

The Cumberland

Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

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Our Weekly Newsletter

"Loving God, Loving People"

January 4, 2012

2012

WHERE'S YOUR HOPE FOR THE NEW YEAR?

We begin with a fresh start and a blank page! So, what are you expecting in 2012? A global crisis, the end of the world, a decent job, a better year than 2011?

Let me suggest three simple Biblical truths: (1) Hope is to be found in God alone!

(2) God is always with us in the chaotic and complicated storms of life! and (3) One of these days we won't need hope anymore!

There's no shortage of proposals in this peculiar age we live in! You can take Oprah's "Course on Miracles" on XM Satellite Radio and alter your mindset with a "new revelation" from "Jesus." Or the Atheists will tell you not to worry—there is no God and therefore no problem, no accountability and no responsibility. Just live any old way you choose!

But where's the hope that all human beings desperately need?

From Genesis to Revelation we see that God is the only real hope for the human race. He is the only One who can bring order out of chaos, beauty out of decay, life out of death! No one else can calm the storms and bring lasting peace to the human soul. Only God can do as Jesus did that day on the Sea of Galilee with His disciples in the boat begging to be delivered!

There will be times when we cry out to God and He immediately delivers us. And there will be times when He doesn't act immediately. In those moments, hope comes from the conviction that God is always with us in the boat as we pass through the turbulent waters!

Finally, our hope is in the God who has a plan for a "new heaven and a new earth" where chaos and evil will be no more and everything that is wrong will be set right! When that day comes, we won't need to hope anymore. Hope will be fulfilled!

Our hope is in God alone! He will be with us, even through the storms, until there is no more need for hope! As the Psalmist has written: *"And now, Lord, what do I wait for and expect? My hope and expectation are in You!" (Psalm 39:7)*



"HANDLING LIFE'S TOUGH DECISIONS!"

First Church will host father and son football greats Fuad Reveiz and Nick Reveiz during our worship services this coming Sunday, January 8! They will join us to share their Christian testimonies at 10:45 a.m. (Fuad Reveiz) and for "Night of Praise and Worship" at 6:00 p.m. (Nick Reveiz).

If you are dealing with some tough decisions or you haven't been to church in a while and you know you need to hear what God would say to you through these men of faith, please join us. We'd love to "pack the house" for both services!

What a great opportunity to invite youth, young adults, and people of all ages to hear two men who have faced significant challenges by placing their trust in the Lord!

This is a once-in-a-lifetime worship experience you definitely don't want to miss!

OUR LOVE AND PRAYERS...

...to Dr. J. David Hester, our pastor and friend, whose only sister, Lucille Hester Cursey, went home to be with the Lord last Thursday, December 29. A celebration of life was held on Sunday, January 1 at Dilday Funeral Home in Huntingdon, Tennessee.

...to Rev. Bill Middleton in the death of his wife of 57 years and partner in ministry, Janice Middleton last week. Faith Fellowship Cumberland Presbyterian, their home church, was the site for the service of celebration and remembrance last Friday afternoon.

...to Alice Montgomery and family in the death of her cousin Andrew Montgomery who died last Friday following a battle with cancer.

INSTALLATION OF NEW ELDERS

A service of installation for new elders Phil Bridges, Dianne Pipkin and Steve Summers has been re-scheduled for Sunday, January 15 at the conclusion of the 10:45 a.m. worship service. All three have previously been ordained. Please pray for and encourage them as they begin three-year terms!

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

The Friendship Club invites everyone to their first gathering of 2012 at Cahabba's Italian Grill, 324 N. Peters Road (692-2223), Wednesday, January 11, 11:00 a.m. Newcomers are always welcome!

SESSION MEETING

The regular monthly meeting of the Session will be held Tuesday, January 17, 7:00 p.m. in the Keene Room. All elders are encouraged to be present.

~Pastor Kevin

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



Join Us For Worship this
Sunday!
And bring a friend!

Non-Profit
Organization
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Tennessee

Happy Birthday

January

6-David Collins
14-Leigh Ann Summers



Activities for January 8-14, 2012

Sun., 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:45 a.m. Worship Service
Tues., 6:30 p.m. Building & Grounds
Weds., 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice
Thurs., 6:30 p.m. Stewardship & Finance

(See web site for complete calendar listings)

Stewardship Report for January 1, 2012

Sunday School.....30
Worship.....51
Offering (AM)..... \$4,789.00
Capital Improvements Fund\$155.00

WEST CIRCLE

Will meet on Tuesday, January 17, 2012 at 11am in the Keene Room. Please bring a sandwich – drinks and dessert will be provided. We welcome all the ladies of the church to come and join us.

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THANK YOU

Dear Rev Wood and Rev Hester and fellow church Members;
Thanks to all of you who came by Atria on 12/18/11 and pumped me up by singing some Christmas carols. Also, I am grateful for the lovely poinsettia delivered earlier by Rev. Wood.

Sincerely,

Richard (Dick) M. Booher, Jr.

P.S. Hope to be back in church soon.

Thanks also to Hailey Davis for the nice Christmas card.

LAY CORNER ~ When You Choose to Follow God...

When you choose to follow God, be prepared!
He will not let you stay where you are.
He will not let you define the boundaries of this relationship.
He will not tolerate disrespect;
And He will sometimes leave you broken and vulnerable in order to make you usable.
It will not be easy or safe, but we are assured that in the end, You will know that you are loved and it was all worth the journey!

Prayer Concerns

In the Hospital

Fred Johnson, Park West Hospital
On-going Health and Prayer Concerns

CP Missionaries; Mary Jane & Gordon Blaylock; Reba Smith; Mildred Stone; Edna Fleenor; Mary Cregger; Bonnie Holbert; Otis Clinton Shelby; Gladys Stone; Mildred Acuff (in Brakebill); A. R. Wood; Maxine McGuire; Ada Ladd; Nancy Anthony; Bud & Betty Hickman; Jackie Turbbeyville (Jim Curtis's niece); Carl Overstreet (friend of Cliff Parrott); Lucas Lacascio (former student of Wendy Goodrich) battling a recurrence of a brain tumor; Jessie Black (Ann Bachman's mother, cancer); Jonathan Migas; Peggy Bradshaw (Dianne Fielder's mother); J.B. & Nora Derreberry (Maxine Curtis parents); Ann Redding (Andrea Golliher's mother); Marlene Ritchey; Brian Migas; Richard H. Zimmerman (Richard Zimmerman's father); Marlena Livesay, daughter of Sara Woodcox (Pastor's neighbor); Steve GWilliams; Tom Holbert (Bonnie Holbert's son, cancer); Ann Jennings (friend of Greg Beeler, terminal cancer); Colonel Bob Long, USAF (retired), cancer and Colonel Bud Day, USAF (Ret). POW VIETNAM (friends of Cliff Parrott); Phil Bridges, recovering from heart attack and stent; the family of Andrew Montgomery(cousin of Alice Montgomery); Dick Booher; the family of Janice Middleton (Rev. Bill Middleton's wife); the family of Lucille Hester Cursey (J. David's sister, Dianne Pipkin's aunt); Jesse Black, Shannondale (Kim McCurry's mother); Tara Null (friend of Lindsay Hammill Duncan).

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

FAITH FOR THE FUTURE

In early March this church began a capital campaign to raise funds to re-do our 36-year old HVAC system. That project has been completed.

In the beginning, our contractor estimated a maximum cost of \$230,000. We decided to set a goal of \$200,000—with hope that the project would not cost that maximum.

This week, we received the final billing from the contractor for the completed work. The total cost was \$183,778.

Merry Christmas!

We currently have in this campaign account **\$161,249.78**, with promised receipts today to bring the total to **\$167,134.78**.

That leaves us with only **\$16,642** to raise to complete the task. And we will do that! God has been good to us and you have responded well, showing that you do, indeed, have **Faith for the Future** of Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Thank you!

J. David Hester