

# The Cumberland

## Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

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Kevin Wood ~ Pastor Website: [www.first-cumberland.org](http://www.first-cumberland.org)

Our Weekly Newsletter "Loving God, Loving People" January 9, 2008

### WHEN GOD SPEAKS AND PEOPLE RESPOND!

Many of us thought it impossible to reach \$50,000.00 in our Building Improvement campaign. But when God speaks and people respond to His call, all things are possible!  
The thermometer now reads \$52,482.00 as of last Sunday, January 6!!! What that means is we have a sizeable down payment on our loan to replace the roof and HVAC system. Let's keep going and reduce the loan amount needed even further! God bless all of you for your generous giving!!!

### BEING THE CHURCH

Perhaps the biggest difference in the early New Testament Church and today is they didn't talk about *going to church*, they were focused on *being* the Church. Instead of just *going to church* on Sunday they were dedicated to *being* the church every day.  
This year please join me in praying that the Holy Spirit will show us how to *BE THE CHURCH* and give us the faith and the courage to do it.  
This Sunday, the message will center on "*Being the Church*," from Acts 2:42-47.

### WILL THIS BE THE YEAR?

We've just turned the page on a new year! Will this be the year you finally get into the word of God?  
We have a great opportunity for you continuing this Sunday, January 13, 9:30 a.m. The Chapel Class will be diving into the New Testament and you are invited to join us. We will be doing 45 selected readings over the next ten weeks and when we're done we be able to see the "big picture" of what the New Testament is all about.  
Our primary resource will be The Bible but we will also use a great companion book entitled "The Essential Bible Guide." We can provide copies for anyone at a nominal cost of \$8.00 each.  
If you really do want to know more about God's guidebook for living in 2008, we'll see you this Sunday in the chapel.

### TAKE A TRIP TO KOREA JANUARY 27!

Ernest and Michelle Gillis, the pastoral family of First Cumberland Presbyterian Church of Korea, will be our guests Sunday, January 27, 10:45 a.m. Come meet them and hear about what God is doing through their ministry!  
The First CP Church of Korea has become the home base for new mission points throughout Asia. New pastors and leaders are being raised and sent to places previously unknown to the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.  
Bring your family and friends to welcome the Gillises. On that Sunday we will take a special "Gift to the King" offering for Korean missions and we will enjoy our first potluck luncheon of 2008. Please bring those wonderful meat, salad, vegetable, and dessert dishes to share!

### UPWARD BASKETBALL BEGINS!

It's time for Upward Basketball to begin! Opening games will be held this Saturday, January 12 beginning at 11:00 a.m. Continue praying for our newest ministry as children and families gather in the gym each Saturday through March 1. May many lives be drawn to Christ through this wonderful outreach! Come out to watch the games and help us welcome the community to First Church!

### HELPERS NEEDED FOR CHILDREN'S CHURCH

We are looking for helpers for Children's Church for the months of February through December. The Christian Education Committee asks you to sign up for one month. A curriculum is provided for K-3 while a toddler nursery (ages 1-4) will be staffed by a paid nursery worker. If you can help, please contact Nancy Wood (357-1946).

### 'ELDER ON CALL' FOR JANUARY/FEBRUARY

January 13	Steve McCurry	February 3	Steve Summers	February 24	Tom Witmer
January 20	James O'Neal	February 10	Valerie Wann		
January 27	Dianne Pipkin	February 17	Lois Witmer		

### REGULAR SESSION MEETING FOR JANUARY

The regular session meeting for this month will be held Tuesday, January 15, 6:00 p.m. in the Keene Room. Elders, please note the change.

### OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2008

Offering envelopes for 2008 are available in the narthex. Please pick up your box in the coming weeks.

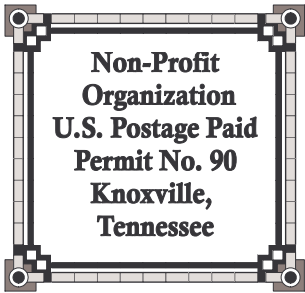
### DON'T STOP PRAYING FOR YOUR CHURCH!

As we begin a new year, please don't stop praying for First Church. The elders and I ask you to pray for us as we retreat together and plan together. Pray that God will be glorified for the good things that are happening and that He will guide us to answers to our most pressing problems including finances and new ministries. Your prayers have and always will make a difference. So keep going. Pray without ceasing. Look what God has already done. And He's not done yet!!!

### GUESS WHO???

Guess which one of our church members was caught on film by a crew from "60 Minutes" last Sunday? Maybe she'll tell you at church one of these Sundays! Hint: it was just one of those "God things!"

~Pastor Kevin



# Happy Birthday



## January

- 14-Leigh Ann Summers
- 16-Betty Hammill
- 17-Alice Montgomery
- 18-Diane Clark



### Activities for January 12–19, 2008

Sun.,	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:45 a.m.	Worship Service
	5:00 p.m.	The Crossing
Wed.,	6:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
Thrus.,	6:00 p.m.	Session
Sat.,	10:00 a.m.	Rebeccas—Perkins

(See web site for complete calendar listings)

### Stewardship Report for January 6, 2008

Sunday School.....	52
Worship.....	102
Offering.....	\$6,174.00
Capital Improvements Fund .....	\$328.00
Memorial/Building Fund.....	\$8,435.00
Expenses paid last week .....	\$2,093.04

### Year-to-Date (as of January 6, 2008)

Offerings received to date:.....	\$6,174.00
Expenses paid to date:.....	\$2,093.04

Building / Cap. Improve. Fund.....\$52,482.00  
Keep an eye on the thermometer in the Narthex. Keep up with the our progress of the Building / Capital Improvement Fund Raising Campaign.

### New Address

Stella Holt  
7220 Deville Way  
Powell, TN 37849

### Update on Building Repairs and Maintenance

Three more sump (roof) pumps where purchased to remove water off the roof in an attempt to keep water from entering the building any more than it is. If you have any questions or comments about these projects or other facility needs, please contact any member of the Building & Grounds Committee. (Tom Witmer, James O’Neal, Billy Davis, Barbara McCammon, Dick Congdon or Charlie Franks).

### New Volunteer Program

We are attempting to revive an old volunteer program, Office Volunteers. We are asking persons who are able to come and work in the office for a couple of hours a day. Duties would include: answering the phone, making copies, entering data into our computer system, helping Pastor, helping in office and building, collecting attendance registers from Church, maintain office area, being another happy face for our building guests to see, etc. If interested, contact Jewell Kerr or Tom Witmer.



## Prayer Concerns



### In the Military

Shane McGhee in Iraq, wife Tamara in California  
Bill Hickman in Iraq, Lee Barron’s cousin

### In the Hospital

Wally Holt, Ft. Campbell Military Hospital, Iraq War Veteran

### On-going Health and Prayer Concerns

Taylor Ford; JoAnn Ford; Marlene Ritchey; Pastors Euripides Morera, Rodrigo Torress and Gilberto Arteaga, and their congregations in Buenaventura, Columbia; Brack Emory; Mary Jane Blaylock; Denominational Center Task Force; Ileana Grace Hayes; Bill Hammill; Reba Smith; Bill & Flora Mae Keene; Mildred Stone; Edna Fleenor; Maxine McGuire; Mrs. Don Franks; Priscilla McCoy; Margaret Lindsay; Mary Cregger; Jennie Lee Middlemas; Irene Brooks; William Barron; Nancy Bander-molen; Doug Bailey; Mike Roberts; Joyce Creasman; Brenda Burk; Jonathan Migas; Bernie Migas; Levi Bailey; Lillian Stephens; Neal Denton; Bonnie Holbert; Otis Clinton Shelby; Reba Hauser; Franklin Graham Crusade coming to Knoxville in April, 2008; Lucy and Glen Hesler; Lois Witmer; Francis Bogart; Noreen Bogart; David Summers; Barbara Leith; Elena Zimmerman; Thomas King; Gladys Stone; Sam Bivens; Ann McGraw; Matt Lambert; Marion Biggs; Lea Acuff; Cliff Limer-ick; Judy Lawson (Lisa Deal’s Aunt); Wendy O’Neal (surgery); Dewaine Moncier, Jr. (Dianne Fielder’s cousin); A. R. Wood (Kevin Wood’s brother); Olivia Grace Thrasher (new great niece of Faye O’Neal).

*Please keep the Church office informed of any needed changes, additions or deletions to our Prayer Concerns list.*

### A Need

Does anyone have or know of anyone who has a wood burn-ing stove for 20”—22” logs that is no longer needed and needs a new home???? Well, if you are that person or know some-one who is then call 548-4083. They would really like to take it off your hands!!!

### Reinforced Message

When I attended Christ Women United on January 4, I was privileged to hear a message on prayer by the Rev. Arzolla Phillips. The following are her lessons from Nehemiah:

1. Prayer before action.
2. Courage as a result of knowing “God’s got your back”.
3. People are sent by God to help in accomplishing **HIS** mis-sion.
4. Will to work is necessary to get things done.
5. Challenges will come from both the outside and the inside. We must deal with them to meet our call from God to serve Him.

Rev. Phillips gave a message to start the new year with opti-mism. Her text of Nehemiah (from which Rev. Kevin Wood spoke in his sermon of July 8, 2007) fits where our church is now: faced with challenges and decisions regarding our build-ing. I challenge all of us to hear these lessons which reinforce what Rev. Wood told us in July 2007 regarding “Want to make a difference?”.

Dianne Fielder

All Newsletter articles, events, or announcements should be sent by 9:00 a.m. on Tuesdays to Tom Witmer at firstcpcc@earthlink.net or thomaswitmer @Comcast.net or call the church office at 588-8581.