The Cumberlander

Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

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Rev. Mike Wilkinson ~ Pastor

"Loving God, Loving People"

June 15, 2016



Our Weekly Newsletter

This coming Sunday is **Father's Day**, so I want to wish all of our dads a happy **Father's Day**. To appreciate God as your Father everyday is something each of us can learn to do—even if your relationship with your father was/is painful for you. *Abba* is the Hebrew word for "Papa" or "Daddy", and it is typically the first word that a little Hebrew boy or girl says. *Abba* is a wonderful,

"Daddy", and it is typically the first word that a little Hebrew boy or girl says. *Abba* is a wonderful, affectionate name for God—to know that the Almighty God is our dear Papa or Daddy is such a comfort and blessing. The Gospels record a number of instances in which Jesus picked up children and held them, affirmed them, or blessed them in some way. Have you ever put yourself in one of these stories? This is one of the most important things you can do. You may have lost touch with it, but you have a child part of you inside. There is a vulnerable part of you that longs for your Heavenly Father to lift you up in His arms with joy! Have you brought this child in you to Jesus and His *Abba*? Does your heart cry out to God with affection and delight, "*Abba*!"? There is a void in each of us that only *Abba* can fill, but we cling to people. We try to impress people. We rush around and strive to succeed. We worry. We accumulate more and more stuff. We seek new experiences. We escape into entertainments or alcohol. We hold onto old wounds, especially from our fathers. O, my friends, Jesus shows us the *Abba* Father love of God that for which we yearn! Nothing else will fill the void in you and in me.

Learning the unforced rhythms of grace,

Pastor Mike

Website: www.first-cumberland.org

Next Week's Newsletter

Since both **Tom Witmer** and **Pastor Mike** will be attending the 186th General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Nashville all next week, there will be no June 22nd edition of *The Cumberlander*. By the way, **Tom** will be serving as one of the three Elder Commissioners for the Presbytery of East Tennessee. The biggest item of business that this year's General Assembly will address is the potential re-unification of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America—our sister denomination that was formed following the Civil War. We share both a common heritage and the *Cumberland Presbyterian Confession of Faith* with this predominately black-membership denomination headquartered in Huntsville, Alabama.

Summer Youth Camps

Presbytery has set the camping dates for Camp Chilhowee: **High School Camp** (for those who have completed ninth through twelfth grades) will be this coming Sunday through Thursday, June 19th-24th; cost \$150.00 per camper. Camp registration packs are available in the Church Office.

Cumberland Presbyterian Women's Ministry

Every year we try to give the big Kitchen by the Gym a deep cleaning. This year we plan to do this on Wednesday, June 22nd, starting at 9:30 a.m. We can use all the help (male and female) we can get. Please put this date on your calendar and plan to come if you can. We hope to finish by lunch time. Thank you for your support.—**Betty Hammill**

Vacation Bible School

Our Vacation Bible School will be held Thursday evening, June 23rd, through Sunday evening, June 26th this year. The theme this year is *Surf Shack: Catch the Wave of God's Amazing Love*. There will be classes for all ages (nursery through adult). Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights will begin at 5:30 p.m. with a light Luau (Dinner) in the Gym. Then at 6:00 p.m., we will gather in the Surf Shack (Chapel) for Opening Assembly. Following the assembly, classes and activities begin, with a Closing Assembly in the Surf Shack at 7:55 p.m. Rev. Greg Tucker, Pastor of Faith Fellowship Cumberland Presbyterian Church, will be leading the Adult Class. Special speakers for the adults will be Jessica Walker (drug addiction/drug addicted infants), Kate Trudell (sex trafficking), and Tom Walker (scuba dive finds). Special speakers for the youth will be Kate Trudell (sex trafficking), Lindsay Bridges (health education), and Jessica Walker (drug addiction/drug addicted infants). Sunday evening, at 5:30 p.m., we will have a Luau Cookout Party and a little fun on the Big Kahuna Wave Slide in the front yard of the church. Invitations for you to give to your family and friends will be available. Our Vacation Bible School Team needs to borrow white sheets, colorful beach towels, and a surf board for decorations; all items will be returned.

Talent Show and Ice Cream Social

Our **Outreach and Missions Committee** is planning a church-wide **Talent Show and Ice Cream Social** Sunday afternoon, July 10th, beginning at 4:00 p.m. A **Talent Show sign-up sheet** is on the bulletin board beside the Church Office; we now have five people signed up, but room for more, so make plans to participate with singing (solos, duets, quartets, etc.), playing musical instruments, magic tricks, dancing, twirling, stand-up comedy, or any other talents from our adults and children. Please bring ice cream, toppings, cookies, fruit, etc. to share. There will be a panel of judges for those bringing homemade ice cream! Invite your family and friends and come join us for this time of fun and fellowship!

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



June 15th-21st

We have no known birthdays this week.



Stewardship Report June 12, 2016

Sunday School	28
Worship Service	
Offering	\$4,118.25
Building Reimbursement	
Music Fund	

Activities for June 15-21, 2016

Wednesday: 11:00 a.m. Friendship Club—Litton's

Among Our Peo

6:30 p.m. Choir Practice

Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Worship Service

3:00 p.m. High School Camp Check-In

(See our web site for complete calendar listings)

Dick Booher returned home last Sunday, June 5th, after a prolonged stay at his son's home . . . **Ryan Haddox** has started a new mobile automobile detail service . . . **Gene** and **Barbara McCammon** will be at a music camp for the next two weeks . . . **Donna Walker** continues to recover from her recent surgery . . . **Lois Witmer** continues to battle chronic anemia, but is slowly improving . . .

Friendship Club

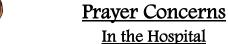
The next Dutch-treat lunch of the **Friendship Club** is Wednesday, June 15th, at **Litton's Market, Restaurant and Bakery**, located at 2803 Essary Drive (Fountain City), at 11:00 a.m. As always, feel free to invite family and friends to join you on these outings. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board outside the Church Office.

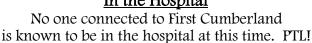
Chair Give-away

We only have a few **metal folding chairs** left to give away. Simply call the Church Office and schedule a time to pick some up. The chairs are free to anyone or any church that would like to have them and is willing to pick them up. All chairs not given away by July 21st will be placed in our annual **Garage Sale**.

Annual Garage Sale

Our annual **Garage Sale** will be Friday and Saturday, July 22^{nd} and 23^{rd} , from 8:00 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. We are now collecting donated items (antiques, clothing, electronics, books, toys, linens, sports equipment, estate items, furniture, office equipment, tools, costume jewelry, etc.). Simply bring the items you would like to donate with you to church on Sunday or call the Church Office (865-588-8581) to schedule a time to drop them off.





Health and Prayer Concerns (alphabetized)



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

Church's Website

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

Quote of the Week

"When I was a boy of fourteen, my father was so ignorant I could hardly stand to have the old man around. But when I got to be twenty-one, I was astonished at how much he had learned in seven years."

—Author unknown, commonly attributed to Mark Twain