

# 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"*

December 10, 2014



I want to officially proclaim our participation in the first-ever Rocky Hill Business District's **Christmas Parade** a huge success and thank everyone (they are too numerous to name in my limited space) who made it possible. Midweek last week, our plans changed: I was planning on renting a twelve-foot U-Haul trailer to construct our float on, but a free forty-eight-foot tractor trailer was made available to us. When the e-mail notice of this change went out, one of our elders joking asked if I was crazy. My initial thought was that I could not believe that it took fifteen months for someone to ask this question. Then Saturday morning and the rain came and I was questioning my own sanity. Nonetheless, many of you show up and decorated the largest float that any of us had ever seen (pictures will soon be on the church's Facebook page and our web site), and we did not just decorate it, we created a legacy that the parade will have a had time living up to in the future. The best part is that hundreds of people, maybe as many as three thousand, in our community saw our float and know that they are welcome here at First Cumberland. To God be the glory!

Learning the unforced rhythms of grace,  
*Pastor Mike*

### **Mitten Trees**

Two **Mitten Trees** are in the Narthex. These trees are for us to hang mittens, gloves, scarves, or hats that will be distributed this Winter by the **Coalition of Appalachian Ministries**, near Townson, to families in the area who are in need. We will be collecting these items the month of December.

### **Christmas Post Office**

Our Youth are once again operating a **Christmas Post Office**. A box is in the Narthex for you to drop off both your Christmas cards to be delivered to church members/attendees and a donation for this service.

### **Angel Tree**

An **Angel Tree** for **Serene Manor Nursing Home** is in the Library. The tree contains the requests of ten residents, which have been divided into thirty angels. Please take and buy for one or more angels if you would like to participate in this very worthwhile project. Return your **unwrapped** gifts to the Library no later than Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup>.

### **Election of Elders**

This coming Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, at the close of the Worship Service, we will have a **Congregational Meeting** to elect the next class of elders to serve on the Session. At that time, our Session will nominate **Ann Bachman, Betty Hammill, and Tom Witmer** to serve as the *Elder Class of 2017*. Other nominations can be made from the floor provided the person being nominated has agreed in advance to be nominated and serve, meet the biblical and constitutional requirements to serve, and are present to publically accept the nomination. We will have another **Congregational Meeting** on Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, to those elected.

### **Youth Christmas Party**

Scott and Amanda Roberts will be hosting the **Youth Christmas Party** on Friday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. The party will be at their home—8101 Greenwell Road, Knoxville, TN 37938. You are encouraged to both bring a friend and RSVP (865-382-5344).

### **Christmas Cantata**

Sunday evening, December 21<sup>st</sup>, at 6:00 p.m., our Choir will present the **Christmas cantata**, *Darkness into Light: A Christmas Musical Journey*, by Mary McDonald. Posters, fliers, and brochures promoting this worship opportunity are in the Narthex for you to distribute to family, friends, coworkers, and classmates. Make your plans to not only be here, but to bring someone with you.

### **Church-wide Christmas Party**

Sunday evening, December 21<sup>st</sup>, at 7:15 p.m., following the **Christmas cantata**, we will have a church-wide **Christmas Party**. Please bring your favorite finger foods and desserts to share; drinks will be provided.

### **Christmas Eve Worship Service**

Our annual **Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service** will be Wednesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>, at 5:00 p.m. Invite you family and friends to attend with you.

*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

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Permit No. 90  
Knoxville,  
Tennessee



Happy Birthday

December

14-Justin Rech  
18-Tara Shelley  
19-Kevin Pipkin

Activities for December 14-20, 2014		
Sun.,	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:45 a.m.	Worship Service
Wed.,	11:00 a.m.	Friendship Club
	6:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
Fri.,	6:00 p.m.	Youth Christmas Party
Sat.,	10:00 a.m.	Choir Practice
(See web site for complete calendar listings)		

Stewardship Report December 7, 2014	
Sunday School.....	44
Worship.....	66
Offering .....	\$5,302.00
Building Reimbursement.....	\$930.85
Youth Fund.....	\$52.00

*Among Our People*

Bill, Kim, and Robyn Halbert spend the Thanksgiving holiday in Pawleys Island, South Carolina . . . Kevin Pipkin had surgery on his back last week and is doing well . . . Justin Rech had outpatient surgery last week and is doing well . . . Phil Bridges had oral surgery last week and is doing well . . . Becky Rader is still at NHC Fort Sanders for therapy; she is planning to attend the Choir’s Christmas cantata . . . B. F. Daniel spent a few days in the hospital last week with a collapsed lung; he is now home and improving . . . Dick Booher is now home, but will receive outpatient rehab for his knee . . . Mildred Acuff fell last week, fortunately, nothing was broken, but she is bruised and sore . . .

**Kroger Community Rewards Program**

If you shop at Kroger during the holidays, you can help First Cumberland Presbyterian Church! Members and friends of FCPC can register online to take part in the **Kroger Community Rewards Program** to benefit our church. To do so, simply register online by going to [www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com) and select First Cumberland Presbyterian Church as the organization you wish to support. Next time you shop, check the bottom of your receipt to make sure you see our church’s name there. Contact Kim Halbert at 660-5821 if you have any questions. Thank you!

**Friendship Club**

Members of the Friendship Club will gather at the Copper Cellar, on Kingston Pike, for a Dutch-treat lunch on Wednesday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 a.m. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board near the Church Office.

Prayer Concerns

In the Hospital

Becky Rader ~ NHC Fort Sanders

**Health and Prayer Concerns** (alphabetized)

the persecuted Christians around the world; Cumberland Presbyterian missionaries; Jack and Roy Acuff (brothers of a friend of Pastor Mike); Mildred Acuff; Janie Beeler (Greg Beeler’s wife); Preston Beeler (Greg Beeler’s cousin); Charlotte Bird; Gordon Blaylock; Dick Booher; Kim Boyatt (friend of Susan Edwards); Peggy Bradshaw (Dianne Fielder’s mother); Mary Cregger; B.F. and Mary Helen Daniel; Allison, Hailey, Connor, and Hannah Davis; Nora Derreberry (Maxine Curtis’s mother); Jim and Cookie Dyer; Edna Fleenor; Grace Flory (Lois Witmer’s mother); Jack and Jin Gaston; Curt Hammill (Betty Hammill’s son); Ruth Heifner (friend of Pastor Mike); Bud and Betty Hickman (friends of Mary Ann Haney); Richard Himes (Jin Gaston’s brother-in-law); Christina and Baby Hinkle (Pastor Mike and Joanna’s daughter is expecting a baby boy on January 18, 2015); Debbie Holloway; Becky Ingle (coworker of Amanda Roberts); Kim Jones (friend of Amanda and Scott Roberts); Sherri Kramer (friend of Joy Taylor); Ada Ladd; Bob Lawson (friend of Pastor Mike); Maxine McGuire; Mary McJunkins (Mary Wegman’s mother); Catherine McKinney; Ruth McNabb (Tammy Eblen’s mother); Bob Metts; Brian Migas; Jonathan Migas; Mary Anne Moncier (Dianne Fielder’s aunt); Dewaine Moncier, Jr. (Dianne Fielder’s cousin); Alice Montgomery; Sue Moore (Jewell Kerr’s sister’s daughter-in-law); Carl Overstreet (friend of Cliff Parrott); Cliff Parrott; Tom Parrott (Cliff Parrott’s son); Charlie Pipkin (Paul Pipkin’s father); David Poore (coworker of Phil Bridges); Anna Faye Presley (niece of Catherine McKinney); Becky Rader; Rebecca Rech (Justin Rech’s mother); Marlene Ritchey; Bryan Rogers (Bonnie Bridges’ son); Carol Seeman; Gladys Stone; Sydney Snoderly (Betty Hammill’s great niece); Jack Walker; Carl Ware (Sam Ware’s father); Joni Warner (friend of Jewell Kerr’s sons); the Whaley family (friends of Kathy Byers); Tom Williams (friend of Cliff Parrott); Tom Witmer; Robyn (friend of Hannah Haddox)

*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)*

**Fish Hospitality Fish Food Pantry Gift Cards**

Are you looking for a different Christmas gift this year for your family and friends? You have the opportunity to buy \$5.00 gift cards that will help feed the hungry in our community. These are sponsored by the Fish Hospitality Pantries, which are walk-in pantries in the northern, eastern, and southern parts of our city. There are order blanks with two different kinds of cards in the Narthex. You can order them or you can go to the Church of the Ascension, right around the corner from our church (on Northshore Drive), and pick them up if time is a problem. Problems or questions—call Betty Hammill at 690-8739.

**Just a Thought**

“Each of us is an Innkeeper who decides if there is room for Jesus.”  
—Neal A. Maxwell