

# The Cumberland

## Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

6900 Nubbin Ridge Drive, Knoxville, TN 37919 ~ E-mail: [FirstCPC@KFCPC.com](mailto:FirstCPC@KFCPC.com) ~ (865) 588-8581

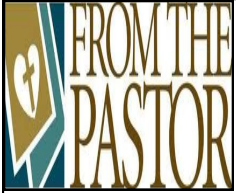
Rev. Mike Wilkinson ~ Pastor

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

Our Weekly Newsletter

*"Loving God, Loving People"*

December 16, 2015



"Joy to the world! the Lord is come; Let earth receive her King. Let every heart prepare Him room, And heaven and nature sing, . . . Joy to the world! the Savior reigns; Let men their songs employ, While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, repeat the sounding joy, . . . No more let sins and sorrow grow, Nor thorns infest the ground. He comes to make His blessings flow, Far as the curse is found. . . . He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove The glories of His righteousness And wonders of His love, . . ." ["Joy to the World!", Isaac Watts] As I said last Sunday morning, this is perhaps my favorite Christmas carol and it is certainly my hope that you have received the King and are allowing the Savior to reign in your life so that you may experience true joy!

Our **Choir** and our **children** will present the **Christmas cantata**, "*The Silence and the Sound*", this coming Sunday night, December 20<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m. This promises to be a truly meaningful time of worship, so make your plans now to attend; and while you are at it, invite a few family members, friends, co-workers, or classmates to join you.

Our annual **Christmas Eve Worship Service** will be at 5:00 p.m. and will include the *Sacrament of the Lord's Supper*. As Cumberland Presbyterians, we practice *Open Communion*, which means that you do not have to be either a member of this congregation or the Cumberland Presbyterian Church to participate in *Holy Communion*, so feel free to invite family members and friends to join you for this special Worship Service.

Learning the unforced rhythms of grace,

*Pastor Mike*

### Youth News

- ⇒ Our annual **Youth Christmas Post Office** is still open. Simply drop any Christmas cards you would like to share with fellow church members in the "Youth Post Office Box" in the Narthex, along with a donation in the amount of your choosing, and our **Youth** will hand-deliver your cards.
- ⇒ This coming Sunday evening, December 20<sup>th</sup>, our **Middle and High Youth Groups** will have a joint **Christmas Party** following our **Choir's** presentation of the **Christmas cantata**, "*The Silence and the Sound*".

### Cumberland Presbyterian Women's Ministry

- ◆ Looking for a Christmas present to help those in need? On the table in the Narthex are order and information forms to purchase gift cards for the **Fish Hospitality Pantry**—walk-in food pantries in the North, South, and East sections of town. For just \$5.00, or any multiple of \$5.00, you can give these cards for Christmas and the money will go to help feed the hungry in our city. They are available at the Church of the Ascension, around the corner on Northshore Drive. You can pick them up personally, order by mail, order on line at [www.fishpantry.org](http://www.fishpantry.org), or give them your list and they will mail them for you. **Betty Hammill** will be glad to pick them up for you, if none of these options work for you.
- ◆ The **Angel Tree** for Serene Manor Nursing Home is in the Library. All the angels have been taken. Please return all the unwrapped gifts, with the angel attached, back to the Library by this coming Sunday, December 20<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for your support.
- ◆ Two **Mitten Trees** are in the Narthex. Please bring mittens, hats, scarves, and socks for the children in Appalachia—the Coalition of Appalachian Ministries, in Townsend, will distribute them. These need to be in by Sunday, December 27<sup>th</sup>, as they will be taken to the mission the first week of January. Thank you for your support.

### From Our Mailbox

Dear First C.P. Friends,

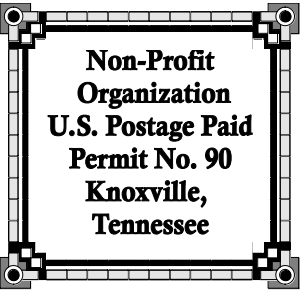
Nancy's family and I were grateful for your presence at her Celebration of Eternal Life Service in Greenville! Thank you for your prayers and loving care during this time. God bless all of you as you continue to share the Good News of Jesus Christ! I will keep praying for Pastor Mike and you as you trust God for your future!


In His love,  
Kevin L. Wood

### Christian Sympathy

Our sincere Christian sympathy is expressed to the **Family of Mercedes (Cooky) Dyer** who passed away late last Monday afternoon, December 7<sup>th</sup>. Please keep Jim, their two daughters, and four grandchildren in your prayers during this difficult time.

*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.*






## Happy Birthday

**December 16th-22nd**

18th ~ Tara Shelley  
19th ~ Kevin Pipkin  
22nd ~ Tammy Eblen



Stewardship Report December 13, 2015	
Sunday School.....	52
Worship.....	88
Offering.....	\$4,744.25
Youth Fund.....	\$410.50
Memorial Fund.....	\$50.00
Building Reimbursements.....	\$142.90

Activities for December 16-22, 2015	
Wednesday: 11:00 a.m.	Friendship Club
6:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
Friday: 4:30 p.m.	Children Cantata Practice
Saturday: 10:00 a.m.	Choir Practice
Sunday: 9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
10:45 a.m.	Worship Service
6:00 p.m.	Christmas Cantata
(See our web site for complete calendar listings)	

*Among Our People*

It was good having the **Rev. William Alas Family** worshipping with us last Sunday; **William** is the pastor of the Hispanic Cumberland Presbyterian congregation that meets in the church where Pastor Mike pastored in Birmingham, Alabama . . . Congratulations to **Lindsay Bridges** and **Taylor Rakes** on their recent engagement . . . **Edna Fleenor** remains under hospice care at NHC, St. Mary's . . . It was good having the **Miguel Gonzales Family** worshipping with us last Sunday . . . **Ada Ladd** is now home from the hospital . . . It was good having the **Rev. Alfonso Marquez Family** worshipping with us last Sunday . . . **Cliff Parrott** continues to recover from the skin graft on his leg . . . **Marlene Ritchey** remains under hospice care in Arizona . . .

**Save the Date**


Our annual **Congregational Meeting** to elect, ordain and/or install elders will be Sunday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, at the close of our Worship Service.

**Pictures with Santa**

Picture from last Saturday's **Bruch with Santa** are available at [seejanephoto.com](http://seejanephoto.com). Please ignore the picture of Pastor Mike sitting on Santa's lap. A special that you to our photographer, **Jane Craddock** (Scott Robert's mom), and to **Justin** (Santa Claus) **Rech**.

**Correction**

A correction to last week's newsletter: It was **Cub Scout Pack 20** and **Boy Scout Troop 20** and **parents** who raked the leaves and picked up sticks in our front yard.




## 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; Sarah Ames (mother of a coworker of Kathy Byers); Janie Beeler (wife of Greg Beeler); 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); Carol Craven (sister of Lois Witmer); Mary Cregger; **Cumberland Presbyterian missionaries**, Mary Helen Daniel; Mae Denton (friend of Tammy Eblen); Nora Derreberry (mother of Maxine Curtis); **FAMILY OF COOKY DYER**; Edna Fleenor; Grace Flory (mother of Lois Witmer); Lynne Garrison (sister of Lois Witmer); Mary Beth Hazelwood's baby (friend of Lisa Hayes); Mark Hester; Larry Hickens (friend of Tom and Emily DeLozier); Bud and Betty Hickman (friends of Mary Ann Haney); Christina Hinkle and Baby (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); Malachi (seven-year-old friend of Zachary Spencer); Gene McCammon; Maxine McGuire; Catherine McKinney; Ruth McNabb (mother of Tammy Eblen); Bob Metts; 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**, Catherine Pipkin (mother of Paul 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; Gladys Stone; Donna Snoderly (sister-in-law of Betty Hammill); 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); Lois Witmer

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

**Friendship Club**

The next Dutch-treat luncheon for the **Friendship Club** is Wednesday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, at 11:00 a.m., at the **Copper Cellar West** (7316 Kingston Pike). Everyone reading this announcement is welcome to attend this and all **Friendship Club** outings; you are also encouraged to invite people from outside the church to join you.