

The Cumberland

Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

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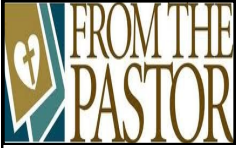
Rev. Mike Wilkinson ~ Pastor

Website: www.first-cumberland.org

Our Weekly Newsletter

"Loving God, Loving People"

March 8, 2017



Last Sunday, we began *A Lenten Journey through Psalm 51* which will lead us to our celebration of the resurrection of Jesus on **Easter Sunday**. As part of the message, I asked each of us to pack a few things for this challenging, yet exciting journey. I asked us to pack a commitment to read **Psalm 51** at least once a day through the remainder of **Lent**; I asked us to pack a pledge to examine our relationship with Christ thoroughly; I asked us to pack a vow to confess honestly and completely our sins to God; and I asked us to pack a promise to repent of the sins we confess. Hopefully, those of us who were present last Sunday went home and started packing for the journey; if not, then this article is a reminder to do so. If you were not here last Sunday, then this article is an invitation for you to pack and join us on this journey.

I was recently asked to write five devotions that will appear on our denominational Ministry Council's website (www.cpcmc.org/evotion/ is the link to these eVotions). The eVotions that I have written will be published April 1st-5th. I want to share with you the first one; it is based on **Psalm 130**. "When I was in school, I remember constantly hearing about something called a Permanent Record. This Permanent Record was said to contain not only my grades, but also an account of every time I got into trouble at school. I assume that the fear of having something unfavorable in one's Permanent Record was intended to encourage better behavior. If this mysterious Permanent Record actually existed, in my case, it did not work very well for I am sure that mine was full of, shall I say, unflattering entries. In Psalm 130, the writer indicates that if God kept a Permanent Record of all our sins we would all be in deep despair. 'If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand?' (Psalm 130:3). The answer to this rhetorical question is no one can stand before a holy God, for '... all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God;' (Romans 3:23). I am glad that the psalmist does not leave us wallowing in our despair, standing in fear of our Permanent Record; instead, we are assured that when we cry out to the Lord from the depths of our despair seeking help and forgiveness, God offers us the forgiveness and redemption we seek and need. Indeed, God's love for us is steadfast, never wavering."

Learning the unforced rhythms of grace,

Pastor Mike

Friendship Club

The next Dutch-treat lunch outing of the **Friendship Club** will be Wednesday, March 15th, at **LongHorn Steakhouse** (in the west side of the parking lot of West Town Mall), at 11:00 a.m. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board near the Church Office. As always, feel free to invite family and friends to join you on these outings.

FISH Food Pantry Campaign

Jesus tells us that it is more blessed to give than to receive. We will be given an opportunity to be blessed this April, as it is our month to stock the **West Knox FISH Food Pantry**. No additional funds are needed right now, as we have on hand \$6,508.00. Thanks to your generosity, we have \$4,008.00 left over from last year, a \$1,500.00 contribution from Marietta Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and we will have \$1,000.00 donation from our partner-church, Church of the Savior United Church of Christ. We will be bagging April 1st, 8th, and 15th – at 9:30 a.m., at the Pantry site (Church of the Savior, 934 N. Weisgarber Road)). Steve McCurry will be ordering our food from Second Harvest Food Bank on Tuesday, March 21st, and the groceries will be delivered on Tuesday, March, 28th to the Pantry. We will need volunteers to help unload that day; time TBA. You can sign up to bag on the **FISH** bulletin board in the Narthex. Updates on the **FISH** operation will be in *The Cumberland* each week. Thank you for your support in helping to alleviate hunger in our community.

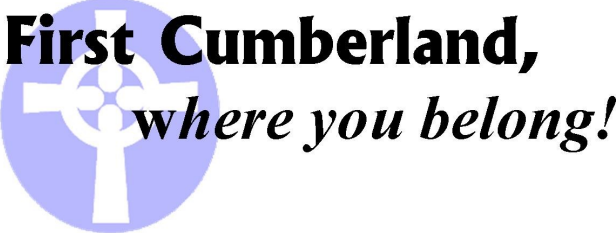
Friendship Club, P.M. Edition


The next Dutch-treat dinner outing of the **Friendship Club, P.M. Edition** will be Thursday, April 6th, at **Wright's Cafeteria** (5403 North Middlebrook Pike), at 6:30 p.m. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board near the Church Office. As always, feel free to invite family and friends to join us on these outings.

Easter Celebrations

- ⇒ The Choirs of **Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church** and the **First Cumberland Presbyterian Church of Oak Ridge** are joining together to present the **Easter** musical, "*Because He Lives*". The first presentation will be Sunday, April 2nd, at 5:00 p.m., at the Oak Ridge Church. The second presentation will be **Psalm Sunday**, April 9th, at 5:00 p.m., here at First Cumberland. More details to come.
- ⇒ Our **Maundy Thursday Communion Service** will be Thursday, April 13th, at 6:30 p.m.
- ⇒ Our **Community Good Friday Worship Service** will be Friday, April 14th, at 12:00 noon, at **Sacred Heart Cathedral**.
- ⇒ Our annual **Egg Hunt** will be Saturday, April 15th, at 11:00 a.m.; lunch will be provided in our Gym.
- ⇒ Our **Easter SonRise Service** will be Sunday, April 16th, at 8:00 a.m., in our Chapel; breakfast in our Gym will follow. Breakfast will conclude in time for everyone to attend Sunday School.
- ⇒ Our **Easter Worship Service** will be at its regular time (10:45 a.m.); as part of this celebration of the Resurrection, our Choir will sing "*Hallelujah*", which is a rendition of the "*The Hallelujah Chorus*" from Handel's "*Messiah*".

*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

March 8th-14th

8th — **Kathy Byers**
9th — **Jewell Kerr**
13th — **Chrissy Curtis**
14th — **Susan Edwards**



Our Faithfulness Record for March 5 th	
Sunday School	46
Worship Service	62
Offering	\$4,797.26
Music Fund	\$50.00
Youth Fund	\$50.00

Activities for March 8th-14th

Wednesday: 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice
Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:45 a.m. Worship Service
12:30 p.m. CPWM Planning Committee
4:00 a.m. Mission/Outreach Committee

(See our website for complete calendar listings)


Among Our People

Mike Bachman continues to recover from heart bypass surgery; he has now returned to work on a limited basis. ~ **Darian Booker** had outpatient surgery on Friday, March 3rd; he is doing well. ~ **Vera Boyatt**, mother of Kim Boyatt (our nursery attendant), is still undergoing physical rehab following knee replacement surgery. ~ **Kathy Byers**, daughter of Betty Hammill and mother of Lisa Booker, continues to recover from hip replacement surgery. ~ **Maxine Curtis** is still receiving outpatient physical rehab. ~ **Edna Hughes**, sister of Rue Dougherty, is still in a physical rehabilitation center recovering from a fall. ~ **Tom Parrott**, son of Clift Parrott, continues to recover from a stroke. ~ **Dianne Pipkin** continues to recover from surgery on her thumb. ~ **Danni Robinson**, granddaughter of Jim and Maxine Curtis, miscarried the baby she was expecting. ~ **Rose Wilkinson**, mother of Pastor Mike and Susan Edwards, had a second chemotherapy treatment on last Tuesday, March 7th. ~ **Lois Witmer** received a great report from her biopsy last week. ~ **Tom Witmer** had InterStim implant surgery on Monday, March 6th; he is doing well.

Special Guests

It was great having **Andy Holloway** and **Harriet Thompson**, friend of Allen and Sallie Cox, worshiping with us last Sunday.


- Committee Meetings**
- ⇒ **CPWM Planning Committee:** Sunday, March 12th, at 12:30 p.m., at the home of **Betty Hammill**
 - ⇒ **Missions and Outreach Committee:** Sunday, March 12th, (notice the change of date) at 4:00 p.m., in the Keen Room



Prayer Concern List

In the Hospital

No one connected to First Cumberland is known to be in the hospital at this time.



Prayer Concerns

Mildred Acuff; Mike Bachman; Preston Beeler (cousin of Greg Beeler); Gordon Blaylock; Dick Booher; **DARIAN BOOKER**; Vera Boyatt (mother of Kim Boyatt); Peggy Bradshaw (mother of Dianne Fielder); Wanell Brown (friend of Rose Wilkinson); Kathy Byers (daughter of Betty Hammill and mother of Lisa Booker); Charlotte Byrd; **Cumberland Presbyterian missionaries**; Maxine Curtis; Mary Helen Daniel; Mae Denton (friend of Tammy Eblen); Grace Flory (mother of Lois Witmer); James Fritz (school bus driver of Jonathon Spencer); Judy Gammon; Jack Gaston; Mark Hester; Betty and Bud Hickman (friends of Mary Ann Haney); Pat Housley (coworker of Amanda Roberts); Edna Hughes (sister of Rue Dougherty); Betty Kennedy (friend of Rose Wilkinson); Jewell Kerr; **our Kids Hope USA ministry**; Bob Lawson (friend of Pastor Mike); Alexi Llewellyn (granddaughter of a friend of Rose Wilkinson); Catherine McKinney; Ruth McNabb (mother of Tammy Eblen); Dewaine Moncier, Jr. (cousin of Dianne Fielder); Mary Anne Moncier (aunt of Dianne Fielder); Alice Montgomery; Georgia Moore (sister of Jewell Kerr); Amy Beth Davidson Morgan; Barbara Mullenax; Cliff Parrott; Tom Parrot (son of Cliff Parrot); Sara Paul (friend of Rose Wilkinson); **persecuted Christians around the world**; Dianne Pipkin; Jan Pipkin (sister-in-law of Dianne Pipkin); Anna Faye Presley (niece of Catherine McKinney); David and Rebecca Rech (parents of Justin Rech); Marilyn Ritchey (daughter-in-law of Marlene Ritchey); **DANNI ROBINSON** (granddaughter of Jim and Maxine Curtis); John Snoderly (brother of Betty Hammill); John Snoderly, Jr. (nephew of Betty Hammill); Sydney Snoderly (great-niece of Betty Hammill); Jean Stapleton (mother of Elaine Stapleton); Shane Thompson (cousin of Hannah Haddox and Amanda Roberts); Angel Tindell (granddaughter of Catherine McKinney); Carl Ware (father of Sam Ware); Codee Weaver (son of Elaine Stapleton); Lee Wells (mother of a coworker of Susan Edwards); Devan Wilhite (friend of Greg Beeler); Rose Wilkinson (mother of Pastor Mike and Susan Edwards); Lois and **TOM WITMER**

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

Water Angel Ministry

We had 280 more bottles of water added after the count was taken for **The Cumberlander** last week; our total was 750 bottles, instead of 470 as originally reported.

Church's Website

The church's website, www.first-cumberland.org, includes audio recordings of the sermons from the previous four [Worship Services](#).