

The Cumberland

Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

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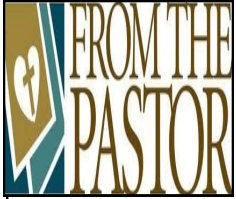
Rev. Mike Wilkinson ~ Pastor

Website: www.first-cumberland.org

Our Weekly Newsletter

"*Loving God, Loving People*"

December 30, 2015



With the dawn of a new year fast approaching, I want to wish you a Happy New Year! I also want to share with you a list of resolutions called, *The Seven-Ups for the New Year*, that I shared in last Sunday's sermon: First of all, **Wake-Up**—begin the day with the Lord. It is His day. Rejoice in it. Second, **Dress-Up**—put on a smile. It improves your looks. It says something about your attitude. Third, **Shut-Up**—watch your tongue. Don't gossip. Say nice things. Learn to listen. Fourth, **Stand-Up**—take a stand for what you believe. Resist evil. Do good. Fifth, **Look-Up**—open your eyes to the Lord. After all, He is your only Savior. Sixth, **Reach-Up**—spend time in prayer with your adorations, confessions, thanksgivings, and supplications to the Lord. And seventh, **Lift-Up**—be available to help those in need—serving, supporting, and sharing.

Also, in the course of last Sunday's sermon, I said, "In **Jeremiah 29:13**, the Lord says: '**When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart,**' [NRSV]" With that in mind, I plan to start a sermon series this coming Sunday focused on *Seeking and Savoring Jesus*. In last Sunday's sermon, I asked us: "What one thing defines you? Thrill-seeker? Wealth-seeker? Happiness-seeker? Christ-seeker?" I am praying that this upcoming sermon series will help us all become fully surrendered Christ-seekers. "... **you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart,**" I look forward to seeing you here as we embark on a new year of the future that God has planned for us!

A few months ago, sometime during the Summer if I recall correctly, I wrote in the newsletter that our *Session* had approved moving \$10,000.00 from our limited reserves to our operating account to meet our ongoing expenses. Frankly, it troubled me greatly that we had to do that, but if you recall, I expressed the hope that we would be able to put that money back into our reserve account by the end of the year. Well, I have some great news: today (Monday, December 28th) both the \$10,000.00 we withdrew and an additional \$1,000.00 will be deposited in our reserve account. God is good!

Learning the unforced rhythms of grace,

Pastor Mike

Cumberland Presbyterian Women's Ministry

- ♦ All the items on the **Mitten Trees** will be delivered to the Coalition of Appalachian Ministries (CAM), in Townsend, the first week of January. Thank you for your support in this ministry.
- ♦ The West Circle of our ladies' ministry will meet Tuesday, January 5th, at 11:00 a.m., in the Keene Room. Please bring a sandwich lunch—drinks and dessert will be provided.

Congregational Meeting

Our annual **Congregational Meeting** to elect, ordain and/or install elders will be Sunday, January 10th, at the close of our Worship Service. At that time, our *Session* will nominate **Ryan Haddox**, **Scott Roberts**, and **Steve Summers** to serve as the *Elder Class of 2018*. During this meeting, we will also receive the resignation of **James O'Neal**, *Elder Class of 2016*, who is moving to Hawaii. Our *Session* will then nominate **Dianne Pipkin** to serve the remaining eleven months of James' term. Additional nominations for both classes can be made from the floor if the nominee is present for the meeting, has agreed to be nominated, and meets both the biblical and constitutional qualifications to serve. A special thank you to **Maxine Curtis**, **Kim Halbert**, and **Jewell Kerr** for their service to this congregation as the *Elder Class of 2015*.

2016 Denomination Day Celebration

The Presbytery of East Tennessee's **2016 Denomination Day Celebration** will be Sunday, January 31st, at 3:30 p.m., at the Talbott Cumberland Presbyterian Church. The celebration will be a song service featuring Sothern Gospel Music. There will be a Presbyterian Choir made up of people from many churches, including First Cumberland, along with several other choirs and soloists. Following the celebration, a meal will be provided for a donation. Please make reservations no later than Monday, January 25th, by contacting the Talbott Church at 865-475-1221 or talbottchurch@bellsouth.net.

Happy New Year!

*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 30th-January 5th

No known birthdays this week.

Stewardship Report December 24, 2015	
Christmas Eve Worship Service.....	115
Stewardship Report December 27, 2015	
Sunday School.....	44
Worship.....	69
Offering.....	\$13,836.20
Memorial Fund.....	\$25.00
FISH.....	\$1,500.00

Activities for December 30-January 5, 2015		
Sunday:	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:45 a.m.	Worship Service
Tuesday:	11:00 a.m.	West Circle
(See our web site for complete calendar listings)		

Among Our People

Mike and Ann Bachman celebrated the Christmas holiday in Florida with their daughter . . . Edna Fleenor remains under hospice care at NHC, St. Mary's . . . It was good having Christina Hinkle, Donald Robinson, and Rebecca Wilkinson (Pastor Mike and Joanna's family from Birmingham, Alabama) worshiping with us last Sunday . . . Ada Ladd remains under hospice care at home . . . Peggy O'Neal has now started her new job in Hawaii; the rest of the O'Neal Family (James, Emma, Sydney, and Eli) will join her in early February . . . Cliff Parrott continues to recover from the skin graph on his leg . . . Catherine Pipkin, mother of Paul Pipkin, will have back surgery Tuesday, January 5th . . . Marlene Ritchey remains under hospice care in Arizona . . . It was good having the Bill and Toni Summers Family (sister of David Collins) worshiping with us last Sunday . . . Tom Witmer's heart catheterization revealed a blockage; he will be meeting with his doctors to determine a course of action . . .

Friendship Club

The next Dutch-treat luncheon for the Friendship Club is Wednesday, January 20th, at 11:00 a.m., at Calhoun's Restaurant (Bearden hill). 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.

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. PTL!

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); 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; Mary Safewright (friend of Rose Wilkinson); Gladys Stone; Donna Snoderly (sister-in-law of Betty Hammill); John Snoderly (brother of Betty Hammill); Sydney Snoderly (great-niece of Betty Hammill); Charlie Spalding (neighbor of Joy Taylor); Angel Tindell (granddaughter of Catherine McKinney); Carl Ware (father of Sam Ware); Joni Warner (friend of Jewell Kerr's sons); Lois Witmer; **TOM WITMER**

Please keep the Church Office informed of any needed changes to our Prayer Concerns list.

Thank You

I wish to thank you for the Christmas greetings and cards extended to me during this season. I also wish for you a Happy New Year.

Love,

Mildred Acuff