

The Cumberland

Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

6900 Nubbin Ridge, Knoxville, TN 37919 ~ E-mail: firstcpc@earthlink.net ~

(865) 588-8581

Kevin Wood ~ Pastor

Website: www.first-cumberland.org

Our Weekly Newsletter

"Loving God, Loving People"

December 12, 2007

Emmanuel

Celebrating Heaven's Child

This Sunday, December 16, 10:45 a.m.

presented by the Chancel Choir of
First Cumberland Presbyterian Church
under the direction of Sam and Karen Ware

*Let your heart be filled with the
hope and joy of His birth!*

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW ELDERS!

God called and the congregation elected three new Elders last Sunday. Congratulations to Steve Goodrich, Steve McCurry and Dianne Pipkin. Please pray for them as they prepare to serve on the Session for three-year terms beginning in January, 2008. A service of ordination and installation will be held Sunday, January 7 during morning worship.

Our gratitude to Elders Jewell Kerr, Hugh Morgan, and Eugene McCammon who rotate off after three years of faithful service to the Lord and His Church!

URGENT: UPWARD NEEDS THREE COACHES!

Upward Basketball has an urgent need for three coaches. No special skills necessary. An excellent step-by-step coaches' book is provided. One practice and one game a week time commitment. We have the kids and we need you to answer God's call! Practices begin next week. If you can help, call Steve Summers (922-3999) or the church (588-8581). The season starts Saturday, January 12.

THANK YOU, LORD FOR 'CHRISTMAS LETTERS!'

All who were present were moved by the beautiful message shared by the children of our congregation last Sunday during their program "Christmas Letters." They told the story so well! Fortunately it was all captured on videotape for future generations to see. Special thanks to Jane Carroll and Wendy Goodrich and a supportive cast of parents who worked so hard to allow us to worship God and give Him the glory for the miracle of Christmas!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMITMENTS!

Thank you for dedicating your money, time, witness, talents and gifts to the Lord during "Stewardship Commitment Sunday!" It was inspiring to see how God is using you to make a difference in people's lives! Sunday was a prime example of how much God's people can accomplish when they make themselves available for Kingdom work!

SPECIAL INVITATION TO THE NEW TESTAMENT!

You are invited to join the Chapel Class as they continue their study of the New Testament Sunday, December 23, 9:30 a.m. in McDonald Chapel. If you don't know much about the Bible and want to get the "big picture" of the New Testament, we'd love to have you for this ten-week journey. Hope to see you on the 23rd!

INVITE FRIENDS AND FAMILY TO OUR ADVENT EVENTS!

This Advent-Christmas season we have decided to present all our special programs during the Sunday morning services. We're doing this so you can invite everyone you know who doesn't have a church family. Christmas is one of the best times of the year to welcome people to experience the joy and peace of Jesus Christ.

Sunday, December 16, 10:45 a.m. Third Sunday in Advent. The choir will present their annual Christmas cantata entitled: "Emmanuel: Celebrating Heaven's Child."

Sunday, December 23, 10:45 a.m. Fourth Sunday in Advent. Morning Message: "Incarnation: God is with Us!"

Monday, December 24, 5:00 p.m. Christmas-eve Candlelight Communion Service with special guest soloist Hallerin Hilton Hill.

'ELDER ON CALL' DURING DECEMBER

December 16: Jewell Kerr

December 23: Eugene McCammon

SPECIAL DELIVERIES

I invite you to join me in delivering poinsettias and Christmas greetings to our homebound folks beginning this Sunday, December 16. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board outside the church offices. If everyone delivers just one, we will all be blessed! Directions will be provided. Don't miss this opportunity to make a lifelong friend of some very faithful members of First Church! Take the poinsettia with you as you leave church this Sunday!

DECEMBER SESSION MEETING

The December Session meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 19. Newly elected Elders are invited to attend!

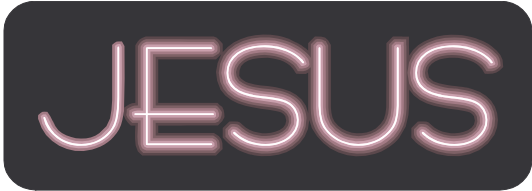
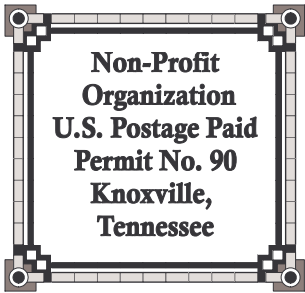
THANK YOU'S...!

...to all the wonderful helpers and cooks who worked so hard and brought just the right amount of everything for a superb Christmas potluck last Sunday. Ummm, good!

...to Mike Bachman and Boy Scout Troop 20 who blew and raked leaves in rainy weather last Sunday. It looks great!

...to everyone who brought "Secret Magi" gifts last Sunday for needy children. They will reach their destination just in time for Christmas!

~Pastor Kevin



Happy Birthday

December



16-Holly Van de Vate
18-Tara Eblen
18-Wendy Goodrich
19-Kevin Pipkin
22-Tammy Eblen



Activities for December 15-22, 2007

Sat.,	10:00 a.m.	Rebeccas—Holiday Inn
Sun.,	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:45 a.m.	Worship Service, Cantata
Wed.,	11:30 a.m.	Friendship Club Lunch
	6:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
	7:30 p.m.	Session

(See web site for complete calendar listings)

Stewardship Report for December 9, 2007

Sunday School.....	61
Worship.....	136
Offering.....	\$3,095.19
Capital Improvements Fund	\$2,950.00
Memorial/Building Fund.....	\$1,045.00
Expenses paid last week	\$8,144.24

Year-to-Date (as of December 9, 2007)

Offerings received to date:.....	\$148,009.86
Expenses paid to date:.....	\$251,885.33
Building / Cap. Improve. Fund.....	\$28,379.00

Keep an eye on the thermometer in the Narthex. Keep up with the our progress of the Building / Capital Improvement Fund Raising Campaign.

Update on Building Repairs and Maintenance

The Building & Grounds Committee met with the Session on Tuesday, December 4 in a joint meeting to hear a presentation from Al Bedinger on the HVAC design. After the presentation there was a question and answer period. There were also several members present. Al explained the difficulties in replacing our existing system due to it being a two pipe system and all piping is beneath the concrete. He informed all that his team’s best budget number for replacing the HVAC system in total is around \$636,000 with another \$39,000 needed if our electrical service is not sufficient. This amount is more than twice the number we where using for very preliminary budget numbers. 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).

Roller Shoes

Please do **not** wear roller shoes to church. The rollers mark up the floors and put scrapes in the floor tiles. Help us keep the Church looking good. Thank you!!

The Crossing’s Christmas Post Office

Bring your Christmas cards to the office along with a donation for postage and place in the “Mail Box”. The youth will deliver your cards to our church attendees. Donations will go to the youth group, The Crossing, for activities.

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, Ft. Campbell Military Hospital, Iraq War Veteran
Madeline Vaught (Vickie McCombie’s mother), Ft. Sanders

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; Edna Fleenor; Maxine McGuire; Mrs. Don Franks; Priscilla McCoy; Margaret Lindsay; Mary Cregger; Jennie Lee Middlemas; Irene Brooks; William Barron; Nancy Bandermlen; Doug Bailey; Mike Roberts; 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; Lois Witmer; Francis Bogart; Noreen Bogart; David Summers; Barbara Leith; Elena Zimmerman; Adrienne Murphy; Thomas King; Terry Davidson; Peggy O’Neal; Gladys Stone; Sam Bivens; Wayne Huskey; Ann McGraw; Matt Lambert; Kay Tipton; Sam Stone; Lea Acuff; Donna Walker; Kathy (Hammill) Byers; Cliff Limer- ick.

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

THE MITTEN TREE IS IN THE LIBRARY!

For many years we have participated with CAM, (Coalition of Appalachian Ministries) to help keep children warm. You may help by decorating the tree with mittens, scarves, or caps.

Lakeshore Gifts

We are collecting gifts for Lakeshore patients. Please place the gift in the box in the library for delivery to Lakeshore by December 14th. (Wrong date last week) There is a list of suggested items on the CPWM bulletin board. Please do **NOT** wrap the gift and do not include any item with glass. Thank you for your support of this worthy project.

Loaves & Fishes

The final numbers are in. The final offering collected was \$777.53. Thanks to all who contributed to this worthy cause.

A Need

We have become aware of the following from Thursday Connection:
We have several families in our group that could use an extra boost for the holiday season. We thought that it would be fun to bless them with some gift cards, food, toiletries, etc. If you would like to contribute any of these things, the TC board will see that these are properly distributed to those who can use them. We suggest:
Grocery cards; Walmart or Target cards; Paper items, like TP, paper towels, Kleenex; Non-perishable foods; Toiletries like toothpaste, shampoo, soap; Anything that you know your family uses a lot of and that another family could use as well.
If you would like to help, bring your items to the office and we will get them to Thursday Connection. Thank you, in advance.