

The Cumberland

Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

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

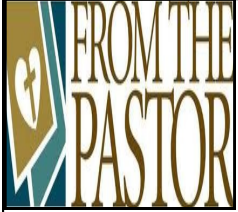
Rev. Mike Wilkinson ~ Pastor

Website: www.first-cumberland.org

Our Weekly Newsletter

"Loving God, Loving People"

December 2, 2015



This coming Sunday, December 6th, marks the conclusion of our annual Stewardship Campaign — **Generosity: Excelling in the Grace of Giving**. Last Sunday, **Dianne Fielder** gave me a copy of her home church's newsletter that contained five "Stewardship Season Thoughts" that I want to share with you. Thought #1: **We are not the owners**. We are merely stewards or managers of what God has generously given to us. Thought #2: **We act on behalf of the Master**. We are not "giving away" our money; we are sharing what God has generously given to us. Thought #3: **The key quality of a steward is trust**. God is trusting us to share what He has generously given to us. Thought #4: **We are entrusted with different amounts**. We are not to be jealous of what God has generously given to others; instead, we should be thankful for what God has so generously given to us. And Thought #5: **Stewardship involves much more than money**. God's generous blessings in our lives are much more than financial (They include family, friends, health, talents, etc.); therefore, we should generously return a portion of all that God has so generously given to us. Notice that following each "Stewardship Season Thought" I attempted to put the focus on **Generosity: Excelling in the Grace of Giving**. Please pray and ponder God's generosity in your life before you fill out your *Estimated Giving Card for 2016*, which will be turned in and dedicated this coming Sunday during our Worship Service. May our generous commitment reflect that we have not gotten over being saved, or in the words of **Second Corinthians 8:7**: "... 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] If you are unable to be in attendance this coming Sunday, an *Estimated Giving Card for 2016* is included in this newsletter; simply fill it out and mail it to the Church Office this week, and it will be included in our **Prayer of Dedication** during our Worship Service. Following our Worship Service, we will have a **Pot Luck Dinner** in the Gym to celebrate God's generosity in our lives.

Learning the unforced rhythms of grace,

Pastor Mike

Rocky Hill Christmas Parade

Once again, we will have a float in the **Rocky Hill Christmas Parade**. The **Cub Scouts** will be helping us in this endeavor and are supplying us with a 24-foot trailer and a truck to pull it. Anyone wishing to help decorate our float needs to meet at the church this coming Saturday morning, December 5th, at 10:00 a.m. Please bring lights and decorations that can be used on the float. The parade will be that evening at 6:00 p.m. Parade participants will meet at the Rocky Hill Baseball Fields at 5:00 p.m.

Youth News

- ⇒ Our annual **Youth Christmas Post Office** is now 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 deliver your cards.
- ⇒ On Saturday, December 12th, **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 help prepare brunch to be served at 10:30 a.m.
- ⇒ On Sunday, December 20th, 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

- ◆ Our CPWM's annual **Bake/Craft Sale** raised \$685.55 this year. \$500.00 of this was then given to support our Youth Group; the remainder will be used to support various CPWM ministries throughout the year.
- ◆ 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, 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.
- ◆ Coming up in December will be the **Mitten Tree** for the children in Appalachia (Coalition of Appalachian Ministries) and the Serene Manor **Angel Tree**.
- ◆ The **West Circle** of our ladies' ministry will meet Tuesday, December 15th, in the Keene Room, at 11:00 a.m. This is two weeks later than the usual meeting date. They will have a potluck lunch after the meeting. All the ladies of the church are invited to attend.

Poinsettias

Poinsettias to decorate our Sanctuary on Sunday, December 20th, at are now available to purchase in honor or memory someone. The cost is \$8.00 per flower. Order forms will be in the bulletin the next two weeks, or you can call the Church Office to place your order.

*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

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 90
Knoxville,
Tennessee

First Cumberland,
where you belong!

Happy Birthday

December 2nd-9th

No known birthdays this week.

Stewardship Report November 29, 2015	
Sunday School.....	36
Worship.....	69
Offering.....	\$3,975.25
Youth Fund.....	\$500.00
Coke Box.....	\$56.00

Activities for December 2-9, 2015	
Wednesday: 6:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
Saturday: 10:00 a.m.	Float Decoration
5:00 p.m.	Assemble for the Parade
6:00 p.m.	Christmas Parade
Sunday: 9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
10:45 a.m.	Worship Service
12:15 p.m.	Pot Luck Dinner
(See our web site for complete calendar listings)	

Among Our People

Edna Fleenor remains under hospice care at NHC, St. Mary's . . . **Bill, Kim, and Robyn Halbert** spent Thanksgiving week near Myrtle Beach, South Carolina . . . **Christina** and **Waylon Hinkle** (daughter and son-in-law of Pastor Mike and Joanna) are expecting their second child in July . . . Congratulations to **Danny and Kelley Kissiah** (brother and sister-in-law of Joanna Wilkinson) on the birth of their eighth child; **Mason** was born on Thanksgiving Day . . . **Cliff Parrott** continues to recover from the skin graph on his leg . . . **Marlene Ritchey** remains under hospice care in Arizona . . .

- Save the Dates
- ⇒ We will have a church-wide **Brunch with Santa** Saturday morning, December 12th, from 10:30 a.m. (note the time change) until 12:00 noon, in our Gym. Donations for the brunch will gladly be accepted to help fund **Youth** activities.

⇒ Our **Choir** will present the **Christmas cantata**, "**The Silence and the Sound**", Sunday night, December 20th, at 6:00 p.m.

⇒ Our annual **Christmas Eve Worship Service** will be at 5:00 p.m. and will include the **Sacrament of the Lord's Supper**.

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

Church's Website

The church's website, www.first-cumberland.org, includes audio recordings of the sermons from the previous four Worship Services.

Prayer Concerns

In the Hospital

No one connected to First Cumberland is known to be in the hospital at this time. PLT!

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); 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); 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 16th, 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. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board near the Church Office.