The Cumberlander

Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

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(865) 588-8581

Rev. Mike Wilkinson ~ Pastor

"Loving God, Loving People"

January 29, 2014



Our Weekly Newsletter

As I have written before, since Joanna and I sing in our choir, I am somewhat hesitant to brag on them too much; nonetheless, I want everyone to know how proud I am of them. As you know, several of our choir members made the journey to Greenville, Tennessee, this past Sunday afternoon to take part in our presbyterial Denomination Day Celebration in honor of the 204th birthday of the Cumberland Presbyte-

Website: www.first-cumberland.org

rian Church. At that time, the whole Presbytery learned what we here at First Church already knew, and that is that God has gifted our congregation with several musically-talented individuals that when joined together as a choir offer wonderful praise to our Lord. One of our choir members was told that our rendition of "Give Me Jesus" moved her to tears. That was probably because I missed so many notes, but nonetheless Christ was lifted up. Won't you join me in thanking our choir members, musicians, and leaders for all their hard work and dedication?

This past Sunday, as part of the ongoing sermon series, "I Am a Church Member", I preached about how each of us is called to be a unifying church member. To this point, I said, "... unity is vital to the health of the local church and that means every church member—you and I included—must contribute to the unity of this congregation." I went on to ask, "Do you know the basic reason why some churches grow and why others do not? Unified congregations grow and divided ones do not. [That is an over simplification, but it is a valid observation.] Unity does not guarantee growth, but it does make it possible, while division all but assures that grow will not occur." In Colossians 3:12-13, the Apostle Paul gives us some great advice on how to achieve unity within a congregation, as he writes: "Since God chose you to be the holy people he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Make allowance for each other's faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others." [NLT] The question of the day was this: "Since unity is so important to the life and health of First Church, are you doing your part?" I hope you will ponder this question throughout the coming week. Once again, I concluded the sermon by asking us to make a pledge. This week's pledge went like this: "I am a church member; therefore, for the glory of God, I pledge to be a source of unity in this congregation. I know that just as I am not perfect, there are no perfect pastors, elders, staff, or other church members, so I will freely grant forgiveness to those around me."

Grace,

Pastor Mike

Pastor Installation Service and Potluck Fellowship Meal

At a called meeting last Sunday afternoon, the Presbytery of East Tennessee officially received Pastor Mike's membership letter from Grace Presbytery. A *Commission to Install* consisting of Rev. Dr. J. David Hester, Rev. Don Hubbard, Rev. Bill Middleton, and Elder Diane Pipkin was then appointed. The **Pastor Installation Service** will take place, as part of our morning worship service, this coming Sunday, February 2nd. Instead of a reception that typically follows this type of service; we will have a **Potluck Fellowship Meal** in honor of this special occasion.

Scout Sunday

This year, we will observe **Scout Sunday** on February 9th. **Scout Sunday** is when all the scouts, Boys and Girls, that meet at First Church are invited to participate in the morning worship service. The scouts will be doing things like presenting the colors, taking up the offering, and possibly providing special music. In addition to the scouts, their families are invited to attend as well. This day is an excellent opportunity for each of us to show our visitors what a wonder place First Church is and maybe some of them will want to become a part of us.

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.



Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 90
Knoxville,
Tennessee

Happy Birthday



February

Activities for February 2-8, 2014

Sun., 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Worship Service 12:15 p.m. Building & Grounds 12:15 p.m. Pot Luck Dinner Wed., 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice

(See web site for complete calendar listings)

Stewardship Report Janu	<u>ıary 26, 2014</u>
Sunday School	46
Worship	
Offering	\$3,467.00
Memorial Fund	
Building Fund	\$60.00
Music Fund	

Among Our People

Good to welcome Carol Seeman & daughter (Linda Rose) and Marlene Ritchey back to church on Sunday after a few weeks out... Dianne & Paul Pipkin back after a week in Key West... Sunday afternoon our choir journeyed to the Greenville Cumberland Presbyterian Church and joined the 163 present for the Denominational Day celebration; their two choral presentations were well received... This Saturday, February 1, Boy Scouts will deliver food bags over our county; this is for food for Second Harvest; a donor has pledged up to \$25,000 at a dollar a pound for all food collected. Scouts will return February 8 to collect the bags containing your contribution... Hailey Davis travels to Indianapolis for a gymnastics meet February 7; Hailey and three of her Level 8 teammates are ranked in the top 100 Level 8 gymnasts in the United States...

Lay Ministry Corner

~Donna Walker

If we do not actively and continually work on our sanctification and maturing in Christ, then we are in danger of becoming less useful to God and missing His blessings in our lives. Don't put off till tomorrow what God wants you to do today!

Prayer Concerns

In the Hospital
On-going Health and Prayer Concerns

CP Missionaries; Mary Jane & Gordon Blaylock; Mildred Stone; Edna Fleenor; Mary Cregger; Gladys Stone; Mildred Acuff; Maxine McGuire; Ada Ladd; Nancy Anthony; Bud & Betty Hickman; Carl Overstreet (friend of Cliff Parrott); Jonathan Migas; Peggy Bradshaw (Dianne Fielder's mother); Nora Derreberry (Maxine Curtis's mother); Marlene Ritchey; Brian Migas; Mary McJunkins, (Mary Wegman's mother); Eric Nelson, (friend of the Witmer clan); Donna Wingard, (Mildred Acuff's daughter); Debbie & David Triese, (Margaret Migas's sister and husband); Carl Ware; Allison, Hailey, Connor and Hannah Davis; Janie Beeler, (Greg Beeler's wife); Judy Gammon; Ruth McNabb (mother of Tammy Eblen); Richard Himes (Jin Gaston's brother-in-law); Debbie Holloway; Mildred Gragg (friend of Mary Cregger); Kim and her family, (friends of Amanda and Scott Roberts); Rebecca Rech, mother of Justin Rech; Jack Gaston; J. David Hester; Marie Jobson, (friend of the Witmer's); Grace Flory (Lois Witmer's mother); Cliff Parrott; Janet Simcox (lung cancer); Dale Craddo, (Scott Robert's Uncle); Tom Williams, (friend of Cliff Parrott); Vicki Dilly, (Erin Pipkin's mother); Carl Kissiah, (Joanna Wilkinson's father); Bobbie Himes, (Jin Gaston's sister is facing surgery).

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

TRIPLE 'D' IS COMING SOON!!!

'D'inner 'D'ance 'D'essert

This event, and this will be an 'EVENT', will be held Saturday, February 15 beginning at 5:30 p.m. Cost: Donation of your choice.

Well get ready for a fun evening while you support the youth of our church in raising money for their ministry.

Reservations are required for **D**inner and **D**essert. So that our professional chefs will know exactly how much food to prepare.

The menu will consist of choice of two entrées. These choices will be made available for you to choose over the next two Sundays. A form will be I the Bulletin and available in the Narthex. You may also make reservations by calling the office.

Contact Stephanie or Daniel Saults for more details.

WEST CIRCLE

Will meet on Tuesday, February 4th, at 11 o'clock in the Keene Room. Please bring a sandwich, drinks and dessert will be provided. We invite the ladies of the church to join us for Bible study and fellowship.