The Cumberlander

Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

6900 Nubbin Ridge Drive, Knoxville, TN 37919 ~ E-mail: FirstCPC@KFCPC.comcastbiz.net ~ (865) 588-8581

Rev. Mike Wilkinson ~ Pastor

Our Weekly Newsletter

"Loving God, Loving People"

December 9, 2015



Our annual Stewardship Campaign—Generosity: Excelling in the Grace of Giving—came to an official conclusion last Sunday morning. To date, thirty-four *Estimated Giving Cards for 2016*, totaling \$150,762.12 have been turned in and dedicated. I say "to date" because a few cards typically are turned in after the stewardship campaign has officially concluded. Nonetheless, \$150,762.12 is the highest pledged/estimated giving total since 2001—that is not a misprint; it has been fifteen years since our steward campaign has reached this level. Thank you for excelling in the

grace of giving!

I also want to thank you for your generosity in cooking. We had an excellent **Pot Luck Dinner** after the Worship Service last Sunday and I want to thank everyone who cooked, set up the tables and chairs beforehand, put up the tables and chairs afterward, and cleaned up the kitchen and Gym. All together, last Sunday was another great day in the life of First Cumberland.

I also want to thank everyone who participated in the **Rocky Hill Christmas Parade**. We had a dozen or more people from the church, and at least that many Cub Scouts and parents, help decorate the float. Twenty-five or thirty people either rode the float or walked behind it and several more viewed the parade from the roadside. It was a fun time. By the time you read this newsletter, pictures should be posted on our website—www.first-cumberland.org.

One more thank you to the **Cub Scout Pack 20**; they and several of their parents spent last Sunday afternoon raking leaves and picking up sticks in our church's front yard.

Sunday night, December 20th, at 6:00 p.m., our **Choir** will present the **Christmas cantata**, "*The Silence and the Sound*". Make your plans now to attend, and while you are at it, invite a few family members, friends, co-workers, or classmates to join you.

Learning the unforced rhythms of grace,

Pastor Mike

Website: www.first-cumberland.org

Brunch with Santa

We will have a church-wide **Brunch with Santa** this coming Saturday morning, December 12th, from 10:30 a.m. until 12:00 noon, in our Gym. Donations for the brunch will gladly be accepted to help fund **Youth** activities.

Youth News

- ⇒ Our annual **Youth Christmas Post Office** is now open. Simply drop any Christmas cards you would like to share with fellow church members in the "Youth Post Office Box" in the Narthex, along with a donation in the amount of your choosing, and our **Youth** will hand-deliver your cards.
- ⇒ This coming Saturday, December 12th, our **Middle and High Youth Groups** need to be at the church at 8:00 a.m. to help prepare brunch to be served from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon.
- ⇒ On Sunday, December 20th, our **Middle and High Youth Groups** will have a joint **Christmas Party** following our **Choir**'s presentation of the **Christmas cantata**, "The Silence and the Sound".

Cumberland Presbyterian Women's Ministry

- ◆ Looking for a Christmas present to help those in need? On the table in the Narthex are order and information forms to purchase gift cards for the **Fish Hospitality Pantry**—walk-in food pantries in the North, South, and East sections of town. For just \$5.00, or any multiple of \$5.00, you can give these cards for Christmas and the money will go to help feed the hungry in our city. They are available at the Church of the Ascension, around the corner on Northshore Drive. You can pick them up personally, order by mail, order on line at www.fishpantry.org, or give them your list and they will mail them for you. **Betty Hammill** will be glad to pick them up for you, if none of these options work for you.
- ◆ The **Angel Tree** for Serene Manor Nursing Home is in the Library. We have thirty requests from ten people. Each angel has one request on it. When you take an angel, please return it unwrapped with the angel attached. Please have all gifts back in the Library by Sunday, December 20th. Thank you for your support in these requests.
- Two **Mitten Trees** are in the Narthex. Please bring mittens, hats, scarves, and socks for the children in Appalachia —the Coalition of Appalachian Ministries, in Townsend, will distribute them. These need to be in by Sunday, December 27th, as they will be taken to the mission the first week of January. Thank you for your support.
- The West Circle of our ladies' ministry will meet this coming Tuesday, December 15th, in the Keene Room, at 11:00 a.m. This is two weeks later than the usual meeting date. They will have a potluck lunch after the meeting. All the ladies of the church are invited to attend.

<u>Poinsettias</u>

Poinsettias to decorate our Sanctuary on Sunday, December 20th, are now available to purchase in honor or memory someone. The cost is \$8.00 per flower. Order forms will be in this coming Sunday's bulletin, or you can call the Church Office to place your order.

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.

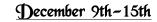


First Cumberland,

where you belong!



Happy Birthday





13th ~ Susan Shelton 14th ~ Justin Rech



Stewardship Report December 6, 2015

Sunday School	48
Worship	76
Offering	\$5,989.25
Youth Fund	
Music Fund	\$75.00
Building Reimburserments	\$820.00

Activities for December 9-15, 2015

Tuesday: 11:00 a.m. West Circle
Wednesday: 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice
Saturday: 10:30 a.m. Brunch with Santa
Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:45 a.m. Worship Service

(See our web site for complete calendar listings)



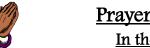
Mary Cregger spent two days in the hospital last week; she is now home and doing better . . . Hannah Davis competed in the State Compulsory Gymnastics Championship, in Clarksville, Tennessee, last weekend; her team placed sixth . . . Edna Fleenor remains under hospice care at NHC, St. Mary's . . . Ada Ladd was admitted to Tennova Medical Center, St. Mary's last Sunday night, December 6th . . . Gene McCammon is doing well following prostate surgery on Wednesday, December 2nd . . . Dewaine Moncier, Jr. (cousin of Dianne Fielder) spent several days in the hospital last week; he is now home and doing better . . . Cliff Parrott continues to recover from the skin graph on his leg . . . Marlene Ritchey remains under hospice care in Arizona . . .

Save the Dates

- ⇒ Our **Choir** will present the **Christmas cantata**, "*The Silence and the Sound*", Sunday night, December 20th, at 6:00 p.m.
- ⇒ Our annual Christmas Eve Worship Service will be at 5:00 p.m. and will include the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.
- ⇒ Our annual **Congregational Meeting** to elect, ordain and/or install elders will be Sunday, January 10th, at the close of our Worship Service.

Church's Website

The church's website, **www.first-cumberland.org**, includes audio recordings of the sermons from the previous four Worship Services.







Ada Ladd @ Tennova Medical Center, St. Mary's

Health and Prayer Concerns (alphabetized)

Mildred Acuff; Sarah Ames (mother of a coworker of Kathy Byers); Janie Beeler (wife of Greg Beeler); Preston Beeler (cousin of Greg Beeler); Pat Beeler (friend of Greg Beeler); Charlotte Byrd; Gordon Blaylock; Dick Booher; Kim Boyatt (friend of Susan Edwards); Peggy Bradshaw (mother of Dianne Fielder); Frances Broom (friend of Rose Wilkinson); Greg Brown (caretaker of Mary Cregger); Wanell Brown (friend of Rose Wilkinson); Carol Craven (sister of Lois Witmer); Mary Cregger; Cumberland Presbyterian missionaries, Mary Helen Daniel; Mae Denton (friend of Tammy Eblen); Nora Derreberry (mother of Maxine Curtis); Cooky Dyer; Edna Fleenor; Grace Flory (mother of Lois Witmer); Lynne Garrison (sister of Lois Witmer); Mary Beth Hazelwood's baby (friend of Lisa Hayes); Mark Hester; Larry Hickens (friend of Tom and Emily DeLozier); Bud and Betty Hickman (friends of Mary Ann Haney); Christina Hinkle and Baby (daughter of Pastor Mike and Joanna); Bobbie Himes (sister of Jin Gaston); Becky Ingle (friend of Amanda Roberts); Kim Jones (friend of Amanda and Scott Roberts); Sherri Kramer (friend of Joy Taylor); Steve Kusenda (brother-in-law of Margaret Migas); Ada Ladd; Bob Lawson (friend of Pastor Mike); Malachi (sevenyear-old friend of Zachary Spencer); Gene McCammon; Maxine McGuire; Catherine McKinney; Ruth McNabb (mother of Tammy Eblen); Bob Metts; Brian Migas (son of Margaret Migas); Jonathan Migas (son of Margaret Migas); Georgia Moore (sister of Jewell Kerr); Mary Anne Moncier (aunt of Dianne Fielder); Dewaine Moncier, Jr. (cousin of Dianne Fielder); Alice Montgomery; Amy Beth Davidson Morgan; Barbara Mullenax; Cliff Parrott; Tom Parrott (son of Cliff Parrott); persecuted Christians around the world, Catherine Pipkin (mother of Paul Pipkin); David Poore (coworker of Phil Bridges); Anna Faye Presley (niece of Catherine McKinney); Becky Rader; David and Rebecca Rech (parents of Justin Rech); Marlene Ritchey; Gladys Stone; Donna Snoderly (sisterin-law of Betty Hammill); John Snoderly (brother of Betty Hammill); Sydney Snoderly (great-niece of Betty Hammill); Angel Tindell (granddaughter of Catherine McKinney); Carl Ware (father of Sam Ware); Joni Warner (friend of Jewell Kerr's sons); Lois Witmer

Please keep the Church Office informed of any needed changes to our Prayer Concerns list.

Friendship Club

The next Dutch-treat luncheon for the **Friendship Club** is Wednesday, December 16th, at 11:00 a.m., at the **Copper Cellar West** (7316 Kingston Pike). Everyone reading this announcement is welcome to attend this and all **Friendship Club** outings; you are also encouraged to invite people from outside the church to join you. A signup sheet is on the bulletin board near the Church Office.

"Love is at the center of a generous heart."—Pastor Mike