

The Cumberland

Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

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Kevin Wood ~ Pastor

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Our Weekly Newsletter

"Loving God, Loving People"

November 14, 2007

THIS SUNDAY IS THANKSGIVING SUNDAY!

There is no better way to show your thanksgiving to God than be present for worship this Thanksgiving Sunday, November 18. Dr. J. David Hester, our pastor, teacher, and friend, will bring the morning message. What a great opportunity to invite people who do not have a church family!

THANKSGIVING BOXES

Thank you for your generous response last Sunday to the request for donations to provide Thanksgiving boxes for four families. Please bring your donations to the church office anytime this week or to the steps in the sanctuary Sunday morning. If you want to bring something but haven't signed up, just call the church office (588-8581).

What a great example of how the Body of Christ is supposed to work! Each one of us gives what we can and together God performs miracles through us!

HOW DOES A CHURCH GROW?

A dynamic, mission-minded church has four characteristics:

- (1) A dynamic church possesses an atmosphere in which God is free to move!
- (2) A dynamic church grabs the attention of outsiders!
- (3) A dynamic church makes sure it's doors are open to everyone!
- (4) A dynamic church proclaims the message of salvation!

A "survival church" lives in the past, is focused inward on itself, spends money to preserve the status-quo and consequently doesn't grow.

An "institutional church" stays in the present, fixates on program and on meeting the needs of who's already there, provides for the needs of the congregation, and experiences some transfer growth (members joining from other churches).

A "mission church" looks to the future, trusts God's vision for His Church, focuses outward on the needs of the community, invests money in the future, and often experiences new conversions to the Christian faith.

Where are we as the Body of Christ?

Where do we want to be as the Body of Christ?

STEWARDSHIP BEGINS NOW!

Most of you are aware we are beginning a two-part stewardship campaign at First Church for 2008.

The first part is a Capital Funds Campaign to complete major repairs and renovations to the facility: a new roof and heating and cooling system. We estimate we need to borrow a maximum of \$500,000.00 from our denomination to do that. Each of you have received the letter inviting you to partner with the pastor and elders to reduce the loan by at least 10% upfront. Our goal is to raise \$50,000 by January 31, 2008. Please send in your contribution as God enables you.

In the coming weeks you will also be given opportunity to make commitments to the church (time, talents, and treasure) and an ongoing commitment to help repay the denominational loan.

It all sounds overwhelming but we are convinced that God wants us to continue our ministry here. The elders and I ask you to join us in trusting that He will make a way. Let's give our best and watch God do the rest!

LOAVES AND FISHES OFFERING

Just two more Sundays until we collect and dedicate our Loaves and Fishes offering. Please bring your boxes filled with bills and coins Sunday, November 25. 75% will go to help relieve hunger and malnutrition in Darfur. 25% will be used in our local Love and Company ministry. Thank you for caring!

'ELDER ON CALL' DURING NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

November 18: Lois Witmer

December 9: Lee Barron

November 25: Valerie Wann

December 16: Jewell Kerr

December 2: Tom Witmer

December 23: Eugene McCammon

PRAY FOR UPWARD BASKETBALL!!!

Call the church office or come by and sign up your children/grandchildren, Grades K-6 for Upward Basketball. Evaluations begin the week of November 26.

We still need many helpers for the Upward Basketball ministry but the most important need right now is prayer. Please join the Prayer Team and pray daily for the following:

- (1) that we achieve our goal of reaching 100 children and families for Christ this first year; (4,500 flyers were taken to Knox County elementary schools this week!)
- (2) that God will be glorified in this new ministry;
- (3) that director Steve Summers and the leadership of UB will be blessed and enabled and encouraged as they prepare for the season.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM REHEARSALS

Parents and children please note: rehearsals for our annual children's Christmas pageant will be held in Children's Church during November and early December. Wendy Goodrich and Jane Carroll are directors. The pageant will be held during morning worship on Sunday, December 9.

CARE CARDS FOR VETS

If you would like to express your love and appreciation to those who have been wounded in the cause of freedom in Iraq, you are invited to send cards to the following addresses:

Wally Holt
Walter Reed Army Medical Center
6900 Georgia Avenue, NW
Washington, D. C. 20307-5001

A Recovering American Soldier
C/O Walter Reed Army Medical Center
6900 Georgia Avenue, NW
Washington, D. C. 20307-5001

OUR SYMPATHY

The love and prayers of the church family go out to Melanie Hester Kuhnhehn and family in the sudden death of her father-in-law, Larry Kuhnhehn. God be with you all!

~Pastor Kevin

Knoxville First Cumberland
Presbyterian Church, Inc.
6900 Nubbin Ridge Drive
Knoxville, TN 37919
Return Service Requested

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Organization
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Knoxville,
Tennessee

Happy
Thanksgiving

Happy Birthday

November

20-Hunter 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, Walter Reed Military Hospital, Iraq War Veteran

On-going Health and Prayer Concerns

Ted Ford; 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; Tom Raines; Edna Fleenor; Maxine McGuire; Mrs. Don Franks; Priscilla McCoy; Margaret Lindsay; Mary Cregger; Jennie Lee Middlemas; Irene Brooks; William Barron; Nancy Bandermolen; Doug Bailey; 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; Curtis McNabb (Tammy Eblen's father); Lois Witmer; Francis Bogart; Noreen Bogart; David Summers; Barbara Leith; Elena Zimmerman; Allan Smith; Adrienne Murphy; Emma Ruth Cates; Thomas King; Terry Davidson; the family of Pollye Pharaoh.

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

CPWM News

Bake-Craft-Pecan Sale

On Sunday, November 18 CPWM will conduct its annual Bake-Craft-Pecan Sale in the Library from 9-12:30. All the ladies of the church are requested to bake their favorite items and prepare craft items to donate. This sale is the major source of the CPWM funds used to donate to charities of the church, community, and denomination. Date of the arrival of the Pecans is not confirmed and will be sold when available. Thank you for your enthusiastic support of this fund raiser.

Christmas Tea

On Sunday, December 2 CPWM will hold their annual Christmas Tea in the Keene Room at 2 P.M. All women of the church are invited. Please bring some of your favorite cookies to be enjoyed by all. For additional information please call, Betty Hammill at 690-8739.

The Crossing News

Join Us For...
...the next meeting of TC on Sunday the 18th at 5:00 p.m. in the gym and bring a friend. Call Lindsay or John Duncan for information. Their phone number is 300-2226.

Out of the Mouth of Babes

The night of the viewing of Barbara Hester, after we had been inside to show our condolences, we were getting into our car and Connor has a very sad look on his face. I asked him what the matter was and he just began crying - heavily. After he stopped crying he said that we was sad because that lady died and went to Heaven. I told him it was okay and that she is all better now and no longer hurting. He then said "She is dancing with Jesus and God and we need to be happy!" ~Allison Davis

Activities for November 17-24, 2007

Sun., 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:45 a.m. Worship Service
5:00 p.m. The Crossing
Tues., 5:30 p.m. Cub Scout Dinner, gym
Wed., 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice
Thurs., Thanksgiving—Office Closed
Sat., 7:00 p.m. BSA, Court of Honor, Sanctuary

(See web site for complete calendar listings)

Stewardship Report for November 11, 2007

Sunday School.....51
Worship.....100
Offering.....\$4,031.99
Capital Improvements Fund\$3,635.00
Memorial/Building Fund.....\$2,681.00
Expenses paid last week\$8,449.48

Year-to-Date (as of November 11, 2007)

Offerings received to date:.....\$134,450.42
Expenses paid to date:.....\$228,526.92
Building / Cap. Improve. Fund.....\$15,261.00

Update on Building Repairs and Maintenance

The recommended roofing contractor has extended his bid until the end of January to accommodate our getting a loan. Phase #2 of the HVAC project is in the final stage. We are still working on finalizing design and budget. As those who where here Thursday thru Sunday noticed we had a leak in the under concrete piping in the HVAC system coming from the boiler. Replacing the pipe under the concrete is a critical need in a new system. This leak will cost over \$6000 to repair, not including water usage. 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).

Missing

We are missing four white plastic tables 8 foot long that belong to Thursday Connection. If you know where they are please inform the office. If we can not locate them we will purchase replacements for Thursday Connection. We have been collecting women's jewelry in the office. We have a bracelet, watch and one ear ring.

All Newsletter articles, events, or announcements should be sent by 9:00 a.m. on Tuesdays to Tom Witmer at firstpcp@earthlink.net or thomaswitmer @Comcast.net or call the church office at 588-8581. If you would like to receive The Cumberlander via email in PDF format let Tom know.