

# The Cumberland

## Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

6900 Nubbin Ridge, Knoxville, TN 37919 ~ E-mail: [firstcpc@earthlink.net](mailto:firstcpc@earthlink.net) ~

(865) 588-8581

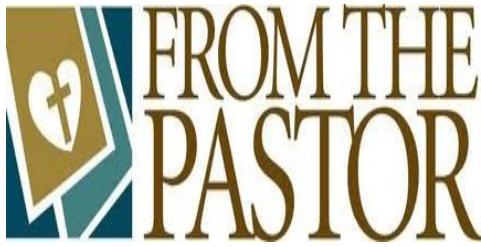
Rev. Mike Wilkinson ~ Pastor

Website: [www.first-cumberland.org](http://www.first-cumberland.org)

Our Weekly Newsletter

*"Loving God, Loving People"*

October 30, 2013



In last Sunday's sermon, I shared three important truths about love that I want to share in this edition of *The Cumberland*. I do this to both remind those who were present of these truths and to share them with the readers who were not here last Sunday. (By the way, if you were not here last Sunday, I hope to see you this coming Sunday!" The first important truth is that **the best use of life is love**.

So many people devote their lives to acquiring achievements and awards, or obtaining education and advancement, or accumulating wealth and possessions. While there is nothing inherently wrong with these things; in fact, they can be good things—they are just not the best use of life. The second important truth is that **the best expression of love is time**. Our culture has been led to believe that quality of time is more important than quantity of time. While this belief may soothe our consciences, it is simply not true; instead, the amount of time we are willing to give someone reveals his or her real value to us. The third important truth is that **the best time to love is now**. Now is the best time to love because circumstances change, often quickly and without warning; because people die, frequently unexpectedly; because children grow up; because neighbors move away; because graduation comes and we drift apart; and because we ourselves have absolutely no guarantee of tomorrow. If we want to express our love for someone, we had better do it now because now is all we have. If we remember these three important truths—**the best use of love is love; the best expression of love is time, and the best time to love is now**—we will develop our passion of loving.

It was great seeing so many of you at church last Sunday. More people were gathered here to worship Christ than any Sunday since my first Sunday. That encourages me and I pray that it encourages you as well.

God's Grace,

*Pastor Mike*

### Visitation

Pastor Mike still needs your help. He would like to visit with every family that is currently a part of the First Church Family. If a home visit is not practical for you, he is willing to meet with you at the church. The purpose of this meeting is for him to learn both your history with our congregation and your hopes and dreams for the future of First Church. Please call him (cell phone: 205-533-2001 or church: 865-588-8581) to schedule an appointment at a time that is convenient for you.

### Our Building Note

Just a reminder: we are attempting to raise at least \$25,728 by Thanksgiving so that we can restructure our debt (building note for major repairs taken out in 2008) and lower our monthly payments by securing a lower interest rate. This would also save us slightly more than \$101,000 in interest over the next 15 years. If you would like to contribute to this cause, over and above your tithe, please write the word "Note" on the memo line of your check. \$8,550 has been given to date; thank you for your generosity!

### Youth Outing

This coming Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, our Youth Group (grades 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>) will be going bowling. They will meet at the church at 2:30 p.m. and carpool to the bowling alley. They need to bring \$15.00 to cover two games of bowling and shoe rental. They may also want to bring money for snacks. For more information, please contact Stephanie Sauls (865-310-6129) or Amanda Roberts (865-383-4344).

*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  
Return Service Requested

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Organization  
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Tennessee



# Happy Birthday



## November

- 4-Sheila Emory
- 5-Chris Clark
- 5-Larry Fielder
- 5-Brent Witmer
- 6-Kyle Boden
- 6-Darian Booker
- 7-Sheri Hill
- 7-Jennifer Rech
- 7-Josephine Rech
- 7-Steve Summers
- 8-Clarence Frey
- 9-Kim McCurry



## Activities for November 3-9, 2013

- |       |            |                   |
|-------|------------|-------------------|
| Sun., | 9:30 a.m.  | Sunday School     |
|       | 10:45 a.m. | Worship Service   |
|       | 4:00 p.m.  | Handbell Practice |
| Wed., | 6:30 p.m.  | Choir Practice    |
- (See web site for complete calendar listings)

## Are You Coming to the Celebration?

So he answered and said to his father, "Lo, these many years I have been serving you; I never transgressed your commandment at any time; and yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might make merry with my friends." (Luke 15:29)

God is concerned with bringing people from death to life. His heart rejoices over each person who returns to Him from a time of rebellion. If your heart is like God's, you, too, will rejoice when a sinner returns to the Father.

Jesus' parable about the prodigal son is as much about the older son who remained as it is about the wayward son or the father. Year after year the older son labored for his father, waiting for a future reward. He had seen the brokenness his brother's rebellion had caused his father. Yet when his brother returned, the older son did not rejoice with his father. He felt no pleasure in seeing his father happy. His concern was for himself and the injustice he perceived he'd been dealt. He felt like a martyr and totally missed the blessing of celebrating with his father.

It is possible to serve God year after year and yet have a heart that is far from Him. You might be one of the hardest workers in your church and yet be filled with bitterness because others do not share your load. You can become so preoccupied with your spiritual labors that when God works miracles in the lives of those around you, you cannot rejoice.

If you serve the Lord out of duty or habit, but not out of joy and gratitude, you will feel like a martyr. You will envy those who are experiencing joy in the Lord while you feel weighed down by the work you are doing. This is not the abundant life your Father has planned for you. Come to the celebration, spend time with the Father, and share in His joy!

By Dr. Henry Blackaby

## Prayer Concerns In the Hospital



### On-going Health and Prayer Concerns

CP Missionaries; Mary Jane & Gordon Blaylock; Mildred Stone; Edna Fleenor; Mary Cregger; Gladys Stone; Mildred Acuff; Maxine McGuire; Ada Ladd; Nancy Anthony; Bud & Betty Hickman; Carl Overstreet (friend of Cliff Parrott); Jonathan Migas; Peggy Bradshaw (Dianne Fielder's mother); Nora Derreberry (Maxine Curtis's mother); Marlene Ritchey; Brian Migas; Mary McJunkins, (Mary Wegman's mother); Eric Nelson, (friend of the Witmer clan); Donna Wingard, (Mildred Acuff's daughter); Debbie & David Triese, (Margaret Migas's sister and husband); Carl Ware; Allison, Hailey, Connor and Hannah Davis; Janie Beeler, (Greg Beeler's wife); Judy Gammon; Ruth McNabb (mother of Tammy Eblen); Richard Himes (Jin Gaston's brother-in-law); Debbie Holloway; Mildred Gragg (friend of Mary Cregger); Kim and her family, (friends of Amanda and Scott Roberts); Rebecca Rech, mother of Justin Rech; Jack Gaston; J. David Hester; Marie Jobson, (friend of the Witmer's); Grace Flory (Lois Witmer's mother); Curt Ham-mill (Betty's son); Suzan Smith, (Jewell Kerr's daughter); Jewell Kerr and family; Earl Hillen; Cliff Parrott.

Please keep the Church office informed of any needed changes to our Prayer Concerns list. Call 588-8581 or email [firstcpc@earthlink.net](mailto:firstcpc@earthlink.net)

## AMONG OUR PEOPLE ...

Three of our people have changed residences: **Marlene Ritchey** has gone home (1504 Clearbrook) from weeks in rehab; has home care in daily ... **Suzie Smith** (daughter of **Jewell Kerr**) is now a resident of Serene Manor, 970 Wray Street ... **Peggy Bradshaw**, mother of **Di-anne Fielder**, moves on Wednesday to Heritage Fountain City, 144 Felix Road ... Join us Sunday on **All Saints Day** as we memorialize those we have lost by death in the past year ...



## WEST CIRCLE

Will meet on Tuesday, November 5 at 11 o'clock in the Keene Room. Please bring a sandwich, drinks and dessert will be provided. We invite the ladies of the church to join us for Bible study and fellowship.

## Stewardship Report October 27, 2013

Sunday School.....	41
Worship.....	95
Offering .....	\$4,148.50
Payment on Church Note.....	\$4,400.00
Building Fund.....	\$5.00
FAITH (TC Lunch).....	\$232.50