The Cumberlander

Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

6900 Nubbin Ridge, Knoxville, TN 37919 ~ E-mail: firstcpc@earthlink.net ~

(865) 588-8581

Rev. Mike Wilkinson ~ Pastor

Website: www.first-cumberland.org

Our Weekly Newsletter

"Loving God, Loving People"

September 24, 2014



I cannot say that **National Back to Church Sunday** went as well I had hoped. Nonetheless, I can say that we had three first time visitors in attendance and that was a great thing. In spite of not reaching the goals for last Sunday, my two goals for the next year have not changed—increasing our Sunday School attendance from the forties to sixties and increasing our Worship Service haties to the low one-hundreds. Not only have the goals not changed, the plan

attendance from the eighties to the low one-hundreds. Not only have the goals not changed, the plan remains the same—each of us making a commitment to be here ourselves and inviting and bringing someone with us. As I wrote last week, "It really is that simple, and it is the only plan I have."

In his book, If You Want to Walk on Water, You've Got to Get Out of the Boat, John Ortberg writes: "The decision to grow always involves a choice between risk and comfort. This means that to be a follower of Jesus, you must renounce comfort as the ultimate value of your life. And that's sobering news to most of us, because we're into comfort, but water walkers master failure. . . . Did Peter fail? Well, I suppose in a way he did. His faith wasn't strong enough. His doubts were stronger. 'He saw the wind.' He took his eyes off of where they should have been. He sank. He failed. But here is what I think. I think there were eleven bigger failures sitting in the boat. They failed quietly. They failed privately. Their failure went unnoticed, unobserved, un-criticized. Only Peter knew the shame of the public failure. But only Peter knew . . . the glory of walking on water. He alone knew what it was to attempt to do what he was not capable of doing on his own, then feeling euphoria of being empowered by God to actually do it. Once you walk on water, you never forget it--not for the rest of your life!"

I want to encourage you to attempt to "walk on water" this week. By that, I mean step out in faith and invite someone to Sunday School and the Worship Service this coming Sunday. I look forward to seeing you and your guests here.

Learning the unforced rhythms of grace,

Pastor Mike

Christian Sympathy

We extend our sincerest Christian sympathy to the **Family of Howard Eblen**, who passed way last Tuesday, September 16th. Please keep children, **Danny Eblen** and **Wanda Cox**, and their families in your prayers.

Cumberland Presbyterian Women's Ministry Meeting

The ladies of the church will be meeting this coming Sunday evening, September 28th, at 5:00 p.m., at Betty Hammill's house (505 Bardon Road). They will have a meal and then former member, Tracy Woods, will be sharing a very interesting story of a healing she has experienced. Ladies, please mark thus date and make your plans to be there.

FISH Pantry

During the month of September, we have been collecting **non-food items** for the **West Knox FISH Pantry**. These items include bath and facial soap, toothbrushes and toothpaste, shampoo, deodorant, diapers (all sizes), etc. Collection boxes are in the Narthex. The last day of the collection will be this coming Sunday, September 28th. Thank you for your assistance with this project.

First Cumberland Presbyterian Youth Fellowship Fall Festival

Our Youth are sponsoring a **Fall Festival** (for all ages) on Sunday October 26th, from 3:30 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. The **Festival** will include BBQ chicken dinner plates (\$6.00 each), games, live music, hayrides, face painting, an inflatable slide and bouncy house, cake walks, a silent auction, and Truck or Treat. This is a fundraiser to help our Youth attend Winter Convocation in Gatlinburg this coming January.

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.



First Cumberland,

where you belong!



Happy Birthday



September

30-Gracie Hayes

October

1-Corey Booker 2-Hailey Davis



Activities for September 28-October 4, 2014

Sun., 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:45 a.m. Worship Service
12:15 a.m. Building & Grounds
Weds., 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice

(See web site for complete calendar listings)

Stewardship Report September 21, 2014

Sunday School	35
Worship	
Offering	\$1988.25
Memorial Fund	
Building Reimbursement	\$75.00

Kroger Community Rewards Program

If you need any assistance registering your Kroger Rewards Card, including hands-on-help, please contact **Kim Halbert** at 660-5821 or khalbert@utk.edu.

With Special Thanks

We would like to thank all of you for your love & support during this difficult time. We would like to thank Pastor Mike for all his visits, prayers and the consolation he gave us in the services. We would also like to thank Betty Hammill, Lois Witmer & Judy Gwilliams for delivering the delicious food.

God's Spirit shines through in people like you.

The family of Howard Eblen

First Cumberland Presbyterian Youth Fellowship

Sunday, October 5th, 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Lunch, Archery, Fun, and Fall Festival Planning – Bring a friend!

Sunday, October 26th, 2:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

FCPYP Fall Festival — Our Youth need to be at the church no later than 2:00 p.m. to help set up for the festival. Bring a friend!

Friendship Club

Members of the **Friendship Club** will gather at **Carver's Applehouse Restaurant**, in Cosby, TN, at 11:00 a.m., Wednesday, October 22nd, for a Dutch-treat lunch. A carpool will leave the church at 9:30 a.m., if you would like to join the caravan. Every one reading this announcement is invited to join the **Friendship Club** by merely showing up to eat.



Prayer Concerns

<u>In the Hospital</u> Damian Booker (Children's)



Health and Prayer Concerns

the persecuted Christians around the world; Cumberland Presbyterian missionaries home and abroad; Gordon Blaylock; Edna Fleenor; Mary Cregger; Gladys Stone; Maxine McGuire; Ada Ladd; Charlotte Bird; Carol Seeman; Jack Walker; Mildred Acuff; 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); Carl Ware (Sam's father); Allison, Hailey, Connor and Hannah Davis; Janie Beeler (Greg Beeler's wife); Ruth McNabb (Tammy Eblen's mother); Debbie Holloway; Kim Jones (friend of Amanda and Scott Roberts); Rebecca Rech (Justin Rech's pother); Jack and Jin Gaston; 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); the Whaley family (friends of Kathy Byers); Christina and Baby Hinkle (Pastor Mike and Joanna's daughter is expecting a baby boy on January 18, 2015); Bob Metts; Joni Warner (friend of Jewell Kerr's sons); B.F. and Mary Helen Daniel; Alice Montgomery; Sherri Kramer (friend of Joy Taylor); Kim Boyatt (friend of Susan Edwards); Donna Wingard (Mildred Acuff's daughter); Becky Ingle (coworker of Amanda Roberts); Jim and Cookie Dyer; Lois Witmer; Jonathon Spencer; Rose Wilkinson (Pastor Mike's mother); Ruth West (Greg Beeler's aunt); Damian Booker; the family of Howard Eblen

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



Damian Booker (Lisa Hayes' son) was taken to Children's Hospital last Friday evening following an asthma attack; while there, he had an allergic reaction to soy milk; he is doing better and should get to go home early this week . . . Jin Gaston received a good report from her stress text last week . . . B.F. Daniel continues to receive outpatient therapy following his stroke . . . Donna Wingard (Mildred Acuff's daughter) remains under hospice care with terminal cancer; Mildred is still in the Atlanta-area with her and her family . . . Carl Kissiah (Joanna Wilkinson's father) met with a surgeon at Vanderbilt Hospital on Monday, September 22nd, to determine if the graft in his aortic aneurism needs to be replaced (no update available at the time of printing The Cumberlander). . . Rose Wilkinson (Pastor Mike's mother) is home from the hospital following her appendectomy; she is recovering well, but continues to battle COPD . . . Dick Booher will have replacement surgery on his second knee in the near future . . .