

The Cumberland

Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

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Rev. Mike Wilkinson ~ Pastor

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Our Weekly Newsletter

"Loving God, Loving People"

April 9, 2014



FROM THE PASTOR

I want to issue you a challenge. **Easter Sunday** is generally the day that more people attend church than any other Sunday of the year. First of all, I want to encourage everyone who reads this newsletter to gather to worship the risen Christ on **Resurrection Sunday**. Obviously, my preference is for you to gather here at First Church. This leads to my challenge. In my six-month tenure here, the most people who have gathered to worship on a Sunday morning is 132; my challenge is not for us to merely exceed that number on **Easter Sunday**, but rather, my challenge is for us to shatter that number by having more than 150 gathered to worship on that day. For this to occur, a couple of things need to happen. First, you need to make a commitment to be here yourself. We simply cannot meet this challenge without your presence. Even if you come to the **Son-rise Service**, you need to be here for the 10:45 a.m. service. The two services will be different, and they are not intended to be a “pick one or the other”, but taken together, they will enhance your worship of the risen Christ. Besides, what do you have to do that is more important than worshipping the risen Christ? The second thing that needs to happen for us to meet the challenge is for you to bring someone with you to worship the risen Christ. I know that many of you are hesitant, for various reasons, to do this, but relax; I am not asking you to invite total strangers to attend, though you can certainly do that if you wish. I am asking you to invite someone you already know; this can be a family member, a co-worker, a friend, a classmate, or a neighbor. The momentum that can be generated by a record crowd will help First Church step into the future God has prepared for us (**Jeremiah 29:11**). That is the challenge—150 or more people in attendance for the 10:45 a.m. worship service on **Easter Sunday**, April 20th—the question is: “Can we meet the challenge?” I believe we can, **IF** you want to do so; as usual, the choice is yours. By the way, I never issue a challenge to a congregation that I do not issue to myself, so I will be here on **Easter Sunday** (duh!) and I will have invited guests with me.

Grace,

Pastor Mike

Sow Generously for FISH

Last Saturday we had another hard working team who filled 130 bags of groceries in one hour. This team consisted **Tom, Donna, and Jessie Walker; Becky Radar; Joanna Wilkinson** and her father **Carl Kissiah; James, Sydney, and Emma O’Neal** and friend **Madison Finegan; Rue Dougherty, and Betty Hammill**. Our next and last bagging session will be this coming Saturday, April 12th, at 9:30 a.m., at the pantry site. Thank you and may God bless our church as we sow generously to help feed the hungry in our community.

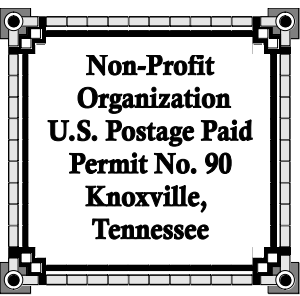
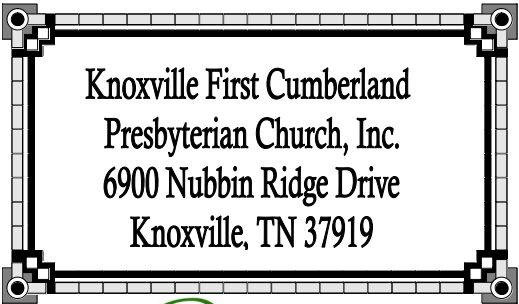
It’s Egg Hunt Time in Tennessee!

Make plans and mark your calendars now for this coming Saturday, April 19th, at 11:00 a.m. The **Egg Hunt** will be for kids from birth to fifth grade. Please bring one dozen candy-filled plastic eggs to the church for each child in your family that will be participating. Even if you don’t have children involved, we would like for each family to donate a dozen candy-filled plastic eggs. You can drop them off at the Church Office, or bring them the day of the event. There will be games and crafts, lunch, and of course an **Egg Hunt!** If would like to help in any way, please see **Julie Rech** or **Laura Paschke**.

Holy Week Schedule

April 13 th , 9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
April 13 th , 10:45 a.m.	Palm Sunday Worship Service ; the musical, “ <i>Testimony of Life</i> ”
April 17 th , 6:30 p.m.	Maundy Thursday Worship Service ; includes <i>The Lord’s Supper</i>
April 18 th , 12:00 noon	Area Good Friday Worship Service ; at Sacred Heart Catholic Church
April 19 th , 11:00 a.m.	Egg Hunt ; for kids from birth to fifth grade
April 20 th , 7:00 a.m.	Son-rise Service ; in the Chapel
April 20 th , 8:00 a.m.	Breakfast
April 20 th , 9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
April 20 th , 10:45 a.m.	Easter Sunday Worship Service ; includes <i>The Lord’s Supper</i>

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



April
18-Dain Shelton



Activities for April 6-12, 2014

Sun.,	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:45 a.m.	Worship Service
	12:15 p.m.	Stewardship & Finance
	4:00 p.m.	Handbell Practice
Wed.,	6:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
Sat.,	9:30 a.m.	FISH Pantry

(See web site for complete calendar listings)

Stewardship Report April 6, 2014

Sunday School.....	42
Worship.....	75
Offering	\$5,285.00
Building Reimbursement.....	\$37.50
Music Fund.....	\$75.00

Among Our People

Good to have **Billy Ritchey** (from Ariz.) visiting with his mother **Marlene** on Sunday ...

At the meeting of The Presbytery of East Tennessee Saturday were **Pastor Mike Wilkinson, Elder Phil Bridges, Dr. J. David Hester** ... Announced at Presbytery as chair of the **Camp Chilhowee Board** was our own **Jimmy Curtis** ... Presbytery also granted a letter of transfer to West TN Presbytery for **Rev. Kevin Wood** who will become pastor of the McKenzie TN Cumberland Presbyterian Church on May 18 ...

There will be a workday at Camp Chilhowee on Saturday, May 3, 2014. Contact Jim Curtis for more information.

Summer Church Camp News

The schedule for church camps has been announced:
Middle School Sunday June 1st-6th
High School Sunday June 8th-13th
Junior Sunday June 15th-19th
Contact Jim Curtis or Pastor Mike for more information.

THANK YOU SO MUCH!!!

Thanks to those persons who came to the workday on Saturday and worked on fixing items in the playground area. These volunteers were lead by Jim Curtis, our Building and Grounds Committee Chairman.



Prayer Concerns In the Hospital Health and Prayer Concerns



CP Missionaries; Mary Jane and 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 Gaston; Marie Jobson (friend of the Witmer's); Grace Flory (Lois Witmer's mother); Cliff Parrott; Dale Craddo (Scott Robert's uncle); Tom Williams (friend of Cliff Parrott); Dick Booher; Becky Rader; Brandon Hargutt; Alice Montgomery; Lynne Garrison (Lois Witmer's sister); Mary Safewright
Please keep the Church office informed of any needed changes to our Prayer Concerns list. Call 588-8581 or email firstcpc@earthlink.net

Lay Ministry Corner ~Donna Walker

Lent Live -Final Week Six

Lent is a good time to say, "I'm sorry" and "I am forgiven." As Lent is coming to an end, we are reminded of God's awesome power to overcome & forgive our sins if we have faith and believe in Jesus. But He also commands us to forgive, and if we believe Him, then we must also believe that our faith demands that we forgive.

This week- for seven days - you will:

Forgive others and receive forgiveness.

Suggestions to get started: 1) think about a choice you made that hurt someone. 2) think about someone that has hurt you. 3) tell God about it, thru letter, picture or prayer. 4) Know that if you ask for forgiveness, you **are** forgiven. 5) make time to tell the person you hurt that you are sorry.

Who knows, if this is something you struggle with, maybe you will start new habits that will free you, and you will come out of this Easter, free indeed!

Our Stewardship and Finance Committee will meet this coming Sunday, April, 13th, following the worship. They will meet in the conference room.