

# The Cumberland

## Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

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

Our Weekly Newsletter

*"Loving God, Loving People"*

August 21, 2013

### **"IS THE LORD AMONG US OR NOT?"**

Exodus 17:1-7 asks that question. We ask that today, especially as we move into the era of a new pastor. As we read Exodus 17 we come across the word "faultfinding". And most of us are good at that (finding fault with others – not ourselves).

The people Moses was leading asked the question "Is the Lord among us or not?" They asked the question because: 1) they were already backsliding; 2) of their infidelity; 3) they were faultfinders; 4) their selfishness.

There are several evidences of Divine presence (in response to the question): 1) Increase of spiritual enlightenment; 2) Spiritual mindedness; 3) Christian love; 4) Activity and devotedness to the cause of Christ.

So, **"Is the Lord among us or not?"** My conclusion to this Sunday morning message was: "Yes, thank God, the Lord is among us. Recognize and accept His guidance!"

- J. David Hester

### **25 DAYS AND COUNTING!**

In just 25 days (Sept. 15) Rev. Mike Wilkinson will be here among us as our new pastor! These are exciting times! Are you praying – preparing – inviting? Remember that scene from the latter part of Exodus 17 – how Aaron and Hur held up Moses' hands so that the battle could be won. **YOU** are the ones that must hold up the hands of Pastor Mike as he leads us!

***"When you were born, you cried and the world rejoiced.  
Live your life so that when you die, the world cries and you rejoice"***  
***- White Elk, Cherokee***

### **THE BREVITY OF LIFE**

"Several years ago a university student asked me what had been my biggest surprise in life. Immediately I replied 'The brevity of life'. Almost before we know it, the years have passed and life is almost over.

On one hand, life's brevity should challenge us. If ever we are to live for Christ and share Him with others, it must be now. Jesus said, 'The night is coming when no one can work.' (John 9:4).

But life's brevity should also comfort us. Life is short – and before us is eternity! When sufferings overwhelm us or difficulties assail us we know they will soon be over. Paul wrote, 'Our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory ... for the things which are seen are temporary'. (2 Corinthians 4:17-18)

Don't live as if this life will continue forever. It won't. Live instead with eternity in view!"

- Billy Graham

### **LOOKING AHEAD ----**

Sunday, Aug. 25 – 5:00 – CPWM meeting at Betty Hammill's

Sunday, Sept. 15 – 10:45 – Pastor Mike Wilkinson's first service as pastor

12:00 – Church-Wide pot luck dinner

Sunday, Sept. 22 – 6:00 – Session meeting

### **AMONG OUR PEOPLE**

**Youth** enjoyed a great swim party at the Pipkins Sunday evening ... **Bob McGehee**, former member of our congregation, died last week at the age of 90 ... **Tom Parrott II, his wife and 2 children** were guests of **Cliff Parrott** this past week; (this is Cliff's grandson and great-grandchildren); they visited from New Jersey ... **Pastor Hester** was back in the pulpit Sunday (for the first time in 6 weeks); he continues to gain strength; thank you for your prayers ...

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# Happy Birthday

August

25-Randy Clark  
25-Danny Eblen  
25-Miriam Seylar  
27-Lorene Hall  
28-Jessica Walker

Activities for August 25-31, 2013

Sun., 9:30 a.m. Sunday School  
10:45 a.m. Worship Service  
5:00 p.m. Women’s Meeting—Hammill

(See web site for complete calendar listings)

Stewardship Report August 18, 2013

Sunday School.....34  
Worship.....61  
Offering .....\$1,310.55  
Building Fund.....\$5.00  
Music Fund.....\$50.00

Just Do Something, by Rick Warren

Continuation of last week’s article

1. Discover your gifts.  
You’ve got to know what they are before you can use them. You have to stop neglecting the fact that inside of you are some dormant gifts that you’re not even using. The Bible says in 1 Timothy 4:14, “Do not neglect the spiritual gift that is in you” (GN). You’ve got to figure out what God has put in you.

2. Dedicate your gifts to God.  
The Bible says in Romans 6:13, “Give yourselves completely to God, for you were dead, but now you have new life. So use your whole body as an instrument to do what is right for the glory of God” (NLT).  
Some of you already know what you’re good at; you’re just not using it for the Lord. You’re using it for yourself. You need to humble yourself and dedicate to the Lord every gift you have. Push all of your excuses out of the way, and say, “God, I dedicate what you gave to me back to you.”

3. Develop your gifts.

4. Deploy your spiritual gifts.  
We will finish article next week.

BUILDING & GROUNDS NEEDS YOU!

The B&G Committee is seeking additional volunteers to help with the maintaining of our church building and our grounds. We are working with several Boy Scouts who are getting ready to start their Eagle Projects here at the church. Watch in the next weeks as they progress.  
We are always in need of the persons who like to weed our flower beds and landscaped areas. A few more hands will make the tasks go faster and easier on all of us.  
The home schools are back at the church and we look forward to our continuing ministry together as students are educated in a Christian environment.

Prayer Concerns

In the Hospital

Peggy Bradshaw, (Dianne Fielder’s mother) Ft. Sanders

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; Taylor Ford; Mary McJunkins, (Mary Wegman’s mother); Eric Nelson, (friend of the Witmer clan); Donna Wingard, (Mildred Acuff’s daughter); Ann Fleming, (Beth Rader Fleming’s mother-in-law); Pat Shetterly, (Sherry’s mother); Debbie & David Triese, (Margaret Migas’s sister and husband); Steve Goodrich; Saxon Cochran (Bridges’ neighbor with cancer); Carl Ware; Allison, Hailey, Connor and Hannah Davis; Janie Beeler, (Greg Beeler’s wife); Martha Petree, (friend of Kevin Wood and Greg Beeler); Judy Gammon; Brenda Burk (sister of Lois Witmer), Ruth McNabb (mother of Tammy Eblen); Suzan Smith, (Jewell Kerr’s daughter); 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); Sheila Emory.

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

## WOMEN’S MEETING

Women of Our Church

We will meet this Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm at Betty Hammill’s house, 505 Bardon Road. Wanda Moody will be our guest, speaking on “being a Christian in the world of politics”. We will have supper and then a short program after we eat. Put this date on your calendar and plan to attend, all you ladies of the church.

Are you saving your soup labels?  
IN addition to "Labels for Education" found on Campbell's soup and Pepperidge Farm products, the Children's Home is now collecting Box Tops for Education. These are found on General Mills cereals, as well as many other products. Please clip them from the various products and put them in the collection box in the church office.