# The Cumberlander

## Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

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Rev. Mike Wilkinson ~ Pastor

"Loving God, Loving People"

February 10, 2016



This coming Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, is the *First Sunday in Lent*. *Lent* is the Christian season of preparation before *Easter*. In Western Christianity, *Ash Wednesday* (February 10<sup>th</sup> this year), marks the first day or the start of the *Season of Lent*, which begins forty days prior to *Easter* (Sundays are not included in the count, making the *Lenten Season* forty-six days long). This year, *Easter* falls on Sunday, March 27<sup>th</sup>. *Lent* is a time when many

Website: www.first-cumberland.org

Christians prepare for the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ by observing a period of fasting (fasting applies to more than food and includes giving up anything meaningful in our lives for a limited time; for example, one could give up television, Facebook, golf, etc.). Repentance, moderation, and spiritual discipline (prayer and Bible study) are also means of observing *Lent*. The purpose of observing the *Season* of Lent is to set aside time for reflection on Jesus Christ—His suffering and His sacrifice; His life, death, burial and resurrection. Not all Christian traditions observe *Lent*; the *Season of Lent* is mostly observed by the Lutheran, Methodist, Presbyterian (including Cumberland Presbyterian, though not every congregation), and Anglican denominations; and also by the Roman Catholic Church. Eastern Orthodox churches observe the Lenten Season, but on a different timetable than Western Christianity. The Bible does not mention the observance of *Lent*, however, the practice of repentance and mourning in ashes is found in **Second Samuel** 13:19, Esther 4:1, Job 2:8, Daniel 9:3, and Matthew 11:21. The forty day period for the Season of Lent comes from Jesus having spent forty days in the wilderness in preparation for His earthly ministry following His baptism. Our observance of Lent is intended to both help us prepare for the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter Sunday, as previously mentioned, and to help us prepare for the ministry we do in the name of Jesus Christ. Sundays are not included in the Lenten Season because Lent is a season of fasting, in which we focus of the sufferings and death of Jesus, and Sundays are feast days, on which we focus on Christ's resurrection. My prayer for you during this **Season of Lent** is that it be a very reflective and meaningful time for you.

Beginning this Sunday afternoon, February 14<sup>th</sup>, Joanna and I will be out of town for a few days; we will return Wednesday evening, February 17<sup>th</sup>. While I will not be in town, if you need me feel free to contact me via cell phone (205-533-2001).

Learning the unforced rhythms of grace,

#### Pastor Mike

## **Church Pictorial Directory**

We are creating a new **Church Pictorial Directory**. Please make sure the Church Office has your updated contact information (address; telephone number; e-mail address; birth date with year; and anniversary date) so the new directory will be as accurate as possible. Thanks to those who have already had your picture taken. Due to the illness of our photographer, **Jeff Curtis**, we did not take pictures for the new directory last Sunday as planned. Therefore, pictures will be taken this coming Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, immediately following our Worship Service. **It is our desire that every person/family (both members and regular attenders) be included in this new directory.** 

#### From Our Mailbox

Dear First Church Family,

Thank you so much for all the expressions of love over the past few weeks. The beautiful dish garden, bringing us food, visiting us at the funeral home, celebrating Mass with us, PRAYING for us & for Catsue—All of this shows us indeed God is faithful. I see and savor that faithfulness every day.

God bless you all—

Love, Dianne & Paul Pipkin

Dear Kitchen-Food Preparation Committee,

I want to express my thanks for the very nice delivery of spaghetti, salad, bread and chocolate cake Mr. Witmer delivered for my family. It was a very nice gesture which all of us appreciated.

Yours truly,

Bill Fleenor

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



**Tebruary 10th-16th**10th - Lindsay Bridges



### Stewardship Report February 7, 2016

Sunday School	43
Worship Service	78
Offering	
Building Reimbursement	
Memorial	\$60.00
Youth Fund	\$81.00
Music Fund	\$200.00

#### Activities for February 10-16, 2015

Wednesday: 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Worship Service

(See our web site for complete calendar listings)



**Dick Booher** remains in Morristown, at his son's home, recovering from his recent surgery . . . **Ada Ladd** remains under hospice care at home . . . **Becky Rader** is still recovering from her recent surgery . . . **Marlene Ritchey** remains under hospice care in Arizona . . .

#### **Scout Sunday**

We will celebrate **Scout Sunday** this coming Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup>. First Cumberland sponsors and hosts a Cub Scout pack, a Boy Scout troop, and a Girl Scout troop. We are also blessed by an Eagle Scout project almost every year.

#### Valentine's Day Tidbits

- \* Nearly 63% of Americans celebrate Valentine's Day.
- \* School teachers receive more Valentine's Day cards than anyone else.
- \* Each year, Americans spend more than 13 billion dollars for Valentine's Day.
- \* The average American spends \$116.21 for Valentine's Day.
- \* Each year, Americans exchange 180 million cards on Valentine's Day, 85% of which are bought by women.
- \* Christmas is the only holiday in which more cards are exchanged than for Valentine's Day.
- \* Each year, nearly 200 million roses are purchased for Valentine's Day, 73% of which are bought by men.
- \* According to one poll, 53% of the women surveyed said that they would end their relationship if they did not receive something for Valentine's Day.
- \* Excluding cards, candy is the most common gift given on Valentine's Day; dining out is next on the list, followed by flowers and then jewelry.



# Prayer Concerns In the Hospital



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

#### Health and Prayer Concerns (alphabetized)

Mildred Acuff; 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); David Clark (coworker of Tom DeLosier); Carol Craven (sister of Lois Witmer); Mary Cregger; Cumberland Presbyterian missionaries, Mary Helen Daniel; Sarah DeLozier (daughter of Tom and Emily DeLozier); Mae Denton (friend of Tammy Eblen); Nora Derreberry (mother of Maxine Curtis); Tammy Eblen; Grace Flory (mother of Lois Witmer); Lynne Garrison (sister of Lois Witmer); Mary Beth Hazelwood's baby (friend of Lisa Hayes); Mark Hester; Bud and Betty Hickman (friends of Mary Ann Haney); Christina Hinkle and Baby Girl (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); Gene McCammon; Maxine McGuire; Catherine McKinney; Ruth McNabb (mother of Tammy Eblen); Lesa Medley (daughter of Mary Helen Daniel); 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, 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); Marlene Ritchey; Mary Safewright (friend of Rose Wilkinson); Gladys Stone; John Snoderly (brother of Betty Hammill); Sydney Snoderly (great-niece of Betty Hammill); Charlie Spalding (neighbor of Joy Taylor); Angel Tindell (granddaughter of Catherine McKinney); Carl Ware (father of Sam Ware); Joni Warner (friend of Jewell Kerr's sons); Devan Wilhite (friend of Greg Beeler); Tom Witmer

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

#### **Church's Website**

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

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life." - John 3:16, NRSV