us to visit these folks from time to time. It not only brings joy to their lives; it will bring joy to your life as well.

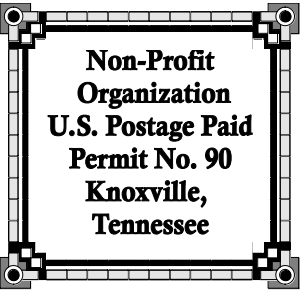
Have you memorized our statement of purpose yet? If not, here it is again: "For the glory of God, Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church exists to **worship** Christ, **evangelize** the lost, **love** one another and our neighbor, and **learn** more about our God." As I said in last week's *Cumberlander*, the first letters of the action verbs in this statement of purpose form the acronym WELL. In last Sunday's sermon entitled, "Are We Healthy?", I noted that if we are not WELL we are SICK: self-serving instead of worshipful; ingrown instead of evangelistic; critical instead of loving; and has a know-it-all attitude instead of an eagerness to learn. I want to encourage you to take some time this week and get alone with God, the Great Physician, and have a spiritual examination to determine if you are WELL or SICK. If you determine that you are less than 100% spiritually healthy, the prescription God prescribes for this ailment is active participation in worship, evangelism, loving (service and fellowship), and learning (discipleship).

This coming Sunday, I will be preaching about uniting around our purpose. Jesus founded the Church; Jesus died for the Church; Jesus sent His Spirit to the Church; and Jesus will someday return for His Church. As the Owner of the Church, Christ has already established its purpose and it is not negotiable. Our task, both as followers of Jesus Christ and as members of this congregation, is to understand and then live out our God-given purpose as it is revealed in Scripture. Once we understand that our God-given purpose is to give Him glory, our task then becomes uniting around our purpose and putting it into action.

In last week's article I gave you my cell phone number (205) 533-2001, and I said feel free to contact me; what I neglected to say was if you need me anytime day or night, do not hesitate to call me; I am here to serve you. Again at the risk of being redundant, please keep my family in your prayers, praying specifically that Joanna will soon secure a job in Knoxville so she can join me at First Church every Sunday.

I want to close on a very positive note by quoting from a post in the church's Facebook page. The post is from a lady who has visited First Church the last two Sundays. *"... the people of the church reached out and welcomed my [youngest] son ... and I with open arms! I am working on getting my other two sons to come with me and also getting my husband to attend whenever he can!! God bless this church ... See you all in the morning for worship!"* This was posted last Saturday night and she and all three of her sons were present last Sunday. God is good!

God's Grace,
Pastor Mike



Happy Birthday



September
30-Gracie Hayes
October
1-Corey Booker
2-Hailey Davis



Activities for September 29- October 5, 2013

Sun., 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:45 a.m. Worship Service
Wed., 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice
(See web site for complete calendar listings)

Stewardship Report September 22, 2013

Sunday School.....	43
Worship.....	80
Offering	\$4,176.65
Building Fund.....	\$55.00

HELP IS NEEDED-LAST SUNDAY


The insert in Sunday’s bulletin told you about the emergency help needed by the Coalition of Appalachian Ministry (CAM) for children in the Del Rio School. They are in great need for – shampoo, soap, hair brushes, laundry supplies, towels, wash cloths, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, socks, shoes, underwear, pants and shirts. Bring your gifts this Sunday and we will deliver them to the CAM headquarters for their distribution. Boxes will be in the halls to receive these gifts. Thank you for your assistance.

HANDBELL CHOIR!




Karen Ware announces Fall rehearsals for the Adult Handbell choir will begin this Sunday, Sept. 29,. 4:00 p.m. Anyone interested in participating (or just checking it out) is invited to be present this Sunday.

Maxine McGuire in hospital recovering from pneumonia ... Bill & Kim Halbert spent last week in Florida; took his mother with them (She lives in Franklin) ... Steve Summers family made the trip to Florida for UT/FLA football game last Saturday ... Marlene Ritchey is improving at Morning View Transitional Care in Blount County ... Good to have Cliff Parrott & John Fitzgerald (grandson) back with us Sunday after Cliff's prolonged illness ...



Prayer Concerns
In the Hospital
On-going Health and Prayer Concerns



Maxine McGuire, Ft. Sanders Hospital
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; Taylor Ford; Mary McJunkins, (Mary Wegman’s mother); Eric Nelson, (friend of the Witmer clan); Donna Wingard, (Mildred Acuff’s daughter); Ann Fleming, (Beth Rader Fleming’s mother-in-law); Pat Shetterly, (Sherry’s mother); Debbie & David Triese, (Margaret Migas’s sister and husband); Steve Goodrich; Saxon Cochran (Bridges’ neighbor with cancer); Carl Ware; Allison, Hailey, Connor and Hannah Davis; Janie Beeler, (Greg Beeler’s wife); Judy Gammon; Ruth McNabb (mother of Tammy Eblen); Suzan Smith, (Jewell Kerr’s daughter); 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).
Please keep the Church office informed of any needed changes to our Prayer Concerns list. Call 588-8581 or email firstcpc@earthlink.net

WEST CIRCLE

Will meet on Tuesday, October 1 at 11am in the Keene Room. Please bring a sandwich, drinks and dessert will be provided. We invite all the ladies of the church to join us for Bible Study and fellowship.

The Youth Group Is Coming Back!!

We would like to invite all the youth (grades 6th-12th) and their parents to a youth meeting on October 6, 2013 immediately after service. Lunch will be provided and we will be discussing all the new plans of the upcoming youth group. We hope everyone will make plans to attend. There will be a sign up sheet next Sunday outside the church office. If you have any questions please feel free to see Stephanie Sauls or Amanda Roberts.

