

The Cumberland

Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

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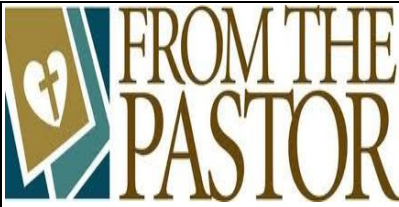
Rev. Mike Wilkinson ~ Pastor

Website: www.first-cumberland.org

Our Weekly Newsletter

"Loving God, Loving People"

July 2, 2014



One of our members regularly sends me, via e-mail, a daily devotional written by **Greg Laurie**. Laurie has been the Senior Pastor of **Harvest Christian Fellowship**, in Riverside, California, for at least three decades and unbeknown to the person who sends me these e-mails, Laurie is a communicator of the Gospel that I have admired for years. With that in mind, I encourage you to read and ponder a devotional he wrote entitled, "More Like God".

An unforgiving Christian is a contradiction in terms, an oxymoron. To say you are a follower of Jesus Christ and yet harbor unforgiveness in your heart is simply wrong. Jesus touched on the issue of forgiveness time after time. It was a theme of so many of His parables, it was part of His prayers, and He hammered on this issue again and again in the private talks He had with His disciples. You are never more like God than when you forgive. Alexander Pope wrote, "To err is human, to forgive is divine." We reflect the nature of God in such a dramatic way when we are willing to forgive. If you really want to be like the Lord, then you need to be a forgiving person because He is a forgiving God. Exodus 34 gives us this description of God, "The Lord, the Lord God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering and abounding in goodness and truth, keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin" (verses 6-7). Therefore, if we want to be like Him, we should do the same. Jesus taught us to pray, "And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors" (Matthew 6:12), but He also taught us to pray, "Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven" (verse 10). What is going on in heaven? The worship of God, the exaltation of Christ, and the granting of forgiveness. Therefore, we should be worshiping God. We should be exalting Jesus Christ. And we should be forgiving one another.

On a personal note: As I write this article on Monday morning, pending the outcome of the home inspection scheduled for today, we have sold our house in Hoover (suburb of Birmingham), Alabama. This is the house we have rented out for the last few years. The closing of this sale is scheduled for this Thursday, July 3rd. I know you have been praying for the sale of this house, as well as our home in Millbrook, Alabama, and I thank you for your prayers; now I am asking you to pray that the closing goes smoothly. If all goes as scheduled, Joanna and I will be in Birmingham this Thursday and then travel on to Millbrook and spend two nights in our home there with our youngest daughter. We will be back in Knoxville Saturday afternoon. Though I will be out of town, if you need me, feel free to call me on my cell phone (205-533-2001). We still need you to be praying for the sale of the Millbrook house because its sale will free us to acquire a home in Knoxville.

Receive grace, live grace, show grace,

Pastor Mike

Christian Sympathy

Our sincere Christian sympathy is extended to the **Family of Wayne Cardwell (Phil Bridges' uncle)**, who passed away Monday, June 23rd. Also, **Scott Roberts' uncle**, whose passing we noted last week, was **Dale Craddock**, not Dale Craddo, as was mistakenly printed in *The Cumberlander*.

Friendship Club

The **Friendship Club** will gather at **Sullivan's Fine Food**, in Rocky Hill, at 11:00 a.m., Wednesday, July 16th, for a Dutch-treat lunch. Everyone reading this article is automatically a member of the **Friendship Club** and is therefore invited to go on this outing.

Serene Manor

We are collecting items for the residents of **Serene Manor Nursing Home** (where **Jewell Kerr's** daughter was lovingly cared for). These are the things needed at this time—men's underwear (all sizes) and both men's and women's sweatpants (all sizes). There will be boxes in the front hallway where you can put your donations. Thank you for your help in this undertaking.

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.

Knoxville First Cumberland
Presbyterian Church, Inc.
6900 Nubbin Ridge Drive
Knoxville, TN 37919

First Cumberland,
where you belong!

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

Happy Birthday

July

10-Elijah Gwilliams
12-Jim Curtis
12-Jack Gaston

Activities for July 6-12, 2014

Sun., 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:45 a.m. Worship Service
12:15 p.m. Building & Grounds
Wed., 5:30 p.m. Choir Practice
(See web site for complete calendar listings)

Stewardship Report June 29, 2014

Sunday School.....47
Worship.....84
Offering\$4,239.50
Music Fund.....\$75.00
Memorial Fund.....\$380.00

Among Our People

Virginia Brown (Kim Halbert’s grandmother) is moving to a rehab facility in Harrogate , TN, with a broken hip ... after spending a couple of days as NHC Fort Sanders, **Jeannine Walker** (Kim McCurry’s mother) is back in Parkwest Hospital ...

YOUTH POOL PARTY

Rain ruined the Youth Pool Party yesterday. Stephanie and Daniel Saults will re-schedule and will let everyone know when the new date is set.

GOD’S INDEPENDENCE DAY

By Beth Patch

Most Americans have celebrated Independence Day in their life-time. The smell of burgers and hotdogs sizzling on the grill outside and the bursting of fireworks in the sky become familiar on July 4th. We eat, maybe the Star Spangled Banner is played or the National Anthem, and then everyone watches fireworks and goes home. It’s become rather commonplace, another day for big sales events and flying an American flag.
However, an Independence Day celebration approaches that will include and impress the whole world! We don’t know the date and shouldn’t believe anyone who tells us they do. But, **no one** on earth or in heaven will miss its importance, and it will mark a day of freedom from the greatest oppressor ever – Satan.
It is the day of the return of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! It is the beginning of real freedom, like no one has ever had before (except Adam and Eve before they sinned). Those who have believed in Christ’s atoning blood for their sins and have trusted and believed in Him, might have what an old preacher of mine used to call "a Hallelujah breakdown!"
This Independence Day will release Christians from the many sins that keep them entangled. Imagine, no more sickness, no more addictions, no more gossip, no more unkindness, no more anything that does not reflect the positive attributes of the love of our Father God and our Lord Jesus Christ.
Currently, we have the Holy Spirit to guide us, to strengthen us, to comfort us, and to give us power through Christ’s death and resurrection. However, we are still tripped up by sin as long as we live in this fallen world. When Jesus comes, all our ungodliness along with our negative baggage goes away. I can’t think of a better freedom than that.

Prayer Concerns
In the Hospital

Jeannine Walker, Parkwest Hospital

Health and Prayer Concerns

CP Missionaries; Gordon Blaylock; Mildred Stone; Edna Fleenor; Howard Eblen; Mary Cregger; Gladys Stone; Mildred Acuff; Maxine McGuire; Ada Ladd; Carol Seeman; Bud and Betty Hickman (friends of Mary Ann Haney); 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); Donna Wingard (Mildred Acuff’s daughter); Debbie and David Triese (Margaret Migas’s sister and husband); Carl Ware; Allison, Hailey, Connor and Hannah Davis; Janie Beeler (Greg Beeler’s wife); Ruth McNabb (mother of Tammy Eblen); 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 and Jin Gaston; Marie Jobson (friend of the Witmer’s); Cliff Parrott; Tom Williams (friend of Cliff Parrott); Dick Booher; Tom Parrott (Cliff Parrott’s son); Larry Taylor (Joy’s husband); Richard Hines (Jin Gaston’s brother-in-law); Carl Kissiah (Joanna Wilkinson’s father); the Whaley family (friends of Kathy Byers); J. David Hester; Christina and Baby Hinkle (Pastor Mike and Joanna’s daughter and expected grandchild); Jeannine Walker (Kim McCurry’s mother); Virginia Brown (Kim Halbert’s grandmother); Brandon Hargutt; the family of Wayne Cardwell (Phil Bridges’ uncle); Bob Metts

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

Our ??th Annual Garage Sale

Our annual Garage Sale date is set for July 25 and 26. If you have items that you would like to donate to the church to sell, we are now taking items beginning this week. We will take your items on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 am to 1 pm at the downstairs entrance. We will also be sorting and displaying the items.
Ask your friends and neighbors if they have items they would like to donate to the church. We do provide tax receipts for those who need them.
We will need persons to help receive items and to sort and to price and display the items.
If you have any questions about this event or would like to volunteer to help please call Maxine (357-0441 or 235-5839) or the church office (588-8581).

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Monday, June 30th, was Edna Fleenor’s 98th birthday. On this day, Betty Hammill, Mildred Acuff, Mary Ann Haney, Jin and Jack Gaston, J. David Hester and Pastor Mike made a trip to her home to celebrate this milestone.