

# The Cumberland

## Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

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Our Weekly Newsletter "Loving God, Loving People" March 16, 2011



**“COME DIE WITH ME!”**

*“if you try to keep your life, you will lose it;  
but if you give up your life for Me, you will find true life!”  
(Matthew 16:25)*

These are perhaps the most frightening words Jesus ever spoke! “Come take up a cross with me; come experience My death!”

From the cradle on we are taught to protect and preserve life at all costs! But Jesus’ invitation is crystal clear. The life God has for us in Christ is way beyond the superficial kind of life generally lived in American culture. It requires the death of self in order to know and experience the “abundant life” of which Jesus speaks.

We’re coming into the Lenten-Easter season looking forward to the celebration of the Resurrection. But we can’t get there without facing death—Jesus’ death, and our own!

As Bonhoeffer wrote in his well-known book The Cost of Discipleship: “when Christ calls us, He bids us come and die!”

How do you and I react to Jesus’ call to come and die? The crowds started thinning out and the disciples grew apprehensive and sullen. Peter said: “Never, Lord!”

But dying to self is the only way to real communion with God! It is the road to eternal peace and prosperity. It is the only way to gain an unshakeable faith, an unconquerable hope, and a life-changing love more precious than anything the world can offer.

Jesus made a deliberate choice for us a long time ago. He freely chose death on the cross so that we could really live! Now it’s our turn: will we merely wear a cross, or will we be willing to bear a cross? It certainly is the road less traveled but it remains the only road to the life God intended!



**POTLUCK THIS SUNDAY!**

Please join us for one of our patented potluck fellowship luncheons after church this coming Sunday, March 20. Bring friends and your favorite dishes to share with everyone! Don’t miss it!

# “Faith for the Future!”

“Faith for the Future,” our fund-raising campaign to pay for a major repair on the HVAC heating and cooling system, continues. Dr. Hester challenged us during the kickoff to realize the future of the church and this facility is now in our hands! By the grace of God and with the help of many longtime friends of the church we can achieve our goal!

The goal for the campaign is \$200,000. How do we achieve this goal?

We need 10 gifts of \$10,000-----	\$100,000
We need 10 gifts of \$ 5,000-----	\$ 50,000
<u>and</u> We need a variety of other gifts totaling-----	\$ 50,000
Total	\$200,000

How may we give our gifts? Cash, Stocks, Savings Accounts and/or Certificates of Deposit. Checks should be made to First Cumberland Presbyterian Church and designated “Faith for the Future Campaign.”

As of last Sunday (March 13) the total of contributions and pledges is \$27,250!

Pray for the church and give what you can to continue the ministry of First Cumberland Presbyterian Church which will be 126 years-old March 22!

If you have any questions about the campaign please contact Dr. J. David Hester, campaign director (769-0540/250-5375).

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE PEOPLE OF JAPAN!**

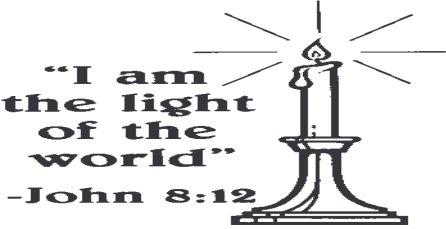
While preliminary reports indicate little damage to Cumberland Presbyterian churches and families in Japan, it is urgent we pray for the entire nation which has witnessed devastation on a staggering scale! Rhe Ann White, who was commissioned as a missionary at the last General Assembly, is living in Yokohama and teaching an English class. Thousands of lives have been lost and/or changed forever. “*Pray without ceasing!*” (I Thessalonians 5:17b)

~ Pastor Kevin

Knoxville First Cumberland  
Presbyterian Church, Inc.  
6900 Nubbin Ridge Drive  
Knoxville, TN 37919  
Return Service Requested

Join Us For Worship this  
Sunday!  
And bring a friend!

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
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Knoxville,  
Tennessee



Happy Birthday

March

21-Judy Gammon  
21-Dianne Pipkin  
22-Amy Pritchard  
26-Lisa Hayes

Activities for March 20-26, 2011

Sun., 9:30 a.m. Sunday School  
10:45 a.m. Worship Service  
Weds., 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice  
(See web site for complete calendar listings)

Stewardship Report for March 13 , 2011

Sunday School..... 33  
Worship.....67  
Offering.....\$1,926.59  
Capital Improvements Fund .....\$3,650.00  
Expenses paid last week .....\$10,589.96

FISH

Our FISH Ministry continues again this year. Steve McCurry is leading the effort this year. Please contact Steve about volunteering to help. We will need many persons to help bag, dispose of cardboard, get food, unload food, and many more things. We also need money to buy the necessary items we need to feed the hungry.

CONTEST

Question: How many groups use our facility?  
Now name them.  
The winner will receive a free breakfast on Easter Sunday beginning at 9:00 a.m. in the church gym. This breakfast will be furnished by the Cornerstone Sunday School Class. Contest ends March 18. Email your answers to the church.

Congratulations to MariKate Walker for signing to swim with Milligan College! Milligan College is a Christian liberal arts institute near Johnson City. She received an athletic and academic scholarship, and plans to study Early Childhood Development with a specialization in Special Education. She also participated in the USA Swimming Southeastern Championship this past weekend and achieved three personal best times! (In the picture, [L to R] Dr. Terry Caldwell, Head Coach, Milligan Swimming; MariKate; & Betsy Hondorf, Atomic City Aquatic Club)

Prayer Concerns

In the Hospital

On-going Health and Prayer Concerns

CP Missionaries; Mary Jane & Gordon Blaylock; Reba Smith; Mildred Stone; Edna Fleenor; Mary Cregger; Bonnie Holbert; Otis Clinton Shelby; Gladys Stone; Mildred Acuff; A. R. Wood; Maxine McGuire; Millie Jones; Marjorie Thompson; Ada Ladd; Nancy Anthony; Bud & Betty Hickman; Pam Wisner; Caleb Michael Bundon; Gene Murr (co-worker of Nick Deal); Judy Lawson (Lisa Deal’s aunt); Jackie Turbbeyville (Jim Curtis’s niece); the Banvelos family (friends of the Deals); Carl Overstreet (friend of Cliff Parrott); Lucas Lacascio (former student of Wendy Goodrich) battling a recurrence of a brain tumor; JoAnn Ford; Al (friend of Patty Fitzgerald); Ronnie Joiner (friend of the McCurrys, the Gollihers); Jessie Black (Ann Bachman’s mother); Rocky Dukes (Nancy Woods co-worker’s husband); Matthew Crawford (12 year old friend of Phil Bridges’ niece Melissa Roach); Melanie Ball; Judy Moore; Jonathan Migas; Peggy Bradshaw (Dianne Fielder’s mother); Eric Nelson (friend of Witmers and Davis’s); Mike Grebe (friend of Karen Ware); Rhonda Wilson’s father (friend of the Witmers, McCurrys, Gollihier and Carol Seeman); J.B. & Nora Derreberry (Maxine Curtis parents); Ann Redding (Andrea Gollihier’s mother.); Ernie Hoen (father of Zarah Yerger, a friend of Kim McCurry, Andrea Gollihier and Carol Seeman); Steven Park; Marlene Ritchey; Betty Hammill; Lynne Garrison (Lois Witmer’s sister); Kathy Langston (mother of a co worker of Brent Witmer); Earl Beeler (Greg Beeler’s uncle); Brian Migas; Donald Witmer (Tom’s uncle); Richard Dougherty; Richard H. Zimmerman (Richard Zimmerman’s father.  
*Please keep the Church office informed of any needed changes to our Prayer Concerns list. Call 588-8581 or email firstcpc@earthlink.net.*

THANK YOU

To the Congregation –  
You are all the kindest and most loving people in the world. On behalf of all our family, I want to thank you for the love and support you provided during our time of bereavement. We draw great strength from the Lord, just as you have prayed. We want to thank you for the delicious meal you provided after the memorial service. We enjoyed the food and the family time to visit and be together. We also want to thank you for the beautiful wreath you sent for the memorial service. It is a pleasure and an honor to serve the Lord alongside you members of this church. God bless you all. Love, Betty

THANK YOU AND WELL DONE!

The children and youth of First Church proved to be excellent hosts, hostesses, and servers for the outstanding “Spring Fling” last Saturday night in the gym! Over 60 adults were present to enjoy the food and entertainment and help raise funds for Pioneer Clubs. Special thanks to chef Maxine Curtis, Jim Curtis, Billy and Allison Davis, Brent and Leah Witmer, Jack and Jen Gaston and everyone else who helped plan and carry out the wonderful evening of food and dancing.

Rebeccas Circle is meeting this Saturday at 10 a.m. at Perkins on Kingston Pike. Come and join them for food and sharing the Lord. See you there! Call Faye O’Neal for information.