

The Cumberland

Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

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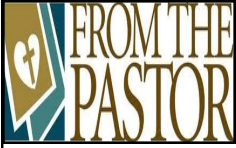
Rev. Mike Wilkinson ~ Pastor

Website: www.first-cumberland.org

Our Weekly Newsletter

"Loving God, Loving People"

May 17, 2017



How are you feeling? I am not merely inquiring about your physical health, though I do pray that you are feeling well. I am asking about your spiritual/emotional/mental/physical health—your overall health. I did not separate these four aspects of our health because they directly relate to each other. For example, chronic illness often leads to emotional and/or mental depression and, on occasion, to spiritual upheaval that only worsens one's physical condition. On the other hand, receiving good news not only puts a smile on our faces and lifts our spirits; it can actually make us feel better physically. The separation of body and spirit/mind/soul first developed in ancient Greek philosophy, but the Hebrew people knew no such division; instead, they addressed the whole of our human existence. When the psalmist wrote, "My help comes from the LORD, . . ." [**Psalm 121:2**, NRSV], he was declaring that God can meet all his and our needs (spiritual, emotional, mental, and physical). The Apostle Paul would later declare the same thing when he wrote, "I can do all things through him who strengthens me." [**Philippians 4:13**, NRSV] I pray that this bit of good news makes you feel better all over.

I want to share a fourth eVotion that I wrote for our denominational website; it is titled, "*But God*", and is based on **Ephesians 2:1-10**: "Most of us do not like to think about death, especially our own. There is no greater contrast in human experience than that of life and death. Eventually, we are all going to face physical death; however, in our Scripture for today, Paul is not referring to physical death; instead, he is writing about spiritual death—about eternal separation from God. Paul began by presenting a hopeless humanity—a humanity trapped in sin and fully under Satan's power—a humanity that is incapable of freeing itself—a humanity that is doomed for spiritual death. Then the apostle dramatically shifted to the good news, as he wrote, "But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us" (Ephesians 2:4). With two words, "But God", Paul revealed the cornerstone of our faith—"But God, . . . made us alive together with Christ . . . raised us up with him and seated us with him . . . (Ephesians 2:5-6). God made a way for us to avoid spiritual death; through the resurrection of Jesus, God gives us eternal life. "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—" (Ephesians 2:8). Our salvation is the result of God's underserved favor on us, not due to any efforts, abilities, or acts of service on our part. Our gratitude for this free-gift produces a desire within us to glorify Christ by humbly serving others with justice and kindness (Micah 6:8)."

Learning the unforced rhythms of grace,

Pastor Mike

Attention Graduates

If you, or a family member, will be graduating from high school, community college, university, or graduate school this Spring, please notify the Church Office this week so that we can recognize your accomplishment this coming Sunday morning, May 21st. Also, include any honors, recognitions, and awards you or your family member received.

Vacation Bible School

Save the date—while all the details have yet to be worked out, the theme and dates for this year's **Vacation Bible School** here at First Cumberland are as follows: The theme is "**Camp Out: Getting S'more of Jesus**" and the dates are Friday, June 23rd, 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Saturday, June 24th, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. More details to come as they are finalized.

Thank You

We want to thank **Cub Scout Pack 20** for refurbishing the wooden picnic tables next to our playground and for planting blueberry bushes in the circle of our back parking lot.

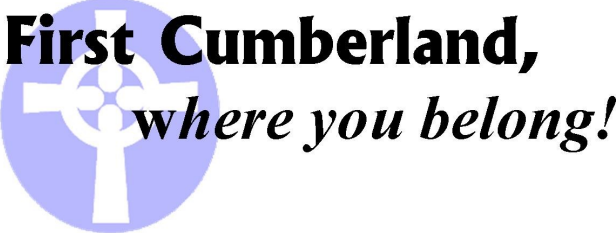
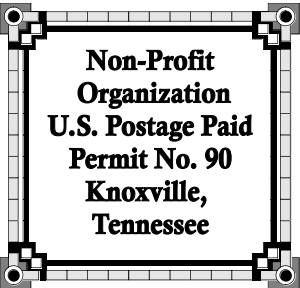
Friendship Club, P.M. Edition


The next Dutch-treat dinner for the **Friendship Club, P.M. Edition** will be Thursday, June 1st (the is the correct date for the first Thursday in June), at **Peros on the Hill** (57706 Northshore Drive, Rocky Hill), at 6:30 p.m. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board outside the Church Office. As always, feel free to invite family and friends to join us on these outings.

Summer Camps

Registration Forms for **Camp Chilhowee** are available in the Church Office. The Presbytery of East Tennessee has set the following dates and fees: **Junior Camp** (completed grades 3-5) is Sunday, June 18th, through Thursday, June 22nd. Cost is \$120.00 per camper if paid before Saturday, June 10th, and \$130.00 if paid after this date; **Junior High Camp** (completed grades 6-8) is Sunday, June 4th, through Thursday, June 9th. Cost is \$140.00 per camper if paid before Saturday May 27th, and \$150.00 if paid after this date; and **High School Camp** (completed grades 9-12) is Sunday, June 11th, through Thursday, June 16th. Cost is \$140.00 per camper if paid by Saturday, June 3rd, and \$150.00 if paid after this date. Please make checks payable to the Presbytery of East Tennessee and send both the Registration Forms and the fees to the following address: Presbytery of East Tennessee, P.O. Box 1767, Greenville, TN 37744.


*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.*





Happy Birthday

May 17th - 23rd
20th – Max Haddox
21st – Robyn Halbert



Our Faithfulness Record for May 14 th	
Sunday School	46
Worship Service	78
Offering	\$5,370.25
Building Reimbursement	\$800.00
Memorial Fund	\$200.00
Youth Fund	\$36.00

Activities for May 17th - 23rd


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
12:15 p.m. Stewardship/Finance Meeting
(See our website for complete calendar listings)

Among Our People
It was great having **MariKate** (Walker) **Abuhelweh**; **Mildred Acuff**; **Paul Pipkin**; and **Daniel** and **Stephanie Saults** all back worshipping with us last Sunday. ~ **Ann Bachman** is scheduled to have the cast removed from her foot this week. ~ **Mike Bachman** is in Parkwest Medical Center undergoing cardiac tests. ~ **Lee Barron** had eye surgery on both Tuesday, May 9th, and Wednesday, May 10th; after initial complications, he is doing well. ~ **Peggy Bradshaw**, mother of Dianne Fielder, is now at Tennova Residential Hospice. ~ **Bonnie Bridges** traveled to New Jersey last weekend to attend the funeral of her aunt. ~ The **Steve Summers Family** went to Disney World last week. ~ **Rose Wilkinson**, mother of Susan Edwards and Pastor Mike, continues to undergo chemotherapy treatments.

Special Guests
It was great having **Michael Hood**, friend of Joy Spencer, and **Rusty Rose**, son-in-law of Carol Seeman worshipping with us last Sunday. (These were the guests who signed the Registration Pads.)


Friendship Club
The **Friendship Club** will gather for a Dutch-treat lunch on Wednesday, May 17th, at **Connors Streak and Seafood** (10915 Turkey Creek Drive), at 11:00 a.m. As always, feel free to invite family and friends to join us on these outings.

Stewardship and Finance Committee
Our **Stewardship and Finance Committee** will meet this coming Sunday, May 21st, in the Keene Room, immediately following our Worship Service.



Prayer Concern List

In the Hospital
Mike Bachman @ Parkwest Medical Center



Prayer Concerns
Mildred Acuff; Ann and Mike Bachman; **LEE BARRON**; Preston Beeler (cousin of Greg Beeler); Gordon Blaylock; Peggy Bradshaw (mother of Dianne Fielder); Wanell Brown (friend of Rose Wilkinson); Charlotte Byrd; **Cumberland Presbyterian missionaries**; Hannah Davis; Mary Helen Daniel; Mae Denton (friend of Tammy Eblen); Grace Flory (mother of Lois Witmer); Judy Gammon; **FAMILY OF GLORIA GOEGGEL** (aunt of Bonnie Bridges); Mark Hester; Betty and Bud Hickman (friends of Mary Ann Haney); Pat Housley (coworker of Amanda Roberts); Betty Kennedy (friend of Rose Wilkinson); Bob Lawson (friend of Pastor Mike); Alexi Llewellyn (granddaughter of a friend of Rose Wilkinson); Keith Lunsford (cousin of Susan Edwards and Pastor Mike); Catherine McKinney; Ruth McNabb (mother of Tammy Eblen); Peter McNamara (friend of Hannah Haddox); Dewaine Moncier, Jr. (cousin of Dianne Fielder); Alice Montgomery; Georgia Moore (sister of Jewell Kerr); Amy Beth Davidson Morgan; Cliff Parrott; Sara Paul (friend of Rose Wilkinson); **persecuted Christians around the world**; **FAMILY OF JAN PIPKIN** (sister-in-law of Dianne Pipkin); Anna Faye Presley (niece of Catherine McKinney); David and Rebecca Rech (parents of Justin Rech); Lori Roark (sister of Kim McCurry); **PAULINE SHERROD** (friend of Lois Witmer); John Snoderly (brother of Betty Hammill); John Snoderly, Jr. (nephew of Betty Hammill); Sydney Snoderly (great-niece of Betty Hammill); Charlie Spaulding (homeschool student); Jean Stapleton (mother of Elaine Stapleton); Shane Thompson (cousin of Hannah Haddox and Amanda Roberts); Angel Tindell (granddaughter of Catherine McKinney); Carl Ware (father of Sam Ware); Codee Weaver (son of Elaine Stapleton); Lee Wells (mother of a coworker of Susan Edwards); Devan Wilhite (friend of Greg Beeler); Rose Wilkinson (mother of Susan Edwards and Pastor Mike)
Please keep the Church Office informed of any needed changes to our Prayer Concerns list.

Christian Sympathy
Our sincere Christian sympathy is extended to the **Family of Gloria Goeggel**, aunt of Bonnie Bridges, who passed way Tuesday, May 9th; and to the **Family of Jan Pipkin**, sister-in-law of Dianne Pipkin, who passed away Wednesday, May 10th. Please remember these families in your prayers.

Church's Website
The church's website, www.first-cumberland.org, includes audio recordings of the sermons from the previous four **Worship Services**.