

The Cumberland

Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

6900 Nubbin Ridge, Knoxville, TN 37919 ~ E-mail: firstcpc@earthlink.net ~

(865) 588-8581

Rev. Mike Wilkinson ~ Pastor

Website: www.first-cumberland.org

Our Weekly Newsletter

"Loving God, Loving People"

December 17, 2014



I want to congratulate **Ann Bachman, Betty Hammill, and Tom Witmer** on being elected last Sunday to serve as the *Elder Class of 2017*. We will have another **Congregational Meeting** on Sunday, January 11th, at the close of our Worship Service to install this new class of elders. These "new" Session members, as well as the *Elder Class of 2016* (**Jim Curtis, James O'Neal, and Amanda Roberts**) and the *Elder Class of 2015* (**Maxine Curtis, Kim Halbert, and Jewell Kerr**) stand in constant need of our prayers as we seek to follow God's plan for this congregation. Not only does our Session need your prayers, but I and our entire staff (**Bill Halbert, Sam Ware, Karen Ware, and Tom Witmer**) do as well. I also want to express my appreciation to the *Elder Class of 2014* (**Phil Bridges, Dianne Pipkin, and Steve Summers**) who will conclude their three-year term of service at the close of the year. I cannot speak for their entire tenure, but for the past fifteen months I can say, "Job well done!"

Learning the unforced rhythms of grace,
Pastor Mike

Friendship Club

This coming Wednesday, December 17th, 11:00 a.m., members of the **Friendship Club** will gather at the **Copper Cellar**, on Kingston Pike, for a Dutch-treat lunch. Everyone reading this announcement is invited to attend this and all monthly outings of the **Friendship Club**.

Youth Christmas Party

Scott and Amanda Roberts will be hosting the **Youth Christmas Party** on Friday, December 19th, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. The party will be at their home—8101 Greenwell Road, Knoxville, TN 37938. You are encouraged to both bring a friend and RSVP (865-382-5344).

Christmas Post Office

Our Youth are once again operating a **Christmas Post Office**. A box is in the Narthex for you to drop off both your Christmas cards to be delivered to church members/attendees and a donation for this service. This coming Sunday, December 21st, is the last opportunity the Christmas Season to make use of this service.

Angel Tree

If you have graciously taken an angel from the **Angel Tree** for **Serene Manor Nursing Home**, please return your **unwrapped** gifts to the Library no later than this coming Sunday, December 21st.

Mitten Trees

Two **Mitten Trees** are in the Narthex. These trees are for us to hang mittens, gloves, scarves, or hats that will be distributed this Winter by the **Coalition of Appalachian Ministries**, near Townson, to families in the area who are in need. We will be collecting these items the month of December.

Christmas Cantata

This coming Sunday evening, December 21st, at 6:00 p.m., our Choir will present the **Christmas Cantata, Darkness into Light: A Christmas Musical Journey**, by Mary McDonald. Posters, fliers, and brochures promoting this worship opportunity are in the Narthex for you to distribute to family, friends, coworkers, and classmates. Make your plans to not only be here, but to bring someone with you.

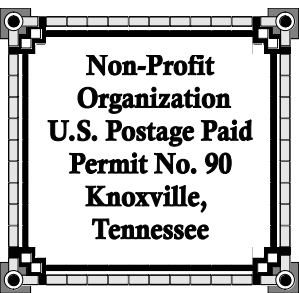
Church-wide Christmas Party


This coming Sunday evening, December 21st, at 7:15 p.m., following the **Christmas Cantata**, we will have a church-wide **Christmas Party**. Please bring your favorite finger-foods and desserts to share; drinks will be provided.

Christmas Eve Worship Service

Our annual **Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service** will be Wednesday, December 24th, at 5:00 p.m. Remember, here at First Cumberland, *Holy Communion* is available to all who are in attendance, so feel free to invite your family and friends to attend with you.


*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.*





Happy Birthday

December
22-Tammy Eblen
23-Laura Paschke



Activities for December 21-27, 2014		
Sunday,	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:45 a.m.	Worship Service
	6:00 p.m.	Christmas Cantata
Wednesday,	5:00 a.m.	Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service
(See web site for complete calendar listings)		

Stewardship Report December 14, 2014	
Sunday School.....	44
Worship.....	77
Offering	\$11,089.00
Building Reimbursement.....	\$50.00
Youth Fund.....	\$122.00

Among Our People

Becky Rader is still at NHC Fort Sanders for therapy; she is planning to attend the Christmas cantata this coming Sunday evening . . . B. F. Daniel continues to improve . . . Dick Booher is receiving in-home rehab for his knee . . . Tom Witmer is recovering from a fall . . . Hailey Davis is recovering from a concussion . . . Hannah Haddox is recovering from an allergic reaction to a bee sting . . .

Kroger Community Rewards Program

If you shop at Kroger during the holidays, you can help First Cumberland Presbyterian Church! Members and friends of FCPC can register online to take part in the **Kroger Community Rewards Program** to benefit our church. To do so, simply register online by going to www.krogercommunityrewards.com and select First Cumberland Presbyterian Church as the organization you wish to support. Next time you shop, check the bottom of your receipt to make sure you see our church’s name there. Contact Kim Halbert at 660-5821 if you have any questions. Thank you!

Christian Sympathy

We extend our sincerest Christian sympathy to the **Family of Richard Himes**, (Jin Gaston’s brother-in-law). Who passed away last Sunday, December 14th. Visitation will be this Tuesday evening, December 16th, from 5:00-7:00 p.m., at Click’s Funeral Home in Farragut. The Memorial service will be this Wednesday, December 17th, at 2:00 p.m., also at Click’s Funeral Home in Farragut. Please keep this family in your prayers.



Prayer Concerns

In the Hospital
Becky Rader ~ NHC Fort Sanders



Health and Prayer Concerns

(alphabetized)

the persecuted Christians around the world; Cumberland Presbyterian missionaries; Jack and Roy Acuff (brothers of a friend of Pastor Mike); Mildred Acuff; Janie Beeler (Greg Beeler’s wife); Preston Beeler (Greg Beeler’s cousin); Charlotte Bird; Gordon Blaylock; Dick Booher; Kim Boyatt (friend of Susan Edwards); Peggy Bradshaw (Dianne Fielder’s mother); Mary Cregger; B.F. and Mary Helen Daniel; Allison, Hailey, Connor, and Hannah Davis; Nora Derreberry (Maxine Curtis’s mother); Jim and Cookie Dyer; Edna Fleenor; Grace Flory (Lois Witmer’s mother); Hannah Haddox; Jack and Jin Gaston; Curt Hammill (Betty Hammill’s son); Ruth Heifner (friend of Pastor Mike); Bud and Betty Hickman (friends of Mary Ann Haney); Family of Richard Himes (Jin Gaston’s brother-in-law); Bobbie Himes (Jin Gaston’s sister); Christina and Baby Hinkle (Pastor Mike and Joanna’s daughter is expecting a baby boy on January 18, 2015); Debbie Holloway; Becky Ingle (coworker of Amanda Roberts); Kim Jones (friend of Amanda and Scott Roberts); Sherri Kramer (friend of Joy Taylor); Ada Ladd; Bob Lawson (friend of Pastor Mike); Maxine McGuire; Mary McJunkins (Mary Wegman’s mother); Catherine McKinney; Ruth McNabb (Tammy Eblen’s mother); Bob Metts; Brian Migas; Jonathan Migas; Mary Anne Moncier (Dianne Fielder’s aunt); Dewaine Moncier, Jr. (Dianne Fielder’s cousin); Alice Montgomery; Sue Moore (Jewell Kerr’s sister’s daughter-in-law); Carl Overstreet (friend of Cliff Parrott); Cliff Parrott; Tom Parrott (Cliff Parrott’s son); Charlie Pipkin (Paul Pipkin’s father); David Poore (coworker of Phil Bridges); Anna Faye Presley (niece of Catherine McKinney); Becky Rader; Rebecca Rech (Justin Rech’s mother); Marlene Ritchey; Bryan Rogers (Bonnie Bridges’ son); Carol Seeman; Gladys Stone; Sydney Snoderly (Betty Hammill’s great niece); Jack Walker; Carl Ware (Sam Ware’s father); Joni Warner (friend of Jewell Kerr’s sons); the Whaley family (friends of Kathy Byers); Tom Williams (friend of Cliff Parrott); Tom Witmer; Robyn (friend of Hannah Haddox)

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

Fish Hospitality Fish Food Pantry Gift Cards

Are you looking for a different Christmas gift this year for your family and friends? You have the opportunity to buy \$5.00 gift cards that will help feed the hungry in our community. These are sponsored by the Fish Hospitality Pantries, which are walk-in pantries in the northern, eastern, and southern parts of our city. There are order blanks with two different kinds of cards in the Narthex. You can order them or you can go to the Church of the Ascension, right around the corner from our church (on Northshore Drive), and pick them up if time is a problem. Problems or questions—call Betty Hammill at 690-8739.

Just a Thought

“Sheep don’t know what the Shepherd is thinking. They just know the Shepherd, and follow Him.” —anonymous