

The Cumberland

Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

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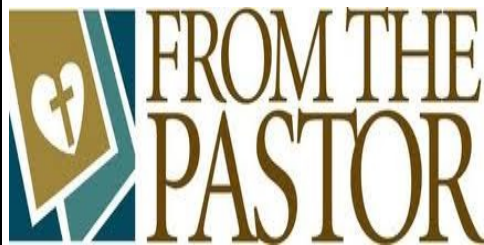
Rev. Mike Wilkinson ~ Pastor

Website: www.first-cumberland.org

Our Weekly Newsletter

"Loving God, Loving People"

November 27, 2013



God Is Faithful!

In the *Amplified Bible*, **First Corinthians 1:9** reads: “*God is faithful (reliable, trustworthy, and therefore ever true to His promise, and He can be depended on); by Him we are called into companionship and participation with His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.*” Another way to say that is how Steve Summers put it one recent Sunday morning: “Stewardship is about God’s faithfulness.” If we constantly keep that in mind as we seek to live out God’s purpose for us (worshiping Christ, evangelizing the lost, loving one another and our neighbor, and learning about our God), we will have no financial concerns. That is not just preacher-speak, that is God’s promise.

I want to thank everyone who turned in an *Estimated Giving Card for 2014* last Sunday. 26 cards were turned in totaling \$131,480. While this is not enough to fully fund our budget for next year, it is a good start. The Session has not yet set the 2014 budget, but it will most likely exceed \$250,000. If you have not yet turned in your *Estimated Giving Card* you may do so anytime between now and Sunday, December 15th. My prayer and plan is that within the next three years, every member and regular attendee of this church will turn in an *Estimated Giving Card* and that we will be able to fully fund the ministry of this congregation based on the total money estimated to be given. This can happen if we believe, I mean really believe, that **God is faithful!**

Are you ready for some great news? We have exceeded our goal \$25,728 needed to pay down our debt (building note for major repairs taken out in 2008). I knew we could do it! As of last Sunday, \$26,443 has been given. Thank you so much for your generosity! Now that this goal has been met, we will refinance our remaining debt in December and significantly lower the interest rate and length of the loan.

My wife, Joanna, made it to Knoxville (actually Alcoa) last Sunday night, and began her new job in Oak Ridge last Monday morning. Thank you so much for your prayers in this matter. Please continue to pray that our house in Millbrook, Alabama, sells quickly and for a fair price.

In closing, I want to wish each of you a happy *Thanksgiving!* My family will actually be eating here at the church in the gym at 1:00 p.m. this Thursday. If you would like to join us, just let me know as soon as possible so we can prepare enough food.

God’s Grace,

Pastor Mike

Christian Sympathy

We lost one of our faithful members last week. **Richard Paul Zimmerman**’s funeral was held at the church last Tuesday evening. Richard is survived by his brother, Karl and sister-in-law, Janice, as well as his nephew, Stephen.

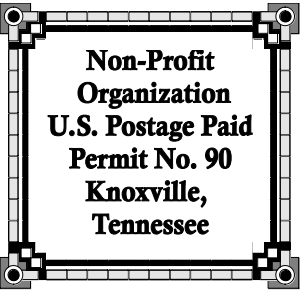
Children’s Message

Our *Worship Committee* would like to extend a special thank you to everyone who has volunteered to help with the *Children’s Message* on Sunday mornings. If you would still like to volunteer, it is not too late; simply let a *Worship Committee* member (Sam Ware, Karen Ware, Julie Rech, Shelia Emory, Lois Witmer, Dianne Pipkin, Tammy Eblen, or Brent Witmer) know of your interest.


Congregational Meeting

On Sunday, December 8th, at the close of our morning worship service, we will hold a **Congregational Meeting** to elect the *Elder Class of 2016*. At that time, our Session will nominate Jim Curtis, James O’Neal, and Amanda Roberts for the three open positions (Ann Bachman, Sam Ware, and Tom Witmer will be rotating off the *Session*). Additional nominations can be made from the floor providing the person nominated both meets our constitutional requirements and has agreed to be nominated and serve if elected.

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.



Thanksgiving




Happy Birthday

December

3-Carol Seeman

4-Andrea Golliher



Activities for December 1-6, 2013		
Sun.,	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:45 a.m.	Worship Service
	4:00 p.m.	Handbell Practice
Wed.,	6:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
(See web site for complete calendar listings)		

Stewardship Report November 24, 2013	
Sunday School.....	43
Worship.....	76
Offering	\$6,447.17
Payment on Church Note.....	\$6,615.00
Building Fund.....	\$35.00
Building Usage.....	\$100.00

UPCOMING CHRISTMAS EVENTS

Here are two events which will give us opportunities to help the less fortunate in our area.

1 – CAM MITTEN TREE. We will collecting gloves, mittens, scarves, hats and socks for children and adults in the Appalachian Mountains. We will have two Christmas trees in the Narthex to put these items on. The trees will be up by Dec.1. We have been assisting these people in this very worthwhile project for many years.

2 – SERENE MANOR NURSING HOME. We will be buying Christmas presents for 5 residents living there who have no family. We will have a Christmas Angel tree in the Library for this project. The tree will be up by Dec 1, and we hope to have the requests on the tree by then also. This is our first year for this project.


Thank you in advance for helping in this way.

WELCOMING TEA FOR JOANNA WILKINSON

Will be held on Sunday, December 15, 2013 in the Keene Room from 2 to 4 pm. We invite all the ladies of the church and community to come and meet our new pastor’s wife.

AMONG OUR PEOPLE


Good to see **Betty Hammill** in church Sunday following her fall (out walking) last week; this left her with a broken wrist – which she has in a cast ... **Pastor Mike** was in Birmingham on Tuesday to conduct a funeral for a minister friend ... **John Smith** is home with care-givers ... Congratulations to **Rev. Ronald Longmire**, pastor of the Maryville CP Church, as he celebrated his 30th year as their pastor on Sunday ... **Bill & Kim Halbert** are vacationing this week on Pawley’s Island ... **Mildred Acuff** spent week-end in Atlanta at daughter **Donna’s** ... Good to see **Marlene Ritchey** in church Sunday following many weeks of recovery ... **Tom Chesney** has moved to Condo on 5709 Lyons View Pike ... **Hailey Davis** traveled to Nashville to compete in her first gymnastic meet of the season...This Sunday – December 1 – we will celebrate the first Sunday of **Advent** ...



Prayer Concerns

In the Hospital

On-going Health and Prayer Concerns



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; Mary McJunkins, (Mary Wegman’s mother); Eric Nelson, (friend of the Witmer clan); Donna Wingard, (Mildred Acuff’s daughter); Debbie & David Triese, (Margaret Migas’s sister and husband); Carl Ware; Allison, Hailey, Connor and Hannah Davis; Janie Beeler, (Greg Beeler’s wife); Judy Gammon; Ruth McNabb (mother of Tammy Eblen); 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); Curt Hammill (Betty’s son); Suzan Smith, (Jewell Kerr’s daughter); Jewell Kerr and family; Cliff Parrott; Janet Simcox (lung cancer); Scott Robert’s Uncle; the Whaley family, (friends of Kathy Hammill’s); Pattie Derreberry, (Maxine Curtis’ sister); the family of Richard Zimmerman; Tom Williams, (friend of Cliff Parrott).

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

LOAVES AND FISHES

We received and dedicated our **Loaves and Fishes** boxes on Sunday. If you forgot your box, bring it with you this Sunday.

BAKE AND CRAFT SALE

A big thank you to all who contributed to the Bake and Craft Sale, either baking, crafting, or buying. Dianne Fielder reported a profit of \$418.71, more than we have made in the past few years. We plan to contribute this money to our building note. God bless all of you.

FISH HOSPITALITY GIFT CARDS

Will be available this next Sunday. Are you looking for a Christmas gift for a loved one – that would help to feed the hungry in our community? \$5 will feed a family of 4 for 3 days through the Fish Hospitality Pantry Gift Cards, information available in the Narthex and bulletin. For more information, see Betty Hammill.

Dear Lois and all of the Ladies who gave us Christmas ornaments, Christmas is such a special time and we all have precious Christmas memories. Bill, Robyn and I so appreciate you sharing with us as we have new memories to come. There seemed to be a theme with all of the beautiful items—angels, candles and sparkle. That is so fitting as you ladies showed us Christ’s light shining brightly through you. We will never forget your kindness.

God Bless You,
Kim