

# The Cumberland

## Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

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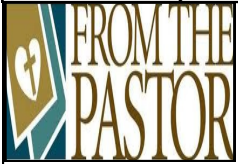
Rev. Mike Wilkinson ~ Pastor

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

Our Weekly Newsletter

"Loving God, Loving People"

November 18, 2015



During our Worship Service last Sunday, **Steve Summers** shared our *Stewardship Moment*. In doing so, Steve told a true story that he heard on the radio last week. The story went something like this: Every ten years a man and his family gave away everything they owned and started over again. A local reporter heard about this family's amazing generosity and came to interview the man and his wife. During the interview, the man excused himself for a few minutes and left the room. In his absence, the reporter asked his wife if giving everything away every ten years was hard. She openly acknowledged that it was. The reporter then asked her why her husband did it. She said, "I reckon it because he had never gotten over being saved." That story touched me because sometimes I take, not only my salvation, but all God's blessings in my life for granted. My prayer is that neither I, nor you, ever take God's blessings for granted—that we never get over being saved.

We are in the midst of our annual Stewardship Campaign—**Generosity: Excelling in the Grace of Giving**. With the notion of never getting over being saved in mind, are you as generous as you should be? Notice that I did not ask, are you as generous as you can be, but are you as generous as you should be? For more than three decades now, Joanna and I have given above and beyond our tithe (ten percent of our income) and before Steve's *Stewardship Moment*, we had already agreed upon the increased amount we planned to return to the Lord through First Cumberland next year, but after pondering never getting over being saved, we have decided to increase our giving even more—to be more generous. I do not share our personal decision to gain your praise, but to challenge you to do the same. I know that when preachers talk about giving, most people think we are only talking about money, but I am talking about much more than money—I am talking about giving your heart. Our decision to be even more generous than we originally planned was not a financial or monetary decision, it was a heart decision based on all that God generously pours into our lives. This generosity begins with our salvation, but it includes much more than that. God's generosity in our lives includes our marriage, our children, our grandchildren, the rest of our family, our church family, our friends, our health, our financial blessings—our list is almost endless and I am sure your list of blessings is extensive, as well. Please pray and ponder God's generosity in your life before you fill out your *Estimated Giving Card for 2016* and may it reflect that you have not gotten over being saved. **Second Corinthians 8:7** says: ". . . *since you excel in everything—in faith, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in the love we have kindled in you—see that you also excel in this grace of giving.*" [NIV]

Learning the unforced rhythms of grace,

*Pastor Mike*

### Cumberland Presbyterian Women's Ministry

Our ladies' ministry's annual **BAKE/CRAFT SALE** will take place this coming Sunday morning, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, from 9:00 a.m. till 9:30 a.m., from 10:30 a.m. till 10:45 a.m., and after the Worship Service, in the Library. Ladies, we ask your help in contributing to our CPWM's largest fundraiser.

### Youth News

- ⇒ Our **Middle School Youth Group** will meet here at the church this coming Saturday, November 21<sup>st</sup>, from 12:00 noon until 2:00 p.m. They will still practice archery and play games; a light lunch will be provided.
- ⇒ Our **High School Youth Group** will gather after the Worship Service this coming Sunday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, at one of the city's greenway entrances (to be announced this Sunday). Youth need to bring their bikes and a light lunch. This outing will start about 12:30 p.m. and end around 3:00 p.m.
- ⇒ Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, ***BOTH*** our **Middle and High Youth Groups** will help with the **Brunch with Santa** event. All youth need to be at the church at 8:00 a.m. to prepare brunch to be served at 10:00 a.m.
- ⇒ Sunday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, our **Middle and High Youth Groups** will have a joint **Christmas Party** (details to follow).

### Quote of the Week

"We can complain because rose bushes have thorns, or we can rejoice because thorn bushes have roses."—**Abraham Lincoln**

*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

November 18th-24th

20th - Jim Dyer  
20th - Hunter Witmer  
21st - Patrick Curtis  
23rd - Mary Helen Daniel  
23rd - Kian Pipkin

Stewardship Report November 15, 2015

Sunday School.....51  
Worship.....83  
Offering.....\$4,140.87

Activities for November 18-24, 2015

Wednesday: 11:00 a.m. Friendship Club  
6:30 p.m. Choir Practice  
Saturday: 12:00 noon Middle School Youth  
Sunday: 9:00 a.m. Bake/Craft Sale  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School  
10:45 a.m. Worship Service  
12:15 p.m. High School Youth  
4:00 p.m. Missions and Outreach  
6:00 p.m. Session  
(See web site for complete calendar listings)

Among Our People

Edna Fleenor remains under hospice care at NHC, St. Mary's . . . Cliff Parrott will have a skin graph on his leg this coming Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup> . . . Marlene Ritchey remains under hospice care in Arizona . . . It was great having Kenan Saxton (fiancé of Sarah Pipkin) worshipping with us last Sunday . . . It was great having Gina Seavers worshipping with us again last Sunday . . . Jack Walker is in Parkwest Medical Center for tests . . . It was great having Rebecca Wilkinson (daughter of Pastor Mike and Joanna) visiting with us from Alabama last Sunday . . .

Friendship Club

The next Dutch-treat luncheon for the Friendship Club is this Wednesday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, at 11:00 a.m., at The Original Louis' Drive-In Restaurant (4646 Old Broadway).

Missions and Outreach Committee

Our Missions and Outreach Committee will meet this coming Sunday afternoon, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 4:00 p.m., in the Keene Room.

Church's Website

The church's website, [www.first-cumberland.org](http://www.first-cumberland.org), includes audio recordings of the sermons from the previous four of our worship services. Look for the link on the bottom left-hand corner of our homepage.

Prayer Concerns

In the Hospital

JACK WALKER @ Parkwest Medical Center

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); Jim and 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); 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 KUGENDA (brother-in-law of Margaret Migas); Ada Ladd; Bob Lawson (friend of Pastor Mike); 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); 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.

Save the Dates

⇒ The second annual Rocky Hill Christmas Parade will be Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m. We plan to enter a float in the parade again this year.  
⇒ We will hold a Brunch with Santa Claus on Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon, in our Gym.  
Additional information about these two events will soon appear in the newsletter.