

# The Cumberland

## Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

6900 Nubbin Ridge, Knoxville, TN 37919

~ E-mail: [firstcpc@earthlink.net](mailto:firstcpc@earthlink.net) ~

(865) 588-8581

Kevin Wood ~ Pastor

Website: [www.first-cumberland.org](http://www.first-cumberland.org)

A Weekly Newsletter

*"Loving God, Loving People"*

April 25, 2007

### **OUR LOVE AND PRAYERS...**

...to Ann Gallaher in the death of her mother, Vera Stewart, 96, a longtime member of First Church. The graveside service was held on Tuesday.  
...to Dan Eblen and family in the loss of his uncle, James Ragsdale, last week. James made his profession of faith in Jesus Christ shortly before his death.

### **RECOVERING...**

...Reba Smith is recovering from bronchial pneumonia and asks for your continued prayers.  
...Brach Emory received a wonderful report following a recent cat scan. The tumor is gone.

### **LAST SUNDAY--- THIS SUNDAY**

Last Sunday Peggy O'Neal did a superb job in sharing her mission trip to Panama. What a blessing to hear God's challenge to enlarge your heart and go on mission somewhere around the world!

This Sunday, April 29, 10:45 a.m. Rev. Bill Ivey will share the Gospel during the morning message. Don't miss a wonderful opportunity to worship and hear God's message through His servant!

### **MAY IS FAMILY MONTH**

May is "Family Month" at First Church and we are going to celebrate in some special ways.

Sunday, May 6 is "Graduate Sunday" and we want to recognize graduates of all kinds including kindergarten, middle school, high school, college, post-graduate, business school, etc. Please call the church office right away if you know of any graduates. We don't want to overlook anyone.

Sunday, May 13 is "Mother's Day" and we will honor all ladies and mothers during the morning service. Don't forget to bring your mother as our honoree for the day!

Sunday, May 20 is "50 Year-Plus Members" Sunday. According to our records we have 35 people who have been members 50 years or more with Vester Summitt being a member the longest. He joined the church November 8, 1926!

We will have a potluck luncheon in their honor following the morning service and they will all sit at the head table. Please help us find a way to transport all those who may need a ride! We really want to have everyone present!

Sunday, May 27 is "Bring a Special Friend Day" so you can bring someone to meet the church family whose been a wonderful friend to your family through the years or even a new friend. We will have each one of them stand and they will receive a church coffee mug. On this day we ask that everyone dress informally and wear their "I Love My Church" t-shirt to church!

May is going to be a great month at First Church. It's all about "loving God and loving people!"

### **WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS IN MAY**

First Church welcomes new members anytime in one of three ways: (1) by profession of faith and baptism; (2) by transfer of letter from another church; or (3) by reaffirmation of faith (when there is no previous church membership).

During the month of May I will offer pastor's classes for those who are interested in learning more about church membership. Classes for adults and youth (high-school age) will meet the first two Sundays (May 6 and 13); children's classes (junior-high age and below) will be held the last two Sundays (May 20 and 27). All classes will be held during the Sunday School hour, 9:30-10:30 a.m., in the conference room next to my office.

These classes are not required for membership but they will help everyone understand the church's vision for ministry and the joys and privileges of being a Christian and a committed member of First Church.

### **FAMILY SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN GROWTH**

Our annual "Family School of Christian Growth" also known as Vacation Bible School for the Whole Family will be held Sunday, June 10 through Wednesday, June 13, 6:00-8:30 p.m. nightly.

Adult classes will include Bible study and a special series for parents and prospective parents from James Dobson entitled "Essentials of Discipline: What's OK, What's Not, and What Works."

Children and youth will participate in "Water Works Water Park."

The Christian Education Committee needs lots of volunteers for classes, crafts, recreation, refreshments, etc. Please call the church office or sign up using the bulletin insert.

Pre-registration for the "Family School" a.k.a. VBS for the Whole Family begins Sunday, May 6 and will continue through Sunday morning June 10.

### **WOULD YOU HOST ONE SUMMER PRAYER MEETING?**

We are looking for host homes this summer to host a monthly church-wide prayer meeting on Sunday evenings, 6:00 p.m. If you feel led to host one of the four meetings this summer, please contact Nancy Wood (357-1946).

### **GOD IS ANSWERING OUR PRAYERS!**

#### **KEEP ON PRAYING...**

- (1) ...Daily for church growth.
- (2) ...Daily for a continuing positive witness for the church.
- (3) ...Daily for our "potential congregation!"
- (4) ...About your personal commitment to stewardship and ministry support.
- (5) ...About your personal commitment to change old habits so new people will feel welcome!
- (6) ...About those who are thinking about joining the church and those who are planning for the Family School of Christian Growth, June 10-13, 6:00-8:30 p.m. nightly.
- (7) ...Keep on "Praying Until Something Happens!"

~Pastor Kevin

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Presbyterian Church, Inc.  
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Join Us For Worship This  
Sunday!  
And bring a friend!

## Happy Birthday

### April

29~Barbara McCammon  
29~Jin Gaston

### May

2~Ann Bachman  
2~Amanda Emory Roberts  
3~Maggie Jarnagin  
3~Charlotte Byrd



### Activities for April 28– May 5, 2007

Sat.,	10:00 a.m.	Rebecca's Circle (Perkins)
	10:00 a.m.	Light replacement in Sanctuary
Sun.,	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:45 a.m.	Worship Service
Tues..	6:00 p.m.	Spiritual Gifts Study
	11:00 a.m.	West Circle (Keene Room)
	7:00 a.m.	Building & Grounds Committee
Wed.,	6:30 p.m.	Choir Practice

### Stewardship Report for April 22, 2007

Sunday School.....30  
Worship.....83  
Offering.....\$1,926.00

#### Year-to-Date (as of April 22, 2007)

Offerings received to date: \$47,815.88  
Expenses paid to date: \$72,907.88

### FISH UPDATE

Our thanks go out to the Toddler Sunday School Class for their donation of \$19.00 to Fish. Their generous contribution brings our total this year to \$4,192. Our fourth and final bagging session filled 126 bags last Saturday. The team consisted of Steve Goodrich, Mark Boggs (who took the cardboard to recycle), Faye, James, Sydney, Emma, and Eli O'Neal, Donna, Jesse, and Marikate Walker and friend Andy Chips, Jane and Jack Carroll and Betty Hammill. My sincere thanks go out to the faithful bagging crews these past four Saturdays. Kevin Wood and I were able to purchase 246 loaves of bread for \$10 from Flowers Bread Store in Seymour and hope to get more this week. Again this year you have been a wonderfully supporting congregation as we help to feed the hungry in our community. Thanks, Betty Hammill

**Rebecca's Circle** will meet Saturday 28 (a week later than usual due to Fish participation) at Perkin's at 10:00 a.m. Call Faye O'Neal (693-0656) with questions.

**West Circle** will meet Tuesday, May 1 at 11:00 a.m. in the Keene Room. Please bring a sandwich. Drinks and dessert will be provided. We hope all can join us.



#### Newsletter Deadline

All Newsletter articles, events, or announcements should be sent by 2:00 p.m. on Mondays to Dianne Fielder at firstcpc@earthlink.net or call the church office at 588-8581.

### Prayer Concerns

#### In the Military



Shane McGhee in Iraq, wife Tamara in California  
Ronnie Gann (Peggy O'Neal's brother) is back from Iraq



#### In Convalescence

Pollye Pharaoh at Brakebill

#### On-going Health and Prayer Concerns

Pastors Euripides Morera, Rodrigo Torress and Gilberto Arteaga, and their congregations in Buenaventura, Columbia, Dick Congdon, Brack Emory, Mary Jane Blaylock, Denominational Center Task Force, Donna Wann (mother of David Wann), Ileana Grace Hayes, Bill Hammill, Reba Smith, Bill & Flora Mae Keene, Marlene Ritchey, Mildred Stone, Tom Raines, Edna Fleenor, Maxine McGuire, Mrs. Don Franks, Priscilla McCoy (Kim Halbert's mother), Margaret Lindsay, Mary Cregger, Jennie Lee Middlemas, Lucy Hesler, Irene Brooks (Nancy Wood's mother), JoAnn Ford, Howard Eblen, William Barron (Lee's Father), Coy Sharp and David Damron, Rose Gauthler, Kay Tipton, Carol King, Dorothy Damron and Lee Oberlieesen (friends of Dorothy Porter), Doug Bailey, friend of the Witmers, Dewaine Moncier, Jr., Mary Lynn Tolar, Peggy Bradshaw, and 5-yr. old Julia (4 requests by Dianne Fielder), James Ragsdale, uncle of Danny Eblen, the family of Steve Halbert, and Jane Carroll and her family, the family of Vera Stewart.

**Please keep the Church office informed of any needed changes, additions or deletions to our Prayer Concerns list.**

#### What's New in the Library?

We have some interesting new books in our church library. Be sure to stop by and check them out. The library is now open between Sunday School and church times on Sundays. (Note to Spiritual Gift Study Participants: I bet Esther Congdon can help us find those books Dr. Hester referred to.)

### Lay Ministry Corner

A Life of Blessing or a Life of Fear?

*"I'm not outgoing enough to get up in front of people."*

*"I don't have the funds to give to all the different ministries."*

*"I'm not good at working with children."*

*"I can't hold a tune."*

*"I'm scared that God's going to ask me to become a missionary in Africa."*

So many excuses are seated in our fears that God is going to ask us to do something that we are unable/unwilling to do. We have been assured though that we are all gifted and that God will not call us without first equipping us to meet our calling. Too often we try to meet callings that are not ours to meet, feeling frustrated in our efforts because we are not following our gift and calling to find the blessing and joy that God wants us to have. You need to first know what your gift is and then look for an opportunity to serve as God calls you. This faithful act will lead to the blessed life that God wants you to have!