

The Cumberland

Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

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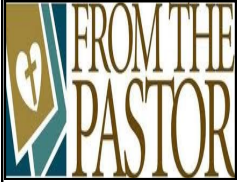
Rev. Mike Wilkinson ~ Pastor

Website: www.first-cumberland.org

Our Weekly Newsletter

"Loving God, Loving People"

April 20, 2016



Though the result of Joanna's pathology report is recorded elsewhere in this newsletter, and in case you were not here last Sunday to here the news in person, the extensive pathology report revealed absolutely no cancer cells in either her ovaries or in her fallopian tubes. "Praise God from whom all blessings flow." We want to take this opportunity to thank you for your prayers, thoughts, and support during this trying time. For those who do not know, Joanna's mother passed away from ovarian cancer more than thirty years ago, so Joanna's anxiety level was extremely high during this time and your loving graciousness made it much easier for both her and I to handle the situation.

Last Sunday night, I was apart of the *Presbyterial Commission to Install* the new pastor of the Faith Fellowship Cumberland Presbyterian Church, near Dixie Lee Junction. My primary task was to ask the new pastor, who has actually been on the field since the first of January, the constitutional questions regarding installation. I asked him these questions but only after asking him two additional questions that are not found on our Constitution. I asked him, "After serving this congregation for nearly four months, do you still want to be their pastor?" He said, "Yes." I then asked him, "After serving this congregation for nearly four months, do you still believe in your heart-of-hearts, that in addition to the call of this congregation, that God has called you to be their pastor?" With a big smile, he said, "Yes!" Well, I have been the pastor here at First Cumberland for about thirty-one months now, and if someone was to ask me the same two questions I asked last Sunday night, my answers would be, "YES!" and "YES!!!" (You should have seen the smile on my face as I typed the words "yes".) Words simply cannot express how thankful Joanna and I are to be serving First Cumberland. "Praise God from whom all blessings flow."

I shared a portion of the anonymous poem, "*Once Upon a Pew*", last Sunday morning. I want to share, without commentary, the entire poem: "Once upon a pew I sat And heard the preacher ask, 'We need someone to teach a class, Now who will take this task?' Then God sat down beside me there And said, 'Son, that's for you.' 'But, Lord, to stand before a class Is one thing I can't do. Now Bill would be the man to call, There's nothing he won't do. I'd rather hear the lesson taught From here upon my pew.' Once upon a pew I sat, And heard the preacher ask, 'We need someone to lead the songs, Now who will take this task?' Then God sat down beside me there And said, 'Son, that's for you.' 'But, Lord, to sing before a crowd Is one thing I can't do. Now brother King will do the job, There's nothing he won't do. I rather hear the music played From here upon the pew.' Once upon a pew I sat And heard the preacher ask, 'I need someone to keep the door. Now who will take this task?' The God sat down beside me there And said, 'Son, that's for you.' 'But saying things to strangers, Lord, Is one thing I can't do. Now Tom can talk to people, Lord. There's nothing he won't do. I'd rather someone come to me And greet me in my pew.'"

Learning the unforced rhythms of grace,

Pastor Mike

2016 FISH Food Pantry Campaign

We thank our partner church, Church of the Savior United Church of Christ, for bagging this last Saturday. They will also bag this coming Saturday. **Steve McCurry** had to pick up additional food from Second Harvest this past week, spending an additional \$462.24. **Jimmy Curtis** picked up close to a hundred loaves of bread for our freezers this past week, and will be picking up additional loaves this week. We had a contribution of \$27.00 two Sundays ago, and Church of the Savior sent \$1,000.00 check last week, bringing our total to \$6,517.00. We do not need any more funds for the **FISH Food Pantry Campaign** this year. I thank **Steve** and **Jimmy** and all those who contributed for all they do in helping to feed the hungry in our community. God bless you all!—**Betty Hammill**

Cumberland Presbyterian Women's Ministry

Sunday evening, May 1st, our ladies' ministry will be hosting a meeting featuring **Sally Cox**, a former member of First Cumberland, who will be sharing her story of healing. The meeting will be held in the Keene Room, at 5:00 p.m. Following listening to **Sally's** exciting story, a light supper will be served. All the ladies of the church are encouraged to mark this date down on your calendar and plan to attend. Feel free to invite ladies from outside our congregation (family, friends, neighbors co-workers, classmates, etc.) to attend with you.

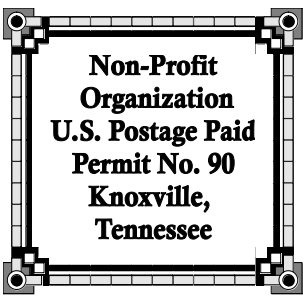
Chair Give-away

We still have several metal folding chairs to give away. If you would like one or more of the chairs, simply call the Church Office and schedule a pick up time. The chairs will be stored in the hallway next to the Gym until they are gone. The chairs are free to anyone or any church that would like to have them and is willing to pick them up.


Youth News

On Sunday, May 22nd, our **Middle School Youth** will have lunch at the church following our Worship Service. After the meal, they will work on making visitor packets for our first-time guests, and then have time for archery lessons/practice. Parents need to pick up their youth at 2:00 p.m.

*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

April 20th~26th

25th ~ Steve McCurry



| Stewardship Report April 17, 2016 | |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| Sunday School..... | 46 |
| Worship Service..... | 79 |
| Offering..... | \$3,855.25 |
| FISH Food Pantry..... | \$1,000.00 |

| Activities for April 20-26, 2016 | |
|---|-----------------|
| Wednesday: 11:00 a.m. | Friendship Club |
| 6:30 p.m. | Choir Practice |
| Sunday: 9:30 a.m. | Sunday School |
| 10:45 a.m. | Worship Service |
| (See our web site for complete calendar listings) | |


Among Our People

Last week’s newsletter failed to note that it was great having **Ethan Hinkle** (Pastor Mike and Joanna’s grandson) and **Rebecca Wilkinson** (Pastor Mike and Joanna’s daughter) worshiping with us the previous Sunday . . . It was also great having **Katie Goddard** (granddaughter of Jewell Kerr); **Cierra Guthrie** (friend of Chrissy Curtis); **Christina, Waylon, and Ethan Hinkle** (Pastor Mike and Joanna’s daughter and family); **Jordon McCormick**; **Catherine McKinney**; and **Rose Wilkinson** (mother of Pastor Mike) worshiping with us last Sunday . . . **Dick Booher** remains at his son’s home, in Morristown, recovering from surgery; he is undergoing additional physical therapy on his shoulder and will not return home until sometime mid-May . . . Congratulations to Lisa and Corey Booker; they were married last Saturday, April 16th . . . Congratulations to **Stephanie Bridges** on her upcoming graduation (May 7th) from Tennessee Wesleyan College with a *Bachelor of Science* Degree in Biology; she has been accepted into the University of Tennessee’s Veterinary School . . . **Mary Cregger** is back in Fort Sanders Reginal Medical Center . . . **Marlene Ritchey** remains under hospice care in Arizona . . . **Kristi Summers** is now in New Zealand on rotation from pharmacy school . . . **Joanna Wilkinson** received a great pathology report last week; after extensive biopsies, absolutely no cancer cells were detected . . . **Lois Witmer** is battling chronic anemia . . .

“I Was Dying”

First I was dying to finish high school and start college. And then I was dying to finish college and start working. And then I was dying to marry and have children. And then I was dying for my children to grow old enough for school so I could return to work. And then I was dying to retire. And now, I am dying . . . and suddenly I realized I forgot to live.

—anonymous




Prayer Concerns

In the Hospital

Mary Cregger @ Fort Sanders Regional Medical Center

Health and Prayer Concerns (alphabetized)



Mildred Acuff; 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); David Clark (coworker of Tom DeLozier); Carol Craven (sister of Lois Witmer); Mary Cregger; *Cumberland Presbyterian missionaries around the world*; Mary Helen Daniel; Sarah DeLozier (daughter of Tom and Emily DeLozier); Mae Denton (friend of Tammy Eblen); Nora Derreberry (mother of Maxine Curtis); Grace Flory (mother of Lois Witmer); Judy Gammon; Lynne Garrison (sister of Lois Witmer); Mark Hester; Bud and Betty Hickman (friends of Mary Ann Haney); Christina Hinkle and Baby Girl (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); Jewell Kerr; Sherri Kramer (friend of Joy Taylor); Steve Kusenda (brother-in-law of Margaret Migas); Bob Lawson (friend of Pastor Mike); Gene McCammon; Maxine McGuire; Catherine McKinney; Ruth McNabb (mother of Tammy Eblen); 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*; Jan Pipkin (sister-in-law of Dianne 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; Jean Stapleton (mother of Elaine Stapleton); Gladys Stone; John Snoderly (brother of Betty Hammill); John Snoderly, Jr. (nephew 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); Devan Wilhite (friend of Greg Beeler); Joanna Wilkinson; Lois Witmer; Tom Witmer

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.

Friendship Club

The next Dutch-treat lunch of the **Friendship Club** is Wednesday, April 20th, at **S&S Cafeteria** located at 4808 Kingston Pike, at 11:00 a.m. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board outside the Church Office.