The Cumberlander

Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

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August 24 2014

Our Weekly Newsletter

"Loving God, Loving People"

August 24, 2016

PASTOR S ri

It dawned on me as I was finishing up my preparation for last Sunday's message on "Guardrails" that our potential involvement with *Kids Hope USA* through an in-school **Mentoring Program for Students** at Rocky Hill Elementary School is all about becoming "guardrails" in the lives of atrisk kids. The one-on-one relationship our mentors will build with each child will serve as that ion that every child so desperately needs. What a high calling of God is upon us, the followers of the

barrier of protection that every child so desperately needs. What a high calling of God is upon us, the followers of the risen Jesus who gather to worship and serve here at First Cumberland. I challenge you to join me in becoming the one person who helps a child believe in him or herself. Since last week's article was written, I have learned that in addition to needs mentors and prayer partners, we can have substitute mentors who would be available to stand in for a mentor who must miss a session with his or her child. Hopefully, this tidbit of information opens up the possibility of even more of us participating in this ministry. Currently, we have four people interested in being mentors and five people interested in being prayer partners. If you have any desire to participate in this **Outside-Action Project** let me know as soon as possible. All mentors undergo online training and must pass a Knox Schools' background check to be allowed on school property during school hours. If enough people (six mentors and six prayer partners) are interested in this ministry, I will present it to our Session at our next meeting, which is this coming Sunday evening, August 28th. Check out the website www.kidshopeusa.org for more details.

As I was writing this article I was thinking about the struggles that several of our families, including my own, are going though. Many of those battles are health related—either our own or that of a family member, some are financial difficulties, some are relational crises, and so on, but all tend to cause us to struggle with hope. As I was pondering what I could write about hope, my computer "dinged" to let me know that I had received a Facebook notification. I checked it out and it was a post from Rev. Dr. Larry Blakebum, the pastor of First Cumberland Presbyterian Church of Oak Ridge. In his post, he wrote: "How do you keep hope alive when life seems to take a wrong turn down a dead-end street? What if all that we hold dear is suddenly snatched away, if all the familiar landmarks are removed, if our friends desert us, if our job is gone, if our health disappears, if death comes unexpectedly to our door. What then? Missionary J. Hudson Taylor went through a crisis of the soul during the Boxer Rebellion. [Anti-Christian uprising in China around 1900 that resulted in some 30,000 Chinese Christians being killed.] He wrote, 'I can't read. I can't think. I can't pray. But I can trust.' There will be times when we are so hurt that we don't want to read the Bible, or pray, or focus our thoughts on God, but we can still trust in God. This is a detour and not a destination. If you have eyes to see beyond your own problems, look up and you will see the hand of God at work." Was the "ding" just a coincidence or a God-thing? I chose to believe it was a God-thing and I pray that when we struggle, we can still trust in God! "Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us, even as we hope in you." [Psalm 33:22, NRSV]

The sermon series "Guardrails" continues; this coming Sunday, August 28th, my message will be based on **First Corinthians 6:18-20**. Please read and meditate on these three verses of Scripture in advance; doing so will help us understand the importance of resisting temptation and fleeing from sin. The title of the message will be "Flee, Baby, Flee!". As always, I look forward to seeing you in the House of the Lord; in fact, I can hardly wait!

Learning the unforced rhythms of grace,

Pastor Mike

Cumberland Presbyterian Women's Ministry

Our ladies ministry is pleased to host the September meeting of the city-wide **Christian Women United** group; our own **Dianne Fielder** is the treasurer of this group. They will be meeting on Friday, September 2nd, in our Gym, at 10:00 a.m., for light refreshments, and then go into our Sanctuary for the program at 10:30 a.m. Typical attendance is 50-60 ladies, but they are expecting 70-80 ladies to be in attendance in September. Volunteers are needed at 9:00 a.m. that morning to set up the tables and chairs in the Gym. Volunteers are also need to provide the refreshments and to be in attendance to direct traffic as they come and as they go from place to place. There will be a sign-up sheet on the CPWM bulletin board across from the Library if you can help with either of these tasks, or you can let **Betty Hammill** know of your availability to help. Thank you for your assistance in welcoming the ladies of **Church Women United**.

Kroger Community Rewards Program

The **Kroger Community Rewards Program** annual re-enrollment period is the month of August. Kroger should send all currently enrolled participants an email reminder; simply click the link within the email to directly reenroll and support our congregation. Participants that do not have an email address need to call 1-800-KROGERS (1-800-576-4377). If you are not yet a participant, please consider enrolling in this program and select First Cumberland Presbyterian Church as your organization. Simply go to https://www.kroger.com/communityrewards to enroll. If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact **Kim Halbert** (865-660-5821).

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

August 24th-30th

25th - Kaylin Booker

25th ~ Danny Eblen

28th - Sadie Huether

28th - Jessica Walker

Faithfulness Record August 21, 2016

Sunday School	44
Worship Service	71
Offering	\$2,106.25
Building Reimbursement	
Youth Fund	\$32.00
Music Fund	\$50.00

Activities for August 24~30, 2016

Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Worship Service

12:15 p.m. Christian Education Meeting

6:00 p.m. Session Meeting

(See our web site for complete calendar listings)

Among Our Peop Mildred Acuff continues to recover from her broken arm and subsequent surgery . . . **Alejandra Vargas Araiza**, mother of Alfonzo Marquez, has cancer and is under hospice care in Texas . . . Vicki Dilly, mother of Erin Pipkin, was taken to the emergency room Monday, August 22nd; no update as this newsletter goes to publication . . . Michael Garrett, cousin of Kim McCurry, remains in the hospital in Georgia . . . Bill Halbert is still awaiting the results of the MRI on his eyes; he goes to a specialist, in Nashville, this coming Friday, August 26th . . . **Betty Hammill** fell last Monday, August 15th, and broke her wrist; surgery will not be required (PTL!) . . . It was great having Christina, Ethan, and Amelia Hinkle, daughter and grandchildren of Pastor Mike and Joanna Wilkinson, worshiping with us last Sunday . . . Kim McCurry is scheduled to have surgery on her knee Wednesday, August 24th . . . It was great having **Mike Medley**, son-in-law of Mary Helen Daniel, worshiping with us last Sunday . . . Alice Montgomery has been diagnosed with breast cancer . . . Rose Wilkinson, mother of Pastor Mike and Susan Edwards, had a port-a-cath implanted last Friday, August 19th; her updated diagnose is Stage 4 non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma (NHL), the cancer is in the bone marrow, but it is a nonaggressive type, so chemotherapy will be postponed, possibly for several months . . . Lois Witmer has finished her outpatient physical therapy sessions . . .

Friendship Club

The Dutch-treat lunch of the **Friendship Club** is Wednesday, September 21st, at **Naples Italian Restaurant** (5500 Kingston Pike, in Bearden), at 11:00 a.m. As always, feel free to invite family and friends to join you on these outings. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board near the Church Office.



Prayer Concerns

In the Hospital

Michael Garrett, cousin of Kim McCurry, at N.E. Medical Center, in Gainsville, Georgia

Health and Prayer Concerns (alphabetized)

Mildred Acuff; Alejandra Vargas Araiza (mother of Alfonzo Marquez); Preston Beeler (cousin of Greg Beeler); Charlotte Byrd; Gordon Blaylock; Dick Booher; Kim Boyatt (friend of Susan Edwards); Peggy Bradshaw (mother of Dianne Fielder); Wanell Brown (friend of Rose Wilkinson); Morgan and Wakely Burton (friend of Hannah Haddox and her friend's baby); Cumberland Presbyterian missionaries around the world; Mary Helen Daniel; Mae Denton (friend of Tammy Eblen); Nora Derreberry (mother of Maxine Curtis); VICKI DILLY (mother of Erin Pipkin); Grace Flory (mother of Lois Witmer); Judy Gammon; Michael Garrett (cousin of Kin McCurry); Bill Halbert; Betty Hammill; Mark Hester; Bud and Betty Hickman (friends of Mary Ann Haney); Bobbie Himes (sister of Jin Gaston); Becky Ingle (friend of Amanda Roberts); Kim Jones and her mother (friend of Amanda Roberts); Jewell Kerr; Sherri Kramer (friend of Joy Taylor); Steve Kusenda (brother-in-law of Margaret Migas); Bob Lawson (friend of Pastor Mike); Gene McCammon; Kim McCurry; Maxine McGuire; Catherine McKinney; Ruth McNabb (mother of Tammy Eblen); 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; Jan Pipkin (sister-in-law of Dianne Pipkin); David Poore (coworker of Phil Bridges); Anna Faye Presley (niece of Catherine McKinney); Becky Rader; David and Rebecca Rech (parents of Justin Rech); John Snoderly (brother of Betty Hammill); John Snoderly, Jr. (nephew of Betty Hammill); Sydney Snoderly (great-niece of Betty Hammill); Charlie Spalding (friend of Joy Taylor); Jean Stapleton (mother of Elaine Stapleton); Gladys Stone; Angel Tindell (granddaughter of Catherine McKinney); Carl Ware (father of Sam Ware); Codde Weaver (son of Elaine Stapleton); Devan Wilhite (friend of Greg Beeler); Rose Wilkinson (mother of Pastor Mike and Susan Edwards); Leah Witmer; Lois Witmer

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

Church's Website

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

Christian Education Committee

Our **Christian Education Committee** will meet this coming Sunday, August 28th, immediately following our Worship Service.

Quote of the Week

"A prayerful church is a powerful church . . ."

—Charles Spurgeon